



Olympic Refugee  
Foundation



# ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2022







**WE BELIEVE IN A  
SOCIETY WHERE  
EVERYONE BELONGS,  
THROUGH SPORT.**

Sport can support young people to find a sense of belonging. © UNFPA

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Cover image: Young woman enjoys the Game Connect Gala © AVSI

# 1. OVERVIEW





## VISION

**A SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS, THROUGH SPORT**

## MISSION

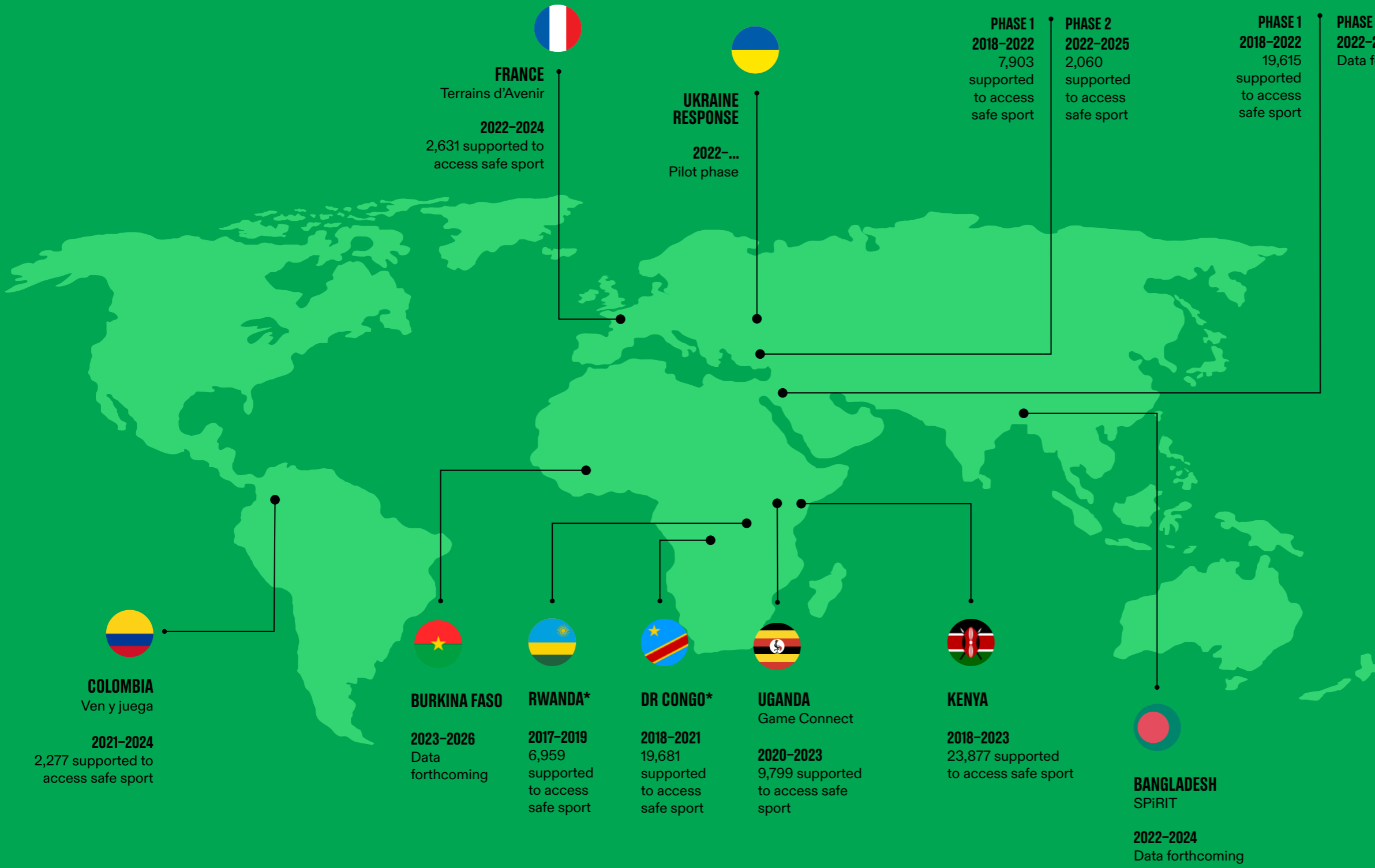
**SHAPE A MOVEMENT TO ENSURE YOUNG PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DISPLACEMENT THRIVE THROUGH SAFE SPORT**

## GOAL

**1 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DISPLACEMENT ACCESS SAFE SPORT BY 2024**



# OUR IMPACT



<b>96,188</b> young people affected by displacement participating in Olympic Refugee Foundation funded safe sport programmes	<b>74</b> 74 safe sport space created, refurbished or enhanced
<b>\$18,433</b> million invested in programmes	<b>1,119</b> coaches upskilled
<b>14</b> programmes	<b>10</b> countries
<b>748</b> participants in capacity building Olympic Refugee Foundation-hosted sessions and events	<b>8</b> evidence based technical resources and products produced
<b>1</b> Princessa de Asturias Award	<b>100+</b> resources and tools on sport and MHPSS made available
<b>80+</b> organisations mobilised through Sport for Refugees Coalition	<b>11</b> International Federations allowing refugee participation

Figures on the map reflect the number of young people affected by displacement accessing safe sport by December 2022.  
\* Programmes initiated as part of the IOC-UNHCR Partnership



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## 2022 was a year with the wrong kind of records being set.

For the first time in history, more than 100 million people (more than half of whom are children) have been forced to flee their homes across the globe. The war in Ukraine has displaced upwards of 13 million Ukrainians, the ramifications from conflicts and disasters in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and within Latin America continue to force millions more to flee their homes and, elsewhere, such as in Bangladesh, the effects of climate change have forced further mass displacement.

For many young displaced people, starting their lives again in a new environment brings multiple challenges including abuse, violence, isolation, suffering from psychological and mental stress, anxiety and uncertainties about the future. At the Olympic Refugee Foundation, we believe sport can be part of the solution.

Through our work, we are uniting leaders, the Olympic movement, the private sector, coaches and young people affected by displacement from across the world to create a team with purpose; A team like no other.

In this team we all share one goal – for displaced young people to find belonging through sport, and shape their own futures, their way.

In a world grappling with the greatest refugee crisis since World War II, the Olympic Refugee Foundation has emerged

as a beacon of hope, offering opportunity and refuge to those forcibly displaced from their homes. This report highlights our significant achievements and the impact we have made at the mid point in our 2021–2024 strategic plan.

Key achievements of the Olympic Refugee Foundation in 2022 included:

- Reaching more than 100,000 young people affected by displacement through our work and launching 3 new programmes in Bangladesh, France and Türkiye;
- The Uganda programme – Game Connect – showing an over 90% decrease in young people reporting symptoms of depression and anxiety;
- Responding to the Ukraine crisis and mental health needs for Ukrainian refugees through work seeded in the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank and the inclusion of sport in the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine;
- Onboarding more than 50 athletes on the Refugee Athlete Scholarship programme;
- Continuing to mobilise the Olympic Movement and deliver on IOC Recommendation 11 of Agenda 2020+5;
- Receiving the Princess of Asturias Awards for the Olympic Refugee Foundation and Refugee Olympic Team; and
- Going live [www.olympicrefugeefoundation.org](http://www.olympicrefugeefoundation.org)

Our comprehensive programmes have reached thousands of individuals, empowering them to rebuild their lives,

improve their mental health, develop new skills and regain a sense of purpose and belonging through sport. Working collectively has seen opportunities to scale and influence systemic change that can provide the supportive environments necessary for longer term change.

As we look ahead and move closer towards our goal for 1 million young people affected by displacement to access safe sport, the Olympic Refugee Foundation set ambitious targets for 2023, including:

- Programmes in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Colombia, France, Jordan, Kenya, Spain, Türkiye, Uganda (East Africa);
- The Refugee Athletes Scholarship athletes onboarded and preparation commencing for the Olympic Games Paris 2024;
- Rolling out a regional approach to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in response to the Ukraine crisis; and
- Shaping the collective impact of the Sport for Refugees Coalition ahead of the UNHCR Global Refugee Forum.

Together we can build a future where everyone belongs, through sport.





# FOUNDATION

## CHAIR



MR THOMAS BACH

## VICE CHAIR

MR FILIPPO  
GRANDI

## BOARD MEMBERS

HE SHEIKH JOAAN BIN  
HAMAD AL-THANIMR YIECH PUR  
BIELDR CHUNGWON  
CHOUE

MR JOE GEBBIA



MS JOSEFINA SALAS

MS FELICITE  
RWEMARIKA

MR PERE MIRÓ

MS ANNE  
HIDALGOMR PAUL  
TERGAT

The Olympic Refugee Foundation continues to function with a lean operating model, drawing on expertise from coalitions, networks and key partners to deliver its vision.

The members of the Foundation Board share in the vision of building a society where everyone belongs, through sport. The Board is chaired by IOC President, Mr Thomas Bach, and he is joined on the Board by the Vice Chair, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Filippo Grandi, and nine Executive Board members.

In 2022, the Board appointed Airbnb Co-Founder and former Chairman of Airbnb.org Mr Joe Gebbia and Former Deputy Director General of the IOC Mr Pere Miró as new Olympic Refugee Foundation Board members for four-year periods.

The Executive Committee is responsible for the running and management of the Foundation. The Executive Committee members are:

- Mr Christophe De Kepper, Chair
- Mrs Lana Haddad, Treasurer
- Mr James Macleod, Member
- Ms Jojo Ferris, Secretary

**“WITH MORE THAN 100 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD, OUR MISSION REMAINS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE, AND OUR COMMITMENT TO STAND WITH REFUGEES IS STRONGER THAN EVER”**

Mr Thomas Bach,  
Olympic Refugee Foundation Chair



# PROGRESS

The Olympic Refugee Foundation has an ambitious goal for 1 million young people affected by displacement to access safe sport by 2024. To do this we focus on change in three main areas:

**Access:**

More young people affected by displacement will access and benefit from safe sport.

**Adoption:**

Safe sport will be increasingly accepted and adopted by practitioners and policy makers as an effective tool to support young people affected by displacement.

**Collective action:**

Multi-stakeholder partnerships will create sustained change, with the Olympic Refugee Foundation and partners acting together to scale, improve and innovate the way in which sport is used to support young people affected by displacement.

## REACHING 1 MILLION

120,000 young people affected by displacement had access to safe sport through the Olympic Refugee Foundation's programmes and impact, by the end of 2022 according to verified data. In 2021 and 2022 the majority of reach was planned through direct engagement and provision of safe sporting spaces. In the next two years our reach will grow exponentially as we focus increased attention into adding value to our sport for protection partners, and our advocacy and collective action efforts.

\*At the Olympic Refugee Foundation, young people affected by displacement refers to:

- people between the ages of 10 and 24 who are forced to move, within or across borders, due to armed conflict, persecution, terrorism, human rights violations and abuses, violence, the adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters, development projects or a combination of these factors;
- people and communities that host these young people and share their space, land, networks, and other resources; and or
- young people that voluntarily or involuntarily return to their place of origin after having been forcibly displaced.



# 1 MILLION GOAL TO BE REACHED THROUGH:

2021-2024 **200,000**

**DIRECT ENGAGEMENT:**

Young people affected by displacement directly accessing sport as part of organised and structured sport for protection activities delivered through the Olympic Refugee Foundation programme portfolio.

2021-2024 **200,000**

**PROVISION OF SAFE SPORTING SPACES:**

The development, refurbishment or rehabilitation of safe sporting spaces within local communities. These spaces are accessible to participants in Olympic Refugee Foundation-funded programmes as well as the wider local population.

2023-2024 **100,000**

**ADDED VALUE TO SPORT FOR PROTECTION PARTNERS:**

Adding value to the activities of partners, and the wider sector through, for example, the facilitation of training and capacity exchange activities (Psychological First Aid, the Olympic Refugee Foundation Community of Practice, Webinars) and the development and dissemination of guidance and tools to support quality sport for protection activity.

2023-2024 **500,000**

**ADVOCACY AND COLLECTIVE ACTION:**

Advocacy and collective action is necessary to shift policy and practice, further collaborations and mobilize resources which extend access to sport for young people affected by displacement in a meaningful and sustained way.





# ACCESS

We know that young people affected by displacement and refugee athletes are missing out on the benefits that safe sport can bring due to a lack of quality provision as well as barriers to access and participation.

In 2022, three new programmes were launched including our first programme in a high-income country; Terrains d’Avenir focusing on supporting displaced young people in France, our first programme to address climate change displacement; SPiRIT in Bangladesh and, our largest programme to date in Türkiye focusing on social cohesion.

Our programmes are contextually relevant, needs-based, and place the

expertise and lived experience of the young people affected by displacement at the centre of the design, implementation and learning cycle.

The total earmarked programme investment for these three programmes is \$18.4million. The programme portfolio is supporting outcomes in the areas of social cohesion, social inclusion and psychosocial well-being.

THEMATIC AREA	FUNDING INVESTED/ EARMARKED	NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES
Social Inclusion	USD 4'738'345	3
Social Cohesion	USD 8'485'761	5
Psychosocial Well-being	USD 5'209'026	6
<b>Total programmes</b>	<b>USD 18'433'132</b>	<b>14</b>

## BY THE END OF 2022, THE OLYMPIC REFUGEE FOUNDATION HAS:

- Engaged 95,000 displaced young people and host community members (42% girls and young women) in sports activities;
- Upskilled more than 1,100 coaches (including sport coaches, teachers, youth workers, social workers and community-based volunteers) to deliver safe and structured Sport for Protection activities;
- Supported the creation, refurbishment or enhancement of more than 70 safe sporting spaces that have extended access to as many as 22,000 young people affected by displacement; and
- Supported more than 50 athletes with elite potential to be part of the Refugee Athlete Scholarship Programme funded by Olympic Solidarity.



# ADOPTION

Safe sport at scale needs to be embedded in the practice and policy of local, national and international protection responses in order for young people affected by displacement to access (and benefit) from it.

In 2022, the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank published an article in BMJ Global Health, the leading global health journal. We also produced two technical resources supporting practitioners in the delivery of quality sport for protection activities. The development and dissemination of guidance and tools, and the investment in monitoring, evaluation, research and learning, is contributing to improved knowledge, understanding and technical capacity to deliver safe sport for young people affected by displacement and refugee athletes.

Regional Refugee Response Plans (RRRPs) are used to outline the comprehensive response and activities required to support countries' efforts to protect and assist refugees. The RRRP for Ukraine was the first time such a plan had included and acknowledged sport. We hope, working closely with UNHCR, that this can be a precedent for future RRRPs.

The Olympic Refugee Foundation presented at a range of fora and facilitated the attendance of more than 350 participants in Olympic Refugee Foundation events for the purpose of dialogue and debate on safe sport. These included two meetings of the Olympic Refugee Foundation Community of Practice, three events hosted by the Sport for Refugees Coalition and one event co-hosted with MHPSS.net.

In addition, the Olympic Refugee Foundation has focused on providing psychological support through sport for young Ukrainian refugees, by working with leading mental health experts from the Think Tank. The aim is to enhance the capacity and knowledge of both the sport and the mental health sectors. The Olympic Refugee Foundation is also developing adapted Psychological First Aid (PFA) training for sports coaches supporting young people affected by displacement.

## IN 2022, KEY EXAMPLES OF THIS ADOPTION WERE:

- Sport being included in a Regional Refugee Response Plan for the first time;
- The pilot project in Paris to support Ukrainian refugees, upskilling coaches and mental health professionals;
- Game Connect invited onto the National Mental Health working group in Uganda;
- Publication in the BMJ Global Health, the leading global health journal;
- 11 International Sport Federations adjusting their statutes and regulations to enable refugee athletes to compete;
- The creation of an open source repository of more than 100+ resources and tools on sport and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS); and
- Advocating for safe sport and influencing at fora including UNHCR Executive Committee and High Level Dialogues, 17th Council of Europe Sport Ministerial meeting and Terrains d'Avenir round tables.







# COLLECTIVE ACTION

We are creating sustained change through multi-stakeholder partnerships, bringing new actors to work with us, and acting together to scale, improve and innovate the way in which sport is used in contexts of forced displacement.

The Olympic Refugee Foundation recognises the essential role of partnerships with other organisations and individuals to achieve its objectives and believes that the collaboration of numerous different actors, including, most importantly, those with lived experience, can improve the conditions of young people affected by displacement.

To mobilise collective action, we work in consortia to deliver programmes, co convene the Sport for Refugees Coalition, develop and leverage expertise of the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank, and seek out strategic partners. In 2022 we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency that broadens our cooperation and reaffirms UNHCR's

commitment to leverage sport to protect and support young people affected by displacement worldwide.

The ongoing and foundational partnership with the IOC and Olympic Movement is crucial to the impact of the Olympic Refugee Foundation. The Olympic Refugee Foundation has been mandated to deliver on Recommendation 11 of the IOC roadmap, Olympic Agenda 2020 + 5, which is to strengthen support to refugees and populations affected by displacement. In addition to the engagement of National Olympic Committees (NOCs), funding mobilisation and advocacy opportunities, our work with International Federations have seen 11 adjust their rules and regulations to allow refugee participation in competition.

## IN 2022, KEY EXAMPLES OF THE OLYMPIC REFUGEE FOUNDATION WORKING COLLECTIVELY INCLUDE:

- Continuing to mobilise 80+ organisations on the Sport for Refugees Coalition together with UNHCR and Sport Foundation;
- Formalising strategic partnerships with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency and the Spanish Ministry of Welfare and Social Inclusion;
- Attending, leveraging and facilitating more than 15 advocacy events/opportunities;
- Receiving the Princess of Asturias Award;
- Receiving a total of USD 1,666,391 from existing and new supporters including the Chinese Olympic Committee, the French Government, Airbnb, Princess of Asturias Foundation, IOC and private donors; and
- Continuing to deliver on IOC recommendation 11 of Agenda 2020 + 5 and mobilise the Olympic movement.



# AN AWARD IN RECOGNITION

“The Olympic Refugee Foundation and the Refugee Olympic Team remind us that sport, elite competition and the Olympic Movement also serve to remember, reflect and alleviate — as far as possible — the harsh reality that so many people in the world live” said his Majesty the King of Spain during the 2022 Princess of Asturias Awards ceremony.

He continued: “The word refugee is one of those terms that provokes deep despair in the listener. Because the world’s refugees have lost everything, forced to leave their homes, their countries for reasons beyond their control and always in dramatic circumstances, even endangering their

lives. We are called to be in solidarity so that they can pursue their personal ambitions.”

Her Royal Highness Leonor, the Princess of Asturias, presented the 2022 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports to the IOC President, and Olympic Refugee Foundation Chair, Thomas Bach, alongside IOC Refugee Olympic Team Tokyo 2020 team members Eldric Sella and Masomah Ali Zada.

The award was in recognition of the opportunities that the Olympic Refugee Foundation and the IOC Refugee Olympic Team provide to young displaced people around the world to access sport and thrive in all aspects of their lives.

Her Royal Highness Leonor said: “We young people are aware that the current situation is not easy, that the world has changed and continues to change, and that the best way to progress is to maintain the enthusiasm to learn, to equip ourselves with responsibility and capacity for effort, to learn from those whom you know, those who do their thing flawlessly, often in silence. For this reason, on days like today, listening to, admiring and acknowledging the excellence of our winners makes us feel that things can always change for the better.”

“As a boy, I always dreamed to take part in the Olympic Games,” said Eldric Sella, who is from Venezuela and now lives in Uruguay. “I am so grateful that I was given the opportunity to compete with the best athletes in the world and could show that refugees can achieve a lot if the world believes in them. I have never been so determined to make it to Paris. I will train hard and, most importantly, continue to promote the power of sport and what it can bring to refugee athletes like me, but also to millions of young displaced people around the world.”

“REFUGEES CAN ACHIEVE A LOT IF THE WORLD BELIEVES IN THEM.”



# 2. PROGRAMMES



# GAME CONNECT UGANDA

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION



- Programme goals:** Through sport, assist over 10,000 young people aged 15-24 with their mental wellbeing, and their host communities
- Timings:** Launched August 2020, for a period of 3 years
- Investment:** Over \$1.5 million

**Partners:** AVSI Foundation, Right to Play, Youth Sport Uganda, the Uganda Olympic Committee (UOC) and UNHCR Uganda.

Working on Game Connect with our in-country partners in Uganda we're seeing how sport can improve the mental health and well-being of young people who have had to rebuild their lives within their new host communities.

Uganda hosts the largest number of refugees in Africa, with refugees and asylum-seekers mainly from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Burundi. Young people joining Ugandan communities can often feel disconnected, unwanted and suffer from depression, anger, low self-esteem and other mental health difficulties.

Through Game Connect we've seen that sport can increase resilience while promoting a culture of peace between refugees and host communities in the Adjumani, Kampala, Kamwenge, Kyangwali and Lamwo districts of Uganda.

Our Sport for Protection curriculum isn't just fun and games. It provides a range of activities and lessons to help young people learn not only sports but crucial life skills like conflict resolution, citizenship and accountability.

For a young person to develop a level of knowledge that will help them in their day-to-day lives, we believe they should attend 10-13 life skill activities. Of those young people who participated, 97% reached this level upon graduation from the programme.

Also in 2022 we ran activities to help young people from diverse groups connect and took onboard feedback to make sure they were culturally appropriate and fun for everyone, particularly for young girls who often have limited access to sport and therefore don't always feel sport is for them.

21 coaches had the opportunity to learn more about safe sport and how to deliver it successfully and received crucial equipment like balls, bibs and nets.

If we found it was more convenient for parents, we arranged public meetings or home visits to increase the knowledge and awareness of parents and community leaders who have since become champions of the programme and now support our mental health and well-being initiatives.

One of our goals is to help young people thrive through sport and our recent research shows that for those graduating from the programme there has been a 90% decrease, or more, in reporting symptoms of depression or anxiety. We also worked closely with in-country partners to successfully refer 522 young participants to services which support their education or mental, psychosocial or physical health.

We're grateful to Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) for joining us and providing \$250,000 that allowed us to expand into the Kyangwali settlement.



Young people enjoying Game Connect activities designed to help refugee and host communities grow stronger together. © AVSI

## KEY 2022 ACHIEVEMENTS:

HELPED  
**6,193**  
YOUNG PEOPLE CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER THROUGH SPORT

ACHIEVED  
**>90%**  
DECREASE IN YOUNG PEOPLE REPORTING DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY UPON GRADUATION FROM THE PROGRAMME

TRAINED  
**21**  
NEW OR ADDITIONAL COACHES

PRESERVED  
**61**  
EXISTING SITES

IDENTIFIED  
**161**  
PEER LEADERS (35% FEMALE)

EDUCATED  
**1,741**  
PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

PROVIDED  
**2,850**  
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SUPPORT AT HOME



# GAME CONNECT HELPS FORMER CHILD SOLDIER REDISCOVER THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE

Isaac Yongo is only 18 but his experience as a former child soldier left deep emotional scars.

When the rebel army attacked his village during the South Sudan civil war, Isaac, who was just 16, was abducted and forced to join the rebel army, with other children from the village. They were told their parents were dead and they had little choice but to follow orders or face deadly consequences.

“We were taught to kill people. We didn’t care about human life,” Isaac says.

For three years, Isaac stayed with the rebels, but during a mission to purchase guns from the Democratic Republic of the Congo he learnt that his family was alive and safe in Uganda. Isaac saw his chance and managed to flee, reuniting with his family at the Ugandan border.

Although Isaac had escaped the war, the war did not escape him. The gruesome experiences left him distressed, traumatised and often violent towards others.

In 2020, a representative from Game Connect visited Isaac’s home, sharing how the programme could provide the psychosocial support he needed through lessons that felt like ‘play’ as opposed to ‘treatment’.

“In Game Connect I learnt conflict resolution which helped me to mend relations with my family and also make friends with some of the boys I had fought with in the past. Looking back to the person I was, I am surprised that today someone can step on my foot in football and I will not respond aggressively because at the end of the day it’s just a sport and mistakes happen,” says Isaac.

Isaac has now become a vital member of the Agojo Refugee Settlement football team and has made many friends around the settlement and beyond. Using the lessons from his Game Connect sessions, he no longer thinks of himself as an individual but as a member of a team – a team like no other.



© AVSI

Through sport young people can reach their full potential. © AVSI





Refugees and asylum seekers in the Greater Paris area can find a sense of belonging and set themselves on a positive life path through sport © A. Lauriol







Young people enjoying Terrains d'Avenir activities designed to help refugee and host communities grow stronger together.  
© A. Lauriol



## TERRAINS D'AVENIR FRANCE

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

**Programme goals:** Support 6,000 young people aged 10-24 to access safe sport to find a sense of belonging and a positive life path

**Timing:** Launched February 2022, for a period of 3 years

**Investment:** Over €1.8 million

**Partners:** Co financed by The Ministry of Sports and Olympic and Paralympic Games delivered by Kabubu, PLAY international, Emmaüs Solidarité, Ovale Citoyen, Fútbol Más and the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation, with support from the Ville de Paris, the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games Paris 2024, the French National Olympic and Sports Committee (CNOSF) and UNHCR France.

### KEY 2022 ACHIEVEMENTS:

SUPPORTED  
**2,631**  
YOUNG PEOPLE TO  
ACCESS SAFE SPORT

RAN  
**700+**  
SPORT SESSIONS  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

TRAINED  
**43**  
COACHES AND  
PROFESSIONALS

Terrains d'Avenir supports displaced young people based in Paris and its surrounding areas, in the Île-de-France region of France.

The programme aims to work with refugees and asylum seekers in the region so they can find a sense of belonging and set themselves on a positive life path through sport.

France has over 455,000 recognised refugees, more than 132,000 asylum seekers and many other displaced people, with the majority based in the Greater Paris region where this programme is based. Refugees are mainly from Afghanistan, Syria, Sri Lanka, Russia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and now, Ukraine.

Among numerous other challenges, they face limited opportunities to interact with local communities. In addition, few services exist to help displaced young people deal with the trauma caused by their forced migration.

By widening access to safe sport, and by training other service providers on the use of sport in protecting young people affected by displacement, the Terrains

d'Avenir programme is improving the social inclusion of young displaced people in their new communities. This then has a positive effect on their personal development, physical and mental well-being, feelings of empowerment, as well as social skills and networks, improved intercultural communication and helping increase their chances of future employment.

In 2022 the programme supported 2,631 young people aged 10 to 24 to access safe sport, as well as benefiting their families, volunteers, sports clubs, and the general public indirectly. More than 700 sports sessions were run for host communities and displaced young people, as well as five training modules, two support programmes and mentoring for displaced young people and 43 coaches and professionals trained.

In addition, three joint events were organised, including a sports event on 29 October 2022 which brought together members of the Olympic movement, elected officials from the City of Paris and community and reception workers for a discussion on the themes of sport and inclusion.





## THE YOUNG WOMAN FIGHTING HER WAY TOWARDS THE OLYMPICS

When Marzieh Hamidi, 20, fled Afghanistan her dream of taking part in an Olympic Games couldn't have been further from her mind. Today, thanks to Terrains d'Avenir, the taekwondo athlete is daring to dream once again.

Marzieh practiced taekwondo two to three times a week when she lived in Afghanistan but when she arrived in France with no documentation and began life as a refugee, her favourite sport and any hopes she held seemed out of reach.

Following the launch of Terrains d'Avenir in February 2022, Marzieh was able to join a taekwondo club with other displaced young people and mix with those from the local community.

After coaches recognised her star quality, she now trains every day as an elite athlete with the French

National Team. Marzieh's goal of participating in the Olympic Games Paris 2024 is in focus again as she has now been awarded a Refugee Athlete Scholarship funded by Olympic Solidarity. The scholarship supports elite athletes to access training and attend national and international competitions. Through Terrains d'Avenir, Marzieh also undertook training as a coach, giving her another avenue for the years ahead.

Marzieh is hopeful for the future: "Taekwondo gave me more strength and confidence to be present in French society. Now my main goal Wis to prepare myself for Paris 2024!"







Young displaced people find belonging by learning sports alongside children from host communities.

## SPORT FOR SOLIDARITY TÜRKİYE

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

**Programme goals:** Reach more than 25,200 young people through safe sport so they find a sense of belonging

**Timings:** Launched May 2022, for a period of 3 years

**Investment:** \$9.13 million (\$4 million from the Olympic Refugee Foundation and \$5.13 million from the Ministry of Youth and Sports)

**Partners:** The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Türkiye (MoYS) and the Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants (ASAM). UNHCR Türkiye and the Turkish Olympic Committee also provide support.

Türkiye hosts the greatest number of refugees and asylum seekers in the world with more than 3.7 million Syrian refugees and over 400,000 asylum seekers from countries including Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and Somalia.

The growing number of displaced people has led to increased tension between refugee and host communities, resulting in heightened risks of bullying, discrimination and gender-based violence towards young refugees.

Through our partners, we run sport sessions, festivals and camps so that young refugees get a chance to mix with host communities. In 2022, 2,060 young people – 48% refugees and 52% from the host community – benefitted from our courses and 1,936 children and their families took part in the festival events, across five different provinces.

One of the goals of the programme is to encourage more female participation and we are pleased that the number of young females taking part has increased over time with 49% of participants being female in 2022.

Together with our partners, we provided mental health and well-being support and held awareness-raising activities on topics such as healthy eating, peer-bullying, children's rights and positive parenting, and gender equality.

Offering 16 different sports provides different options to the diverse backgrounds of people we are trying to engage, who come from 14 different countries of origin (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Iran, Iraq Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Palestine, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Türkiye, Ukraine and Uzbekistan).

The backbone of our programme is the staff and trainers. We held a three-day event for more than 100 trainers and staff from our partner organisations to increase their understanding of child protection, mentoring and leadership and sensitivities of working with young displaced people.

### KEY 2022 ACHIEVEMENTS:

**2,060**  
YOUNG PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM SPORTS

**70**  
COURSES OPENED IN 16 DIFFERENT SPORTS IN 7 PROVINCES

**1522**  
PEOPLE JOINED AWARENESS-RAISING SEMINARS

**542**  
PEOPLE ATTENDED TURKISH OLYMPIC COMMITTEE EVENTS

OVER  
**100**  
TRAINERS AND STAFF TRAINED



Turkish Olympic Committee and mascot Oly share the Olympic Values with young people.



# VEN Y JUEGA COLOMBIA

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

**Programme goals:** More than 5,000 young people directly accessing safe sport to support social cohesion amongst refugees, migrants and host communities.

**Timings:** Launched March 2021, for a period of 3 years

**Investment:** \$1.33 million

**Partners:** UNHCR Colombia with Fundación Fútbol con Corazon, Fundación Makikuna, Corporación Opción Legal, and the Colombian Olympic Committee.

Ven y Juega or “Come and Play” empowers young displaced people from Venezuela and internally displaced young people from within Colombia to integrate with their host communities.

Colombia has seen the largest forced displacement crisis ever in Latin America, with millions of refugees and migrants entering from Venezuela due to widespread violence, gang-warfare, increased crime and shortages of food, medicine and essential services. In addition, over 9 million people have suffered forced internal displacement due to Colombia’s ongoing 60-year armed conflict. The humanitarian situation worsened in 2022 with 176 major displacement events, affecting 68,000 people.

For many young refugees and migrants it can take a long time for them to feel a sense of belonging in their new home. Through sport, and fuelled by the Olympic values, these young people and their hosts have a chance to build bonds, learn new skills and increase resilience, which improves their mental health and well-being.

The project is active in three regions – La Guajira, Norte de Santander and Putumayo. In each region we’ve found safe community spaces, trained coaches and run sports sessions that have allowed children and adolescents to strengthen their sports, communication, and socio-emotional skills, as well as their resilience and values.

The programme aims to improve the self-perception and cognitive, emotional, and social skills of the young people participating.

## KEY 2022 ACHIEVEMENTS:

**2,277**  
REGULAR YOUNG  
SPORTS PARTICIPANTS

**45**  
COACHES AND  
AIDES TRAINED  
AND SUPPORTED

**7**  
SPORTS VENUES  
IDENTIFIED AND  
IMPROVED

## LORENA, VEN Y JUEGA PARTICIPANT:

“This is a space in which I have been welcomed with great affection, allowing me to obtain new knowledge both in the sporting part and in the social and personal part.

“Thanks to the project I’ve understood the value of each living being and each person, the importance of values and socio-emotional skills such as: respect, tolerance, honesty and solidarity, which are the essential foundation of each human being, regardless of the origin.

“The coaches provide us with all the tools to become better people and useful to society, generating social change, have fun and learn. We hope to continue having more projects like this in our community!”



© UNHCR

Play 2 Protect’s awareness-raising activities have made it more acceptable for young women to get involved in sport. © UNFPA



## PLAY 2 PROTECT KENYA

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

**Programme goals:** Ensure up to 24,000 young people benefit from awareness of gender-based violence (GBV) and sport as a tool to support mental health.

**Timings:** July 2020, for a period of 3 years

**Investment:** \$1.48 million

**Partners:** The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with Kenya Red Cross, Danish Refugee Council and the International Rescue Committee.

Building on the learnings from an earlier Kenyan programme, Play 2 Protect harnesses the power of sport to raise awareness and prevent gender-based violence and improve the mental health and wellbeing of young displaced people.

There are more than 200,000 refugees and asylum seekers located in the northern Kakuma and Kalobeyei region where this programme is located. Women and girls living in the camps and settlements are at increased risk of gender-based violence, including female genital mutilation, early and forced marriage as well as other forms of sexual and physical violence. By running sporting activities we are able to reach a wide community and start important conversations about health and inclusion.

We raised wider awareness of gender-based violence and services through radio spots which reached tens of thousands and trained healthcare workers and young people as first responders. We also engaged with community leaders and sport officials to identify gender-based violence hotspots and provided reproductive health kits.

Using sport as a tool we are also bridging the gap between refugees and host

communities and helping it become acceptable for more young women to get involved in sport.

**“THE PLAY 2 PROTECT PROJECT HAS ENHANCED THE PROTECTION OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN, AND BOYS FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RISKS THROUGH SPORTS,” ROSE MUTHEE, INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE.”**








© Masud Rana

## SPORTS FOR PROTECTION, RESILIENCE, AND TRANSFORMATION (SPIRIT) BANGLADESH

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

 **Programme goals:** Support 10,000 young people to overcome climate challenges and shape a brighter future. Reach over 47,000 beneficiaries indirectly

 **Timings:** Launched 2022, for a period of 3 years

 **Investment:** \$1.57 million

**Partners:** The programme is delivered by Terre des Hommes Bangladesh with SOLIDARITY and Breaking the Silence.

This is the first programme the Olympic Refugee Foundation has embarked on that responds to climate displacement. Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change, with devastating effects on the availability of water and food, and on its infrastructure.

SPiRIT focuses on the Kurigram district, a region in the north highly susceptible to events such as flooding, and the slums in the capital Dhaka, where a large number of inhabitants have been forcibly displaced from the northern districts by climate-induced disasters.

This programme began in 2022. Working with our partners who understand the local context has enabled us to identify a cluster of villages that we can support and already thirty local staff have been trained in inclusivity, safeguarding, and child protection.

When the programme is fully up and running, sports such as football, cricket or badminton, will enable young people to have fun together while learning skills such as leadership and teamwork. We'll be supporting displaced young people to lead discussions to overcome the many environmental challenges they face, so they can shape a brighter future for themselves.

It's vital that we address the key challenge of involving more young women and girls in sports. In 2022, we've been engaging with strong female leaders and role models to help develop the project and build further rapport with the local community.

Through regular sports such as football, young displaced people can connect while developing skills like leadership and teamwork. © Masud Rana







Climate change is increasingly forcing people away from their homes. © Masud Rana





The IOC Refugee Olympic Team walk out at the Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony. © IOC/ Jason Evans

# REFUGEE ATHLETES SUPPORT PROGRAMME

- ACCESS
- ADOPTION
- COLLECTIVE ACTION

**Programme goals:** Support refugee athletes to pursue their athletic career and raise awareness of the talent and positive contribution refugees make to society and communities across the globe.

**Timings:** January 2021 – August 2024

**Investment:** Funded by Olympic Solidarity up to the amount of USD \$4 million

When an athlete becomes displaced, this can result in a large number of barriers for them to access competitive and elite sport. Refugee status should never be a barrier to someone fulfilling their sporting potential.

Funded by Olympic Solidarity and managed by the Olympic Refugee Foundation, the Refugee Athlete Support programme gives scholarships to athletes, contributing to their training and helping these individuals to prepare and participate in high-level competitions. We work closely with National Olympic Committees and National and International Federations to support refugee athletes living in their host countries.

Athletes on the programme are elite competitors in their respective sports and recognised refugees or beneficiaries of international protection according to the UNHCR.

By the end of 2022, 52 athletes from 12 countries, living in 18 host countries are supported through the Refugee Athlete Support programme. They represent 10 sports and all hope of being selected for the Refugee Olympic Team for the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

## Advocating for Access

International Federations rules have not often been developed with refugee participation in mind. This is why we work closely with International Federations, to provide guidance on best practice on how to allow for refugee participation within their competitions.

In 2022, we worked closely with International Federations to support them in making changes to their statutes so that refugee athletes can take part in clubs, national and international competitions, providing recommendations as to how to integrate refugee athletes. This work resulted in 11 International Federations allowing refugee participation in their competitions.

The 11 International Federations were: World Aquatics, Union Cycliste Internationale, World Athletics, World Taekwondo, International Canoe Federation, Badminton World Federation, International Judo Federation, International Table Tennis Federation, International Weightlifting Federation, International Shooting Sport Federation, United World Wrestling.

## Support beyond sport

We recognise that a place on a podium may be the dream, but many refugee athletes have the task of rebuilding their lives beyond sport. That's why we work closely with Olympic Solidarity and other partners to identify opportunities and provide access to career development, education and training opportunities.

In 2022 we worked with Olympic Solidarity and the World University Service of Canada to provide university scholarships for four athletes, who had been part of the IOC Refugee Olympic Team Tokyo 2020, to resettle in Canada.

Partners: Olympic Solidarity, National Olympic Committees, International Federations.



“AS AN ATHLETE, MY DREAM WAS TO WIN A MEDAL AT THE OLYMPICS.”

Mohammad Amin Alsalami

52 ATHLETES

12 COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

18 HOST COUNTRIES

10 SPORTS

## THE LONG JUMPER WHO NOW HAS A RUNNING START ON PARIS 2024

As a young pupil at a school in Syria, Mohammad was spotted by a sports teacher, who suggested he take part in the Aleppo schools' championships. He finished first in the triple jump and second in the long jump. Two months later, he won the national schools championship in Syria in both categories. This is how Mohammad's love of sport was born.

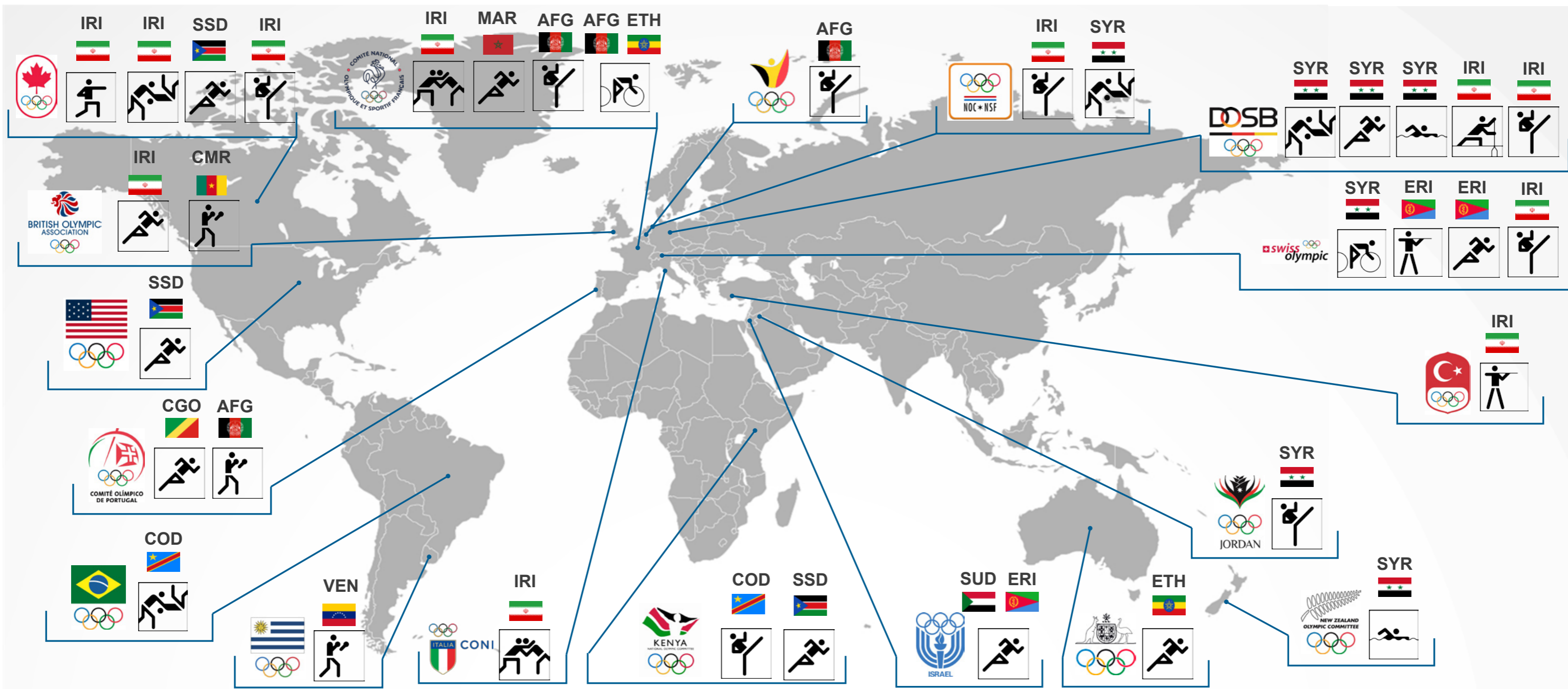
A few years later, he fled with some of his family members to Türkiye. Not being able to practice his sport, he decided to return to Syria. Despite the war, he trained, graduated, and started studying to become a sports teacher. While living and training in Damascus, he participated in the Asian

Championships, where he finished second. On his return, the war was still raging, and he had no choice but to leave. He now lives in Berlin and is training for his dream: the World Championships and the Olympic Games Paris 2024.

“This means a lot to me,” he said. “As an athlete, my dream was to win a medal at the Olympics, and that was very difficult to achieve alone, without help in a foreign country. I had to work 200 hours a month to earn money to train and go to training camps and competitions and pay for everything myself. But now training has become easier because I know that there is the IOC to support me.”



# REFUGEE ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS





# 3. NETWORKS



# THE OLYMPIC REFUGE FOUNDATION THINK TANK



Olympic Refugee Foundation



THINK TANK

ACCESS

ADOPTION

COLLECTIVE ACTION

The Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank represents a significant, and growing, contribution to the Foundation's work to ensure greater adoption of sport as a tool to support displaced people. The Think Tank was established in 2020 to strengthen the functions of the Olympic Refugee Foundation in areas including design, evidence, advocacy and interdisciplinary partnership.

The Think Tank brings together experts from academic institutions, NGOs, young people with lived experience as well as the private and public sectors, to create a platform for the exchange of ideas and experiences. Together, the Think Tank co-creates, consolidates and transfers knowledge for the purposes of advocacy and impact. The aim is to disseminate this evidence and make practical recommendations for policy makers and practitioners.

The Think Tank currently focusses extensively, but not exclusively, on the contribution of sport to mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) approaches in situations of forced displacement.



© Olympic Refugee Foundation

In 2022, the Think Tank engaged in two large projects focused on supporting mental health of Ukrainian Refugees and a 'Repository of Guidance and Tools on Sport and MHPSS'.

#### Repository of Guidance and Tools on Sport and MHPSS

While there is a growing body of work and resources in the use of sport and physical activity for the purpose of MHPSS, much of this knowledge is dispersed. In order to provide greater support, The Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank identified, mapped and collated existing resources that provide practical guidance for practitioners using sport and physical activity for the purpose of MHPSS in

programming with young people affected by displacement.

The exercise identified 120+ resources and presented an analysis of their quality, against pre-defined criteria. The available high-quality resources are now collated in an open-access repository. In 2022, two webinars were hosted to disseminate this resource and the group developed recommendations on how this information should be made available to practitioners and other relevant stakeholders in a form that promotes uptake and engagement.

## FOUR ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE BASED OUTPUTS WERE PRODUCED IN 2022:



[Realising the cross-cutting potential of sport in situations of forced displacement](#): BMJ Global Health, Volume 7, Issue 4, 13-04-2022



[Sport for Protection Toolkit videos](#) developed with Right to Play and hosted on the Olympic Refugee Foundation YouTube channel. The videos represent different chapters of the Sport for Protection Toolkit.



An [article](#) presenting preliminary data from the first pilot Psychological First Aid training for sport coaches in Paris was published on Sportanddev.org

## The Power of Sport For Good



Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank contributed to a white paper on Sport for Good by Calculus Group



# SUPPORT FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

In 2022, the devastating war in Ukraine displaced millions of people, with more than 8 million having sought refuge across Europe. As soon as the Russian army invaded Ukraine on 24 February, offers of solidarity from within the Olympic Movement came in and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) set up a Solidarity Fund through which it continues to support Ukrainian athletes and their entourage. In parallel, the Olympic Refugee Foundation looked at the mid to longer term needs. As an initial step, the Olympic Refugee Foundation contributed to a coordinated response by engaging in regular meetings, convened by UNHCR, where we exchanged with other actors looking to support Ukrainians through sport. This helped us to identify where there was a need for further support and to the creation of Sport for Ukraine.

Expert members of the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank, Dr. Leslie Snider and Associate Professor Simon Rosenbaum, developed training package of psychological first aid, adapted for sports settings. The adapted programme was originally conceived to target coaches, players, administrators and anyone involved in sporting environments and in displacement contexts, to be trained in adapted psychological first aid.

This concept then found applicability in the real-time displacement crisis of Ukraine. As a result of signposting and referrals, Ukrainian refugees began finding their way to our new Terrains d'Avenir programme in France. Recognising the trauma many of these young Ukrainians may have gone through, we established a pilot project. We focused

our efforts on training sports coaches and mental health professionals.

The initial pilot was delivered to a group of 16 sport coaches engaged in the Terrains D'Avenir programme. Through this real world application, we were able to test the concept, refine it and then look to retesting it in future deliveries.

There is a growing evidence base for the role of sport and physical activity in mental health and psychosocial support outcomes. Sport and physical activity have the potential to protect and promote mental health through various mechanisms, particularly if implemented in safe, healing-centred and trauma-informed ways.

Psychological First Aid is front-line, basic psychosocial support for people in distress, including those who have experienced crisis events and displacement. The foundational skills training aims to build capacity of those in a position to help, to say and do the most supportive things, and to avoid doing harm to very distressed people.

Following the initial pilot in Paris, we assessed the appropriateness, acceptability and feasibility of the training. The initial data is promising and is providing a basis for further adaptation of the content to address the specific needs of the sport sector and sport coaches.

We're now turning this into a regional programme by expanding into Moldova and Poland, closer to the borders with Ukraine in 2023.



We're shaping a movement to ensure young people affected by displacement thrive through safe sport © AVSI





# SPORT FOR REFUGEES COALITION

## Sport for Refugees Coalition

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

Established ahead of the first Global Refugee Forum in 2019 and co-convened by the Olympic Refugee Foundation, UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency), and the Sport Foundation, the Sport for Refugees Coalition brings together more than 80 entities from the world of sport, civil society, and public and private sectors to extend access to, and inclusion through, sport with and for displaced people around the world.

Through the Coalition, members have a platform to connect with a diverse range of sport and development actors, share and learn from good practices, and act as a focal point for joint communication and advocacy efforts promoting sport as an essential tool in displacement settings.

Since coming together with our collective Pledge in 2019, Coalition members have been active in at least 30 countries providing access to sport facilities and initiatives, training young refugees and giving those with elite potential the chance to compete at the highest level. Importantly, Coalition members have used their platforms and influence to

advocate for increased protection and better opportunities for refugees and other displaced people.

In 2022, the Sport for Refugees Coalition hosted three webinars for discussion and collaboration across organisations and sectors. The first drew on the work of the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank to identify and map guidance and tools in sport and mental health and psychosocial support. The second considered emerging trends and resource mobilisation in the sport for protection sector.

In late-2022, and looking forward to the second Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, the coalition co-convenors began preparatory work for the creation of a refreshed Joint Sport Pledge to be presented at the second Global Refugee Forum.

Coalition members have all signed up to one or more of the joint sport pledges presented at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum:

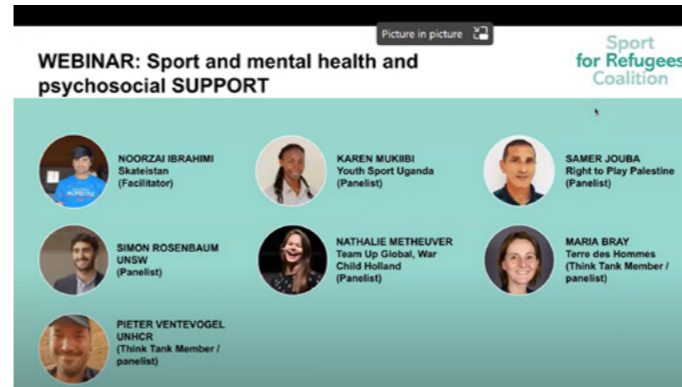
- To promote and ensure access for all refugees, without distinction of any kind, to safe and inclusive sporting facilities.
- To increase availability and access to organised sports and sport-based initiatives for refugee and hosting communities, actively considering age, gender, ability and other diversity needs.
- To promote and facilitate equal access to and participation of refugees in sporting events and competitions at all levels.

## FOUR WEBINAR DISCUSSIONS WERE HOSTED IN 2022:

### 28 JUNE 2022

Sport for Refugees Coalition hosted webinar on sport and MHPSS featuring a panel discussion and introducing the work of the Olympic Refugee Foundation Think Tank to map and collate existing guidance and tools on sport and MHPSS. The Panel included Peter Ventevogel, Simon Rosenbaum, Maria Bray, Karen Mukiibi; Samer Jouba; Nathalie Metheuver. The panel was facilitated by Noorzai Ibrahim.

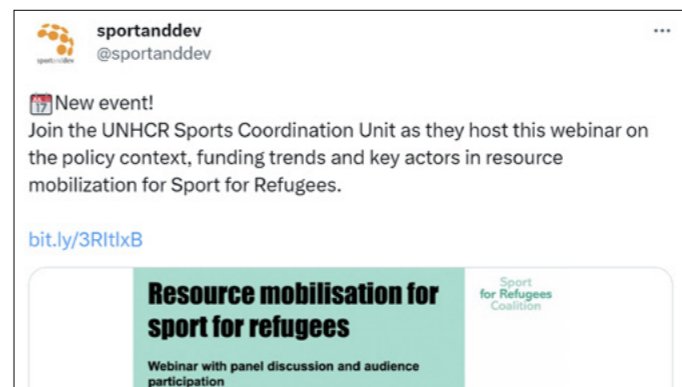
How many: 119 participants



### 4 OCTOBER 2022

Emerging trends and resource mobilisation in the sport for protection sector and featuring a panel discussion with UNESCO, JICA, AFD, Laureus and Oaks Consultancy.

How many: 75 participants



### 3 NOVEMBER 2022

Uniting Good Practices from Sport and MHPSS to Support Young People Affected by Displacement. A webinar co-hosted by the Olympic Refugee Foundation and MHPSS.net featuring a panel including Alastair Ager; Leslie Snider; Megan Bartlett; Zainab Hussaini; Nicole Matuska; Katia Verreault. The panel was facilitated by Rahmatullah Hamdard. During the session Maria Bray presented the Olympic Refugee Foundation repository of guidance and tools on sport and MHPSS.

How many: 79 participants



### 1 DECEMBER 2022

Upping the game – how can sport better respond to forced displacement? Sport for Refugees Coalition webinar co-hosted with Sportanddev to identify key actions and changes to strengthen sport's response to forced displacement as part of the Week of Action on Sport and Refugees.





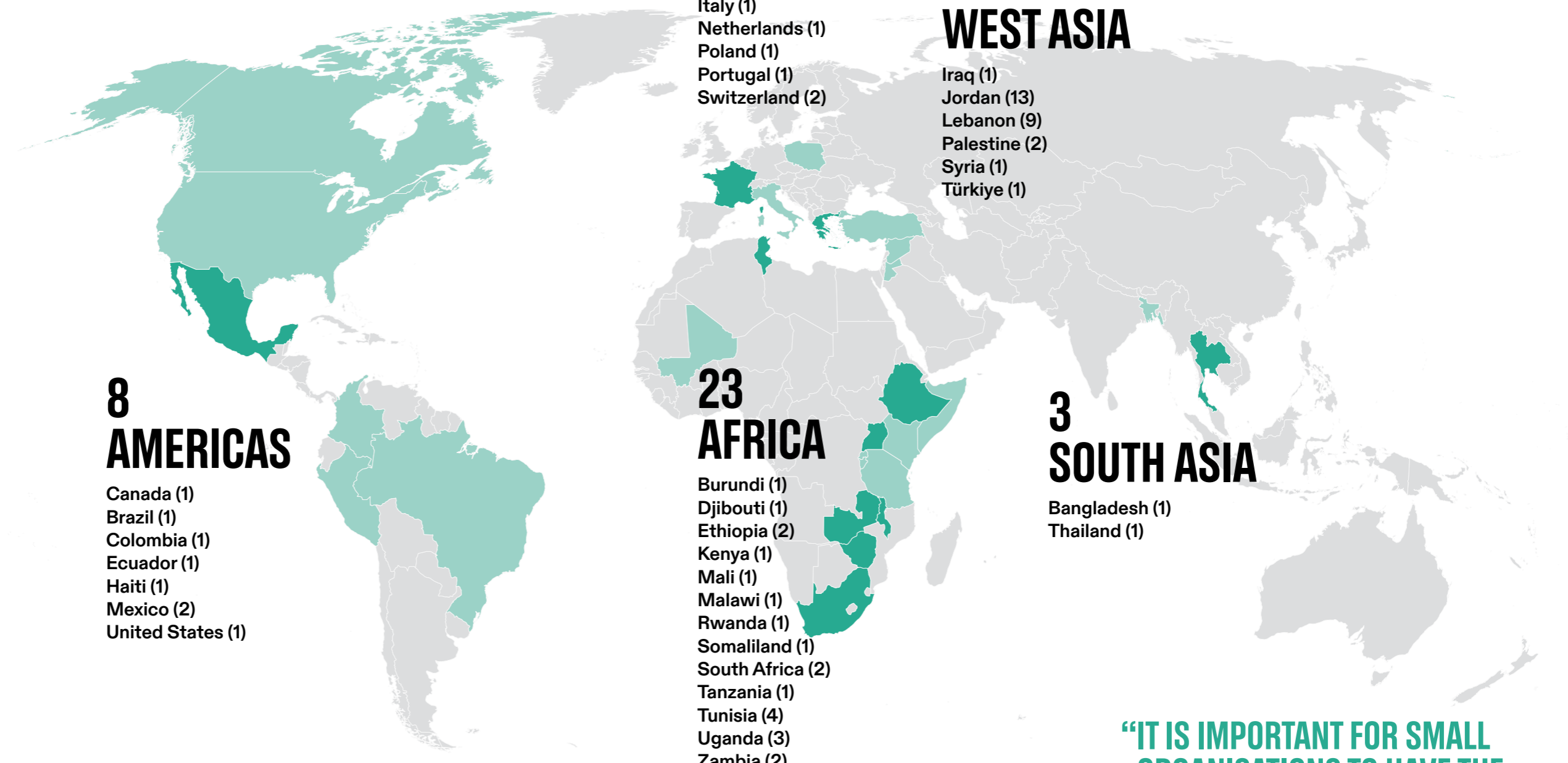
# REACH OF THE SPORT FOR REFUGEES COALITION

Sport  
for Refugees  
Coalition

Est. number of displaced people reached\*

None to date	4
Less than 10	2
11 to 50	2
51 to 100	3
101 to 500	6
501 to 1000	3
More than 1000	7

\*other members = n/a or unknown



## 8 AMERICAS

- Canada (1)
- Brazil (1)
- Colombia (1)
- Ecuador (1)
- Haiti (1)
- Mexico (2)
- United States (1)

## 12 EUROPE

- Denmark (1)
- France (1)
- Greece (4)
- Italy (1)
- Netherlands (1)
- Poland (1)
- Portugal (1)
- Switzerland (2)

## 27 WEST ASIA

- Iraq (1)
- Jordan (13)
- Lebanon (9)
- Palestine (2)
- Syria (1)
- Türkiye (1)

## 23 AFRICA

- Burundi (1)
- Djibouti (1)
- Ethiopia (2)
- Kenya (1)
- Mali (1)
- Malawi (1)
- Rwanda (1)
- Somaliland (1)
- South Africa (2)
- Tanzania (1)
- Tunisia (4)
- Uganda (3)
- Zambia (2)
- Zimbabwe (2)

## 3 SOUTH ASIA

- Bangladesh (1)
- Thailand (1)

Key: Name of Country (Number of member organisations per country)

Partial 2022 data based on 34 SfRC Coalition Members excluding 1 who has not started delivery yet and has not yet considered locations and 1 who noted their activity as 'global'.

“THE POWER OF THE COALITIONS IS HAVING LIKE MINDED PEOPLE WORKING TOWARDS THE SAME PURPOSE”

“IT IS IMPORTANT FOR SMALL ORGANISATIONS TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE RECOGNISED AND CONNECT WITH OTHER BIGGER ORGANISATIONS. THE COALITION PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE THE GAP.”



# PARTNERS

ACCESS ADOPTION COLLECTIVE ACTION

In June 2022, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, broadening our cooperation and reaffirming our commitment to leverage sport to protect and support young people affected by displacement worldwide.

An MoU with the Spanish Olympic Committee and the Spanish Ministry of Inclusion, Welfare and Immigration was also signed in June 2022, focusing on prospective collaboration using sport as a tool for social inclusion.

Some key opportunities to influence change through our network of partners included:

- The delivery of a statement at the UNHCR Executive Committee reiterating the commitment to using sport as a tool for the advancement and inclusion of young displaced people, and encouraging the member states and international organisations present to embed sport into national/regional refugee response frameworks;
- Participation at the 17th Council of Europe (CoE) Sport Ministerial Conference in Antalya, Türkiye, to bring attention to the use of sport as means to support the inclusion of displaced young people;
- Engagement in a round table organised by the partners of the Terrains d'Avenir programme in Paris, which aims to help refugees and displaced people in the Île-de-France region set themselves on a positive life path through sport, to exchange about the power of sport in fostering inclusion.

### The Olympic Community

The Olympic Refugee Foundation has been mandated to deliver on Recommendation 11 in Agenda 2020 + 5, the IOC strategic roadmap; Strengthen the support to refugees and populations affected by displacement.

In 2022 this included:

- Encouraging NOCs supporting inclusion of refugee athletes in nationwide training camps, access and supporting on the Refugee Athlete Support Programme;

- Engaging NOCs as consortia partners, members of the Sport for Refugees Coalition and awareness building at continental meetings and NOC visits;
- Sharing of best practices and recommendations with IFs on how to embed refugee participation in statutes of the IFs and allow participation of refugee athletes at all levels;
- Accessing Olympic Solidarity programmes as a traditional Olympic Committee would;
- Member of IOC Refugee Olympic Team in Tokyo, Masomah Ali Zada being appointed to the IOC Athletes Commission; and
- Advocacy with Continental Associations to share recommendations to support inclusion of refugee teams at Regional/Continental Games.

### Donor network

During the year 2022, the Olympic Refugee Foundation received a total of USD 1,666,391 from existing and new supporters including the Chinese Olympic Committee, the French Government, Airbnb, Princess of Asturias Foundation, IOC and private donors. Additionally, new strategic partnerships were formalised with UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency and the Spanish Ministry of Welfare and Social Inclusion.

In spring 2021, the Chinese NOC provided a multi-year donation of USD 5 million. The second instalment of USD 1 million was received in 2022 and this will be made annually over a five -year period (2021-2025) with the opportunity to renew.

Donations from IOC members and private donors, including the fundraising platform on the Olympic Refugee Foundation website, amounted to USD 294,070.

In February 2021, the French Sports Ministry committed to funding the Olympic Refugee Foundation for a total of EUR 1 million which the Olympic Refugee Foundation has directed towards the Terrains d'Avenir programme for refugees and displaced persons in the greater Paris region. In 2022, we received the last instalment of EUR 200,000.

Airbnb has a proven history of working with refugees and forcibly displaced persons since 2015 through its Open Homes programme. In addition, Airbnb has a unique and demonstrated commitment to refugee athletes as part of its Olympic and Paralympic partnership through LA2028. In 2022, Airbnb provided the Olympic Refugee Foundation with additional financial support of USD 75,000.

The 2022 Princess of Asturias Award for Sports was awarded to the Olympic Refugee Foundation and the IOC Refugee Olympic Team with the prize money being received by the Olympic Refugee Foundation. The Princess of Asturias Foundation made a donation of EUR 50,000 as part of the award.

The IOC transferred the donation of USD 40,000 received as a yearly contribution from Mizuno.

SOURCE	AMOUNT IN USD
Chinese Olympic Committee	1,000,000
IOC Members	291,970
French Ministry of Sports	207,688
Airbnb	75,000
Fundacion Princesa de Asturias	49,007
IOC	40,626
Private donors	2,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,666,391</b>



© IOC/Greg Martin



# WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS:

## FOUNDING PARTNER



## STRATEGIC PARTNER



## FINANCIAL PARTNERS



## OPERATIONAL PARTNERS



## REFUGEE ATHLETE HOST NOCS





# 4. ANNEXES





# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2022

### Olympic Refugee Foundation, Lausanne

#### Statement of Financial Position as of 31 December

(in thousand of US Dollars translated into Swiss Francs)

Assets	2022	2021	2022	2021
	USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and short term investments	12'800	16'132	11'833	14'727
Cash	404	632	373	577
Bank deposits	7'800	15'500	7'211	14'150
Marketable securities	4'596	-	4'249	-
Other receivables	129	14	120	13
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>12'929</b>	<b>16'146</b>	<b>11'953</b>	<b>14'740</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
	USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Accounts payable	77	18	71	489
Accrued expenses	11	-	10	2
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>491</b>
<b>Fund balances</b>				
Foundation capital	103	103	100	100
Undesignated funds	12'738	16'025	12'686	15'823
Result brought forward	16'025	15'439	15'823	15'287
Net result for the year	(3'287)	586	(3'137)	536
Cumulative translation difference	-	-	(914)	(1'199)
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>12'841</b>	<b>16'128</b>	<b>11'872</b>	<b>14'724</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>12'929</b>	<b>16'146</b>	<b>11'953</b>	<b>14'740</b>

### Olympic Refugee Foundation, Lausanne

#### Statement of Activities for the financial year ended 31 December

(in thousand of US Dollars translated into Swiss Francs)

	Notes	2022	2021	2022	2021
		USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
<b>Revenues</b>					
Donations received	1	1'666	2'288	1'589	2'094
<b>Total revenues</b>		<b>1'666</b>	<b>2'288</b>	<b>1'589</b>	<b>2'094</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Contributions	2	(3'837)	(1'006)	(3'660)	(921)
Administrative expenses	3	(1'168)	(680)	(1'115)	(623)
<b>Total expenditures</b>		<b>(5'005)</b>	<b>(1'686)</b>	<b>(4'775)</b>	<b>(1'544)</b>
Financial income / (expenses), net		230	25	219	23
Net decrease of carrying amount of marketable securities		(115)	-	(110)	-
Exchange gains / (losses), net		(63)	(41)	(60)	(37)
<b>Excess of (expenditures) / revenues</b>		<b>(3'287)</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>(3'137)</b>	<b>536</b>



## Olympic Refugee Foundation, Lausanne

### Notes to the financial statements

(in thousand of US Dollars translated into Swiss Francs)

#### a. Activity

The Olympic Refugee Foundation (ORF) was constituted as a Foundation on 5 December 2017, governed by the provisions of the Swiss Civil Code, with its registered office in Lausanne.

ORF's mission is to initiate sports-related programmes directed at children, young people and vulnerable populations contributing to their protection, health, well-being, gender equality, integration, youth development, education, social inclusion and the promotion of peace; to support the creation or the rehabilitation of accessible and sustainable sports facilities within disadvantaged communities around the world; to support the creation or the rehabilitation of risk-free play spaces and the practice of sport without harassment or abuse.

#### b. Accounting principles applied in the preparation of the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of commercial accounting as set out in the Swiss Code of Obligations (art. 957 to 963b CO). Where not prescribed by law, the significant accounting and valuation principles applied are described below.

#### Donations received and contributions

The Foundation is financed by third parties. As per the donation deed, donations are irrevocable and may not be reclaimed by the donor for any reason whatsoever. These are recognised in full as revenues (donations received) at the collection date. Donations can be received in form of cash, goods and services (Value in Kind).

Expenditures are mainly contributions to the ORF's partners in charge of implementing the projects and are recognised as expenditures (contributions) according to the payment schedule as defined in the contracts.

The excess of expenditures or revenues resulting from the period are carried forward to the next year in the undesignated funds.

#### Foreign currencies

The ORF's accounting records are maintained in US Dollars. Assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than US Dollars are recorded based on the exchange rates at the balance sheet date. All exchange differences arising on cash and bank deposits are considered realised.

The statement of activities has been translated in Swiss Francs at average exchange rate for the year (2022: USD/CHF 0.9539, 2021: USD/CHF 0.9153), the fund balances at historical exchange rates and the statement of financial position at the year end exchange rate at 31 December (2022: USD/CHF 0.9245, 2021: USD/CHF 0.9129). Exchange differences arising from such translation have been taken to the accumulated translation difference in the Fund balances.

### c. Details, analyses and explanations to the financial statements

(in thousand of US Dollars translated into Swiss Francs)

1. Donations received	2022	2021	2022	2021
	USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
Donations in cash	1'666	2'288	1'589	2'094
	<u>1'666</u>	<u>2'288</u>	<u>1'589</u>	<u>2'094</u>

2. Contributions	2022	2021	2022	2021
	USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
Ministry of Youth and Sport, Republic of Türkiye	914	-	872	-
Consortium "Terrain d'Avenir", region of Paris Ile-de-France	635	-	606	-
Terre des Hommes, Bangladesh	553	-	527	-
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Kenya	500	-	477	-
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Columbia	433	556	413	509
Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants, Republic of Türkiye	428	-	408	-
AVSI Foundation, Uganda	400	450	382	412
Right to Play, Jordan (a)	-26	-	-25	-
	<u>3'837</u>	<u>1'006</u>	<u>3'660</u>	<u>921</u>

(a) Refund of unused funds

3. Administrative expenses	2022	2021	2022	2021
	USD 000	USD 000	CHF 000	CHF 000
Management fees	742	428	708	392
Advocacy costs	232	106	222	98
Non-recoverable VAT	68	33	65	30
Programmes impact management costs	61	98	58	90
Programmes development & support costs	36	-	34	-
Fundraising costs	15	11	15	10
Other	14	4	13	3
	<u>1'168</u>	<u>680</u>	<u>1'115</u>	<u>623</u>

#### 4. Number of full-time equivalents

ORF does not have any employee.



# Report of the statutory auditors

## on the limited statutory examination to the Board of Olympic Refugee Foundation Lausanne

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements of Olympic Refugee Foundation, which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of activities and notes, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Board. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of foundation personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of foundation documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the foundation's deed and the internal regulations.

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA



Gérard Ambrosio  
Licensed audit expert  
Auditor in charge



Rémi Piegelin  
Licensed audit expert

Lausanne, 9 June 2023

Enclosure:

- Financial statements (statement of financial position, statement of activities and notes)

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Olympic Refugee  
Foundation

