

SPORTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Sports for Climate Action: Playing to Win Against Climate Change

Concept Note

Date: 18 November 2024 **Time:** 14:30 - 16:15 pm

Place: Blue Zone - Area B, Special Event Room Nasimi

Sports for Climate Action is an initiative convened by UN Climate Change to bring the sport sector together to agree on a common pathway for climate action. Almost 300 sporting governing organizations, leagues, teams, and clubs have joined the framework, committing to a net-zero, resilient future.

Beyond their own emissions and supply chains, join this event to hear how sports are working with cities, industries, and fans to identify and scale climate solutions in mitigation and adaptation. This event will dive into the potential for systems transformation through the unique spheres of influence that sport naturally holds—from purchasing goods and services to sponsorships—and will conclude with inspiring athlete voices on how sport can become a force for good in addressing climate issues.

Time	Items
14:30	Welcome and Opening remarks
	Lindita Xhaferi-Salihu
	Initiatives Lead, UN Climate Change
14:40	Panel 1 – Stories from the Field: Sport Signatory Spotlight
	In this session, signatories of Sports for Climate Action will discuss their
	most impactful strategies for reducing emissions and inspiring climate
	action across broader spheres, including their supply chains, fans, and
	communities.
	Keynote:
	Chris Boardman, Sport England
	Speakers:
	Sara Mariani, Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile - FIA
	Filippo Veglio, Union of European Football Associations - UEFA

Rafael Muela Pastor, Real Betis Balompié
Rishi Jain, Liverpool Football Club

Moderator:

Matthew Phillips, Groundswell

15:05 Panel 2 – Beyond the Field: Sport as a Driver for Systems Transformation

In this panel, representatives from government and sport organizations will showcase the real potential of cross-sector collaboration in identifying meaningful partnerships and climate action solutions.

Speakers:

Carol Simon, Panama Ministry of Environment
Olivia Wessendorff, International Transport Forum, OECD
Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen, Kenya Minister of Sports
Iziane Castro Marques, Brazil Ministry of Sports

Moderator:

Matthew Phillips, Groundswell

15:35 Panel 3 – Bigger than the Game: Athlete Testimonials

This session will highlight athletes' calls for an urgent and concerted effort to enhance international cooperation and action on climate. It will serve as a call to action against extreme heat and climate impacts, sport advertising, and sponsorships, as well as an invitation for sports organizations around the world to join the Sports for Climate Action framework and collectively drive sport and the world toward a healthy, resilient future.

Keynote:

Keynote: "Rings of Fire" athlete contribution to the serious threat extreme heat poses to sport competitors
Pragnya Mohan, Triathlon, India

Speakers:

Katie Rood, Football, New Zealand - with 15 caps for New Zealand

Eroni Leilua, Sailing, Samoa - two time Olympian and first Samoan to represent the country in Sailing at the Olympics



16:15	End of the event
16:13	Closing remarks A reflection on the day's discussions and a call to action.
	Moderator: Matthew Phillips, Groundswell
	Sam Mattis, Discus, USA - two time Olympian, USA Track and Field Champion and NCAA Champion
	David Rudisha, Athletics Kenya - world and Olympic record holder in the 800 metres and 2x Olympic Champion
	Sofie Junge Pedersen, Football, Denmark and Inter Milan - with 88 caps for Denmark