



O o f S

Olympics of Sustainability

NEWSLETTER I May 2026

Introduction

The Olympics of Sustainability (OofS) is an Erasmus+ Sport Cooperation Partnership that combines youth sport competitions with environmental sustainability challenges. The project introduces an innovative methodology where teams of young people aged 15–19 compete not only in athletic events but also in sustainability challenges — such as waste collection races, tree-planting tasks, and eco-transport challenges. Through a dual scoring system and a "Green Badge" recognition programme, OofS transforms sport into a vehicle for environmental action and active citizenship across Europe.

Project Objectives

OofS aims to:

1. Increase sports participation among inactive youth by embedding sustainability into physical activities.
2. Encourage pro-environmental behaviours through gamified sport-based challenges.
3. Promote social inclusion by ensuring at least 30% participation from underrepresented groups
4. Create a scalable and replicable model, enabling municipalities and sport clubs across Europe to organise their own sustainability-focused competitions.

Expected results

- **OofS e-Paper** : a research report on sports practices and sustainability trends among young people across four European countries.
- **Green Playbook**: a step-by-step guide for organising sustainability-integrated sport events.
- **National Olympics of Sustainability**: pilot competitions in Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain engaging 500+ young athletes.
- **European Finals**: a transnational competition in Pedreguer (Spain) bringing together winning teams from each country.
- **OofS e-Book**: a publication documenting project outcomes, case studies, and best practices for replication.

Benefits of OofS for Communities

- **Youth engagement**: sport becomes a gateway to environmental awareness, reaching young people who might not engage through traditional education channels.
- **Municipal impact**: municipalities gain a practical framework to integrate sustainability into local sport policy and events.
- **Measurable outcomes**: the dual scoring system and Green Badge provide concrete, trackable indicators of behavioural change.
- **Long-term adoption**: the Green Playbook enables any organisation to replicate the model independently, ensuring impact beyond the project's duration.



**Funded by
the European Union**

PROJECT UPDATES (ONGOING ACTIVITIES)

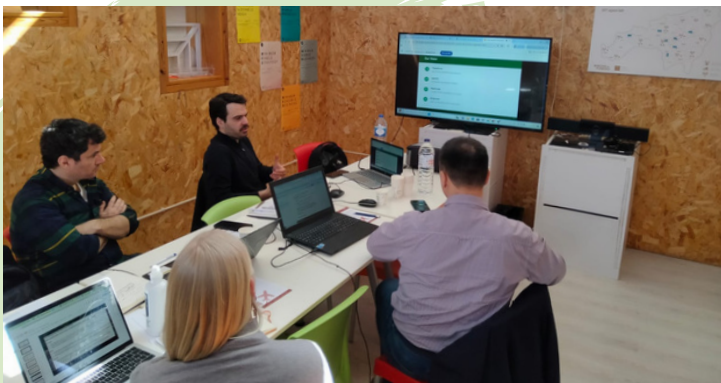
1st Transnational Partners' Meeting (TPM) in Fundão

In March 2026, the OofS partnership held its Kick-Off Meeting in Fundão, Portugal, hosted by the Municipality of Fundão. The meeting brought together representatives from all five partner organisations to launch the project, co-design the stakeholder research instruments, and align on governance, communication, and next steps. Partners also discussed on how to shape the competition design and dissemination strategy for the months ahead.



HIGHLIGHTS (AT A GLANCE)

- Partner alignment on the project timeline, work packages, and governance structure
- Co-design of the online survey and interviews for stakeholders across four countries
- Approval of the project's visual identity and colour palette
- Confirmation of TPM2 in Helsinki on 16–17 June 2026



KEY STEPS - WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON NOW

The OofS initiative is structured around 5 Work Packages, the first one being Project Management, Coordination, Quality and Evaluation.

WP2

The OofS e-Paper & Green Playbook

- State-of-the-art research completed across all four partner countries
- 78 stakeholder survey responses and 20 interviews collected and analysed
- OofS e-Paper published as an open-access resource in 5 languages
- Green Playbook under development — defining the competition framework and scoring system

WP4

The European Finals

- Municipality of Pedreguer confirmed as host of the European Finals
- Preliminary logistics planning underway for a 3-day event
- Winning teams from each national competition will compete at European level

WP3

Pilot Testing & National Implementation

- Planning the National Olympics of Sustainability in Portugal, Slovenia, and Spain
- Developing the recruitment strategy for young athletes aged 15–19
- Defining adaptive sport options and inclusion measures for underrepresented groups
- Coordinating with local municipalities, schools, and sport clubs in each country

WP5

Dissemination & Sustainability

- Project visual identity and logo finalised
- Website to be launched
- Project's social media channels active
- MoU outreach initiated

WHAT'S NEXT

Over the coming months, the partnership will finalise the Green Playbook, host the Opening Online Conference on World Environment Day (5 June), and meet in Helsinki for TPM2 (16–17 June). From August onwards, the National Olympics of Sustainability will take place in Fundão, Dobrovlje, and Pedreguer, bringing the methodology to life with hundreds of young athletes.

CLOSING NOTE

Thank you for following the Olympics of Sustainability journey. We look forward to sharing the Green Playbook and welcoming young athletes to the first sustainability-driven sport competitions across Europe. Stay tuned... the best is yet to come!

STAY CONNECTED



Funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.