

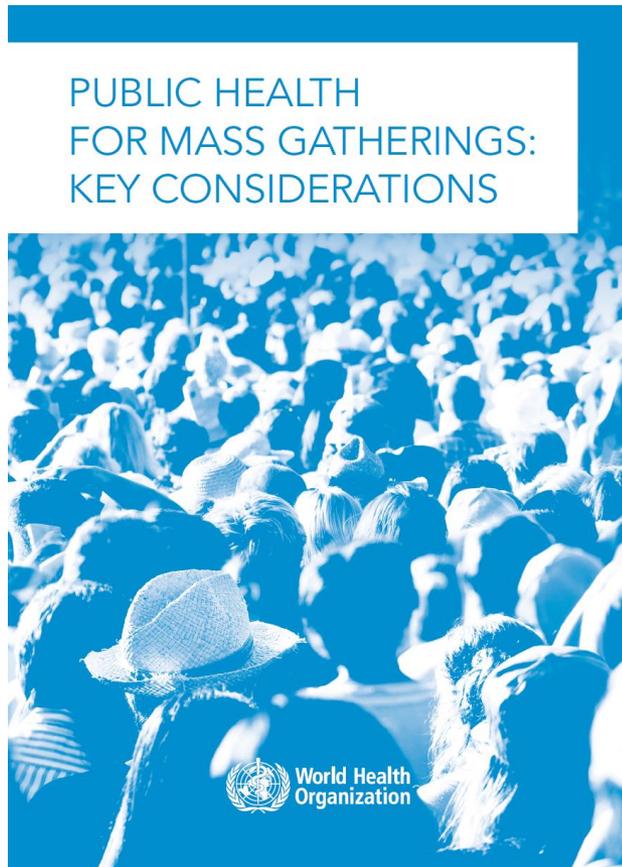
COVID-19 pandemic

Sports Events (and Physical Activity)

2ª Conferencia Iberoamericana de Deporte en Tiempos de COVID-19

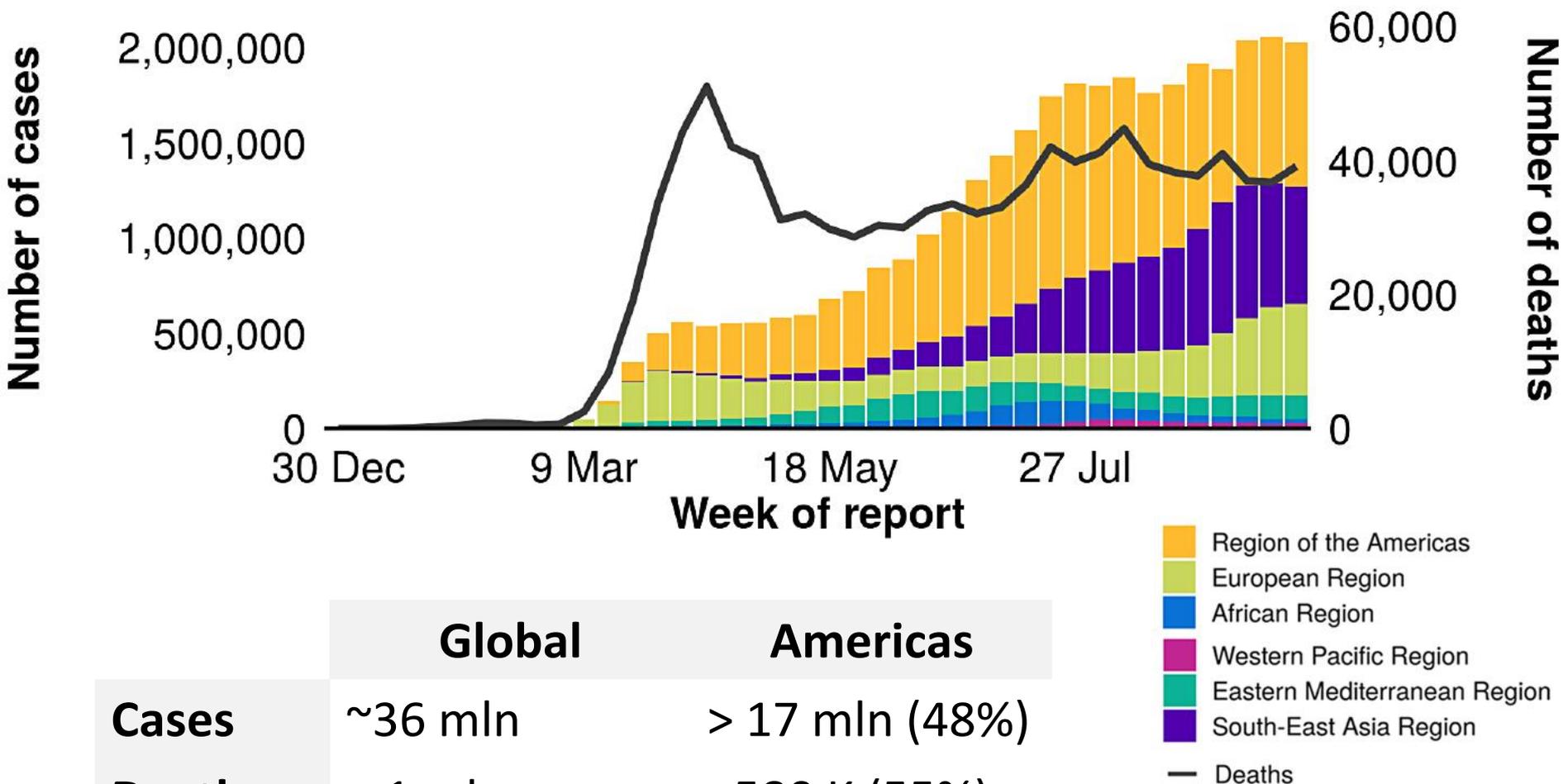
9 October 2020

Scope of PAHO/WHO work



COVID-19 global epidemiological situation

Cases and deaths reported to WHO, as of 4 October 2020

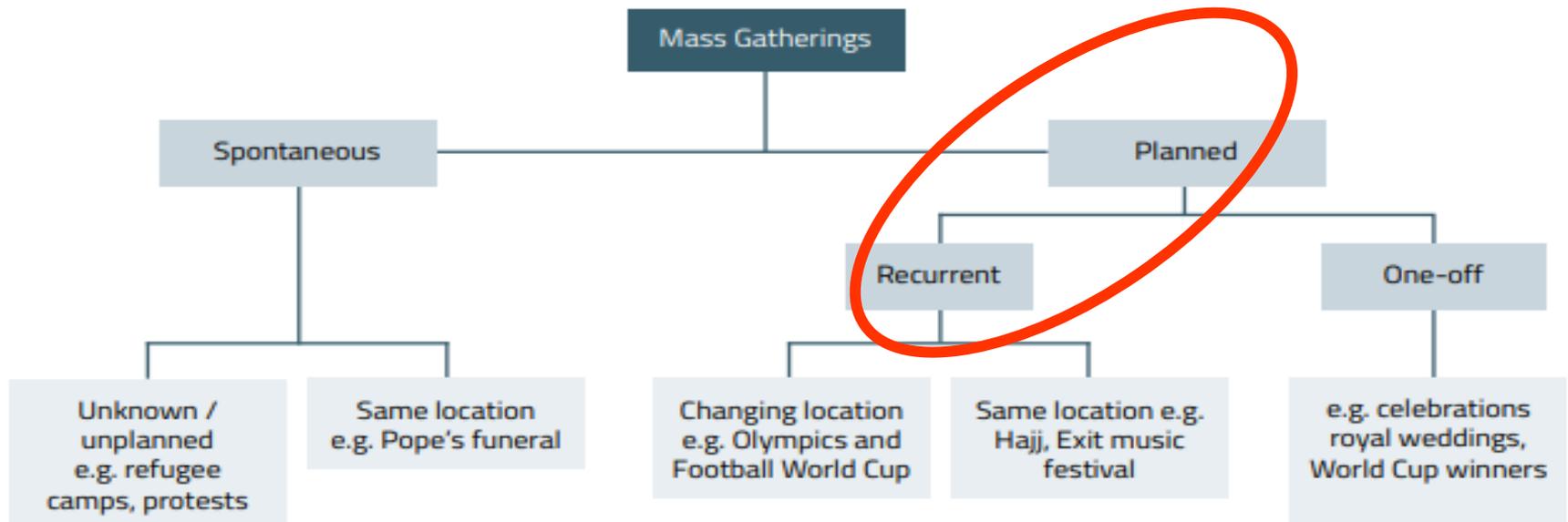


	Global	Americas
Cases	~36 mln	> 17 mln (48%)
Deaths	> 1 mln	~580 K (55%)

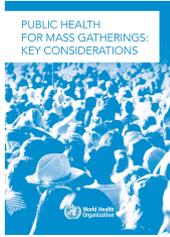
As of 8 October 2020

Mass gatherings: definition

- *Mass gatherings are events characterized by the **concentration** of people at a specific **location** for a specific purpose over a set period of **time** that have the **potential to strain** the planning and response resources of the host country or community (WHO, 2015)*



Mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19



- Events that can:
 - Potentially contribute to spreading COVID-19
 - Potentially disrupt the health response capacity
- Closeness, frequency and duration of the interaction are the most important risk factors
- Also “smaller events” may be considered as mass gatherings
- Sporting, music, religious events + others

Key planning recommendations for Mass Gatherings in the context of COVID-19

Interim guidance
19 March 2020



World Health Organization

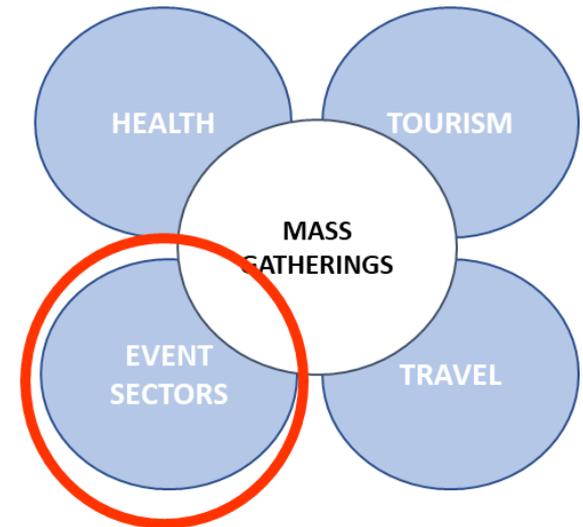
Background

Mass gatherings are highly visible events with the potential for serious public health consequences if they are not planned and managed carefully. There is ample evidence that mass gatherings can amplify the spread of infectious diseases. The transmission of respiratory infections, including influenza, has been frequently associated with mass gatherings.³ Such infections can be transmitted during a mass gathering, during transit to and from the event, and in participants' home communities upon their return.

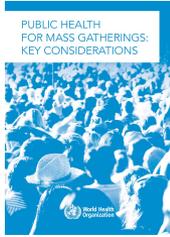
The purpose of this document is to outline key planning

General advice on planning for the public health aspects of an event is set out in WHO's key considerations document (mentioned in Section 1). Specific actions to be taken in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak are discussed in this section.

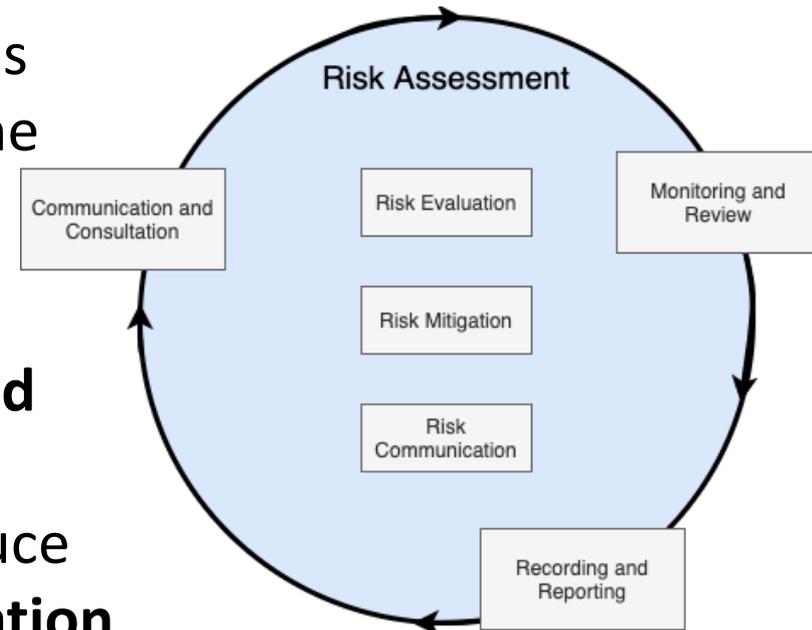
1. **Liaison with local and national public health authorities.**
 - Event organizers should establish direct links with local and national public health authorities. This should include the local provider of health services for the event.
 - There should be a nominated liaison person in the



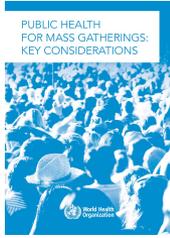
Mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19: risk assessment



- Any decision to restrict, modify, postpone, cancel, or proceed with holding a mass gathering should be based on a rigorous **risk-assessment exercise**, tailored to the event
- WHO has developed tools that:
 - Take into account the **risks associated with the event** and the capacity of organizers/health authorities to reduce such risks by applying **specific mitigation measures**
 - Generate a **numerical risk score for the event** corresponding to a graded recommendation

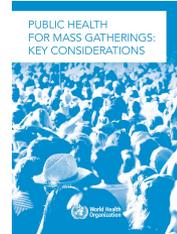


Mass gatherings WHO risk assessment tools include:



- A generic COVID-19 risk assessment tool
 - **A tool tailored for sports events**
 - A tool tailored for religious events
 - Several external constituencies have adapted/are adapting WHO tools for specific purposes (especially for sport-related events): football, rugby, sail, indoor sports, etc. – **non-WHO publications**
- Before – During – After the event
 - Are there sports that could be considered a lower or higher risk?
 - Size of event
 - Indoor or outdoor locations
 - Venue facilities
 - Demographics (age and health)
 - Risk communication

Mass gatherings WHO risk assessment tools include:



How to use WHO risk assessment and mitigation checklist for Mass Gatherings in the context of COVID-19

Interim guidance
20 March 2020



Background

This is an operational tool which offers guidance for organizers holding meetings during the COVID-19 outbreak and which should be accompanied by the WHO COVID-19 Generic Risk Assessment Excel file available on the [WHO website](#).

Routine planning for Mass Gatherings includes conducting risk assessments to determine the overall risk of disease spread. This document provides a COVID-19 risk assessment and mitigation checklist for use by host countries and mass gathering organizers and staff. Specifically, this document provides an overview of the following:

- COVID-19 risk assessment tool
- COVID-19 mitigation measures checklist
- Decision matrix that incorporates the risk assessment and mitigation measure scores for the final determination

Instructions

Organizers should be up to date on the outbreak, using the daily [situation reports](#) provided by WHO as well as national reports, if available.

The COVID-19 risk assessment and mitigation measures checklist need to be completed in the accompanying WHO COVID-19 Generic risk assessment Excel file, as the scores are able to be automatically calculated. The scores can then be put into the decision matrix for the overall risk score and a recommendation on the implementation of additional measures.

The COVID-19 risk assessment and mitigation checklist must be conducted with local public health authorities and ensure that personnel with expertise in mass gatherings, risk assessment, epidemiology, and infectious disease control measures are included from the initial stages of planning.

- For the overall determination, factors under consideration include:
- current stage of the outbreak and known transmission dynamics,
 - geographic distribution, number of participants, and their individual risk profile
 - risk assessment tool
 - mitigation measures currently in place or proposed.

It is important to remember that while mitigation measures can reduce the risk of COVID-19 infections, they cannot completely eliminate the threat. This guidance may change as the situation and the knowledge about the disease evolves. The risk assessment should be based on the country strategy for controlling COVID-19. Finally, WHO may provide advice and technical guidance to host countries on public health risks, but has no decision power to uphold, postpone, or cancel mass gatherings hosted by Member States.

Considerations for sports federations/sports event organizers when planning mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19

Interim guidance
14 April 2020



Background

This sports addendum should be read in conjunction with the [WHO key planning recommendations for Mass Gatherings in the context of the current COVID-19 outbreak](#), which provides general advice on the public health aspects of such events.

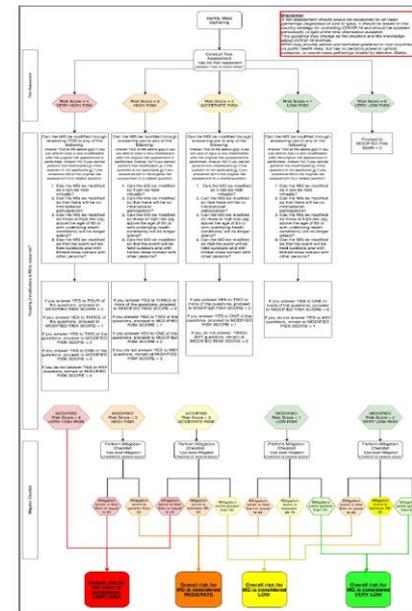
This addendum has been developed to provide additional support to sports event organizers in assessing the specific additional risks, identifying mitigation activities and making an informed evidence-based decision on continuing to host any sporting event. Additional guidance is provided in the specific WHO COVID-19 mass gatherings sports addendum risk assessment tool and mitigation checklist.

Updated [technical guidance on COVID-19](#) should also be consulted. These documents will be reviewed and updated as the pandemic evolves.

Key issues and mitigation options

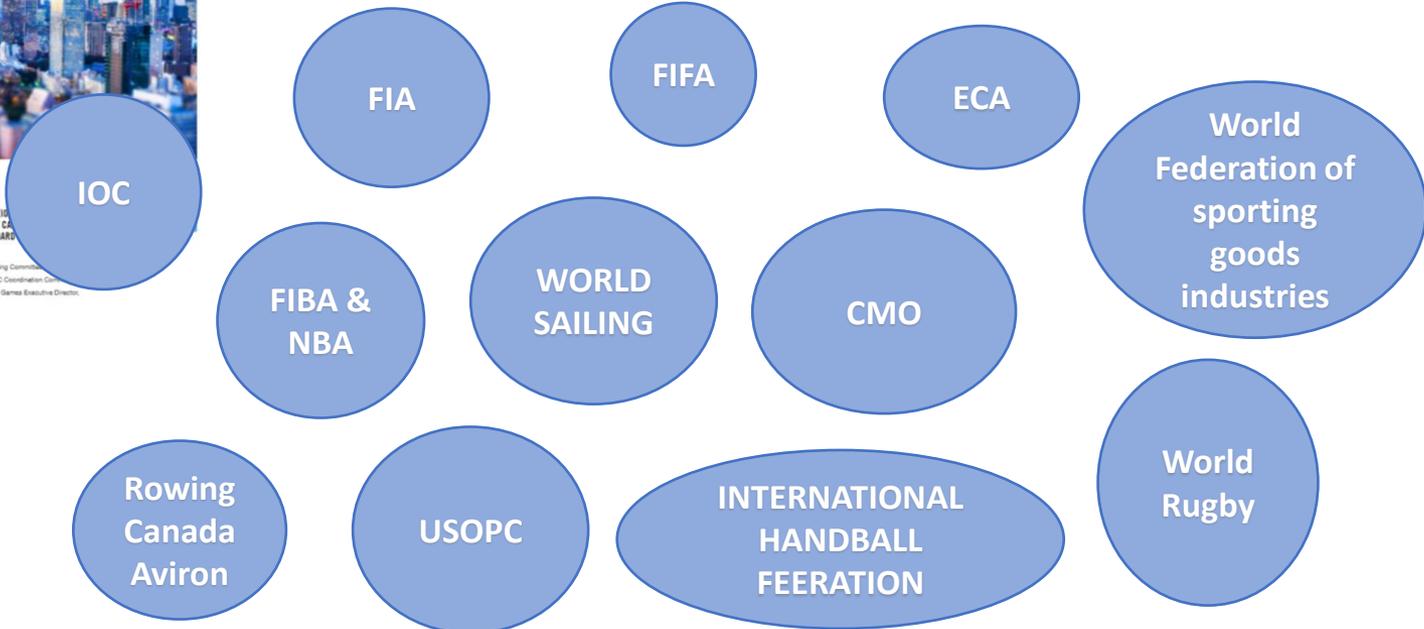
The key factors for consideration for each sporting event are included in the WHO COVID-19 mass gathering sports addendum risk assessment tool. These key factors address the specific issues that should be taken into consideration when planning a sporting mass gathering event. The table below provides an overview of such background information on some of these additional factors, including mitigation measures that will also be captured during the risk assessment process.

Key considerations	Comments	Risk factors and mitigation checklist
Are there sports that could be considered a lower or higher risk?	<p>Lower risk sports where physical distancing is possible, e.g. archery, shooting and some athletics events. These will be less of a risk if physical distancing advice for athletes, coaches and spectators is followed.</p> <p>Higher risk sports include contact sports. Physical and close contacts among players increases risk of transmission of COVID-19.</p>	<p>See details in the mitigation checklist.</p> <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • daily health check of competitors • Physical (at least 1 meter) separating of competitors, officials, spectators and support staff • thorough disinfection and cleaning after between bouts/competitions. • sharing of equipment should be prohibited, in particular ensuring that water bottles and caps are not shared • consider safe utilization of the closed containers for all disposable and reusable hygiene materials (e.g. tissues, bowls, etc.)



- WHO does not have the mandate to enforce any action with regard to a mass gathering (modification, postponement, cancellation, etc.) or to authorize that it may proceed
- Rather, WHO develops (and regularly updates) guidance on best practice, based on current best evidence, and makes it available to relevant authorities and institutions

WHO Mass gatherings COVID-19 support provided



(Physical activity and COVID-19)



#HEALTHYTOGETHER: THE IOC, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND THE UNITED NATIONS JOIN FORCES TO FIGHT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – WITH ATHLETES HELPING TO SPREAD THE WORD



GETTY IMAGES

DATE

23 JUN 2020

TAGS

OLYMPIC NEWS,

IOC NEWS,

PRESS

RELEASE

ON OLYMPIC DAY, 23 JUNE 2020, THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ARE LAUNCHING A PARTNERSHIP TO ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD TO TAKE ACTION SO THAT WE CAN ALL BE #HEALTHYTOGETHER.

In the coming weeks, Olympic athletes will help deliver important public health information, inspiring people to adopt or continue behaviours that will curtail the pandemic and provide resources that promote physical and mental health.



#HEALTHYTogether campaign

WHO and the International Olympic Committee are teaming up with the United Nations to encourage individuals and communities around the world to be **#HEALTHYTogether**. The three partners and Olympic athletes will spotlight the collective effort and global collaboration needed to stay healthy and reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19.

- Olympic athletes will help deliver important public health information
- Pay attention to our own mental and physical health and help others who may need extra support

#HealthyTogether



- Pilot campaign: 2 October – 5 November 2020
- 45 athletes confirmed in pilot (judo, soccer and gymnastics to canoe slalom, race walking and surfing)
- Athlete Playbooks
- **Argentina:** #HealthyTogether and #UnidosPorLaSalud
- **Brazil:** #HealthyTogether and #JuntosComSaúde
- **Colombia:** #HealthyTogether and #UnidosMásSaludables
- **Mexico:** #HealthyTogether and #UnidosSomosMásFuerte

WHO_IOC Health Together Campaign - Athlete Tracker	Facebook Handle	Facebook Followers	Twitter Handle	Twitter Followers	Instagram Handle	Instagram Followers
BRASIL						
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	1,493	@brunobenton	32,792	brunobenton_oficial	135,547
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	461,028	@brunobenton	965,079	brunobenton	1,135,572
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	897	@brunobenton	984	brunobenton	7,662
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	11,884	@brunobenton	96	brunobenton	9,706
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	490,962	@brunobenton	847	brunobenton	2,130,829
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	23,378	@brunobenton	44,443	brunobenton	139,038
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	222,840	@brunobenton	59,813	brunobenton	1,039
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	8,818	@brunobenton	30	brunobenton	8,457
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	322,445	@brunobenton	248	brunobenton	848,832
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	9,277	@brunobenton	1,719	brunobenton	187,874
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	24,248	@brunobenton	2,166	brunobenton	17,158
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton				brunobenton	
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton	89,879	@brunobenton	10,367	brunobenton	211,010
BRUNO BENTON	brunobenton				brunobenton	174,138
COLUMBIA						
COLUMBIA	colombia	2,049	@colombia	11,012	colombia	37,478
COLUMBIA	colombia	476	@colombia	485	colombia	2,313
COLUMBIA	colombia	878	@colombia	311	colombia	



Gracias



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OFICINA REGIONAL PARA LAS Américas

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