

Sports For Nature

research opportunities



Loughborough
University
London

Welcome



Professor Tony Edwards

Dean, Loughborough University London



"As we seek to overcome the **triple planetary crisis of climate change, of nature and biodiversity loss, and of pollution and waste, we must **tap into the vision and determination** that made 1972 possible, to **re-imagine global governance** for people and planet."**

Inger Andersen - UNEP Executive Director

U N E P 5 0



2022 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4

Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth

KUNMING – MONTRÉAL





To **unite the outdoor and nature-based sports communities around a shared vision** for a cleaner, healthier, and more biodiverse natural environment through ten years of action (the UN Decade of Restoration).

To **elevate discussions** around the role of sport in protecting and preserving nature.



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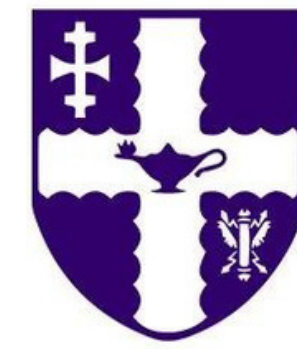
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SPORTS FOR NATURE

SETTING A BASELINE

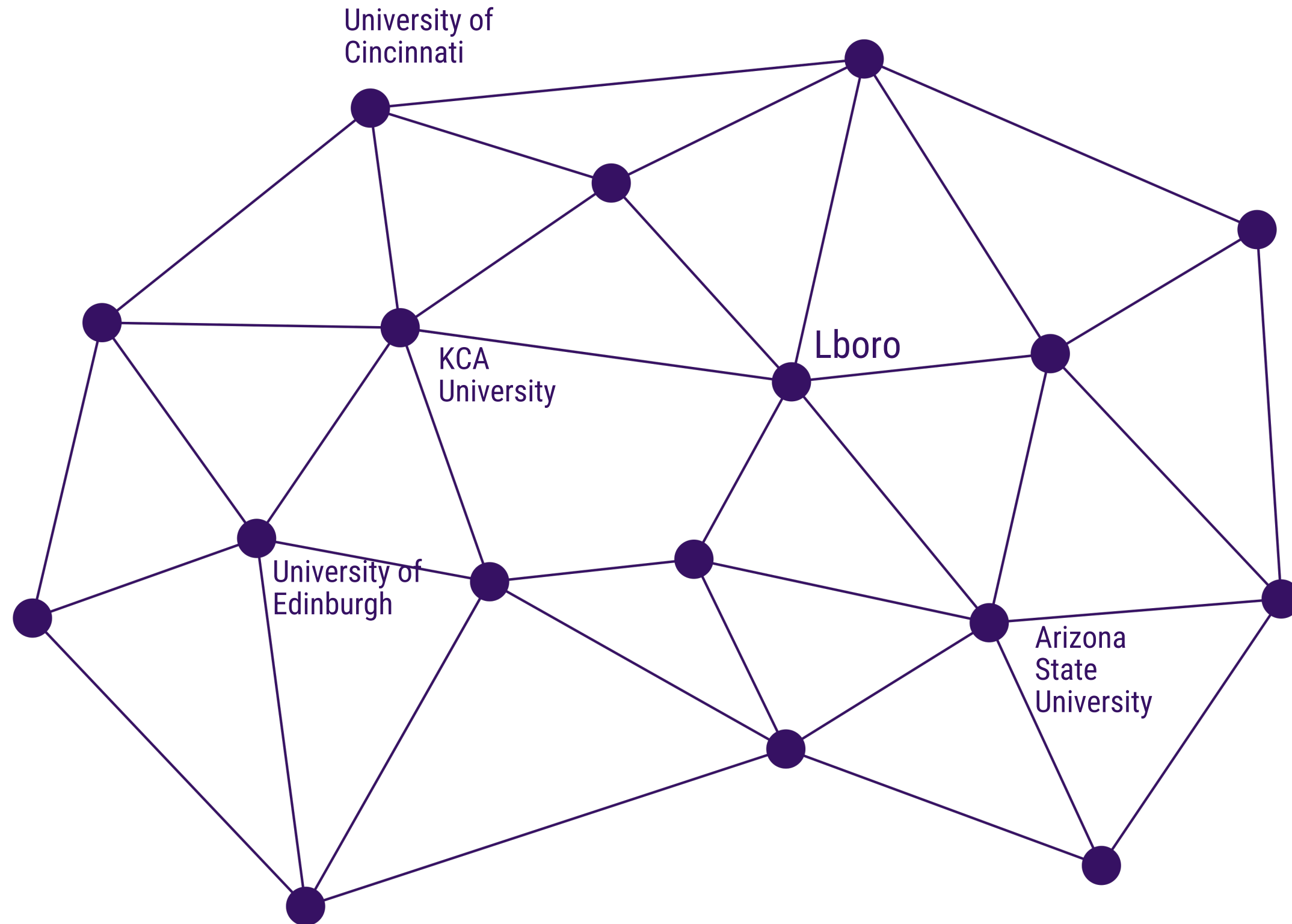
UNEP,
2022



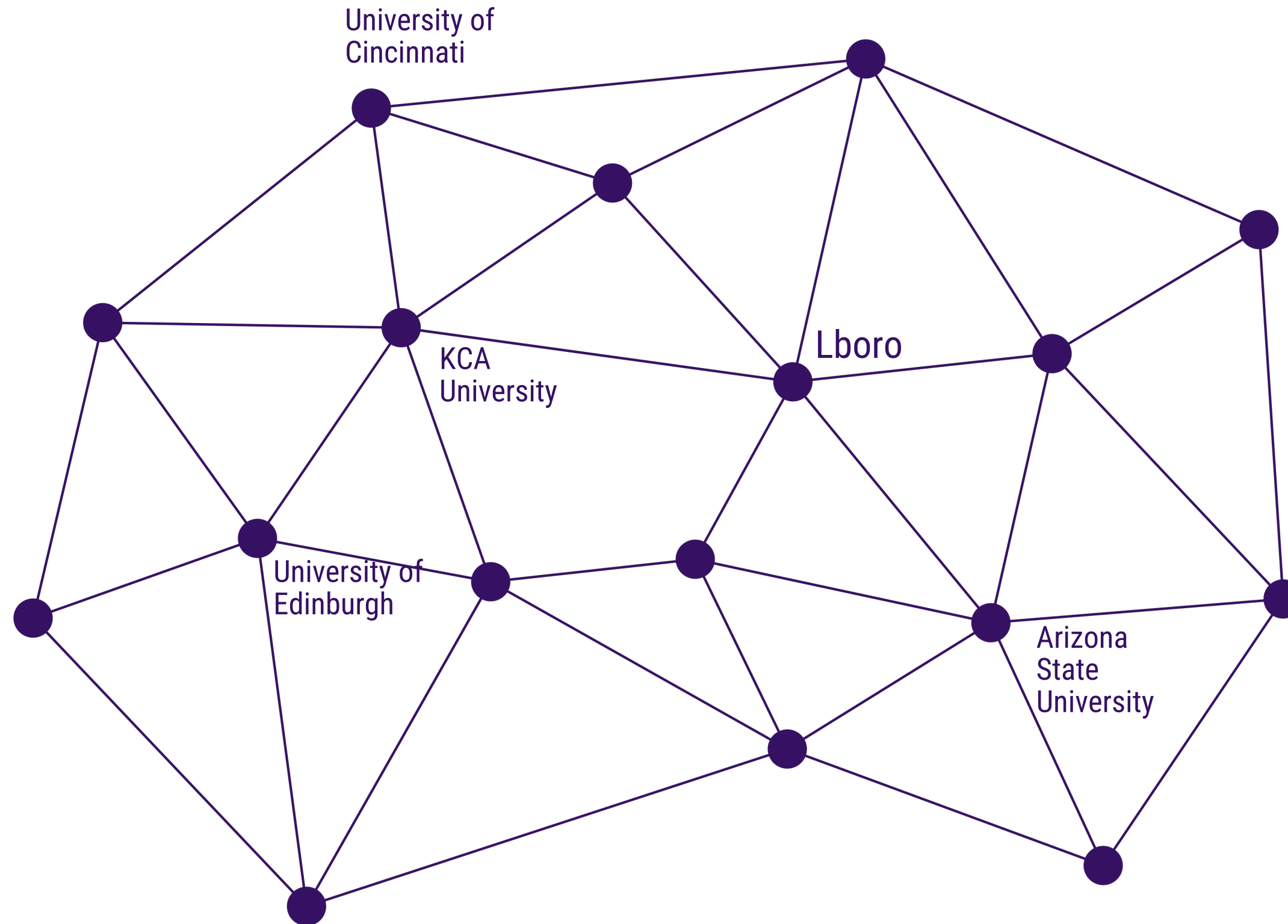


**Loughborough
University**

Sports for Climate Action and Nature (SCAN) is a vibrant new research cluster bringing together expertise in sport sociology, physiology, nutrition, management, ecology and engineering.



Sports for Climate Action and Nature (SCAN) Research Network



Year 1 Goals (academic year 2023-2024)

- Establish regional leads on each continent
- Host 2x network calls
- Collaborate to deliver student trainings and up-skilling opportunities
- Collaborate with industry partners and signatories to the SFN Framework to support their work

Sports for Climate Action and Nature (SCAN) Research Network

UNEP



Sam Barratt

Chief of the Youth, Education and Advocacy Unit in UNEP's Ecosystems Division and Co-Chair of the UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)

IUCN



Leigh Ann Hurt

Coordinator for IUCN's Sports for
Nature within the Heritage, Culture
and Youth Team



Sports for Nature

LU Research Call

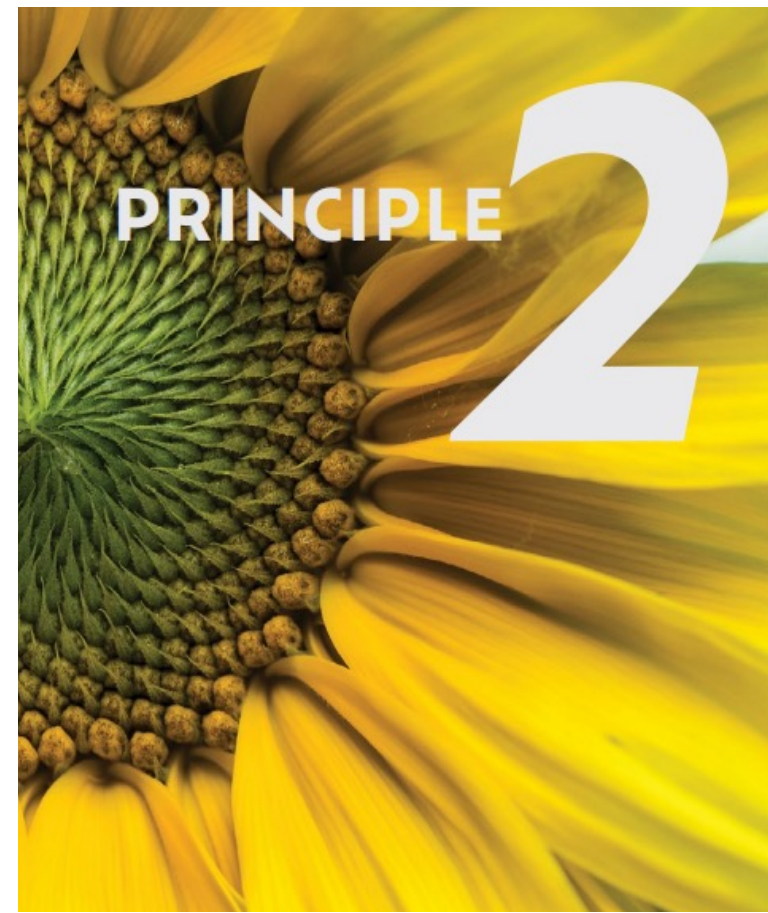
27 April 2023



PRINCIPLE

PROTECT NATURE AND AVOID DAMAGE TO NATURAL HABITATS AND SPECIES

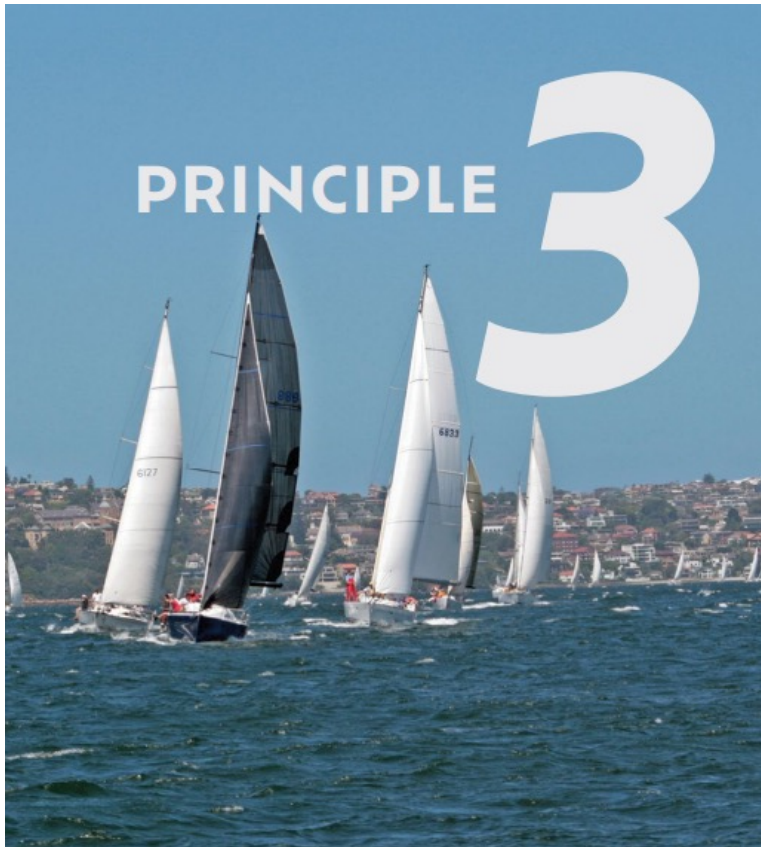
GOAL ►►► Our organisation is committed to protecting and avoiding damage to natural habitats and species, including respecting protected areas.



PRINCIPLE

RESTORE AND REGENERATE NATURE WHEREVER POSSIBLE

GOAL ►►► Our organisation takes positive action to restore and regenerate nature in and around the indoor and outdoor environments where we operate.



PRINCIPLE

UNDERSTAND AND REDUCE RISKS TO NATURE IN YOUR SUPPLY CHAINS

GOAL ►►► Our organisation will reduce risks to nature and enable opportunities to conserve and restore nature in our supply chains, linking wherever possible to climate goals.



PRINCIPLE

EDUCATE AND INSPIRE POSITIVE ACTION FOR NATURE ACROSS AND BEYOND SPORT

GOAL ►►► Our organisation will educate and inspire greater awareness and action for nature within our sport and our wider communities and stakeholders.

S4N signatories to date



International Olympic Committee
The Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Paris 2024
Spanish Olympic Committee
Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee
International Canoe Federation (ICF)
International Floorball Federation (IFF)
International Powerboating Union (UIM)
International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)
International University Sports Federation (FISU)
Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI)
World Rowing (FISA)
World Rugby
World Sailing
World Skate Federation
International Orienteering Federation (IOF)
International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (IWWF)
SAMBO International Federation (FIAS)
World Squash Federation (WSF)
AIUla Sports Club
Ecuador Surf Federation
England Squash
Forest Green Rovers
Jadir Taekwondo Association (AJTKD)
San Cristobal Surf Club
We Play Green
E1 Series
Extreme E
The Ocean Race
Ultra Swim 33.3
Ultra Trail du Mont Blanc (UTMB)



What we can offer



Mitigating biodiversity impacts of new sports venues



Sports and urban biodiversity
A framework for achieving mutual benefits for nature and sports in cities



Sport and Biodiversity



Mitigating biodiversity impacts of sports events



Access to scientific expertise on biodiversity

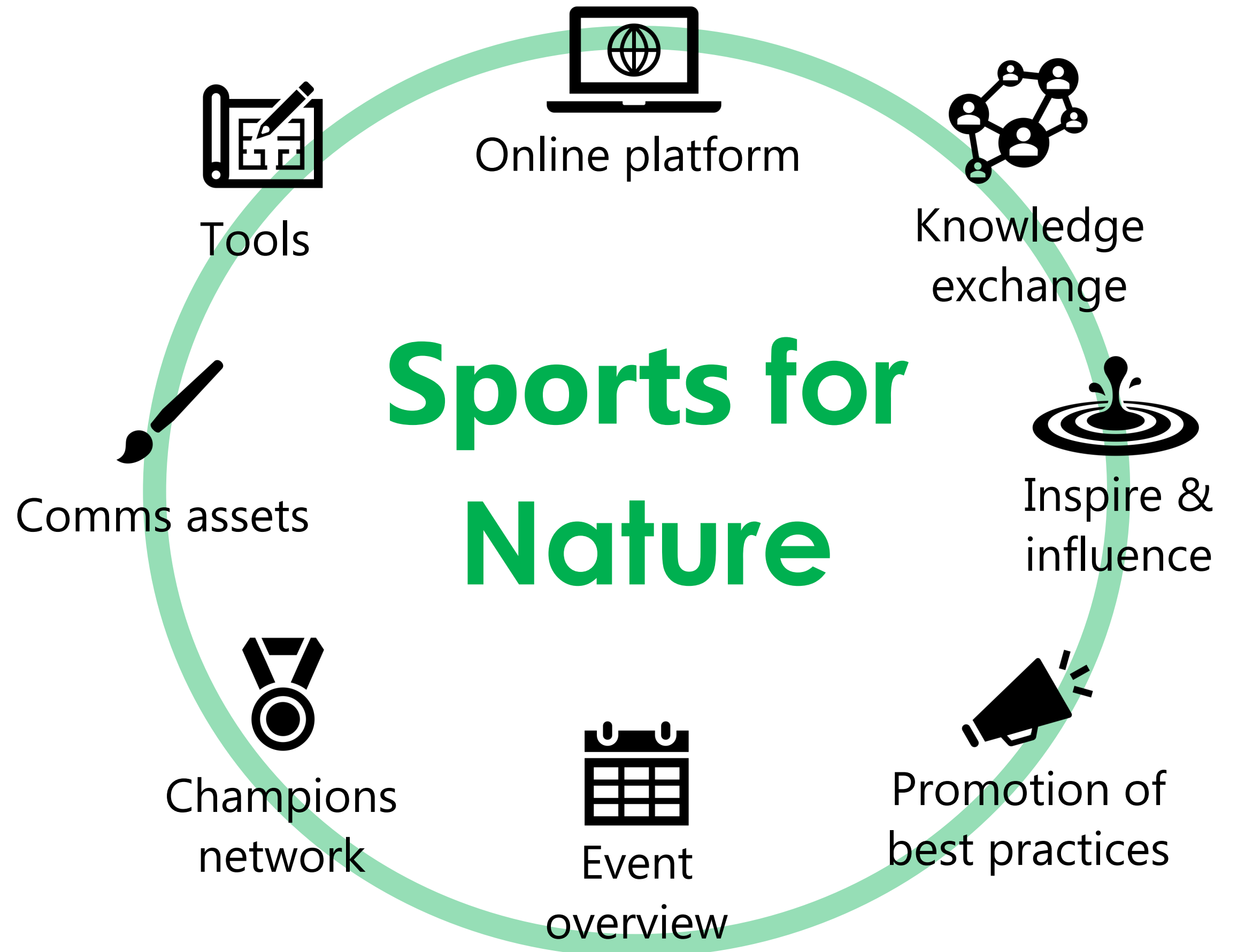


Pilot projects



Helpdesk

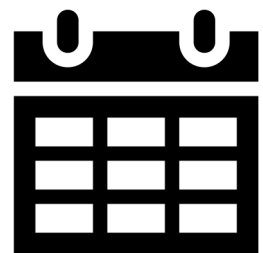
Advocacy, Communications & Outreach



What is expected from signatories



Short, simple reporting system



Annual process,
first cycle in December 2023



Questions about challenges or
issues requiring technical advice



Examples of early issues identified



Avoiding spread of invasive alien species

Using nature-based solutions to integrate biodiversity and climate goals

Incorporating conservation as part of your net zero strategy

Adopting circular economy measures, e.g., energy use, food waste, plastic pollution, etc.

Establishing a baseline for nature and other methodologies sports can use

Avoiding ship strikes, impacts on marine life

Reducing erosion in outdoor sports

Water use -- resilience and efficiencies





Thank you!

Contact info:

sportsfornature@iucn.org

Breakout rooms

Please join a breakout room for small group discussions around three prompts:

- Introduce yourselves and your research interest areas
- Discuss any current research projects that have linkages to SFN
- Discuss ideas and opportunities for collaborating on this agenda with others in the room / and how this network can best support your work

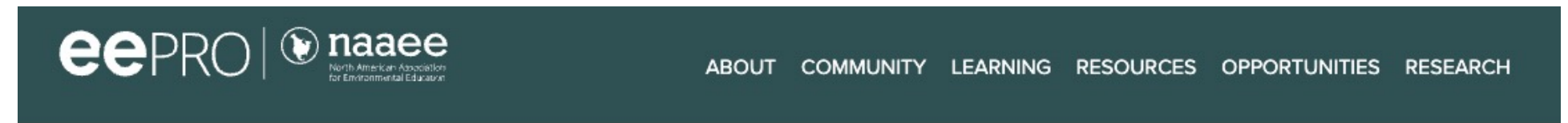
Immediate opportunities

- Join the Global SCAN Research Network (email Maddy Orr and Russell Seymour - m.orr@lboro.ac.uk & r.s.seymour@lboro.ac.uk)
- Relevant Calls for Papers / Chapters:
 - **Leisure in the Anthropocene** - special issue in *Leisure Sciences* (abstracts will be accepted until 15 June 2023, manuscripts are due by 01 August 2023)
 - **Environmental Sustainability and the Olympic Games** - special issue in *Journal of Olympic Studies* (abstracts will be accepted until 31 August, 2023, manuscript submissions are due by March 30, 2024)

Immediate opportunities

- Grant opportunities
 - Future Earth's Pathways Communication Grants 2023 - 2,500-10,000 €, submissions due 15th June
 - ERASMUS PLUS – Key Action 3: Support to policy development and cooperation – 2021-2027, ongoing submissions
 - The Solutions Project, Environmental Education Grant, \$500-15,000, applications accepted on a rolling basis

Other resources



Home // Funding & Opportunities

Funding & Opportunities



Opportunities are time-sensitive happenings that support professional growth. Apply for a grant or scholarship, attend a job fair, enter a contest, publish content, or attend a conference.

[ADD OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Search Opportunities



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