



World Olympians Association launches 2018 grant funding programme

Monaco, 12 September 2017

World Olympians Association (WOA) has today launched its 2018 Service to Society grant scheme following the success of its inaugural 2017 programme.

National Olympians Associations will once again have the opportunity to apply for one of five US \$5,000 grants that will help drive sustainable, Olympian-led, community projects and initiatives.

The aim of the scheme, which was first launched in November last year, is to empower Olympians to deliver projects that align with the promotion of the Olympic values.

Now in its second year, the scheme has successfully funded projects in Australia, Estonia, Malaysia and Zimbabwe, encouraging Olympians to make a difference in their communities by using sport as a catalyst for change.

From mini school Olympics to an Olympian-run chicken farm that raises money to fund the ongoing education of athletes, the projects embody the spirit of Olympism and provide a powerful demonstration of Olympians' ability to make a positive and lasting impact beyond the field of play.

WOA President, Joël Bouzou, said:

“Without a doubt Olympians have the power to inspire others through their passion, their drive and their will to succeed. When this energy is focussed on projects that aspire to make the world a better place, the potential Olympians have to make a genuine difference as leaders and as role models in their communities, comes to the fore.

“We were absolutely delighted with the calibre of our 2017 grant recipients, who have used the funding to help spread the spirit and practice of Olympism globally by fostering social development through sport and promoting inclusion at a local level.

“We are proud to be able to support even more Olympian-led initiatives in 2018 by offering a further five Service to Society scheme grants to worthy projects around the world. We look forward with great anticipation to learning more about the inspiring plans from our Olympian family as they are submitted.”

The deadline for 2018 Service to Society applications is **13 October 2017** with the decision on grants for the next funding cycle expected to be confirmed by the WOA Service to Society Grants Panel in January 2018.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

Further details on the Service to Society scheme and the application form can be found on <http://olympians.org/grants/service-to-society/>

About World Olympians Association

WOA is the member organisation for the more than 120,000 Olympians worldwide. Our remit is to work for the benefit of all Olympians at all stages of their lives, empowering them to serve society and help make the world a better place. With 149 member National Olympians Associations (NOAs) spread across all five continents, WOA provides support to Olympian-run events and projects based on the Olympic ideals laid down by the founder of the modern Olympics, Pierre de Coubertin.

For more information

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