Olympic Games sustainability, legacy and impact

Bibliography

28.02.2017
CONTENT

Introduction 3

Definition and themes 3

1. Sustainability, legacy and impact: general theory 5

2. Games of the Olympiad 7
   2.1 Tokyo 2020 7
   2.2 Rio 2016 9
   2.3 London 2012 10
   2.4 Sydney 2000 13
   2.5 Montreal 1976 13
   2.6 Multiple editions of the Games of the Olympiad 13

3. Olympic Winter Games 15
   3.1 Pyeongchang 2018 15
   3.2 Sochi 2014 16
   3.3 Vancouver 2010 16
   3.4 Multiple editions of the Olympic Winter Games 16

4. Multiple editions of the Games of the Olympiad & The Olympic Winter Games 17

Credits 18
INTRODUCTION

This descriptive bibliography has been created by The Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) to address the growing interest being placed on the topics of sustainability, legacy and impact as they relate to the Olympic Games. It consists of a list of publications, articles, reports and studies gathered from public sources and comprised of both hard copies and electronic editions. Themes and brief summaries for the documents have been included.

This annual update includes all sources published in 2016 and selected by the OSC.

For the sources published and referenced before 2016, please consult the general bibliography Olympic Games: legacies and impacts and its 2015 update.

NOTES:
The data collected in this bibliography are in English exclusively.

The references that include a hyperlink “READ” are accessible online in full text. To access the other resources, please contact us at: studies.centre@olympic.org.

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DEFINITION AND THEMES

SUSTAINABILITY, LEGACY AND IMPACT

Today “sustainability” is an essential part of any modern Olympic Games project. This has been an increasingly important theme since the early 2000s and is a central concept in the Olympic Agenda 2020 initiative. The issue of sustainability is approached in terms of the IOC’s social, economic and environmental impacts.

The term “sustainability” is closely connected to the terms “legacy” and “impact”. These are used, often interchangeably by those who are today studying this subject and its link to the Olympic Games. The term ‘impact’ is commonly used to describe the direct effects of the Olympic Games, while the term ‘legacy’ is more often used when presenting positive effects of longer duration.

THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

Socio-cultural legacy and impact: encompass the practices by which society is governed and organized as well as the behavioural and attitudinal changes that can occur based on inspiration derived from hosting the Olympic Games. Related sub-themes include: arts programmes / employment / youth / education / volunteerism / food / health care services /
Environmental legacy and impact: encompass everything associated with the environment-related management, techniques and technologies that surround an organism or organisms, including both natural and human-built elements. Related sub-themes include: sustainable development / environmental development / green venues / air, water and grounds quality / waste management / energy and natural resources / biodiversity / carbon footprint.

Economic legacy and impact: encompass all the economically-related investment, spending and revenue generation effects of hosting the Olympic Games on the Host City, region and country. Related sub-themes include: tourism / employment and skills development / business opportunities / real estate & housing / public investment / event management / global image of the city & country.

Urban legacy and impact: encompass a city’s buildings, landscape, transport service and network. Related sub-themes include: demography / venues / transport / transportation infrastructure / technology (telecommunications, information systems, etc.).

Sporting legacy and impacts: encompass the legacies and impacts of the Olympic period that facilitate the promotion and development of sport in the Host City, region and country. Related sub-themes include: venues / event management.
1. SUSTAINABILITY, LEGACY AND IMPACT: GENERAL THEORY

DEFINING A QUANTITATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATION AND OPTIMISATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF MEGA-EVENT PROJECTS
This paper presents a novel quantitative methodology for the evaluation and optimisation of the environmental impacts of the whole life cycle of a mega-event project: construction and staging the event and post-event site redevelopment and operation. The methodology is applied to the London Olympic Park.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (environmental)
READ

OLYMPIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: A CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE
Emmanuel Bayle. In: Sport in society, 2016, volume 19, issue 6, pp. 1-15
Olympic social responsibility will be a major issue for Olympism over the coming years. Emmanuel Bayle draws on interviews with senior figures in the sporting world in order to suggest ways in which the IOC and other Olympic stakeholders can implement social responsibility and thereby enable the IOC to pursue its eternal raison d'être of placing sport at the service of humanity.
Theme(s): sustainability (social)
OPINIONS: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND LEGACY OF OLYMPIC GAMES / POINTS DE VUE: DURABILITE ENVIRONNEMENTALE ET HERITAGE DES JEUX OLYMPIQUES
Holger Preuss. In: International Olympic Academy journal, issue 9, April 2016, pp. 26-31
This article describes the evolution of the environmental sustainability of the Olympic Games. It is part of a special edition “Olympic Movement and environmental protection” that includes other contributions of renowned personalities of international sport.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (environmental)
READ

SPORT AND ENVIRONMENT = SPORT ET ENVIRONNEMENT: DOSSIER
Sport and citizenship = Sport et citoyenneté, no 35, March/April/May 2016, 43 p.
This special dossier focuses on sport confronting environmental issues, and includes analyses on the IOC and the Olympic Games (mainly in French).
Theme(s): sustainability (environmental)

THE GOVERNANCE OF OLYMPIC LEGACY: PROCESS, ACTORS AND MECHANISMS
This study aims to examine the legacy governance process from the bid phase to post-Games, and to identify the governance controls (e.g. actors and mechanisms) that impacted the governance system responsible for legacy at the OG. Two cases within a multiple holistic case study design (i.e. the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games) were built using a combination of archival material and interviews.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (sporting)

THE OLYMPIC GAMES: A GLOBAL STAGE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM AND PROGRESS
Michael Hozík. In: Georgetown environmental law review, online article, 22 August 2016.
The author proposes a historical overview of the strategy of the IOC and its local Organizing committee in environmental sustainability.
Theme(s): sustainability (environmental)
READ
2. GAMES OF THE OLYMPIAD

2.1 TOKYO 2020

BRANDING IDEAS FOR THE TOKYO OLYMPICS 2020
When planning for mega event tourism such as the Olympics, cities reorder public spaces and arenas often with a long term vision, a legacy. The planning process involves not only animating the city for staged spectacles; but also re-branding the city and managing how tourism is consumed - the planned and unplanned experience of consumption. Leisure motivated event tourists are seeking unique, personal and socially rewarding experiences. This book chapter proposes branding directions to enhance these experiences.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (economic)

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES
This paper first considers the economic impact of the Olympic Games in past host countries, relying on existing research. Next, it examines the potential economic impact of the Tokyo Olympics, focusing on the increase in foreign tourism, and the increase in construction investment. Lastly, this paper provides rough estimates of the macroeconomic impact by aggregating these effects, and then briefly discuss what kind of efforts are required to enhance economic growth in order to ensure that hosting the Olympic Games provides a sustained boost to the Japanese economy.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (sporting)
READ
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS (A COMPARISON OF 2020’S CANDIDATE CITIES)
This article examines and compares IOC’s perspective on environmental sustainability with candidate cities of Istanbul, Tokyo and Madrid, participating in the nomination process of 2020.
Theme(s): sustainability (environmental)

TOKYO 2020
This chapter surveys Tokyo’s history as an Olympic city. After outlining the plans for the 2020 Games and the progress to date, the author end with: what are the larger purposes of Olympic-inspired improvements, what visions they are serving, and how they might act in transforming Tokyo and Japanese society as a whole.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural, economic, urban)

TOKYO 2020 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE SUSTAINABLE SOURCING CODE
The Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, January 2016, 4 p.
The Tokyo 2020 "sustainable sourcing code" to ensure the sustainable sourcing of products and services deemed vital to the successful delivery of the Games and in consideration of economic rationality, fairness and equity.
Theme(s): sustainability

TOKYO 2020 HIGH-LEVEL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN
The Tokyo Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, January 2016, 11 p.
This official document presents the "sustainability plan" that aims to deliver sustainable Tokyo 2020 Games. It outlines the principles that will guide sustainable Games preparations and operations.
Theme(s): sustainability

TOKYO 2020 OLYMPICS: NATION BRANDING CREATES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A NEW CULTURAL NARRATIVE FOR JAPAN
This paper highlights changes in Japan’s nation brand, and examines how Japan’s branding for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics is an opportunity for creating a future legacy for Japan, particularly in human
**2.2 RIO 2016**

**Article**

**DOES BEING AN OLYMPIC CITY HELP IMPROVE RECREATIONAL RESOURCES?: EXAMINING THE QUALITY OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RESOURCES IN A LOW-INCOME NEIGHBORHOOD OF RIO DE JANEIRO**


The urban regeneration necessary for hosting mega sport events is frequently promoted as an opportunity to enhance public physical activity resources and therefore to improve health through physical activity participation. This study assesses the quality of public physical activity resources in a low socio-economic community in the Olympic city of Rio.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

**Article**

**HEALTH, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND THE RIO DE JANEIRO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES: LEGACY OR FALLACY?**


This paper suggests available ways of quantifying positive effects – on health, tourism, self-image, architecture, or the economy of the country - of hosting an Olympic Game, and puts the focus of this approach on the Rio 2016 and their true legacy, seeking scientific certainties.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

**Booklet**

**RIO 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES SUSTAINABILITY AND LEGACY STORIES: A SELECTION OF GOOD PRACTICES**


This booklet contains easy-to-understand, positive stories and initiatives of sustainability and legacy collected during the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. It puts the spotlight on examples that show the concrete positive impact of the Games.

Theme(s): sustainability, legacy and impact

**Book chapter**

**RIO DE JANEIRO 2016**


The chapter charts the history of urban change in Rio, examines the different Olympic bids the city has prepared in the last two decades, and analyses the preparations and their impacts 6 years after the nomination for 2016.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (urban)
**Olympic Games sustainability, legacy and impact**

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**Research**

**RIO SOCIAL CHANGES 2009-2016: IS THERE A PRE-OLYMPIC LEGACY?**

Centro de Políticas Sociais, July 2016.

The main goal of this project is to assess the change in the quality of life of the population in Rio after the Olympic venue announcement. It analyzes several areas such as education, labor, housing, public services, transportation, digital inclusion and social development. The unprecedented opening of Rio’s household surveys microdata allows a scientifically investigation of the existence or not of a pre-Olympic social legacy.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural, economic, urban)

READ

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**Article**

**RIO’S 2016 OLYMPIC GOLF COURSE: CITY’S LAST REMAINING ECOSYSTEMS LEFT "IN THE ROUGH"**

Charles Vercillo. In: University of Miami Inter-American law review, volume 47, number 2, Summer 2016, pp. 221-257.

To accommodate golf’s return, the city of Rio endorsed the construction of the Olympic golf course on land adjoining the Marapendi lagoon—land historically known to be ecologically valuable and environmentally protected. The city quickly passed complementary Law 125, stripping this land of its environmental protection, and instead authorizing a golf course as a sustainable use of the land. While the immediate effects of Complementary Law 125 and the Olympic course construction are apparent, the long-term ones are more uncertain.

Theme(s): sustainability (environmental)

READ

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**Article**

**THE OLYMPICS, SUSTAINABILITY, AND GREENWASHING: THE RIO 2016 SUMMER GAMES**


This critical article first explains the strategy of the IOC in sustainability and then focuses on the environmental aspects of the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio. In both case, the authors suggest that this is “greenwashing”: the IOC and its local Organizing committee counterparts have capitalized on the sustainability zeitgeist without actually embracing significant environmental principles.

Theme(s): sustainability (environmental)

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**2.3 LONDON 2012**

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**Article**


Department for Culture, Media & Sport, August 2016, 90 p.

This fourth report captures the legacy activities that took place between summer 2015 and summer 2016.

Theme(s): legacy and impact

READ (PREVIEWS REPORTS)
LONDON’S OLYMPIC LEGACY: THE INSIDE TRACK
This book, which provides a unique perspective on the behind the scenes planning of London’s Olympic legacy, argues that London will become the test-case city against which the legacies of all future Olympic Games, and other sporting mega-events, will be judged. The author provides the first in-depth case study of a mega-event legacy planning operation, and sets out a constructive conclusion, which details the lessons to be learnt from London’s experience.
Phase(s): legacy and impact

OLYMPIC SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROMOTION: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE LONDON 2012 PRE-EVENT MASS PARTICIPATION ‘LEGACY’
The legacies of sport mega-events such as the Olympic Games are increasingly regarded as significant opportunities to increase sport and physical activity participation. The current research examines a specific pre-event sport/physical activity policy target of the London 2012 Olympic Games: the aim of increasing overall participation by two million between June 2008 and the Games in 2012.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

POST-EVENT VOLUNTEERING LEGACY: DID THE LONDON 2012 GAMES INDUCE A SUSTAINABLE VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT?
The hosting of the London 2012 Olympic Games was seen as an opportunity to harness the enthusiasm of the 70,000 volunteers involved and to provide a post-event volunteer legacy. A total of 77 individuals who had acted as volunteers in London 2012 were contacted approximately four years after the Games and agreed to complete a web-based open-ended survey. The participants were asked to indicate their level of current volunteering engagement and whether volunteering at the Games had an impact on their current volunteering levels.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

THE LONDON 2012 CULTURAL PROGRAMME: A CONSIDERATION OF OLYMPIC IMPACTS AND LEGACIES FOR SMALL CREATIVE ORGANISATIONS IN EAST LONDON
Ilaria Pappalepore, Michael B. Duignan. In: Tourism management, volume 54, June 2016, pp. 344-355
This study investigates the impacts of London 2012 and its related cultural programme on local small creative organisations in East London. It contributes to unpacking the elusive concept of legacy thorough an in-depth analysis of creative organisations’ stories and experiences, combined with an analysis of policy documents and interviews with key informants, over a four-year period (2010-2014).
Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)


The paper addresses one of the high-profile legacy goals associated with the 2012 Games, increased sports participation, and seeks to explain the disjunction between national-level participation data indicating little or no increase in participation and programme or project data suggesting significant increases, and thus highlights the limits to this specific application of the meta-evaluation approach.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

THE OLYMPIC FAMILY?: YOUNG PEOPLE, FAMILY PRACTICES AND THE LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES


The London Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012 sought to ‘Inspire a Generation’ of young people to engage in sport. This article explores the ways in which a group of young people in the North West of England and the East of Scotland experienced the Games in the context of their everyday family and relational lives.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

THE VOICES OF CHILDREN, AGED 10-11 YEARS OLD REVISITED: LONDON 2012 AND THE OLYMPIC LEGACY


This paper examines whether the overt excitement and positivity expressed by the children prior to the Games coming to their borough in 2012 has seen their dreams and wishes come true or dashed and betrayed by circumstances.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

TOWARDS AN OLYMPIC VOLUNTEERING LEGACY: MOTIVATING VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AND REMAIN – A CASE STUDY OF LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC GAMES VOLUNTEERS


Volunteers are often seen as ‘soft infrastructure’ following the legacy plans of host nations aiming to stage the Olympic Games. This study examines the determinants of a volunteer legacy following volunteers’ involvement with London 2012. A total of 163 volunteers involved with the Games’ transport department completed a web-based survey.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)
2.4 SYDNEY 2000

Article

THE SPIRIT LIVES ON: THE LEGACY OF VOLUNTEERING AT THE SYDNEY 2000 OLYMPIC GAMES


This study examines the volunteer legacy of a mega-sport event. An online, qualitative, open-ended questionnaire and in-depth interviews were administered to and conducted with Sydney 2000 Olympic volunteers to ascertain the legacies that exist at least 10 years after the completion of the event. The results show that the legacy of the Olympic volunteer experience includes the starting and/or rekindling of a volunteer career, the development of a unique set of skills and abilities, and nostalgia for the atmosphere of the Games with a special emphasis on the ideals of Olympism.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

2.5 MONTREAL 1976

Article

TOURISM CONVERSION AND PLACE BRANDING: THE CASE OF THE OLYMPIC PARK IN MONTREAL


This paper examines the case of the Olympic Park in Montreal and its urban regeneration concepts and place branding that have been integrated into the tourism strategies since the early 2000s.

Theme(s): legacy and impacts (economic, urban)

2.6 MULTIPLE EDITIONS OF THE GAMES OF THE OLYMPIAD

Article


This project examines how Olympic volunteer programmes can lead to post-Games volunteer legacies for host cities through engagement with the established volunteer infrastructure in host cities before, during and after the events. Two Summer Olympic Games were used as case studies for this purpose: the recent case of London 2012 and the longer-term case of Sydney 2000.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

READ

Article

GOING FOR THE GOLD: THE ECONOMICS OF THE OLYMPICS

Robert A. Baade, Victor A. Matheson. In: Journal of economic
This paper explores the various costs and benefits of hosting the Olympic Games. Then, the authors discuss why what looks like an increasingly poor investment decision on the part of cities still receives significant bidding interest and whether changes in the bidding process of the IOC will improve outcomes for potential hosts. Finally, the authors suggest some solutions to the economic viability problem.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (economic)

MANAGING SPORT MEGA-EVENTS

The book is particularly focused on matter relating to the staging and management of sport mega-events, the Olympic Games in particular. Key themes such as: event governance and risk management; financial management and cost overruns; commercial revenue generation through broadcast rights and sponsorship; and social and environmental impacts and legacies are explored in the book. The second section concentrates on legacy, specifically how the organisers can best ensure the management of sustainable mega-sports events.

Theme(s): sustainability, legacy and impact

THE OXFORD OLYMPICS STUDY 2016: COST AND COST OVERRUN AT THE GAMES

The objectives of the Oxford Olympics study are to: (1) establish the actual out turn costs of previous Olympic Games in a manner where cost can consistently be compared across Games; (2) establish cost overruns for previous Games, i.e., the degree to which final out turn costs reflect projected budgets at the bid stage, again in a way that allows comparison across Games; (3) test whether the Olympic Games Knowledge Management Program has reduced cost risk for the Games, and, finally; (4) benchmark cost and cost overrun for the Rio 2016 Olympics against previous Games. The main contribution of the Oxford study is to establish a phenomenology of cost and cost overrun at the Olympics, which allows consistent and systematic comparison across Games.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (economic)

THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF HOSTING MEGA-SPORT EVENTS

This chapter explores the social and environmental consequences of hosting the Games. The authors argue that the most common method of evaluating sport mega-event impacts in the past has been via economic outcomes or “hard legacies”. More recently, though, a much greater emphasis has been placed on understanding the social and environmental impact these types of events have for the host communities.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural, environmental)
URBAN REGENERATION
This chapter reviews how and why the Olympic Games are used as a vehicle for regeneration. Conclusions drawn from the Olympics are also applied to regeneration process in general. The discussion on particular Games then focuses particularly on those which were staged on brownfield sites.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (urban)

3. OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

3.1 PYEONGCHANG 2018

PYEONGCHANG 2018 GREENHOUSE GAS MANAGEMENT REPORT
The PyeongChang Organizing Committee for the 2018 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games, 2016.
POCOG is responsible to reduce GHG emissions and offset relative to the total GHG emissions through voluntary action from the Games preparation and operational phases. “GHG management report” discloses POCOG’s GHG target plans and implementation status internally and externally. This report consists of outlines of GHG management, GHG measurement, GHG reductions, GHG offset and low-carbon Olympic legacy, and each chapter includes GHG management plans and GHG emissions, reductions, and offset status.
Theme(s): legacy and impact (environmental)
3.2 Sochi 2014

**Article**

THE LEGACIES OF SOCHI 2014 WINTER OLYMPICS: AN EVALUATION OF THE ADLER OLYMPIC PARK

The study develops a post-occupancy evaluation of the Adler Olympic Park, the new coastal public open spaces, and one of the main legacies of the Games.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (urban)

3.3 Vancouver 2010

**Article**

HOST AND NON-HOST RESIDENT AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS OF LEGACIES FOR THE 2010 VANCOUVER WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

This study aims to understand and describe host and non-host residents’ perceptions regarding dominant legacy themes and residents’ awareness of specific legacies before, during, and after the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Games.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

**Article**

THE VANCOUVER 2010 OLYMPICS AND LEISURE-TIME PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RATES AMONG YOUTH IN CANADA: ANY EVIDENCE OF A TRICKLE-DOWN EFFECT?

Using nationally representative data from the “Canadian community health survey”, this paper explores if the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics were associated with leisure-time physical activity rates among youth in Canada.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

3.4 Multiple Editions of the Olympic Winter Games

**Book chapter**

THE WINTER OLYMPICS: DRIVING URBAN CHANGE, 1924-2022

This chapter reviews the role of the Winter Olympics in changing and modernizing the built environment of its hosts, together with a consideration of the changing organization and funding of the event over time.

Theme(s): legacy and impact (urban)
4. MULTIPLE EDITIONS OF THE GAMES OF THE OLYMPIAD & THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

A TALE OF TWO CITIES: THE OLYMPICS IN BARCELONA AND TURIN
This chapter analyzes the impact of the organization and considerable investment associated with the Olympic Games on the finances of two of its host cities, Barcelona and Turin. Theme(s): legacy and impact (economic)

OLYMPIC EXCLUSIONS: YOUTH, POVERTY AND SOCIAL LEGACIES
Olympic Games are sold to host city populations on the basis of legacy commitments that incorporate aid for the young and the poor. Yet little is known about the realities of marginalized young people living in host cities. Do they benefit from social housing and employment opportunities? The book proposes an ethnographic study of young people living in the shadow of Vancouver 2010 and London 2012. Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural)

OLYMPIC TOURISM
The chapter outlines how the Summer and Winter Games can be leveraged to generate tourism. It examines how cities staging the Winter Games can act as tourism gateways to their wider regions and how Summer Games can contribute to the development of their host cities’ tourism product and image. Theme(s): legacy and impact (socio-cultural, economic)
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