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Rédiger en anglais et en 500 mots une synthèse des documents proposés, qui devra obligatoirement comporter un titre. Indiquer avec précision, à la fin du travail, le nombre de mots utilisés (titre inclus), un écart de 10% en plus en ou en moins sera accepté.

Ce sujet comporte les quatre documents suivants :

- Un graphique « The Sustainability of the Olympics » réalisé par Statista et publié le 26 juillet 2024
- Un article publié sur le site earthday.org en juin 2023
- Un essai publié dans *The Economist* en juillet 2024
- Un essai publié dans *The New York Times* en juillet 2024

L'ordre dans lequel se présentent les documents est aléatoire.

## DOCUMENT 1



## DOCUMENT 2

### Paris 2024 Olympics: A Greenwashing Nightmare or a Genuine Effort to Save the Planet?

Earthday.org, June 20, 2023

Next summer, the opening ceremony of the 2024 Olympic Games will take place on the Seine River in Paris, France. Previous Olympics have had a dramatic carbon footprint, as well as a dreadful impact on biodiversity. For instance, the last two summer Olympic games were held in Tokyo, Japan and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. They released more than 2.7 million and 4.5 million tons of carbon emissions into the atmosphere respectively. Each and every one of us witnesses the effect of global warming in our day-to-day life. We can ask ourselves what regulations will the Paris Olympic planning committee implement to reduce the environmental impact of arguably the most renowned sporting event on Earth?

Initially, the planning committee pledged the Olympics will have a “positive carbon contribution”. That means more carbon will be captured or compensated than emitted. Apart from misleading the public to believe the Olympics’ carbon footprint was minimal, their assertion is also unrealistic. That is why the board has reevaluated its carbon budget and committed instead to cutting the carbon emissions of the event in half.

The Olympics will have a lower impact than in previous years, but still a significant one. Indeed, the expected carbon budget consists of the emission of 1.58 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Transportation accounts for the most important share of emissions (34%), followed by operations & logistics (26%), and constructions (25%). On the latter, substantial efforts have been made. Only one building will be made (the Olympic pool). Thanks to the reuse of existing sports facilities.

There is a major issue with the current structure of accountability for carbon emissions at major sporting events, like the Olympics. The lack of transparency about the carbon assessment. The Olympic Committee, despite publicly expressing environmentally conscious governance and several designated bodies, is very reluctant about disclosing the details of the carbon assessment method.

To correct this, the carbon footprint analysis used for the 2024 Olympics is based on a new approach. It focuses on integrating carbon costs beforehand instead of doing a carbon assessment afterward. Organizers have also adopted the ARO approach (Avoid, Reduce, Offset), to refrain from jumping to compensation without making the first and more complicated step of not emitting carbon.

Efforts compared to previous Olympics Games are praiseworthy and necessary. However, several problems remain and need to be tackled for future major sporting events to make sure the athletic community does its part in the fight against the climate crisis.

Looking forward, propositions for greener Olympics have been formulated by academics, sports supporters, organizers, as well as the athletes themselves.

The first step would be to greatly downsize the event, inherently decreasing the ecological and material footprint by reducing the size and cost of the new infrastructure required. It will also cut down the transportation’s emissions, which accounts for a large share of an international event’s carbon footprint. Another step would be to rotate the Olympics among the same cities. By doing so, all necessary infrastructure will already be in place, and the Olympics happen at a lower cost, alongside minimal social and ecological disruption.

Other ideas formulated to reduce Olympics’ carbon footprint include enforcing stronger accountability and transparency standards, and using only renewable sourced energies during the event. As an individual, the greener action you can do is renouncing to go in person. Indeed, with transportations accounting for the greatest share of emissions, it is better to watch the competition on your TV if you live too far from the hosting city and have to take the plane.

In the fight against the climate crisis, athletes are both an inspiration and a solution. More and more of them are expressing their concerns about the environmental impact of the competitions they are participating in, and are increasingly conscious of their interconnection with global warming. Our Earth Day Campaign Athletes for the Earth aims at amplifying their voices and connecting athletic practices with environmental stewardship.

652 words

## DOCUMENT 3

[By Invitation](#) | Games over?

### Halt the Olympics to save the planet, pleads a sports historian

*The Economist*, Jul 18th 2024

The Olympics have always been about more than just sport. Since 1896 they have been staged as a cosmopolitan festival that sends a message to humanity. In their 19th-century incarnation the games were, as Baron De Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympics, wrote, “a display of manly virtue” for what was, in effect, a neo-hellenic cult of the amateur athletic gentleman.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC), the games’ governing body, has long since made its peace with professionalism and women’s sport, but it has struggled to find new messages that it can credibly broadcast. Such messages are no mere sideshow; they are supposed to be central to the modern Olympics. For in the absence of such social purpose or moral mission, what are the games but a very expensive, highly commercialised made-for-television spectacle?

The Olympic movement’s embrace of human rights, for example, has been undercut over the past couple of decades by its continued dealings with autocratic hosts, and this summer by the perceived inconsistency of banning Russia for invading Ukraine but giving Israel a free pass on Gaza. The idea that the Olympics are a powerful instrument of urban development for host cities has proved illusory, as has the notion that elite sport in general and the Olympics in particular can help boost sporting participation and promote healthier lifestyles.

One unquestionable success has been the way in which the Olympics have demonstrated the profound impact of climate change. Tokyo 2020 was forced to move the marathon 800km north to Sapporo because Tokyo’s increasingly hot and humid summers made the event dangerous to participants. Uncommonly powerful storms forced the rescheduling of surfing and sailing events. The Winter Olympics are in even more climate trouble, as the bare mountains and strips of artificial snow at Beijing 2022 testified.

To its credit the IOC has been a leading advocate of climate action in the world of sport. The organisers of Paris 2024 have given the issue plenty of thought, too. They have been making contingency plans for what to do in the event that the city is struck by one of the increasingly frequent and vicious summer heat waves that Europe has been experiencing. And they are aiming for a carbon footprint half the size of those of London 2012 and Rio 2016.

Yet the Paris games will still produce more than 1.5m tonnes of carbon—somewhere between the annual emissions of Fiji and Malta—and the organisers, recognising that the carbon-offset model is broken, have abandoned the pretence that the games are net zero. In the absence of sustainable forms of aviation, it is hard to see how a global festival that attracts 10,500 athletes, tens of thousands coaches and administrators, more than 30,000 journalists and up to 2m foreign visitors can ever be so.

In this regard, the Olympics face the same problems as many other established institutions: that in their current form they are simply not compatible with a sustainable society and a habitable planet, and it is not clear how this can be addressed. It may then be that the most powerful message the Olympics can send is that we cannot continue with business as usual—and this would best be delivered by taking a pause.

It wouldn’t be the first time that the games had been cancelled. Berlin was due to host in 1916, but the first world war intervened. Tokyo was all set for 1940 until Japan invaded China, and the replacement host, Helsinki, was busy then and in 1944 fighting the Soviet Union. (...) An Olympic pause would send a strong signal about the urgency of this moment and the scale of change required.(...)

The first task of the new Olympic agencies would be to initiate a conversation about what an alternative model might look like. Could the games be much smaller? Should they be held at one permanent site? Could a multi-city version work, with a mix of permanent and occasional hosts?

It wouldn’t be easy. NBC pays to broadcast running, jumping and swimming, not dialogues about governance or how to structure events. Visa and Coca-Cola would reassess the value of their sponsorship deals. And it would be very hard on the generation of athletes that is denied the opportunity to perform on the Olympic stage. However, without dramatic change of this sort, it is hard to see how the many future generations of athletes, both professionals and amateurs, the elite and the grassroots, will be able to perform at all.■ 745 words

*David Goldblatt is the author of “The Games: A Global History of the Olympics” (2017).*

## DOCUMENT 4

### The Climate Is Changing. The Olympics Need to Change, Too.

*The New York Times*, July 26, 2024 - Guest essay By Madeleine Orr

*Dr. Orr is an assistant professor of sport ecology at the University of Toronto and the author of "Warming Up: How Climate Change Is Changing Sport."*

The organizers of the Paris Olympic Games have outdone their predecessors in trying to make the Games the most sustainable in the decades since climate change became a concern. But with an estimated 11 million tourists converging on the City of Light for the Olympics, including 1.5 million from abroad, the Games can only be so green.

On the plus side, organizers have been serious in their efforts to reduce carbon emissions. They measured the expected carbon footprint of the Games, reduced emissions through energy efficiencies, limited new construction by using existing facilities, added bike lanes, minimized the use of fuel-powered generators and sourced sustainably produced goods for medals and podiums and much of the event materials.

Perhaps most important, they've talked about their sustainability work at every turn, drawing attention to unsexy details and raising public awareness of environmental issues such as air pollution and extreme heat in France and beyond.

Still, international travel is a big contributor to the overall carbon impact of the Games. Organizers of the Rio Olympics in 2016 predicted that slightly more than half of the carbon emissions would come from spectators. Of that amount, 80 percent was expected to be generated by international fans traveling to and from the Games. Organizers saw a low potential to reduce those emissions and said they would need to compensate elsewhere in the preparation and running of the events.

What else is to be done? If the world is serious about reducing carbon emissions, the Olympics, like so much else, will have to change even more. (...)

The sustainability efforts in Paris have not all been smooth sailing. The Seine is scheduled to host marathon swimming and the swim portion of the triathlon. But despite spending 1.4 billion euros trying to clean the river, French authorities have achieved inconsistent results: Water tests in June still showed high levels of *E. coli*. Those numbers improved and crept into the range of safe to swim in late June and early this month. (...)

For years, the organizers promised the Games would be "climate positive." It is doubtful any version of the Olympics can begin to approach even carbon neutrality as long as millions of tourists descend on the host city, many by air, only to consume goods and generate waste once they arrive.

In previous Games, tickets were released first to local residents, limiting the number available to people overseas. In Paris, tickets were made available on a central platform that allowed people anywhere to buy them at once, which may increase the number of international visitors who flock to Paris compared to other Olympics.

The last time France hosted the Winter Olympics, in Albertville in 1992, the mountainous location was reconfigured to accommodate skiing events. As one German sports official put it at the time, "The Alps are being literally reconstructed because the good Lord was obviously not a skier." This led, according to a guest essay in *The Times*, to "the destruction of the very environment the event is meant to honor and celebrate."

That region is scheduled to host the Winter Games again in 2030, hopefully with better consideration for the mountains. That will be important in the years after, because Albertville is one of only 12 of 21 former host cities that is expected to be cold enough to reliably host the Winter Games by 2070 unless the world significantly reduces its carbon emissions.

Already, climate change is taking its toll. The 2020 Summer Games in Tokyo were the hottest on record.(...) Julie Duffus, the senior manager for sustainability at the International Olympic Committee, told a sports conference in 2022 that she expected participation by countries to drop, perhaps by as much as 20 percent from the current number, by 2030.

In some parts of the world, it's often too hot to play or practice outside. In others, recurring storms, floods, droughts, or wildfires are reducing playing opportunities and shifting participation rates. In some places, especially island nations and countries along the Equator, climate-related damages are crippling public budgets, eating into the funding that would have otherwise been available for a national Olympic team.

Thanks to television and social media, those of us who live far from the host city can still follow along in real time without traveling to the Games. Tokyo 2020, actually held in 2021, and Beijing 2022 did not have international fans because of the Covid pandemic. The planet was better off for it. (...)

For all the efforts in Paris to reduce the carbon impact of the games, and they have been considerable, the sheer scope of future Games must be rethought. A smaller-scale Olympics wouldn't solve everything, but it would make these events more sustainable. (786 words)