

## **Sports for Climate Action Framework**

### **Risk and Opportunity Analysis**

**Main Challenge:** Coping with extreme climate events, especially heatwaves.

One of the main risks facing the State of Israel and its citizens due to the climate crisis is the increasing occurrence of prolonged heatwaves – defined as sequences of days with unusually hot weather for that specific location and season, characterized by high temperatures and significant heat stress both day and night, often combined with high humidity. Such conditions can lead to severe heat strain. In Israel, heatwaves typically occur during the summer, but in recent years, they have become more frequent in the spring and fall. Heatwaves have a wide-ranging impact on daily life and public health. They increase the risk of dehydration, heat stroke, and cardiovascular diseases. They also strain infrastructure, causing power outages, damaging cooling systems, and leading to the cracking, breaking, or melting of pipelines. Additionally, essential services such as health and emergency services, public transportation, and water and electricity supply may be disrupted. These impacts can be direct or indirect, local or national, and short-term or long-term.

#### **Opportunities:**

1. Developing practices and protocols for the administrative and operational preparedness of the Olympic Committee of Israel, sports federations, and clubs for training and competition activities during a heatwave.
2. Developing practices and protocols for acclimatizing athletes to compete during heatwaves.
3. Raising public awareness of the different aspects of safe sports activities during heatwaves.
4. Developing suitable technologies for adaptation during heatwaves.