

FEI SOLIDARITY ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2020

The following is the reporting from the FEI Solidarity Department on its activities from September 2019 till end of September 2020.

The General Assembly 2019 in Moscow, Russia, approved the appointment of the Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee for a one-year term.

Per memory: FEI Solidarity Committee Members – Terms of References

- The appointment of the Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee is for a Term of one (1) year.
- Members of the FEI Solidarity Committee may serve a maximum of four (4) Terms.
- As the FEI President shall be the Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee, the Terms of his/her mandate shall be in line with the presidential terms.

Term started at GA

| | | |
|------------|---|------|
| Group I | Ingmar De Vos (BEL), FEI President and Chair | 2018 |
| Group II | Ulf Helgstrand, President DEN NF | 2018 |
| Group III | Marina Sechina, President RUS NF | 2017 |
| Group IV | Eve van den Bol, President CAY NF | 2017 |
| Group V | Juan Luis Rodriguez, Acting President GUA NF | 2016 |
| Group VI | Pablo Thomas Mayorga (ARG), FEI Honorary Vice-President | 2017 |
| Group VII | HH Prince Moulai Abdellah El Alaoui, President MAR NF | 2018 |
| Group VIII | Mona Tep, President CAM NF | 2017 |
| Group IX | Glenda Warburton, President SWZ NF | 2018 |

FEI SOLIDARITY DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

Due to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19, the FEI Solidarity Department had to take some initiatives regarding the delivery of projects in National Federations, i.e.:

- Beginning of March, FEI Solidarity recommended its NFs and all Technical Experts to put on hold delivery of FEI Solidarity projects with a foreign Technical Expert until end of April.
- End of April confirmed that the situation was unchanged and recommendations from FEI Solidarity remained valid.
- End of May, FEI Solidarity informed that all projects allocated in 2020 which would not be carried out this year would automatically be transferred to 2021. As a result, it was requested that all NFs when applying for 2021 assistance, take into account **any projects "on standby" as part of the maximum quota of 3 projects per NF per year.**

As a result, the majority of the NFs projects due to take place this year have been postponed to 2021.

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FEI Solidarity Communications Strategy

The FEI Communications Department have reported on the following 2019 FEI Solidarity activities and stories (<https://inside.fei.org/fei/solidarity/department-updates?year=>). The reportages that had been planned have been completely put aside.

- [The Bahama's big plan following the affiliation of Bahamas to the FEI](#)
- [Giving back to the Sport](#): The expert duo of Mercedes Campderá and María Inés García discuss their transition from competing to coaching and judging and their work on FEI Equestrian Sport Educative Events in Latin America
- [Global Ambitions for Para Dressage Coaching Programme](#): how FEI Solidarity is helping to improve Para Dressage coaching standards around the world
- [Developing Driving from the top](#): Interview of Anne-Marie Turbé who has worked with FEI Solidarity to improve the quality of officiating in Driving around the world
- [Coaching the Next Generation of Grooms](#): Interview of Suzanne Macken who has worked with FEI Solidarity to improve standards of horsemanship around the world and developed a course for Grooms.
- [Liam Moggan, the "coaches' coach" discusses his long and illustrious career and his important work with the FEI establishing coaching courses in developing nations.](#)
- The FEI Jumping World Challenge Final 2019 in Ecuador:
 - [FEI Jumping World Challenge puts Ecuador on sound footing](#)
 - [Giorgia Grabs Gold for Dominican Republic](#)
- [One Year On: Retraining Racehorses Update](#): Last year, FEI Solidarity launched their Retraining of Racehorses programme in partnership with Longines. Almost **12 months later, it's time to see what progress has been made.**

In addition, some **Individuals and "FEI Solidarity" programmes** were put forward for Awards:

- Mina Farahani for IOC Women & Sport Awards (she did not win but was shortlisted to receive a diploma - see attached)
- Nelson Pessoa for the IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Awards
- Iran video - for peace and sport awards 2020 part of Sportel - was not shortlisted

Last but not least, the FEI Communications' Department and FEI Solidarity completely revamped the FEI Solidarity section on the FEI official website.

FEI Regional Development Officer (Asia)

The recruitment of a Regional Development Officer for Asia has been achieved. Mr Camille Martin (FRA) has spent one week at the FEI beginning of July to be introduced to the FEI Solidarity Programme and develop the National Development Plan of the Chinese Equestrian Federation. As a result, the following areas were defined as first priority:

- Coach Education and certification
- Grooms Training
- National Officials' Education and Certification
- Vets Education

However, the start of his activities in China is now linked to the resume of the air traffic and sanitary policy in Asia.

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NFs PROJECTS – OVERVIEW

419 is the total number of NFs projects supported by FEI Solidarity from 2012-2020:

| NFs Projects supported by FEI Solidarity 2016 - 2019 | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----|-----------------|----|
| 2016 | NFs projects | 54 | Remaining | 4 |
| 2017 | NFs projects | 67 | Remaining | 9 |
| 2018 | NFs projects | 63 | Remaining | 25 |
| 2019 | NFs projects | 71 | Remaining | 36 |
| | Total | 255 | Total remaining | 74 |

| 2020 | | | | |
|------|--------------|----|------------------|---|
| 2020 | NFs projects | 64 | Started 1.1.2020 | 9 |

NFs ROUND UP

This year, FEI Solidarity funding has been transferred to 28 NFs projects. Some of these projects have started early this year and even been achieved (courses) but some others (Training camps, etc.) had to be postponed.

Among these projects which already took place, it is worth mentioning:

- ACES YOG 2022: In the framework of the ACES-YOG 2022 programme, Talent Identification sessions took place in Algeria, Tunisia, Senegal, Mauritius, Namibia and Eswatini (ex-Swaziland). After the postponement of the YOG 2022 to 2026 as a result of the Covid-19 consequences, the status of this project was uncertain. But since an FEI Youth Jumping Competition 2022 will be organised as a replacement event, this project will continue as soon as the Covid-19 situation allows.
- BOT: Scholarship for Coach in Endurance. Mr Seeiso Maine from Botswana spent one month at Cécile Miletto-Mosti & Laurent Mosti Endurance stable in South of France (<https://www.fei.org/athlete/10016113/MOSTI-Laurent>). Mr Maine had to leave France in emergency on 25 March in order to catch the last flight from Paris to reach Botswana where he was placed in mandatory quarantine upon arrival and is now back in his stable
- COL: A successful Vaulting Workshop for Latin American NFs was organised in Colombia in January. 30 participants attended. The topics discussed were:
 - Latin-American Vaulting Directives
 - Strategies to increase development of Vaulting in Latin America
 - Workshop: the Vaulting Horse / Biomechanics (Dr G. Heuschmann, GER)
 - The FEI Solidarity Programme – Tools to develop Vaulting (J. Braissant).

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Moreover, in order to continue developing the Para-Dressage Discipline within the FEI Solidarity Programme in Colombia, the NF has re-organised the delivery of a Para-Dressage course for Coaches, Classifiers, Judges, Therapists, etc., using the new technologies.

Instagram live sessions were delivered online with Para-Dressage Experts from Latin America and Europe.

- RUS: Development of a national coach education structure. The phase of identification of Coach Educators/Developers in Moscow and St Petersburg has been achieved under the consultancy services of the FEI Development Officer in February 2020.
- ESEEs: (Equestrian Sports Educative Events): In 2020, a total of 41 ESEEs were planned to take place involving 33 NFs. Finally only 2 Events took place. The next ESEEs to be delivered in 2020 have been postponed to 2021.

FEI SOLIDARITY DEPARTMENT PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

FEI Development Officer – Consultancy Services

All the consultancy services due to be delivered by the FEI Development Officer, Jean-Philippe Camboulives, have been postponed until air traffic will resume. However, the follow-up on projects is done via visio conference when possible and new educational tools have been created such as:

1. Workshop for NFs on their Role, Mission and Responsibility:

As a result of discussions at the FEI GA in Moscow in 2019 with the FEI Group VI and the Balkans NFs Representatives, it was agreed that NFs in general have a lack of understanding on what their role and responsibilities are. Indeed, the FEI Solidarity programme has contributed to the development of the sport not only at participation level, but also at high performance level. This is where NFs are lacking the knowledge to face the new responsibilities linked to high performance sport (strategic plan, management of national teams, national head coach, certification of Officials, coaches, etc.).

The first workshop open to NF Presidents and Secretary Generals from BUL, GRE, ROU, TUR, due to take place in Bulgaria was held via visio conference in June under the leadership of the FEI Development Officer. A second workshop on this subject will take place end of August with the FEI Group VI.

2. Workshop for National Head Coaches:

In order for NFs to initiate Long-term Athletes development programmes and training in view of high performance competitions such as Regional and Continental Games, the appointment of a National Head Coach by the NF is a necessity. However, there is no real education in this field. Therefore, FEI Solidarity, in the continuity of the FEI Coach Education Programme has developed ongoing training for NF Level 3 coaches to introduce them to the NHC tasks.

A group of Experts in this field met for the first time in June via visio conference to define the workshop content under the leadership of the FEI Development Officer.

3. Grooms Training:

As all the GROOMS trainings due to take place in 2020 have been postponed to 2021, it was the occasion to review and unify the training for grooms delivered in emerging countries via the FEI Solidarity Programme.

Susanne Macken (IRL) who started the delivery of grooms training for FEI Solidarity some years ago, together with Anthony Lowry (SGP/IRL) who developed the material for the Retraining of Racehorses' courses and Valeria Ariza (URU) who delivered **Grooms' courses in Latin America** have worked on a common material which includes, among others, videos as well as the Horsemanship online module available on FEI CAMPUS.

FEI Course for NFs SGs and Administrators 2020

Another consequence of the Covid-19 affected the activities of FEI Solidarity Department: After a very successful 2019 course for NFs Secretaries and Administrators in October 2019 at the FEI HQ in Lausanne, the 2020 edition had to be cancelled.

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IT NF Platform

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the new interested National Federations have been introduced to the IT NF platform (NF management tool) by the IT Department via visio conference.

Horse Welfare - Ongoing training for National Head Veterinarians (NHV)

A workshop for FEI Group III was held in Moscow in November 2019 under the leadership of the FEI Veterinary Department. High level representatives from the National Veterinary Authorities and Customs from several FEI Group III countries participated alongside National Head Veterinarians from National Federations and the Secretary General of Belarus.

FEI Solidarity Retraining of Racehorses in partnership with LONGINES

The objective of this programme is to educate Coaches and Riders on Retraining Techniques for former Racehorses (RTR) in NFs where the access to sport horses is limited. Currently the programme is running in 5 countries in South East Asia.

So far, only courses in Malaysia has organised the 3 **course's** modules (3 courses x 3 days) and Indonesia has scheduled de courses in December.

It is worth mentioning that the impact of the Covid-19 and the African Horse Sickness (AHS) outbreak in South East Asia causing the closing of the race tracks, have put an important number of racehorses on the market for a small price. Therefore, the demand for well retrained former Racehorses to be used in the equestrian sport has significantly increased.

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FEI COACH EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Following the Vaulting Tutors' course organised in Ypäjä (FIN) in October of 2019, on which occasion the content of the Level 2 Vaulting course for Coaches was tested, it was agreed that the specific training needs of the Vaulting Horse should be addressed at the Level 2 and consequently further information was added to the course workbook.

Since the beginning of 2020, a Tutors' course for Para Dressage was held in Vernouillet (FRA) in early February in the framework of the FEI Coach Education Programme. The FEI Level 1 Course for Para-Dressage Coaches has been finalised. .

With regards to the FEI Courses for Coaches in general, only one FEI Introduction to Coaching course was organised by the National Federation of Russia in February. Following the global outbreak of the Coronavirus, other courses scheduled to take place in March and April have been postponed.

The NF of Malaysia has an Introduction to Coaching Course planned in mid-August, which we have reason to believe will take place as it will be delivered by a local Course Director and under strict sanitary conditions to respect the local health authorities recommendations. The next courses currently on the calendar for 2020 are two Level 1 Endurance courses in Turkey in September. Depending on the evolution of the pandemic and the travel restrictions, these courses may have to be postponed.

All other FEI courses are currently "on hold" and we do expect these exceptional circumstances will have a toll on the number of courses organised between now and the end of the year.

Virtual ongoing training for Coach Educators (Tutors)

In order to keep the contact with the Coach Educators (Tutors) delivering FEI courses for coaches, virtual training seminars will be organised in November and December 2020. The sessions will be delivered by Liam Moggan our Tutor's Educator.

- All Tutors (1 generic session)
- Olympic disciplines (2 sessions)
- Vaulting (1 session)
- Endurance (1 session)

FEI WORLD CHALLENGES SERIES

In JUMPING, the current calendar for the 2020 season has 119 shows on record set to take place in 36 countries. Taking into account the impact of the Coronavirus outbreak the overview of the calendar at this time is as follow:

| Total # of Shows | # Shows ORGANISED since Jan 2020 | # Shows POSTPONED since March 2020 (no new dates) | # Shows SCHEDULED between Sep & Dec 2020 | # Shows ANNOUNCED in 2019 without set dates (TBC) | # Shows definitely CANCELLED |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| 119 | 12 | 39 | 45 | 23 | 6 |

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The FEI Jumping World Challenge FINAL 2019 organised in Quito, Ecuador was a success with 21 Athletes of 17 nationalities.

Unfortunately, as a result of the pandemic the FEI Board decided during its meeting on 23-25 June to cancel the 2020 FEI Jumping World Challenge Final due to take place in Indonesia. Certificates will be sent out to the 19 Athletes qualified to take part in the Final (best two Athletes per Regional Zone, based on the 2019 Regional Rankings).

Following the decision to cancel the 2020 Final, the NF of Indonesia has submitted its official bid to host the Final in 2022. As for 2021 Final, the NF of Senegal who was planning to host this competition as their test event in view of the 2022 Youth Olympic Games which has since been postponed to 2026, have withdrawn their candidacy to the organisation of the Final in 2021. The FEI is looking for a new organiser.

In DRESSAGE, the original 2020 FEI Dressage World Challenge calendar counted a total of 38 shows to take place in 37 countries (India and Bolivia were planning on organising the competition in more than one city). As for the Jumping Challenge the calendar has been impacted by the current situation surrounding the Coronavirus outbreak. Here is latest update:

| Total # of Shows | # Shows ORGANISED since Jan 2020 | # Shows POSTPONED since March 2020 (no new dates) | # Shows SCHEDULED between Sep & Dec 2020 | # Shows ANNOUNCED in 2019 without set dates (TBC) | # Shows definitely CANCELLED |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| 38 | 0 | 16 | 19 | 3 | 2 |

In VAULTING: with the new creation of a Challenge Series in Vaulting, 2020 saw its first ever FEI Vaulting World Challenge event take place in South Africa on 14-15 February. The calendar currently counts 8 shows after the cancellation of Spain which had planned to host two shows in different cities and more recently Brazil. More National Federations had shown their interest in hosting this Series and therefore once again pending on the evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak we might have more or less shows organised by the end of the year. The overview of the calendar at this time is as follow:

| Total # of Shows | # Shows ORGANISED since Jan 2020 | # Shows POSTPONED since March 2020 (no new dates) | # Shows SCHEDULED between Sep & Dec 2020 | # Shows ANNOUNCED in 2019 without set dates (TBC) | # Shows definitely CANCELLED |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

After discussions with the Jumping, Dressage and Vaulting Sports Department, it was agreed that under the current circumstances an exemption would be exceptionally granted with regards to the appointment of a Foreign Judge when organising the FEI World Challenge Series in 2020. This exemption allows NFs with FEI Judges (min. Level 2) in the country to be able to host the series once activities resume in their respective country. On 22 April, a communication was sent out to all organising NFs informing them of this decision.

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FEI SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE MEETING 2020

The FEI Solidarity Committee met virtually on 31 August and 1st September 2020 for their annual meeting during which, among others, they evaluated the requests for assistance for 2021 and onwards.

A total of 47 applications from 20 National Equestrian Federations and 3 Regional Groups have been submitted to the FEI Solidarity Department for evaluation, they are divided into:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| - THE ATHLETE - Training (Identification, Qualification, Preparation) | 9 applications |
| - THE COACH - Specific projects | 1 application |
| - THE NATIONAL FEDERATION - NFs Sports Structures & Systems | 20 applications |
| - THE VALUES - Sport for All – Horse Welfare, etc. | 17 applications |

After evaluation of all NFs projects by the FEI Solidarity Committee, a total of 42 projects were approved, 2 projects could not be considered and 3 Scholarships for Veterinarians were redirected to the FEI Veterinary Department for consideration.

In addition, the FEI Solidarity Committee approved the following new initiatives:

Gender Equality in Equestrian Sport

In its continuous search of helping towards the development of the sport in all aspects and in line with the recommendations of the United Nations, the FEI Solidarity Committee approved **a new "grant" in relation to a "Gender Equality" project or programme.**

Each year a **grant CHF 20'000.-** from the FEI Solidarity fund will be awarded to one specific NF project or programme whose main aim and focus is the promotion of gender equality on and/or off the field. This includes, but is not limited to, programmes in relation to Governance and Administration, Athletes participation, Coaches, Officials, Grooms, Farriers, etc.

The project/programme to benefit from the 2020 grant was selected among projects from Chile, Costa Rica, Israel and Italy by the FEI Solidarity Committee at its annual meeting. As a result, Costa Rica won the 2020 contest.

FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund

During the FEI Solidarity annual Committee meeting, the FEI President and Chair of the FEI Solidarity Committee, presented to the Members a plan to help NFs recover following the Covid-19 pandemic impact on their activities.

Consisting of a financial support plan that would make CHF 1,050,000.- available to National Federations that have been seriously affected by the ongoing pandemic, the Committee fully endorsed the proposal which was then presented to the FEI Board on 10 September **and approved under the name of "FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund".**

A total of 105 of the 137 National Federations had been identified as eligible for support from the FEI Covid-19 Relief Fund, according to the following criteria:

- NFs part of the FEI Solidarity Programme.
- **NFs from Level 3 (CHF 6'000.-) down to Level 7 (CHF 500.-) of the FEI Annual Subscription's Index.**
- NFs with proven Equestrian activities.

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Successful applicants would receive a one-off payment of CHF 10,000.- to provide targeted financial assistance in order to boost grass roots equestrian activities at riding clubs and schools, particularly the care and upkeep of horses.

The application process is open from 1 October 2020 through to 31 December 2021.

FINANCES

This matter will be addressed separately. It will be covered under the point 7. Annual Financial Report of the GA Agenda.

Jacqueline Braissant
Director, FEI Solidarity

October 2020