

Goal of project

The primary objective of this project is to provide support, resources and expertise to Elite athletes from emerging/developing National Federations to compete at a World Cup level and at the same time increase the number of coaches from emerging/developing National Federations gaining experience in the preparation and support of athletes competing at a World Cup level.

Project Outline

- Emerging/Developing National Federations are invited to submit applications.
- Applications for athletes that have already proven themselves at an ITU U23 World Championship, ITU Junior World Championship, World Cup or Continental Cup level will be considered.
- Performance will also be assessed on the basis of swim and run times when results are limited.
- Three World Cup events will be earmarked as the Team ITU – SD events.
- At each of these events a full support team (coaches, bike mechanic and athletic trainer) will be on hand for the athletes selected.
- The group will be accommodated as a 'team' and supported as such pre, during and post event.

Target Group

The target group will be athletes from emerging/developing National Federations who have already shown a high level of competence in Continental Cup events and are looking to make the step up to World Cup level of racing but need support in order to do so. These athletes should be seen as Olympic prospects (2012) by their National Federations and will *primarily* be drawn from the U23 ranks.

Qualification Criteria

- Athletes must be registered with their National Federations and have shown the ability to race at a high level.
- The athletes nominated should be committed to competing in the long term and have the Olympic Games as an ultimate objective.
- While there are four (4) male and four (4) female slots available athletes will be selected at the discretion of the ITU Sport Development Staff and in some cases not all the slots will be filled.

Time Line

Applications must be submitted in writing to libby@triathlon.org and each applicant must also be entered by their National Federation for the respective World Cup events with ITU via the online entry method by the closing date for entry for the specific event they are applying for.

A National Federation may nominate no more than two (2) male and two (2) females.

Designated Event	Application forms to be submitted to libby@triathlon.org
Mooloolaba World Cup	15 February 2011
Edmonton World Cup	01 June 2011
Auckland World Cup	01 October 2011

Budget

All athletes selected will be funded as follows:

1. Return economy class flight from home to event destination,
2. Hotel accommodation (on a shared basis) for maximum 5 days,
3. Meals – 3 per day (or a meal stipend),
4. Bike mechanic services,
5. Medical support,
6. Coaching support.

Evaluation

The athletes selected will be tracked over the years to determine their progress and feedback sheets will be completed by all of the participants prior to and post each event.

Application form

Please complete relevant application form and forward to libby@triathlon.org on or before due dates.

Definition and Explanation of National Federation Status:

For the purpose of the ITU Sport Development (Athlete and Coaching) we have categorized National Federations into three (3) categories:

Olympic NF's are those NF's who had representation at the Beijing Olympic Games through the standard qualification system (excluding universality slots).

Emerging NF's are those NF's who had no competitors at the Beijing Olympic Games but have had representation at the World Championships in the Elite, U23 or Junior Categories in the past two years.

Developing NF's are those NF's with no representation at the World Triathlon Championships in the Elite, U23 and Junior Categories in the past two years.

The ITU Athlete and Coaching Development Programme specifically targets Emerging and Developing NF's.