

**Research Title:** Evaluating the impact of the WADA International Standard for Education (ISE) at the global and anti-doping organization (ADO) levels

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**Tier:** 1

The International Standard for Education (ISE) came into force on January 1st, 2021. The overarching objective of the ISE is to support the preservation of the spirit of sport and help foster a clean sport environment. To achieve this, it sets out the requirements for Anti-Doping Organisations (ADOs), requiring them to plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate education programmes that incorporate four primary components (i.e., values-based education, awareness raising, information provision, and anti-doping education). Now that the ISE has been in operation for a full annual cycle, it is important to evaluate the impact of the ISE's implementation. To achieve this, we will conduct an impact evaluation at the global level, and process and outcome evaluations at the ADO level. At the global level, our impact evaluation will examine how global anti-doping and clean sport education delivery changed following the implementation of the ISE, and whether ADOs of different size and funding level differed in how they met the requirements of the ISE in 2021. At the ADO level, our process and outcome evaluations will identify what actions have triggered changes within the case study organisations following the ISE's implementation, and whether these are resulting in desired outcomes, and if this differs across ADOs of different size and level of funding. To achieve these objectives, at the global level we will identify all relevant components of ADO's 2021 education delivery and identify changes following ISE implementation through comparisons with pre-ISE delivery. We will also categorise ADOs into the four WADA tiers, to investigate whether ADO size and funding level is linked with systematic differences in education delivery. At the ADO level, we will work with ADOs in the UK (UKAD), Caribbean (CARADO), and Kenya (ADAK) to conduct process and outcome evaluations of ISE implementation. The process evaluation will determine whether the ISE was implemented as intended and reveal why this was or was not the case. The outcome evaluation will enable conclusions to be made about results stemming from the ISE's implementation and whether intended outcomes were achieved. The evaluations at the ADO level will include conducting interviews with ADO staff, athletes, and athlete support personnel at the beginning and end of 2023 (i.e., prior to and following the implementation of a full anti-doping and clean sport education programme). Additionally, we will measure and document the number and type of education sessions conducted, assess athletes on outcomes relevant to the four primary components of ADO education plans (i.e., values-based education, awareness raising, information provision, and anti-doping education) at the start and end of 2023, as well as assessing whether anti-doping rule violations and applications for therapeutic use exemptions changed compared to previous years. Collectively, the findings from this project will provide WADA with a clear understanding of how the ISE's implementation influenced education delivery, the processes underpinning it, and the outcomes stemming from it, as well as whether this differed across ADOs of different size/funding level. This will provide WADA with important information to inform future iterations of the ISE.