

World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day



2020 REPORT

Celebrating & Sharing our
PASSION for TABLE TENNIS!

WORLD TABLE TENNIS 'AT HOME' DAY 2020

Event Report



Intro message

April 6, 2020 was all about **being physically distanced but socially united**, focussing on the power of table tennis to stay safe, active and healthy at home by **flattening the curve and blocking Covid-19**.

This edition brought many firsts: For the first time World Table Tennis Day was celebrated at home or rather without big events because of its transformation to the World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day. Due to the limitations and restrictions forced by the global pandemic, people were not allowed to gather, and many had to cancel their events. Nevertheless, they managed to have fun at home using the most creative items to still play table tennis. For example, playing with a garbage bin, a flipper, a banana; passing by on a bicycle; using the coffee table as a table tennis table or toilet paper as a net.

Above this, for the first time we could not conduct an ITTF Foundation main event, which was supposed to be staged environmentally friendly and inclusive in Tonga. That way we would have finished the celebrations world tour and launched one of the Dream Building Fund 2020 projects. Of course, this cancellation did not hold us back to celebrate WTTAHD in a big way – just digitally. One of our highlights and another first-timer is the huge geographical distribution. Table tennis has never been shared in so many countries and regions at the same time before: 171! It also highlights **the achievement of one of the key**

outcomes of ITTF's Strategic Plan 2018-2024 regarding promotion: We saw active participants from 75% of ITTF member countries and independent regions.

Our **sincere gratitude** goes out to the ITTF High Performance & Development Team for their support and eagerness accomplishing this key outcome of ITTF's Strategic Plan; to Netina Latu and the Tongan Table Tennis Federation who were planning the beautiful main celebrations; to Carolina Rosso who keeps surprising us with her creative graphic designs; to Romina Concha Sepúlveda for her social media management, to Joachim Davy and Stanley Yeo for their ideas and patience with the video productions; and to Wiebke Scheffler and Julia Tappendorf for swiftly altering the WTTD and keeping its spirit alive. Furthermore, I would like to thank the ITTF officials and staff for their unceasing support and cooperation and all elite players that celebrated with.

To every single passionate table tennis player who sent us a video or photo demonstrating WTTAHD's diversity and universality: Our deepest appreciation is reserved for YOU! It is thanks to your love for our sport that we keep going further making table tennis accessible to everyone everywhere!

Last but not least, thank you, dear readers of this report, for your interest in the World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day and your help to spread the word in 2021. We hope the next edition brings us physically together in a new "normality", more sustainable and socially oriented, where we can celebrate our passion for table tennis making it even more **Popular, Universal and above all more Inclusive.**

Looking forward to seeing you on April 6, 2021!

Leandro Olvech
ITTF Foundation Director
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WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY 2020: Original Celebration Plans

GENERAL CONCEPT

As in previous years, a main topic was set and newsletters were sent out for inspiring people to use table tennis as a tool for development and motivating them to organise an event: TABLE TENNIS 4 ENVIRONMENT - Let's make a change and grow together to be more popular, universal and inclusive.

By focussing on the environment, we wanted to address different types of environment, how they complement each other and especially what role table tennis can play. Of course, climate change is probably the first everyone can think of and it is indeed an urgent matter, but we were not concentrating exclusively on the ecological environment. Our sport can have a great impact on the social, political, media and economic environment as well as contributing to a healthy environment.

For promotion purposes and to increase worldwide popularity regarding geographical distribution, we created a promo video in 5 different languages: **English, French, Spanish, Portuguese** and **Arabic**.

As usual, we were planning to award the most popular, universal, inclusive and creative events.

MAIN EVENT

After celebrating the WTTD on almost every continent, it was time to go to Oceania completing the tour around the world. This year the Tongan Table Tennis Federation was supposed to host a fun, active, environmentally friendly and inclusive event at one of Tongan's tourist attractions: Ha'amonga in Niutoua. Following the planned motto of #TT4Environment, TTTF was partnering with the non-profit organisation No Pelesitiki (No Plastics) who advocates against the use of plastic and contributes to minimise its use in Tonga. The event should also mark the launch of the Dream Building Fund 2020 project in order to raise the awareness of the inclusion of people with a disability through table tennis.



The Transformation to World Table Tennis 'at Home' Day 2020



April 6, 2020

- The craziest longest table tennis rally was launched on social media
- a 24 hours video marathon with non-stop table tennis including original, never seen before, archived footage in HD, taking everyone down memory lane to revisit a bucket list of classic, unforgettable matches from the past and materials from our own projects and programmes.

In spite of the global pandemic, **health and safety come first** and physical activity is even more important than in "normal" times. Using the benefits of our digital era, all members of our table tennis community and beyond were invited to take part of the craziest, longest online table tennis rally. Rackets and random objects of everyday's life were used to hit the ball or perform a trickshot in front of any table.



EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE had to know that even in this difficult time facing a severe pandemic NO ONE IS ALONE!

◀ **Watch our social media teaser to see how people were motivated to be part of the rally!**

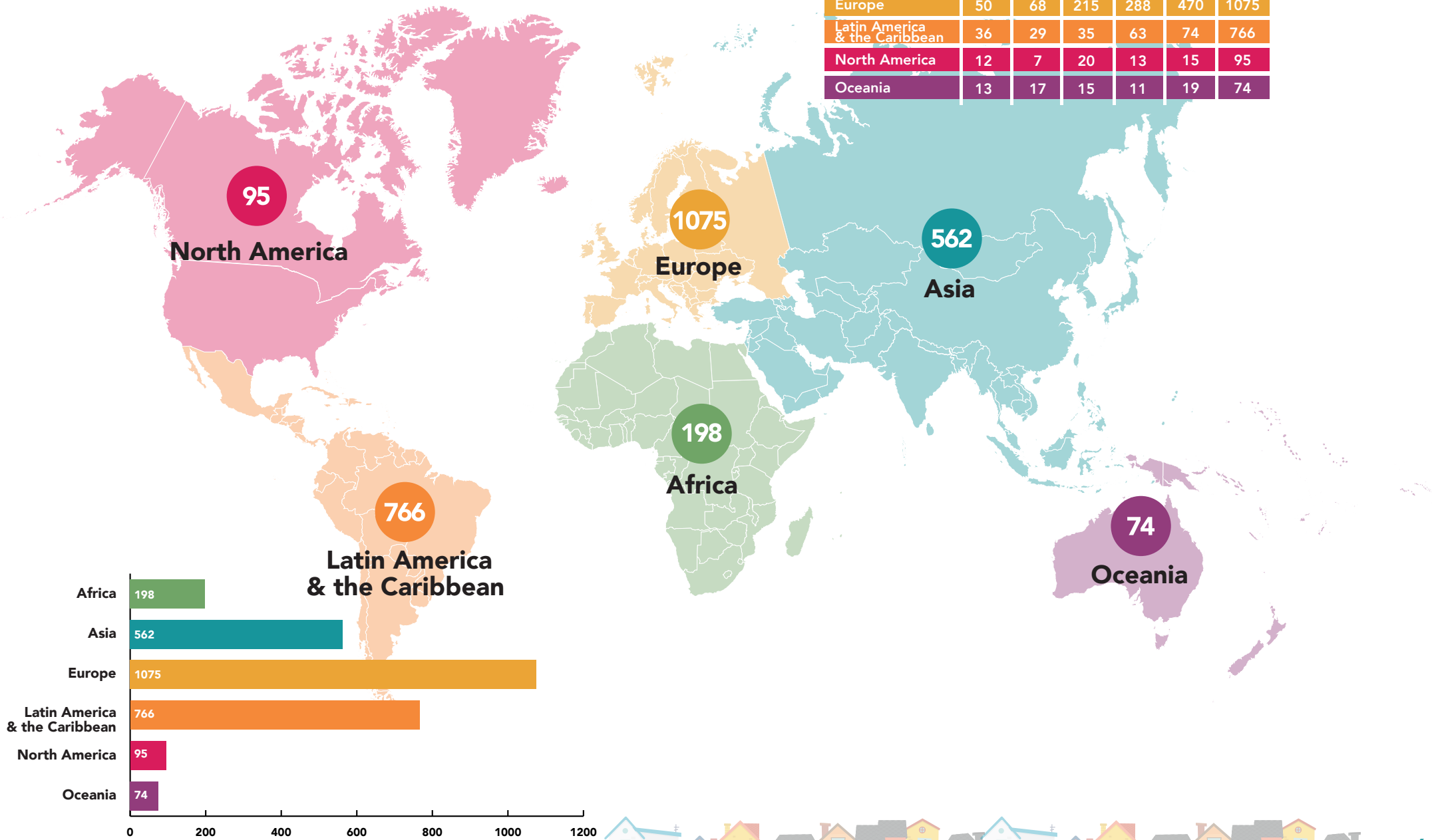


CONTINENTAL TOP ORGANISER

(Quantity of footage plus events)

★ COMPARATIVE TABLE

CONTINENT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Africa	14	13	39	64	69	198
Asia	35	61	126	140	275	562
Europe	50	68	215	288	470	1075
Latin America & the Caribbean	36	29	35	63	74	766
North America	12	7	20	13	15	95
Oceania	13	17	15	11	19	74



RANKING PER COUNTRY AND CONTINENT

North America

- 85 USA
- 9 Canada
- 1 Bermuda

95

Latin America & the Caribbean

- 174 Chile
- 102 Brazil
- 69 Argentina
- 68 Costa Rica
- 46 Colombia
- 40 Venezuela
- 35 Honduras
- 32 Paraguay
- 31 Bolivia
- 28 Peru
- 27 Trinidad & Tobago
- 24 Puerto Rico
- 21 Ecuador
- 20 Guyana
- 15 Belize
- 4 Mexico
- 4 Panama
- 3 El Salvador
- 2 Antigua and Barbuda
- 2 Cuba
- 2 Guatemala
- 2 Haiti
- 2 Nicaragua
- 2 Suriname
- 1 Aruba
- 1 Barbados
- 1 Bonaire
- 1 Cayman Islands
- 1 Curacao
- 1 Dominican Republic
- 1 Grenada
- 1 Jamaica
- 1 St. Maarten
- 1 St. Vincent
- 1 Uruguay

766

Europe

1075

- 172 Austria
- 150 Italy
- 131 Turkey
- 116 Germany
- 95 France
- 38 Romania
- 37 Russia
- 35 Kosovo
- 32 Croatia
- 32 England
- 30 Belgium
- 27 Netherlands
- 18 Latvia
- 16 Sweden
- 15 Spain
- 14 Greece
- 9 Estonia
- 9 Hungary
- 9 Lithuania
- 8 Denmark
- 7 Portugal
- 7 Switzerland
- 6 Israel
- 5 Luxembourg
- 4 Iceland
- 4 Poland
- 3 Albania
- 3 Georgia
- 3 Montenegro
- 3 Norway
- 3 Serbia
- 3 Ukraine
- 2 Azerbaijan
- 2 Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 2 Czech Republic
- 2 Finland
- 2 Ireland
- 2 Moldova
- 2 Slovak Republic
- 1 Andorra
- 1 Armenia
- 1 Belarus
- 1 Bulgaria
- 1 Cyprus
- 1 Faroe Islands
- 1 Guernsey C.I.
- 1 Jersey
- 1 Liechtenstein
- 1 Malta
- 1 Monaco
- 1 North Macedonia
- 1 Scotland
- 1 Slovenia

Africa

198

- 61 Egypt
- 36 Algeria
- 24 Comoros
- 13 Togo
- 8 Tunisia
- 7 Djibouti
- 5 Ethiopia
- 5 South Africa
- 5 Zambia
- 3 Botswana
- 3 Burkina Faso
- 3 Guinea-Bissau
- 3 Kenya
- 3 Nigeria
- 2 Cameroon
- 2 Congo Brazzaville
- 2 Ghana
- 2 Libya
- 2 Sudan
- 1 Angola
- 1 Côte d'Ivoire
- 1 Lesotho
- 1 Mali
- 1 Mauritius
- 1 Namibia
- 1 Senegal
- 1 Tanzania
- 1 Uganda

Asia

562

- 112 India
- 49 China
- 46 Maldives
- 42 Kazakhstan
- 37 Oman
- 34 Saudi Arabia
- 33 Pakistan
- 31 Korea Republic
- 18 Uzbekistan
- 17 Philippines
- 14 Sri Lanka
- 11 Bhutan
- 11 Iran
- 10 Jordan
- 9 Iraq
- 9 Malaysia
- 9 United Arab Emirates
- 8 Singapore
- 5 Bahrain
- 5 East Timor
- 4 Bangladesh
- 4 Hong Kong
- 4 Kuwait
- 4 Qatar
- 4 Tajikistan
- 4 Thailand
- 3 Japan
- 3 Nepal
- 2 Kyrgyzstan
- 2 Laos
- 2 Lebanon
- 2 Mongolia
- 2 Myanmar
- 2 Palestine
- 2 Syria
- 2 Vietnam
- 2 Yemen
- 1 Afghanistan
- 1 Chinese Taipei
- 1 Indonesia
- 1 Macao

Oceania

74

- 21 Tahiti
- 16 Tonga
- 15 Australia
- 9 New Zealand
- 5 Fiji Islands
- 4 Solomon Islands
- 1 Cook Islands
- 1 Nauru
- 1 New Caledonia
- 1 Papua New Guinea



DIGITAL CELEBRATIONS

(Quantity of people digitally celebrating at home)

 Participating pets
 Physically celebrated



TOTAL NUMBER
OF PEOPLE

3882



WELCOME TO THE WORLD TABLE TENNIS DAY FAMILY!



Latin America & the Caribbean

Antigua and Barbuda
Aruba
Bolivia
Cayman Islands
Cuba
Curacao
Grenada
Nicaragua
Suriname

Europe

Albania
Armenia
Faroe Islands
Iceland
Jersey
Liechtenstein
Monaco
Serbia

Africa

Comoros
Guinea-Bissau
Lesotho
Mali
Namibia

Asia

Bahrain
East Timor
Iraq
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Macao
Tajikistan
Uzbekistan

Oceania

Nauru



THANKS

to everyone who joined our world table tennis 'at home' celebrations by sending a video to join the world's craziest longest online table tennis rally!

Table tennis lovers from all over the globe celebrated this year's World Table Tennis Day edition from home in order to stay safe, mindful, active and healthy. The event is consistently growing – especially geographically. Have a look where and how people celebrated in their home sometimes using the most funniest objects to hit the table tennis ball, to play on a different kind of table or to build a net.



Best of WTTAHD Celebrations



WTTAHD 2020 Celebrations







2021

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www.ittffoundation.org

www.ittffoundation.org/programmes/tt4all/world-table-tennis-day