

INTRODUCTION: UN TOOLKIT ON SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (SDP)

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AU	African Union
CABOS	Commonwealth Advisory Body on Sport
CGF	Commonwealth Games Federation
CIGEPS	Intergovernmental Committee of Physical Education and Sport
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
EET	Employment, Education or Training
EU	European Union
GAPPA	Global Action Plan on Physical Activity
HOPE	Health Optimizing Physical Education
ICSSPE	International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education
IDSDP	International Day of Sport for Development and Peace
ILO	International Olympic Organization
IOC	International Olympic Committee
IPC	International Paralympic Committee
IYSPE	International Year of Sport and Physical Education
JSC	Japan Sport Council
KAP	Kazan Action Plan
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MDGS	Millennium Development Goals
MINEPS	International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport
MOOC	Massive Open Online Course
NEET	Not in Employment, Education or Training
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NOC	National Olympic Committee

NPC	National Paralympic Committee
NPO	Non-profit Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development
PE	Physical Education
PEPAS	Physical Education Physical Activity and Sport
PWD	Persons with Disabilities
PYD	Positive Youth Development
QPE	Quality Physical Education
RBM	Results-Based Management
RBM&E	Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDP IWG	Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	Unites Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	Unites Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNGA	Unites Nations General Assembly
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNOSDP	United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace
WHO	World Health Organization
2030 Agenda	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Overview

Background

Since 2000 with the implementation of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), different global development trends emerged mirroring a UN Agenda. Sport became a viable strategy for mobilizing resources, driving a policy agenda, and creating awareness for what then was phrased as the ‘power of sport’ to bring about broader societal change.¹ UN agencies created forums to gather multiple stakeholders in building momentum, bringing concepts what constitute the value of sport and developing structures (e.g., UN Interagency Task Force and SDP International Working Group) supported by advocacy and reform (two successive Special Advisors to the UN Secretary- General on SDP in 2001 and 2008 respectively).

Various UN resolutions were adopted and by 2008, a global social movement emerged. International sport leading institutions such as the IOC transformed their mega event legacies to benefit broader society and moved from having observer status at the UN (since 2009) to forging a direct partnership in 2017 (see Annex A for UN Milestones).

By the end of 2015, the initial wave of advocacy and awareness moved to the implementation phase and to find evidence-based practices where sport was considered an effective tool for contributing to social transformation. In the post-2015 era, UN leadership focused on action as captured by the Kazan Action Plan (in 2017), MINEPS VI policy directives and alignment with selected targets of the SDGs. The UN was instrumental to put an agenda on the table for Quality Physical Education (UNESCO) and for the integration of SDP work across UN Agencies, government entities and a plethora of other international stakeholders. The new strategy was to integrate sport as a catalyst for change in synergy with other development work and to move from a phase of inspiration, to demonstrating how sport can contribute to development (as a tool), to driving implementation and actions in partnership with other agencies. For instance, the Commonwealth Secretariat contributed to developing a bank of indicators, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and other agencies developed strategic plans to deliver on the UN 2030 development agenda (see Annex A).

The COVID-19 pandemic brought society and sport to a halt, it deepened the existing inequalities and illuminated existing fault lines. The time for action and ‘building back better’ required collective and focused actions. In 2021 UNESCO came up with a Fit4Life (health-focused physical activity program) to be rooted in evidence-based practices. Different UN actions, including this toolkit is a response to accelerate and deliver on SDP outcomes in an integrative and effective way.

¹ Nelson Mandela the then President of South Africa, made a speech at the inaugural Laureus World Sports Awards, saying: “Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Available: <https://www.paradigmsports.ca/sport-power-change-world-nelson-mandela/>

What is the toolkit about?

The current toolkit is a similar response to guide collective action (SDG 17) in addressing other societal outcomes through sport. In this case, after extensive consultation, seven main themes were identified to be addressed in the following modules.

- SDP Policies and Programs
- Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (PEPAS)
- Skills training, Volunteerism, Employability and Mentorship
- Values, Social Inclusion and Role Modelling
- Safeguarding, Integrity and Human Rights
- Awareness, Advocacy and Social Media
- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Some of these modules (e.g., around employability) are based on recent developments to provide sport linked to a focused outcome as a field of specialization such as Sport-for-Employment. Similarly, PEPAS spans the ecosystem and educational-aligned outcomes and stakeholders. Other thematic areas are cross-cutting and relevant to the SDP outcomes within specific and across sectors (e.g., health-optimizing PE – health, education and gender equality, as well as safeguarding).

The Toolkit includes a significant body of knowledge in a user-friendly and pragmatic way to be meaningful for all stakeholders – from policy makers at the international level to implementing agencies at grassroots level. It includes learning material, steps and guidelines for implementation and examples of 50 descriptive case studies. There are more than 200 references, including other toolkits and sources that can be consulted. Each module represents a stand-alone topic or related topics and can be used as a single unit. However, the complete toolkit is an informative resource that can be used and adapted for capacity building within and across sectors and stakeholder types.

Each module:

- Defines the key concepts and connects them to SDP.
- Links SDP to prioritized SDGs for that specific thematic area.
- Identifies steps to implement and evaluate relevant policies and programs.

Who is this toolkit for?

This toolkit is relevant to everyone that has an interest in SDP, skills training (in and through sport), volunteering, mentorship, and youth employability/employment. This includes (but is not limited to) policymakers, government officials from different ministries – from the national to local levels sport organizations, educational institutions in formal, non-formal and informal education and training, development agencies such as foundations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and members from civil society.

Objectives

- **Modular Objectives**

All modules include relevant information on current developments based on policy and program learnings, and offer guidelines related to the thematic areas within a particular module that will inform strategic decision-making, how to go about planning, implementation and reviewing (M&E) policies, programs and strategies related to SDP.

- **Learning Objectives**

Each module states certain learning objectives relevant to the thematic areas. On the completion of each module, participants will have:

- Explored ideas and principles of SDP associated with different thematic areas and related outcomes.
- Identified key concepts regarding programs and policies aligned with SDGs for different thematic areas.
- Considered the conception, implementation and evaluation of SDP programs and policies aimed at related outcomes and impact, guided by a theory of change [ToC].

Module Maps

All modules follow a similar map:

1. How does SDP connect to different thematic areas related to a specific module?

2. What is the current policy context?

3. How can relevant policies or programs be developed?

4. The four phases of policy/program development related to this thematic area

5. Summary and key learning points

6. References and further Reading

Technical content

Background

Using ideas and methods from the SDP sector, many governments and organizations have designed and implemented policies and programs to meet non-sport goals. The modules focus on the relevant goals linked to the thematic area. To meet these goals, government and other stakeholders can implement relevant policies and programs in different thematic areas:

- ▶ **Review** the policy context.
- ▶ **Raise awareness** of the importance and possibilities of connecting sport to a particular theme.
- ▶ **Mobilize** support of various stakeholders, networks, and partnerships within and across sectors.
- ▶ **Promote** linkages, coordination, and networking with other national programs.
- ▶ **Create or adapt and apply a program theory** that outlines the process by which sport will be used to support impact aligned to selected SDGs and current norms and standards for communities of practice.
- ▶ **Set achievable targets** through SDP mechanisms in ways that align with selected SDGs and that are consistent with international standards.
- ▶ **Determine the necessary resources and advocate** for funding for the development and implementation of sport policies and programs.
- ▶ **Monitor and evaluate** the extent to which policies and programs within the SDP domain deliver on planned outcomes and adjust these approaches where they are not.

Principles and Definitions

1. Defining SDP, Sport-for/in/and development

Sport for Development and Peace (SDP) is the intentional organization and implementation of sport-based programs to meet non-sport goals of development and peace, broadly defined. In the SDP framework, sport participation is important, but the goal is to support and facilitate external development and peace outcomes.

Sport for development (SfD) as an approach is often referred to as *plus sport* (in which development outcomes are the priority) as opposed to *sport plus*, in which sport participation is the focus. (In practical terms, however, programs may use both *plus sport* and *sport plus* approaches).

Sport in development focuses on including sport-for-development within a scope of 'other' development work such as a value-add to international diplomacy, related infrastructure development or socio-economic empowerment projects.

Sport and development as a concept refers to a full spectrum of development impacts that sport, exercise and recreation have on individuals and communities in terms of a broad range of socio-economic and sustainable development benefits at micro and macro levels.

Sport and Peace focus on human rights, conflict resolution and transformation, social inclusion and cohesion, citizenship and nation-building, as well as the promotion of universal values.

Policy Context

Table 1 lists the links between the prioritized eight SDGs and targets, related areas of MINEPS Vi (2017) Sport Policy Framework and sport, physical education and physical activity result areas which in turn align with the Kazan Action Plan (KAP). The priority SDG targets are presented in more detail in six modules with the M&E module providing reference to ten SDGs (#3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 17). The Module: SDP Policies and Programs also refer to some additional SDG targets (i.e., 16.2, 17.3, 17.9 and 17.15) but only the ones selected where clear links exist related to policy coherence, are listed in the table.

Table 1. Modules aligned with seven SDGs and selected related targets

Modules	SDG 3 Targets	SDG 4 Targets	SDG 5 Targets	SDG 8 Targets	SDG 10 Targets	SDG 11 Targets	SDG 16 Targets	SDG 17 Targets
SDP Policies and Programs							16.1, 16.6, 16.7, 16b	17.14, 17.16, 17.17
Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (PEPAS)	3.3, 3.4, 3.5	4.1, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7						
Skills training, Volunteerism, Employability and Mentorship		4.3, 4.4, 4.5		8.6, 8b				
Values, Social Inclusion and Role Modelling					10.2, 10.7	11.3, 11.7	16.2, 16.5, 16.6	
Safeguarding, Integrity and Human Rights			5.1, 5.2, 5.3		10.2, 10.7			
Awareness, Advocacy and Social Media								17.3, 17.9, 17.16, 17.17

Policy and Practical Guidelines

This section in the different modules offers guidelines for developing policies and programs to support selected outcomes related to a thematic area:

- Inclusion of different stakeholders at different levels
- Accessibility of the process

Phases of Development

The development and implementation of SDP policies and programs designed to support different thematic areas should proceed through the following four phases:

1. A **preparatory phase**, during which key agencies and organizations address the institutional structures for planning and engaging with sports organizations, relevant ministries, service providers, international organizations, and collaboration with other stakeholders. This includes consideration of the international policy context and gathering of relevant data for informed decision-making and evidence-based planning.
2. A **development phase**, during which key agencies and organizations elaborate a policy or program within a specific country context, intensify the consultation process, and draft the policy or program.
3. An **implementation phase**, during which relevant agencies implement the policy or program.
4. A **monitoring & evaluation phase**, which overlaps with the implementation phase and involves a process of adjustment of policy or programs objectives and activities in consideration of new data or shifting circumstances, followed by assessment and review to lay the foundation for a successor policy or program.

The M&E phase is fully presented in the M&E Module, wherein about six to eight case studies are discussed relevant to the thematic area and phase of development.

Learnings, References and Further Readings

Key points of learnings appear under different sections in all modules to highlight certain aspects of importance. References and further readings are included, while footnotes and case studies have links to other toolkits and sources of reference.

ANNEX A: UN-LINKED MILESTONES TO SDP

Key milestones in UN SDP activities since the new Millennium	
2000	The UN Millennium Declaration adopted and setting of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (A/RES/55/2) with deadline of 2015
2001 & 2008	Appointment of special advisors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan appoints Mr. Adolf Ogi as the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace. • UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appoints Mr. Wilfried Lemke to the United Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP)
2002	First meeting of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace convened by UN Secretary-General to promote systematic and coherent use of sport in contributing to the MDGs
2003 & 2005	First Magglingen Conference on Sport and Development and adoption of Magglingen Declaration. The second Magglingen Conference was held in 2005 and attended by representatives from governments, UN agencies, NGOs and sport organizations. Adoption of first Resolution (Sport as means to promote education, health, development and peace towards achieving the MDGs) by UNGA (A/RES/58/5).
2004	Establishment of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group (SDP IWG) to promote adoption of policy recommendations for governments to integrate sport into their domestic policies and international development strategies, policies and programs.
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN proclaims the International Year of Sport and Physical Education (IYSPE) • The World Summit expresses its support for SDP and sport to foster development, peace for tolerance and understanding (Article 145) • UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport adopted to enter into force in 2007.
2006	First UN Action Plan on SDP presented by Secretary-General to UN General Assembly (A/61/373)
2008	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) enters into force for equal participation in recreation, leisure and sport (5. Article 30)
2011	Second International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development co-hosted by UNOSDP and the IOC in Geneva.
2013	UNGA proclaims 6 April as International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDS DP) from 2014.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Human Rights Council recommends the use of sport and Olympic ideal to promote human rights and strengthen universal respect for them (A/HRC/30/50) • Adoption of the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development with 17 SDGs (A/RES/70/1) • Adoption of revised International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport including principles like gender equality, non-discrimination, and social inclusion in and through sport (UNESCO)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action at the World Education Forum.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At UNESCO’s MINEPS VI conference, adoption of the Kazan Action Plan to link sport policy development to the 2030 UN Agenda – moving ‘intent to action’. • Closing of the UNOSDP and forming of direct partnership with Olympic Movement.
2018	<p>Launching of the Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030 (GAPPA) by WHO to help actors scale up policy actions to promote health-optimizing physical activity.</p>
2020 +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID_19 Pandemic – lockdowns negatively impact on sport and health. • Publication of UN-DESA policy brief “The impact of COVID-19 on sport, physical activity and well-being and its effects on social development” https://social.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/migrated/22/2020/06/PB_73.pdf • Publication of the Commonwealth Sport & SDG Toolkit (V4.0) • Accelerate implementation for post-COVID recovery through, amongst others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN Women’s Generation Equality Framework; UN Youth 2030, launching in 2021 the UNESCO Fit4Life initiative. <p>(Source: Bridging the Divide in Sport and Sustainable Development: https://www.iir.jpnsport.go.jp/en/sdgs/#page=1 and various relevant sections on the sportanddev.org platform, pp. 30 & 31.)</p>