**TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING ON RECENT INITIATIVES ON SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**

***The Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and the Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism***

***Task:*** *Provide a summary of the initiative, including a brief overview, proposed/actual outcomes, and an assessment of any lessons learned and the way forward.*

*In February 2020, the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) in partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), launched* *the Global Programme on Security of Major Sporting Events, and the Promotion of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism (hereinafter the Global Programme/Global Sports Programme) as part of its counter-terrorism efforts. The Global Programme has two main complementary objectives, which correspond to its two workstreams: Major Sporting Event Security (MSE) and promoting the use of sport and its values as a tool to Prevent Violent Extremism (PVE). This document focuses on the PVE workstream.*

*Through the PVE workstream, the Global Programme aims to promote advanced policies and practices to enhance the use of sports and its values as a tool to prevent violent extremism by strengthening Member States’ capacity to develop comprehensive strategies in integrating sports and its values into their PVE approaches. Since its launch, the Global Programme has implemented several activities that have enhanced partnerships, dialogue, and cooperation within and between governments, sports federations, civil society, and private sector stakeholders, to achieve a common PVE objective. Further, they developed various resource materials that aim to guide and inform the various stakeholders advancing sport PVE efforts in policy and practice.*

*The Global Sports Programme engaged and consulted policy and decision-makers as well as young people, through a series of youth fora, in the designing and implementing their deliverables. Acknowledging the knowledge and resource gap in sports for PVE efforts, the Sports Programme developed policy guides, a handbook, and a compendium of best practices to strengthen the efforts by various stakeholders in their prevention efforts through sport. Additionally, the Sports programme encouraged more investment in sport- based PVE at national, regional, or local levels. Through its grant program, the Programme supported civil society organizations (CSOs) to support their PVE strategies and initiatives at the community level. This greatly contributes to strengthening community resilience and creating more localized solutions to PVE.*

*This report focuses activities and deliverables led or jointly executed by the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) as a key implementing partner of the Global Sports Programme within the reporting period.*

***Timeframe:*** *Please only include initiatives that fall within the reporting timeframe of January 2022 – February 2024*

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| **Please provide more details on each initiative including items below:** | | |
| **Objective(s):** | *Please indicate which, if any, of the following fall among the main objectives of the initiative:* | |
| * Ensuring no one is left behind (advancing empowerment, inclusiveness and equality through sport) | * Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity |
| * Leveraging sports events to promote action to combat climate change, advance peace and/or sustainable development | * Conflict prevention/peace building |
| * Research development, data collection and/or data dissemination | * Safely harnessing sport for sustainable development, peace and wellbeing in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the use of technology |
| * Reinforce the 2030 Agenda and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises, leading to the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions | * Safeguarding sport from corruption and crime |
| * Strengthened global framework on sport for development and peace | * Other (please specify) |
| **Situation** | What is the challenge or problem that the initiative aims to address?  The initiative aims to address the prevention of violent extremism by promoting the use of sport and its values as a tool for this purpose. Key challenges include promoting advanced policies and practices to enhance the use of sports and its values as a tool to prevent violent extremism and strengthening Member States’ capacity to develop comprehensive strategies in integrating sports and its values into their PVE approaches. The initiative seeks to bridge these gaps through awareness-raising, fostering partnerships, and providing support to enhance the integration of sports into PVE strategies at national and international levels. Specifically, the initiative aims to address push and pull factors through sports, increasing Member States' awareness of terrorism-related threats during major sporting events, promoting sports and its values to build resilience to violent extremism among youth at the community level, and supporting Member States in integrating sports values-based initiatives within their national action plans for PVE. | |
| **Implementation mechanisms:** | *What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?*   * Establishment of a Global Network of National Focal Points (NFPs) and Regional NFPs Fora to enhance the exchange of information, best practices and experiences. * Identification of best practices on policies for integrating sports and its values as a tool to prevent violent extremism and radicalization. * Implementation of local-level initiatives through the disbursement of ten grants to CSOs aimed at using sports and its values to prevent and counter violent extremism and radicalization. * Development of terrorism prevention policies based on young leaders’ experience and assessment through the organization of Youth Leader Regional Fora. * Develop guiding documents on use of sport for PVE for various stakeholders in Major Sporting Events   *What are the main deliverables/activities involved?*   * Preventing Violent Extremism through Major Sporting Events: A Handbook for Organizers- aimed at assisting organizers of MSEs in leveraging these events to contribute to PVE. * Regional and Global Youth Fora aiming to increase the role of youth in PVE policymaking and programmes;   + **In 2023, the partners launched the Youth Recommendations Report** during a side event at the 8th Review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. As a result of the fruitful discussions and working sessions held between youth leaders and athletes, civil society organizations, and public officials from the participating Member States, a set of policy recommendations from a youth perspective on PVE through sport and meaningful youth engagement over the 3 years of the program were gathered and consolidated in a report. These recommendations focused on the inclusion of youth in PVE-through-Sport policymaking, and delivery of Major Sporting Events. The report was shared to the Members of the Counter-Terrorism Compact Working Group on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism.   + UNAOC, in collaboration with UNOCT, the African Union Sports Council (AUSC), and the other Global Sports Programme partners UNICRI and ICSS, organized the **“UN-AUSC Youth Forum: The Role of Young People in the 13th African Games.”** on **21-22 November 2023** in Accra, Ghana. The event brought together 20 young civil society leaders from 19 African countries, along with officials and representatives from United Nations entities, the AUSC, the 13th African Games Local Organizing Committee (LOC), the African Union Youth Division, the Ghana National Peace Council, and the National Youth Authority to discuss the power of sports and major sporting events to prevent violent extremism (PVE). During the two-day event, participants shared insights on how the 13th African Games, scheduled for 8-23 March 2024, could promote peace and counteract violent extremism on the continent. They also explored the value of including young people in organizing and delivering major sporting events and PVE-related activities, emphasizing the importance of integrating young individuals' diverse experiences and insights into policymaking. * The Guide for Policymakers for the Use of Sport for the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE Guide) -directed at policymakers and offers guidance on developing policies that utilize sport as a tool for PVE. * National Focal Points Network.   *UNAOC led the development of the "Preventing Violent Extremism through Major Sporting Events: A Handbook for Organizers" in 2022, followed by the launch of the Youth Recommendations Report and the organization of the "UN-AUSC Youth Forum" in 2023. Furthermore, UNAOC closely collaborated with the main partners in the implementation of remaining deliverables.*  *What is the time frame of implementation?*  48 months | |
| **Target Audience(s):** | *Who are the beneficiaries of the proposed/implemented initiative?*  Member States; PVE Policymakers at the national, regional, and international level; national sport regulating agencies; local authorities; Olympic movement; national, regional, and international Sports federations; civil society organizations; human rights bodies; international and inter-governmental and regional organizations; development agencies and funds dedicated to international cooperation; youth and women’s associations; private entities with a direct interest in sport and development, and media. | |
| **Partners/Funding:** | *Who are the main organizations/entities involved in the initiative and what are their roles?*  The Global Sports Programme is led by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) in partnership with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), in consultation with the United Nations (UN) Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) as well as other UN entities and INTERPOL. The Programme maintains close consultation with UNODC, WHO, African Union Sports Council, Council of Europe, European Union, and Organization of American States as well as experts from key international and regional sport federations such as CAF, IOC, FIFA, UEFA, ICC (International Cricket Council Cricket) and others.  *What are the main sources of funding of the initiative?*  Funded by the State of Qatar, the UN Peace and Development Fund and the Republic of Korea. | |
| **SDG Alignment:** | *To what SDG goal/target/indicator is this initiative targeted?*  SDG 10: Reduce inequalities- Bridge the inequality gaps within sport and society by encouraging more inclusive practices.  This includes women and Persons living with disabilities.  SDG 16: Peace, Just, and Strong Institutions- Contribute to building peace through promoting and working towards  breaking stereotypes and fostering intercultural and interreligious dialogue and cooperation.  SDG 17: Partnership for the goals- Encourage partnerships among different stakeholders to accelerate the potential of  sport in peace and development.  *Please indicate any other national or internationally agreed goals/commitments to which this initiative is aligned.*  The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and Security Council resolution 2419 (2018) on Youth, Peace, and Security recognizes the “growing contribution of sport and culture to the realization of development and peace in the promotion of tolerance and respect as well as the contributions sport and culture make to the empowerment of youth and women, individuals and communities as well as to health, education, and social inclusion objectives.”  The seventh review of the UN’s Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy 4 adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in June 2021, “encourages Member States, United Nations entities, regional and subregional organizations, and relevant actors to consider instituting mechanisms to involve youth in the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and intercultural and interreligious dialogue and develop, as appropriate, an understanding of respect for human dignity, pluralism, and diversity, including, as appropriate, through education programmes, as well as sports and physical activities, that could prevent and discourage their participation in acts of terrorism, violent extremism conducive to terrorism, violence, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination, also encourages Member States to empower youth through the promotion of opportunities and inclusiveness”. (Paras. 19).  Furthermore, the UNGA “recommends that Member States consider the implementation of relevant recommendations of the Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, as applicable to the national context”. | |
| **Alignment with global frameworks:** | *How does this initiative align with/contribute to the objectives of the* [*Kazan Action Plan*](about:blank)*,* [*WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity*](about:blank)*, or other related internationally agreed frameworks on sport and/or physical activity?*  This initiative aligns with the objectives of the Kazan Action Plan notably: to provide a legitimate international forum for sharing information on sport policy development; strengthen international cooperation for sport policy development by a common definition of main and specific policy areas; and support capacity-building of public sport authorities and other stakeholders by promoting relevant norms, tools, and good practice.  This initiative supports the WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity by encouraging physical activity through sport/PVE initiatives. Sport, in this case, physical exercise, improves people’s physical health and well-being, while enhancing social interactions between participants, promoting tolerance and resilience. Further, we also contribute to preventing violent extremism by addressing disparities in physical activity participation by gender, disability,  socioeconomic status, and geography; which reflect limitations and inequities in the socioeconomic determinants and  opportunities for physical activity for different groups and different abilities.  In addition, the initiative aligns with United Nations General Assembly resolution on Sport as an enabler of sustainable development (A/RES/73/24), that “Encourages Member States [and] the entities of the United Nations system to advance the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development and peace strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development and peace policies and programmes...” as well as the United Nations Security Council resolution 2419 (2018) on Youth, Peace, and Security.  Furthermore, the Global Programmes PVE Workstream directly highlights the General Assembly Resolution 75/18 on Sport as an enabler of sustainable development, adopted on 1 December 2020 “Recognizing that sports, the arts, and physical activity have the power to change perceptions, prejudices, and behaviors, as well as to inspire people, break down racial and political barriers, combat discrimination and defuse conflict”. | |
| **Alignment with United Nations Action Plan on SDP:** | *Which of the four thematic areas of the* [*UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace*](about:blank) *is this initiative designed to align?*  The initiative aligns strongly with all four thematic areas of the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace by promoting:   * Strengthened global framework on sport for development and peace. * Policy development for mainstreaming and integrating sport for development and peace in development programmes and policies. * Resource mobilization, programming, and implementation * Research, monitoring, and evaluation.   To which action area(s) of the Plan is this initiative designed to contribute?   * Encourage multi-stakeholder program development and implementation at all levels. * Identify a forum for the systematic exchange of information on good practices in sports for development and * peace across the research, programming, and policy fields. * Strengthen partnerships, at the policy level, across intergovernmental and non-governmental development. * sector, sports federations, and other civil society stakeholders | |
| **Outcomes:** | *What are the expected/actual outcomes of the initiative?*   * Member States' capacity to develop comprehensive strategies integrating sports and its values as a tool to prevent violent extremism and radicalization is increased. * Advanced policies and practices to enhance the Security of Major Sporting Events and the use of Sport and its Values as a Tool to Prevent Violent Extremism are promoted at the highest level among Member States officials and other relevant stakeholders from public and private sectors. * Promoting sport and its values to build resilience to violent extremism, especially among youth, at community level; * Supporting Member States to integrate sport values-based initiatives within national action plans for PVE. | |
| **Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation:** | *What are the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of the initiative?*   * The project’s performance will be evaluated in accordance with the UNOCT Evaluation Policy, with support from a UNOCT Evaluation Officer. Data collected throughout implementation will be used to verify and assess outcomes and impact, ensuring activities are implemented as planned and meet or exceed targets. * Reports are produced following each event, summarizing key elements, outcomes, and outputs, and shared with stakeholders. UNOCT Connect and Learn platform effectiveness will be assessed through participant surveys. * For grants to CSOs, UNICRI developed specific M&E tools, including baseline surveys, quarterly narrative reporting templates, and monitoring missions to assess implementation quality and effectiveness.   *What specific monitoring and evaluation tools are involved?*   * Flash reports: Short narrative reports following major milestones or project activities. * Progress reports: Detailed quarterly narrative reports on progress. * Monitoring field missions: Ad hoc visits to discuss developments with stakeholders or participate in project events. * Event/output evaluation questionnaires: Feedback instruments completed after an event or output. * Annual Review Meeting: Teleconference meeting at the 12-month mark to analyze performance. * Final Report: Comprehensive narrative report submitted three months after project conclusion.   These tools will be used to ensure that implementation is consistent with the approved work plan and timeline and to facilitate course correction as required to overcome potential challenges or delays encountered. | |
| **Challenges/Lessons learned** | *What have been/were the main challenges to implementation? What lessons learned have been/can be utilized in the planning of future initiatives?*  Maximizing Global Programme’s Connect and Learn platform to facilitate collaboration among Programme stakeholders virtually.  Ensuring all Member State participants in the Programme are fully equipped to deliver their objectives.  Lessons learned for future initiatives include developing PVE activities during the planning, designing, and implementation of Major Sporting Events to sustain conversations beyond the MSE and maximize impact. | |