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

***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.*

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

**LOCAL CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR PROGRAMS’ SUSTAINABILITY**

Based on a multi-stakeholder approach, the “Live Together” program introduced sport as an innovative tool to tackle social issues in Zaatari refugee camp, Jordan, contributing to inclusion, psychosocial well-being and social-emotional learning of refugees. It was highlighted as a best practice in the 2020 UN Secretary Report on Sport for Development and Peace.

It was launched in 2017 by Peace and Sport in cooperation with UNHCR, Blumont, the International Federations of Kickboxing, Table Tennis and Teqball, and the support of the Jordan Olympic Committee. Structured around two main cycles of implementation to provide holistic development opportunities for refugees through sport, the “Live Togetehr” program was supported during five years by the department of International Cooperation of the Governemnt of Monaco, and concluded in December 2023.

The local capacity-building model at the base of the program, combined with the multi-stakeholder approach, proved to be successful in ensuring its sustainability and the continuation of the sport-based activities in Zaatari camp beyond the end of the “Live Together” program cycles. Indeed, local operators recognized the capacities of the refugees trained as part of the program, and decided to maintain the activities in place. The model provides for **enhanced capacity building for local refugee population to be empowered with skills and abilities to directly implement sport-based activities, rather than relying on resources external to the camp.**

Empowering local resident population is thus a recommended model to ensure programs’ sustainability as **it fosters ownership by target populations and leaves competent resources to organizations or institutions willing to invest in sport-based programs.**

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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
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| * Leveraging sports events to promote action to combat climate change, advance peace and/or sustainable development
 | * Conflict prevention/peace building
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| * 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
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| * 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
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| * Strengthened global framework on sport for development and peace
 | * Other (please specify)
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| **Situation** | *What is the challenge or problem that the initiative aims to address?*The program aimed to contribute to inclusion, psychosocial well-being and social-emotional learning of refugees through sport. The **overarching challenge was to ensure its sustainability** beyond the original implementation cycles.  |
| **Implementation mechanisms:** | *What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?*The main stages of implementation of the “Live Together” program include: * Creation of enabling ecosystem with local organizations
* Definition of partnerships with local and international stakeholders
* Capacity building of refugee coaches, with particular focus on females
* Implementation of weekly-sport based activities and annual celebrations
* Mobilization of role models, with particular focus on inspiring girls and women
* International advocacy

*What are the main deliverables/activities involved?*The program provided: * Coaching seminars and capacity building sessions run by International Sport Federations’ experts;
* Trainings on the Peace and Sport Methodology to transmit life-skills and values through sport-based exercises;
* Yearly sport-based sessions lead by trained refugee coaches.
* Peace and Sport events and competitions regularly organized within the camp;
* Interaction with the host community through joint training sessions, and attendance to national and international sport events in Jordan.

During the reporting timeframe particular focus was put on **reinforcing local capacities** through:* **Coaching seminars** with international experts
* **Shadowing session** involving experienced refugee coaches and new recruits to transmit knowledge and insights on best-practices for the local context
* **Extensive mentoring** provided by Peace and Sport’ staff and by Champions for Peace, both digitally and onsite, to strengthen the refugees’ organization and administrative skills and resilience

*What is the time frame of implementation?*July 2017 – December 2023  |
| **Target Audience(s):** | *Who are the beneficiaries of the proposed/implemented initiative?*The direct beneficiaries of the “Live Together” program are Syrian refugees living in Zaatari camp:* Young adults, empowered to become sport coaches, able to implement sport-based activities and transmit life-skills and values to children;
* Girls and boys, empowered with life-skills and values thanks to sport;
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| **Partners/Funding:** | *Who are the main organizations/entities involved in the initiative and what are their roles?** **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – Jordan:** institutional partner – authorization to operate within the camp;
* **Blumont**: implementation partner mandated by UNHCR – administration, access to facilities and monitoring of activities, ensuring the continuation of the sport-based activities beyond the end of the “Live Together” program cycle;
* **International Sport Federations of Kickboxing, Table Tennis Federation and Teqball:** technical partner – capacity building of coaches and supply of sport equipment;
* **Jordanian Olympic Committee:** institutional partner– connection with local authorities and logistic support;

*What are the main sources of funding of the initiative?*All stakeholders contribute to the program either with direct funding or with value in kind. The main funding sources are: * Peace and Sport
* International Sport Federations
* Monaco Department of International Cooperation
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| **SDG Alignment:** | *To what SDG goal/target/indicator is this initiative targeted?** SDG n°4: Quality education
* SDG n°5: Gender equality
* SDG n°10: Reduced inequalities (social inclusion)
* SDG n°16: Peace (violence prevention)
* SDG n°17: Partnerships for the goals

*Please indicate any other national or internationally agreed goals/commitments to which this initiative is aligned.***Global Compact on Refugees** which recognizes the important role that sports can play in social development, inclusion, cohesion, and well-being of the refugees, and advocates for the creation of partnerships to increase access to sporting facilities and activities in refugee-hosting areas;**UNHCR Sports Strategy** which outlines UNHCR’s ambition to expand the use of sport and strengthen engagement with the sport ecosystem to benefit displaced and stateless people globally. **Multistakeholder Pledge on Sport for Inclusion and Protection of Refugees** submitted at the Global Refugee Forum by the Sport for Refugees Coalition, co-convened by the Scort Foundation, the Olympic Refuge Foundation and UNHCR. The Pledge outlines the role that sport can play in improving the lives of refugees, including through sport programming, policy change, skill development, and communication and advocacy efforts. |
| **Alignment with global frameworks:** | *How does this initiative align with/contribute to the objectives of the* [*Kazan Action Plan*](https://en.unesco.org/mineps6/kazan-action-plan)*,* [*WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity*](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272722/9789241514187-eng.pdf) *or other related internationally agreed frameworks on sport and/or physical activity?***Kazan Action Plan**The “Live Together” program aligns with: * **Policy area II.14** –empowering youth but also giving opportunities for marginalized refugees to interact and get an active role within the camp, thus fostering social inclusion;
* **Policy area II.6** – empowering women and girls through daily sport-based activities, during which female leadership is promoted, and respectful attitudes towards women and girls are encouraged;
* **Policy area II.5** – providing jobs and strengthening employability of refugees;

**WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity**The “Live Together” program aligns with Action 3.5 * Enabiling vulnerable populations, such as refugees living in Zaatari camp, and increasing their opportunities to engage with physical activity
* Establishing partnerships with the sports sector
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| **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*](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2018/06/14.pdf) *is this initiative designed to align?**To which action area(s) of the Plan is this initiative designed to contribute?*The “Live Together” program aligns with the **Line of action n°2**, regarding "Policy development" by:* Establishing collective governance, involving involves cooperation and coordination between several different stakeholders;
* Highlighting how sport as a tool for peace can integrate the overall management and priorities of the camp by UNHCR;
* Illustrating the systemic integration and mainstreaming of sport as a tool of social cohesion within a community.
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| **Outcomes:** | *What are the expected/actual outcomes of the initiative?*The main outcomes and achievements include: * **Capacity building**: since the launch of the program, over 220 Syrian refugees (34% women) had the opportunity to participate in coaching seminars and capacity building sessions, learning new skills and strengthening their employability.
* **Acquisition of life-skills**: an average of 400 children per year (40% girls) benefited from sport-based session aimed at teaching them values and life skills. The program contributed to improve self-confidence and trust in others among the young beneficiaries, and to reduce aggressive behaviors.
* **Gender equality**: implementing sport-based activities for girls in Zaatari camp was a challenge at the beginning of the program, due to cultural reasons. The training and recruitment of female coaches paved the way for increasing girls’ participation, with the number of girls participating multiplied by 15 in 3 years.
* **Pathways beyond the program**: one of the coaches from the program was able to resettle with his family to the USA, with the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Having a stable job in the camp as Kickboxing coach for over five years, combined with the trainings and certificates and the opportunities to travel outside the camp that he accessed through the program proved to be a major asset for him to be selected for the resettlement.
* **International recognition**: The Global Compact for Refugees’ digital platform lists the program as best practice contributing to ease the pressure on host communities and enhance refugee self-reliance. Furthermore, renown media channels, including Canal+ and Brut, broadcasted contents related to the program.
* **Sustainability**: the capacity building model to empower the target population combined with the multi-stakeholder approach proved to be successful in ensuring sustainability of the program, as activities will continue at the end of the cycle, implemented by the refugees that were trained by Peace and Sport and its partners.
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| **Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation:** | *What are the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of the initiative?*The main monitoring and evaluation mechanisms include: * Implementation of a “cool down” phase at the end of each sport activity, for the children to verbalize what they learned and the coaches to take note of evolutions;
* Weekly visits to the training centres by the program’s Coordinator to observe and support coaches in the sessions’ implementation;
* Interaction with the children’s caregivers to note evolutions in behaviours outside the training centres;

*What specific monitoring and evaluation tools are involved?*The main monitoring and evaluation tools are: * **Beneficiaries’ registration system** put in place by Blumont, to collect quantitative data on the beneficiaries (age, gender, attendance rate);
* **Peace and Sport x MyCoach Mobile App**, to collect qualitative data on the acquisition of life-skills by the beneficiaries (according to the 3 cycles of the Peace and Sport Methodology: accept yourself, accept the others, live together);
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| **Challenges/Lessons learned** | *What have been/were the main challenges to implementation?*One of the main challenges during the reporting timeframe has been the **adaptation to the changing rules from authorities in charge of refugees**. Indeed, the rules applying to the “Incentive Based Work” for refugees in Zaatari camp changed throughout the program. This imposed the dismissal of experienced refugees that were trained and that acquired skills throughout the program, and the training of new individuals, resulting in additional training costs for all parties involved. *What lessons learned have been/can be utilized in the planning of future initiatives?*The main lessons learned that will influence the planning of future initiatives are: **Local empowerment**: the “Live Together” program was built around a **capacity building model for the target population**, namely for the young adults living in the refugee camp. This model was chosen out of two considerations: 1. **Ownership**: involving the beneficiaries in the implementation of the program is essential for them to own it and thus ensure its sustainability.
2. **Empowerment**: providing opportunities for the target populations to have an active role in the program contribute to the objectives of the program itself, providing holistic development opportunities and to improve individual’s psychosocial and physical well-being. The individuals selected as coaches in the program benefited from being recognized as role models and source of inspiration for the children participating in their sessions, and felt motivated to be playing such an important role in the empowerment of girls and boys in Zaatari camp.

This model proved to be successful in ensuring sustainability of the sport-based activities in the camp.Indeed, **the local partner Blumont recognized the skills and capacities of the refugees** trained as part of the program, and decided to **invest own funds to ensure that sport-based activities continue** to be provided for children in Zaatari camp, beyond the end of the “Live together” program. The model provides for enhanced capacity building for local refugee population to be empowered with skills and abilities to directly implement sport-based activities, rather than relying on resources external to the camp.**Multi-stakeholder approach**: the “Live Together” program was based on a multi-stakeholder approach that allowed to capitalize on the strengths of all actors involved and to share responsibilities. Even though this required coordination efforts among all parties, this proved to be a successful approach to ensure the sustainability of the program, both during the challenging times imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic and also to ensure sustainability in the long-term. Indeed, local actors and institutions were involved since the beginning of the program and recognized its positive impact on target populations, leading to the decision of investing own funds to continue the activities.  |