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

***Global Refugee Forum - Multi Stakeholder Pledge on Sport for Protection and Inclusion***

***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*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Please provide more details on each initiative including items below:** | | |
| **Objective(s):**  The Multistakeholder Pledge on Sport for Inclusion and Protection offers an opportunity for entities that are already or are interested in working with and through sport in support of refugees and host communities to come together and pledge concrete commitments.  The Sport Pledge for Inclusion and Protection states that:  ***“Together, we pledge to mobilize resources, expertise and networks to promote access to, and opportunities through sport for, and with, displaced people and host communities, contributing to more inclusive and cohesive societies”.***  By pledging, organizations commit to delivering a specific output in one or more of the five commitment areas:   1. **Promote an enabling environment, including policy, that delivers access to safe sport.** 2. **Promote and provide inclusive, safe, sport and play-based initiatives.** 3. **Promote and provide opportunities for enhanced skills and pathway in and through sport.** 4. **Use targets communication, evidence and advocacy.** 5. **Strengthen partnerships and coordination efforts.**   . | *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 (Sport for Protection) | * Other (please specify) |
| **Situation** | *What is the challenge or problem that the initiative aims to address?*  At the end of 2022, **108.4 million people** worldwide were forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations and events seriously disturbing public order. This represents an increase of 19 million people compared to the end of 2021 – more than the populations of Ecuador, the Netherlands (Kingdom of the) or Somalia. It is also the largest ever increase between years according to UNHCR’s statistics on forced displacement.  More than 1 in every 74 people on Earth has been forced to flee.  People forced to flee face various challenges resulting from their forced displacement, including:   * **Protection** – People forced to flee are often deprived of their fundamental human rights and experience diverse forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. * **Education** - Close to half of all refugee children – 48 per cent – remain out of school. Only 7% of refugees have access to higher education, which is far below the global average higher education enrollment among non-refugees, which stands at more than 40 per cent. * **Health** - Many refugees face tremendous obstacles in meeting their health needs. The health needs of refugees depend on many factors: pre-existing conditions and the state of healthcare in their country before fleeing, the length and conditions of their displacement and their access to health, including MHPSS, services in their host country. * **Livelihoods** – Most refugees have no access to financial services, and many do not have the right to work and are excluded from social protection systems.   The refugee responses systems is no longer able, because of the sheer scale of the displacement crisis, to respond alone and so the Global Compact on Refugees promotes a new “Whole of Society” approach to refugee response, during which non-traditional humanitarian actors are engaged. One of these non-traditional stakeholder groups are sport entities (amongst others such as cities, faith based organizations, academic institutions and so on) and so the Multistakeholder pledge on sport for protection and inclusion is aimed at engaging sport actors and bringing them together around a common aim while at the same time promoting the sue of sport as a multi sectoral tool that can not only bring protective and developmental activities to refugee and host communities but also communicate, advocate, promote policy change and so on.  Together with pledging entities from other sectors sport organizations, UN Member States and humanitarian organizations are utilizing the skills, capacities, knowledges resources and activities that the sport eco-system can bring to improve the lives of both refugee and hosting communities.  [Multistakeholder Pledge: Sport for Inclusion and Protection | The Global Compact on Refugees | UNHCR (globalcompactrefugees.org)](https://globalcompactrefugees.org/pledges-contributions/multistakeholder-pledges-2023/multistakeholder-pledge-sport-inclusion-and)  [The Global Compact on Refugees | sportanddev](https://www.sportanddev.org/thematic-areas/sport-and-refugees/global-compact-refugees) | |
| **Implementation mechanisms:** | *What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?*  For many refugees sport is much more than a leisure activity. It provides them with the chance to heal, develop and grow and has the potential to bring about long-lasting change in their lives. The multi-stakeholder pledge on Sport for Protection and inclusion examines the role sport can play in the lives of refugees and has identified five areas where action can be taken through sport to contribute to the protection and inclusion of refugees and the communities that so generously host them.   1. Promote an enabling environment, including policy, that delivers access to safe sport. 2. Promote and provide inclusive, safe, sport and play-based initiatives. 3. Promote and provide opportunities for enhanced skills and pathway in and through sport. 4. Use targets communication, evidence and advocacy. 5. Strengthen partnerships and coordination efforts.   Once participating entities have developed their commitments under one of the five areas outlined above they implement activities in line with their own workplans and can report twice a year on progress through the Global Refugee Forum/Global Compact on Refugees Platform.  The Sport for Refugee Coalition, formed around the first Global Refugee Forum in 2019 and co-convened by UNHCR, the SCORT Foundation and the Olympic Refuge Foundation, acts as the support and follow-up platform for pledging entities which are drawn from multiple spheres and includes NGO’s, national Olympic committees, sport federations, the private sector, sport clubs, academic institutions, media organizations, international organizations and UN Members States  *What are the main deliverables/activities involved?*  For entities Implementing pledges the main deliverable is the implementation of the pledge.  For the Sport for Refugees Coalition the activities include supporting the pledging entities with the implementation of their pledges and to ensuring that sport is integrated as a complementary and cross cutting tool into refugee responses around the world, identifying good practices and building evidence of the role that sport can play in the protection and inclusion of refugees in their host communities.  *What is the time frame of implementation?*  The current Global Refugee Forum period is 2023 - 2027 | |
| **Target Audience(s):** | *Who are the beneficiaries of the proposed/implemented initiative?*  The primary beneficiaries of the Multistakeholder pledge on Sport for Protection and Peace are people who have been forced to flee conflict and persecution as well as those denied a nationality. This includes refugees, asylum seekers, stateless people, internally displaced persons, and returnees. Sport and play-based programmes often target children and young people; however, they are rooted in a community-based protection approach which includes host communities. As such, they also target adults and, in some cases, include an intergenerational dialogue component to engage elderly populations in and through sport. | |
| **Partners/Funding:** | *Who are the main organizations/entities involved in the initiative and what are their roles?*  The Multistakeholder Sport Pledge process was established and organized by the co-convenors of the Sport for Refugees Coalition – UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, SCORT Foundation and the Olympic Refuge Foundation. There are currently 140 entities that have signed up to the Multistakeholder pledge and will be implementing activities in support of refugee and host communities as a result.  *What are the main sources of funding of the initiative?*  Most of the resource mobilized in support of More than a Game come from the sport ecosystem through foundations and the private sector. | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SDG Alignment:** | To what SDG goal/target/indicator is this initiative targeted?  The Multistakeholder pledge contributes to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and is closely aligned with the following goals:   * SDG 3 – Good health and wellbeing * SDG 4 – Quality education * SDG 5 – Gender equality * SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth * SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities * SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions * SDG 17 – Partnerships for the goals   Please indicate any other national or internationally agreed goals/commitments to which this initiative is aligned.  Sport was integrated into UNHCR doctrine in 2018 with the adoption of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) by  member States. Paragraph 44 “recognizes the important role that sports [...] can play in social development, inclusion, cohesion, and well-being, particularly for refugee children (both boys and girls), adolescents and youth”. More than a Game outlines how sport can, across five interlinked areas, contribute to the GCR objectives and the High Commissioner’s Strategic Directions. Furthermore, the strategy is aligned with internal strategies and frameworks covering education, health, gender-based violence and child protection as well as internal results-based planning instruments, to ensure internal coherence.  The Multistakeholder Pledge on Sport for Inclusion and Protection, which was announced at the second edition of the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023 by the Sport for Refugees Coalition, includes five areas of commitment which are aligned with the five strategic objectives of More than a Game. The five areas of the Joint Pledge on Sport are:   1. Promote an enabling environment, including policy, that delivers access to safe sport. 2. Promote and provide inclusive, safe, sport and play-based initiatives. 3. Promote and provide opportunities for enhanced skills and pathway in and through sport. 4. Use targeted communication, evidence and advocacy. 5. Strengthen partnerships and coordination 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?*  The Multistakeholder Pledge contributes to the first action point of the Kazan Action Plan, which is to elaborate an advocacy tool presenting evidence-based arguments for investments in physical education, physical activity and sport. Monitoring data from sport and play-based programmes implemented through the roll out of More than a Game will provide lessons learned and promising practices that could be used to formulate evidence-based arguments for investing in sport in displacement settings.  The Multistakeholder Pledge could conceivably contribute to each of the four strategic objectives of the WHO Global Action Plan. However, it is most closely aligned with the third strategic objective on creating active people, particularly Action 3.5: Strengthen the development and implementation of programmes and services, across various community settings, to engage with, and increase the opportunities for, physical activity in the least active groups, as identified by each country, such as girls, women, older adults, rural and indigenous communities, and vulnerable or marginalized populations, embracing positive contributions by all people. Sport and play-based programmes implemented by UNHCR and implementing partners specifically target marginalized populations, including girls, women, older adults, rural and indigenous communities, and are guided by a community-based protection approach. |
| **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?*  The Multistakeholder pledge is aligned third thematic area of the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace: Resource Mobilization, programming and implementation.  *To which action area(s) of the Plan is this initiative designed to contribute?*  Action 3a: Enhance and secure sustainable funding mechanisms and investment and resource allocation to sport for development and peace, including multi-stakeholder arrangements and different sectors at all levels. More than a Game provides the humanitarian sector with a strategy on engaging with the sport ecosystem to leverage resources on behalf of people forced to flee and host communities.  Action 3c: Integrate relevant thematic areas and crosscutting issues in sport for development and peace programmes, including the allocation of dedicated resources. More than a Game is guided by the principle of inclusion (age, gender and diversity) and a humans-rights approach. |
| **Outcomes:** | *What are the expected/actual outcomes of the initiative?*  The Multistakeholder pledge: Sport for Inclusion and Protection will contribute to better lives for refugees and the communities that host them through leveraging the full breadth of opportunities that the Sport eco-system and sport and play based programming can provide. This includes using the platform of sport to create a positive narrative, ensuring enabling environments exist that contribute to equal access to sports activities in all their forms, generating new opportunities for learning, skills development and livelihoods and increasing the protection space for refugees and the communities that host them.   * The Multistakeholder Sport Pledge will Primarily contribute to Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) objective 2, however, given the cross-cutting nature of sport, pledge commitments may also add value to other GCR objectives   *The GCR has four main objectives:*   1. *Ease the pressures on host countries,* 2. *Enhance refugee self-reliance,* 3. *Expand access to third-country solutions,* 4. *Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.* |
| **Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation:** | *What are the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of the initiative?*  The GCR Coordination Team has a dedicated monitoring mechanism that enables pledging entities to complete light touch reporting twice a year. The Sport for Refugees Coalition also collects data on an annual basis and support coalition members with their reporting.  *What specific monitoring and evaluation tools are involved?*  Monitoring tools are still to be determined by the Sport for Refugees outside of the GCR standardized reporting tool. |
| **Challenges/Lessons learned** | *What have been/were the main challenges to implementation?*  The Main challenges have included bringing together such a broad group of stakeholders with different perspectives and objectives and crafting a common vision and way forward. The sport and refugee sectors have very different ways of working and so a clash of cultures can sometime be observed and this needs to be overcome to enable all involved to be able to effective.  *What lessons learned have been/can be utilized in the planning of future initiatives?*  In 2022, UNHCR published an evaluation of two case studies of UNHCR/IOC programming in Rwanda and Mexico to contribute to the limited knowledge of the sport and humanitarian sectors regarding sport-based interventions for the protection of young people in refugee situations. The evaluation report includes lessons learned related to safeguarding, gender equality, social inclusion, partnerships, MEL, resource planning and mobilization, coaches as agents of change, and capacity development. The report can be found here: [EVO/2022/12 Evaluation on the Relevance and Effectiveness of Sport Programming for Refugee Inclusion and Protection | UNHCR US](https://www.unhcr.org/us/media/evo-2022-12-evaluation-relevance-and-effectiveness-sport-programming-refugee-inclusion-and) |