



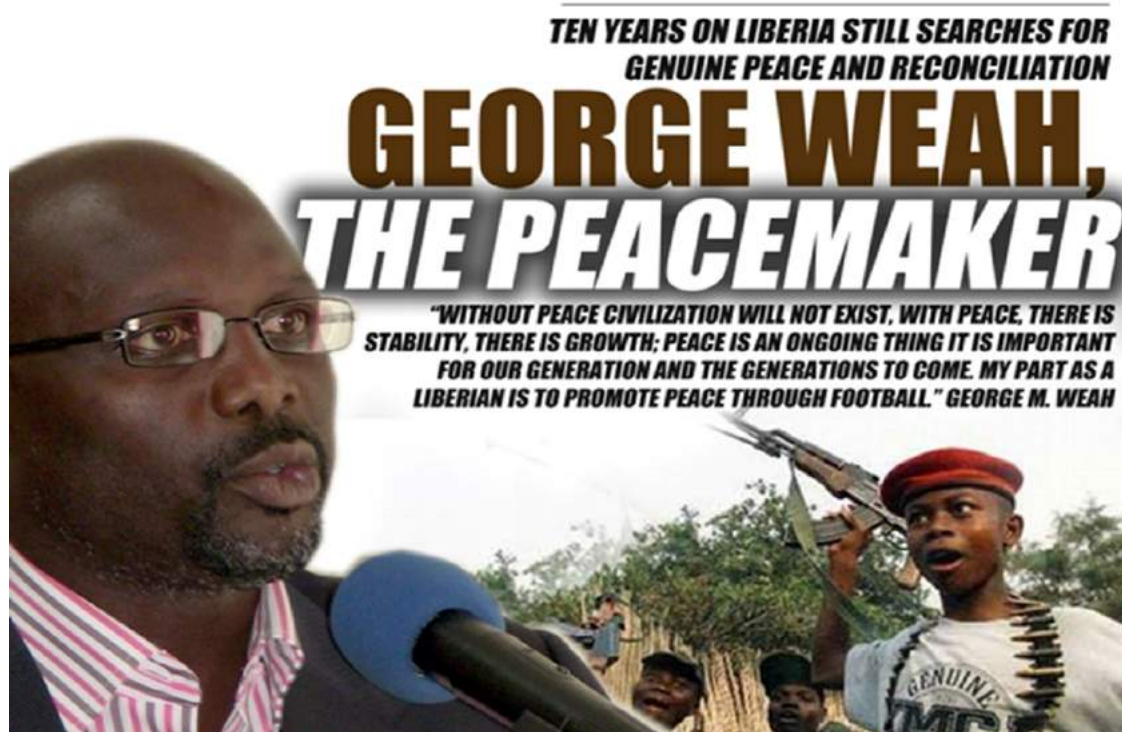
“Strengthening the Global Framework for Leveraging Sport for Development and Peace”

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Research and SDP



- ▶ **Youth and Sport for Development and Peace in Post-Conflict Liberia.**
- ▶ **Largest UN peacekeeping force to date: 15000**
- ▶ **Severe lack of Infrastructure**
- ▶ **Over 1000 NGOs, 180 Foreign Charities**
- ▶ **70% Youth Population**
- ▶ **80% Unemployment**
- ▶ **The appointment of Africa's first female president, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.**
- ▶ **2018 – Former World Footballer Player of the year George Weah elected President.**

Research and SDP



A Social Scientific Investigation of the Sport for Development and Peace Sector

This project will investigate the Sport for Development and Peace (SDP) Sector in five developing countries:

• Kosovo • Jamaica • Sri Lanka • Rwanda • Zambia

SDP features hundreds of programmes and organisations across the world which use sport as a tool of intervention to promote non-sport goals. This project will focus on:

- Human Rights
- Reconciliation and peacebuilding
- Disability

Despite its rapid growth, we have limited knowledge of how the SDP is structured socially and organizationally; and how different kinds of SDP work are planned, implemented and experienced in diverse cultural contexts.

This knowledge is essential if robust policies, practices and strategies for the future development of SDP are to be identified. This project aims to fill that knowledge gap by providing a substantial comparative investigation of SDP and by having long-term impact on the sector's development.

The project is fully funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.



- ▶ 5 International Locations: Kosovo, Jamaica, Sri Lanka, Rwanda and Zambia.
- ▶ 3 Primary Themes: Human Rights, Peacebuilding & Reconciliation and Disability
- ▶ Methodology: Fieldwork, participant observation, participation, volunteering, consultancy, focus group sessions and interviews.

Rethinking Peace

- ▶ Peace is assumed as a universal ideal, an enhanced contextual and broader approach to the 'P' in SDP would enable traditional peacebuilding and conflict resolution policy and practice to:
 1. Increase programming in non-traditional conflict settings
 2. Enhance opportunities for local populations to construct and conceive development initiatives to create everyday peaceful lives
 3. Increase opportunities for SDP to intersect and collaborate within new forms of partnerships removed from those tasked with post-conflict disarmament, conflict management and rehabilitation.

Key Research Findings

► Opportunities:

1. Facilitate cross-community contact, encourage dialogue and build trust
2. Overcome language barriers
3. Create neutral and safe spaces
4. Practice peace through sport via controlled conflict management
5. Remember and acknowledge past conflicts

► Challenges:

1. Negotiate the prevention v cure conundrum
2. Organise around the funding cycles and lifespans of programming
3. Identify how to go beyond 'breaking the ice' between communities
4. Building the narratives and frameworks of peace in the absence of conflict

Mainstreaming of Sport by Recognising the Disconnected Goals

- ▶ There is definite need for the SDP sector to enter relatively new fields that connect directly with the SDGs.
- ▶ **The Environment**
- ▶ How can environment be mainstreamed into SDP practice and what is needed?
 1. Environment education and good practice mainstreamed in all programmes
 2. Distinct strand for some specialist agencies
 3. funding support for NGOs on SDP and environment
 4. key element is education and working for global change.
 5. A need to bridge the divide between the environmental and SDP 'movements'

Monitoring and Evaluation: An Effective Leveraging Tool?

► Key Learnings and Opportunities

1. A culture of change is needed in relation to M&E. Specifically, by challenging ambiguous objectives
2. Training and support is needed for local NGOs, programme personnel and funders
3. M&E should be positioned as an opportunity to 'give voice' to local recipient populations
4. The task of M&E should be part of an on-going process that should evolve and develop organically and reflects the various stages of implementation, learning, adaption and impact
5. New forms of knowledge and diverse perspectives should be encouraged and used as a tool to enhance, leverage and develop good practices

Coordinating the Global SDP Sector: Leadership and Networking

- ▶ We found that a substantial volume of local and national SDP programmes would benefit greatly from a more direct and sustained networked engagement within the international SDP sector.
- ▶ The potential advantages of such networking include sharing and disseminating knowledge of best practices, curricula, programme models, and guidance in funding applications; mobilizing stakeholders and wider interest in the sector; and, improving the education and experience of staff, volunteers, and project user groups.
- ▶ A key research finding identified that the global sector is organised and connected more horizontally than vertically. Local SDP organisations increasingly connect to global funders, advocates and networks.