

GLOBAL SPORTS FEDERATION

Introduction

The Global Sports Federation is a UN body, accredited with the United Nations on Sports for Development and Peace (UNOSDP), targeting to give a platform for all interested with a specific focus on the youth. The youth of the world are our golden assets, but they are derailing due to a lack of proper guidance and very limited access to involve themselves in any productive activities. GSF gives them the opportunity to engage in sports across boundaries for bringing peace and prosperity in the society.

Role of Sports in Development and Peace

This is the first conference for the continent and will be held in Mangaung. To all Sporting Federations / Organizations, this is a massive opportunity for us to rise to the occasion and show the GSF that the trust in us is well-founded.

Around the world sports are playing a larger role in development and peace as more and more people recognize its potential to mobilize communities towards the greater good – more than 50% of Europe's GDP is generated through Sports.

Sports teach discipline, leadership, confidence, tolerance, cooperation respect and highlighting what people have in common. It is important that sports programmes include everyone, no matter what their gender, ethnicity or ability.

Encouraging girls to play sports can help to break down stereotypes and can help achieve gender equality - as sports are traditionally male.

Very important is the fact that development has to meet the needs of people living today without taking away from future generations. It must be sustainable (green) development. Sports can do that!

Sports also promote volunteerism.

Sports rely on volunteers, at events and community-based activities. Volunteers learn new skills and feel good about themselves. Volunteerism improves community participation and social well-being.

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Sports and peace

The international language of sports is able to cross cultures and bridge social and ethnic divides, which are powerful tools to promote peace. In times of instability, sports help people feel normal, and offer some structure in an unstructured environment.

Sports University

1. The main outcome of this conference will be a massive project for Mangaung: the new Sports University that will be built here by the United Nations. It will cater for a wide range of sporting codes from rugby, soccer, netball & hockey to different forms of cricket, drum majorettes, gymnastics, weightlifting, chess etc. This will include indoor sports, sporting fields, pitches, etc.
2. What makes this project different is that its focus is as its name states: Sport for Development and Peace. The youth is a main target of the academy seeing that we can reach far more people through sports and sporting activities.
3. Because sports have the power to bring people together it is a very powerful communication tool. Sports reach many different people in many unique ways; it sends the message of cooperation. Many organizations work with the world of sports to teach people about key issues locally and globally by:
 - *using athletes as spokespersons;*
 - *dedicating sporting events to development issues;*
 - *using sports to mobilize resources; and*
 - *taking advantage of media coverage of sports events.*
4. The specific activities of the conference will be discussions on how to build this University to utilize green energy to its fullest, as well as utilizing grey water.
5. Then aspects relating to the different needs of the sporting codes like training facilities, grounds, fields, pitches, etc will be addressed at the conference.
6. Finally, when last was Mangaung the target of such a massive development project? We need our local people to step up so that the bulk of the financial injection this will bring, stays in the Metro and the Free State.

We need to embrace this prospect for development of people and to create opportunities for youngsters to get them off the streets and in the Gym or on the playing fields.

For more information, please feel free to contact me.

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