INVITATION TO CONFERENCE

Sport and Development Initiatives: ‘What difference can they make?’

The Danish Network for Sport and Development hereby invites Policy Makers, Grassroots Practitioners, Researchers, Students and Businesses to participate in the

NSD Conference, May 12, 2009
ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Welcome

NSD - the Danish Network for Sport and Development - is happy to invite to the conference:

Sport and Development Initiatives: What difference can they make?

‘Sport & Development’ refers to the use of sport as a tool for development and peace.*

Actors in sport, academia, private sector; non-profit and non-governmental organisations, government agencies, UN agencies and international organisations, the media, the general public as well as young people are increasingly interested in the potential of sport as a tool to reach personal, community, national and international development objectives.

The Danish perspectives on Sport and Development have evolved around the Danish Network for Sport and Development (NSD). Now is the time to address some strategically important issues in Sport and Development!

The aims of the conference are

• To provide and discuss state of the art in knowledge about Sport and Development for Danish as well as international target groups.
• To create a platform for networking, partnership building and sharing experience in the field of Sport and Development

TOPICS

The conference will address present Sport and Development challenges with a starting point in four key issues:

From “Sport Plus” to “Plus Sport”**

Sport has been claimed to have universal value in many different settings. Participation in sport is claimed to lead to social skills, higher ability to learn, lower crime rates, healthier lives, democratic participation and much more. With a starting point in promoting sport practise, these goals would be achieved too. This could be called “Sport plus”. A different approach is “Plus Sport” where the starting point is taken in concrete societal challenges, for instance high crime rates or high incidence of HIV/AIDS. Sport is then used as one of several instruments to address the challenge in question, always in combination with wider educational, social or health-related programmes.

Sport participation, in other words, is not the starting point or the core of the initiative.

Which approach will dominate in the years to come? What are the pitfalls and opportunities in these tendencies?

Measuring Sport and Development

The United Nations have joined in the praise for Sport in development activities, and appointed a special adviser for the field. But are we in fact able to prove the benefits of sport in development when it comes to the activities in the field? Monitoring and evaluating Sport and Development programmes and projects is not new. But how to evaluate these initiatives in a precise way - and what is the verdict on the impact of the initiatives?

The Role of Voluntarism in Sport and Development Projects

To be announced.

New partnerships in Sport and Development

Non-Governmental Sport Organisations working to empower civil societies in developing countries through sport seems to have been the norm in Sport and Development so far. But new actors are emerging, and new partnerships are founded. Private companies, development aid organisations, governmental institutions, media, and even inter-governmental organisations are conducting their own programmes - sometimes in innovative cooperation.

What are the trends in partnership building in Sport and Development programmes in times of financial crisis? Which actors will lead the field tomorrow - and in partnership with whom?

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* The definitions and explanations are from the leading international platform for Sport and Development www.sportanddev.org.
** Loacker: “A wider social role for sport”, 2007
ABOUT THE ORGANISER  
- The Danish Network for Sport and Development.

The use of sport, recreational activities and physical education as a tool for development has in the recent years gained ground on the international agenda, among others in the institutions of the United Nations and in the European Union. In Denmark as well, serious efforts are made to qualify and work with the concept of “Development through Sport”. In May 2007, twelve different NGOs, universities, folk high schools, organisations etc. decided in partnership to form a formal learning and growth network for knowledge-sharing with the stipulated aim of continuously improving the quality in their work, whether academic or project based, while expanding the forum for critical discussions and sharing the use of sport for development purposes with other interested organisations.

Danish Network for Sport and Development (NSD) launches minor studies, prepares thematic working groups and host a wide range of lectures, seminars and workshops. NSD is organised around an innovative model, whereby six or more thematic based working groups are independently scrutinizing a corner of the field – Sport and Development. NSD Comprises:

GES - Global Education through Sport (GES), GAM3 - Urban Sports Organisation, International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA), Dansk Handicap-Idræts forbund (DHIF) / Danish Sport Organisation for Disabled (DSOD), Danske Gymnastik- og Idrætsforeninger (DGI) / Danish Gymnastics and Sports Associations, Open Fun Football Schools (OLPA), Køng Idrætshøjskole / Køng Sports Folke High School, Ollerup Gymnastik- og Idrætshøjskole/Gymnastic Folk High School, Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark/The Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark (FFD), Institut for Idræt og Biomekanik, Syddansk Universitet / University of Southern Denmark (SdU)

Read more on: net-sd.org

Co-organiser

The conference is co-organised by International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA). ISCA is a Non-governmental and not-for-profit international umbrella association of organisations working in the fields of Sport for All, Youth and Culture. Our members come from more than 70 countries worldwide.

Read more on www.isca-web.org

### PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.30</td>
<td>Registration - Tea/Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.15</td>
<td>Opening Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.50</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 - 11.15</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee Break</td>
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<td>11.15 - 12.45</td>
<td>Small Presentations &amp; Panel Debate</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.45 - 14.15</td>
<td>Lunch served at Restaurant Spisehuset</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.15 - 15.15</td>
<td>Optional: Workshop A or Workshop B</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.15 - 15.30</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee and Afternoon Snack Break</td>
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<td>15.30 - 17.00</td>
<td>Panel Debate - Thematic Discussions</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.00 - 17.30</td>
<td>Closing Session, Way Forward?</td>
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Full programme with confirmed speakers will be announced at www.net-sd.org and will be sent directly to registered participants as soon as it is ready.
DGI-BYEN is a facility that houses various spa facilities, restaurants, hotels, conference facilities, a bowling alley, flexible multi-centres, sports clubs, a “Swim Centre” and Vandkulturrehuset, (Danish for “Water Culture House”), located in central Copenhagen, Denmark.

DGI-BYEN is a cultural center, and its facilities are extensive enough that it operates as a mini city within Copenhagen; “byen” is Danish for “city”, so the English translation is “DGI-city”. There is also a walled portion of the city, closed off by high stone walls, that contains various building complexes that provide infrastructural support for DGI-byen’s numerous cultural activities and events.

DGI-BYEN hosts a variety of banquets, concerts, etc.. The most recognizable landmark by which to identify DGI-byen, from a distance, is a giant outdoor climbing gym wall. There is also a curved row of trees at the edge of the property closest to the train station.

THE MAIN BUILDING is a 22,000 square metre facility situated directly behind Copenhagen’s Central Station, directly across the street from the central railway station, with other associated buildings in the walled-off portion adjacent the main building. DGI-byen is a rapidly expanding area of the city, with ongoing construction.

For further information please visit: www.dgi-byen.com

Registration
Participants is free of charge and all participants, i.e. both the official delegation members, speakers and other guests are invited to register by e-mail no later than the 7th of May 2009. At the Information desk in the DGI Byen, Copenhagen, participants and other registered guest will receive their registration badges. The registration badges must be worn throughout the event as participants will otherwise not be able to access the venue. Please send your contact-details - see page below. Please note that all sessions will be in English.

Questions concerning registration - Please contact by phone: +45 2076 8386/+45 2991 7333 or email: info@net-sd.org

Travel information
The Conference is located in the DGI Byen Copenhagen. It is two minutes walk from the Central Railway Station and therefore easily accessible.