

An Inclusive Initiative for Persons with Disabilities

Workshop on Empowerment & Capacity Building of Persons with Disabilities through Sports

Interstate Wheelchair Cricket 2017

21-23 OCTOBER, 2017

**RGNIYD AND PANJAB UNIVERSITY CAMPUS,
CHANDIGARH**

**BUILDING LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY OF PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH SPORTS**



Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development
Regional Center, Chandigarh

ORGANIZED BY



Association of Professional Social Workers &
Development Practitioners (APSPWDP), Chandigarh

Background

Inspired by the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group (SDP IWG) hosted by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP); Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) in principal partnership with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Regional Center under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India has initiated an innovative step to host a Workshop on Peace and Development through Sports for young persons with disability on wheelchair.

Imagine the world in 2030, fully inclusive of persons with disabilities

In September 2015, the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Building on the principle of “leaving no one behind”, the new Agenda emphasizes a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development for all. Although, the word “disability” is not cited directly in all goals, the goals are indeed relevant to ensure the inclusion and development of persons with disabilities. The newly implemented 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development holds a deep promise for persons with disabilities everywhere.

Envision 2030 will work to promote the mainstreaming of disability and the implementation of the SDGs throughout its 15-year lifespan with objectives to:

- Raise awareness of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs for persons with disabilities;
- Promote an active dialogue among stakeholders on the SDGs with a view to create a better world for persons with disabilities; and
- Establish an ongoing live web resource on each SDG and disability.

Sports and Sustainable Development Goals

With the overarching aspiration of

bringing people and the planet closer together and leaving no one behind, the 2030 Agenda is a unique opportunity to inspire global action for development worldwide, including in the field of Sport for Development and Peace. Sport has proven to be a cost-effective and flexible tool for promoting peace and development objectives. Since the inception of the MDGs in 2000, sport has played a vital role in enhancing each of the eight Goals, a fact that has been recognized in numerous resolutions of the General Assembly. In resolution 70/1, entitled

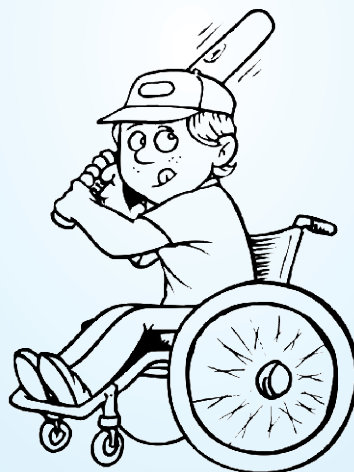
“Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, adopted in 2015, sport's role in advancing social progress is further acknowledged:

Sport is also an important enabler of sustainable development. We recognize the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives.

Harnessing this tremendous potential of sport, the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) has long been bringing people together through sport and supporting sport for peace initiatives, from mega sport events to grass-roots activities. These initiatives help sport achieve its fullest potential in realizing the Goals.

Regular participation in sport and physical activities provides various social and health benefits. Not only does it have a direct impact on physical fitness, but it also instills healthy lifestyle choices among children and young people, helping them remain active and combat non-communicable diseases. A number of studies conducted by the World Health Organization have also highlighted that physical exercise can stimulate positive mental health and cognitive development. Exercise has been linked to improvements in self-esteem and self-confidence, as well as positive effects for people struggling with depression and anxiety.

Despite these challenges, the vast positive power and passion of sport will continue to bring people together, promoting a more inclusive and peaceful world through its universal values and principles. Historically, sport has played an important role in all societies and acted as a strong communication platform that can be used to promote a culture of peace. It is, and will continue to be, one of the most cost-effective and versatile tools to promote United Nations values and achieve the SDGs.



Disability and Sports

The unique ability of sports to transcend linguistic, cultural and social barriers makes it an excellent platform for strategies of inclusion and adaptation. Furthermore, the universal popularity of sport and its physical, social and economic development benefits make it an ideal tool for fostering the inclusion and well-being of persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities often face societal barriers and disability evokes negative perceptions and discrimination in many societies. As a result of the stigma associated with disability, persons with disabilities are generally excluded from education, employment and community life which deprives them of opportunities essential to their social development, health and well-being. In some societies persons with disabilities are considered dependent and seen as incapable, thus fostering inactivity which often causes individuals with physical disabilities to experience restricted mobility beyond the cause of their disability.

Sport can help reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with disability because it can transform community attitudes about persons with disabilities by highlighting their skills and reducing the tendency to see the disability instead of the person. Through sport, persons without disabilities interact with persons with disabilities in a positive context forcing them to reshape assumptions about what persons with disabilities can and cannot do.

Sport changes the person with disability in an equally profound way by empowering persons with disabilities to realize their full potential and advocate for changes in society. Through sport, persons with disabilities acquire vital social skills, develop independence, and become empowered to act as agents of change.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is the first legally binding international instrument to address the rights of

persons with disabilities and sport. Article 30 of the Convention addresses both mainstream and disability-specific sport and stipulates that “States Parties shall take appropriate measures to encourage and promote the participation, to the fullest extent possible, of persons with disabilities in mainstream sporting activities at all levels”. It also calls upon Governments, States party to the Convention, to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to sport and recreational venues — as spectators and as active participants. This also requires that children with disabilities be included in physical education within the school system “to the fullest extent possible” and enjoy equal access to “play, recreation and leisure and sporting activities”.

Objective of the Workshop

The workshop is planned for leadership & capacity building of persons with disabilities and also as a forum for exchange of ideas and concrete ways in which to make effective Sport for Development programmes. It will provide a platform that can bring together the persons with disabilities struggling in daily life for their mainstreaming and recognition in sports.

The emphasis will be on creating a network of sports organization working with persons with disabilities to foster the Sport for Development & Peace enable practitioners, Non Government Organizations, donors, and corporate houses to learn about and implement effective Sport for Development programmes.

Programme Structure

The workshop is a commitment to achieve outcomes as well as a celebration of diversity – of society, sport and people. It therefore has a balance of sessions that allow experts, practitioners and players to interact and hear each other, as well as events and spaces that enable sharing on a more enlightening level. The programme structure is as under:

- Technical Sessions on disability, laws, policy and programmes
- Sport Event (Wheelchair Cricket)
- Cultural Evening by persons with disability

- Visiting city sites (city excursion)

Technical Sessions

- Session on National Policy for Persons with Disabilities,
- The Right of Persons with Disability Act, 2016
- Policies, Programmes and Schemes for Persons with Disabilities In India
- Capacity Building, Developing Leadership and Skill Building among Persons with Disabilities

Sport Events (Wheelchair Cricket)

First Interstate Wheelchair Cricket Tournament will be organized among 50 participants representing four teams from north Indian states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi will be participating. The matches will be organized at Cricket Stadium, Panjab University Campus, Chandigarh during the workshop period on 21-22 October, 2017 which will be an unique experiment of blending sport with capacity building and leadership development. It will only bring players from marginalized community to gather at one place through wheelchair cricket and also give them chance to have technical sessions for their capacity enhancement. Motivated by Indian Cricket team, persons with disabilities has organized themselves in teams to fulfill their dreams and desire of playing cricket using wheelchair like any other sports e.g. rugby, basket ball, baseball etc in several parts of the country. Gradually, such workshops and consultations among various stakeholders may push an Indian Wheelchair cricket team in future like any other national team, which will surely give place to our budding players to cherish their dreams globally.

Visiting City

Local city tour to disabled friendly prominent destinations.

- Sector 17, Plaza
- Sukhana Lake

About RGNIYD

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu, is an Institution of National Importance by the Act of Parliament No. 35/2012 under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. The RGNIYD was set up in 1993 under the Societies Registration Act, XXVII of 1975.

The Institute functions as a think-tank of the Ministry and premier organization of youth-related activities in the country. As the apex institute at the national level, it works in close cooperation with the NSS, NYKS and other youth organizations in the implementation of training programmes. The Institute is a nodal agency for training youth as a facilitator of youth development activities in rural, urban as also tribal areas.

The RGNIYD serves as a youth observatory and depository in the country thereby embarking on youth surveillance on youth-related issues. It has a wide network with various organizations working for the welfare and development of young people and serves as a mentor.

About APSWDP

Association of Professional Social Workers & Development Practitioners (APSWDP) is a registered not for profit professional association of professional social workers and development practitioners working in various social welfare domain across the country. Social issues like poverty, disability, livelihood, health, education, water & sanitation, unemployment, disease control programme, urbanisation, youth issues of de-addiction and others have covered the whole gamut government, development agencies and academic institutions. Since, the influx of specialization and expertise has increased over the current decade in the country among implementation agencies, then requirement of trained social work professionals and practitioners is indeed a factual requirement. The association focuses on creating a country wide and global network of dedicated social work professionals and development practitioners from remote geographical rural areas, to discuss, debate and develop key framework on evidence & practice based interventions, methods. Focus will be to enable social workers and development practitioners all around the globe to share their ideas and working on various development issues. APSWDP will also offer a platform to youth leaders, scholars/researchers with striving passion to participate in bringing reformation through correctional measures in existing policies.

Key Resource Persons :

1. Stanzin Dawa, Regional Director, RGNIYD, Chandigarh.
2. Dr. Monica Singh, Sr. Asst Professor Centre for Social Work, Panjab University—cum-President APSWDP.
3. Dr Joginder Kumar Yadav, Regional Director IGNOU, Jammu Region—cum- Vice President.
4. Dr Sumit Arora, Sociologist
5. Sister Tresa Paul, Lawyer, Supreme Court of India—cum- Social Activists (Faculty Indian Social Institute, Delhi)
6. Rekha Trivedi, Social Activist
7. Sharad Singh, Development Expert, Delhi.

Organizing Team:

Principal Organized

Stanzin Dawa Regional Director RGNIYD	Dr. Monica Singh President APSWDP
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Program Convener

Yogesh Sharma Programme Co-ordinator RGNIYD	Rekha Trivedi Founding Member-cum- Chairperson, Committee on Empowerment of Women & Persons with Disabilities
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Participating Organization

