INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK ON Centre of Excellence on Sport and Disability
County Council of the Seine-Saint-Denis
International seminar in cooperation with the International Urban Development Association - INTA, and the Master of Science Po Paris on Territorial and Urban Strategies
5-6 NOVEMBER 2015

This project aims to bring together stakeholders in sport, recreation and disability, both public (County, City of Paris, Urban Districts - intermunicipalities, Region, State, AP-HP (public hospital system for Paris and its suburbs), University...) and private (sports federations, regional and departmental committees of sport and disability, sport-related companies, Foundations, ...) around shared strategic and operational objectives.

The existing sports site offers 8 large playing fields of great games, 20 players locker rooms, 6 referees locker rooms, a 38-bed shelter, a place for hospitality and catering functions, a training centre welcoming 80,000 users per year, making this site an important sports centre at County level. Its central location, close to the Avicenna Hospital and the University Paris-XIII, makes it highly connected to the rest of the County and to the heart of the metropolis (bus lines, one tramway line, bicycle paths, but also the creation in 2023 of an express tramway and in 2025 of the automatic metro line #15 in the framework of the Greater Paris).

On this site a private initiative should build a sporting complex dedicated to handicapped people, accommodation for accompanying persons and disabled audiences, and logistical infrastructure for training activities for those involved in sport and disability. Taking advantage of the dedicated sporting pavilion, and of the already existing facilities and potential of La Motte site, the County Council intends to establish a Pole of Excellence in Sport & Handicap of metropolitan ambition. The Pole should contribute to enhance the existing medical facilities and centres, the various training organizations, and to take advantage also of the presence of a number of local actors engaged in sport or disability, already interacting with the County, to attract new partners including economic and industrial activities.

The County Council has identified some key goals for the cluster:
- **Promote social development**
  - Develop access to sports practice, leisure and culture for people with disabilities
  - Contribute to develop the autonomy of people with disabilities
  - Promote social inclusion and access to citizenship
  - Qualify the offer of support for disabled people
- To relieve families in charge of disabled people (more autonomy for people with disabilities and development of more diversified activities for the parents)
- Improve coaching practices and community leadership
- Strengthen social diversity

- Serve as a lever for economic development
- Create jobs for people with disabilities
- Promote the link between disabled people and businesses for their employability
- Create opportunities for accompaniment and supervision of disabled people
- Develop training and research on disability
- Creation of new services
- Attract economic actors including from the hi-tech sector, and private partners able to invest
- Contribute to increasing the attractiveness of the County by the concentration of expertise, actors and resources in the field of disability and sports

- Urban and territorial planning
- Gather and unite a variety of actors in an innovative Sport & Handicap Pole
- Extend the offer of sports facilities suitable for people with disabilities
- Participate in urban renewal of the territory
- Create a new identity for the interdepartmental sports site and the area, give them a pivotal role at the metropolitan level,
- Define and implement a new coherence of development
- Connect the various existing urban elements, may be involved in the field of disability
- Improve transport connections accessible to the disabled at the metropolitan level.

The cluster is therefore part of a global strategy:

at different territorial scales: the site itself, the county, the metropolis, and the social networks;

with different components (sport, advocacy, social and economic dimensions, ...) addressing different audiences (disabled, users of the site, the neighbourhood) and different actors who have varying perceptions of priorities to give to the Pole.

The Sport & Handicap international benchmark session on November 5-6 is organized to help the County Council defining its strategy of excellence. This event aims to bring the local stakeholders of the future Sport & Handicap Pole together with international leaders having experienced in similar projects of integrating a network with a resource centre with a development plan spatially embodying the pole.

Different topics will be discussed to help clarify the contours of this pole still in the planning stage: role of such pole, its physical location and set-up, the concept of network and the intangible dimension of the pole.

Finally, a major challenge for the project leaders is the governance of such a structure, and international experiences should help define different institutional and organizational
This event is part of a programme conceived by the County Council of Seine-Saint-Denis, INTA and the Master of Sciences Po Paris on Territorial and Urban Strategies. This programme began in September 2014 with a working group of students focusing on identifying the needs of the local actors who will be involved, collaborate, co-manage the Sport & Handicap Pole. A first phase has helped identify the major issues that will be raised again during the benchmark session. A second phase was an analysis of governance models for clusters like the Sport & Handicap Pole. The results of these two phases will be presented during benchmark session. The outcome of this session will feed the reflection of an international peer-to-peer review in November 2015 on the spatial integration of the urban project of La Motte Stadium. This last event will end the 18 months collaboration programme.

The schedule will be as following:

**Day 1: Thematic discussions**

9:30 to 10:30: Opening - Introduction and presentation of the Sport & Handicap Pole

10 min Definition of terms: sports (recreation, high-level, County's view on social issue etc.), disability (motor, mental, sensory).

20 min Presentation of the Sport & Handicap Pole project by the County Councils of the Seine-Saint-Denis and of Paris

15 min Presentation of the report of Sciences Po students on the expectations of local actors with respect to the pole.

10:30 to 12:30: Roundtable 1 - The overall objectives of a pole of excellence on sport & handicap

What coexistence of different sporting activities? What coexistence of different sports? A dynamic site bringing together all type of audiences: what relationship to the neighbourhood, what social and economic project? Metropolitan influence and local based integration (social inclusion, integration, ...), event leverage, image ...

20 min

Cara Centre, Kerry County, Ireland
Adam Crowle, Disability Development Officer, The Albion Foundation and Sporting Club Albion, West Midlands, United Kingdom
Dominique Estienne, Ville de Paris & Pascal Mathieu, Conseil Départemental Seine Saint Denis

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.: Roundtable 2 – Infrastructure, equipment and operational instruments

How to share and optimize the use of the equipment? What transports, what accessibility? Equipment, resources, funding: pooling and rationalization

20 min

Vincent Bardou, Directeur général, Centre de Montrodat et complexe Euroméditerranéen
Tim Garfield, SportPark, University of Loughborough
Fédération Handisport, site Louis Lumière
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.: Roundtable 3 - **Intangible pole: functions and resources**
What place for training in the Pole? Awareness: to whom, what and how? Networking of stakeholders, training, research (R & D), coordination, resource centre ...

**20 min**
Stéphane Saint Amand, Directeur Centre de Ressources, Pôle d’excellence rurale en domotique et santé de Guéret (Odyssée 2023)
Hôpital Avicenne, AP-HP
Pôle Ressources National Sport et Handicaps, Bourges
Disability Resource Centre, Bedfordshire, UK

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**Day 2: Implementation and conclusions**

**9.30-10.00:** Roundtable 4 - **Implementation: Pole formalization and governance**
The Pole and La Motte site: what physical embodiment of the Pole? A multitude of actors: which network do we want to set up? Sport and Handicap Pole: what originality, what role relative to other poles? Which sectors to integrate and how?

**10.00-12.30:** Conclusions Roundtable with speakers on cross-discussion on governance models of each case