“Mainstreaming diversity: examples from the UNESCO Chair, IT Tralee”

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UNESCO Chair "Transforming the Lives of People with Disabilities, their Families and Communities, Through Physical Education, Sport, Recreation and Fitness"
Content

• Brief introduction of UNESCO IT Tralee
• Coexistence of different sporting activities and sports
• Cohabitation
• Pole links
• Impacts of pole
• Concluding points of departure
UNESCO Chair

‘Mainstreaming Diversity’ – a society where diversity is valued, where those living and working therein embrace it with positivity for the betterment of society
Purpose

• **Enhance** the lives of people with disabilities through Physical Education, sport, recreation and fitness

• **Promote** an integrated system of research, training and information transfer in the fields of inclusive physical education, adapted physical activity, sport, fitness and recreation

• Reach out to communities and stakeholders on an international platform to facilitate transformative change

• **Mainstream Diversity** in these domains
Objectives - UNESCO

Chair

Build the capacity, among professionals, through education and training, to work with (and not only for) people with disabilities!

Develop a virtual space where all interested partners will be able to work towards the universal access to activity provision!

Promote and engage in multi-sectorial transformation regarding the inclusion of people with disabilities in physical activity contexts.

Mainstreaming Diversity Universality

Pathway to Inclusion Sport

Physical Education Fitness

UniversAbility Families and Communities
Thematic Scope of the Chair

“Inclusion should be considered a philosophical approach to implementing social justice...so that all persons are valued as unique contributing members of society and included”

DePauw and Doll-Tepper 2000
How?

• Strategy and Planning
• Innovation (terminology)
OVERALL STRATEGY

• Evidence-based, impact focused, innovative, responsive to change, adopting a longer term view to facilitate sustainable outcomes

• “Learning to live together” (UNESCO)

• “Redefinition of partnership” (President Michael D. Higgins)

• Participation rather than involvement
Importance of:

- Awareness raising
- Training
- Promotion
3 V’s: Vision – Value Proposition – Verification


3 I’s: Implement – Impact – Innovate

4 D’s: Discover – Dream – Design – Destiny
• In working towards Mainstreaming Diversity the UNESCO Chair has designed a brand logo that indicates UniversAbility

• The brand indicates Universal Accessibility, recognising this ability as a dynamic and continuous process
‘Inclusivize’

Inclusivize = action verb

Underpins willingness, intent, actions, and resources
What coexistence of different sporting activities?

Overall:

• Promote social development
• Social inclusion
• Access to citizenship
Cohabitation between all users and practitioners

Overall: ‘Kerry Declaration’

Highlights the importance of networks and networking to bring projects to fruition
Links for the Pole

Strengthen Social Diversity
How can the cluster rely on local resources... to create leverage.

Networks, Knowledge, Collaboration
Possible impact on territorial dimensions

• Can such a pole have effects on several territorial dimensions from the local to the metropolitan?

YES

• Consider the following:
  • Moral obligation
  • Legal aspect
  • Economic market segment
Concluding remarks

• Strategy: Awareness, training and promotion
  CRAFT and UTMF

• Various activities: social development and inclusion

• Collaboration between all: networks and networking

• Links: Strengthen social diversity

• Local resources: Knowledge and collaboration
To Conclude

“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”

-Charles Darwin, 1809
Thank you

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