

TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING ON RECENT INITIATIVES ON SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

*Title of Initiative: **Progetto Filippide***

Provide a summary of the initiative, including a brief overview, proposed/actual outcomes and an assessment of any lessons learned and the way forward.

Please provide more details on each initiative including items below:		
Objective(s):	<i>Please indicate which, if any, of the following fall among the main objectives of the initiative:</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring no one is left behind (advancing empowerment, inclusiveness and equality through sport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leveraging sports events to promote action to combat climate change, advance peace and/or sustainable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict prevention/peace building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research development, data collection and/or data dissemination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safely harnessing sport for sustainable development, peace and wellbeing in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the use of technology
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrating sport for sustainable development and peace in COVID-19 recovery and/or 2030 Agenda strategies, programmes and policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding sport from corruption and crime
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened global framework on sport for development and peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other (please specify)
Implementation mechanisms:	<p><i>What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?</i></p> <p><i>What are the main deliverables/activities involved?</i></p> <p><i>What is the time frame of implementation?</i></p> <p>The activity proposed by the Filippide Project consists in a structured sporting activity, continuous over time for people with relational intellectual disabilities, in particular for those with autism.</p> <p>To promote and implement it, the Progetto Filippide has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Directorate General of the Italian Cooperation for Development, which drives the parties to promote, on the basis of article 30 of the CRPD, sport as a means of social inclusion in the Collaboration and Cooperation treaties for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Collaboration relationships have been signed with the University of Rome "Foro Italico" to provide specific training of instructors, teachers, and sports coaches.</p> <p>Sport is the main activity proposed in all its facets, with particular attention to swimming, (in particular for children / adolescents with privileged autism because the environment is more suitable, it recalls the memory of the intrauterine</p>	

	<p>period, it facilitates greater compliance with the instructors through closer contact during lessons in a 1/1 ratio which facilitates the growth of confidence) and athletics for adults who often show the need for larger spaces to express themselves and can be practiced very easily, not only in dedicated sports structures, but also in city parks.</p> <p>The Filippide Project reasoned on a three-year program, which acts as a Start Up for the creation of sports centers for people with disabilities, starting from the training of the professionals involved in the project, starting with a first group of about 12 instructors and 12 people with autism, aiming to the achievement of a first goal such as participation in the RUN FOR AUTISM.</p>
<p>Target Audience(s):</p>	<p><i>Who are the beneficiaries of the proposed/implemented initiative?</i></p> <p>The Project uses sport as a tool for therapy, qualification, support and social inclusion for athletes with autism. The Project allows, with the physical and therefore mental training of running and swimming, to acquire skills ranging from personal autonomy to the control of instinctual drives, taking care of autistic athletes at 360 °. The operators and volunteers of the Project take care of the children every day from the moment they leave the house (picking them up with a minibus), to the moments of sporting activity, changing room operations, to lunch in the canteen until the boys are brought back to their homes. The greater autonomy children are able to achieve through the constant exercise of sport and group activities allows them the ability to carry out "normal" activities otherwise unthinkable considering their conditions, such as sitting in the chair of the dentist without having to undergo general anesthesia every time, or take a train or plane without being hit by a crisis, etc.</p> <p>The main benefits found are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reduction of drug therapy 2. social integration with the world of the able-bodied 3. improvement of the intellectual and relational faculties 4. greater psychological serenity 5. learning of experiences that are replicated in the family context) <p>All activities are offered free of charge to athletes and their families.</p> <p>The beneficiaries of the initiative in public events such as RUN FOR AUTISM, the only dedicated inclusive road race event, are of a direct and indirect nature.</p> <p>Athletes with autism and their professional operators benefit directly from the intervention on the person, and as in the case of RUN FOR AUTISM, the participants in the competition.</p> <p>The families of people with autism, the schools of students with autism involved in the initiative, the structures with which they come into contact and the institutions benefit indirectly from the initiative. Anyone who is involved and approaches can be a beneficiary.</p>
<p>Partners/Funding:</p>	<p><i>Who are the main organizations/entities involved in the initiative and what are their roles?</i></p> <p>The Sports Clubs with basic activities, the Foro Italico University of Rome in Motor Sciences, the Italian Paralympic Committee, the MAECI - Directorate General for Development Cooperation, UN-DESA</p> <p><i>What are the main sources of funding of the initiative?</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law 27 December 2019 N ° 160, FORECAST BUDGET OF THE STATE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF THE STATE 2020 AND MULTI-YEAR BUDGET FOR THE THREE YEAR 2020-2022, in article 1 paragraph 333) AND LAW 30 DECEMBER 2020, N ° 178 BUDGET OF STATEMENT FORECAST FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-2023, Article 1 paragraph 385; • UN-DESA project "Social inclusion of children and youth with autism through sports"
<p>SDG Alignment:</p>	<p><i>To what SDG goal/target/indicator is this initiative targeted?</i></p> <p>N° 3,4,5,10,11,16 e 17</p> <p>The activities proposed by the Filippide Project Association contribute at different degrees to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of its objectives, specifically:</p> <p>-Goal 3, To ensure the health and well-being of all at all ages.</p> <p>The Filippide Project fully responds to this goal, respecting the recommendations of the WHO 2020 on physical activity and sedentary lifestyle. The project offers its athletes every day different sports proposals capable of stimulating the person with autism and guaranteeing improvement not only physical but also neurological, behavioral and on autonomy. All this leads to an improvement of the quality of life of people with autism and reduces health and social assistance costs. The Filippide Project fully embraces the words of Fiona Bull who is responsible for WHO's Physical Activity Unite "Being physically active is essential for the heart, mind and body, at all ages and with all abilities", and tries to put them into practice.</p> <p>- Objective 4, To provide inclusive and equitable quality education and learning opportunities for all. The Filippide Project represents for people with autism not only a valid sports program capable of improving their quality of life but also an effective educational tool capable of providing learning moments thanks to the 1: 1 ratio between athlete and operator. This leads not only to an improvement in sports skills but, above all, to an improvement in autonomy, interaction and communication with others, which are missing skills in most people with autism.</p> <p>- Goal 5, Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.</p> <p>The Filippide Project includes also women athletes with autism. Autism manifests itself in a ratio of 1: 4 between women and men. Women with autism often have a more serious diagnosis than men because of their social exclusion and the risk of abuse and violence, which particularly affect women. The Filippide Project also features a synchronized swimming team made up mostly of athletes with Down's Syndrome.</p> <p>-Goal 10, Reduce inequality within and between nations.</p>

	<p>In line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Filippide Project guarantees the protection and emancipation of this part of the most vulnerable community, ensuring the full implementation and respect of all their fundamental rights on a basis of equality and equity with others.</p> <p>-Goal 17, Strengthen the means of implementation and renew the global partnership for sustainable development.</p> <p>To meet the 2030 Agenda ambitions, close collaboration between governments, the private sector and civil society will be essential. The Filippide Project has been recognized in 2019 as an NGO associated with the United Nations Department of Global Communications.</p> <p><i>Please indicate any other national or internationally agreed goals/commitments to which this initiative is aligned.</i></p>
<p>Alignment with global frameworks:</p>	<p><i>How does this initiative align with/contribute to the objectives of the Kazan Action Plan, WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity or other related internationally agreed frameworks on sport and/or physical activity?</i></p> <p>The Kazan Action Plan outlines a series of actions in order to guarantee in the States Parties a policy aimed at "developing a global vision of inclusive access for all to sport, physical education and physical activity", "optimizing the contributions of sport for sustainable development and peace "and" protect the integrity of sport " .</p> <p>As stated in the document itself, the Plan can only be successfully implemented if an involvement is established between intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.</p> <p>The Filippide Project represents, in the Italian territory, an excellence in the promotion of sport as a fundamental tool for Sustainable Development and Peace.</p> <p>The initiatives undertaken by the Filippide Project Association such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Organization of the Run for Autism road race foot race that takes place in Rome and sees the involvement of athletes with autism and neurotypicals. The Run for Autism is the only inclusive sporting event for raising awareness of autism in Italy, probably in the world, and has, as its primary purpose, increasing awareness in the community about people with disabilities, in order to a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable society in line with the principles proposed by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. - UN-DESA project "Social inclusion of children and youth with autism through sports" with the support of the MAECI and the full involvement of the Filippide Project. -Other initiatives planned in Italy and beyond. <p>Each of these refers to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation / Directorate General for Development Cooperation and the Filippide Project, for the promotion of sport in Italian cooperation programs for the social inclusion of people with disabilities.</p>

	<p>The partnership established and the resulting initiatives therefore contribute to the implementation of the actions proposed in the Kazan Plan, thanks to the full sharing of responsibilities of governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.</p>
<p>Alignment with United Nations Action Plan on SDP:</p>	<p><i>Which of the four thematic areas of the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace is this initiative designed to align?</i></p> <p>In particular, two of the four priority areas in which the Assembly invited to intervene in line with the United Nations action plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - B) promoting and supporting the integration of sport for development and peace programs and policies; - C) promoting innovative financing mechanisms and multilateral agreements. <p><i>To which action area (s) of the Plan is this initiative designed to contribute?</i></p> <p>Certainly for both areas.</p> <p>In particular proposing, through sport, development and peace policies such as, for example, the reception of groups of children with autism from areas that are the scene of war actions, on sporting events (particularly significant the RUN FOR AUTISM event).</p> <p>We have paid particular attention to multilateral agreements in our Strategic Plan.</p> <p>We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation - Directorate General for Development Cooperation.</p> <p>This agreement acts as a driving force in introducing us to the countries to which we can submit our initiative.</p> <p>In particular, the result of this process is the Memorandum of Understanding that the Filippide Project is about to sign with the Government of the Republic of Albania.</p>
<p>Outcomes:</p>	<p><i>What are the expected/actual outcomes of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The ultimate / ultimate goal of the Filippide Project is that all people with relational intellectual disabilities, in particular people with autism, can play sports in all states, according to article 30 of the CRPD, equally with others.</p> <p>Mid-terms goals (with some of them already already achieved) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion and implementation on the national territory of Filippide Project; • the Mou signed with the Itaian Directorate General for Development Cooperation that will allow us to offer our know-how in other states;; • the collaboration project with UN DESA DISD to offer our know-how this activity in Caribbean countries, • the Erasmus Plus Call for European Sport Event won in 2016 which allowed us to promote the activity for people with autism in 12 European Union states, • The implementation of the sports proposal for people with autism and, indirectly, families who benefit from sports activities for their children, the RUN FOR AUTISM 2022, and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of the Republic of Albania which is only waiting to be signed

<p>Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation:</p>	<p><i>What are the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of the initiative?</i></p> <p>People with autism are introduced to sport with the constant and continuous help of operators who work alongside them at every moment of the hours dedicated to sport, according to the principles of the Filippide Project. They are the first people who monitor "on the field" all the sporting and social aspects. Each operator follows his or her athlete for a predefined period (generally 4 months), drawing up a daily logbook, noting the sporting and social progress achieved. At the end of the assignment period, each operator is required to fill in an observation form which takes into consideration specific aspects concerning: 1) The frequency and methods by which the athlete arrives at the training site, 2) The evolution on how the athlete participates in the opening "circle" of sporting activities, 3) Aspects relating to training concerning the relationship with the operator and with the group of peers, the evolution of the sporting and social skills demonstrated during physical exercise and the evolution of the work on autonomy carried out in the changing rooms used.</p> <p>The observation sheets, duly filled up by each operator, will then become the common heritage of all people involved in the Filippide Project and are analyzed in special team meetings led by the Project's social worker. Subsequently, the athletes will be rotated with the various operators involved in the Filippide Project in order to allow both actors (athlete / operator) to get involved continuously, experimenting new operating methods in the wake of the knowledge achieved thanks to the work carried out by the previous operator.</p> <p>The improvements are potentially unlimited in each area analyzed, which is why the sporting activity, carried out according to the dictates of the Filippide Project, must necessarily be considered continuous over time.</p> <p><i>What specific monitoring and evaluation tools are involved?</i></p> <p>We have developed "evaluation sheets" which is the operating tool set up with specific indicators.</p>
<p>Challenges/Lessons learned</p>	<p><i>What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?</i></p> <p><i>What are the main deliverables/activities involved?</i></p> <p><i>What is the time frame of implementation?</i></p> <p>The first main challenge we faced was to involve other states in the promotion and implementation of sports activities for people with relational intellectual disabilities, in particular people with autism.</p> <p>In Italy, we have a set of laws that allow people with cognitive disabilities, in particular children and young people with autism, to attend primary and secondary school together with children without disabilities, in full inclusion.</p> <p>In most of the other states, especially those of Anglo-Saxon roots, the situation is different. In fact, there are differentiated school paths, with specific educational and rehabilitation structures dedicated to young people with intellectual disabilities. Furthermore, confusion is often generated between mental illness and relational intellectual disability, because very often they share similar symptoms (think of some stereotypes typical of people with autism, or with rare diseases)</p>

The second involves young people in sporting activity, for two different reasons: the difficulty of early diagnosis of autism, favoring therapeutic-health interventions to the detriment of sporting activity as a means of social inclusion.

Third but not least the importance of involving girls / boys in sports activities, both because they are numerically less numerous (the man / woman ratio of 1/4 for autism is still valid), and because in many States the condition of women is greater.

The experience of recent years has shown us that very often the first and greatest engine to start the activity are the families of people with intellectual disabilities / autism, however so that the sporting activity proposed by the Filippide Project can then become an activity. Structured, lasting over time, replicable at different levels, it is necessary that professionals, sports coaches / instructors manage it, because in any case it is a sporting activity.

Precisely the long period of pandemic that we have all experienced has further highlighted the need to practice sports also and above all for people with disabilities who have suffered most from the many closures they have suffered including the school and the socio-health centers dedicated to them. Hence the consideration that the activities of the Filippide Project have taken as a job opportunity / opportunity, in particular for the younger generation.