

**Burnett, C. (2019). Framing a 21st century case for the social value of sport in South Africa. *Sport in Society*, 1-16.**

### **What is it about? (Aim/objectives)**

The article points out how sport can address global agenda of UN relating to the Kazan Action Plan.

### **Where is it from? (Context/location)**

International perspective/ South Africa

### **Who are involved? (Research participants)**

- The author reports cases of sport (interventions, researches, historical events) and explain how they are related to:
  - social cohesion
  - national building
  - social transformation
  - equality and inclusion

### **What are the readings and main concepts?**

- 2015 - thousands of entities funding/implementing SDP programs, need of coordination
- 2018 - redefinition of roles in terms of SDP strategic planning and implementation at UN:
  - UNESCO (leader of global policy for physical education)
  - UNICEF (responsible for human rights agenda through SDP partnership).
- 2014 - IOC session: shared responsibility among UN and IOC in giving directions to sport sector in terms of social outcomes
- MINEPS VI as a turning point for SDP policy implementation with Ministers of Sport and Education:
  - Stipulation of Kazan Action Plan - strategic plan to create a case around sport in order to raise awareness among governments and civic society regarding the role of sport

### **What are the main findings? (Results)**

- social cohesion:
  - several research reports sport as a social connector for people (development of social capital, trusting relationships, sense of belonging due to participation and membership)
- national building:
  - Nelson Mandel supporting the National Rugby Team in 1995 for reconciliation and national consciousness
- social transformation:
  - South Africa's National Sport and Recreation Plan prioritizing mass participation and open access for social transformation
- equality and inclusion:
  - Race and ethnicity: athletes of ethnic minority (Cathy Freeman) carry symbolic value for minorities
  - Socio-economic status: MOD increased the participation rate in sport of impoverished children; sport-based programs as occasion for local coaches' employability and income.
  - Age: physical activity as preventive strategies for chronic diseases

### **What are the main lessons? (Discussion/Reflections/Learnings)**

- Sport can be an impactful vehicle to promote positive changes contributing to the improvement of our societies
- With Kazan Action Plan sport is finally recognized in terms of social relevance for the national policy agenda but more research and intervention are needed in order to build a "case" around sport.

### **Is it useful? (Chat room, knowledge sharing)**

- What implications does the Kazan Action Plan has for NGOs?
- How can sport address various social issues in the community/communities you are working?
- What are the needs and priorities for you to assist with in your community?