

# Lessons from the Sport for Good Cities Evaluation & Learning Partnership

Summary report, July 2023



# Sport for Good Cities – what have we learned across London, Paris and Delhi?

Sport for Good Cities is a **global programme of social change achieved through the power of sport** pioneered by Laureus initially in the USA, then the UK (London), France (Paris) and India (New Delhi). It continues to spread across the world. The Sport for Good Cities approach uses sport as a force for good to bring local people and organisations together to identify how sport could help to tackle local priorities for change. This summary sets out the key learning from Sport for Good Cities programmes in London, Paris and New Delhi. The full report is available here: <u>www.ndti.org.uk/assets/files/Sport-for-Good-Cities-Final-Evaluation-Report.pdf</u>

### **Overview**

3 Cities

# 9,209

people have taken part in new sporting activities, as well as learning and training opportunities, and influencing local decisions that affect their lives.

# Over 40 project grants This has been made possible through over 40 project grants,

This has been made possible through over 40 project grants, based on local people's priorities and there have been multiple spin-offs from this initial investment.

# Young people have a stronger voice, influence and leadership role across

all the Sport for Good Cities locations.



Community Coordinators have supported six Coalitions, made up of local people and groups, embedding sustainable new ways of working together in each location.

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6 Coalitions created

# What has been the impact for local people?

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Locations

**Increased confidence** including for those whose voices have not been heard before, and particularly for women and girls. For example, in Paris, participants rating their self-confidence as high/very high rose from 38% before taking part to 88% after.



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**New skills**, experiences and personal development that participants have carried forward into education, work and life.

More social mixing, across gender, disability, age, and economic disadvantage

Improved health and wellbeing, as well as fitness levels

Increased trust within communities, with some participants reporting that they felt safer

**Stronger, more engaged communities**, with new community leaders boosted by their involvement and more people influencing local decision making

## What has been the impact for Coalitions and partners?



New ways of bringing local people and wider local partners together that continue to evolve and thrive in each location

Additional resources for communities accessed through collaboration between partners and through new groups and opportunities

#### How has the programme achieved all this?

### **Building trusting relationships**

- The exceptional skills of Community Coordinators in building trust and relationships, as well as their deep local knowledge, and credibility
- Transparent, bottom up approaches to community and coalition building, that are different in each location but follow a similar pathway.
- Really investing in open, equal partnerships and relationships within each Coalition and with communities and partners, ranging from brand new NGO's to established organisations and local government.

#### Supporting capacity in communities

Responsive and tailored capacity building support for Coalition members with priorities identified by them, including local leadership, safeguarding, bid writing, public health issues, gender equity and community safety.

### Making good use of evidence

- An initial, thorough scoping and research phase that transparently shows the rationale for selecting locations
- A genuinely bottom up approach to evidence and learning, with each Coalition deciding what matters and how this is demonstrated over time.

#### A different approach to grant making

- A commitment to participatory grant making that is rooted in local visions and priorities and that starts to shift power towards Coalitions and communities
- A supportive, flexible relationship between funders and grantees.

"Model City Delhi provided the opportunity to have a voice, build association and get involved....and now we have a new organisation developing as a result"

(New Delhi)

"I feel like I can help young people in ways that I probably needed. Role models that can impart knowledge that look like me, talk like me and understand my way of thinking.

(Young mentor, London)