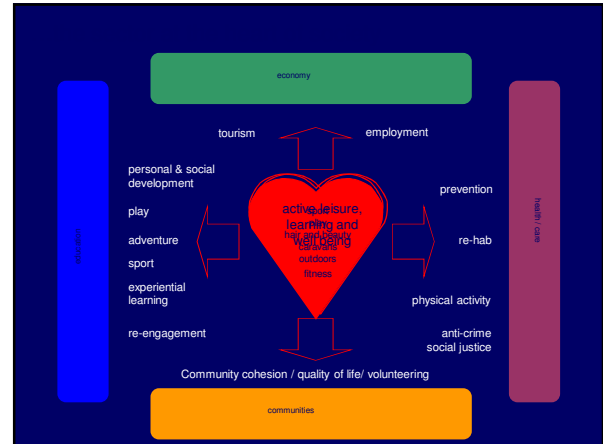


EOSE GENERAL ASSEMBLY & WORKING CONFERENCE 2009

Main challenges and perspectives of the Sport and Active Leisure Sector in Europe towards VET

Stephen Studd
EOSE President




THE SECTOR APPROACH

All main stakeholders to work together to:

- Organise the Sport and Active Leisure Sector at EU level
- To respond to the VET challenges
- To establish a framework for workforce development and Lifelong Learning through EQF
- To implement the EU White Paper on Sport
- Objectives: mobility, transparency, recognition of qualifications, competences and skills, link between employment and training, career pathways etc

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KEY MESSAGES

- EQF presents an opportunity for Sport
- Sport must be involved in the development and implementation of the EQF
- The development of a common VET strategy for the Sport and Active Leisure sector is a priority
- There is a need to provide strong leadership at a European level in the Sector
- Sport and Active leisure is already leading

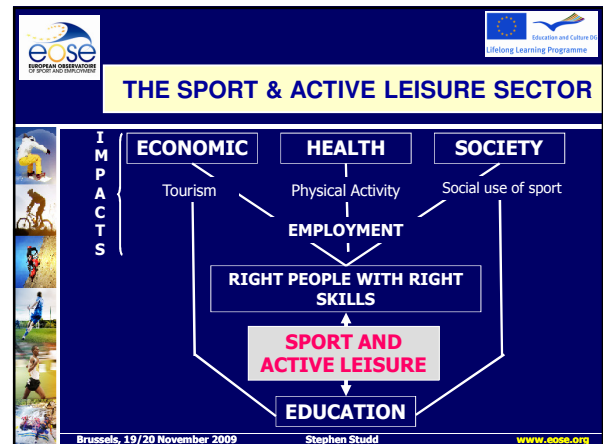
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EQF IS CENTRAL TO EU POLICY

- Lisbon Strategy (2000)
- Bologna Process – HE
- Copenhagen Process – VET
- Life Long Learning – ECVET/EQF
- Focus for national systems
- EU White Paper on Sport (2007) and Pierre de Coubertin Action Plan
- Lisbon Treaty

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Why do we need to implement EQF?

- EQF offers a European “Point of Reference” for national qualifications – national and European impact
- EQF offers transparency to academic qualifications
- EQF supports transfer/mobility of students between courses and academic institutions

BUT

ON ITS OWN, EQF DOES NOT HELP INDIVIDUALS MOVE FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT SECTORS NEED TO TAKE THE LEAD

- A sector (employers working together) must define the jobs they offer in terms of the skills/knowledge (competences) they expect

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FROM EDUCATION TO WORK

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THE SECTOR APPROACH FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT

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REALITIES AND BARRIERS

- What is offered in the academic field is not enough regarded as relevant by employers and federations
- Talent is wasted: there is no clear career structure and graduates cannot find employment in sport
- The economic and employment potential of Sport is not recognised/understood

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REALITIES AND BARRIERS

- Sport is fragmented (by sports, by sub-sectors e.g. commercial / volunteer / public) – poor communication and co-operation
- Sport training is aimed at the needs of the volunteer
- Sport training (in most states) sits outside the national qualification structure for most countries
- Sport VET is narrowly focussed

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MAIN CHALLENGES

- To bring together the major stakeholders to work through consultation
- To ensure the development of a competent workforce with the right skills in the Sport and Active Leisure sector in Europe
- Take the major opportunity created by EQF to coordinate qualification & training for VET and HE in the sector
- To raise higher qualification standards within countries, develop mobility, transparency and mutual trust of qualifications, and growth of business opportunities
- To strengthen and support professional career pathways and the voluntary sector
- To make easier the movement between education and employment & support the Lifelong Learning process

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Why should sport engage with EQF?

If sport is to fulfil its potential it needs:

- A competent workforce (paid & unpaid)
- Offer jobs and a career structure
- To define the competences, skills & knowledge needed for those jobs
- To ensure there are qualifications and training that equip people to work in sport
 - Many jobs in sport require specific technical knowledge and skills (health and safety is very important)

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What next? We have the technology!

Our Methodology (technical)

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What next? A programme of work

Our Methodology (Political)

- Create a single voice with the European Workforce Development Alliance (a small beginning)
- Undertake new analysis of Labour Markets (EOSE tools)
- Strengthen our observatory network

Target – an independent not-for-profit organisation to lead in each member state using central tools and methodologies that is recognised by the sport ministries

- Strengthen social dialogue (or employer organisations at least)

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THE WAY AHEAD...

- Strengthen the sector approach through EOSE and the Alliance
- Update the Labour Market and Skills Map across Europe
- Continue to agree National / EU Competence Standards for key occupations of the sector
- Align sport qualifications with national systems
- Disseminate and share good practices to develop a competent Sport and Active Leisure workforce with the right skills
- Support and strengthen social dialogue
- Sector partnership with the EU Commission

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