

Bowling Boccia on to the map at the University of Lincoln



UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

Marc Blackman¹ & Adam Evans¹

¹Department of Sport, Coaching and Exercise Science,
University of Lincoln, UK

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE:

-People who have a disability have traditionally been excluded from different aspects of society like work, education and sports (DePauw and Gavron, 2005)

- In recent decades there has been a dramatic change in the extent of this exclusion, as legislation, interventions and programmes have increased the amount of opportunities available to those with a disability (DePauw and Gavron, 2005).

-Even with these changes in recent years the University of Lincoln still provide little sports provision for disability sport and its followers.

AIM:

-The project aimed to increase the participation in Boccia amongst University students, in an attempt to creating the conditions necessary to start up a club.

METHODOLOGY:

-The project took on a reverse integration approach with several performance indicators being measured:

-Increase Awareness of Boccia– Awareness amongst students to be increased.

-Programme Evaluation– How efficient and appropriate was the Boccia project?

-Conduct a Needs Analysis– To ascertain the need for Boccia at the University.

-Qualified Officials– The training of officials within the sport and exercise student body.

-Run a Showcase Event – To organise and run a showcase event to the University students.

- The project adopted a reverse integration approach as it can create an equitable platform for socialisation and competition (Spencer-Cavaliere and Peers, 2011)

- 10 semi-structured interviews were conducted with participants that attended the event. 30 questionnaires augmented interview data.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION:

-Increase Awareness of Boccia

Participants who attending the event, felt that it had increased their awareness than previous to the event.

Participants that were interviewed highlighted that if it wasn't for the event they wouldn't have had a chance to participate in Boccia.

-Programme Evaluation

The project has increased the awareness of Boccia amongst the students that attended the showcase event, which initial evidence supports that more needs to be done to reach a larger portion of the student populous.

Some assumptions made within the programme logic model were incorrect, which meant areas were incomplete or unfeasible.

-Needs Analysis

The needs analysis showed that only 1.6% of the student population currently participates within sport, but 7.6% would like to participate in boccia on a weekly basis.

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Boccia & Indoor Bowls

-Showcase Event

The event was organised and ran at a convenient and practical time to allow students a prime opportunity to attend.

The event allowed all students; disabled and non-disabled, a chance to take part in a Boccia competition.

The event enabled the project to increase awareness of Boccia amongst both disabled and non-disabled target groups.

Although that the needs analysis showed that 7.6% of those surveyed wanted to participate in Boccia weekly, only 15.2% feel into the category of physical impairment, which the sport is targeting.

This being the case, the reverse integration approach was successful in changing both disabled and non-disabled participants' perceptions of this disability sports.

Overall the project increased the awareness of Boccia in the short term, but if Boccia is to be bowled on to the map more must be done, with the long term goal being a club and society being established.

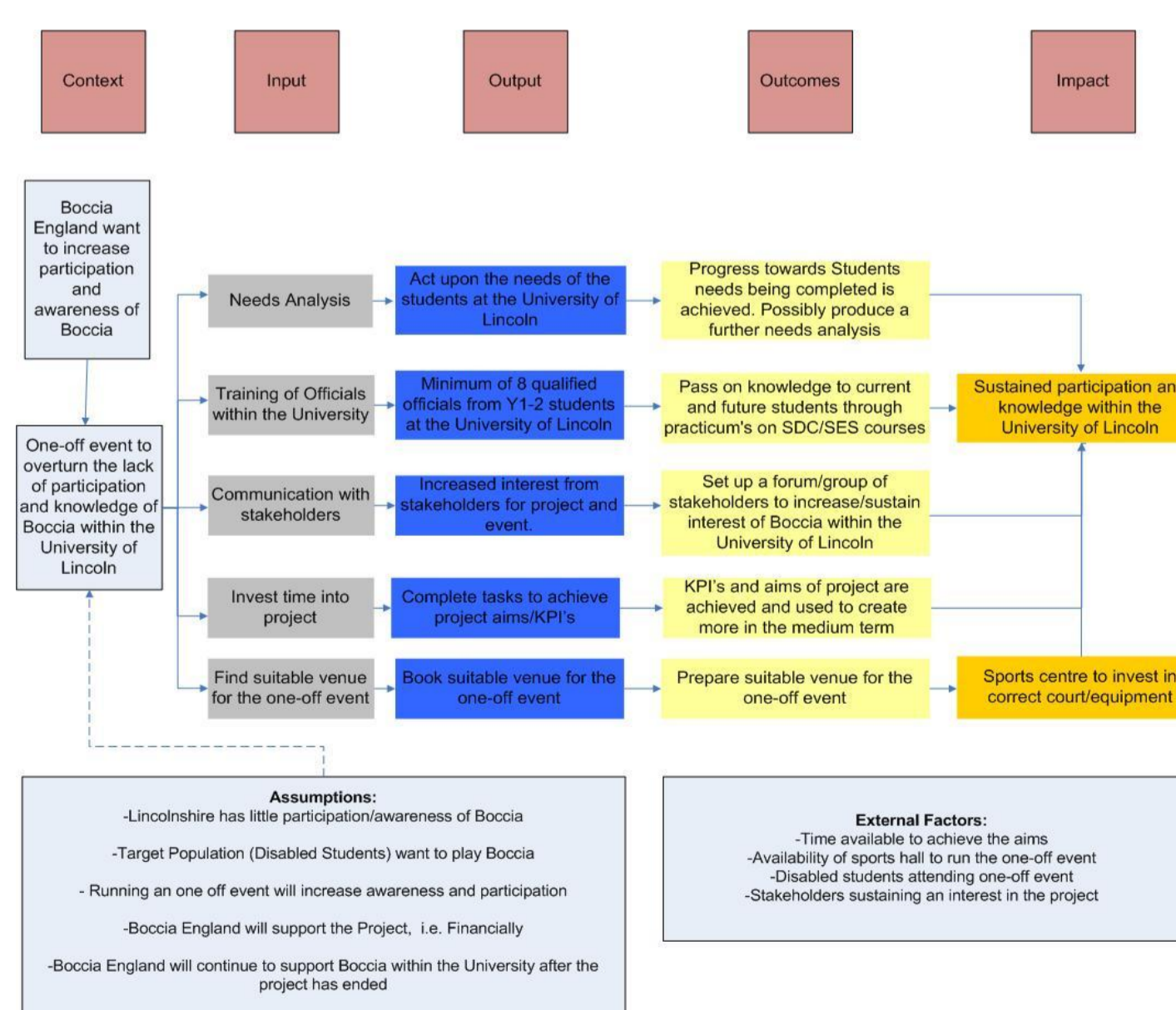


Figure 1: Project Logic Model

REFERENCES:

- DePauw, K.P. and Gavron, S.J. (2005) *Disability sport / Karen P. DePauw and Susan J. Gavron*. Champaign, Ill. Leeds Human Kinetics 2005; 2nd ed.
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