

The value of intersectoral partnerships in sport

Promoting sport participation, physical activity, social capital and mental health through a sport development program in disadvantaged communities

BACKGROUND

The main task of the sport sector is to enable **EVERY INDIVIDUAL** to participate in sport (Council of Europe, 2001).



The sport sector

struggles to reach ethnic minorities and people of lower social class.

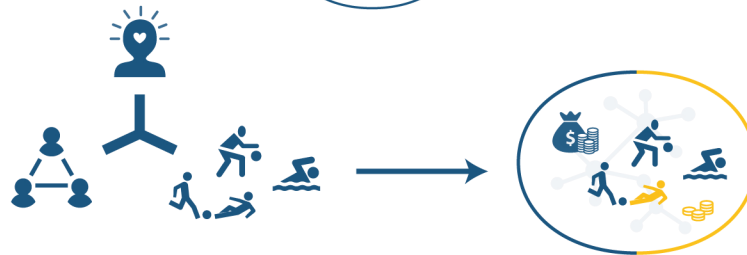
Lower social class

Health, social and other organizations

use sport to reach these same target groups in order to improve physical, social and mental health.

PARADOX

SOLUTION: to resolve this paradox, intersectoral collaborations are needed.



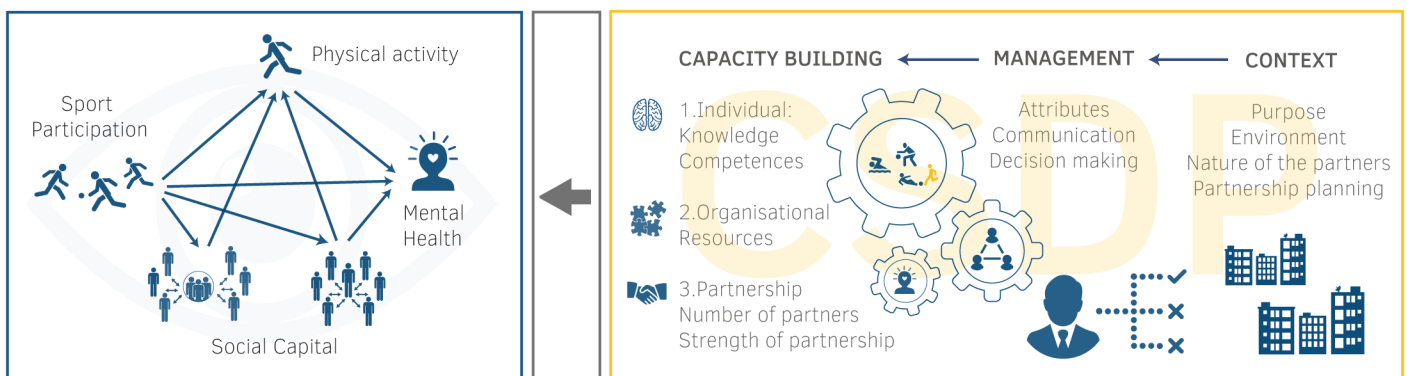
METHOD: THREE STUDIES



AIM OF THIS DISSERTATION:

To provide insights into if and how intersectoral partnerships can create value to promote sport participation, physical activity, social capital and mental health through a

COMMUNITY SPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CSDP)



1. How does sport relate to physical, social and mental health?

2. Can intersectoral partnerships resolve the sport delivery paradox?

3. What are the key success factors of intersectoral partnerships that create more knowledge, resources and build stronger partnerships?

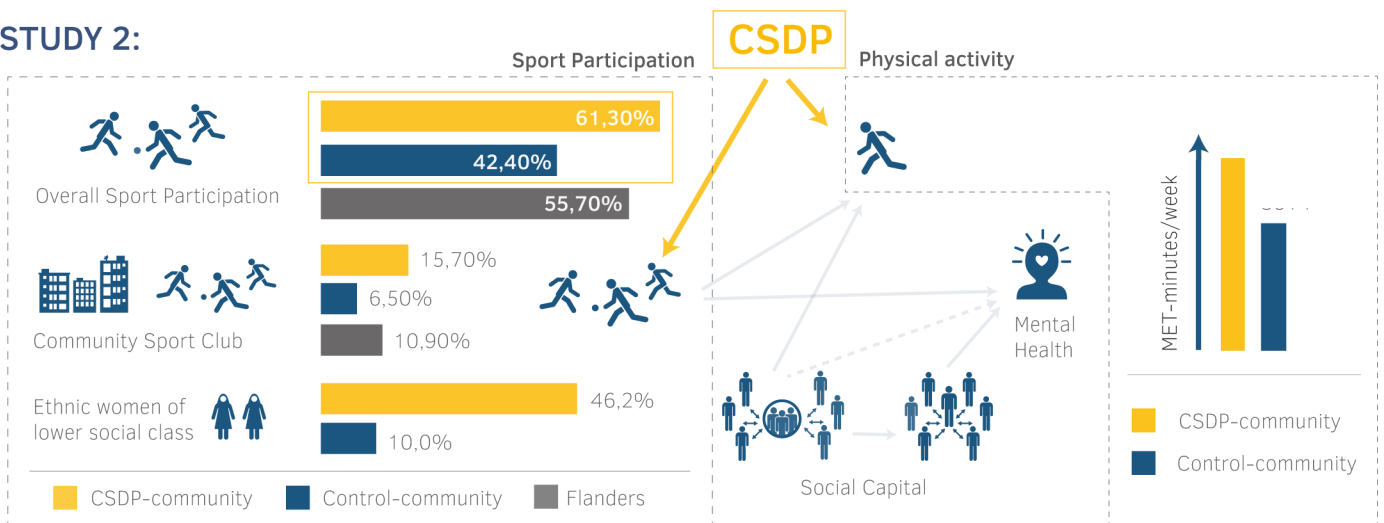
STUDY 1:

THE MORE SOMEONE SPORTS, THE HIGHER HIS/HER LEVEL OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND MENTAL HEALTH, BUT NOT HIS /HER SOCIAL CAPITAL. Sport participation was only related to social capital if the sport took place in a social context with neighbours, friends or family



Marlier *et al.* (2015). Interrelation of Sport Participation, Physical Activity, Social Capital and Mental Health in Disadvantaged Communities: A SEM-Analysis. *PLOS One*

STUDY 2:

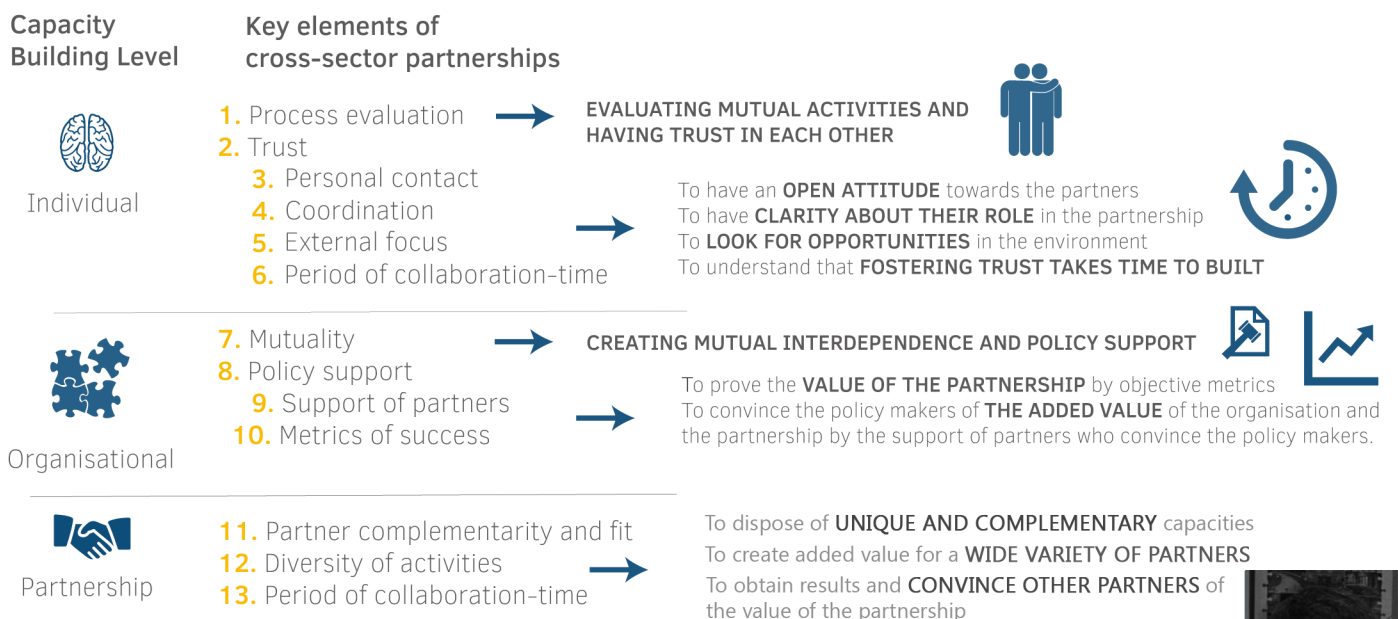


Quantitative: **MORE PEOPLE ENGAGE FOR A LONGER TIME** in sport and physical activity **IN CSDP - COMMUNITIES.** This is also the case for ethnic minorities and people of lower social class (not for social capital and mental health).

Qualitative: **CSDP FILLS A GAP IN THE SPORTS DELIVERY SYSTEM.** The CSDP connects sport organizations with health, social, cultural and youth organizations. These links enable a sport offer tailored to the needs of the residents and organizations in the communities.

Marlier *et al.* (2014). A Capacity Building Approach to Increase Sports Participation in Disadvantaged Urban Communities: A Multilevel Analysis. *Journal of Urban Health*

STUDY 3: 13 KEY SUCCESS FACTORS of intersectoral partnerships that build capacity at different levels:



Marlier *et al.* (2015). Capacity building through cross-sector partnerships: a multiple case study of a sport program in disadvantaged communities in Belgium. *BMC Public Health*



Do you want to learn to collaborate better and to get more out of sport in your community? Try I-SAM, our interactive collaboration game. Contact: mathieu.marlier@ugent.be

