It’s time to tally the score

Editorial by Rev. Dr. Makenkesi Stofile, Minister of Sport and Recreation South Africa

The 2010 FIFA World Cup™ is now over – it’s time to tally the score. The South African Government invested heavily in among others, the construction and renovation of roads, airports, public transport and in sport facilities such as the 10 World Cup stadia. “This is an investment that will benefit South Africa for decades to come.”

In addition to the infrastructure investment, partnerships that successfully help build a case for sport as a tool to address issues of National Importance, were formed prior to the World Cup. Our partnership with the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Union, represented by GTZ through the project Youth Development through Football, presented an opportunity to intensify and expand the work government is already undertaking with various sectors of society to ensure that we achieve our strategic priorities. One such priority is youth development, where the focus is on enhancing life skills, education and training, youth entrepreneurship, social cohesion and nation building.

Some of the success factors that are highlighted by the partnership are: strengthening of our Mass Participation Programme, which we hope will enhance the development of sport as well as the development through sport principles. The implementation of the International Football Village throughout the duration of the 2010 FIFA World Cup, as well as the Africa Youth Programme contributed to the principles of using sport as a tool for development. The World Cup legacy moving forward will be to intensify the implementation of programmes addressing such issues.

Last but not least let me take this opportunity to thank the German Federal Government and the EU for their willingness to engage with Sport and Recreation South Africa on the progressive achievement of our key priorities. However, we have noted that the Youth Development through Football project will phase out in 2012. It is our hope that this will not be the case, and that Germany and the EU will support the project beyond 2012 as there is still a long way to go, before we achieve our goals.

We as Sport and Recreation South Africa look forward to a successful partnership, as we aim to sustain the legacy of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.
NEWSLETTER: JULY 2010

Achieving sustainability through networking initiatives

Pretoria, 16 April 2010. More than 70 participants from approximately 40 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in the field of sport and development took part in the three-day ‘Southern Africa Easter Meeting’ of the Sport for Social Change Network (SSCN) between 14 and 16 April 2010. The participants were from South Africa and other YDF partner countries of the Southern African Development Community such as Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia. The key topics of the meeting were the importance of accountability in sport for social-change initiatives and how to take the network forward in terms of concepts and models aimed at sustainability. Discussions also focused on preparing members for the time both during and after the World Cup event. Professional financial management in member organisations and the acquisition of potential investors for promising social-enterprise ideas were further topics. The Easter Meeting 2010 was the second network meeting to be held after the SSCN Southern Africa Summer Conference in November 2009.

In 2007 Nike, in collaboration with other organisations, created ‘Sport for Social Change Network Hubs’ all over the world. In 2009 YDF and Nike entered into an integrated Public -Private Partnership (PPP) to support the SSCN in South Africa. Both YDF and Nike use sport as a catalyst for positive change in young people and their communities. The hubs form a global network which, collectively, aims to coordinate and support key players in the sport-for-social-change movement. They serve as a mechanism for reaching people at grass-roots level, covering a vast range of activities such as product donation, social ventures, capacity-building and other services. Supporting networking activities of development through sport initiatives is one of YDF’s core activities. Thus, the PPP forms an important part of the implementation of key project strategies and activities.

Both Nike and YDF provide direct input to the network and its members in their fields of expertise, thereby contributing to the further development of existing concepts and the sustainability of NGOs and programmes beyond 2010. YDF places special emphasis on linking NGOs with relevant governmental institutions and programmes aimed at creating a robust network between African countries participating in youth-development-through-sport initiatives. The network facilitates capacity-building and the exchange of both experience for mutual learning, and advice.

On Youth Day, 16 June 2010, SSCN intends to facilitate the foundation of the African Youth Sport Forum as part of the Ke Nako Africa initiative at the International Football Village. It will consist of representatives from the SSCN and the YDF partner countries. The African Youth Sport Forum is intended to provide a platform for discussion, debate and decision-making to the youth of the relevant countries, and will form a component of the SSCN.
YDF welcomed Bavarian Sport Committee in Klipkruisfontein

Klipkruisfontein, 27 April 2010. National Freedom Day welcomed some 20 members of the Committee on Education, Youth and Sport of the Bavarian Parliament with rain and chilly African autumn weather. However, it could not prevent them from visiting the YDF project at Soshanguve’s Klipkruisfontein Community Center northwest of Pretoria. The delegation was accompanied by the German Ambassador to South Africa, Dieter Haller, the Director of the German Society for the Promotion of Democracy and International Law, Thilo Braun, and the Press Officer of UNICEF Germany, Helga Kuhn. The Federal State of Bavaria partners with Gauteng Province in the ‘Schools for Africa’ project. Delegates had come to South Africa to familiarise themselves with the Province’s readiness for the World Cup and were especially interested in efforts that assure the involvement of youths in World Cup related development projects and the sustainability of the relevant investments.

Surrounded by laughing kids and the sound of the football kicking the wooden floors of the community center, the guests alternated between stations, where girls and boys were engaged in life skills, football and environmental educational games, showcasing YDF’s approach on education through soccer. The event was organised by YDF’s non-governmental strong partners Altus Sport Vuma and Green Feet.

Having tested his football skills in a streetsoccer game with fair play rules against youth leaders from Altus Sport Vuma, Hans-Ulrich Pfaffmann, the Chairperson of the Committee, changed back to a serious politician and pointed out the importance and uniqueness of the work presented by Altus Sport Director, Gert Potgieter. This week’s Soccer Friday will see the participating youth leaders in red and white ‘Bayern München’ T-Shirts instead of Bafana Bafana’s yellow and green, because this is how the delegation thanked them for sacrificing Freedom Day for their performance at Klipskruisfontein. The event ended in a lunch at ‘Vicks’ Township restaurant, where the guests tried local specialties and exchanged experiences with the young leaders, who are running the YDF activities in Gauteng Province.
NEWSLETTER: JULY 2010

A Dream Come True

Dona's Mates' Youth Development Project will soon have its own pitch

Orange Farm, 11 May 2010. Dona's Mates' youth development project will soon be able to empower the youths from the community on a proper pitch. After two years of hard work and intense discussions with various state authorities, Dona's Mates Founder and Chairperson James ‘Maradona’ Shabangu received a 99-year lease agreement for land in the Orange Farm community. The title deed will be held by the Gauteng Provincial Government and the Dona’s Mates’ Youth Development Project. Construction of the street football pitch will begin in May. The pitch is supposed to be ready in June, just in time for the opening match of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.

"Accomplishment would have little meaning if it were too easy to come by. The dreams that are difficult to reach are the dreams that have the most value, for they compel you to stretch your abilities, your knowledge and your expectations. The goals that are the most ambitious will bring out the best in you; the objectives that require the most effort are the ones that will bring lasting value." This train of thought has guided James ‘Maradona’ Shabangu in realising his dream of leaving a legacy to the children, the youth and the Orange Farm community at large. The project that cooperates with the ‘Youth Development through Football’ (YDF) project of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) was founded in 1999 with a view to shaping sports development in the community.

In 2008 Dona's Mates' Youth Development Project submitted a proposal to Sport and Recreation South Africa for consideration as one of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ legacy projects within the Ministry. It proved to be a wise move, as Dona's Mates has now been informed that its proposal was successful: A street football pitch will be built on behalf of Sport and Recreation South Africa, funded by both the German Government and the European Union. Dona's Mates is also looking for stakeholders and partners from South African companies to complete a fully-fledged sporting facility for its project and community. For James ‘Maradona’ Shabangu, this is an exciting time: “We will have activities running throughout the World Cup and I will do my best to make sure that all the players in our structure have the opportunity to watch 2010 FIFA World Cup™ matches live at the Gauteng Province venues.”
Ground has been broken!

Construction of new pitch starts in Orange

Orange Farm, 18 May 2010. The ground-breaking ceremony for the building of a 20x40-metre street soccer pitch took place in Orange Farm on 18 May 2010. Alongside architects Celliers Greyvenstein (Pty) Ltd and building contractor Trompie Civils CC, representatives of all involved partners were present. The pitch is being funded by the European Union and will be used for Youth Development through Football (YDF) activities in Orange Farm. Dona's Mates - a non-governmental organisation that partners with the YDF project - received the right to use the land for 99 years from the South African Government and will run its activities on the pitch. Dona’s Mates founder and chairperson, James ‘Maradona’ Shabangu, was over the moon: “We’ve never had such a facility before. Now we’ll be playing 5-a-side and 7-a-side matches here, bringing excitement and positive attitudes to the kids and youths of the community.”

The pitch is set to be completed within the next three weeks. “We are planning to have activities on the pitch during the FIFA World Cup 2010,” explains Vumisa Mayisela of YDF. High-ranking politicians and journalists from all over the world are also expected to attend the opening ceremony, which is set for 11 June 2010. The project in Orange Farm is being implemented by GTZ on behalf of the German Government and the European Union, in partnership with the South African Department of Sport and Recreation.

Three weeks later

Orange Farm, 8 June 2010. Just three weeks after the ground-breaking ceremony for the 20x40-metre street soccer pitch took place in Orange Farm on 18 May 2010 the artificial turf gets unreeled. The new pitch will be ready in time for the World Cup.
Training coaches as role models

31 newly trained YDF instructors received their license

Pretoria, 28 May 2010. 31 instructors from all over South Africa and other African partner countries of the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project received their “YDF Football & Life Skills Instructor License” after a one week workshop in Pretoria. They will in future train coaches to also be role models and social workers to also be coaches.

The new instructors are:

- Abena Akyiaa Anim-Adjey (Right to play, Ghana)
- Anele Mafoco (Chrysalis Academy, Western Cape, South Africa)
- Annie Namukanga (EDU Sport Foundation, Zambia)
- Babazile Langa (Swaziland National Sports Council, Swaziland)
- Bajith Panday (Eduskills Raimbow, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Benedict Saporong (Play Soccer Ghana, Ghana)
- David Notoane (Eduskills Raimbow, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Dimphe Masi (South East District Youth Empowerment League, SEDYEL, Botswana)
- Elina Lugambo Petrus (National Football Association, Namibia)
- Frank Schoeman (Eduskills Raimbow, Eastern Cape, South Africa)
- Johannes Malefetsane Phatlane (Donas Mates, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Jordaan Hinana (Soccer 4 Hope, Western Cape, South Africa)
- Joseph William Jacobs (South African Sports Coalition, SASCOL, Western Cape, South Africa)
- Lehlohonolo Thotanyana (Lesotho Football Association, LEFA, Lesotho)
- Marcello M. Wakuwudo (National Football Association, Namibia)
- Marope Mantlana (Eduskills Raimbow, Limpopo, South Africa)
- Mavis Ovy Mnisi (Bula Diligoro Primary, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Mbulelo Mochotchoko (Kick 4 Life, Lesotho)
- Mpo Ramela (Altus Sport, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Mzwandile Faas (Indoor Sport Code Marketing Academy, Eastern Cape, South Africa)
- Philisiwe Mhlanga (Swaziland National Sports Council, Swaziland)
- Sadick da Silva (Cape Flats Soccer Development, Western Cape, South Africa)
- Simphiwe Ganyaza (Umzingisi Foundation, Eastern Cape, South Africa)
- Sookame Moussue (Department of Education, Gauteng, South Africa)
- Thembani Loi (Umzingisi Foundation, Eastern Cape, South Africa)
- Zolile Mpobole (Eduskills Raimbow, Eastern Cape, South Africa)
- Zimashile Hundson Mati (DECAS, Western Cape, South Africa)

Photo: © GTZ/YDF
The 31 instructors gather during a practical workshop session with kids from the Erasmia Primary School.
Kick-off for the Coach Manual

First instructors' workshop for the YDF Toolkit took place in Pretoria

Pretoria, 28 May 2010. Joseph Jacobs has coached approximately 1000 football trainers in the past two years for the South African Sports Coalition (SASCOL), coaching which has taken place mainly in the Eastern Cape. Jacobs explains his motivation to become a YDF Toolkit instructor: “I have kept an eye on the people in my community. Their love for football alongside the growing impact of illnesses and social problems inspired me to become active in the field of coaching.” His approach is in line with that of the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project and is reflected in his coaching objectives: “As a coach I am able to reshape my society from the soccer pitch by helping the youth become strong personalities who are capable of making the right decisions in life.”

Joseph Jacobs is one of 31 instructors who attended a week-long toolkit workshop in Pretoria. His fellow instructors hailed both from South Africa and other African partner countries of the YDF project such as Namibia, Zambia, Ghana and Lesotho. “It was amazing to see that despite all our differences we have common goals and passions that unite us: our love for football and the shared idea of development through sport,” commented Jacobs on the time spent together at the workshop.

The 5-day workshop took place against the backdrop of the finalisation of the “YDF Manual for Coach Training” - a guideline to educate football coaches who want to use children's enthusiasm for football to impart social skills. It teaches methodological and didactical basics and shows coaches how to become proficient in their work. “During the workshop the trainers familiarised themselves with the manual and we taught them how to work with it,” explained Henning Schick, a YDF team member in charge of developing the toolkit.

Since 2009 Schick has worked on standardising and recording successful approaches in the field of youth development through football. Two manuals were the result of this work: The ‘Manual for Coach Training’ is for training instructors who in turn are going to train coaches. The ‘Manual for Coaches’ is targeted at coaches who work with the youth and explains how best to combine football with life-skills lessons. The first workshop in Pretoria was a good opportunity to see if the Manual for Coach Training would stand its ground in practice. “The Manual is not a fixed tool but rather an ongoing process in which we benefit from the coaches’ input and are able to improve and amend the manual according to their experiences,” commented Schick, explaining the approach behind the toolkit.

According to Jacobs, the workshop far exceeded expectations: “The manual provided me and my fellow coaches with new and helpful insights on the technical aspects of coaching and details on how to convey life skills within our coaching sessions.”

Further workshops will be held after the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.
No golden shoe but a lot of fun!

YDF team reaches finals at Diplomatic Football Tournament

Pretoria, 5 June 2010. The German Embassy and the German School Pretoria jointly organised the 7th Diplomatic Football Tournament which took place on 5 June 2010. 32 teams participated, among them YDF’s partner Sport & Recreation South Africa (SRSA). Each team was allocated a country participating in the upcoming World Cup; YDF represented England and Serbia. Last year the YDF team took home the trophy in the form of a ‘Golden Shoe’; this year team member Allan Boesak expressed his confidence in their ability and “the will to give our best to bring the trophy home again”. YDF/Serbia made it to the finals where they succumbed to the powerful Mamelodi All-Stars team. During the awards ceremony, Martin Schaefer from the German Embassy credited YDF as the only mixed-gender team of the tournament. A thoroughly fatigued but happy Allan Boesak called the event a day by stating that “this was a nice opportunity for us to come together and celebrate before the World Cup finally kicks off.”
The other face of South Africa

On the sidelines of the World Cup and in the townships with YDF

Do you have tickets for the WC opening match, with South Africa pitched against Mexico on 11 June, but have no plans yet for 10 or 13 June 2010? Then come with us to Hillbrow in the Central Business District of Johannesburg. This area of the city has high rates of crime and violence and at night is regarded as a 'no-go area'. Together with non-governmental organisations and churches, we are working with youths in Hillbrow, many of whom are 'street children'. Through the game of football and through cultural activities, we are conveying values to them, boosting their self-esteem and encouraging them to assume responsibility for their area of Johannesburg.

As YDF we are offering a comprehensive programme for media representatives and representatives from the social, political and economic arenas during the FIFA Football World Cup 2010™ in four South African provinces and in Lesotho. The projects impressively reveal how values can be conveyed to youths through the sport of football, and how they can be inspired to engage with burning issues in their communities. Discussions will be possible throughout with the people we reach with our projects and whose living conditions we wish to improve in a sustainable manner.

Detailed information comprises:

- a project overview by province; and
- an overview of the content of the respective visitors’ programme in project order.

We would be delighted if one or two interesting topics were to catch your eye, and if this first football world cup on African soil were to allow you time to enjoy an exciting alternative programme offering deep insights into the country and into the living conditions of its people. We would be glad to provide you with further information on this at any time.
NEWSLETTER: JULY 2010

Six days to go!

Zambian-German Friendship Tournament – YDF Quote

Zambia's Sanitation Challenge Cup

Lusaka, 5 June 2010. Zambia and Germany look back on an excellent long-term relationship. For more than 10 years Zambians and Germans, in the form of private and public entities, have been working together to improve living conditions in Zambia with a focus on establishing cultural relations. Currently, the most important triviality in Zambian-German relations – and the most passionate to boot – is the Zambian-German Friendship Tournament. It is particularly important with only six days to go until the kick-off to the 2010 FIFA World Cup™. Everybody can sense the worldwide football fever, even more so in Africa, where the cup rightly drives the nations into a frenzy.

In Zambia, GTZ's Youth Development through Football (YDF) project is implemented by the GTZ Water Sector Reform Programme in partnership with the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO), the Development Trust Fund (DTF) and sports partners EduSport Foundation and Breakthrough Sports. Naturally, the 2010 Zambian-German Friendship Tournament centred on clean water and hygiene and was celebrated as a 'YDF Sanitation Challenge'. Girls and boys aged between 10 and 12 years participated in the football tournament, which was jointly opened by the Zambian Deputy Minister of Sport and Recreation, Maynard Misapa, and the German Ambassador to Zambia, Frank Mayke, with commentary provided by Zambian national football team player and YDF Zambia ambassador, William Njovu. Winning teams of established football leagues in the Development Trust Fund (DTF) sanitation project areas were invited to compete and use the opportunity to learn more about water and sanitation-related health and hygiene and other life skills: "We are learning to take our own lives 'in hand' and shape them positively". Particularly enjoyable was the performance of the YDF sanitation song by Zambian rapper ‘Daliso’; hundreds of passionate children, the GTZ team, as well as NWASCO and DTF staff joined in the singing.

It's easy to prevent many diseases if you follow simple hygiene regimes.
Fight crime, give the youth a future!

Hillbrow, 6 June 2010. Hillbrow, located in the city centre of Johannesburg, is well known for its high crime rate; yet it is here that Patricia Msebele coordinates the Ekhaya Housing Association. The association represents 12 property owners who joined forces to improve the living conditions of tenants living adjacent to Ekhaya Park. "Our involvement has definitely made a difference," explains Patricia. "Not only do we focus on safety and security, but we also want to engage the youth in meaningful activities. That is why we joined YDF." It is the youths who suffer most from the conditions in Hillbrow. Many of them are unemployed and lacking future prospects and YDF provides them with skills that enable them to make the right choices in life. In cooperation with strong partners Altus Sport Vuma and Karos&Kambro as well as the Ekhaya Housing Association, other NGOs and churches, YDF is offering a programme aimed at imparting values in these youths and strengthening their self-awareness through soccer and cultural activities. "We want them to assume responsibility for their community," says Christiane Frische, explaining one of the objectives of YDF.

Sunday, 6 June 2010 was a special day for Patricia Msebele and her partners, Housing Manager John Gologo and Security Guard Ndleleni Sibanda. Together with representatives from YDF and youth leaders from Altus Sport Vuma, they welcomed South African-born soccer player Sean William Dundee and the German TV team of RTL. Dundee began his football career in South Africa with local team Bayview Durban. The striker moved to Germany and played for Karlsruher SC among others, finally signing for AmaZulu in August 2008. It was Dundee's first visit to Hillbrow and he seemed to enjoy the training session as much as the youths did. He told them "not to lose track of their goal in life" and explained how he had focused on training instead of "hanging around" without a purpose.

YDF combines football with life skills, and best practices are recorded in two manuals: the 'Manual for Coach Instructors' and the 'Manual for Coaches'. Henning Schick, responsible for the development of the manuals at YDF, and Sean Dundee jointly handed over the 'Manual for Coaches' to youth leaders Timothy Rees-Gibs and Carol Morris, who passionately and successfully coach the 'Hillbrow Kids' at Ekhaya Park.
Football is about teamplay and not individual profiling

YDF’s World Cup Programme reaches the Hibiscus Coast in KZN

Gamalakhe, 12 June 2010. “I’m very proud that my team showed its full range of skills and was able to win this tournament!” Tino Ndwalane is over the moon. The 27-year-old from the township of Gamalakhe is a volunteer coach for the Active Community Club (ACC). On Saturday, his team of under-15 boys won the final of the ACC Children’s League at the Gamalakhe College of Higher Education. It is here, 130 kilometres away from Durban, on a hill surrounded by the beautiful coastline of KwaZulu-Natal in the so-called Hibiscus Coast area, that the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and the Australian Sports Commission jointly organised and funded a soccer tournament that combined football with life-skills sessions. The event formed part of YDF’s provincial World Cup Programme and was held just a day before Germany took on Australia for their first World Cup match in Durban. The tournament marked the closure of the ACC Children’s League and was combined with life-skills sessions focusing on HIV/AIDS awareness.

The provincial World Cup Programme features events and tournaments all over South Africa and showcases the variety of YDF’s partner organisations. In KwaZulu-Natal, YDF identified the ACC as the local implementing partner. “We try to involve youths who have failed to pass matric or could not find a job. They work as coaches and volunteers for our sports programme and gain new self-esteem out of it. Being trained as coaches helps them to take responsibility for their own lives,” explains Doris Dlamini, Club Coordinator for the Gamalakhe ACC. Furthermore, the ACC aims to deliver sporting activities to build healthy communities. It is linked to and run by the Eastern Cape-based non-governmental organisation ‘Imvomvo’. The NGO uses sport for youth development and as a vehicle to convey life skills. It is funded by the Australian Sports Outreach Programme (ASOP) – an Australian Government-funded programme and YDF partner. “Our partnership with the Australian Sports Commission is a good example of donor harmonisation: the Australians conducted scientific research to identify the needs of the communities and the impact of programmes, while YDF capacitated the coaches,” explains YDF team member Melanie Langefeld, describing the cooperation which led to the organisation of the final league tournament on 12 June in Gamalakhe.

Kate Ellis, Australian Minister for Youth Sport and Early Childhood Development, attended the Gamalakhe event together with Australian High Commissioner, Ann Harrap, and local authorities such as local councillors Doctor Njoko, Nonhlalha Madlala and Police Commissioner Captain Zondo. Ellis expressed her gratitude towards all the volunteers and helpers “for organising such a special day and putting so much effort into it”, and joined the youths attending the tournament in a rendition of the Diski Dance.

Lungelo Madlala was one of the approximately 300 participating youths. The 17-year-old wants to become a professional soccer player and is convinced that the Netherlands will win the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ “because they understand that you have to support the team and that it is more important to play together than to outshine the other players!”
KwaDukuza, 13 June 2010. The Youth Development through Football (YDF) project showcased its toolkit during the opening of a pitch in KwaDukuza that was financed by the German Development Bank (KfW). The event took place at the Melville Recreational Park, approximately 50 kilometres from Durban. 100 football pitches will be built in South Africa by 2011 as part of KfW's 'Youth Development against Violence through Sport' programme. KfW is providing funds in the amount of €4.5 million (R45 million) for the construction of these pitches through the South African Department for Sport & Recreation (SRSA). The pitches will serve as training grounds to teach the youth the skills of fair play and conflict resolution without resorting to violence.

German Ambassador to South Africa, Dieter Haller, and YDF team member, Olaf Handloegten, congratulated Harald Gerding, Country Director: KfW Development Bank, on the construction of the pitch. Local authorities and journalists from Germany attended the event, which took place only hours before Germany played Australia in nearby Durban.
Is the ball round?

'Science of Soccer' lounge opens at Sci-Bono in Johannesburg

Johannesburg, 15 June 2010. "We want to get the youth interested in science and use soccer as a vehicle to motivate them," says Derek Hanekom, Deputy Minister of the Department of Science & Technology, explaining the backdrop to ‘The Science of Soccer’.

The exhibition was launched on 15 June 2010 at the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre in Johannesburg. It aims to use the hype of the World Cup as an opportunity to engage school learners, teachers and the general public in an educational programme that reveals the mathematics, science and technology of the game of soccer. "We have to believe in our youths the way we believe in Bafana Bafana, who have improved tremendously. I’m very confident that our learners will excel in science as they do in soccer if we succeed in motivating and coaching them," added Hanekom.

‘The Science of Soccer’ exhibition was realised by the Goethe-Institut South Africa in partnership with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and the German Embassy, Pretoria. The exhibition is open to the public seven days a week from 9 am – 7 pm and will run until January 2011.

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'Umzingisi – persevere and you will succeed'

YDF funds holiday camps in Port Elizabeth

Port Elizabeth, 17 June 2010. In 2005 Nick Mould, a young professional from the UK, took a gap from his work life and ended up on the shores of South Africa in the Eastern Cape. The region attracts many visitors owing to its natural beauty; nevertheless, it faces many challenges, the province still being one of the poorest in South Africa with one of the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rates in the country. It was here in Port Elizabeth that Mould volunteered as a sports coach and quickly became aware of the lack of resources on the one hand, and the benefit for the community on the other: "Most schools in disadvantaged areas are unable to afford extra-curricular sporting activities, but at the same time, it is sport that thrills and motivates the youths." Acknowledging this need, he founded a non-governmental organisation (NGO) called the 'Umzingisi Foundation'. Umzingisi is a Xhosa term meaning "if you persevere you will succeed". He set up a volunteer programme with the UK aimed at boys and girls who wish to take a gap between high school and university. "The volunteers come for three months and work as sports coaches in the communities. At the same time, they get to know South Africa and its diversity," explains Mould, describing the concept. Five years later his idea has developed into a success story: he now employs 21 locals and the number of volunteers averages out at approximately 250 a year. Most of them are from the UK but some also come from Germany and other European countries.

One of these volunteers is 19-year-old Emily Steel who arrived in April 2010 and loves working with the kids "because they are so enthusiastic and willing to learn." Emily, who played Lacrosse for the English National Team, wants to study Sports Management and is amazed at "what sport actually can do for the development of the youths." It is in this respect that the programme taps into the same spirit as the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project, which became one of Umzingisi's main partners in 2009 and brought in the football component. Together with Volkswagen South Africa, YDF has funded three soccer buses that are used by the NGO to reach out to the rural communities around Port Elizabeth. "We go to the schools and offer football sessions combined with life skills - mainly using the YDF manual and focusing on HIV/AIDS prevention," says Mould. The soccer buses cover an area of 80 kilometres around Port Elizabeth, and are also used for the holiday programmes that Umzingisi offers apart from its extra-curricular sporting activities. Umzingisi is running holiday programmes in different areas during the World Cup, for example: "The holidays are a time when children are typically vulnerable to 'at-risk' behaviour such as alcohol and drug abuse, crime or unhealthy behaviour, as well as child trafficking. Our camps provide a safe environment to take children away from such negative influences and ensure that their nutritional needs are met during this period," says Mould, highlighting the key reasons for the programme.

Olwethu Jack is one of the teenagers attending a holiday camp. The 16-year-old is happy about the programme "because there is nothing else to do in my area." A winning team is identified at the end of each holiday camp, with all winners participating in the big finals of the holiday camps to be held on 10 July.
The Ulutsha Soccer Busses are here!

VW and YDF sponsor buses to promote the youth in the Eastern Cape

Port Elizabeth, 18 June 2010. "Each bus reaches 12 schools per week. With the three new buses, we can cover 110 schools per year in an area spanning about 80 kilometres around Port Elizabeth. Per coaching session, which comprises at least 12 hours a week, we address 200 to 250 kids, which boils down to 202,000 youths per year!" Nick Mould is ecstatic about the numbers. Mould is the founder and director of the non-governmental organisation 'Umzingisi' that uses sport to educate youths and address issues such as HIV/AIDS. On 18 June 2010 he received three new soccer buses to spread the programme throughout the Eastern Cape.

The launch of the soccer buses forms part of a Public-Private Partnership between YDF and Volkswagen South Africa that focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention. The three Ulutsha buses will be used by Umzingisi to involve rural communities in YDF's programme of youth development through sport. "Illnesses, unemployment, malnutrition, violence, alcoholism and extreme poverty are still forcing many of Nelson Mandela Bay's estimated 1.3 million inhabitants to live in critical conditions," explains Mould. As in other parts of the country, many people are infected with HIV or are living with AIDS, and nearly 60 per cent of the people in the townships are unemployed. It is against this backdrop that VW South Africa, YDF and the programme 'A Chance To Play' of the Volkswagen Group Works Council have partnered to support Umzingisi.

The official launch of the soccer buses was accompanied by speeches given by Dr Martin Winterkorn, Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG (VW Germany); German Ambassador to South Africa, Dieter Haller; GTZ's Country Director South Africa, Peter Conze; and YDF Project Manager, Gerald Guskowski. The launch featured a football tournament and life-skills sessions run by Umzingisi as well as cultural performances by local artists. Many high-ranking guests such as David Powels, Managing Director of VW South Africa, other board members of VW and local authorities took part in the event.

A highlight for the participating youths was when they received 12 World Cup tickets for the match pitching Germany against Serbia. The match took place at PE's Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium the same day. The tickets were awarded to those players who exhibited the most fair play during the holiday programme, which Umzingisi is running throughout the World Cup.

For more information, please see:

- Ostkap: Drei Soccer-Busse sorgen für AIDS-Aufklärung
- Eastern Cape: Three soccer buses cater for education on HIV/AIDS

Photo: © GTZ/YDF
Dr Martin Winterkorn, Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG (VW Germany), unveils one of the soccer buses.

Photo: © GTZ/YDF
Country Director of GTZ South Africa, Peter Conze, expresses his well-wishes during the launch of the soccer buses in Port Elizabeth.

Photo: © GTZ/YDF
And the winners are...! - 12 boys and girls received tickets to watch Germany vs Serbia live at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Port Elizabeth.

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NEWSLETTER: JULY 2010

Football for Peace

YDF partner from Rwanda visits Hillbrow

Hillbrow, 21 June 2010. "We use football as a tool for reconciliation," says Gerd Scheuerpflug, coordinator of the Civil Peace Service (CPS) in Rwanda, closely watching his team engage youths from a YDF holiday camp in a forum theatre performance on a pitch in Ekhaya Park in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. The visit to the YDF holiday camp forms part of a journey through South Africa to meet up with partners and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in the field of youth development through football. Scheuerpflug’s team comprises nine actors, peace activists and sports coaches from Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda and Congo. Some of them are members of ‘Esperance’, YDF’s non-governmental partner in Rwanda. "The concept of ‘forum theatre’ is used as a tool to engage the football audience in the play and to address and solve conflicts that go far beyond the pure game – such as gender equality, peace-keeping and HIV/AIDS," explains Scheuerpflug.

‘Forum theatre’ - also called ‘the theatre of the oppressed’ - was developed by Brazilian Augusto Boal and is based on the interaction between the actors on the pitch and their so-called ‘spect-actors’ who are supposed to enter the playground and participate in the conflicts arising from the football game. Gersom Mayanja from Kampala is a theatre expert who has been working with Esperance since 2002. To him “forum theatre is a perfect tool to address communities in rural areas in particular, and to get them involved in issues that are important to them and hard to deal with in normal life. ‘Forum theatre’ provides the space to talk and interact in a playful way.” The 38-year-old and his colleagues from Scheuerpflug’s team will use the time left in South Africa to visit YDF’s partners in Mamelodi, Winterveld and Orange Farm, where they will participate in talks and activities.
A country in the throes of football fever

Winterfeld, 23 June 2010. "Germany will take the lead and win by one goal" - Walter Eschweiler is in no doubt about that. As 'Germany's Whistle-Blower', the popular former referee - today a sports diplomat for the Foreign Office - is still well known. On 23 June 2010 he was a guest in Winterfeld, a settlement north-west of Pretoria where the Minister of Development Aid, Dirk Niebel, was officially opening a street-football pitch on this day. The German Development Bank (KfW) built the pitch here on behalf of the German Government and the South African Ministry of Sport. That Eschweiler's tip was absolutely on the mark became clear several hours later when Germany beat Ghana in the match at Soccer City ("the calabash") by 1:0, and both countries moved to the next round of the first Football World Cup on the African continent.

The land on which Winterfeld has its origins belonged to the 5th President of the Republic of South Africa, Paul Kruger, more than 100 years ago. During the apartheid years, Winterfeld formed part of the Republic of Bophuthatswana, but today the settlement belongs to the Greater Pretoria area. Unemployment in Winterfeld lies at over 40 per cent and many inhabitants sustain themselves monthly on less than 500 rand (50 EUR). GTZ is doing work here on behalf of the German Government and the European Union through its youth football project at Ikeleng School. Development Minister Niebel got to know the project in April this year in Kayelitsha Township (Western Cape) on his first visit to South Africa. During his second visit, YDF team member Henning Schick explained the ’YDF Toolkit’ to him. The toolkit comprises two manuals aimed at the trainers of coaches and at the coaches themselves, and helps to spread the idea of youth development through football. "We want to educate coaches to become social workers and conversely, we want social workers to become coaches. We use the enthusiasm of the youth for football to teach them skills about the game that in turn also help them to shape their own futures in a positive manner," explained Schick, who played a substantial role in the development of the toolkit.
**YDF Toolkit is a future-oriented concept**

**Advisory opinion of YDF Toolkit**

Nienhagen, 26 June 2010. Exercise, play and sport are ways for young people to present themselves in front of other people. Young people experience their social value primarily through their bodily presentations. There is hardly a youth culture in which the body, exercise and sport do not play a role. Youth cultures are always, if you will, also cultures through their bodily presentations. There is hardly a youth culture in which the body, themselves in front of other people. Young people experience their social value primarily Nienhagen, 26 June 2010.

As far as politics, pedagogy, criminology and sports organisations are concerned, sport is lauded as virtually the ideal way to prevent violence. Yet, it is not without criticism: As early as 1925 Musil wrote in an essay entitled ‘Through the spectacles of sport’: ‘Sport is a grandiose division of labour between good and evil in people. It is one-sided if one only ever writes that sport makes friends of people, that it connects and awakens noble rivalry. This is because one can likewise maintain that it approaches a widespread need to give one's fellow human being one on the head or to knock him down; the ambition to be superior.’ The American sports psychologist, Butt (1974), even comes to the conclusion on the basis of her research that far more often, a view accepted by many, the world of sport reinforces destructive behaviour such as deception, doping etc. and concludes from this that if play and sport are meaningful ways of preparing for adult behaviour, then we ought to fear boxing, bullfighting and football as much as we fear war. Schnack/Neutzling (1991) finally draw the following conclusion in their impressive book Small heroes in need: "Sport requires and promotes thoughts of achievement and in not a few disciplines, also the propensity towards violence; however, at the same time sport helps to channel the potential towards violence and bring aggression under control."

Critical reflection is essential if the educational potential of sport for social work is to be properly assessed and evaluated. Huber (2000) distinguishes three dimensions of sport that are focused on a holistic experience of human behaviour and that refer to the preventative functions of sport: The natural dimension relates to the fact that when playing sport, people face their own bodies in the form of exercise in place and time. The important benchmark and objective of this exercise are health and integrity, respectively. In the personal dimension, reference is made to the insight that sport serves to develop personal self-worth and is an expression of human creativity and creative power. In this dimension, the human being faces him - or herself in the unity of body, soul and spirit. In the third social dimension, expression is given to the idea that people encounter other people in sport and that interaction and competition, cooperation and rivalry go hand in hand.

In these three dimensions, sport serves to foster human self-worth. At the same time, its significance for education and its social opportunities are also addressed. Even so, sport can also threaten and endanger self-worth. As such Huber, for example, warns us against the failures of the cultural creativity of sport if this creativity is associated with the 'cult of the body' where the increase in the body’s ability to function is regarded as the ultimate value - as doping or the appearance of children’s and youth sports that are dangerous to health, show. In the personal dimension, the cultural creativity of sport fails if this morphs into a 'cult of victory' in which only supremacy over others counts, victory and success being the measure of all things. Finally, the cultural creativity of sport fails if it is inverted into a 'cult of violence': whether in the form of attacks on the physical integrity of the sporting opponent or the discharge of violence on the stands and after the game on the streets, this is when sport becomes "(...) an example of purposeless play, namely for the incitement of brutal violence".

Continued...
Optimistic assumptions about the positive effects of sport and sports clubs on youth development must be correspondingly put into perspective. Hence Grupel (2000) distinguishes between sports culture and the "culture of sport". By sports culture is meant the reality of sport, how it is, its positive and negative aspects in both its cultural and cultic manifestations. The culture of sport refers, in contrast, to the values and ideas of sport that should be preserved, observed and put into practice (for e.g. fairness, chivalry, solidarity etc.). In this sense culture is understood as a purpose, a normative assumption. Playing sport is not educational per se; rather the purpose of sport is to work towards manifesting, observing, preserving and protecting social, fair, and companionable behaviour in the form of applied values and ideals in sport, thereby maintaining the cultural values of sport. Expressed differently: Instead of saying that sport connects, educates and – unproblematic in any event - integrates, we should rather express it better and more correctly as follows. Sport has the potential to connect, educate, integrate and have a preventative effect. The educational effects of sporting activity therefore do not appear automatically. They require a specific staging of sport and the corresponding skills and resources on the part of those who provide and facilitate it (Brettschneider/Kleine, 2003).

Only against the background of a (self-)critical analysis of the relationship between sport and violence can the potential positive functions and effects of sport and sports offerings relating to the preventative, educational protection of the youth therefore be carved out, and both introduced and implemented successfully in social work and in everyday sporting practice. In so doing, the many potential dangers of sports, the inversion of its cultural dimensions, highlight the need for a quality offensive and social networks. This applies both to prevention/education in sport (combating the cult of the body, victory and violence) and to prevention/education through sport.

"Because the reference to the body and exercise encompasses underlying, transverse categories of forms of youth aid – and can therefore be integrated into the overall pedagogical concepts of these fields in a specific form in different fields such as youth social work, after-school training, open youth work, educational assistance etc. - the exemplary development of body- and exercise-related theory and practice can only take place in the form of cooperations, networks and interdisciplinary cooperation at the very least". Schulze/Kräutener (1999: 214) put forward a similar argument when they make reference to the requirement profile of body- and exercise-related social work necessitates the mutual sensitisation of, and cooperation between, (club) sport and youth work in addition to the corresponding sporting abilities of those active in youth work.

"Sport as an attractive occasion and body of common activities and as a meaningful component of similar-aged groups makes it necessary that body- and sport-related youth work and club sport as well as school sport understand one another to be worlds of youth exercise and that they intensify their cooperation." And moreover: Even if sport "is not only the priority of sport-related youth work but rather of after-school youth work as a whole" (Kurz 1996: 6), this does not – as Brinkhoff/Sack (1996: 4) assert – "empirically legitimise either for sole representation or exclusivity (...) on the part of youth club sport. Sport in other settings such as in peer groups, in familial contexts, and in commercial sports institutes merits equal ranking".

Sport-oriented approaches in education require concerted action from church, community and independent youth-work providers, the cooperation of sports clubs, schools and youth aid. This is the case irrespective of the problems that arise when general administrations cooperate with volunteers (different expertise, but particularly different working hours). Provocatively put: Youth work in the context of club sport is too important to be left only to trainers, coaches and club youth leaders (sports offerings in clubs and coaching hours do not constitute social work; rather they constitute youth work, which is in some cases also preventative). Body- and exercise-related social work is too important to be left only to social work and street work (organising football and table-football tournaments does not constitute body- and exercise-related social work). School sport is too important to be left only to sports teachers, forced into rigid exercise hours, traditional scopes and mark scales. Expressed differently, a trainer/coach needs additional socio-pedagogical skills if he/she wishes to maximise the educational, preventative potential of sport. The reverse is also true: a social worker needs the corresponding knowledge relating to sports and exercise theory.
YDF Toolkit is a future-oriented concept cont.


This is precisely where the manual comes into play, consecutively and congruently. Based on the wish “to make the world a slightly better place” by overcoming discrimination, bringing about the equality of the sexes, promoting health and combating illness, combating violence and ensuring environmental sustainability, football - as a sport loved by young people (both boys and girls) in particular - is used as a means of initiating educational processes.

The many positive functions and social potential ascribed to football by experts are, at the same time, justifiably relativised and reduced to the simplest denominator: football is a simple game but coaching/education is a science. Whereby it is made clear that the inherent social potential of football is not fulfilled by football alone, but rather that it requires corresponding standing and above all (socio-)pedagogical skills that must be imparted and schooled with a specific purpose in mind.

Hence the manual for coaches and trainers that – as empirical research shows (Pilz, 1999 & 2005) – assumes the key function in the education process where football is concerned, and that has important exemplary functions as role models.

Didactically speaking, the manual is excellently formulated, extremely appealing and deals with complex matters in simple, clear and understandable language. The acronym “KISS” (keep it short and simple) is downright ingenious, a tall order but one which is subsequently implemented and honoured.

Particularly important and convincing is also the approach of using and arranging football exercises in such a way that they provide the children with social fields of exercise, that is to say the children have the opportunity, through football and football-specific forms of exercise, to become familiar with and try out social forms of behaviour in the truest sense of the word in a context of play.

What must be emphasised, in addition, is the endeavour not to see the manual as a finished product, but as a process in which the experiences of the participants are consciously and purposefully incorporated in order to flow into the continued development of the manual. It is precisely this conscious recourse to the experiences of the practitioners on site that make the manual a valuable aid to education, advanced education and continuing education. From real life, for real life - this short expression accurately describes the manual, whose particular substance can also be attributed to the fact that in addition to football-specific topics and their relevance to education around social behaviour, special socio-pedagogical problem areas such as AIDS, violence prevention and youth participation, among others, are also incorporated in special short training concepts. The broadening of the view to beyond the proverbial edge of the plate is achieved, in my opinion, not only importantly and rightly, but also downright urgently. It is precisely for this reason that the manual offers something special; in so doing, the limits of the preventative potential of football and the necessity of initiating networks, the cooperation of club, school and social work become obvious.

The ‘YDF Toolkit Manual for Coach Training and Manual for Coaches’ is a future-oriented concept that merits distribution not only within the framework of development aid, but also within Germany itself in close cooperation with the German Football League.

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"I didn't believe this could happen!"

German minister launches pitch in Orange Farm

Orange Farm, 27 June 2010. "I didn't believe that girls could play soccer and I also didn't believe that one day we would play on such a nice soft pitch," Nokuthula Klaasen clutches her microphone tightly while addressing the crowd gathered around her. The 17-year-old with the blonde-dyed hair spills out words of thanks not only to her teammates, but also to the German Minister of the Interior, Thomas de Maizière, who stands next to her. Her speech formed part of the official launch of an artificial soccer pitch in the township of Orange Farm. The launch was organised by the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project whose partner ‘Dona’s Mates’ received the right to use the land for 99 years from the South African Government and will run its activities on the pitch.

Thomas de Maizière and Dona’s Mates founder and chairperson, James ‘Maradona’ Shabangu, together cut the red ribbon and the German minister expressed his well-wishes, saying that the pitch will serve as a training ground for the future leaders of the community. The pitch in Orange Farm is funded by the European Union.
Call for Proposals

GTZ Youth Empowerment Programme – Youth Development through Football

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) is seeking proposals for the implementation of the Youth Development through Sport activities in Gauteng, Mpumalanga and Western Cape with financial assistance from the Youth Empowerment Programme funded by the European Union. The full Guidelines for Applicants are available for consultation at GTZ Offices at Hatfield Gardens, Block C, 333 Grosvenor Street, Hatfield, Pretoria. Information is also available for download below. The deadline for submission of proposals is 27 August 2010.

Information sessions on this call for proposals will be held in Pretoria, Nelspruit and Cape Town:

- **Pretoria**: 23 July 2010, 11H00 to 13H00
  GTZ Offices at Hatfield Gardens, Block C, 333 Grosvenor Street, Hatfield, Pretoria
- **Nelspruit**: 3 August 2010, 12H00 to 14H00
  Venue to be announced soon
- **Cape Town**: 5 August 2010, 11H00 to 13H00
  Protea House Building, 7th Floor, Green Market Square, Cape Town

Guidelines for Applicants (Reference 83063858):
(Please right-click and “Save Target/Link As” on the links below to download each file.

- Guidelines for Grant Applicants
- Grant Application Form
- Implementation of YDF activities in Gauteng – 1st Terms of Reference
- Implementation of YDF activities in Gauteng – 2nd Terms of Reference
- Implementation of YDF activities in Mpumalanga
- Implementation of YDF activities in the Western Cape
- Budget
- Logframe
- Legal Entity
- Final Identification
Felix stays on the ball
Member of German Football Association reads from his book

Winterveld, 30 June 2010. Matthias Eiles sits down on a piece of cardboard in the middle of the dusty training grounds next to Ikeleng Primary School in the township of Winterveld. He is surrounded by more than 30 youths who are attending one of YDF's holiday camps in the area. The youths are listening attentively to Eiles while he reads from his book *Felix stays on the ball* – a story about a young German boy who travels to South Africa during the Football World Cup. In South Africa young Felix befriends a girl called Lubaya and gets an interesting insight into a different culture. "The book is based on true stories and encounters with inspiring people I have met during my many visits to your country," explains Eiles.

Eiles works for the German Football Association and is the founder of the 'Auf Ballhöhe' movement - an intercultural football-education project which supports social activities and local projects on a voluntary basis in various townships in the Western Cape region and in Mpumalanga. The movement was launched in 2003. The book *Felix stays on the ball* retells episodes from the project and "promotes reading by combining it with the passion for football," says Eiles. Co-author of the book is Tim-Thilo Fellmer, who used to be one of the four million illiterates in Germany. "He only learned to read and write properly when he was in his '30s and now he is co-authoring children's books," continues Eiles. "It is never too late for learning!" Eiles' book has famous supporters: Philip Lahm, Steven Pienaar and Oliver Bierhoff dedicated forewords to the edition, and the German team bought 400 of the books to contribute to social and educational projects in South Africa.
The first real football of their lives

Children in a refugee camp in Namibia receive GTZ/YDF footballs

Osire, 30 June 2010. With the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ having turned all eyes on South Africa, a statement such as the following seems to come from a different world: “Most of our kids have never seen a real football before in their lives. They were absolutely stunned and happy when we presented them with the balls.” This statement was made by Reverend Edgar Lueken of the Southern African Methodist Church in Namibia, the neighbouring country of the World Cup host. The children he is referring to are staying at the ‘Bethlehem Kindergarten’ in Osire, situated in central Namibia approximately 200 km north of the capital, Windhoek. The kindergarten is part of a refugee camp of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It was established in 1992 and is currently accommodating 6,500 refugees, most of whom are from Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The children of the Bethlehem Kindergarten will not be the only ones to receive GTZ/YDF footballs to brighten their lives. Reverend Lueken will also travel to Rundu to donate footballs to primary schools in the communities of Sauyemwa, Kehemu and Sharukwe.

Namibia is one of the nine African partner countries of GTZ’s Youth Development through Football (YDF) project. In Namibia YDF is partnering with the Namibian Football Association and the Goethe-Centre in Windhoek.
German Chancellor visits YDF project

By-Line Here

Cape Town, 3 July 2010. In actual fact, Angela Merkel came to South Africa to root for Germany’s National Football Team. After an exchange of views with South African President, Jacob Zuma, there was, however, still time on 3 July 2010 to visit the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project that GTZ established on behalf of the German Government and the European Union in South Africa and nine other African countries. The backdrop to the visit by the Chancellor and delegates of the Deutscher Bundestag (Lower House of the German Parliament) was Khayelitsha Township, situated halfway between the airport and the ‘Mother City’ of Cape Town. It is here that Germany is providing support to a violence-prevention programme, via the German Development Bank (KfW), in the amount of EUR 15.5 million. The aim of this programme is to improve the safety of the township’s inhabitants through targeted town planning and to reduce violence.

Violence prevention is also one of the priority areas of GTZ’s Youth Development through Football project. “It is a very interesting project,” Angela Merkel is impressed when Project Manager, Gerald Guskowski, explains how football teaches youths to resolve conflict through means other than violence. “In so doing, the coaches play a prominent role. We train them to become social workers and vice versa”. Henning Schick introduces the Chancellor to the manual that he was in charge of developing. Nobody can attest to the success of the YDF approach better than the youths themselves, however. And so Angela Merkel sits relaxed and in a visibly good mood on a football cushion in a circle of young girls from YDF partner Soccer4Hope and listens to their stories. She does not yet know that Germany’s National Football Team will beat Argentina 4:0 several hours later at the Cape Town Stadium.
Dr. Bernd Eisenblaetter and Willi Lemke visit Gugulethu Township

Gugulethu, 6 July 2010. “Football is far more than just a game and with its power and fervour, has the potential to be used as an educational tool and effective lever for developing the youth!” Dr Bernd Eisenblaetter, spokesperson for GTZ’s managing directors, showed himself to be convinced by the approach of the youth football project that GTZ is implementing together with the South African Ministry of Sport and Recreation on behalf of the German Government and the European Union. Shortly before heading on to the home stretch to the FIFA 2010 World Cup™, he visited the project in Cape Town’s Gugulethu Township together with Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, Willi Lemke, on 6 July 2010.

The Youth Development through Football (YDF) project is working in Gugulethu with the non-governmental organisation, Soccer4Hope, which concentrates on sport and educational work with young women. In the township, Willi Lemke meets up again with 22-year-old Nomawethu Sokoyi (Wewe). Wewe is a football coach for Soccer4Hope. Two weeks ago they both got to know each other within the framework of a ‘Ke Nako Africa’ discussion event at the International Football Village (IFV) in Johannesburg. In Gugulethu, Willi Lemke comes bearing good news: with the support of the German Embassy in Pretoria and the Goethe-Institut in South Africa, Wewe has received a language scholarship to prepare her for a UN internship programme for African role models.

In addition to representatives from the provincial government of the Western Cape and the German Consulate General in Cape Town, participants of the meeting also included Peter Conze, GTZ Country Director South Africa, as well as YDF team members, Olaf Handloegten and Hannes Bickel. Together with the young girls and boys on site, they demonstrated the approach of youth development through football on the spot with practical exercises. GTZ is promoting personal development of the youth in the Western Cape in cooperation with local non-governmental organisations, and conveying to them violence-free strategies for resolving conflict, the concept of fair play and knowledge about preventing HIV/AIDS.
Waka Waka – one last time!

Life-Skills Festival in Mamelodi marks the close of the holiday camps

Pretoria, 6 July 2010. "And the winner of the World Cup is… Paraguay!" What sounds like a far cry from the truth became a reality in Mamelodi. YDF had organised a festival that comprised a soccer tournament and a life-skills session. The event took place at Mahlasedi Masana Primary School on 6 July 2010. All of YDF’s partner organisations in Gauteng – Altus Sports Vuma, Karos & Kambro and Green Feet – gathered for the festival. "We wanted to jointly celebrate a successful four-week holiday programme with this unique closing event," explained YDF team member, Anastasia Sharova.

The enthusiasm of the participants did justice to the spirit underlying the organisation of the event: On the morning of the festival youths poured in from neighbouring schools in the area. Together they formed 16 street-soccer teams which competed in a tournament. The match was facilitated by Altus Sports Vuma and focused on fair play. "Many members of the teams had never played together before, but they were united by their passion for football," said Sharova. This passion was palpable in the festival’s atmosphere. Shakira’s World Cup ‘Waka Waka’ song played throughout the day with children singing and dancing along the pitch. The ‘on-field action’ was accompanied by diski-dance and drumming sessions as well as poetry and theatre performances by Karos & Kambro, the focus being on HIV/AIDS prevention.

Green Feet had organised a competition to choose the most beautiful self-made football, inciting great excitement in the crowd: Orange, green and blue footballs - made out of newspapers and plastic bags - were put to the test in the penalties.

“I was greatly impressed by the spirit and the vibe among the kids. They were celebrating throughout the day, showing off their talents and competing to become the best team. The support from the public could compete with that in the World Cup stadiums,” commented Sharova, assessing the outcome of the festival.

Photo: © GTZ/YDF

Happy faces on and off the pitch: youths at the Life-Skills Festival in Mamelodi.

Photo: © GTZ/YDF

Sympathy for Germany, but in the end it was Paraguay who won the street-soccer tournament in Mamelodi.

Photo: © GTZ/YDF

Whose football is the prettiest? That answer was given by Green Feet during a competition held at the Life-Skills Festival at Mahlasedi Masana Primary School in Mamelodi.
The cooperation is about to begin

Finals of the YDF holiday camps in the Eastern Cape

Port Elizabeth, 10 July 2010. The last World-Cup weekend marked the final showdown for the German team, which emerged triumphant against Uruguay at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium. At the same time, just a few kilometres away in the township of Motherville, 180 youths from the region met for the grand final of the football holiday camps. The camps - jointly organised by the Youth Development through Football (YDF) project of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) and Volkswagen South Africa - took place throughout the World Cup. They were held to offer meaningful activities to youths from disadvantaged areas while schools were closed, and saw football tournaments combined with life-skills sessions that focused on HIV/AIDS prevention. Approximately 600 learners attended the camps, which were facilitated by Umzingisi – a non-governmental organisation active in the field of youth development through sport.

"On Saturday the best teams from the camps played each other in a mini World Cup, which was a perfect way to end our holiday activities. We also used the finals to introduce the partnership between VW and GTZ South Africa to a broader audience," said YDF team member, Melanie Langefeld, who explained the backdrop to the partnership: "We have entered into a Public Private Partnership (PPP) with VW South Africa that targets the youth of the Eastern Cape region and aims to equip young girls and boys with life skills, mainly focusing on HIV/AIDS prevention through football”.

The partnership project has equipped Umzingisi with three soccer buses which are being used by the NGO to implement the Youth Development through Football programme in remote areas as well. In addition, more trainers will be coached in how to combine football with life-skills lessons. Minister for Internal Affairs and Sport of Germany's Lower Saxony province, Uwe Schünemann, attended the final and praised the sustainable approach: "Most of the activities will only start after the World Cup, which shows that we – GTZ, VW and Lower Saxony – are in it for the long haul!" Lower Saxony is the German partner province of the Eastern Cape and has contributed EUR 20,000 (nearly 200,000 rand) to the PPP activities of GTZ and VW South Africa.