

Good practice n° 14	
Title	Open Fun Football Schools
Author/Name of the institution (organization)	<p>Chairman: Ulrik Andreas Federspiel</p> <p>Members of the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pernille Harder ● Niels Nygaard ● Allan Hansen ● Sven Riskær ● Finn Berggren ● Thomas Bach ● Annika Åberg Darell ● Goran Fazlinovic ● Poul Skytte Christoffersen ● Bent Clausen ● Niels Ersbøll ● Jørgen Hvidemose
Type of the good practice	Project
Place	Western Balcans, Mena, Caucasus, Eastern Europe, Asia, East Africa
Start date / End date	1998 until today
Target group of learners	Children and youth, young coaches and community organizers
Institutions involved	The organization runs mostly with private donations and institutional help
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A peaceful world across cultures ● Promote peaceful coexistence ● Gender equality ● Social improvements across conflicts and social divides ● Based on voluntarism

Description

Open Fun Football Schools is an international, politically independent, non-profit organization that exists to develop, participating in as well implementing projects cutting across cultural lines, and which have as their main objective the promotion of reconciliation, social integration, and civil society participation through dialogue and collaboration.

Open Fun Football Schools is firmly convinced that grassroots sports and playing games are the best learning tool for stimulating social changes and a unique tool for facilitating bridging and bounding - network, communication and collaboration between children and adults living in divided communities.

Correspondingly Open Fun Football Schools is building activities with outset in their specific “Fun-Football” concept that is characterized by keywords like; dialogue; fun games; creativity; child-centered pedagogic; bottom-up; quality; communities network; voluntarism and democracy.

When people play joyful games together, it leads to new relationships, increased trust, and understanding of “the other”

When young people learn to communicate and operationalize their ideas and visions for the future, it leads to social networking and empowers them to act and positively influence their communities and own life opportunities.

To achieve the goals mentioned, Open Fun Football Schools uses:

- Training programs for children, young voluntary coaches, community organizers, and Alliance managers.
- Fun sports activities across societal divides where everyone can participate

The way they implement the tools are:

- The individual qualities of sports to empower children and youth living in fragile communities and strengthen their physical and mental well-being
- The social qualities of sports to create cooperation and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds and promote social inclusion and cohesion.

	<p>- The democratic qualities of sports to strengthen local communities by promoting civil and social engagement, association formation, social networks, cross-sector cooperation and human rights.</p> <p>These programs' effects on the target groups are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CHILDREN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased physical and mental well-being, peaceful coexistence, friendships, smiles, and social cohesion. 2. YOUNG COACHES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased civic and social engagement. • Role models promote peaceful coexistence and social cohesion. • Enhanced capacity to facilitate an open, friendly, creative, and participatory environment around their sport-for-change activities. 3. COMMUNITY ORGANISERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive skills in project and sports event management, project-based collaboration, and working in networks with like-minded individuals or cross-sectorial groups to lead the broader community toward positive change. • Role models promoting peaceful coexistence and social cohesion
<p>Link to the source (if available)</p>	<p>https://ccpa.eu/open-fun-football-schools/</p>