

# Slum Dwellers

## Activity Box 1.13

### Module 1: Target Group



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## Key Facts

- One billion people worldwide live in slums and the figure will likely grow to 2 billion by 2030.
- Over 50% of slum dwellers are children and youths (86).
- Mathare and Kibera in Nairobi (Kenya) with + 700,000 and Dharavi in Mumbai (India) +1,000,000 residents are one of the world's largest slums (87).

## Specific groups this Activity Box applies to:

All urban or rural settlements are mainly in non-developed countries and can be formal or informal. Examples:

- Africa: Mathare and Kibera in Nairobi (Kenya): +700,000.
- Middle East: Dharavi in Mumbai (India): +1,000,000 and Orangi Town in Karachi (Pakistan): +2,400,000
- Américas: Neza (Mexico): +1,200,000 and Complexo do Alemão, Rocinha and other favelas in Rio de Janeiro (Brasil): +300,000.

## Why is it so important

### Contribution

Sport can improve the situation in slums in these aspects:

- Development of life skills to underprivileged children: leadership teamwork, self-esteem
- Build trust across class divides
- Broadening social ties and therefore reducing violence
- Safe spaces for recreation that prevents risk factors
- Vehicle for the transmission of healthy values

### International endorsement

#### UN Habitat

Suggests that at least 15 percent of urban areas should be allocated for open and green spaces and public facilities (85)

#### Agenda 2030: SDG 11.3 and 11.7

Integrating opportunities for Sport, physical education and physical activity throughout such spaces and across urban environments can have widespread and long-term impacts (85)

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## Barriers to Sport that should be overcome

- Lack of adequate Sport facilities, parks and equipment
- Sense of insecurity limits the practice of Sport due to extended delinquency and violence
- Youths have other interests: being part of gangs, clubbing, video games, etc.
- Lockdowns and other measures of self-isolating obliged by COVID19 had a tremendous effect on the well-being of people in slums, not only limiting access to Sport but also increasing other social issues
- Traditional Sport (e.g., football) reduce interest in other types of Sport or possibilities of doing physical activity

## Tips and key success factors

### **Inclusive approach as slums gather different potentially vulnerable groups:**

- Encourage non-competitive programmes.
- Ensure the inclusion of girls and women, persons with disabilities, individuals living in poverty, migrants and refugees, indigenous people, out-of-school and unemployed youth, and other socially and economically excluded groups.

### **Overcoming spaces constraints**

- Normally it is more effective to start the activities using existing facilities within the neighbourhood, such as youth or community centre, NGOs or even a park.
- Use existing social spaces where people interact in natural ways as places Sport activities: Markets, hospitals, schools, street corners, cattle dips, youth clubs.
- Newly created Sport spaces can be combined with other important community uses (e.g., art room, library, health) to maximize their attraction and use (See example in Available Resources section).

### **Building local capacities**

- Attract skilled and trained personnel — teachers, coaches, that can multiply and spread methodologies to local leaders and former participants
- Empower other potential supporters, including Community workers and volunteers

### **Recycled materials**

- Facilitate access to low-cost equipment and other support for participation
- Ensure the greatest possible participation through access to Sport clothing, adaptive equipment for persons with disabilities, sanitary products for girls and women, etc.

### **Other tips:**

Leverage resources: Utilize partnerships, shared initiatives with other organisations, and participation in broader learning and knowledge exchange processes.

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## Available Resources

- Ultimate Frisbee is changing India's slums [Click Here](#)
- Slum golf in Chembur Slum, including a version of the game using homemade clubs and balls [Click Here](#)
- Slums Dunk project using basketball [Click Here](#)
- Olaleye, Lagos, the slum that produced Odiye, Okoku, and other Sport stars [Click Here](#)
- International Federation of Muaythai Amateur (IFMA): Plans to revitalize Bangkok's urban slums [Click Here](#)
- "Isaac Pitch", a multi-activity field in the heart of Kibera slums [Click Here](#)

# Sample Case

## Nairobi's Korogocho slum (NGO Terres des Homens)

- The concept is built on the African philosophy of Ubuntu, which can be translated to "I am because we are".
- Encourages neighbours to support each other.
- Focuses on the family as the center of wellbeing and protection for a child.
- Creates a bond within the community, which is in charge of the wellbeing of their children.
- In return, children have more than just one problem solver to turn to.

### More information:

Fighting violence in Nairobi's Korogocho slum [Click Here](#)

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