

Summary of existing topic/ field of work

Instructions

This factsheet shall give a brief overview of terre des hommes concepts, strategies and successes in its main fields of work. The addressees are all participants of terre des hommes co-decisions process, including volunteers, partner organizations, the International Youth Network and staff. It is part of the Exploration Phase of the Pathway 23, the co-decision process leading up to the Delegates Conference 2023. It is one element of a mapping of our fields of work and topics and shall provide a common basis of information for all participants.

The factsheet shall be short, understandable, and give summary on terre des hommes' approach to the respective topic in max. 20 min reading time. Therefore, available text space is limited in the format of the factsheet. For those that want to enter into more details you may attach annexes and/ or provide links or literature recommendations.

These factsheets will be elaborated on all fields of works/ topics on which terre des hommes itself has been working thematically and conceptually; however, not on all of the topics that are addressed by the work of our partners. All the other fields of work and topics can be mapped online, in a format accessible to the participants of the webinars of the Exploration Phase.

Summary on "Right to Play" Article 31 UNCR: Play, Arts and Culture, Recreation

1. Please shortly define the field of work and its central terms or concepts

(limit 600 signs each)

<p>Topic:</p> <p>Play</p>	<p>"Children´s play is any behavior, activity or process initiated, controlled and structured by children themselves; it takes place whenever and wherever opportunities arise. Caregivers may contribute to the creation of environments in which play takes place, but play itself is non-compulsory, driven by intrinsic motivation and undertaken for its own sake, rather than as a means to an end. ...The key characteristics of play are fun, uncertainty, challenge, flexibility and non-productivity" (General Comment to Article 31 United Nations Child Rights Convention 2013:5).</p>
<p>Central term 1</p> <p>Participation in Cultural Life and Arts</p>	<p>"Art is a form of expression and communication that can be learned and understood intuitively and independently of writing, formal education and one's own language, thus enabling social participation, especially for marginalised and discriminated population groups. Participating in education and the cultural and artistic life of a society is important for children, in order to develop their own identity, worldviews and opinions, communicate them and eventually shape society [...] Arts and culture are a central component of informal education, which can also provide a bridge to formal education." (a chance to play, program framework, 2021: 9)</p>
<p>Central term 2</p> <p>Recreation</p>	<p>"With the collective term "recreation", Article 31 of the UN Convention [...] sums up the right to voluntary, active, organised forms of recreation (e.g. making music, hiking, community work, sports). By contrast with "play", recreation also covers activities that are purposeful and from which children hope to benefit materially. The aspect of "activity" is highlighted, by contrast with "rest".</p>
<p>Central term 3</p> <p>Child Rights IN, THROUGH and AROUND Sport</p>	<p>At tdh, we have a special focus on sports as a form of recreation " As distinct from play and other forms of recreation we define sport in this context as organised but voluntary - not professional sport. (actp, program framework 2021: 11) We distinguish: Child Rights IN (e.g. Safeguarding in sporting activities), THROUGH (using sports for a child´s benefit), and AROUND Sports (addressing rights violations around Sporting Mega Events). Our current focus lies on Child Rights THROUGH Sports. (compare Meier, Schubert, Kunischewski 2016: 92 - 108)</p>

2. Please name groups of children and youth especially focused by terre des hommes´ in this field of work (if any)

Play, Arts, and Recreation are important for all children and widely used across projects.

(150 signs)

3. Please name the three biggest challenges, that terre des hommes is addressing in this field of work and the concerned child rights according to the UN Child Rights Convention

	Challenges (limit 400 signs each)	Concerned Child Rights (limit 50 signs each)
1	Less access to safe opportunities for playing and participating in sports and cultural programmes: Urban planning without playgrounds, increasing road traffic, environmental pollution, the fear of violence and crime, but also the necessity for children to work are limiting safe spaces for playing.	Art. 31 and others
2	Lack of awareness on the importance of play for children: Adult decision-makers and parents often underestimate the importance of play, sports, arts and other leisure activities for the healthy development of children. They put more emphasis on formal education, often resulting in a drill to perform. Also many social projects tend to give absolute priority on other seemingly more important aspects, forgetting that play is key to a child´s development.	Art. 31 and others
3	Commodification of play, arts, culture and sports limiting children´s participation in and through playing: Leisure offerings are increasingly turning into expensive consumer goods that do not allow the children to participate in shaping them. Not only do these offers exclude children from low-income families, these commercial offers are most of the times structured, planned and organized by adults. Play, culture, arts and sports should give children a room for trying out, inventing, learning critical thinking and being creative. Only this way they learn to shape society later on.	Art. 31 and others

4. Please shortly describe terre des hommes´ strategies to address these challenges

4.1. Introduction (general description of the strategy)

We create protected spaces in contexts otherwise characterised by inequality, discrimination and violence where children and young people can play, do sport and make art. Play, sports and arts offer an effective and age-appropriate way to reach children and young people because they allow them to try things out and learn in an intrinsically motivated, i.e. fun, non-performance-oriented and self-determined way.

By participating in the pedagogically accompanied offers, the children and young people strengthen their self- and social competences and learn to be involved in communities. Pedagogically, a special focus is placed on teaching the children their rights, promoting critical thinking and creative participation in society and politics.

In addition, the children learn to trust themselves and others. The pedagogically accompanied services also combine the important freedom for the children with concrete educational and social support services.

(limit 1000 signs)

4.2. Specific strategies to tackle each challenge (consider participation of youth, project work, and advocacy - if applicable)

(please insert number of challenge from 3.)	Specific strategies to tackle each challenge (limit 600 signs each)
1	<p>In our projects we create safe spaces for playing, arts and culture, sports by offering free of charge activities in youth centres, schools and public spaces. Furthermore, jointly with children and youth we lobby with decisions-makers in education and politics for the creation of spaces and opportunities for playing, sports and cultures, which are accessible to all children and youth. In almost all of our projects we offer some play, sports and artistic activities, even if that is not the central topic of the project.</p>
2	<p>We promote the awareness on the Right to Play (Art. 31) amongst parents, teachers, educators and political decision-makers. Some examples of approaches of awareness raising are: The occupation of public spaces with play, sports or cultural activities with and for children and youth (e.g. World Play Week), capacitations of educators, public debates, parent schools, inclusions of leisure activities in school curricula, inclusion of the duty to create spaces for playing in municipal laws.</p>

3

Through Play, Arts, and Sport activities we support children and youth in organizing themselves. The children and young people strengthen their self- and social competences and learn to be involved in communities. Pedagogically, a special focus is placed on teaching the children their rights, promoting critical thinking and creative participation in society and politics. In all play, cultural and sports offers organized in and by a our projects childrena also take decisions in the project design itself.

5. What were the biggest successes in this area of terre des hommes and partners so far? (limit 1500 signs)

“A Chance to Play” arose as a special programme within the action “An Hour for the Future”. That was in 2010, in the run-up to the FIFA World Cup in South Africa. In a context often marked by violence, AIDS and broken family structures, terre des hommes and the Volkswagen group works council found a way of reaching over 50,000 children and young people by means of play, sport, and culture. The idea was so successful that the projects outside the special programme “A Chance to Play” were also increasingly delivered through play, sport and cultural activities. When the 2014 World Cup was held in Brazil, the programme was relaunched with 14 projects in Greater São Paulo. In all, participants in the play and sports activities totalled just under 100,000. Today a chance to play is a worldwide program, with a coherent program framework and strategy, running in 7 countries, reaching out to more than 30.000 children and youth and former German national soccer team coach Jogi Löw as an ambassador. Children Win: In the topics of AROUND Sports, the International Federation terre des hommes led the campaign "Children Win", demanding successfully from FIFA and IOC to include the protection of children rights in the procurement and licitation criteria for the host cities and countries of Mega Sporting Events. tdh was also achieved that criteria regarding child rights were included into the Human Rights Policy of the DFB (German Football Federation).

6. Is there anything else, everybody should know about this field of work? (limit 600 signs)

Especially in the field of Sports an Child Rights, terre des hommes has a very impressive network with cooperation partners such as the VfL Wolfsburg and VfL Osnabrück and contacts to FC Bayern München and the German Soccer National Team. terre des hommes has participated in the stakeholder dialogue of the German Soccer Federation DFB, been member of the Human Advisory Board of the FIFA (TDHIF). terre des hommes has also been present in different NGO networks active in the fields of sports and Human Rights. terre des hommes Lausanne has elaborated the Child Safeguarding Policy of the UEFA.

7. Recommended Annexes (please name here and attach as a separate document)

Program Framework of "a chance to play" (available in English, German, Spanish),
Powerpoint Presentation on the experiences of terre des hommes in the field of Sports and Child Rights

8. Recommended literature and links

a chance to play homepage: <https://a-chance-to-play.de/>

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Videos on the campaign Children Win:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/terredeshommesIF/videos>

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Award winning short film of the Children Win campaign: The Fighter. URL:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vsjlt2xdqs>

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Felfe, Christina/ Lechner, Michael/ Steinmayr, Andreas 2011: Sport and Child Development. In: Forschungsinstitut zur Zukunft der Arbeit (IZA): Discussion Paper No. 6105, Bonn: IZA.

International Play Association (2014): Declaration on the importance of play. URL:

http://ipaworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/IPA_Declaration-FINAL.pdf (download 15.06.2021)

Meier; Schubert; Kunischewski (2016): Kinderrechte im Sportkontext. In: Zeitschrift für Menschenrechte. 2016, Vol. 10 Issue 2, S.92-108. 17p, Url:

https://www.zeitschriftfuermenschenrechte.de/open-access/zfmr_2_2016.pdf