

Fast Facts

United Nations

Development Programme



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INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC AUTHORITY FOR SPORT

The Kuwaiti population is a young population where youth constitute more than 70%. Children between ages (0-14) formulate around 37% of the total population, and young adults between ages (15-34) represent 35% of the total population. This situation poses drastic challenges for the Kuwaiti Government and civil society in meeting education, training, employment, health, and recreation needs of the youth.

Engagement in sports activities has always been one of the priorities according to Kuwaiti culture, wherein, traditional sport activities such as horse



racing and falconry are important features of the sport landscape. Riding, shooting, swimming, hunting and fencing are some of the several physical activities reflected in the Holy Quran and Hadith. Today, these sports are still popular in Kuwait, as they are regarded as primary means of both pre-military training and as a method to ensure good health.

Following the immense interest and social commitment of Kuwaiti youth in sports, the Public Authority for Youth and Sports (PAYS) was officially founded in 1992. Several opportunities have also been created for the participation of athletes and sports clubs in international competitions.

PREVIOUS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

- Support the development of improved institutional organizational structure for PAS.
- Support the development of automated PAS' procedures, processes and systems.
- Support building the institutional capacity of PAS.
- Support the development of a new "Sports for All" Unit
- Improve PAS' sponsorship strategy to support sports clubs and federations.
- Support the establishment of a knowledge center for sports
- Support the Implement awareness campaigns and outreach programmes.

Over the years PAYS experienced several shifts in its governing bodies. In 2013 the State of Kuwait established the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs (MoSYA) as the governing and regulating body for PAYS. In July 2015, PAYS has witnessed another organizational shift, by having its activities separated between two authorities, the Public Authority for Youth (PAY) and the Public Authority for Sports (PAS). The purpose of this split is to reallocate resources such as duties and responsibilities more efficiently in order to focus on the unique needs of each sector individually.

With reference to law 97/2015, PAS is responsible for harnessing all resources and regulations for the development of sports activities focusing on all aspects related to the preservation of these activities, the expansion of communal participation in sporting activities, and the enhancement of capabilities and capacities of youth in sports. The adoption and implementation of new ideas, proposals, consultations and special initiatives are key to putting PAS in the right direction.

PAS is also responsible for providing financial and



administrative support to all sports facilities in Kuwait. Additionally, it is responsible for the development of a centralized database of information for all activities in Kuwaiti clubs. Its responsibilities extend to the provision of sports facilities, support the unity of Arab regional and international relations as well as conducting and hosting seminars, workshops, and other sporting events.

The following goals have been stipulated, within the framework of the Kuwait National Development Plan (KNDP) (2015/2016-2019/2020), in order to achieve PAS' mandate:

- 1- Raise awareness through media campaigns to encourage participation in sports
- 2- Initiate programmes that encourage youth participation and engagement in sports
- 3- Increase the number of sports facilities
- 4- Increase national participation in Olympic championships
- 5- Sponsor national Olympic champions

On June 19, 2016, the Cabinet approved the sports development plan, tasking PAS and GSSCPD to take necessary measures to ensure the plan's success.

The timeframe of "Institutional strengthening and strategic development of Public Authority for Sport" (ISSD/PAS) project aligns cohesively with the recently approved plan, as it serves to support PAS in effectively implementing the plan and fulfilling its mandate.

The overall outcome of the project is: *"Efficient legislations and institutional capacity development for the Public Authority for Sport for better youth participation and empowerment in sport, sound governance to elevate it in line with international*

standards and enhance its reputation nationally, regionally and internationally", to be reached through the following four specific outputs, as outlined below:

I. RESTRUCTURED AND MORE EFFECTIVE PAS FOR THE PROMOTION OF AN ACTIVE YOUTH COMMUNITY.

- Improved institutional capacities including a fully functional organogram with a new set of job categories will be implemented.
- A new set of SOPs will be mainstreamed within the organization.
- Organisational resources and IT will be invested in.

II. PAS' STRATEGY DEVELOPED AND IMPROVED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION

- The development of new successful sports programmes emphasizing inclusion, that will be developed to recognise the right of all members of society to participate in sport and leisure activities on a country level.
- Investment opportunities will be created. Socio-economic development will eventually lead to the creation of new jobs.
- Partnerships with other government entities, the private sector and NGO's will be established.
- International cooperation with other countries including Southern countries will be piloted; to ensure knowledge-sharing and exchange of resources.



III. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH STRATEGY TO IMPROVE PAS' POSITION LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Communication and outreach programmes will be conducted to spread awareness on issues related to the several health benefits of sports, in particular, the preventive role it plays with obesity. These programmes will evidently result in an increase in youth participation in sports as well as an increased awareness on the dangers of performance enhancing drugs.

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