

## **ITTF Foundation's Pledge to Sport for Inclusion and Protection of Refugees**

Table tennis is a sport for all, and the ITTF Foundation is proud of its commitment and contribution to supporting access, breaking down barriers and providing opportunities and pathways for displaced people. Through our commitment to the Joint Sport Pledge for Inclusion and Protection, we will:

### **A. Engage in Skills Development and Training:**

Commitment Area: Promote an enabling environment that delivers inclusive access to sport and equitable opportunities by addressing barriers and inequalities.

- Utilise relevant resources and training opportunities to ensure teachers and coaches are equipped to support the inclusion of displaced people in table tennis activities, in schools and communities hosting large numbers of refugees.

### **B. Build Coaching Expertise:**

Commitment Area: Promote and provide inclusive, safe sport and play-based initiatives engaging displaced people and host communities.

- Build on our successful initiatives to identify and nurture coaches within displacement-affected communities. Support refugee coaches in delivering sustainable and regular table tennis activities. Over the 4-year GRF cycle, aim to enhance these activities by collaborating with partners from both the sport and humanitarian sectors.
- Two of our staff have joined the "Girls' Positive & Safe Coaching Pathway" project by TAFISA and Nike, where they will train other coaches. We aim to recruit participants with a refugee background and/or those living in host communities.

### **C. Collaborate with relevant stakeholders:**

Commitment Area: Strengthen partnerships and coordination efforts within and beyond the sport sector to maximize the benefits of sport within and outside of displacement situations.

- Explore collaboration with the Olympic Refugee Foundation/Olympic Solidarity to identify refugees affected by Parkinson's or Alzheimer's for our World Table Tennis for Health Festival amongst other initiatives.
- Explore collaboration with UN agencies such as the UNAOC focusing on using sport as a tool for the integration of refugees.
- Submit brief updates on our activities supporting the pledge to the Sport for Refugees Coalition and the Global Refugee Forum team.

### **D. Encourage Inclusive Events:**

Commitment Area: Promote and provide inclusive, safe sport and play-based initiatives engaging displaced people and host communities.

- For World Table Tennis Day, we encourage people to plan and register their events on our website. Out of all registrations encouraged, we aim to have a minimum of 10% registered events that have listed refugees as a target group, showcasing organic growth in diversity and inclusion.

### **E. Increase Awareness in Dream Building Fund (DBF) Projects:**

Commitment Area: Promote and provide inclusive, safe sport and play-based initiatives engaging displaced people and host communities.

- All DBF projects include nationality and refugee status as monitoring parameters to raise awareness on intersectionality among participants and staff and potentially increase the number of involved refugees.
- New DBF projects will include a clause encouraging efforts to engage with refugees during key events such as International Day of Sport for Development and Peace and World Refugee Day.

### **F. Advocate for the Role of Sport:**

Commitment Area: Using the platform of sport, communicate and advocate for refugee issues, and highlight the positive role sport can play for displaced people at individual, community, and societal levels.

- Use our communication platforms to highlight the powerful role of sport as part of a comprehensive societal response to the global displacement crisis.