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# Introduction

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## Introduction

**Abstract** This chapter introduces the partnership story, offering guidance to various local and global community stakeholders in understanding contemporary directions and future priorities for Health, Wellbeing, and Physical Education (HW & PE). According to the United Nations (UN), ‘partnerships’ are essential for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and subsequently, continued efforts towards equality in health and wellbeing. Hence, the partnership journey is significant as it offers insight to the future of HW & PE. This story is timely as ground level ‘partnerships in action’ forms a present gap in research.

This story is about partnerships, educational opportunities, trials and tribulations, learning successes, and gratitude. The storyline presented interweaves narrative threads to emerge ideas, themes, and patterns (Ewing 2010). The purpose of the text is to offer guidance to various local and global community stakeholders in understanding contemporary directions and future priorities for Health, Wellbeing, and Physical Education (HW & PE). According to the United Nations (UN) ‘partnerships’ are essential for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and continued efforts towards equality in health and wellbeing. The partnerships in this storyline are, namely, community collaborations between primary schools, universities, and community-based sports organisations

which United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) declares are “essential to accommodate broader life-long educational outcomes, including health and well-being, as well as personal and social development” (UNESCO 2015, p. 44). The Vice President for Global Advocacy—World Vision, Mr. Charles Badenoch, stated at the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) special event—‘2015 Multi-Stakeholder partnerships: Making them work, for the Post-2015 Development Agenda’; that there is a gap in information on partnerships in action, cross sector partnerships that work, and at present, there is a need for reporting from the ground level. “Unfortunately today there is a dearth of data on the effectiveness of partnerships... we need to learn from what works and what doesn’t work... all cross sector partnerships at all levels” (Badenoch 2015). Hence, the sharing and advocacy of this community partnership initiative storyline is significant.

The SDGs recently succeeded the 2000–2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which, however, have a fundamentally different audience. The MDG goals, which applied only to developing countries (Thwaites 2015), “helped to lift more than one billion people out of extreme poverty, to make inroads against hunger, to enable more girls to attend school than ever before and to protect our planet” (United Nations 2015, p. 3). The MDGs included:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development

## THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The SDGs “apply to all countries, including Australia” (Thwaites 2015), which is the platform nation for the shared partnerships. The SDGs officially succeeded the MDGs at the UN summit on 25 September 2015, when Resolutions were adopted. The SDG plan is to be implemented through collaborative partnerships and build on from the MDGs. ‘Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’, consists of 17

Goals and 169 targets, all designed to be activated over the next 15 years. These goals “are truly global challenges that require solutions involving all countries” (Thwaites 2015) and include:

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and provide sustainable agriculture.
- Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.
- Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation.
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development.
- Goal 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.

Goal 3 and 4 are representative of HW & PE. In particular specific targets 3.4, 3.d and 4.1:

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.

**Table 1.1** Nine building blocks for successful partnerships (ICSC 2014, p. 14)

Actors	1. Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create momentum</li> <li>• Guide process</li> <li>• Foster group cohesion</li> </ul>
	2. Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combine the right resources and skills</li> <li>• Create comparative advantage</li> <li>• Prioritise inclusiveness</li> </ul>
Process	3. Goal-setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create common vision and goals</li> <li>• Ensure high ambitions and precision</li> <li>• Align with global goals and norms</li> </ul>
	4. Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek innovative funding solutions</li> <li>• Diversity funding sources</li> <li>• Invest in professional fund management</li> </ul>
	5. Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish independent Secretariat</li> <li>• Invest in full-time professional staff</li> <li>• Ensure professional process management</li> </ul>
	6. Monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strive for transparency</li> <li>• Create robust and measureable indicators</li> <li>• Learn from mistakes and adapt behaviour</li> </ul>
Context	7. Meta-governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set minimum criteria for partnerships</li> <li>• Entrust institution with vetting procedures</li> <li>• Explore linkages between partnerships</li> </ul>
	8. Problem-structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledge differences in problems</li> <li>• Adapt expectations</li> <li>• Design according to problem-structure</li> </ul>
	9. Political and social context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify problems (e.g. Corruption)</li> <li>• Engage in capacity building</li> <li>• Choose most favourable context</li> </ul>

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