



Bsport+

WHITE PAPER ON STAKEHOLDERS *SWEDEN*

Co-funded by the
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INTRODUCTION: SCOPE AND PURPOSE

One of the most serious risks for swimmers who are visually impaired is concussion from hitting the head at the ends of the pool. Therefore, visually impaired swimmers need the help of a tapper when swimming in a pool to be aware of the length left to swim before being able to turn. The tapper taps on the head of the swimmer a few meters from the turning point. The use of a tapper is useful and necessary but expensive considering the personnel cost.

It is KTH's goal to take advantage of the modern technological advancement to develop a sensor based assistive device for visually impaired swimmers which will:

- Reduce the infrastructural barrier encountered by visual impaired swimmers
- Increase the degree of independence of the visual impaired swimmers
- Reduce the long-term costs associated to recreational activity performed by visually impaired people.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

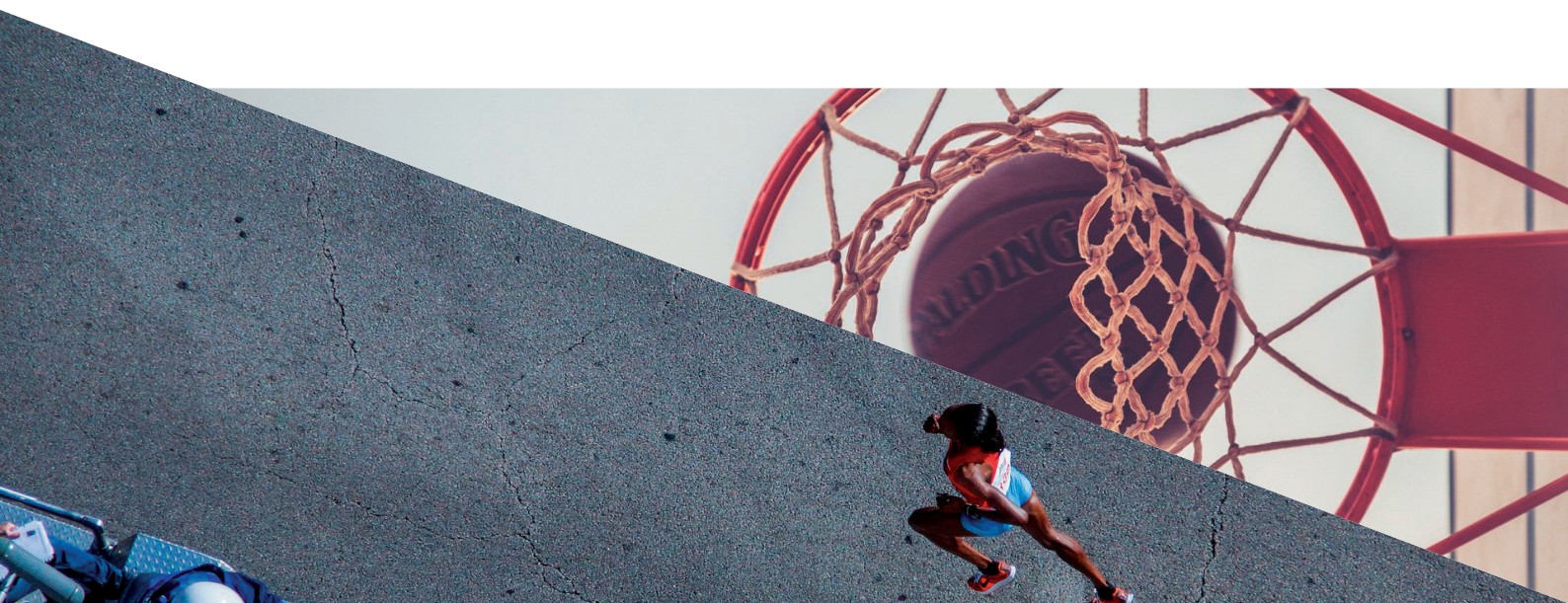
There are many public agencies in Sweden that have identified the problem with lack of activity for PwDs and consequently the risk of bad health. According to Statistics Sweden; $1,4 \pm 0,3$ % of the general public is considered to have bad health, this increases to $13,0 \pm 1,1$ % for a person with one disability and $29,9 \pm 3,0$ % for a person with two or more disabilities. Some agencies that have taken action is Folkhälsomyndigheten (Public health agency of Sweden). The Public Health Authority works partly to monitor and report on the health of people with disabilities and partly to follow up health promotion and preventive measures nationally, regionally and locally. Myndigheten för delaktighet (Swedish Agency for Participation) works to promote a society that should be useful and accessible to all. Socialstyrelsen (National Board of Health and Welfare) is Sweden's knowledge authority for care and care. RF - Riksidrottsförbundet (National Sports Federation) is the sports movement's unifying organization with the task of supporting, representing, developing and leading the movement on common issues, both nationally and internationally. They are others like inkluderade.se which is a website filled with facts, knowledge, inspiration, films, interviews and specific tools for working with norms and inclusion.

Identified stakeholders:

- Folkhälsomyndigheten - www.folkhalsomyndigheten.se
- Myndigheten för delaktighet - www.mfd.se
- Socialstyrelsen - www.socialstyrelsen.se
- Funka – www.funka.se
- Funktionshinderpolitik – www.funktionshinderpolitik.se
- RS (Riksidrottsförbundet) – www.rf.se
- Svenska Olympiska Kommitté – www.sok.se
- Svenska Paraolympiska Kommitté – www.paraolympic.se
- The Swedish school of sport and health science – www.gih.se
- Hörselskadades riksförbund – www.hrf.se
- Synskadades riksförbund – www.srf.se
- Psoriasisförbundet – www.psoriasisforbundet.se
- Astma och Allergi Förbundet – www.astmaoallergiforbundet.se
- DHR (national association for people with impaired mobility) – www.dhr.se
- Riksförbundet Attention (ADHD) – www.attention.se
- Svenska dyslexiföreningen - www.dyslexiforening.se
- 1177 Vårdguiden – www.1177.se
- Skolverket – www.skolverket.se
- Idrottsforskning – www.idrottsforskning.se

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND SPORT PARTICIPATION FOR PwDs

The possibility of a PwD to do activate in sports are good in Sweden. Regarding access to sports clubs, one survey showed that 14 of the 40 sports clubs already had activities for children / young people with disabilities (Aust Tallkvist, 2008). However, the biggest problem for many, regardless of disabilities, in Sweden is that doing sports are expensive. Other identified obstacles are distance to facilities and the possibility to have the required equipment and assistance. The assessment is that the best way to find sustainable solutions to get more people



with disabilities to become more active is to look at how the sports associations have managed continues activities with PwD since the early 60s. These are important for understanding how to get solutions that are stable for a long time. The studies done have shown that there are very many enthusiasts in the area who have created many good working examples in Sweden, but it is not always that is survives after an enthusiast disappears. Below are three examples of successfully long-time association that promotes activity for PwD focusing on visual impairment.

Motion och Idrottsföreningen för synskadade, Göteborg - Exercise activities for people with visual impairment that have lived in Gothenburg since the 1960s. The overall purpose of the project is to promote independent exercise and sports for mainly people with visual impairment <https://misgbg.se>.

DBFK Stockholm - Exercise activities for people with visual impairment in Stockholm. The overall purpose of the project is to promote independent exercise and sports for mainly people with visual impairment Dbfk.se.

Nacka HI - parasport associations that were formed in 1963. One of the biggest parasport associations situated just outside of Stockholm www.nackahi.se.

OVERVIEW AND KEY FINDINGS FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY

Regarding the survey, those who answered in many ways have already found good alternatives on how to be active and exercise. What is missing and more difficult to get answers to be how we should find those who have not found a method to carry out training here yet. Here we would need to find other methods to reach PwD that currently aren't being active and exercise. However, the survey confirms previous studies that cost and distance to facilities are the many concerns for doing activities.

RECOMMENDED POLICY ACTIONS

The assessment is that the best way to find sustainable solutions to get more people with disabilities to become more active is to look at how the sports associations have managed continues activities with PwD since the early 60s. These are important for understanding how to get solutions that are stable for a long time. This we be an ongoing research at KTH. As KTH is a focusing on technology our goal is also to take advantage of modern technological advancement to develop and explore how a sensor-based can be used to facilitate PwD in many areas to become more physically active but we will focus on assistive device for visually impaired swimmers.

CONCLUSIONS

It is our goal to take advantage of modern technological advancement to develop a sensor-based assistive device for visually impaired swimmers. However, we are interested in and will pursue how modern technology can be used to facilitate PwD in other areas to become more physically active as well.

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WHITE PAPER ON POLICY MAKERS SWEDEN

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Who we are

FUNDACIÓN
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IRENDHUIS

