



Action Project Reference: 34-03

Organisation: Athletics Fiji

### Action Project Proposal:

## “Create an Educational Program to Increase Youth Engagement with Athletics”

### Who Are Athletics Fiji?

Athletics Fiji was founded in 1947, and is the association in charge of track and field athletics across Fiji.

The sport of Athletics started in the early days of the colony and was in most part instigated by the formation of the Fiji Amateur Sport Association. The sport started in Levuka, the old capital of Fiji where it was associated with betting. After the formation of the Suva Amateur Sports Club in 1936 competitions were held in Suva and Levuka. New Zealand servicemen stationed in Fiji (Laucala – now USP) during the war in the early 1940s fueled interest in the sport through regular competitions at Buckhurst Park. In 1947 the Fiji Amateur Athletics Association was formed. The sport of Athletics at that time was mostly run by expatriates who were working in Fiji who were often amazed at the natural talent of local athletes. In 1950 Fiji sent a team to the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand where they won a number of medals in the men's shot, discus and javelin.

### Mission:

To be the number 1 track & field nation in the Oceania Region.

## **Long Term Aims & Vision:**

Set up a robust structure that's focused at ensuring Athletics Fiji evolves into a high performing environment driven by a passionate, dedicated, disciplined and collective group of people with sports aligned best interest at heart and ensuring an institution of excellence is the ultimate end goal.

To Make Athletics Fiji an enjoyable, safe & great place to be and to grow individuals who energise, engage and create strong culture and values for a better future.

## **Current Challenges:**

Funding is the main problem that Athletics Fiji faces, much like many other sporting organisations in Fiji.

## **Further Information:**

Athletics Fiji wishes to promote athletics as a sport amongst youths in Fiji. Athletics is an ideal sport to promote and grow during this pandemic given the minimal contact nature of the sport. We want to ensure we can reach out to people who need it, especially youths and young children, who might be struggling with a lack of sports during this pandemic.

Creating an educational program will involve tasks such as creating educational resources to teach youths about athletic sports and the history of Athletics Fiji, as well as designing training sessions/lesson plans for use in schools to increase sports engagement with athletics.

## **Key Research & Discussion Areas:**

### **Plan and deliver ...**

- What are the overall aims of these educational resources? How do they fit in with the missions aims, values and long-term aims of Athletics Fiji?
- What will be interesting to their target audience?
- What platforms/ organisation can be partnered with to deliver educational programs?
- How will they need to adapt these resources for different age groups?
- What financial and physical resources do they have to develop? What partnerships could they develop to facilitate the improvement of their resources?
- Are there any examples of similar educational resources online you could use for inspiration for format and content?
- How are the educational resources going to be delivered? (e.g. workshops, self-led)
- Can these resources be adapted for online use during the pandemic?
- What marketing channels are they going to use to advertise and promote them?
- How could they make the development and delivery of their educational resources more sustainable in the long-term?

### Create content ...

- How will you vary the level of content for different child age groups?
- What design features will you use to make your resources visually appealing?
- What format/s will you use for the lesson plans/ training programs?

### Barriers to success ...

- What are the potential barriers to the development of educational resources? (e.g. financial, practical, attitudinal)
- What are the potential barriers to implementing these in schools/ youth centres?
- What are the potential solutions?
- How will Covid-19 impact delivery of programs? Can you adapt these resources for online use?

### Evaluate ...

- How will you evaluate the success of the project? What evaluation methods will you use? (e.g. interviews, surveys, focus groups, observational studies)
- Could you design evaluation forms for schools so programs can be reviewed and improved over time?

### Useful Links:

- Website: [www.athleticsfiji.com](http://www.athleticsfiji.com)
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/athleticsfiji/>
- Organisational page: <https://thinkpacific.com/action-project-athletics-fiji/>

### Further Questions

Are there any questions you would like to ask Athletics Fiji to assist in completing this project?

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