



# Promotion of health equity through physical activity – experience of City of Turku

Karolina Mackiewicz Pärnu, 6 June 2014





How physical activity can help promote health equity?

Examples from City of Turku:

- 1. Power Action intervention for young people;
- 2. Kimmoke intervention for low-income and unemployed people;
- 3. Gym at home! intervention for older people.

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### How physical activity can help promote health equity?

There is no "unique disadvantaged group"

More intensive support at all stages is required

Interventions need to combine a variety of actions

Evidence-based planning is a key

Integration of peers and local facilitators

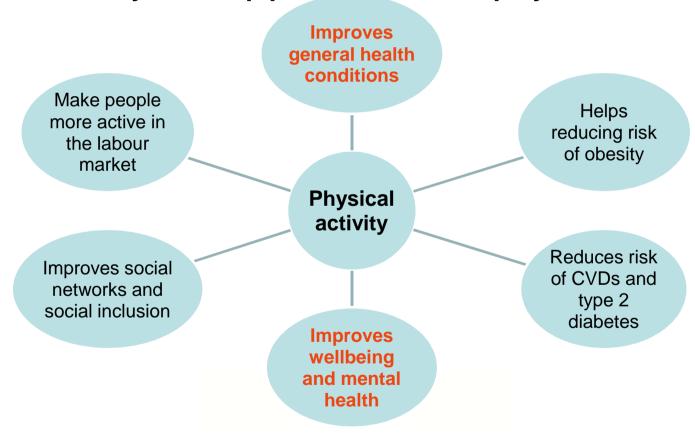
The duration should be realistic

Environmental modifications should be included





### How physical activity can help promote health equity?







# A settlement health map (by Barton, Grant)



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### **Examples from City of Turku**



**Unemployed** 



People with only comprehensive education



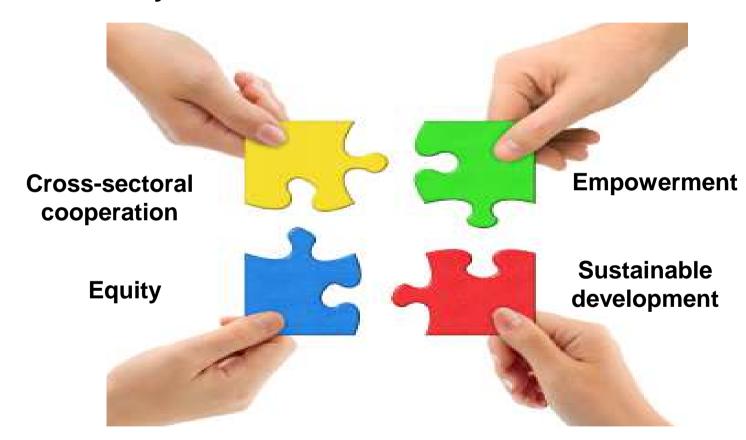
**Immigrants** 

Health inequalities didn't decrease in Turku. There are big differences between the city districts.





### **Examples from City of Turku**







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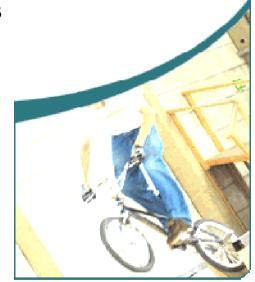




### **After School Physical Activities for Youth**

Poweraction is developed to offer young people possibilities to maintain and increase physical activity, try something new, without previous skills in a non-competitive way.

- Drop-out from sport NGOs / clubs around 14 years of age
- Teen-age need to be more independent, wish to try different things, role of parents decreases;
- Being with friends is more important than belonging to one specific sport club

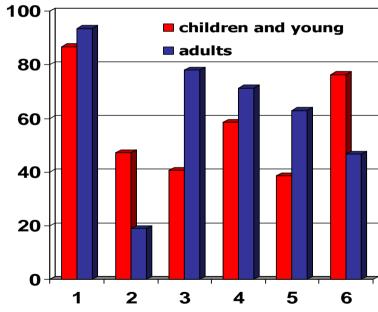






### Young people value different things than adults in PA

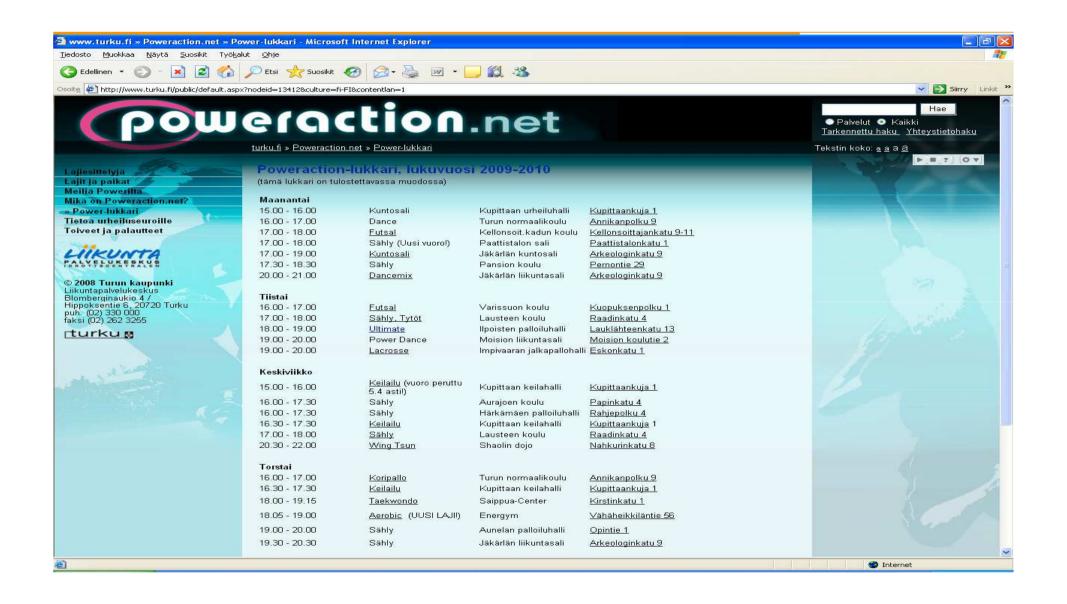
- 1. Physical activity is good for health
- 2. I enjoy competition
- 3. I can be in touch with nature
- 4. I enjoy physical stress
- Physical activity improves working and functional capacity
- 6. I can be together with my friends

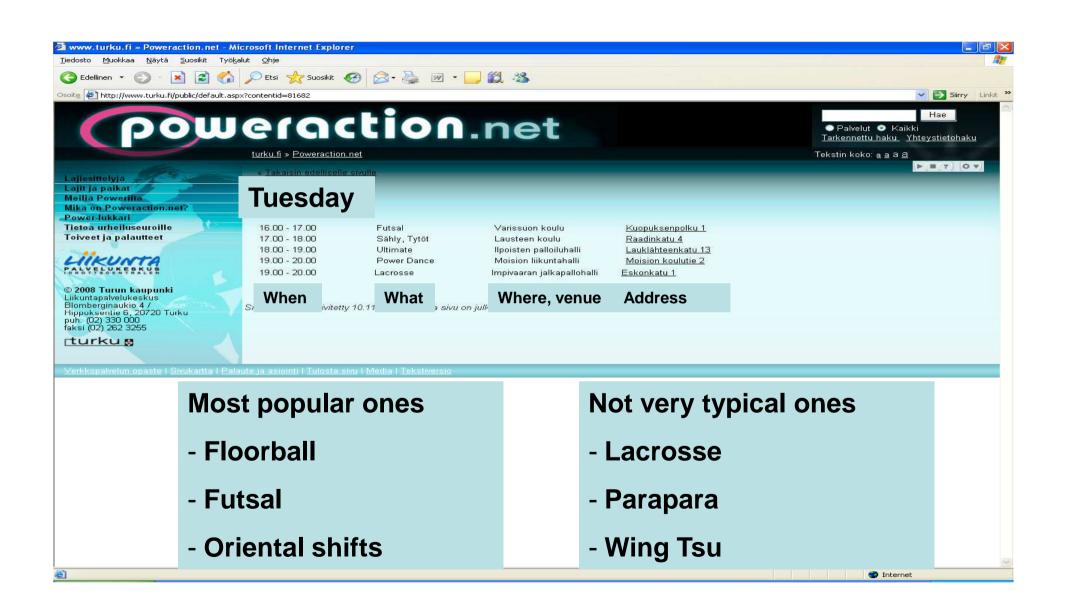






- For 13 19 years old (from 7<sup>th</sup> grade to the end of gymnasium)
- Free of charge for participants, no pre-registration for shifts
- Weekly curriculum (Mon-Sun), currently 28 shifts and 14 different activities
- Instructor always present and advising, equipment available / can be borrowed
- Following school year (Autumn/Spring) schedule and additional activities during the summer









- Coordinated by City of Turku Recreational Services department
- **City** compiles the curriculum and co-operates with the NGOs / clubs and provides the marketing materials (posters, passports, website etc.)
- City pays 15 EUR / hour to the NGOs / clubs
- Special attention on the **disadvantaged city areas** = more activities / shifts
- Sport teachers distribute "a passport" to everyone in target group and market the action – passport includes curriculum





- Important to come with friends difficult to predict what comes popular
- Sport NGOs / clubs see this as a possibility to enhance young people in their activities – they want to continue and develop Poweraction
- Marketing depends on the activity of sport teacher
- Involvement of young people in planning will be increased
- More attention to multicultural actions





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# KIMMOKE - a ticket for sport and cultural activities for people in weakest economical situation

 Available for people who receive certain social benefits (e.g. are unemployed or in low income)

- Marketed by social service workers
- Start: September 2013
- Over 1200 tickers bought until today







# KIMMOKE - a ticket for sport and cultural activities for people in weakest economical situation

- For 39 EUR for 6 months an owner can use the sport and cultural facilities of City of Turku (i.e. visit gyms, swimming halls, museums)
- Additionally the owners are invited to the sport and cultural events if there are free seats left (e.g. football or ice-hockey games, theater plays, philharmonic concerts)
- The invitations are sent by SMS system, operated by the City of Turku Recreational Services Unit













Musiikkia ja kirjastoseikkailua

### Valokuvasuunnistusta pääkirjastossa

Turun kaupunginkirjasto järjestää kaikille kimmokelaisille koko perheen tapahtuman 22.5. klo 15–18. Tapahtumassa valokuvasuunnistusta, musiikkia sekä herkuttelua.



Rannekkeella kulttuuria

### Kimmokkeella museokäynnille

Turun museokeskus tarjoaa yhä enemmän kulttuurielämyksiä Kimmokeasiakkaille huhtikuusta lähtien. Wäinö Aaltosen museoon ja Biologiseen museoon on vapaapääsy rannekkeella.



Tekstiviestillä kausietuja

### Kutsu Viehätysvoimaa-konserttiin

Liikuntapalveluiden lisäksi Kimmoke-rannekkeella pääsee nauttimaan kulttuurista ja urheilunhuippuhetkistä. Näihin etuihin rannekelaiset kutsutaan tekstiviestillä.





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# **Gym at Home! Physical Activity intervention of older people**

- Encourages elderly people, + 70-years-old, to be more physically active
- The main target group are people who live alone and/or in are at risk of becoming isolated
- Balance control and muscular strength in the lower limbs are in the focus of the programmes

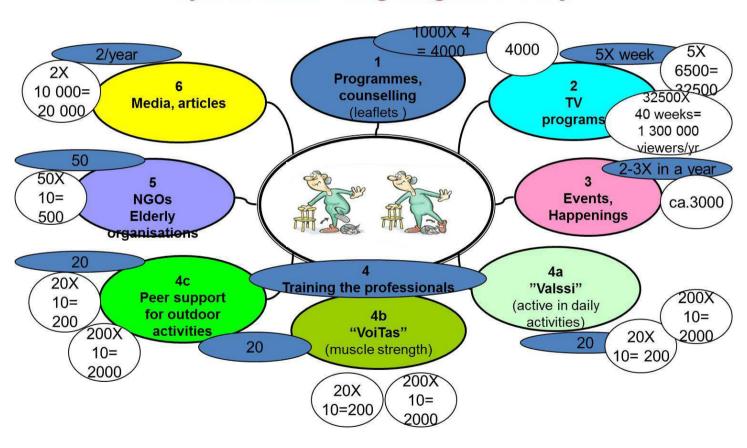








### **Gym at Home! Targeting the elderly**





### Programs for different functional capacity levels of the elderly

- 9 TV shows and 4 leaflets
- Programs are distributed continuously and individually in Primary Health Care and Recreational Services departments always together with individual counselling

### Turku-TV broadcasted the programs 5 days / week

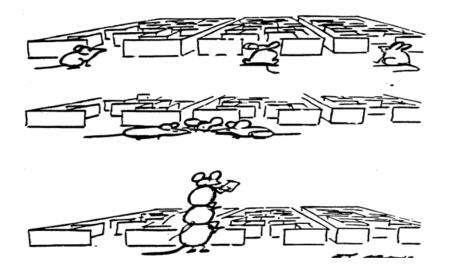
• 15 min at a time, approx. 40 weeks/year

Regular training for professionals and jointly organized events give an excellent opportunity to distribute these materials.









### Thank you for your attention!

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