

## Trinidad and Tobago Paralympic Committee

As part of their involvement in ICES, the Trinidad and Tobago Paralympic Committee (TTPC) have recently completed their ICES organisational mapping. TTPC are working with the Trinidad and Tobago Alliance for Sport and Physical Education (TTASPE).

The mapping process was guided by Kerish Maharaj, TTASPE's lead officer for the ICES project, using UK Sport's ICES mapping tools. The outcomes of the mapping varied, showing both areas of great strength and areas for development.

The mapping has highlighted specific areas of focus for TTPC, but it was also clear that they had already commenced key policy development work, in areas such as participant protection and equality. Key areas for development included developing a strategy for coach development and effective procedures for implementing the strategies.

TTASPE and TTPC will now work together in formulating plans on how to address the areas for development that were identified.

TTPC President, Michael Fraser gave his thoughts on the mapping process:

"This was our (TTPC's) first ICES mapping, it was easy to understand. I thought that the process checked and standards would be beyond our new organisation's ability to reach but while doing the mapping I have realised that we have that capability. Overall it was user friendly and gave us a perfect snapshot of where we are compared to other good practices. The next steps were also captured immediately with our interim executive, coach educators and staff. It really gave everyone a detailed big picture of where we are and where need to go next."

He continued: "Being involved in the ICES project comes in perfect timing for our organisation's growth, which focuses on developing multiple sport initiatives for persons with disabilities in communities across Trinidad and Tobago in the disciplines of Shooting, Athletics, Volleyball and Swimming. I would definitely recommend that any country forming a new Paralympic Committee, or existing Paralympic Committees, be involved in this project in order to further develop their coaching education system."

Kerish Maharaj of TTASPE commented: "People with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago sometimes have limited opportunities in sport. Working with the TTPC has been extremely beneficial advocacy for equality and inclusion. A key benefit of the mapping process has been to understand what processes, policies and systems are needed in the specific context of a Paralympic organisation. The partnership with the TTPC can provide us with a case study to share with other Paralympic in this region."

UK Sport's International Programme Officer, Pippa Goodhead, said of this recent development, "since the beginning of II in Trinidad and Tobago, it has been our aim to work with TTPC and this project provides a great opportunity to create a good partnership and support TTPC's development. We are thrilled that they are involved in ICES – they are the first Paralympic committee to go through mapping and be part of the ever-growing ICES network."

The ICES project in Trinidad and Tobago is part of the International Inspiration (II) programme. International Inspiration is the official international legacy programme of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. TTASPE is leading the ICES project on behalf of the II partners, UNICEF, the British Council and UK Sport.