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| Best Practice | Unified Schools Toolkit |
| Description | SOLA has undertaken the challenge of translating and adapting a number of resources as a means to expand Unified Schools in the region. This best practice resource details the process involved in creating the Unified Schools Toolkit for their region. We recommend you see how this process can be adapted to your Region or Program context. Following is a detail account on how this process came about:  • SOLA’s requested SOI support to participate in the 2017 SONA Unified Champion Schools Conference. Staff reviewed all SONA materials to identify what would be of better use for their implementation of US.  • Through a partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank, SOLA began Unified Schools implementation in Panama. As part of the agreement, SOLA included the elaboration of the US Toolkit and adapted it for the implementation of Unified Schools that was not only for the project’s participating schools but of ALL Programs in the SOLA Region.  • A qualified consultant reviewed all the SONA Unified Schools materials chosen by the regional office to be used as reference and developed 3 guides, one for facilitators, another for primary schools (preschool and elementary) and secondary schools (middle and high school) that includes general information about Special Olympics, intellectual disability and unified champion schools components and their implementation. The toolkit was enriched with the inclusion of the Young Athletes Activity Guide.  • The toolkit was distributed in all training sessions for schools in SO Panama.  • Late in 2017, they organized a Regional Youth Activation/Unified Schools Workshop with National Directors and youth coordinators of all Programs in the Region, and delivered printed copies as well as digital versions of the toolkit.  • For 2019, SOLA will launch 3 new guides to the toolkit: Unified PE, Youth Leadership and Unified Universities.  You can find all guides by following either one of these links:  <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4gbfsdrsxko1fq5/AABZjY-e7VptWKpMi769ihR-a?dl=0>  <https://resources.specialolympics.org/unified-champion-schools-resources/> |
| Source/Author | Special Olympics Latin America |
| Keywords | Unified Schools Guides. Unified Schools Toolkit. New partnership. |
| Purpose | The process undertook by SOLA can be replicated in other regions with the appropriate adaptations depending on Regional and Program specific needs. |
| Age Group | Primary school, secondary school and or Universities. |
| Slide Presentation | <https://www.powtoon.com/online-presentation/b2PLzfFVniJ/?mode=movie#/> |