

keypartners & alliances

SARI works with many like minded organisations to ensure best practice and to present a united approach to combating racism and promoting integration and inclusion through sport. These organisations include; Football Against Racism Europe (FARE), Kick It Out, Football Unites Racism Divides (FURD), Irish Football Association (IFA), UK Football Foundation, UNICEF, Dublin Aids Alliance, Dublin Inner City Partnership, An Garda Síochána, GAA, Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU), Irish Cricket Union, Football Association of Ireland (FAI), Football Intercultural Advisory Group (FIAG), Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, National Action Plan Against Racism, Irish Sports Council, Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism, Show Racism The Red Card, Irish Refugee Council, Reception and Integration Agency (RIA), National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI), Dublin City Council, Irish Youth Foundation, Léargas, Common Purpose, Amnesty International Ireland, Vocational Education Committee (VEC) and Sport in Action (Zambia). SARI is a member of Football Against Racism Europe (FARE), UNITED for Intercultural Action, Integrating Ireland, NGO Alliance against Racism and the Irish Campaign Against Child Labour.

“like it or loathe it,
embrace it or deny it,
but our communities,
our nation, our children
need sari to fight the
sickness that is racism
and discrimination.
sari’s work is to bring all
communities together
through sport”

brian kerr

sari strategy '08-'10



abriefhistory

SARI is a not-for-profit organisation with charitable status set up in 1997 as a direct response to the growth of racist attacks from a small but vocal section of people in Ireland. Operating at a grassroots, community-based level, SARI reaches out to the disenfranchised, the impoverished, the abused, the isolated, the undocumented and the needy. Simultaneously SARI is committed to shaping, influencing, lobbying and formulating critical policy at the highest levels of sporting and political governance. SARI is an active partner in this field alongside UEFA, Olympic Council, the Council of Europe, the European Union, United Nations and other international sporting and political bodies.

Sport Against Racism Ireland supports and promotes cultural integration and social inclusion through sport.

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unitedthrough
sport

who we are

SARI is the leading NGO at the forefront of promoting cultural integration and social inclusion through sport.

From its inception as a volunteer based organisation, SARI has evolved into an internationally respected agent for social change, governed by a board of directors and chief executive charged with driving a dynamic three year strategy.

mission

SARI's mission is to support cultural integration and social inclusion in Ireland by using sport as a medium to combat racism, sectarianism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of discrimination.

vision

SARI's vision is of an Ireland, and a world, where interculturalism is celebrated through all sports, at all levels.



“integration does not happen by itself. it never does. that is the one thing we know from south africa. it needs to be on everybody's agenda – school, church, media and politicians”

melanie verwoerd

why we do this

We do this because it is a fundamental obligation for those of us who can assist others to do so. We do this because it is important to take up our communal and social responsibilities by providing support to those born of new and resident communities.

what we've done

In its eleven years of operation SARI has brought together over 50,000 people, including 5,000 children, to play a variety of sports including soccer, Gaelic football and hurling, rugby, tennis, swimming, boxing, cricket, basketball, capoeira and fencing. Through this we have established lasting friendships and understanding between all communities.

SARI has hosted eleven annual Soccerfest weekends, five Mayday Kids multicultural sports days, and a wide variety of other events such as 'National Lunch Day', 'Chinese New Year', 'Chinese Autumn Festival', 'Intercultural Open Days' and 'Multicultural Mardi Gras'.

As founder members of Football Against Racism Europe (FARE), SARI was one of the primary architects of the UEFA Ten Point Plan against Racism which SARI first brought to the Eircom League in 2003.

Through SARI's membership of the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) and the NGO Alliance Against Racism SARI has been centrally involved in developing programmes for the 'European Year of Equal Opportunities for All 2007', and contributing to the analysis on the implementation by the Irish Government of the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

In 2005 and 2006, SARI carried out research on the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Equality policies of the National Governing Bodies of Sport in the Irish Republic. The findings were used to inform the programme for the successful SARI Sporting Equals Symposium in Croke Park. Part two of this report, which included the Local Sports Partnerships, was presented in a comprehensive proposal to the Irish Sports Council to create the conditions to ensure that the sports bodies include equality clauses in their constitutions in line with the sports measures in the Government's National Plan against Racism. SARI has been instrumental in the formulation and implementation of the Football Intercultural Advisory Group (FIAG), a concept that was developed between the Football Association of Ireland (FAI), the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI), Show Racism the Red Card and SARI. The outcome of the FIAG is an intercultural plan for the FAI that seeks to bring new communities into the game at all levels.

objectives

- » Ensure that the experience of participating in sport is a positive one by providing a safe, secure, protected environment.
- » Increase opportunities for the participation in sport of all people, of all ages, cultures, nationalities and abilities at local and national level.
- » Expand and improve the sporting events that SARI promotes.
- » Lobby and support government agencies and national sports bodies to adopt anti-racism and equality measures.
- » Contribute to the delivery of the sports measures of the National Action Plan Against Racism.
- » Develop sports related educational material.
- » Contribute to the promotion of Active Citizenship creating and developing increased opportunities for volunteering.
- » Work with overseas partners to ensure best practice and present an international united approach to combating racism and promoting cultural integration and social inclusion.



key sari events '08

jan-april » Integrating Schools Through Sports » Intercontinental Indoor Futsal League may-aug » National Kiddies Sports Fest - May day Bank holiday » Intercontinental Outdoor Summer League july » Hit Racism 4/6 Cricket Fest sept » 12th Annual Soccer Fest oct-dec » Football Against Racism Action Week (with Football Intercultural Group)

sari inter-continental league

This league was set up in 2004 with twenty senior teams including representatives of Nigeria, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Brazil, South Africa, Poland, Israel, Palestine, Mongolia, France, Italy, China, Romania and Slovakia. This initiative has enabled players from these teams to mainstream into the Leinster Senior Football Leagues.

“for me, it is five continents – but one people. we need to live together, to work together and we need to play together”

john rocha