

EYSF2012 FOREWORD

By Mr. Kevin Mayne – Guest speaker of #EYSF2012

One of the key things that unites every sector I have worked with is the need to identify and harness the potential of emerging talent, the leaders of the next generation. This need is present from the top levels of industry and NGOs and in public bodies from local municipalities to the EU.

I have been highly impressed not only by the passion and commitment of the young leaders at the #EYSF2012, but also by their professionalism and their insight into the issues that face Europe's young people in coming years, not just in the field of sport.

These are people who could be successful in most walks of life, because of the talents they have developed through sport, volunteering and youth work. They offer policy makers a clear view into much wider issues of society, of health, of person development and the impact of economic policies on young people.

I urge policy makers reading this declaration to consider it not only as a product of able minds with high potential. Consider it as representative of one of the biggest pools of untapped talent in Europe. Support for this declaration should be support for investment and capacity building in this sector, which will see some of these leaders at the head of European enterprises of all kinds in future years.

These new leaders are a product of the huge pool of human resource that formal and informal sport and physical activity is developing for Europe. Few other sectors can offer so much in terms of leadership development, coaching and teaching skills, governance and good practice, which is developed in both professionals and volunteers. In addition, these skills are transferrable to business, to local government and the wider NGO sector, making Europe more competitive and successful on the global stage.

Practically their proposals can bring jobs, positive economic impact, quality of life, wellbeing, health and sport to millions of European citizens. This is a shared goal for all of us.

Mr. Kevin Mayne
Development Director
European Cyclists' Federation

