



The Danish Badminton Elite Training Environment

Lars Rüz Kaysen

Institute of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics
University of Southern Denmark

Master Thesis

Table of Content

- Badminton Denmark
- Objectives
- Method
- The Athletic Talent Development Environment Model (ATDE)
 - The ATDE Model – Focused on Coaching
- Environmental Success Factor Model (ESF)
 - The ESF – Focused on Coaching
- Results 1
- Results 2
- Questions and Comments

Badminton Denmark

- Success at international tournaments the last two decades
- Very competitive sport at the international level
 - Asian countries
- Despite this Denmark is in the World Top 3
 - Medals at World Championships and Olympics
- Badminton Denmark meets the requirements of being categorized as an elite environment by Team Denmark
- Successful elite environment

Objectives

- What characterizes Badminton Denmark (BD) as a successful elite training environment?
- Three objectives with my study:
 - A depictive model of the elite training environment at BD
 - Which factors underlies the success BD has achieved during the recent years?
 - E.g. How is the organizational culture of BD and which values are visible and important
 - Which differences in the characteristics that reflects the talent environment and the elite environment, respectively?

Method

- Case study design: “*an empirical enquiry that investigates a real-life phenomenon within its real-life context*” (Maaloe, 2004)
 - Holistic ecological perspective (Bronfenbrenner, 1999; Henriksen et al., 2010)
- Interviews: Sports director, team of coaches, elite athletes and young athletes
- Observations: Practice, training camp, meetings (formal/informal), competition (Denmark Open), high-low season
- Document analysis: articles, training schedules, player profiles, BD’s homepage

The Athletic Talent Development Environment Model (ATDE)

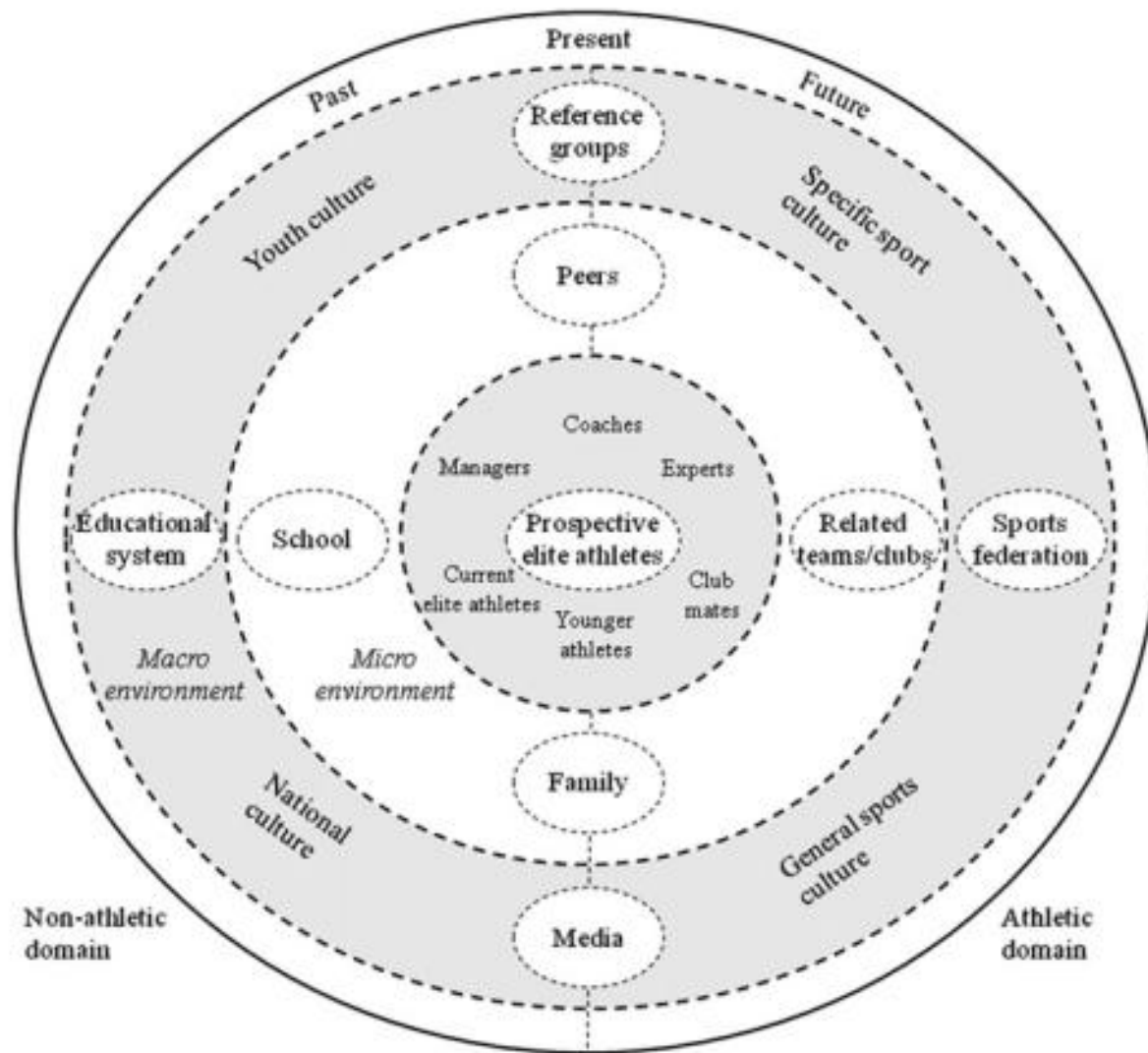
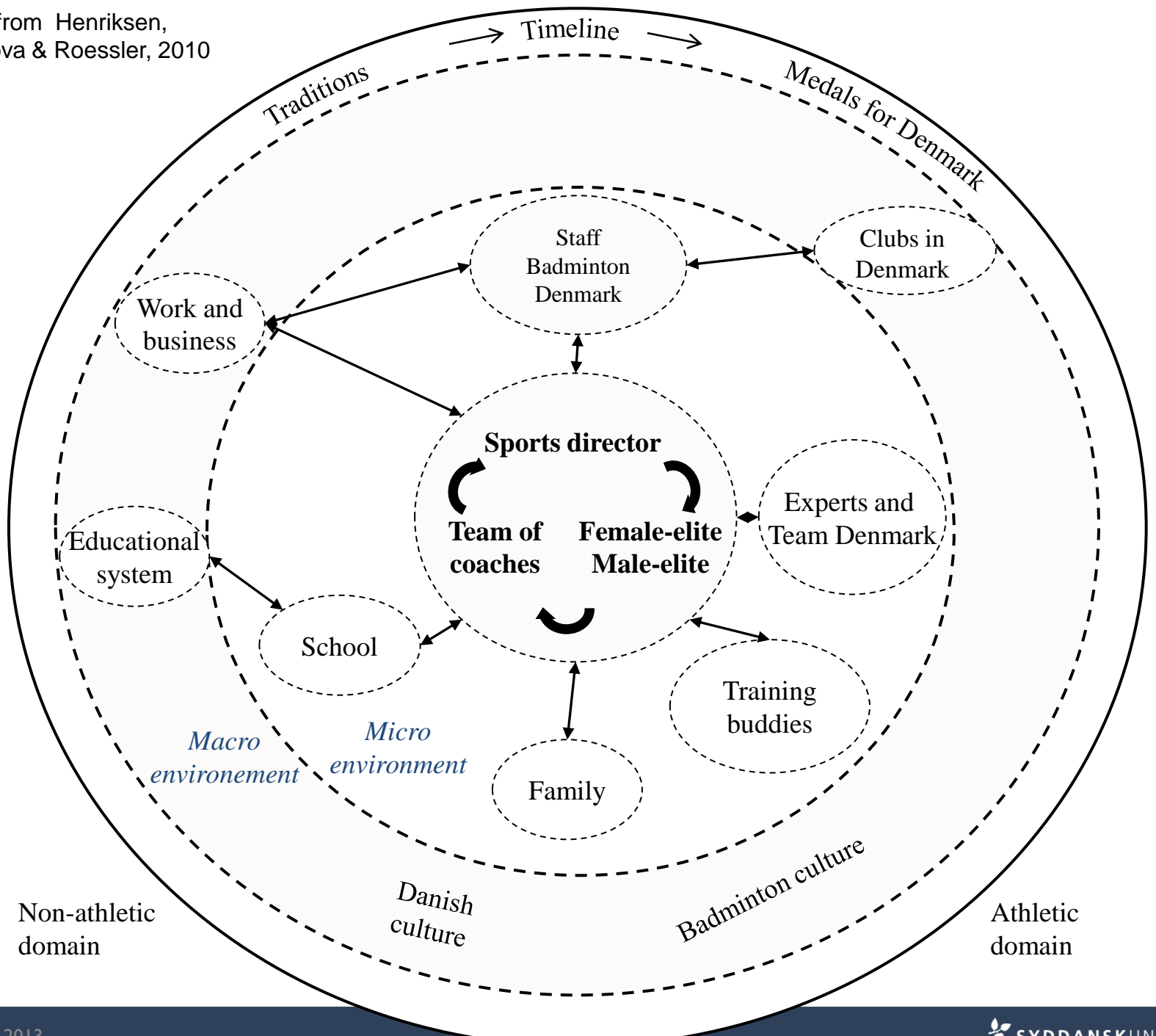
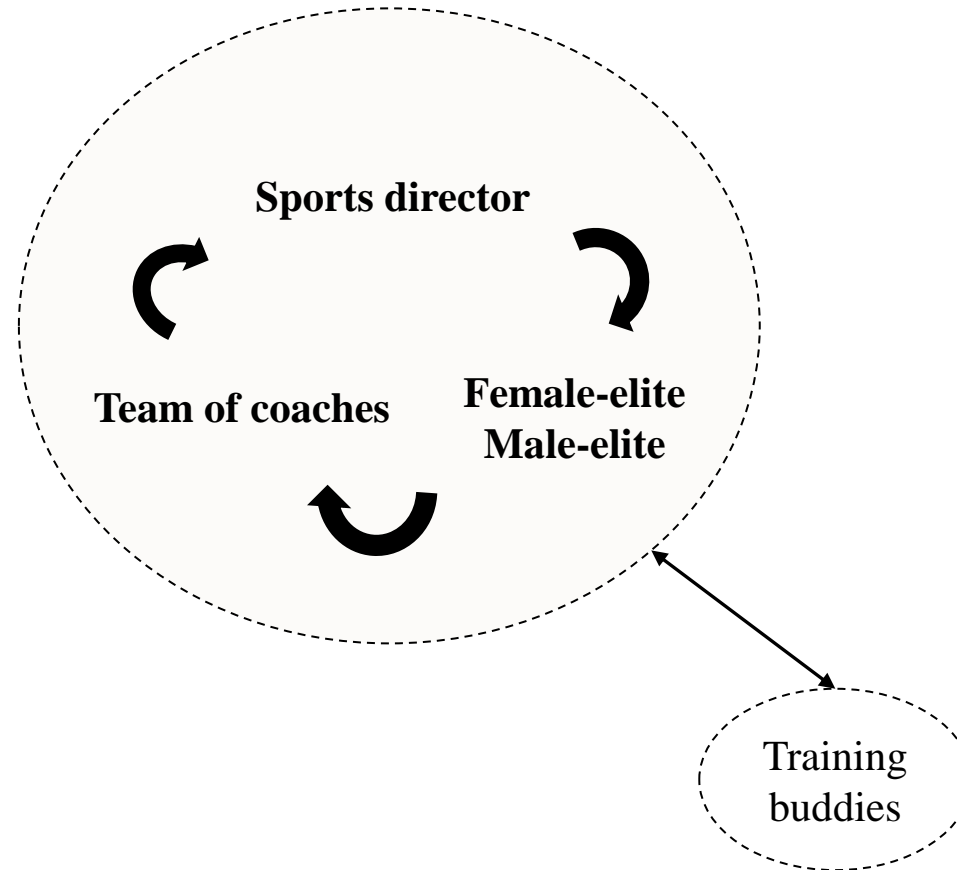


Fig. 1. The athletic talent development environment (ATDE) working model.



The ATDE Model – Focused on Coaching



The Environmental Success Factor Model (ESF)

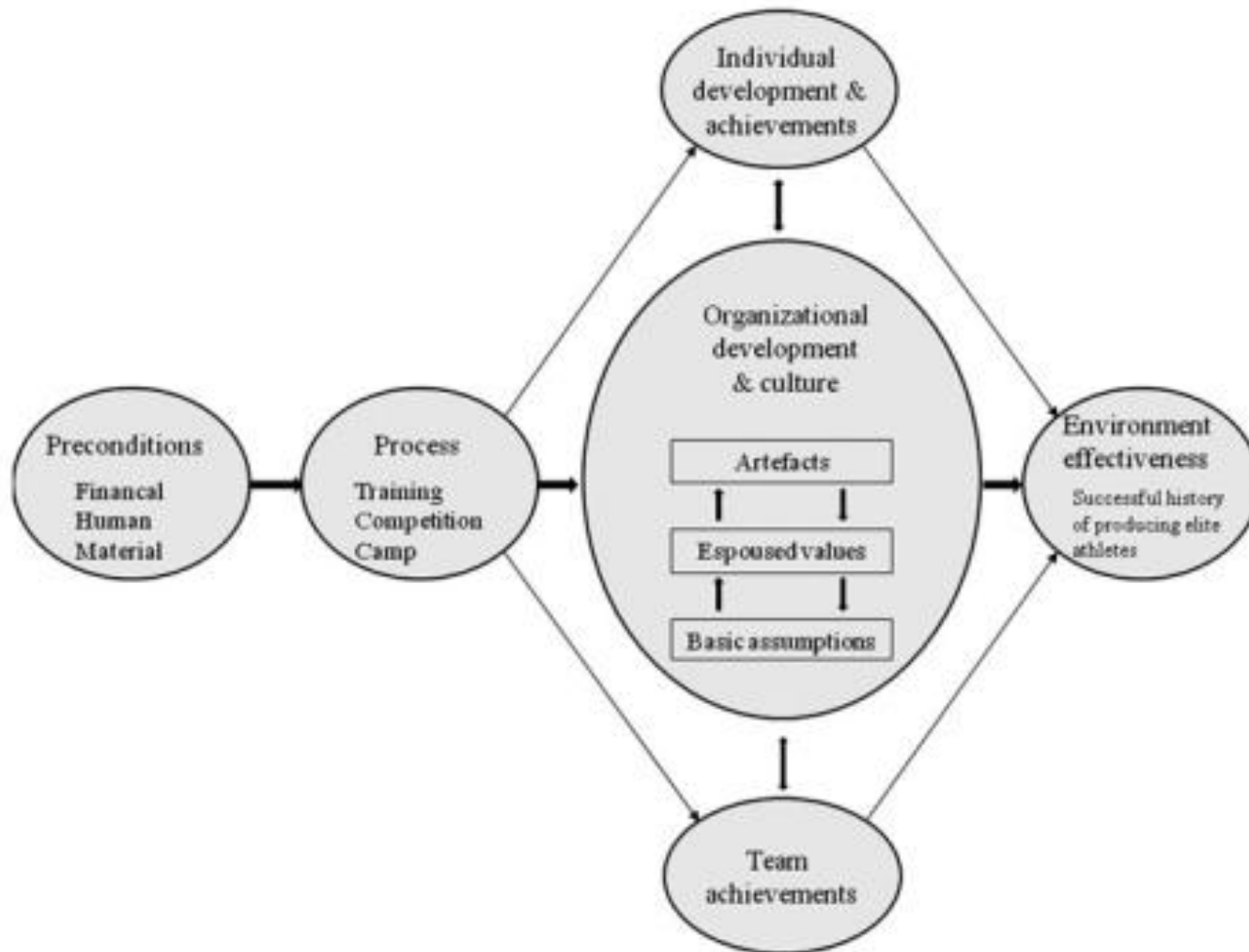
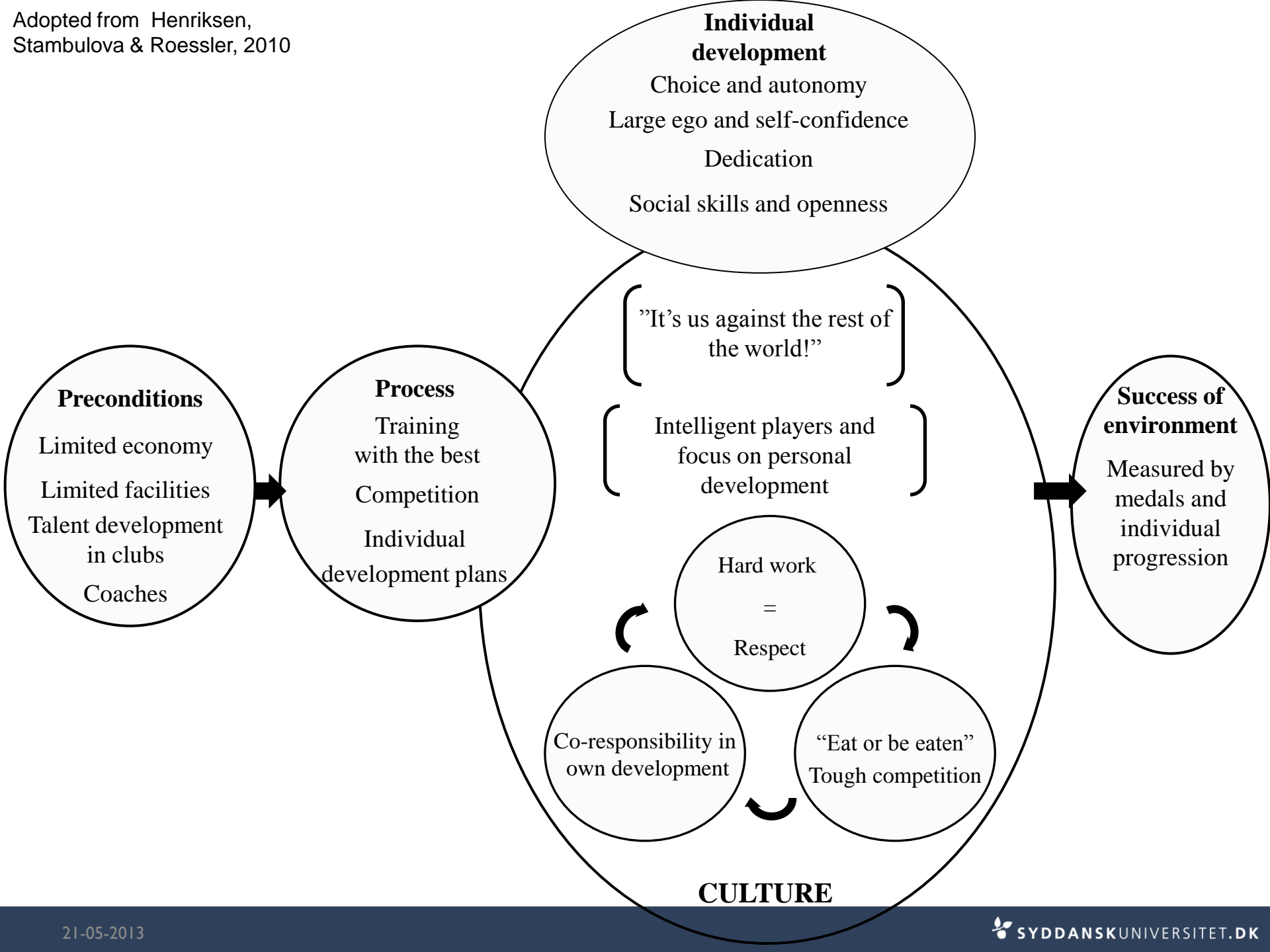
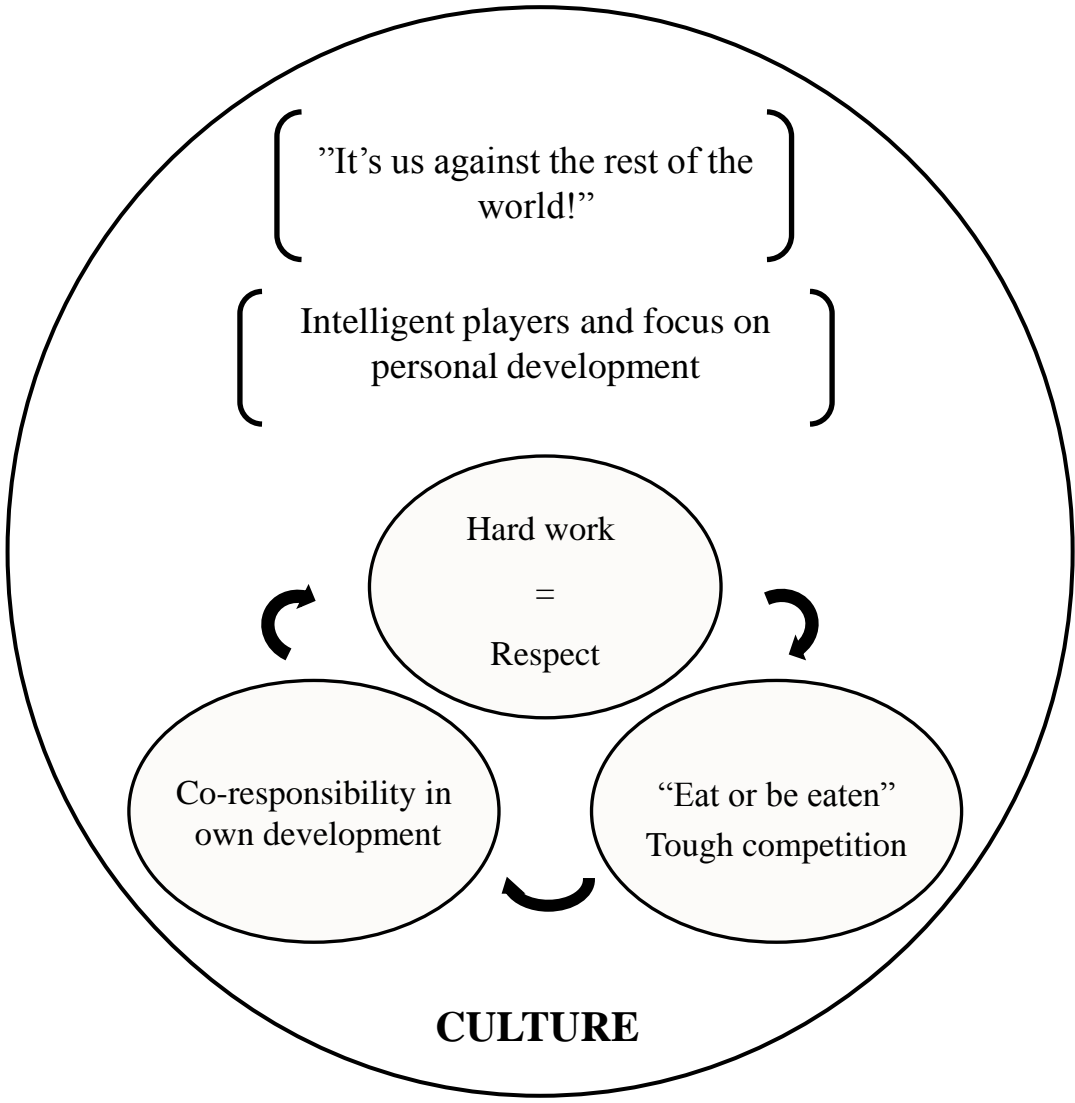


Fig. 2. The environment success factors (ESF) working model.



The ESF Model – Focused on Coaching



Results I

- Flat hierarchy between the SD and ToC
 - Strong cooperation, strong core and solid foundation
- The composition of the ToC:
 - Different competencies
 - Knowledge sharing, professional discussions and learning from each other
- The coaches describe what they are trying to create:
 - Atmosphere and work setting for the players
 - Allowed and encouraged to reflect on their own development
- Flat hierarchy between coaches and players
- Substantial difference in the work ethic between the male-elite and female-elite groupings in relation to helping and teaching each other

Results 2

- Artifact: *“Us against the rest of the world”*
- Espoused values: Developing of intelligent players
 - Capable of making autonomous choices while competing
 - Maintaining focus on individual development through high quality training
- The basic assumptions in the environment are:
 1. Co-responsibility in own development and
 2. “Eat or be eaten” combined with tough competition and
 3. Hard work equals respect from other players.
- The interaction between these three assumptions helps defining the environment



Questions and comments?

Thank you for your attention