

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

WHAT ARE THE AIMS OF A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP?

Collaborative Partnerships offer the opportunity to develop, transfer and/or implement innovative outputs and/or engage into intensive dissemination and exploitation activities of existing and newly products or innovative ideas in different areas relating to sport and physical activity. They involve various organisations and actors in and outside sport, including in particular public authorities at local, regional, national and European levels, sport organisations, sport-related organisations and educational bodies. Collaborative Partnerships are, in particular, innovative projects aimed to:

- Encourage participation in sport and physical activity, especially by supporting the implementation of the Council Recommendation on health-enhancing physical activity and being in line with the EU Physical Activity Guidelines;
- Encourage participation in sport and physical activity, especially by supporting the European Week of Sport;
- Promote education in and through sport with special focus on skills development, as well support the implementation of the EU Guidelines Dual Careers of Athletes;
- Promote voluntary activity in sport;
- Combat doping, notably in recreational environments;
- Combat match-fixing;
- Improve good governance in sport;
- Combat violence and tackle racism, discrimination and intolerance in sport;
- Encourage social inclusion and equal opportunities in sport.

Collaborative Partnerships should promote the creation and development of European networks in the field of sport. The EU can thereby provide opportunities for strengthened cooperation among stakeholders, which would not have existed without EU action. Collaborative Partnerships should also foster synergy with, and between, local, regional, national and international policies to promote sport and physical activity and to address sport-related challenges.

Within the framework of Collaborative Partnerships, Erasmus+ intends to support the testing and development of new project formats and new forms of transnational cooperation in the field of sport that are likely to inspire the development, on a larger scale of initiatives supported with national funding schemes or other European funds, such as the European Structural and Investment Funds.

The Commission, through its Executive Agency, will carry out one selection round over the year.

WHICH ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED UNDER THIS ACTION?

Erasmus+ offers a large flexibility in terms of activities that Collaborative Partnerships can implement, as long as a proposal demonstrates that these activities are the most appropriate to reach the objectives defined for the project. Collaborative Partnerships may typically cover a broad range of activities, such as for example:

- networking among stakeholders;
- development, identification, promotion and sharing of good practices;
- preparation, development and implementation of educational and training modules and tools;
- activities to increase the competences of multipliers in the field of sport and to develop monitoring and benchmarking of indicators, notably as regards the promotion of ethical behaviours and codes of conduct among sportspeople;
- awareness-raising activities on the added value of sport and physical activity in relation to the personal, social and professional development of individuals;
- activities to promote innovative synergies between the field of sport and the fields of health, education, training and youth;
- activities to improve the evidence-base of sport to tackle societal and economic challenges (collection of data underpinning the aforementioned activities, surveys, consultations, etc.);
- conferences, seminars, meetings, events and awareness-raising actions underpinning the aforementioned activities.

WHO CAN TAKE PART IN A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP?

Collaborative Partnerships are open to any type of public institutions or non-profit organisations active in the field of sport and physical activity. Depending on the objective of the project, Collaborative Partnerships should involve an appropriate and diverse range of partners in order to benefit from different experiences, profiles and expertise and to produce relevant and high quality project results.

Collaborative Partnerships target the cooperation between organisations established in Programme Countries.

A Collaborative Partnership should be composed of:

- applicant/coordinator: organisation that submits the project proposal on behalf of all the partners. When the project is granted, the applicant/coordinator will become the main EU grant beneficiary and will sign a multi-beneficiary grant agreement on behalf of all the participating organisations. Its coordinating role stands for the following duties:
 - represents and acts on behalf of the participating organisations vis-à-vis the European Commission,
 - bears the financial and legal responsibility for the proper operational, administrative and financial implementation of the entire project,
 - coordinates the Collaborative Partnership in cooperation with all other project partners.
- partners: organisations that contribute actively to the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the Collaborative Partnership. Each partner must sign a mandate by which the signatory grants power of attorney to the coordinator to act in his name and for his account during the implementation of the project.

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA USED TO ASSESS A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP?

The list hereafter includes the formal criteria that a Collaborative Project must respect in order to be eligible for an Erasmus+ grant:

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Eligible participating organisations	<p>Any non-profit organisation or public body, active in the field of sport, established in a Programme Country or in any Partner Country of the world (see section "Eligible Countries" in Part A of this Guide).</p> <p>For example, such organisation can be (non-exhaustive list):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a public body in charge of sport at local, regional or national level; ▪ a National Olympic Committee or National Sport confederation; ▪ a sport organisation at local, regional, national, European or international level; ▪ a national sports league; ▪ a sport club; ▪ an organisation or union representing athletes; ▪ an organisation or unions representing professionals and volunteers in sport (such as coaches, managers, etc); ▪ an organisation representing the 'sport for all' movement; ▪ an organisation active in the field of physical activity promotion; ▪ an organisation representing the active leisure sector; ▪ an organisation active in the field of education, training or youth.
Who can apply?	<p>Any participating organisation established in a Programme Country can be the applicant. This organisation applies on behalf of all participating organisations involved in the project.</p>
Number and profile of participating organisations	<p>A Collaborative Partnership is transnational and involves at least five organisations from five different Programme Countries. There is no maximum number of partners. However, the budget for project management and implementation is capped (and equivalent to 10 partners). All participating organisations must be identified at the time of applying for a grant.</p>
Duration of project	<p>The duration must be chosen at application stage (12, 18, 24, 30 or 36 months), based on the objective of the project and on the type of activities foreseen over time.</p>
Venue(s) of the activity	<p>Activities must take place in the countries (one or more) of the organisations involved in the Collaborative Partnership.</p>
Where to apply?	<p>To the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency, located in Brussels.</p>



When to apply?	Applicants have to submit their grant application by 6 April at 12:00 (midday Brussels time) for projects starting on 1 January of the following year.
How to apply?	Please see Part C of this Guide for more details on how to apply.

Applicant organisations will be assessed against the relevant **exclusion and selection criteria**. For more information please consult Part C of this Guide.

AWARD CRITERIA

The indicative allocation for different categories of collaborative partnerships will be as follows:

- approximately 25% to priorities 1 and 2 (projects supporting the participation in sport and physical activity);
- approximately 25% to priorities 3 and 4 (projects supporting the education in and through sport, with special focus on skills development, as well as implementation of the EU Guidelines on Dual Careers of Athletes¹⁶⁵ and projects supporting voluntary activity in sport);
- approximately 25% to priorities 5, 6 and 7 (projects supporting the integrity of sport such as anti-doping, fight against match-fixing and good governance in sport);
- approximately 25% to the priorities 8 and 9 (projects aiming at combatting violence, racism, discrimination and intolerance in sport, projects aiming at encouraging social inclusion and equal opportunities in sport).

Within these categories, projects will be assessed against the following criteria:

Relevance of the project (maximum 30 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The relevance of the proposal to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the objectives of European policies in the field of sport; - the objectives and the priorities of this Action (see section "What are the aims of a Collaborative Partnership"). ▪ The extent to which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the proposal is based on a genuine and adequate needs analysis; - the objectives are clearly defined, realistic and address issues relevant to the participating organisations and target groups; - the proposal is innovative and/or complementary to other initiatives already carried out by the participating organisations; - the proposal brings added value at EU level through results that would not be attained by activities carried out solely in a single country .
Quality of the project design and implementation (max 20 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The clarity, completeness and quality of the work programme, including appropriate phases for preparation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and dissemination; ▪ The consistency between project objectives, methodology, activities and budget proposed; ▪ The quality and feasibility of the methodology proposed; ▪ The existence and quality of management arrangements (timelines, organisation, tasks and responsibilities are well defined and realistic); ▪ The existence and relevance of quality control measures to ensure that the project implementation is of high quality, completed in time and on budget; ▪ The extent to which the project is cost-effective and allocates appropriate resources to each activity.
Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements (maximum 20 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent to which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - where appropriate, the project involves an appropriate mix of com-

¹⁶⁵ EU GUIDELINES ON DUAL CAREERS OF ATHLETES (ADOPTED ON 28.09.2012 BY EU EXPERT GROUP ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SPORT (ISBN 978-92-79-31161-1).



	<p>plementary participating organisations with the necessary profile, experience and expertise to successfully deliver all aspects of the project;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the projects includes people with expertise in appropriate fields such as sports policy and practice (training, competitions, coaching, etc.), academic expertise as well as the ability to reach out wider audiences; - the distribution of responsibilities and tasks demonstrates the commitment and active contribution of all participating organisations; - If applicable, the extent to which the involvement of a participating organisation from a Partner Country brings an essential added value to the project (if this condition is not fulfilled, the project will not be considered for selection).
<p>Impact and dissemination (maximum 30 points)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The quality of measures for evaluating the outcomes of the project; ▪ The potential impact of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on participants and participating organisations, during and after the project lifetime; - outside the organisations and individuals directly participating in the project, at local, regional, national and/or European levels. ▪ The quality of the dissemination plan: the appropriateness and quality of measures aimed at sharing the outcomes of the project within and outside the participating organisations; ▪ If relevant, the extent to which the proposal describes how the materials, documents and media produced will be made freely available and promoted through open licences, and does not contain disproportionate limitations; ▪ The quality of the plans for ensuring the sustainability of the project: its capacity to continue having an impact and producing results after the EU grant has been used up.

To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least 60 points. Furthermore, they must score at least half of the maximum points in each of the categories of award criteria mentioned above (i.e. minimum 15 points for the categories "relevance of the project" and "impact and dissemination"; 10 points for the categories "quality of the project design and implementation" and "quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements").