

ANNEX I

1. NAME OF THE BENEFICIARY

SPECIAL OLYMPICS EUROPE EURASIA FOUNDATION

2. NUMBER AND NAME OF THE PROJECT

EAC/21/2009/062 – Youth Unified Sports

3. AREA OF INTERVENTION:

Sport for persons with disabilities

4. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE(S):

The aim of the project 'Youth Unified Sports' is to bring together young people (12-25 years) with and without intellectual disabilities and to sport as equals in various settings.

In this project Special Olympics Unified Sports® promotes the inclusion of young people with intellectual disabilities while introducing the principles of active citizenship to a young generation of non-disabled Europeans.

Through shared team experience, the project creates an environment where youths can learn about each other and overcome barriers that traditionally prevents the full inclusion of individuals with intellectual disabilities in schools, universities, sport clubs and society in general.

The Youth Unified Sports project also gives educators and coaches the necessary tools to facilitate inclusion in the classroom and on the sports field.

This project highlights sport as a platform for the integration of young people with an intellectual disability in local communities across the European Union.

5. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:

On the local level sport competitions and events will be organized in two sports (football and basketball) with shared teams (young people with and without disabilities) The project will be executed on local level by volunteer coaches and educators (with a PE background or certified in their sport).

All participants take part voluntarily and will be recruited at special education and mainstream schools, inclusive schools and local sports clubs as well as universities and sport federation.

Through training seminars, organized by the national project manager, volunteers will be educated for the project.

National project managers will be appointed by the National Special Olympics (SO) Program The leaders in the associated National SO Programmes are responsible for the implementation at a national level. Project managers in existing YUS programs

should have a supervisory role for the project managers in the countries that are new to the concept.

The whole EU project will be implemented through the SOEE office. They will organize a Kick off meeting, the evaluation and future planning seminar at the end of the project, the evaluation and supervision on the national YUS programs.

6. ACTIVITIES TO BE COMPLETED AS PART OF THE PROJECT:

- Kick off seminar with presentation of project and discussion of draft strategy,
- Involving the 10 national project managers.
- Coach education seminars.
- Year round team player selections, training sessions, and camps.
- Demonstration events.
- Youth forums.
- Participation of 10 Unified basketball teams from EU countries at Warsaw 2010 European Games.
- Evaluation seminar and planning follow up.

7. PARTNERS OF THE NETWORK:

- Special Olympics National Program Belgium,
- Special Olympics National Program Denmark,
- Special Olympics National Program Portugal,
- Special Olympics National Program Spain,
- Special Olympics National Program Finland,
- Special Olympics National Program Poland,
- Special Olympics National Program Italy,
- Special Olympics National Program Lithuania,
- Special Olympics National Program Germany,
- Special Olympics National Program Romania.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR EVALUATION / SUPERVISION DURING THE OPERATION:

The overall SOEE project performance will be evaluated along the set goals, objectives and targets through observations of trainings and matches as well as through reflection among the different stakeholders.

SOEE will evaluate each National Programs performance along the same quantitative and qualitative indicators as stated above. The SOEE team will work closely with the national program project managers on the project development. SOEE will take a supervisory role for the national managers alongside and in cooperation with their national program director.

Evaluation and supervision will also be conducted via regular meetings, conference calls and communications between SOEE and National Program leaders and project managers.

Additionally, a second Youth Unified Sports impact study was launched already by Special Olympics Europe/Eurasia in cooperation with the University of Ulster/Belfast in February 2009 which should be completed in May 2010 and presented at the Special Olympics European Games in Warsaw in September 2010.

9. EXPECTED RESULTS AND THEIR USE:

- Better integration of Special Olympics in the community. Each National Program involved in this project should establish contacts to a local university to plan the evaluation of the impact of Youth Unified Sports on community integration in their countries. The target for this project would be to have at least a contact established with the local university and a draft strategy paper for each country's evaluation by the end of this project.
- Establishment of long term sustainability for Youth Unified Sports in the different countries. Networks are created between various players on local and national level as well as on international level. Special, mainstream and inclusive schools, local sports clubs, sports federations, local volunteers, community groups, Universities and local sponsors, supporters and many others works together to make YUS happen.
- Increased participation in Youth Unified Sports in the EU member countries. The project targets a growth to 2000 new participating athletes and partners aged 12-25 and 200 new Youth Unified Football (7-a-side) and Basketball teams between December 1 2009 and March 31.2011, 200 coaches should be recruited and educated to lead those teams. Five of the ten involved EU countries are new to the YUS concept. This makes a total of 18 EU countries involved with this concept.
- Establish Youth Unified Sports in all EU countries long term. This project is an essential step in the long term vision of SOEE to implement Youth Unified Sports in all EU countries while considering the specific situation in-each-country and focusing on quantity and quality growth at the same time.
- Offer young people opportunities to share their perspective. Beside the knowledge sharing between the involved National Program project managers the perspective and exchange of experience of the actual "main actors"- the young Unified Sports athletes and partners will be a key element of this project.

Other results include the following:

- Balanced participation of male and female players- as a first step for 2010 at least to 70% male, 30% female.
- A new defined Youth Unified Sport program to be implemented in 2011/2012
- 10 EU countries participate in the Unified Basketball competition in Warsaw 2010.

10. EXPECTED DURATION OF THE PROJECT ACCORDING TO THE PRELIMINARY WORK PLAN

01/12/2009 to 31/03/2011

11. BUDGET:

Total budget of the project:	558.900,00 €
Of which EU grant:	447.120,00 €
Rate of EU funding:	80,00 %

12. Contact

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