

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS – EAC/S20/2019**

### **Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees**

This call for proposals serves to implement the 2019 Annual Work Programme for the implementation of pilot projects in accordance with the Commission Decision C(2019) 1819 of 12 March 2019.

Considering the growing number of refugees aiming to settle in the European Union there is an increasing need for effective integration and social inclusion initiatives.

Sport is one of the available tools for the successful integration of refugees, and local sport projects have an increasing role in facilitating refugees' integration into new communities. Across the European Union, at Member States' level or within European Union programmes, a wide range of initiatives have been taken and innovative projects are already being implemented.

The potential of sport as a tool for social inclusion has now been well documented; sport projects support the social inclusion of refugees in host communities and the opportunities they provide are more and more exploited in many EU Member States. This pilot project is a contribution to this effort and to a better integration of refugees through sport.

#### **1. Objectives**

In the continuation of the 2016 call for proposals on "Promoting HEPA policy measures and actions for refugees", and of the 2017 and 2018 call for proposals "Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees", the current preparatory action aims at supporting sport projects focused on the integration of refugees. Approximately 10 projects would be selected.

Through concrete actions aiming at integrating refugees through sport, which will constitute the main share of funded projects, and an additional action aiming at building networks and disseminating good practices in the EU, the expected outcomes of this preparatory action will include:

- Promoting the direct engagement of refugees and host communities;
- Promoting a Europe-wide approach, increasing the potential for host communities to successfully engage and integrate refugees through sport.
- Developing the links between organisations promoting the integration of refugees through sport at EU level.
- Creating a platform of projects aiming at promoting sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees

- Collecting and disseminating good practices, through IT tools, workshops, seminars and conferences, relating to available results of projects and initiatives aimed at the integration of refugees through sport.

The term "refugee" indicates people having formal refugee status in an EU Member State as well as people who have officially applied for refugee status in the EU and whose applications have not yet been processed. People with a migration background who are not "refugees" are excluded from the scope of this call for proposals.

This preparatory action will be implemented through 2 lots.

**Lot 1:** organisation of sport activities in order to promote integration and social inclusion of refugees. The expected outputs would be the following:

- Organise sport activities for refugees
- Promote the practice of sport and physical activity by refugees
- Promote the cooperation of refugees and host communities in the organisation of sport activities
- Promote European Wide practices and methodologies increasing the potential of European host communities to successfully engage and integrate refugees through sport
- Participate in the European Network (see lot 2) in order to valorise the outcome of the project

**Lot 2:** networking and dissemination. The expected outputs would be the following:

- Create and maintain links between projects selected under the current call for proposals, with the aim of selecting and spreading good practices
- Organize a platform of projects selected under PP/PA promoting “sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees” (years 2016-2019)
- Support the dissemination of good practices and initiatives taken throughout the EU
- Raise awareness about the strategies implemented in order to promote the integration and social inclusion of refugees through sport.
- Organise an yearly meeting/conference of the concerned projects.

## **2. Eligibility criteria**

For both lot 1 and lot 2, in order to be eligible, projects must be presented by applicants meeting the following criteria:

- be a public or private organisation with legal personality who are mainly active in the sport field and that regularly organise sport competitions, at any level (natural persons are not eligible to apply for a grant under this call);
- have their registered legal office in one of the EU Member States.

For British applicants:

Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article II.17.2 of the grant agreement.

### 3. Eligible activities

The activities must be enshrined within the framework of European common values<sup>1</sup> and respect these essential principles and more particularly non-discrimination, tolerance and gender equality.

A non-exhaustive list of the main activities eligible under this call for proposals is listed below:

#### Lot 1

- Sport activities aimed at promoting participation of refugees into EU societies
- Preparation and training of sport coaches and staff who will work on integration and social inclusion of refugees through sport
- Development, of activities and identification of good practices about participation of refugees into sport activities aimed at their integration into host societies.

#### Lot 2

- Creation of a European Network in order to valorise the outcome of the projects selected under Lot 1 and to maintain links between those projects, with the aim of selecting and spreading good practices.
- Design and development of networks at EU level amongst organisations engaged into the integration of refugees through sport.

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<sup>1</sup> As specified under article 2 of the Treaty on European Union ((Official Journal C 326, 26/10/2012 P. 0001 – 0390): *"The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. These values are common to the Member States in a society in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail."*

- Organisation of workshops, seminars and conferences aimed at making accessible information, expertise and cooperation opportunities relating to integration of refugees into EU societies through sport.

These activities must take place in the EU Member States. The duration of the project will be of a minimum of 24 months and of a maximum of 36 months.

Implementation period:

- Activities may not start before 01-01-2020
- Activities are to be completed by 31-12-2022.

#### 4. Award criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

##### Lot 1

- **relevance of the project (criterion 1) (maximum 40 points – minimum threshold of 20 points):** The extent to which the proposal contributes to the objectives and priorities of the action referred above;
  - The proposal contributes to the objective of supporting refugees' integration into EU host societies through sport.
  - The proposal is based on relevant and concrete identification of the needs of refugees and of the local host communities;
  - The objectives of the proposal are clearly defined, realistic and address issues relevant to the refugees, and to the local host communities.
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- **quality (criterion 2) (maximum 40 points – minimum threshold of 20 points):** The quality of the overall design of the activities proposed and methodology for achieving the objectives, including cost efficiency, sustainability of the proposed actions (the extent to which the actions will be carried out also after the end of the project) and budget proposal;
  - The quality and feasibility of the activities involving refugees.
  - Cost efficiency (the extent to which the project is cost-effective and allocates appropriate resources to each activity);
  - Sustainability of the proposed actions (the extent to which the actions will be carried out also after the end of the project);
  - Budget proposal (the consistency between project objectives, methodology, activities and budget proposed);

- **management of the project (criterion 3) (maximum 20 points – minimum threshold of 10 points):** The extent to which the applicant demonstrates its ability to organise, coordinate and implement the various aspects of the proposed activities;
  - The applicant demonstrates its ability to organise, coordinate and implement the various aspects of the proposed activities.
  - The project team involves an appropriate mix of experiences and expertise supporting the successful delivery of the project expected results;
  - The composition and appropriateness of the proposed team and the roles allocated to the members of the team.

## Lot 2

- **relevance of the project (criterion 1) (maximum 40 points – minimum threshold of 20 points):** The extent to which the proposal contributes to the objectives and priorities of the action referred above;
  - The network efficiently contributes to the objective of supporting refugees' integration into EU host societies through sport.
  - The network is based on relevant and concrete identification of the needs of refugees and of the local host communities;
  - The objectives of this network are clearly defined and realistic, address issues relevant to the refugees and to the local host communities and contribute to better coordination at EU level.
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- **quality (criterion 2) (maximum 40 points – minimum threshold of 20 points):** The quality of the overall design of the activities proposed and methodology for achieving the objectives, including cost efficiency, sustainability of the proposed actions (the extent to which the actions will be carried out also after the end of the project) and budget proposal;
  - Cost efficiency (the extent to which the project is cost-effective and allocates appropriate resources to each activity);
  - Sustainability of the proposed actions (the extent to which the actions will be carried out also after the end of the project);
  - Budget proposal (the consistency between project objectives, methodology, activities and budget proposed);
  - The quality and feasibility of the methodology proposed.
- **management of the project (criterion 3) (maximum 20 points – minimum threshold of 10 points):** The extent to which the applicant demonstrates its ability to organise, coordinate and implement the various aspects of the proposed activities;
  - The applicant demonstrates its ability to organise, coordinate and implement the various aspects of the proposed activities.

- The project team involves an appropriate mix of experiences and expertise supporting the successful delivery of the project expected results;
- The composition and appropriateness of the proposed team and the roles allocated to the members of the team.

Points will be allocated to eligible applications out of a total of 100 on the basis of the above-specified weighting. A minimum threshold of 70 points will be applied. Applications falling below the mentioned thresholds will be rejected.

## **5. Budget available**

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects under this call for proposals is estimated at 2.900.000 EUR.

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-financing rate of 80% of eligible costs.

The maximum amount to be awarded per project under lot 1 is 300.000 EUR. The minimum amount would be of 200.000 EUR.

The maximum amount to be awarded per project under lot 2 is 600.000 EUR. The minimum amount would be of 400.000 EUR.

The Commission expects to fund approximately 9 proposals under lot 1.

The Commission expects to fund 1 project under lot 2.

## **6. Deadline for submission of applications**

Grant applications must be drawn up in one of the EU official languages, using the electronic form available on the webpage of the call for proposals.

The application form duly completed must be submitted before 04/07/2019 (12:00pm Brussels time). Applications sent on paper or by fax or e-mail or another way, will not be accepted.

## **7. Additional information**

In case of questions, please contact: [EAC-SPORT@EC.EUROPA.EU](mailto:EAC-SPORT@EC.EUROPA.EU)