

# Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

June - July 2021



The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Sligo area. Funding sources reflect both local and national funding opportunities. All information is quoted directly from funder website / literature.

The bi-monthly Fundingpoint Local Digest is brought to you by Sligo PPN and The Wheel.

[www.wheel.ie](http://www.wheel.ie)

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## Rethink Ireland - Engage and Educate Fund 2021 - 2024

The Engage and Educate Fund is a €1.2 million three-year fund created by Rethink Ireland in partnership with Mason Hayes and Curran LLP and the Department of Rural and Community Development via the Dormant Accounts Fund. The objective of the Fund is to back innovative projects that empower young people and adults through education, enabling people from marginalised communities to access game-changing education programmes.

The Engage & Educate Fund aims to work with organisations that empower young people and adults through education and break the negative cycle of poverty through education. The COVID-19 pandemic has widened the gap in educational opportunities between different socio-economic classes and is deepening the negative impact on young people and adults who have left the education system early or are at risk of doing so.

The Engage and Educate Fund will provide a package of awards and supports to innovative not-for-profit organisations that are working to tackle educational disadvantage and empower young people and adults through education. There will be up to 5 awards available in total, and each Awardee will receive a cash grant (to a maximum of €50,000), mentoring support and placement on Rethink Ireland's three-year capacity building programme.

### Eligibility

This fund is open to organisations that have a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. charity, social enterprise and other voluntary organisations.

#### Eligibility & Criteria

Projects must meet both Rethink Ireland's criteria and the specific criteria for The Engage and Educate Fund, as set out below:

#### Rethink Ireland Criteria

- The project must address a critical social or environmental issue
- The project must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based in the Republic of Ireland
- The project must have the potential and desire to scale or replicate in Ireland
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way

- Applicants must come from an entity that has a 'not for profit' legal form for example, a charity or voluntary organisation

### **Engage and Educate Core Criteria**

- The project must address the issue of educational disadvantage\* and seek to improve educational outcomes for people in the following age groups:
  - Secondary school age (12-18)
  - Young adults (19-24)
  - Adults (25-64)

\*Educational disadvantage refers to the situation where some individuals get less benefit from the education system than their peers

The project must focus on enhancing educational attainment for young people and adults in one or more of the following groups:

- People experiencing poverty or socio-economic disadvantage
- Traveller and Roma people
- Migrant people, (including people in need of international protection)
- People from minority ethnic communities
- People with disabilities

### **Advantageous criteria**

- Projects that work with young people and adults from marginalised groups who leave school early
- Projects which have evidence of sustained impact
- Projects that employ a holistic approach – whole community involvement
- Involves target groups in the project design
- Clear short term & medium goals

### **Which projects cannot apply?**

Projects that are not eligible to apply are:

- Research projects
- Projects seeking funding for capital assets (such as buildings, vans or equipment)
- Projects promoting or aligned with a political party
- Projects that only accept participants of a particular faith or religious denomination
- Projects focused on animal welfare
- Projects based outside the Republic of Ireland
- Projects led by people under 18 years of age
- Projects that are an idea (only) and that have not yet started.

**What does the fund offer?**

- Cash grants up to €50,000 each year across three years
- A business supports package
- A place on our three-year capacity building programme
- Project performance management.

## How to Apply

Deadline: June 2nd 2021 at 5pm.

[Full details available here.](#)

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## Human Rights Student Bursary Scheme

In 2021, as part of our work in promoting the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission is running the sixth and final year of our bursary scheme for prospective students of the [Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality](#) at the [Institute of Public Administration](#).

The student bursary scheme 2021 supports applications from staff employed by civil society organisations only.

The Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality is a one-year, part-time programme that has been developed in conjunction with the Institute of Public Administration and is enrolling until September 2021. The bursary scheme will cover all course fees for successful applicants.

### **About the bursary scheme:**

The aim of this bursary is to contribute towards building participants' skills to advance implementation of the [Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty](#) by public bodies. Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 establishes a statutory obligation on public bodies to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and protect the human rights of those to whom they provide services and staff when carrying out their functions.

Civil Society Organisations can advance public bodies' implementation of the [Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty](#) in many ways, including through advocacy. For more information on the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty please see visit the [Public Sector Duty webpage](#).

As a NUI Level 8 Special Purpose Award the [Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality](#) at the [Institute of Public Administration](#) is primarily academic in its nature. While there is no requirement to have completed study of such a nature previously, it does involve the submission of written assignments and a formal written examination, and a significant time commitment.

There are 6 bursary places available for staff members employed by civil society organisations, including community and voluntary organisations, non-governmental and non-profit organisations, groups representing geographic communities or communities of interest, and trade unions.

Bursary places on the Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality are open to people working at all levels and functions. However, preference will be given to applications demonstrating clear intention to advocate for implementation of [the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty](#) (the Duty) in one, or more, public bodies.

The bursary scheme will cover all course fees for successful applicants.

Please note that bursary recipients who do not complete the diploma course or assessments will be required to provide the cost of the fees covered by the bursary.

Please note that bursary recipients will be required to report back and liaise with the Commission during and after the course and participate in meetings / focus groups and impact reporting relating to their participation in the course.

If you or your organisation have applied for the bursary previously, this does not preclude you from applying again.

[Apply for the Commission Bursary Scheme via the online application form](#)

## Application criteria

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate how they intend to use the learning from the diploma in their work

Relevant organisations are asked to nominate their candidate(s) to be considered for the bursary scheme and provide official sign off of the application

More than one staff member from each organisation can submit an application. However, in the event that a large volume of applications are received, priority may be given to ensuring that as many organisations as possible are represented

Priority will be given to applications from civil society organisation staff members' demonstrating clear intention to promote implementation of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty in one or more public bodies that they engage with.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 9 June 2021

[Full details here.](#)

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## The Arts Council - Visual Artists Workspace Scheme

The purpose of the Visual Artists Workspace Scheme is to support artists' workspaces throughout the country to provide the best possible working environment for visual artists and, where feasible, to enable a level of subsidy for the artists working in these spaces.

Participating schools/centres will be provided with a package of supports that includes working with a Creative Associate, training and networking to support them to create their Creative School Plan, as well as seed funding to begin to implement their Plan.

Successful schools will receive €4,000 to implement their plans over the school years 2021–22 and 2022–23.

### Eligibility

All Department of Education recognised primary, post-primary schools and Youthreach centres that have not already participated in a previous round of Creative Schools are eligible to apply.

Eligible schools/centres may apply to both Creative Schools and the Creative Clusters initiative for the 2021–22 school year. However, if your school/centre is successful with both applications you would need to decide which to engage with as schools cannot participate in both initiatives at the same time. Schools/centres leading or participating in Creative Clusters that started in the school year 2019–20 are eligible to apply to Creative Schools 2021.

Creative Clusters is an initiative of the Department of Education, led by and in partnership with the 21 full-time Teacher Education Centres (operated Education Support Centres Ireland) and funded through the Schools Excellence Fund.

In line with the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, the Arts Council is committed to ensuring that it takes positive policy measures to promote equality of opportunity for all those living in Ireland, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, civil or family status, religion, age, disability, race or membership of the Traveller Community. Furthermore, the Arts Council notes the ground of socio-economic background as a further basis for which equality of opportunity must be guaranteed.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 10 June 2021

[Full details available here.](#)

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## The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity

The Hospital Saturday Fund was founded in 1873, at a time when poverty, overcrowding and ill-health were prevalent and little help was available for those needing costly hospital care.

### Eligibility

#### **Which organisations may apply?**

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants to registered medical health charities within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

The Hospital Saturday Fund has two grant categories: - Standard grants of up to £2,000 or €3,000 OR - Large grants to up to £10,000 or €13,500 (please note this is the maximum sum that HSF will grant). Large grant applications should be towards specific projects, research or equipment rather than running costs. Organisations may make one application for a meeting and can apply for a standard or a large grant. The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly.

#### **What Support is Available?**

For medically related charities, hospitals, hospices and medical clinics:

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants towards medical capital projects, medical care or research and in support of medical training. The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider grants for running costs.

#### **For Individuals:**

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving partial or full grants to individuals for the following:

- Specialised mobility equipment, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, car adaptations, medical appliances and aids, hearing aids, nebulisers, specialised vision aids, specialised computer equipment, therapeutic equipment/treatment, orthopaedic beds, mattresses or pillows, riser /recliners chairs, lift hoist/aids.
- Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Acupuncture, Speech Therapy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic treatment, Reflexology, Massage Therapy and Aromatherapy.
- Home adaptations, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.
- Respite breaks at a therapeutic centre.

We do not accept applications directly from members of the public. The Hospital Saturday Fund will only correspond with the supporter organisation and not the individual. If you are an individual in need, please approach a suitable organisation to make the application on your behalf. We are unable to take calls from the individual applicant or potential applicant. Applications for individuals can be submitted at any time.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 15 June 2021 (large grants) / 13 July 2021 (standard grants)

Full guidelines and access to online applications are [available here](#).

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## CERV: Call for Proposals to Prevent and Combat Gender based Violence Against Children

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) provides funding for citizens' engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The CERV programme brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

This call addresses the issue of gender-based violence and violence against children, which have been exacerbated by the pandemic, noting an increase in domestic violence, online abuse and exploitation of women and children, in particular.

### Programme Overview

The priorities of this call for 2021 are:

1. Early detection, prevention and protection of and/or support to women, children, young people and LGBTIQ victims of violence related to the COVID19 pandemic;
2. Preventing gender-based violence by addressing masculinities and the engagement of men and boys.

We need projects that will support the following EU policy initiatives:

- EU strategy on victims' rights
- EU Gender Equality Strategy
- EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child

### Background

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, and especially during the long periods of emergency measures, many women and children have suffered increased domestic violence (as victims and/or witnesses). They have also been exposed to a heightened risk of online abuse and exploitation and to other forms of gender-based violence.

Gender-based violence – or violence that is directed against a woman or a girl because she is a woman or a girl or that affects women or girls disproportionately – remains one of our societies' biggest challenges and is deeply rooted in gender inequality. It can be violence that affects women and girls disproportionately, such as rape and other sexual crime. Men can also be victims of gender-based violence, but the vast majority of victims are women.

Domestic violence means violence that occurs within the family or domestic unit, or between former or current partners, regardless of whether the perpetrator shares the same residence as the victim.

Gender-based violence, in all its forms, remains under-reported and overlooked both inside and outside the EU. The COVID-19 pandemic has further highlighted existing gender inequalities and has had a disproportionately negative effect on women: EU Member States recorded a surge in domestic violence affecting women.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been also particularly tough on children, notably those already in a vulnerable situation (e.g. children in care, children with disabilities, children in poverty, children in migration).

Research also shows that the COVID-19 measures may have exposed up to 85 million more girls and boys worldwide to physical, sexual, and/or emotional violence in the first three months of the lock-down.<sup>4</sup> World Vision predicts that many of the 13 million extra child marriages alerted to by UNFPA will occur in the time immediately following the crisis, with at least 4 million more girls married in the next two years and many never returning to school.<sup>5</sup> Nearly 3 in 4 children between the age of 2 and 4 regularly suffer physical punishment and/or psychological violence at the hands of parents and caregivers.

Save the children reported that violence in the household was reported by children at over double the rate when schools were closed (17%) compared with when schools were open and the child was attending in person (8%).

The EU will do all it can to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children, support and protect victims and survivors of such crimes, and hold perpetrators accountable for their abusive behaviour.

The EU Gender Equality Strategy sets ambitious policy objectives and actions to tackle gender-based violence, including funding to support civil society and public services in preventing and combating gender-based violence.

The EU Strategy on the rights of the child<sup>7</sup> set up a new policy framework to ensure the protection of rights of all children, including from violence.

The first priority of the 2021 calls for proposals aims to address the challenges emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic and the safety and security measures put in place in relation to it.

The second priority addresses masculinities and engagement of men and boys in the prevention of gender-based violence.

The call recognises the need for proposals to equally address the specificities of the situation for women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity.

## Objectives

To fight violence, including gender-based violence:

- preventing and combating at all levels all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls and domestic violence, also by promoting the standards set out in the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention);
- preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, young people, as well as violence against other groups at risk, such as LGBTIQ people and people with disabilities;
- supporting and protecting all direct and indirect victims of such violence, such as domestic violence exerted within the family or violence in intimate relationships, including children orphaned by domestic crimes, and supporting and ensuring the same level of protection throughout the Union for victims of gender-based violence.

Policy initiatives supported: Gender Equality Strategy, EU strategy on the rights of the child EU Strategy on victims' rights and EU Strategy on the rights of the child.

## Themes and priorities

### **1. Early detection, prevention and protection of and/or support to women, children, young people and LGBTIQ victims or potential victims of violence, with specific attention paid to situations emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic**

Helplines and support services reported that violence against women, children and LGBTIQ people has been on the rise during the COVID-19 pandemic and as a consequence, the need for psychosocial support and assistance has increased. Staying at home because of the lockdown has affected in particular women and children living with a perpetrator, those negatively affected by prolonged judicial procedures, women and children with disabilities or in migration, as well as children in alternative care. Increased internet usage during lockdown has also led to a rise in incidents of online violence. Many support services – whether formal or within the social circle, were interrupted or no longer available, making it even more difficult than usual for victims to seek for help. Lastly, families have been suffering from exceptional strains, worry, anxiety, loneliness - which could in some cases have led to an increase of violence and neglect.

The aim of this priority is to address (potential) victims' needs within existing support mechanisms, or establishing new ones, in order to respond better to specific needs of women, and children during and after the pandemic, as well as to fund programmes that provide early detection, prevention and adequate support. This involves the strengthening of gender-specific and child-centred responses to violence, through capacity-building and strengthened multi-disciplinary cooperation and coordination among relevant actors, such as law enforcement and judicial professionals, IT platforms and regulatory bodies.

When related to children, the design and implementation of actions should be done in cooperation with children to make sure that the action is well tailored and replies to children's needs. The actions may include capacity building for helplines, support centres at schools, updates of existing support websites, peer support groups, psychological support provided in other forms in order to address impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This call aims to contribute to the implementation of:

- EU Gender Equality Strategy
- the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), particularly Chapters IV and V related to support and protection measures;
- Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime.

EU Strategy on the rights of the child

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 13 475 300.

## **2. Preventing gender-based violence by addressing masculinities and the engagement of men and boys**

The objective is to end men's violence against women and girls, including honour-related violence and oppression, while acknowledging that men and boys have an important role to play in violence prevention. Actions can focus on different areas such as: i) early intervention to address adverse childhood experiences and break the cycle of violence; ii) a universal (primary) prevention approach, for example, by working with young people; and iii) a targeted prevention approach through perpetrator treatment programmes to prevent recidivism.

The focus is on: (i) addressing violent norms of masculinities; (ii) supporting the development of non-violent relationships by engaging men and boys as allies; (iii) treatment of perpetrators through prevention programmes; and (iv) ensuring that men and boys become change agents

benefitting from non-violence and gender equality. The involvement of men and boys in the prevention of gender-based violence against women can take on many forms, including by using role models, agents of change and advocates for equality between women and men and mutual respect.

The focus should be on engaging with men to challenge other men's behaviour to transform unequal power relations between women and men and to tackle violence against women. Women's and girls' safety and rights must be central in all actions.

Indicative funding available for this priority: EUR 4 224 700.

Projects addressing any of the two priorities listed above should pay attention to the specific needs and circumstances of women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity.

### **Activities that can be funded**

Activities shall include:

- awareness-raising and empowerment activities;
- capacity-building and training for professionals;
- design and implementation of protocols, development of working methods and tools, coordination platform and groups;
- exchange of good practices, mutual learning;
- creation and implementation of data collection strategies and systems;
- establishing or strengthening existing support mechanisms;
- Evaluating lessons learned from Covid-19 situation in the context of its impact on the well-being of children and the functioning of the support systems;
- In cooperation with children, designing, establishing and/or strengthening protocols and mechanisms providing support to children mostly affected by the Covid-19 situation. The protocols should take into account the gender perspective when appropriate;
- Establishing national, local, regional support centres, including in schools;
- Based on the children's input and in cooperation with children, build capacity of relevant professionals (e.g. teachers, psychotherapists, educators, medical staff), design

and test or roll out existing training activities, design and implement or adapt existing information campaigns for relevant staff, including sharing good practices.

Applying organisations are encouraged to use, disseminate and build on already existing materials (e.g tools, projects' deliverables, handbooks, research, studies, mapping exercises, reports, etc).

Practical projects developing and implementing specific measures are preferred. While research is not excluded, if research activities are to be part of the project, they must be strictly linked to the project as a whole and are to pay duly attention to gender and disaggregate data by sex.

It is strongly encouraged to involve a public authority to actively participate in the projects. This requirement will be assessed under award criterion (b) quality of the proposed action.

### **Expected Impact**

#### **1. Early detection, prevention and protection of and/or support to women, children, young people and LGBTIQ victims or potential victims of violence, with specific attention paid to situations emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic:**

- increased access to support services, such as, helplines, shelters and counselling services;
- changed attitudes and behaviours concerning domestic violence and online violence (including lower tolerance of violent behaviour and decreased victim-blaming) among the general population and particular groups, e.g. relevant professionals, witnesses and bystanders, vulnerable groups, etc.;
- prevention of violence before it happens through education about gender equality and healthy relationships, as well as the empowerment of women;
- improved detection and reporting of (early signs of) violence;
- increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to domestic violence, including through strengthened multi-agency cooperation;
- victims' safety is guaranteed and further violence prevented;
- cross-border cases of violence are properly addressed, through the application of Directive 2011/99/EU on the European protection order;
- increased reporting of violence to the police and other services, with appropriate mechanisms in place to facilitate this;



- increased likelihood of bystander intervention;
- increased prevention of situations of violence against women, children, young people and LGBTIQ;
- strengthened protection and support to women, children, young people and LGBTIQ victims of violence;
- reinforced capacity of professionals to prevent, detect and respond to violence against women, children, young people and LGBTIQ;
- strengthened child protection systems; increased cooperation among relevant services;
- better response to the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to the needs of children;
- Increased knowledge about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children, as well as of the public policy responses taken – and lessons learnt for the future, including in mental health aspects;
- Established or adapted mechanisms supporting well-being of children, their specific needs and mental health difficulties, arising from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Increased expertise of professionals working with children in responding to their specific well-being needs, arising from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Increased child participation in decision making processes in emergency situations.

## **2. Preventing gender-based violence by engaging men and boys:**

- increased engagement of men and boys in tackling gender-based violence against women and supporting the development of non-violent relationships;
- prevention of violence before it happens through education about gender equality and healthy relationships;
- increased likelihood of bystander intervention;
- increased capacity of stakeholders and relevant professionals to address issues related to gender-based violence and engagement of men and boys, including through strengthened multi-agency cooperation;

- changed attitudes and behaviours concerning gender equality and gender-based violence (including lower tolerance and decreased victim-blaming) among men and boys;
- increased treatment of perpetrators of violence;
- increased safety of women and their children and others at risk from violence in close relationships, through the promotion of effective work with those who perpetrate this violence;
- increased promotion and support of gender-sensitive prevention of violence in close relationships through awareness raising, sharing of information and knowledge and the creation and dissemination of training opportunities.

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 17.700.000. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies)
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
- EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))

non-EU countries: listed EEA countries and countries associated to the CERV Programme (associated countries) or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature

Other eligibility conditions:

- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than EUR 75.000;
- organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations.

- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.
- Other entities may participate in other consortium roles, such as associated partners, subcontractors, third parties giving in-kind contributions, etc (see section 13).

## How to Apply

Deadline: 15 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

More about the [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme](#).

All proposals must be submitted directly online via the [Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System](#).

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## **CERV: Call for Proposals to Promote Equality and Fight Against Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination**

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) provides funding for citizens' engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The CERV programme brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

This call aims to support actions to prevent and combat all forms of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity offline and online, with an emphasis on intersectional approach.

### **Programme Overview**

The objective of this call is to support a comprehensive and intersectional approach and specific actions to prevent and fight against intolerance, racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, in particular on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, including when this manifests in the form of anti-gypsism, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred, Afrophobia and LGBTIQ phobia, offline and online.

Taking into consideration the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the affected individuals and groups in terms of discrimination, intolerance and hate, this call focuses on the following priorities:

- Fighting against intolerance, racism, xenophobia, discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes
- Promoting diversity management and inclusion at the workplace, both in the public and private sector
- Fighting discrimination against LGBTIQ people and promoting LGBTIQ equality through the implementation of the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy
- Preventing, reporting and countering hate speech online
- Restricted to public authorities to improve their responses to (multiple and intersectional) discrimination, racism and xenophobia

### **Background**

Promoting equality and preventing and combating inequalities and discrimination on grounds of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation and respecting the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds provided for in Article 21 of the Charter.

Supporting, advancing and implementing comprehensive policies to combat racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance, including homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and interphobia and intolerance on the basis of gender identity, both online and offline.

EU policy initiatives supported: EU anti-racism action plan, LGBTIQ Equality Strategy, EU Strategy on combating antisemitism, EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation, EU Strategy on victims' rights.

## **Objectives**

The objective is to support a comprehensive and intersectional approach and specific actions to prevent and fight against intolerance, racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, in particular on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, including when this manifests in the form of antigypsism, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred, Afrophobia and LGBTIQ phobia, offline and online. In this context, the call for proposals can cover actions addressing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting these groups in terms of intolerance, racism, xenophobia, discrimination and hate. With this aim, the following priorities will be financed:

## **Themes and priorities**

### **1. Fighting against intolerance, racism, xenophobia, discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes**

Having reference to the policy framework set out in the Commission staff working document (2019)110 on 'Countering racism and xenophobia in the EU, Fostering a society where pluralism, tolerance and non-discrimination prevail', the EU anti-racism action plan for 2020-2025, the EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation and the forthcoming EU Strategy on combating antisemitism and fostering Jewish life, this priority entails activities providing holistic responses to intolerance, discrimination in particular on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, colour and religion, as well as racism, xenophobia in the form of hate crimes, hate speech, including their manifestations on the ground and from an intersectional and gender perspective.

The call will support projects aiming to respond to the vulnerabilities of specific groups and communities particularly affected by intolerance, racism, xenophobia and discrimination, such as Roma, Jews, Muslims, migrants, people of colour and people of African descent.

In this context, the call will support projects contributing to the implementation of the EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation, namely addressing antigypsyism, including hate speech and hate crime and discrimination of Roma in (access to) education, including educational segregation, employment, health and housing, forced evictions and spatial segregation, fostering rights awareness and reporting of discrimination, promoting societal support for Roma inclusion, and promoting political, social and cultural participation of Roma people. The call will cover the diversity of Roma by tackling multiple and intersectional discrimination affecting groups such as Roma women and men, as well as girls and boys and mobile Roma. The call will also cover support for local level community development, promotion of active citizenship and building trust between communities and municipalities.

The call will support actions to prevent and combat all forms of antisemitism by raising awareness of antisemitism including among the general public, supporting victims of antisemitism, improving the collection of antisemitic incident data (including disaggregated data), encouraging reporting of such incidents, educating the public about the diversity of Jewish life, supporting intercultural and interreligious activities, establishing networks against antisemitism and strengthening the resilience of Jewish communities in all their diversity. Applicants are invited to make use of established sources and standards, such as the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism.

Moreover, the call will support the fight against anti-Muslim hatred and discrimination, to raise awareness of public authorities, foster reporting by victims, address negative stereotypes, intolerance and hate speech against Muslims, and tackle the intersectional discrimination affecting Muslim women and girls, as well as communities belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sectors of society.

Furthermore, the call will include activities to prevent and fight xenophobia and anti-migrant intolerance as well as to respond to the structural forms of racism faced by people of colour and people of African descent, considering women and men, girls and boys specific situations of vulnerability, including by building trust between communities and national authorities and increased reporting.

Finally, the call will include initiatives aiming to empower and support the role of civil society organisations, activists and community leaders and improve reporting, rights-awareness, protection and interest representation of victims, thus contributing to the effective implementation of the Racial Equality Directive (Council Directive 2000/43/EC) and the

Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia (Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA).

Indicative budget: EUR 5 400 000

## **2. Promoting diversity management and inclusion at the workplace, both in the public and private sector**

This priority supports actions to ensure the existence of Diversity Charters in all EU Member States, and to increase the number their signatories. It cover also actions that promote diversity and inclusion at the workplace, with regard in particular to the six grounds of discrimination listed in Article 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or their intersectionality.

Indicative budget: EUR 500 000

## **3. Fighting discrimination against LGBTIQ people and promoting LGBTIQ equality through the implementation of the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy**

This entails actions to implement the key policy objectives set out in the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025. It includes in particular initiatives that aim to address intersectional discrimination and inequality experienced on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics in the area of employment, education, health, culture and sport. The focus is on the LGBTIQ people, in the most vulnerable situations, such as trans and intersex people, and includes the training of relevant professionals. This priority also encompasses actions that seek to tackle gender and sexuality stereotypes in and through education, provide support to rainbow families and raise awareness of the challenges they face, and prevent and combat LGBTIQ-phobic hate crimes, hate speech, violence and harmful practices.

Indicative budget: EUR 1 000 000

## **4. Preventing, reporting and countering hate speech online**

This entails actions to: (i) foster systematic reporting and recording of hate speech cases and incidents online, (ii) strengthen cooperation between public authorities, civil society organisations and IT companies, in particular in the area of prevention, education and awareness raising about tolerance and against hatred online (targeting in particular young women and men, girls and boys in all their diversity), and (iii) increase public awareness of online hate speech, including through the promotion of positive narratives and online campaigns, which can take into account gender differences.

Indicative budget: EUR 1 500 000

## **5. Restricted to public authorities to improve their responses to (multiple and intersectional) discrimination, racism and xenophobia**

This priority targets public authorities at national, regional and local level and helps them improve implementation on the ground of the Racial Equality Directive, the Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia and Commission Recommendation C(2018) 3850 on standards for equality bodies. Activities could include: issuing action plans or strategies against racism; training of law enforcement officials and/or authorities at national, regional or local level; improving recording and data collection practices in Member States, including disaggregated and in particular building on the work of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights work on equality data and the recording and collection of data on hate crimes; improving support for victims of (intersectional) discrimination, in particular on the basis of racial or ethnic origin, religion or colour, sexual orientation, gender identity, as well as racist or xenophobic hate crime and hate speech at national, regional or local level; addressing underreporting; building trust between communities and public authorities.

Indicative budget: EUR 1 500 000

Activities that can be funded

Activities shall include:

- coalition and capacity building;
- training of professionals and victims of (multiple and intersectional) discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes;
- mutual learning, exchange of good practices, cooperation, including identifying best practices which may be transferable to other participating countries;
- designing and implementing anti-racism strategies or plans of action, including with focus on specific grounds (e.g. on antisemitism or other specific forms of intolerance) and initiated at the local level;
- dissemination and awareness-raising, including social media or press campaigns;
- studies and analytical activities, including intersectional analysis;
- promotion of digital skills and critical thinking;
- data recording, data collection, surveys, including data disaggregation



- monitoring and reporting of incidents of discrimination, hate speech and hate crime, including analysis of trends, triggers and ecosystem of online hatred;
- victim empowerment and support, with consideration of the specific needs of women and men, girls and boys in all their diversity;
- capacity building and training activities; including for national, regional and local authorities.

N.B.: activities that support specific political parties will not be funded, regardless of their grounds for applying or objectives. Furthermore, activities should duly pay attention to a gender perspective, both at design and implementation phase, as this will be taken into account in the evaluation.

### **Expected Impact**

[Please see the official call document for more information on all themes and priorities.](#)

### Available budget

The available call budget is EUR 9 900 000. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### Eligibility

#### Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies)
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
- EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))

non-EU countries: listed EEA countries and countries associated to the CERV Programme (associated countries) or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature

#### Other eligibility conditions:

To be eligible under the first, second, third and fourth priority, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- applicants and partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the programme, or an international organisation; organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations;
- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than EUR 75 000.

To be eligible under the fifth priority, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

- applicants must be public authorities of one of the countries participating in the programme; partners must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the programme, or international organisations;
- the project can be either national or transnational;
- the application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner);
- the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than EUR 75 000.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 15 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

[More about the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme.](#)

All proposals must be submitted directly online via the [Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System.](#)

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## PPPA: Pilot Project Building Investigative Capacity to Better Fight Doping in Sport in Europe

A Pilot Project is an initiative of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness and lasts not more than two years.

This call aims to support the anti-doping system to have the capacity to conduct investigations, to collaborate with law enforcement agencies and to protect whistleblowers.

### Programme Overview

Considering that law enforcement and government agencies possess investigative powers to attack source and supply of illegal substances, which in many cases uncover evidence of anti-doping rule violations, the core of the project is to develop protocols for the European ADOs to ensure evidence gathering and information sharing between them and the law enforcement.

Furthermore, this approach requires a broad implementation of the project. It should be aimed at covering all the European countries, including ideally the non-EU ones, to allow for a sufficient harmonization of the investigative standards in the region and to avoid weakening its efficiency by leaving too many stakeholders outside of the harmonized system.

### Background

The fight against doping in sport is essential to safeguard the integrity of sport and its values of fair play, respect and solidarity. It also promotes a healthy lifestyle and well-being for all citizens. But fighting against doping is increasingly challenging. Today, to unveil cheats, the anti-doping system relies on more sophisticated tools than just conducting “blood and urine-testing”. Nowadays, most of the doping infractions can be detected through investigations. The anti-doping system is thus confronted with a need to have the capacity to conduct investigations, to collaborate with law enforcement agencies and to protect whistleblowers.

However, an insufficient number of Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs), operating in too few countries, meet those conditions and this compromises the emergence of the strongest possible anti-doping system worldwide. The situation is critical and deserves the implementation of a specific strategy that includes close collaboration with the law enforcement agencies in all European countries.

### Objectives

The objectives of the project are as follows:

- to develop a set of complementary measures and activities that would address the issues mentioned above and have concrete benefits for the maximum number of European ADOs and, more generally, the anti-doping system;
- to allow ADOs to partner with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) to conduct investigations, protect whistle-blowers and cooperate on joint investigations with law enforcement agencies and the global network of investigators;
- to build capacity in the European anti-doping system, reduce the prevalence of doping in sport and maximise the health benefits generated by the practice of clean sport by European youths.

### **Themes and priorities**

The project will contribute in many ways to the objectives of the EU, including by:

protecting public health – doping is not just a problem affecting elite athletes and sport; but also, a threat to the society as a whole; especially youth. Research can attest a growth in the use of steroids and other prohibited substances by amateur athletes and youth to look and perform better.

providing new tools to combat the organized crime – selling doping substances is a ‘low risk – highly profitable activity’. Research demonstrate the involvement of organized crime in the manufacturing and trafficking of doping substance in sports along other illicit substances. Sharing of information between ADOs and law enforcement ADOs will help optimizing the fight against manufacturing and trafficking in doping substances.

improving sports governance in and outside Europe - this project will contribute to strengthening the governance of sport organizations and to share EU values with other partners through the involvement of non-EU countries in the implementation of the project.

The project will be built on the following four pillars:

- Assistance to develop a robust legislative framework that allows for the sharing of information between ADOs, law enforcement agencies and WADA and for the protection of whistle-blowers;
- Assistance to develop the best mechanism (forums, conferences or online platforms) for sharing information on legislation and best practices on investigations, and on protecting whistle-blowers;

- Assistance to build the investigative capacity of ADOs by providing training sessions to employees or hiring experts;
- Assistance to allow ADOs to contribute to global networks of investigators.

### **Activities that can be funded**

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

- develop a system for the general sharing of information (and information on legislation and best practices on investigation) between ADOs, law enforcement agencies and WADA and for the protection of whistle-blowers;
- help to build the investigative capacity of ADOs by providing training;
- support the creation of networks (for ex of investigators or source handlers) to exchange information and partner with European and international law enforcement agencies.
- other actions (studies, analyses, mapping projects) to build capacity of the Anti-Doping Organizations and law enforcement in the areas of anti-doping investigations and whistleblower protection.

### **Expected impact**

Many ADOs face challenges linked to their capacity to investigate, collaborate with law enforcement and protect whistleblowers. Most ADOs also face challenges linked to a lack of solid legislative framework, no robust structure or lack of necessary resources. This weakens the anti-doping system worldwide. The situation is critical and requires a coordinated response.

The implementation of the pilot project will take due regard to complementarity with the EU Erasmus Sport programme.

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 1 430 000 for the support of 1 project. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- Be a legal entity (public or private body)
- Be an entity with international reach, working in the field of doping and with proven investigative capabilities.
- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 16 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

[Application Link](#)

All proposals must be submitted directly online via the [Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System](#).

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## PPPA: Preparatory Action Grassroots Sports Programmes and Infrastructure Innovation

Pilot projects (PP) and Preparatory Actions (PA) introduce new initiatives that might turn into standing EU funding programmes.

This call aims to give the opportunity to sport organisations to develop and promote new forms of practicing sport and physical activities, the communication about these activities and their benefit and the development of light sport facilities.

### Programme Overview

A Preparatory Action - normally the successor of a successful pilot project on the same matter - is designed to prepare new actions like EU policies, legislation, programmes etc. with funding for not more than three years.

The purpose of this pilot project is to identify and test innovative ideas. The general objective of this action is to give the opportunity to sport organisations to develop and promote new forms of practicing sport and physical activities, the communication about these activities and their benefit and the development of light sport facilities.

This includes the development of new forms of sport and physical activities, the communication about these activities and their benefits as well as the development of small, recreational sport facilities. The specific objective of this action is to support the promotion of physical activity through flexible, modern ways of practicing sport both in terms of offer (trainings, activities) and in terms of infrastructure.

### Background

The practice of sport and physical activity in Europe traditionally takes place in the framework of sport clubs and organisations. These traditional structures organise sport practices in accordance with stable rules (“the rules of the game”). In many cases, large and costly sport facilities were generally the environment where those practices were organised.

However, nowadays individual needs and preferences regarding sport are evolving rapidly. Figures concerning the participation in sport and physical activity indicate that there is a rising mismatch between the supply of sport via traditional sport organisations and the demand of individuals. In order to attract new generations, sport federations, organisations and clubs should improve their offer through creativity, innovation and new form of practices. They could consider working in two directions. First, they can consider enlarging their offer, making it more

diverse, informal and open it to new publics, favouring at the same time democratisation and integration. They could secondly use and promote light and flexible sport infrastructures allowing the practice of sport in a wider diversity of places.

## **Objectives**

The purpose of this pilot project is to identify and test innovative ideas. The general objective of this action is to give the opportunity to sport organisations to develop and promote new forms of practicing sport and physical activities, the communication about these activities and their benefit and the development of light sport facilities.

This includes the development of new forms of sport and physical activities, the communication about these activities and their benefits as well as the development of small, recreational sport facilities.

The specific objective of this action is to support the promotion of physical activity through flexible, modern ways of practicing sport both in terms of offer (trainings, activities) and in terms of infrastructure. Themes and priorities The activities must respect EU essential principles such as non-discrimination; any sport infrastructure involved in the activities shall be accessible to people with disabilities.

## **Activities that can be funded**

Actions will promote new forms of practicing sport, such as (non-exhaustive list):

- adaptation of the existing infrastructure and development of light sport facilities, which directly complement the expected results;
- organisation of new forms of physical activities and integration with traditional activities to offer sport activities; innovative approaches to training programmes;
- intergenerational activities and outreach to young people to increase their participation;
- use of digital technology and social media.

## **Expected Impact**

The expected outcomes of this preparatory action include:

- A better knowledge about new forms of practice of sport and physical activity
- The development of new forms of practices as well as soft programmes to promote it



- A better integration of new ways of practicing sport and physical activity in the offer of traditional sport federations and organisations
- An increased participation of young generations to sport
- The development of light sport facilities, which directly complement the previous expected results

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 1.9M€. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- Be a legal entity (public or private body)
- Be a sport federation, organisation or club with legal personality, which regularly organises sport competitions or activities, and has activities in Europe, a European dimension or European impact.
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:  
EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 16 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

[Full details here.](#)

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## PPPA: Preparatory Action Sport As a Tool for Integration and Social Inclusion of Refugees

Pilot projects (PP) and Preparatory Actions (PA) introduce new initiatives that might turn into standing EU funding programmes.

This call aims to promote the direct engagement of refugees and host communities within the EU and to promote a Europe-wide approach, increasing the potential for European host communities to successfully engage and integrate refugees through sport.

### Programme Overview

A Preparatory Action - normally the successor of a successful pilot project on the same matter - is designed to prepare new actions like EU policies, legislation, programmes etc. with funding for not more than three years.

In the continuation of the 2016 call for proposals on "Promoting HEPA policy measures and actions for refugees", and of the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 call for proposals "Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees", the current preparatory action will support the identification of good practices in Europe and the development of methods to assess their impact in a systematic and replicable manner.

### Background

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

Sport can be an efficient tool in order to facilitate a 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 contribute to the social inclusion of refugees in host communities; the opportunities they provide are more and more exploited in many EU Member States. This preparatory action is a contribution to this effort and to a better integration of refugees through sport.

### Themes and priorities

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.

The implementation of the preparatory action will take due regard to complementarity with the EU Erasmus+ Sport programme, with the actions eligible under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), as well as with those currently funded under the pilot project 'promoting health-enhancing physical activity across Europe.'

### **Activities that can be funded**

The activities must be enshrined within the framework of European common values<sup>2</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:

- 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.

### **Expected Impact**

Through concrete actions aiming at integrating refugees through sport, the expected outcomes of this preparatory action will include:

promoting the direct engagement of refugees and host communities within the EU

promoting a Europe-wide approach, increasing the potential for European 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.

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 1.9M€. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

## Eligibility

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- Be a legal entity (public or private body)
- 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;
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:  
EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 16 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

[Application Link](#)

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## Erasmus+ Programme

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe.

It has an estimated budget of €26.2 billion. This is nearly double the funding compared to its predecessor programme (2014-2020).

The 2021-2027 programme places a strong focus on social inclusion, the green and digital transitions, and promoting young people's participation in democratic life.

It supports priorities and activities set out in the European Education Area, Digital Education Action Plan and the European Skills Agenda. The programme also:

- supports the European Pillar of Social Rights
- implements the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027
- develops the European dimension in sport.
- Erasmus+ offers mobility and cooperation opportunities in:
  - higher education
  - vocational education and training
  - school education (including early childhood education and care)
  - adult education
  - youth
  - and sport

Detailed information on these opportunities, including eligibility criteria, is available in the [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#).

The outcomes of Erasmus+ are available in reports and compendia of statistics, as well as through the [Erasmus+ Projects Platform](#). This includes most of the initiatives funded by the programme and a selection of good practices and success stories.

### Erasmus+ Specific Call Details

### **Erasmus+ - Cooperation Partnerships in Sport**

The Cooperation Partnership action enables participating organisations to gain experience in international cooperation and to strengthen their capacities, but also to produce high-quality innovative deliverables.

Deadline: 17 June 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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### **Erasmus+ - Not-for-profit European Sport Events**

The Not-for-profit European Sport Event action aims to support the organisation of sport events with a European dimension in volunteering in sport, social inclusion in sport, fight against discrimination in sport, and encouraging participation in sport and physical activity.

Deadline: 17 June 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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### **Erasmus+ - Small-scale Partnerships in Sport**

Small-scale Partnerships are designed to widen access to the Erasmus+ programme to small-scale actors and individuals who are hard to reach in the fields of school education, adult education, vocational education and training, education, youth and sport.

Deadline: 17 June 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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### **Erasmus+ - European Youth Together**

The European Youth Together action targets youth organisations at grass-root level which want to establish partnerships across borders which aim at adding a European dimension to their activities and at linking these activities to EU youth policies, most notably the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027.

Deadline: 24 June 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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### **Erasmus+ - Capacity Building in the Field of Youth**

The Capacity Building in the Field of Youth call aims to support the international cooperation and policy dialogue in the field of youth and non-formal learning, as a driver of sustainable socio-economic development and well-being of youth organisations and young people.

Deadline: 1 July 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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### **Erasmus+ - Increasing Access to Educational Tools in Areas and Communities with Low Connectivity or Access to Technologies**

A Preparatory Action - normally the successor of a successful pilot project on the same matter - is designed to prepare new actions like EU policies, legislation, programmes etc. with funding for not more than three years.

This call aims to reinforce actions to ensure inclusion is a leading priority in education and training, granting the right to education for all.

Deadline: 15 July 2021, 17:00 Brussels time

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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## Connected Hubs 2021

In 2021, the Rural Development Investment Programme's Town and Village Renewal Scheme includes a Connected Hubs Call. This call is intended to develop and leverage the capacity and quality of existing remote working facilities (hereinafter referred to as 'hubs') across the State in support of the National Hub Network initiative. The total indicative funding available for the Connected Hubs Call is €5 million. The fund will provide grants from €10,000, up to €250,000 for multi-hub applications, in accordance with the criteria set out below.

Projects seeking funding for the building of new hubs or the regeneration of derelict or vacant buildings as hubs are directed to apply to the main Town and Village Renewal Scheme or the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund which will be announced in due course.

The enhancement of remote working hubs in rural areas can have a transformative impact on rural and underserved areas of the country. Notwithstanding the clear benefits to individuals and families in terms of quality of life indicators, remote working from hubs will also support local economies, reduce carbon emissions and may arrest or reverse the depopulation of certain areas.

Remote working hubs have the potential to be key economic assets for towns and villages throughout Ireland. By acting as a locus for sustainable economic activity and local job opportunities, hubs can help to drive both urban and rural regeneration. Hubs also can contribute to the economic proposition of towns and villages by supporting place-making through the provision of educational services and cultural and recreational amenities.

The remote working ecosystem in Ireland is diverse in terms of the capacity, scale of facilities, and services offered by hubs. A wide range of government Departments, agencies and other bodies, including the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), the Western Development Commission (WDC), Enterprise Ireland (EI), Údarás na Gaeltachta, and the National Association of Community Enterprise Centres (NACEC) recognised this potential some time ago and have been working to support the development of Connected Hubs facilities.

### **Connected Hubs Call**

The Connected Hubs Call is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The primary objective of the Connected Hubs Call is to support and complement the development of a National Hub Network, which is a key action of the Rural Development

Policy - Our Rural Future and the National Remote Working Strategy – Making Remote Work.



The Connected Hubs Call aims to add additional capacity to the existing remote working infrastructure in Ireland by upgrading existing hubs and Broadband Connection Points (BCPs), while continuing to support COVID-19 measures.

The development of a National Hub Network, linking and supporting remote working hubs throughout the country, represents a unique opportunity to recognise the scale of the remote working infrastructure in Ireland. Through the centralised development of shared booking and client relationship management applications and the development of a supportive peer community, the National Hub Network will help to maximise the benefit these hubs can deliver to their clients, their communities and the country. Successful applicants to the Connected Hubs Call must commit to a three-year membership of the National Hub Network; the first step of which is to complete the National Hubs Survey [here](#).

Further details of the network, and the benefits and requirements of the membership are outlined in Appendix 1. Hubs that make this commitment before end-2021 will not be charged for use of the platform for 36 months.

The Connected Hubs Call will provide owners, operators and managers of existing remote working facilities and BCPs with the opportunity to identify and develop their own solutions in consultation with local authorities, local business interests (e.g. Chambers of Commerce), Town Teams (or similar bodies) and community groups as appropriate.

Eligible costs will involve expenditure on supplies and services of a capital nature and some smaller scale works that can be delivered quickly, rather than the large scale capital works, or proposals involving the development of new hubs, which will be eligible for consideration under the main 2021 Town and Village Renewal scheme or the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.

In light of the potential economies of scale and beneficial network effects that may be delivered the Department encourages applicants to, where possible, identify opportunities to deliver projects or works of a similar nature across multiple hubs or BCPs.

Given the likely nature of the projects and the straightforward application procedure, it is intended that these projects will be approved and announced by the Department within a short timeframe.

Projects under this Connected Hubs Call must be completed before the end of 2021 and applications must demonstrate credible project timelines to this effect.

This call is operated in accordance with EU Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 (De Minimis Aid). The De Minimis Aid is applied to the hub as the beneficiary of the funding.

## Qualifying and Eligibility Criteria

The Connected Hubs Call provides an opportunity to develop existing remote working hubs and BCPs with the aim of adding capacity to the nascent National Hub Network. The hubs may be in public ownership, community ownership or private ownership. The Department is keen to see existing hubs/BCPs improve their service offering, as well as works to further mitigate the impact of COVID-19. Solutions can be tailored to individual hubs or the same solution can be provided to multiple hubs/BCPs.

Applications that fail to meet the following criteria will *not* be evaluated:

- Applications that are received after the closing date.
- Applications that do not meet the minimum eligible funding threshold, i.e. minimum of €10k grant per individual hub.
- Projects with a completion timeframe beyond end of year 2021.
- Applications that fail to indicate a commitment to joining the National Hub Network for a period of 3 years. Clawback of funding (on a pro-rata basis) will be sought from any successful applicant who leaves the network before the end of the 3 year period. Further details regarding this commitment are provided in Appendix 1 and will be outlined in the funding agreement between the Department and successful applicants.
- Applications that are not supported by a completed National Hubs Survey questionnaire (<https://westerndevelopment.ie/2021/02/19/national-hubs-survey/launched/>).
- Applications that are incomplete, illegible or otherwise inaccessible will not progress to assessment. An 'incomplete' application may include an application that includes elements that exceed maximum word/page count requirements, or fall short of minimum information requirements.
- Where applicants are operating on a commercial basis, a short business plan must be provided that demonstrates the financial viability of the entity (limited to 10 pages or less).

## Eligible Activity

Applicants must be BCPs or existing hubs which provide, or will provide, remote working facilities and can demonstrate they have been in operation for 6 months (NB: this 6 months requirement does not apply to BCPs). Where hubs have been unable to operate due to public

health restrictions a short note of explanation should be provided with proof of operation prior to these restrictions.

The Department welcomes application from BCPs or existing hubs irrespective of the ownership or legal structure of the body.

Projects which may be funded under this call include, but are not limited to:

- Expansion of existing remote working infrastructure.
- Installation of privacy booths in existing hubs.
- Installation of access control and security systems.
- Conversion of existing open plan space to modular offices.
- Audio Visual upgrade facilities.
- Building Control Systems.
- Energy Efficiency Upgrades.
- Electric Car Charging Points.
- Disability Access Upgrading
- Upgrade of meeting rooms.
- Upgrade of external signage.
- IT Network upgrades, wiring, access points and a secure control system.
- Innovative measures to assist existing hubs to deal with COVID-related challenges.
- Promotion & marketing campaigns to raise awareness of improvements made to drive increased hub usage.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 17 June 2021

[Full details available here.](#)

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## CERV: Calls for Proposals for 4 Year Framework Partnership to Support Networks, Civil Society Organisations and European Think Tanks

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) provides funding for citizens' engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The CERV programme brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

This call aims to set up 4-year Framework Partnership Agreements with European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks whose statutory aims are to protect and promote Union values.

### Overview

The Commission is looking for new framework partners for the next 4 years and this call aims to set up Framework Partnership Agreements with European networks, think tanks and civil society organisations whose activities contribute to the implementation of the CERV programme's objectives and priorities, such as:

- Promotion and protection of Union values;
- Promotion of equality, prevention and fights against discrimination;
- Promotion of gender equality;
- Combatting racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance;
- Protection and promotion of the rights of the child;
- Promotion of European remembrance;
- Promotion of citizens' engagement and participation;
- Prevention and fight against gender-based violence;
- Prevention and fight against violence against children.

The activities concerned can include research, trainings, exchange of good practices or general awareness raising.

The annual operating grants to be signed based on these framework partnership agreements will increase the capacities of these networks to contribute actively to the development and implementation of EU policies in these areas.

### **Objective**

Protecting, promoting and raising awareness on rights by providing financial support to civil society organisations active at local, regional and transnational level in promoting and cultivating these rights, thereby also strengthening the protection and promotion of Union values and respect for the rule of law and contributing to building a more democratic EU, democratic dialogue, transparency and good governance.

EU policy initiatives supported: European democracy action plan, EU Citizenship Report 2020, Rule of law report, Strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU, Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, EU anti-racism action plan, EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation, LGBTIQ Equality Strategy, EU Strategy on the rights of the child, EU Strategy on combating antisemitism.

### **Activities that can be funded**

This call will support European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks whose activities contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the programme and which will implement among others: analytical activities, training and capacity building activities, mutual learning and exchange of good practices, awareness raising, information and dissemination activities with EU added value. Civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks will also be supported in the area of European remembrance and citizens engagement.

Every year, an operating grant may be awarded to Framework Partners in order to finance their activities, insofar as they are in line with the objectives of the programme in the area concerned and the policy priorities that may be established by the Commission. The costs of general administrative expenditure necessary for the running of these organisations may also be covered.

As of 2023, framework partners that qualify as European networks may have, the possibility to re-grant (i.e. further disburse grants/financial support to third parties) to their member organisations. The maximum amount of financial support that can be paid to a member organisation shall not exceed EUR 60 000.

### **Expected Impact**

European networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Building the capacity of national or regional organisations working in the areas covered by the grant;
- Building and increasing the capacity of network partners to develop coherent and coordinated activities to promote the relevant policy objectives;
- Expanding the network's reach, including new partners;
- A measurable increase in the impact of the network's activities in the respective policy areas.

Civil society organisations active at EU level in the area of European remembrance and citizens' engagement and participation, are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Building and increasing their capacity to develop coherent and coordinated transnational activities to promote the relevant policy objectives at EU level;
- A tangible contribution made by the organisation's permanent, usual and regular transnational activities to the relevant policy objectives at EU level and show a measurable increase in impact in the respective policy areas.

European think tanks active in the area of European remembrance and citizens' engagement and participation are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Providing a link between research and policy-making at European level, which helps find solutions to problems;
- Facilitating interaction between scientists, academia and decision-makers.

### **Available budget**

The total budget earmarked for grants calls under this framework partnership call is EUR 20 900 000 / year in 2021 and 2022. In 2022 additional EUR 5 800 000 will provide the possibility to re-grant (i.e. further disburse grants) to their member organisations.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities, private non-profit organisations (private bodies);
- be established in in a Member State of the European Union;
- for priorities: Promote and protect Union values; Promote equality, prevent and combat discrimination; Promote gender equality; Combat racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance; Protect and promote the rights of the child; Prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children: be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States;
- for priority Preventing and combating gender-based violence, be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States; the networks active in the area of female genital mutilation (FGM) must have member organisations/bodies or authorities in at least 12 EU Member States;
- for priority Promoting citizens engagement and participation, be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States, or an established civil society organisation active at EU level with activities in at least 14 Member States or a European think tank;
- for priority Promoting European remembrance be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States, or an established civil society organisation active at EU level or a European think tank;
- The applicant must be a single applicant; in case of networks only the network or the organisation appointed as the joint secretariat/officially appointed coordinator may submit an application; the member organisations are not eligible to apply;
- The applicant's statutory aims must fall under one of the objectives of the programme as set out in Work Programme 2021-2022;

- The applicant must provide a strategic work programme for a period of 4 years starting in 2022.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 22 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

More about the [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme](#).

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## CERV: Calls for Proposals On European Remembrance

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) provides funding for citizens' engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The CERV programme brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

This call will support projects aimed at commemorating historical moments and developments of the 20th century in order to raise awareness about their importance and relevance for today's world.

### Overview

This call's purpose is to preserve the historical memory and fight the distortion and denial of historical events that were essential in shaping the European history, such as the Holocaust. The thematic priorities of the call include the commemoration, research and education of crimes committed under totalitarian regimes, in particular the Holocaust, as well as the resistance and democratic transition. Specific emphasis is put on the transnational dimension of remembrance and a cross-border exchange to foster the common European understanding of history, cultural values and belonging.

### Background

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme provides funding for citizens engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (hereafter 'the programme') brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

The programme aims to foster a common culture of remembrance and mutual understanding between citizens from different countries. This is done notably by supporting projects that reflect on historical turning points and changes in regimes in Europe's 20th century and on their continuous importance for today's Europe, and projects that promote the role of Europe's cultural heritage as a pivotal element of cultural diversity, and intercultural dialogue and local heritage linked to European memory.

### Objectives

The EU policy initiatives supported under this call are:

- EU Strategy on combating antisemitism,

- EU anti-racism action plan 2020-20255,
- EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation.

In this respect, projects must address one (or both) of the policy priorities set for 2021:

### **1. Commemoration of and research and education about crimes committed under totalitarian regimes**

Crimes committed under totalitarian and authoritarian regimes impacted Europeans fundamentally during the 20th century and shaped Europe's responsibility to never let these crimes happen again. Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January) and the Day of Remembrance for the victims of all totalitarian and authoritarian regimes (23 August) have been expressions of the EU commitment to keep the memory alive. Commemorating and teaching about these crimes, such as the Holocaust, genocide and crimes against humanity, as well as cultivating the memory of the survivors are key to shaping a common European future. Any attempt to preserve this memory must consist of thorough research, both national and transnational, and continuous education to inspire and guide new generations of Europeans in particular policymakers, opinion makers and other multipliers in defending fundamental rights, the rule of law and democracy.

Holocaust remembrance, research and education will be a priority of the call. The rising trend of Holocaust denial and distortion, which appears increasingly online, is a critical threat to Holocaust memory and preventing such crimes in the future. Recent developments and events, have demonstrated how historical distortion and denial is used to steer up division and hatred in societies. Holocaust distortion attacks the established understanding of history and fuels conspiracy theories, extremism, Holocaust denial, and racism and antisemitism. More than half of Europeans perceive Holocaust denial as a problem in their country.

76 years after the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the Nazi death camps, public knowledge about the Holocaust is steadily declining. According to a recent study, a third of Europeans know "just a little or nothing at all" about the Holocaust while one European in 20 has never heard of the Holocaust. The decreasing number of eyewitnesses makes it essential to find new ways of remembering and educating about the Holocaust to harness society against resurging threats of hatred, discrimination and all forms of antisemitism. Two-thirds of Europeans are convinced that commemorating the Holocaust helps ensure that such atrocities will never happen again.

Projects under this priority should:

- consider the European and transnational dimension of the Holocaust, its root causes and consequences,
- and/or transform research, memorial sites and testimonies into practical educational tools for all parts of society in particular multipliers such as policymakers, state officials and societal leaders,
- and/or pay particular attention to tackle the challenge of Holocaust denial and distortion.

In line with the EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation, projects should also pay attention to the specificities of the Roma victims of the Holocaust and their struggle for recognition.

In the end of 2021, the European Commission will present an EU strategy on combating antisemitism which should be considered by projects during their implementation.

In the context of Holocaust remembrance, the European Union has acquired permanent international partner status with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and implemented activities that can serve as guidance such as the campaign #ProtectTheFacts, which pushes back against Holocaust distortion. Applicants are invited to make use of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance resources on countering distortion and denial.

## **2. Resistance, democratic transition and democratic consolidation in the EU**

Resistance played a key role in fighting occupation, overthrowing totalitarian regimes, and paving the way for democratic transitions in Europe. The violations of fundamental freedoms under totalitarian or other regimes have been repeatedly challenged by different parts of society. It remains crucial to celebrate and educate about these instances, actors and groups as examples for today and the future to defend fundamental freedoms.

Projects under this priority should:

- analyse and highlight resistance and/or organised opposition
- and/or highlight the democratic transition including attempts providing justice for victims;
- and/or focus on how the EU accession influenced democratic standards and practices of the new democracies throughout the accession process.

While taking stock of the enlargements accomplished in the last decades, the projects could also offer the opportunity to discuss future enlargements or other kinds of partnerships with countries of the EU neighbourhood based on common European history. (subject to agreements to be signed).

Projects addressing any of the two priorities listed above are encouraged to pay attention to:

- the role, representation and perspective of women in these important historical events and developments to allow a more gender-balanced understanding of history;
- small-scale historical events on local and community level to enable to create a link between global and local histories;
- historical events that are generally unknown and/or have not been previously a focus of research, however, with important contribution to the historical developments related to the two priorities above.

### **Activities that can be funded**

Projects are expected to:

- include different types of organisations (public authorities, civil society organisations, research and archival institutes, universities, cultural organisations, memorial and learning sites ... etc.) and aim to establish lasting collaboration between these actors, in particular between research, memory institutions and public authorities;
- develop different types of activities (training activities, publications, online tools, research, including provenance research, non-formal education, public debates, exhibitions, collection and digitisation of testimonies, innovative and creative actions, etc.) and ensure these activities are accessible to women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, in planning and execution;
- involve citizens from different target groups and ensure their balanced representation (in terms of age, cultural and social backgrounds, etc) with a focus on multipliers (policymakers, state official, opinion leaders, ...etc.);
- preferably be implemented on a transnational level (involving the creation and operation of transnational partnerships and networks);
- share and promote the memory and legacy of the crimes committed by totalitarian regimes as well as research to curb distortion;

- foster a common culture of remembrance and mutual understanding between citizens from different countries.

### **Expected Impact**

- To raise enhanced awareness of European historical memory and remembrance, including through the development of activities linking remembrance with civic education, participation and democracy in the broadest sense.
- In the area of projects relating to the Holocaust, to allow for an exchange crossing national boundaries and promoting a European approach to history as well as digitalise testimonies of survivors to preserve the memory.
- To add a European dimension to relevant debates on important historical events and moments of recent European history.
- To contribute to create lasting changes in participants' attitudes towards Europe's history, its values and its culture.
- To counter Holocaust denial and distortion.
- To identify, safeguard and make available (including online), archival material, testimonies and authentic sites for education purposes, commemoration and research.
- To anchor a common culture of respecting fundamental rights and EU values in the target audience.

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 4 515 000. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies) be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
- EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
- non-EU countries:

listed EEA countries and countries associated to the CERV Programme (associated countries) or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature

- be public local/regional authorities, or non-profit organisations, including civil society organisations, survivors' associations, and cultural, youth, educational and research organisations.
- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal — and will have to be validated by the Central Validation Service (REA Validation). For the validation, they will be requested to upload documents showing legal status and origin.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 22 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

[Additional details here.](#)

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## The Arts Council - Festivals Investment Scheme

The Arts Council announces round one of the Festivals Investment Scheme (FIS) for festivals taking place between January and June 2022.

The Council recognises the distinctive role arts festivals play in sustaining a vibrant and sustainable arts profile at a local level. Festivals provide opportunities for artists and audiences to experience new work and ways of making work. The Council acknowledges the valuable contribution made by voluntary committees in developing these festivals. The scheme will be open to multi-disciplinary festivals and single artform festivals.

There are three bands of funding available:

1. Band A: Up to €7,000
2. Band B: Between €7,001 and €20,000
3. Band C: Between €20,001 and €35,000

Selecting an appropriate band for your organisation

The banding structure of funding available matches the different developmental stages of festival practice. Band A for smaller festivals, new festival ideas, Band B for small to mid scale festivals seeking to build capacity, Band C for festivals strategically driven with a commitment to artistic leadership.

### **Important**

Festival applicants that wish to apply to Band C must have been established for a minimum of five years and executed a minimum of five consecutive festival programmes.

Festival applicants that wish to apply to Band B must have been established for a minimum of two years and executed a minimum of two consecutive festival programmes.

The Festivals Investment Scheme is a non-recurring competitive scheme.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 22 June 2021 (opening) / 22 July 2021 (closing)

[Visit the Arts Council website for further information and guidelines.](#)

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## CERV: Operating Grants to Framework Partners Active in the Areas of Union Values

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) provides funding for citizens' engagement, equality for all and the implementation of rights and EU values. The CERV programme brings together the former Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme and the former Europe for Citizens programme.

The aim of this call is to support on an annual basis the functioning of the European networks, organisations and think tanks that have signed the 4-year Framework Partnership Agreement and are active in the areas of CERV programme objectives.

### Overview

Every year, an operating grant may be awarded to framework partners to finance their activities, insofar as these are in line with the programme's objectives in the area concerned and the policy priorities that may be established by the Commission. The costs of general administrative expenditure necessary for the running of these organisations may also be covered.

Therefore, this year, European networks, organisations and think tanks need to apply in parallel for becoming first a framework partner for the next four years and then for receiving the first-year grant.

### Objectives

Protecting, promoting and raising awareness on rights by providing financial support to civil society organisations active at local, regional, national and transnational level in promoting and cultivating these rights, thereby also strengthening the protection and promotion of Union values and respect for the rule of law and contributing to building a more democratic Union, democratic dialogue, transparency and good governance.

EU policy initiatives supported: European democracy action plan, EU Citizenship Report 2020, Rule of law report, Strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU, Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, EU anti-racism action plan, EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation, LGBTIQ Equality Strategy, EU Strategy on the rights of the child, forthcoming EU Strategy on combating antisemitism.

### Themes and priorities



These grants aim to support the annual work programmes of European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks that have signed framework partnership agreements with EACEA and are active in one of the following areas: union values, non-discrimination, gender equality, combating racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance, rights of the child, preventing and combating gender-based violence and violence against children. These grants also aim to support the annual work programmes of European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks which have signed framework partnership agreements with EACEA and are active in the areas of European remembrance or citizens' engagement. Framework partners may submit a proposal presenting their annual work programme.

### **Union Values**

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks whose activities contribute to the promotion, protection and awareness raising of Union values and the fundamental rights enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

The Framework Partners should support the implementation of the strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter of fundamental rights in the EU6, including also strengthening the capacity and ability of civil society organisations and independent human rights bodies to effectively engage in litigation practices to defend people's rights.

### **Promote equality, prevent and combat discrimination**

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks active in the area of non-discrimination and equality which have signed Framework Partnership Agreements with the Commission.

In the field of Roma equality, inclusion, and participation the Framework Partners are asked to focus in their activities on the seven key core areas: equality, inclusion, participation, education, employment, health, and housing of the EU Roma Strategic Framework. The work of the partners should also prioritise the fight against antigypsyism as a key priority with a dedicated non-discrimination objective and also as a cross-cutting priority with the specific objectives underlined above. The partners are equally asked to align their work with the 10-year strategic framework to advance Roma equality in the EU, and to further enhance the scope of the Council Recommendation which includes a comprehensive list of measures to combat discrimination and antigypsyism, advance social inclusion, promote participation and active citizenship, amongst all members of Roma communities with due consideration of gender balance. The partners should be able to support the process of mainstreaming of Roma equality

in different policy areas and to increase the capacity of all their members to meaningfully contribute to the development of inclusive reform of public policies by national authorities.

In the area of LGBTIQ equality the Framework Partners are asked to focus on combatting discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics. In the development of their activities the partners are encouraged to take into account relevant contribution to the implementation of the LGBTIQ Equality Strategy and impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the LGBTIQ community.

### **Promote gender equality**

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks active in the area of gender equality, and in particular those whose work promotes equality between women and men, in all their diversity<sup>7</sup>, under the three pillars of the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (being free from violence and stereotypes, thriving in a gender-equal economy and leading equally throughout society) as well as advance gender mainstreaming.

### **Combat racist and xenophobic hate crime and hate speech, including online**

These grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks active on fighting all forms of racist and xenophobic hate crimes and hate speech such as antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred and Afrophobia, including online.

Framework partners shall undertake activities in support of the implementation of the 2008 Council Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia and all forms of intolerance.

In particular, in the area of antisemitism the Framework Partners are asked to focus on preventing and combating all forms of antisemitism and to contribute to the development and implementation of the forthcoming EU strategy on combating antisemitism. They are invited to focus on supporting the mainstreaming of the fight against antisemitism in all relevant policy areas. Activities may include raising awareness of antisemitism among policy makers and the general public, mobilising their members to support victims of antisemitism, collect data on antisemitic incidents; encourage reporting, educate the public about the diversity of Jewish life, and strengthen the resilience of Jewish communities.

### **Protect and promote the rights of the child**

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks aiming at promoting and protecting the rights of the child, and in particular whose work contributes to mainstreaming child rights in all relevant policies, and to the implementation of the thematic priorities of the EU strategy on the rights of the child.

### **Prevent and combat gender-based violence**

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks aiming at preventing and combating all forms of violence against women, as well as violence against other groups at risk, in particular groups at risk of violence in close relationships, and to protect victims of such violence. In particular, the work of European networks will focus on prevention, response and follow-up to all forms of gender-based violence, and can include working with victims, offenders, professionals, decision makers and authorities, stakeholders, the public at large.

### **Prevent and combat violence against children**

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of European networks aiming at preventing and combating all forms of violence against children, and at contributing to the implementation of the thematic priorities on violence as specifically defined in the EU strategy on the rights of the child. In particular, the work of EU networks will focus on prevention, response and follow-up to all forms of violence, and can include working with victims, offenders, professionals, decision makers and authorities, stakeholders, the public at large.

### **Promote citizens' engagement and participation**

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of organisations aiming at promoting citizens and representative associations' participation in and contribution to the democratic and civic life of the Union by making known and publicly exchanging their views in all areas of Union action. The final aim is to bring the European Union closer to its citizens and to foster democratic participation through a variety of actions. European citizenship and identity should be developed and advanced by encouraging citizens' understanding of the policymaking process and by promoting civic engagement in the actions of the Union.

The selected organisations should support actions to broadly cover a variety of policy areas, and to contribute to the promotion of EU values, the rule of law, fundamental rights and democracy. A specific focus should be given to the following priorities: the 2024 European Parliament elections; the COVID-19 crisis and its effects on the democratic debate and the enjoyment of fundamental rights; innovative democratic approaches and tools to help citizens make their voices heard and publicly exchange views on all areas of EU action, notably digital tools ('e-democracy'); countering disinformation and other forms of interference in the democratic debate, empowering citizens to make informed decisions by helping them identify disinformation and promoting media literacy, with journalists' involvement; engaging citizens and communities in discussions and action related to our climate and environment.

Activities will give citizens an opportunity to contribute to the implementation of the European democracy action plan the EU Citizenship Report 2020 and shall promote EU citizenship rights.

### **Promote European Remembrance**

The grants aim to support the annual work programme of European organisations commemorating, researching and educating about defining developments and moments in modern European history and at raising awareness among European citizens of their history, culture, cultural heritage and values. The aim is to foster a common culture of remembrance and mutual understanding between people from different countries and backgrounds and strengthen the understanding of the Union, its origins, purpose, diversity and achievements.

In particular, the work of European organisations will focus on crimes committed by totalitarian regimes such as the Holocaust, including addressing current challenges of Holocaust denial and distortion, as well as resistance and democratic transition in recent European history.

The organisations should pay particular attention to the forthcoming EU Strategy on combating antisemitism, the EU anti-racism action plan for 2020-2025 and the EU Roma strategic framework on equality, inclusion and participation and their implementation.

### **Activities that can be funded**

These grants will fund the networks, organisations or think tanks operating costs and those activities which have EU added value and contribute to the implementation of programme objectives, including analytical activities, training and capacity building activities, conferences, mutual learning, cooperation, awareness-raising, communication and dissemination activities. Applicants must provide a detailed annual work programme for a period of 12 months.

Activities should duly pay attention to a gender perspective, both at design and implementation phase, as this will be taken into account in the evaluation. The partners should also ensure an inclusive and intersectional approach in these activities for all people, with regards to for instance racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, (dis)ability, age, gender, sex or sexual orientation.

### **Expected Impact**

European networks are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:

- Building the capacity of national or regional organisations working in the areas covered by the grant;

- Building and increasing the capacity of network partners to develop coherent and coordinated activities to promote the relevant policy objectives;
- Expanding the network's reach, including new partners;
- A measurable increase in the impact of the network's activities in the respective policy areas.
- Civil society organisations active at EU level in the area of European remembrance and citizens' engagement and participation, are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:
  - Building and increasing their capacity to develop coherent and coordinated transnational activities to promote the relevant policy objectives at EU level;
  - A tangible contribution made by the organisation's permanent, usual and regular transnational activities to the relevant policy objectives at EU level and show a measurable increase in impact in the respective policy areas.
- European think tanks active in the area of European remembrance and citizens' engagement and participation are expected to contribute to achieving at least one of the following objectives:
  - Providing a link between research and policy-making at European level, which helps find solutions to problems;
  - Facilitating interaction between scientists, academia and decision-makers.

### **Available budget**

The available call budget is EUR 20 900 000. This budget might be increased by maximum 20%.

### **Eligibility**

Please note that for the first year framework partnership applications (FPA) and specific grant applications (SGA) are submitted in parallel due to time constrains. You must first complete the FPA application and then use the FPA application number in the SGA application.

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities, private non-profit organisations (private bodies);

- be established in in a Member State of the European Union;
- be a beneficiary of a Framework Partnership Agreement within the Call CERV-2021-OG-FPA — European networks, civil society organisations active at EU level and European think tanks in the areas of Union values;
- for priorities: Promote and protect Union values; Promote equality, prevent and combat discrimination; Promote gender equality; Combat racism, xenophobia and all forms of intolerance; Protect and promote the rights of the child; Prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children: be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States;
- for priority Preventing and combating gender-based violence, be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States; the networks active in the area of female genital mutilation (FGM) must have member organisations/bodies or authorities in at least 12 EU Member States;
- for priority Promoting citizens engagement and participation, be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States, or an established civil society organisation active at EU level with activities in at least 14 Member States or a European think tank;
- for priority Promoting European remembrance be an established formal network with own legal personality or represent (as joint secretariat or officially appointed coordinator) an established formal network, organised at European level and with member organisations/bodies or authorities from at least 14 EU Member States, or an established civil society organisation active at EU level or a European think tank;
- The applicant must be a single applicant; in case of networks only the network or the organisation appointed as the joint secretariat/officially appointed coordinator may submit an application; the member organisations are not eligible to apply;
- The applicant's statutory aims must fall under one of the objectives of the programme as set out in Work Programme 2021-2022.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 29 June 2021

[See full details in the official call document.](#)

More about the [Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme](#).

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## Patagonia Environmental Grants

Patagonia supports environmental organizations with bold, direct-action agendas and a commitment to long-term change.

We support innovative work that addresses the root causes of the environmental crisis and seeks to protect both the environment and affected communities. We focus on places where we've built connections through outdoor recreation and through our network of retail stores, nationally and internationally. Patagonia funds work that:

- is action-oriented
- focuses on root causes
- has a clear strategy
- identifies specific goals and objectives that can be effectively measured to evaluate success
- builds public involvement and civic engagement
- works to build an inclusive and diverse environmental movement
- takes place within the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, **Ireland**, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Our funding focuses on organizations that have or can create a strong base of support. Because we're a privately held company, we have the freedom to fund risk-taking, off-the-beaten-track groups, and that's where we believe our small grants are most effective.

We accept one proposal per group in a given fiscal year (May 1–April 30), with deadlines varying from program to program. Grants up to \$12,000 may be requested.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 30 June 2021

[Learn more here.](#)

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## Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

The Fund will consider grants for the conservation of any threatened or poorly known animal, plant or fungus species.

Its focus is global and eligibility for grants will extend to all plant, animal and fungi species conservation efforts, without discrimination on the basis of region or selected species.

The Fund intends to be as flexible and accommodating as possible when reviewing applications, and to take into account as many different factors as is reasonable when assessing the merit of a suggested project. To support this and to try to streamline the application process, the review process is kept comparatively simple.

Grants will be awarded based on their ability to meet criteria pre-determined by the Species Fund, and are for maximum of \$25,000 for each project.

### Criteria

Conservation status: The Fund was established to support species conservation work, and so if your project is not about an endangered species it is probably not worth your while submitting an application.

The Fund will use the IUCN Redlist ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)) as the primary guide to the conservation status of a given species, although documented variations for sub-species, distinct populations and sub-populations will be taken into account. For those species not assessed through the IUCN Redlist we welcome other methods of assessment and the submission of quantitative data to confirm a species status. Generally the Fund gives priority to those species facing a high threat of extinction (with an emphasis on Endangered and Critically Endangered species), as well as those which are listed as Data Deficient or unlisted but are suspected as highly threatened. Please ensure that the conservation status mentioned in the application is correct and cross-referenced to a website or publication. It might be of use to consult with the relevant IUCN/SSC Specialist Group if you are in doubt or would like some guidance.

Please note that applications with clearly incorrect conservation status and no justification will NOT be considered for funding.

**Content:** Text provided in an application should be kept concise and clear, with clearly stated quantitative goals, aims and methods. When writing an application, please bear in mind that there is only so much text which the Advisory Board and the Fund's board of directors are

capable of reading. Priority will be given to those projects that support the professional development of young conservationists.

**In situ conservation:** Generally, the Fund is primarily interested in providing support to in situ conservation work in the field (such as survey work and data gathering, direct action, recovery management, training and the like), focusing on the species in its natural habitat. However, the importance of ex situ work (genetic analysis, workshops, ex situ populations etc) is also recognised, and so a few grants may be given to projects which focus on ex situ conservation work in certain circumstances.

**Core costs:** The Fund will not contribute to the core running costs of an organisation or administrative overheads, and yet does recognise that sometimes support salaries, stipends, per diems and project related living costs can be a vital part of in situ conservation work.

**Species:** Generally the Fund would prefer to support projects which focus on a single species, but it also recognises that in some geographic and taxonomic circumstances it makes more sense to group a number of species.

**Grants for continuation:** The Fund is happy to provide continuation support for a project which had previously been supported, which is now completed and for which the Fund has received all required reporting by the time of the respective submission deadline.

**External review:** In some cases the Advisory Board and/or the Fund's board of directors may ask for an application to be passed on for additional review, which may add to the response time.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 30 June 2021

[Visit the Fund website](#) to learn more before submitting an online application.

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## Funding for Outdoor Recreation Facilities

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary repair, maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland.

The scheme supports sporting and recreational pursuits. It helps to make use of the resources of the countryside that contribute to healthy active lifestyles. It supports the economic and tourism potential of the area for both local communities and tourist visitors alike.

It provides funding for:

- development, extensions and repair of trails, walkways, cycleways and blueways
- improved access to outdoor leisure or recreational facilities
- development of outdoor recreational infrastructure.

Applications are accepted from Local Authorities (All Measures), Local Development Companies (Measure 1) and/or State Bodies (Measure 3) under the scheme:

**Measure 1:** Small-scale repair/development/promotional and marketing projects to include grant aid amounts of up to €20,000

**Measure 2:** Medium-scale repair/upgrade and new trail/amenity development grant amounts of up to €200,000

**Measure 3:** Strategic large-scale repair/upgrade and new strategic trail/amenity development grant amounts up to €500,000

**Project Development Measure:** Development costs for strategic large scale projects grant amounts up to €50,000.

### How to Apply

Deadline: completed applications must be submitted via email to [ORIS@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:ORIS@drcd.gov.ie) by: 5.15pm on Wednesday, 30th June 2021 for Measure 1, and 5.15pm on Friday, 30th July 2021 for Measures 2 & 3 & the Project Development Measure.

[Full guidelines are available here.](#)

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## Science Foundation Ireland – Discover Programme 2021

The SFI Discover Programme Call 2021 is a key part of the SFI Education and Public Engagement activity. In line with [SFI's 2025 Strategy: Shaping Our Future](#), the SFI Discover Programme Call aims to empower and inspire deep public engagement.

The programme contributes to the themes of Top Talent, Tangible Benefits and A Cohesive Ecosystem. Through its core objectives, the SFI Discover Programme activity will contribute to growing opportunities for dialogue between science and the public it serves and to improving diversity and inclusion in science, through its aims to broaden participation both geographically and amongst less represented voices in science.

Underpinning all of this is SFI's ambition to empower participation, grow talent and be a beacon of best practice in STEM education and public engagement, while always endeavouring to achieve this through the spirit of inspiration. As we continue to live through the Covid-19 pandemic, SFI is more conscious than ever of the importance of supporting the public to have access to and to understand the complex science underpinning crises such as this, in the context of their lives, their health, the health of their loved ones, and the impact it has on our collective future.

### Objectives

SFI welcomes contributions from across the sciences, arts, media, education, youth and/or community work sectors. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that create opportunities for broader participation and engagement of the public with STEM. SFI is keen to push the boundaries of participation and welcomes novel approaches to engaging the public, in ways that are most suited to them.

The aim of the SFI Discover Programme is to support projects that address one or more of the following objectives, projects that:

- Stimulate and create debate and dialogue amongst the public, and opportunities for dialogue with STEM experts, on topics of societal importance where STEM has a key role.
- Inspire and create greater public awareness of the impact of STEM on society and its connection and contribution to everyday life.
- Support and build engagement with, and participation of, a broader range of civil society and community groups through specific and appropriate targeted interaction, ideally involving co-creation and/or co-design.

- Use new ways, including through the arts and creative approaches, to understand and engage with those who would not typically engage with STEM, with particular emphasis on equal access, inclusion and diversity.
- Build an awareness, curiosity and confidence in the scientific method through relevant experiences.
- Provide insights into STEM-related careers and discoveries while breaking down any barriers to entry including negative stereotypes.
- Support projects which develop capacity and skills for the delivery of STEM Education and Public Engagement (EPE) in Ireland.

## Eligibility

The Call is open to a wide range of people and organisations, including mediators and practitioners of science communication; STEM festival organisers; universities and institutes of technology, science centres, museums and other cultural attractions; artists; educators; industry professionals and academics in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM); arts agencies; production companies; schools; local authorities (libraries, city/county councils etc.); youth clubs; youth work organisations, community groups; and research institutes.

Partnership projects (between different people and organisations, e.g. scientists and ethicists, educators and artists) are welcomed and encouraged.

Science Foundation Ireland has a list of Eligible Research Bodies (which includes universities, institutes of technology etc.) – check list of Eligible Research Bodies [here](#).

If your organisation is included on this list, then your application must be signed off by the appropriate officer (typically the Research Office) within your organisation using the Eligible Research Body Cover Sheet available on SESAME.

Applications are also welcome from other bodies (i.e. any organisation not included on the above list). There are two categories of other bodies that can become eligible for the SFI Discover Programme Call 2021:

### **(a) State Body (e.g. city or county council)**

In order to become eligible for the SFI Discover Programme Call 2020, applicants in this category are required to complete, sign, stamp and upload the “Other Bodies - State Body” Cover Sheet available on SESAME. A senior executive within the organisation is required to sign the cover sheet indicating the organisation’s support for the application.

## **(b) Other Body (i.e. not an Eligible Research Body or a State Body)**

In order to become eligible for the SFI Discover Programme Call 2020, applicants in this category are required to:

- Complete the “Other Body - Cover Sheet” available on SESAME, providing details of the organisation’s status, registration number, auditors, solicitors and bankers
- Provide details of the organisation structure detailing positions and names of post holders
- Provide a copy of the most recent annual report (if appropriate, i.e. if your organisation is required to publish an annual report)
- Provide a signed copy of the most recent Audited Financial Statements (if applicable)
- Declaration of Solvency Letter

Please Note: Failure to provide the required eligibility documentation outlined above, and as relevant for your organisation, will result in your application being deemed ineligible and will not be sent for review.

If you have any doubt about your organisation’s status, please email [discover.programme@sfi.ie](mailto:discover.programme@sfi.ie) for clarification. This must be done in good time before the closing date (minimum three days) to ensure that your application is completed and submitted before the deadline as no exceptions can be made in relation to the submission date for this, or any other, reason.

Proposals must be explicitly aimed at engaging audiences and participant groups in the Republic of Ireland however the subject matter can be international. Applications are welcome from organisations not based in the Republic of Ireland; however, they must demonstrate in their application how the project will explicitly engage with their target audience in the Republic of Ireland.

Applications are welcome from any organisation with experience in engaging the groups targeted e.g. youth and community work organisations

Film, animation or broadcast projects are eligible to apply for funding under this Call and are subject to provisions of the EU Commission General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) under Article 54 Aid schemes for audiovisual works and the enabling legislation of SFI. These projects should clearly indicate the STEM collaborators or experts contributing to the development of the project and outline the role these collaborators will play. Proposals should also clearly

identify how they will be scheduled (shown to the audience) in the proposal, including support from a broadcaster or distribution partner.

Applications will not be accepted from individuals and/or sole traders.

No employee or board member of Science Foundation Ireland may apply.

Under State aid rules (General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)) SFI cannot provide funding for undertakings in difficulty. Organisations will be required to confidentially provide additional financial information/declarations to SFI. These documents will be used by SFI to determine eligibility of the company to receive State aid.

If work begins before the applicant has submitted a written application to SFI the initiative/project will be ineligible for State aid.

Applicants may submit more than one grant application under the Call to SFI at any one time, provided the proposals are clearly differentiated.

Regional or county Science Week Festivals are not eligible to apply for funding under this Call.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 1 July 2021

[Full details available here.](#)

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## Interreg Europe

The aim of the call is to provide new opportunities to our 258 approved projects to exchange experiences on the way the COVID-19 crisis impacts the issue they address and to further improve their regional development policies to better face the current challenges.

This opportunity may be particularly relevant to the 1st and 2nd call projects because they had finalized their phase 1 when the COVID-19 crisis started.

### Eligibility & Programme Detail

#### Objective

At the present time, the COVID-19 crisis continues all over Europe. It does not only have consequences on the economy but it affects more or less directly all fields of regional development policies. Therefore, in addition to the measures already taken in 2020, the Interreg Europe monitoring committee has decided to launch a call for additional activities in order to further help approved projects to deal with the crisis. This exceptional measure offers the possibility for approved projects:

to further exchange experiences on the way the crisis impacts the issue they address and on possible measures to face and recover from the crisis,

to further improve their regional development policies to better face and recover from this unprecedented situation.

#### Timing of the call

The call for additional activities opens on 1 April 2021 and closes on 2 July 2021 at 14:00 CEST (Paris time). The date of opening is the date by when the 'Application form for additional activities' will be available and by when the joint secretariat (JS) can start advising projects on the present call. The JS assistance will be available until the call closes.

#### Funding

The amount available for this call is estimated at around MEUR 20 and EUR 200,000 Norwegian funds, corresponding to the estimated remaining programme funding available for interregional projects taking into account expected project budget reductions and underspending.

The maximum recommended ERDF budget of a request is EUR 500,000 per project.

#### Who can apply?



The present call is open to all 258 approved projects (including closed projects<sup>3</sup>) and projects from all calls are welcome to apply. The present opportunity may be of particular interest to the 1st and 2nd call projects for the following reasons:

When the crisis started in March 2020, all 1st and 2nd call projects had already closed their phase 14. Therefore, they could not benefit from the first COVID-19 measures taken in 2020 for their exchange of experience process. At the beginning of 2021, these projects are either closed or under finalisation and they are expected to have made full use of their budget. They have neither the time nor the budget to carry out additional measures to face the COVID-19 crisis and this call is thus their only possibility to continue cooperating.

In comparison, 3rd and 4th call projects are still running for several months/ years and their level of underspending may be high due to the crisis<sup>5</sup>. With the measures taken in 2020, these projects can already propose additional activities to be financed through their unspent budget. Moreover, and regardless of the present call, these projects can also be granted additional funds for implementing pilot actions in case their initial budget is not sufficient.

The scope of this call for additional activities is therefore different according to the calls to which the projects belong as reflected below:

#### **Opportunity offered to 1st and 2nd call projects**

Possibility to apply for additional funding to support up to one additional year of exchange of experience activities (including pilot actions if justified) to address the COVID-19 crisis. This additional time will be reflected through an extension of duration.

#### **Opportunity offered to 3rd and 4th call projects**

Possibility to apply for additional funding to implement exchange of experience activities (including pilot actions if justified) to address the COVID-19 crisis, in case unspent budget and pilot actions procedures are not sufficient to do so. The application for additional activities may be combined with an extension of duration depending on the project's situation and justification

#### **Activities supported**

The additional activities have to fit in the intervention logic of the programme: these activities have to be dedicated to the exchange of experience among regions on the way to address the crisis (in the field tackled by the project) with the objective that the lessons learnt from this exchange can lead to further policy improvements in these regions.

The possible additional activities are therefore mainly related to the traditional exchange of experience as described in section 4.2.1 of the programme manual. However, to provide all necessary means and allow maximum flexibility, the additional activities can also include pilot actions in justified cases (e.g. one region needs to test a measure from another region before it can be fully supported by the policy instrument addressed). Further information on pilot actions can be found in section 4.2.2 of the programme manual and on the programme website.

The additional activities have to be considered as an add-on to the existing project. They are not bound to a specific phase of the existing project and they should in principle not impact the activities already approved so far. For 1st and 2nd call projects, they will be organised through an extension of project's duration (these activities can start already before the end of phase 2, depending on the implementation stage of the project). For the 3rd call projects, they can start in phase 1 or in phase 2, also depending on the project's state of play. For 4th call projects, the activities have to start and be finalised before the end of phase 1.

## Partnership

### **Composition**

Considering that the call targets approved projects, the partnership should in principle remain the same. In particular, the involvement of new regions or the replacement of a withdrawing partner are not possible. Any change related to the partnership (e.g. partner's withdrawal due to unavailability of co-financing, integration of an additional organisation due to pilot actions) need to be duly justified. While this seems obvious for running projects, it is important to stress this requirement for projects that are already closed or about to close.

### **Policy instruments addressed**

The policy instruments addressed may be updated by the project depending on each regional context. If this is the case, these updates should be described and justified in the application form. The next generation of Structural Funds programmes can also be tackled. Again, this remark is particularly relevant for 1st and 2nd call projects who started in 2016 and 2017 respectively, and whose policy context may have evolved compared to their initial application form.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 2 July 2021

Note: since applications will be approved on a rolling basis until available funds are committed, the call may be closed earlier in case the total ERDF amount available for this call is allocated before 2 July 2021.

[See full details and the call's application pack on the call website.](#)

[Application Link](#)

If you are interested in applying, we recommend that you are in touch with the [Regional Contact Point in Ireland](#).

Brendan Mooney

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## Coca Cola Thank You Fund

Coca-Cola Ireland is investing €100,000 in the Coca-Cola Thank You Fund 2021 (“The Fund”). This money will be granted to not-for-profit voluntary and charitable organisations operating within communities throughout the island of Ireland.

The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund was launched in 2011 to mark The Coca-Cola Company’s 125th anniversary and has run every year since. To date €1,155,000 has been given to 108 non-profit organisations across the island of Ireland.

The Fund’s application form facilitates entrants in selecting which funding amount is most suitable for their project - €5,000 or €10,000.

In 2021, the Fund will focus on one overall theme – Building for Better - A recognised and trusted Fund supporting the future of young people across the island of Ireland.

For the purposes of the Fund, young people are defined as those aged between 16 and 25 years of age.

The aim is to distribute €100,000 in total (as specified in the terms and conditions below) amongst not-for-profit, voluntary and charitable organisations based throughout the island of Ireland which are implementing projects to supporting young people.

The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund is one of a number of initiatives that the Coca-Cola Company is championing, together with its bottling partner Coca-Cola HBC Ireland, to support young people across the island of Ireland.

Youth Empowered is another programme delivered by the Coca-Cola System which is designed to equip young people with the tools and skills they need to build a better future for themselves.

Through these initiatives, and its partnerships with Irish Youth Foundation and Youth Action NI, Coca-Cola wants to inspire young people to build better communities and develop the skills they need to succeed in a post pandemic environment.

### Eligibility

Entry is open to not-for-profit youth-focused organisations seeking support for new or existing projects with a clear commitment to support the future of young people in their local area. Entries must cohere one or more of the following three categories:

- Educational, Training, Resilience Programmes for Young People

- Programmes that support diversity and inclusivity in young people
- Programmes that take an innovative approach to demonstrating sustainability to young people

In order to be eligible, your organisation must fulfil all of the following criteria:

(i) The organisation must be a not-for-profit, voluntary and/ or charitable organisation classified under one or more of the following headings:

- Charitable organisation with a registered charity number working within a community
- Voluntary organisation working within a community
- Not-for-profit community organisation
- A foundation or a trust for the benefit of a community.

(ii) The organisation must submit details of a proposal which it will put in place if successful, which demonstrates targeted supports that help young people (16- 25 years) navigate and plan a future in a post pandemic world.

(iii) The organisation must have been in operation for a minimum of 12 months prior to the date of submission of this application.

(iv) Proof of organisation's operations must be made available to Coca-Cola Ireland if requested.

(vi) Any individual applying on behalf of an organisation must be aged 18 years or older.

(vii) The proposed project must exclusively benefit people aged over sixteen years of age and under twenty-five, and activities using money received from the Fund must be based on the island of Ireland.

(ix) Applicants must be able to clearly demonstrate the innovative nature of the proposal.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 16 July 2021

[Full details available here.](#)

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## 2021 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme was introduced in 2016 and is one of a number of measures designed to rejuvenate rural towns and villages throughout Ireland under the Department of Rural & Community Development's "Rural Development Investment Programme". The programme is funded under Project Ireland 2040.

The 2021 Town and Village Renewal Scheme will place particular emphasis on projects supporting remote working and enhancing town centre living as outlined in [Our Rural Future - Rural Development Policy 2021-2025](#). The Scheme will support these objectives and will encourage more people to return confidently to town and village centres to work, shop and socialise.

### Grant Levels

The minimum grant is available is €20,000. The maximum grant available is being raised this year to €500,000. The increase is being made to align the scheme with the type of projects and level of ambition identified in "Our Rural Future".

Local Authorities are invited to submit up to 8 applications per Local Authority area under the 2021 T&V Scheme.

### Project Development Measure

A new Project Development Measure (up to €50,000) is being introduced on a trial basis this year.

It is proposed that applications would involve:

- Development costs for one strategic large scale project that may be subsequently progressed with funding from the Town & Village Renewal Scheme e.g. detailed design, preparation for the planning and/or procurement, appropriate assessment etc.
- Grant funding of up to €50,000 is available at a 90% rate of aid.

The following guidelines apply to the application process:

- Local Authorities will be required to advertise for expressions of interest from towns/villages in their area and to select up to 8 proposals for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department.

- The development of these proposals must be undertaken in consultation with local town/village community and business interests. Full involvement by community interests and/or business interests will be an essential feature of successful projects. Ideally, projects will have been identified as part of a masterplan, or similar, produced for the town or village.
- Only one application can be submitted in respect of any individual town/village, including towns that may be under the remit of more than one Local Authority. However, an individual application may include several linked components to support the rejuvenation of the town/village.
- Where a project application in respect of a town/village is submitted for funding under this Scheme and is also the subject of a Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) application, the Local Authority is required to explain the rationale for submitting the application to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and how this links with the RRDF application.
- The assessment and approval of all projects will have regard to a number of factors including: alignment with “Our Rural Future”, Department priorities; available funding; the range, mix, quality and impact of proposed projects; previous funding provided; and other relevant considerations.

#### How to Apply

Deadline: 16 July 2021

Check your local authority for application under this scheme.

[Full details available here.](#)

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## Culture Ireland Grants

Culture Ireland promotes Irish arts worldwide. We create and support opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues.

### **Purpose of Awards**

Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, accommodation and subsistence.

Culture Ireland considers applications for all forms of the arts as defined in the Arts Act 2003: “arts means any creative or interpretative expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and includes, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture, and includes any medium when used for those purposes”.

### **Basic Eligibility Requirements:**

- Application must be in respect of an Irish professional artist/s or arts organisation
- Application must be in respect of an art form defined under the Arts Act 2003
- Only international events are supported (i.e., outside the island of Ireland)
- The event must be accessible to an open public audience and fees must be payable to the artist/s or arts organisation
- Funding support is limited to travel and travel related costs
- Grants are only payable to the person/organisation named on the initial application
- Applications deemed eligible are assessed in line with the following criteria:
- Artistic quality of work and track record of artist/s or arts organisation
- Financial and operational viability of the event (including fees and level of support from presenter/venue/other partners)
- Profile of international venue/festival



- Proven capacity of applicant, artist/s or arts organisation to present work internationally
- Wider promotional and media impact

What does Culture Ireland mean by artistic quality? Artistic quality can be defined as work that is ambitious, excellent and original, connects to audiences and has been presented nationally to critical acclaim. It should be noted that the assessment of the artistic quality of the proposed work is made using knowledge, experience and specialist advice.

Examples of eligible applications include:

- Theatre, circus and dance performances by professional companies
- Film-makers presenting films at key international film festivals
- Performances by professional or professionally-led musicians and ensembles
- Visual artists/galleries exhibiting at internationally recognised art fairs/galleries
- Readings by writers/poets in English or Irish or otherwise at international literary festivals

Please note that because of the competitive nature and context of each grant round, limited funding and a large number of applicants, eligibility and compliance with criteria for assessment alone does not guarantee that you will receive grant funding.

Examples of ineligible applications include:

- Events which have already taken place
- Research, opportunities, study or professional training
- Production Costs
- Residencies
- Bursaries
- Workshops/Conferences
- Amateur events
- Work by non-professional artists

- Events of a competitive nature.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 1 August 2021

Application forms and further information can be accessed on [the Culture Ireland website](#).

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## Energy for Generations Fund

As a leading Irish organisation with deep roots in the community dating back to 1927, we are committed to playing a role in addressing some of the key social issues facing Ireland today.

Corporate Responsibility (CR) is at the heart of this vision. Through our Energy for Generations Fund, we have three main pillars of focus:

1. Suicide
2. Homelessness
3. Education Access and Support

### Criteria

ESB's Energy for Generations Fund sees €1m per year disbursed through a quarterly fund to charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support.

ESB has been supporting initiatives in the areas of suicide prevention and homelessness since 2005. The Energy for Generations Fund introduced a new focus on education in 2014, which recognises the need for educational supports at all levels to ensure that Ireland has the skills it needs to compete effectively.

### Aim of the Energy for Generations Fund

Our aim with the Energy for Generations Fund is to maximise the impact of our investment by taking a more strategic approach to effect change. Funding is only part of the jigsaw – we also want to leverage the skills and knowledge we have within the company to bring about more sustainable and positive outcomes.

The guideline application amount is c. €15,000. This is neither a minimum nor a maximum, rather an indication of the scale of the resources available. Average funding awards in recent years have been c. €8,000 - €12,000.

### Support for Staff Volunteering

The Energy for Generations Fund provides support to ESB staff who volunteer within their own communities. Staff who volunteer at least 20 hours of their own time per year will be invited to apply for funding of up to €250 for their chosen registered charity.

Many of our staff are involved in volunteering activities in their spare time, but we have never had any formal structure to support or encourage this in the past. Through this funding, our aim is to demonstrate our support for the work our staff do within their own.

### **How Does the Fund Work?**

Charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support can apply to the Fund for project specific funding.

Every quarter ESB allocates an amount from the Fund for disbursement. The amount may vary because of the volume of applications received or seasonal considerations - wintertime and Christmas may require more funding than summer.

Applications submitted during each quarter are appraised at the end of the quarter and funding allocated accordingly.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 4 August 2021

[Visit the ESB website for full application details.](#)

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## Additional Resources

Visit The Wheel's COVID-19 information hub, including essential funding information and key sector updates, including extensive Returning to the Workplace Safely resources: [www.wheel.ie/covid-19-info-hub](http://www.wheel.ie/covid-19-info-hub)

Nonprofits seeking fundraising advice and guidance can avail of two additional resources:

### 1. Fundraising Guidance Library

- [Fundraising Essentials](#)
- [Applying to Grant Makers](#)
- [Fundraising From The Public](#)
- [European Funding](#)

### 2. Fundraising Helpdesk

Can't find an answer to your fundraising question in the above articles? Then get in touch with The Wheel's Fundraising Helpdesk now. Email as much detail as possible to: [paul@wheel.ie](mailto:paul@wheel.ie) and we'll get back to you shortly. [www.wheel.ie](http://www.wheel.ie).

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