Erasmus+ Programme

Capacity building in the field of Youth (CBY)

What is Erasmus+?

Erasmus+ is the EU Programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport for the 2021-2027 period. Education, training, youth and sport are key areas that support citizens in their personal and professional development. High quality, inclusive education and training, as well as informal and non-formal learning, ultimately equip young people and participants of all ages with the qualifications and skills needed for their meaningful participation in democratic society, intercultural understanding, and the successful transition to the labour market.

Erasmus+ recognises the importance of opening these opportunities, funding the exchange of people, ideas and good practice between organisations in EU Member States and third countries associated[1] to the programme and eligible third countries not associated to the programme throughout the world.

International activities beyond Europe cover Higher Education (HE), Vocational Education and Training (VET), Youth and Sport.

What is a CBY project?

Capacity building in the field of youth projects are international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of youth in the EU and countries associated to the Programme, on the one hand, and in third countries not associated to the Programme, on the other hand. Projects aim at supporting international cooperation in the field of youth and non-formal learning, as a driver of sustainable socio-economic development and well-being among youth organisations and young people.

What does an CBY project do?

CBY projects can carry out a range of activities:

- The development of tools and methods for the socio-professional development of youth workers and trainers;
- the development of non-formal learning methods, especially those promoting the acquisition/improvement of competences, including media literacy skills;
- the development of new forms of practical training schemes and simulation of real-life cases in society;
- the development of new forms of youth work, notably strategic use of open and flexible learning, virtual co-operation, open educational resources (OER) and better exploitation of the ICT potential;
- the organisation of events/seminars/workshops/exchange of good practice for cooperation, networking, awareness raising and peer-learning purposes;
- the organisation of mobility activities for youth workers in order to test tools and methods developed by the partnership. Please note that for CBY projects in regions 1, 2 and 3, mobility activities must be secondary to the main objectives of the action and must be instrumental to and underpin the achievement of these objectives.
- For Region 9, a mobility activity in the form of a Youth Exchange and/or Youth Participation Activity must be included.

[1] The third countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme are the following: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, and Türkiye. **Switzerland and the UK also plan to associate to the programme in 2027, bringing the total of associated third countries to eight.**

Who can apply and take part in Capacity Building in the field of Youth? How?

Participation in CBY projects is open to legal entities:

- NGOs (including European Youth NGOs and national Youth Councils) working in the field of Youth;
- public authorities at local, regional or national level;
- other public or private companies (small, medium or large enterprise (including social enterprises)) may also participate but not as coordinators.

These must be legally established in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme, or in third countries not associated to the Programme from:

- Region 1 (Western Balkans)
- Region 2 (Neighbourhood East[2])
- Region 3 (South Mediterranean countries).
- Region 9 (sub-Saharan Africa)
  CBY projects working with Region 9 must include a mobility component[3] in their project. The maximum budget for projects involving Region 9 is therefore higher. Applicants (coordinators) of projects working with Region 9 must be located in one of the 35 EU Member States and associated countries.

Project duration and grants

Projects normally last between 12 and 36 months, and the maximum EU contribution in projects targeting regions 1, 2 and 3 is **EUR 300 000**, while for region 9 (Sub-Saharan Africa) the maximum contribution is **EUR 450 000** (including the Youth Exchanges and Youth Participation Activities)

Partnership composition

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 4 applicants (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities), which complies with the following conditions

- minimum 1 legal entity from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme;
- minimum 2 legal entities from 2 different eligible third countries not associated to the Programme belonging to the same eligible Region (Region 1, 2, 3, 9)

Organisations from different eligible regions cannot participate in the same projects. Cross-regional projects are not eligible.

How to apply

Funding opportunities for 2021-2027 and information on how to apply are announced on the European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities portal:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

More information and inspiration

Detailed information on the **criteria and funding rules**: Erasmus+ Programme Guide

Information on how to apply to annual calls for proposals is on the European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities portal**:** https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

Look at some examples of CBY projects already funded in the 2021-2027 programme

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[2] Organisations from Belarus are not eligible to participate in this action. Organisations from Armenia and Azerbaijan are eligible to participate, but not as coordinators.

[3] Mobility for Regions 1, 2 and 3 is possible under the separate *Mobility for Youth* Action.

Some CBY projects with partners from sub-Saharan Africa submitted before 2021, when it was also an eligible region.