



IWRF EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND EUROPEAN FUND APPLICATION: CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	2
WILL YOU BE ONE OF THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS?	2
1. INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 Which Funding the IWRF is pursuing for the European Project	2
1.2 The request for Expression of Interest in the European Project from Your Country Organisation	2
2. THE APPLICATION FOR THE ERASMUS+ FUND	2
3. THE EUROPEAN PROJECT AND THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS	3
3.1 Education Workshop in each of the seven participating nations	3
3.2 What costs will the European Project cover?	4
3.3 Indication of costs of the European Project.	5
4. IWRF AS PROJECT MANAGER & COORDINATOR	5
5. HOW CAN YOUR ORGANISATION BECOME ONE OF THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS?	5
5.1 What Each of the Seven Participating Nations Needs To Provide And Commit To?	5
5.2 One of the Seven Nations will also be the “Applicant”	6
5.3 How will your organisation be evaluated as successful Participating Nation?	6
5.4 Even if you are not a participating nation this time	7
6. NEXT STEPS FOR YOUR ORGANISATION	7

IWRF EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND EUROPEAN FUND APPLICATION: CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

WILL YOU BE ONE OF THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS?

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Which Funding the IWRF is pursuing for the European Project

IWRF envisages submitting an application to obtain a European Union (“EU”) fund under the Erasmus+ Funding Programme in order to implement its European Development Project (the “European Project”).

The Erasmus+ Programme Guide (“**Erasmus+ Guide**”), provides a comprehensive overview of this EU Funding Program:

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/sites/erasmusplus2/files/files/resources/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf

One of the core aims of the European Project will be to educate EU citizens about wheelchair rugby and promote social inclusion through physical activity. This would entail the organisation of education events and sessions aiming to raise awareness of important aspects of sports in general, such as anti-doping and good governance within each organisation.

1.2 The request for Expression of Interest in the European Project from Your Country Organisation

After discussion with several of IWRF’s European Member Nations, feedback was received that further information and detail was required. This call for Expression of Interest has been particularly developed aiming to address that request and to clearly lay out the parameters and how this EU fund, if obtained, will be used to support IWRF’s European Development Project.

IWRF seeks to identify Member Nations that are interested in actively becoming a part of the European Project. Becoming part of the European Project requires that the interested Member Nation undertakes a firm commitment relating to their involvement in the Project.

2. THE APPLICATION FOR THE ERASMUS+ FUND

The Erasmus+ application has been developed and evaluated through the IWRF itself, its legal partner, the law firm Hogan Lovells in Brussels, and through direct consultation with the responsible unit of the European Commission (the “EC”), namely the Sport Unit of EC’s Directorate General Education and Culture (“**DG EAC**”).

The key outcomes from the evaluation are as follows:

- (a) The Erasmus+ application will be submitted by April 2018.
- (b) A maximum of seven “Programme” Nations based in the EU should be involved in the European Project. IWRF’s Member Nations from EU countries qualify as

“Programme Countries” organisations, which are eligible to submit an application for the Erasmus+ fund.¹

- (c) One of the organisations based in an EU country will be the applicant, who will actually submit the application on behalf of the rest participating organisations. The choice of the appropriate applicant should be made pursuant to the Erasmus+ Guide.² – (see section 5.2 below)
- (d) The European Project should be mainly built around education sessions that will benefit IWRF Nations and contribute to the strategic goals of the “IWRF strategic plan 2015 – 2018”. (www.iwrf.com)
- (e) Funding can be used to support the travel costs of attendees to the European Project. The Erasmus+ Guide provides specific rules for the coverage of travel costs (see section 3.2 below).³
- (f) The application should focus on developing a collaborative partnership and will aim to deliver a minimal amount of Erasmus+ aims.⁴

3. THE EUROPEAN PROJECT AND THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS

IWRF’s vision is to create a highly interactive European Project that will allow for experience and knowledge to be shared between IWRF Member Nations in order for one to benefit from another.

3.1 Education Workshop in each of the seven participating nations

In particular, European Wheelchair Rugby Development Project will encompass two-day educational workshops held in the “Programme” European Nations. Each of the seven participating Nations will host an educational session / workshop. This workshop will be attended by three of the other successful Nations [*these figures are to be confirmed*]. Workshops will balance between advanced and entry level and will culminate in new skills being tested by classifiers, officials and players in game format.

The main aims of these workshops within each of the seven participating Nations can be summarised as follows:

- (a) Develop the concept of the “Train the Trainer” model.⁵
- (b) Provide the seven successful “Programme” Nations with the knowledge to deliver their own education sessions within their home country.

¹ See page 228 of the Erasmus+ Guide.

² See page 228 of the Erasmus+ Guide and art. 18 (“Budget”) and 19 (“Specific Funding Modalities”) of Regulation 1288/2013.

³ See page 231 of the Erasmus+ Guide.

⁴ See page 227 of the Erasmus+ Guide.

⁵ <https://www.ipc-academy.org/?view=fff&academy=1&programme=43>

- (c) Provide a legacy whereby they can work with neighbouring Nations to disseminate their knowledge and information.
- (d) Provide the host Nation with an opportunity to promote sport and attract new players and volunteers.

The topics of these workshops can vary depending on the Participating Nations needs and wills. Such topics could include: Athletes Classification, Coaching, Athlete Skills/Tactics, Governance, Sport Management, Sport Science, Volunteers' management, Competitions (Bidding/Hosting) etc.

These workshops will be scheduled to take place between April 2019 and September 2020.

3.2 What costs will the European Project cover?

According to the Erasmus+ Guide travel and other costs can be covered up to a certain amount and provided that the need of meetings (in terms of number and participants involved) is duly justified against the aims of the Project.

An overview of the costs that can be covered is laid down below:

- (a) The host nations core costs to run the event including four people to attend the session.
- (b) A travel grant (€100) for up to 10 players to attend one of the days.
- (c) It is anticipated that each nation will get to attend at least four sessions / workshop over the 18-month project duration.
- (d) Travel costs for four people⁶ to attend each session. The maximum coverage of travel costs varies depending on the distance. For distances between 100-1999 KM the covered costs are €575 per participant per meeting. For distances of more than 2000KM the above figure is set at €760.
- (e) Accommodation (3 nights) and food for the duration.
- (f) Venue and meeting rooms (2 days).
- (g) Education session entry fee.
- (h) IWRF trainers and representatives including course materials.
- (i) Central project management.
- (j) Project and event promotion.

⁶ That figure is not definitive. The actual number of people whose travel costs can be covered depends on whether the need for them to travel is adequately explained and justified.

3.3 Indication of costs of the European Project.

The budget will be developed as part of the application. The following are a high level indication of how much the project will cost to manage and deliver.

Description – 18 month project	Sub-Total	TOTAL (EUROS)
Project Management (12 months + 6 months)	20,000+10,000	30,000
Administration / Marketing / Financial / Reporting	16,000	16,000
Resource Development including legacy	14,000	14,000
National Education sessions / events x 7	33,000	231,000
TOTAL		Euros 291,000

4. IWRF AS PROJECT MANAGER & COORDINATOR

IWRF is very keen on supporting each of the seven participating Nations. IWRF managerial tasks throughout the European Project will include

- (a) Project management and assistance with queries.
- (b) Event planning.
- (c) Preparation and delivery.
- (d) Partnership development.
- (e) Provision of certified technical officials and experienced personnel.

5. HOW CAN YOUR ORGANISATION BECOME ONE OF THE SEVEN PARTICIPATING NATIONS?

5.1 What Each of the Seven Participating Nations Needs To Provide And Commit To?

Each of the seven participation nations that will be part of this European Project will have to commit to the following points:

- (a) Partnership and match funding of **seven thousand euros (€7000)**. This will be required to be paid BEFORE receipt of any EU funding (circa Summer 2018).
Note - A successful application will need to demonstrate that the project can attract additional funding. The delivery of the project cannot be wholly reliant on European funding.
- (b) Provision of a formal letter of commitment from their appropriate governing body stating that they agree to the principles laid out in the Erasmus+ Guide and to this Call for Expression of Interest. This will need to be sent to the IWRF no later than the **24 November 2017**.

- (c) Provision of a strategic plan or overview that demonstrates how the IWRF education sessions will support their national development.
- (d) As per section 3.1 above, hosting one education session or workshop within their Nation providing a dedicated contact and liaison person. The host Nation in collaboration with the IWRF will find an appropriate venue and accommodation and provide logistic and administration support.
- (e) Contribution to the “European Week of Sport” which is expected to take place in September 2019.⁷
- (f) Each Nation must ensure that the most appropriate people attend each education session. Individuals should have the commitment and competence to support their own national development programmes.
- (g) The Nations shall agree to the legacy principle of delivering future education sessions within the EU.⁸

5.2 One of the Seven Nations will also be the “Applicant”

The project is reliant on the IWRF establishing an applicant responsible organisation, which will be the one submitting the application on behalf of the other participating organisations and will be the formal contact point for the European Commission. Ideally, we would like to see one of our National Member Organisations as the “applicant”. The IWRF as such is not eligible to be the applicant, given that it is not constituted in an EU Member State. Please read the Erasmus+ Guide carefully at pages 228-230 as regards the eligibility criteria, responsibilities etc.

The application is wholly reliable on an appropriate organisation being capable and committed to this responsibility.

If you feel your organisation is able to be an applicant then please discuss this with the IWRF directly. The IWRF will welcome such commitment and is ready to provide any support needed during the application process.

5.3 How will your organisation be evaluated as successful Participating Nation?

For such evaluation the following will be taken into account:

- (a) This will be based on the strength of their strategic plan/overview.
- (b) How well established their organisation is in terms of governance and financial stability.
- (c) Confirmation in writing of matched funding (€7000).
- (d) Genuine commitment to the project and meeting deadlines.

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/sport/week_en

⁸ This will be dependent on obtaining future funding for legacy projects and would be sourced and agreed after completion of this project.

5.4 **Even if you are not a participating nation this time**

The IWRF appreciates and understands that the proposed project will not be able to benefit all of the current European Nations involved in wheelchair rugby. This project is the start of longer term collaboration within the European zone. The strong relationships that will be built as a result of this project will be used as a basis for the development of future projects that will benefit more and more Member Nations. Raising the profile of our sport and vision of it throughout Europe and to European audience will be a big first step towards its greater establishment.

As part of the project the IWRF will endeavour to invite other European Nations to attend education sessions at their own cost. This will be determined if the application is successful. The application may also look to host a European conference as part of the collaboration and education objectives, to which all IWRF Nations will be welcome to join and make their contribution.

6. **NEXT STEPS FOR YOUR ORGANISATION**

Will you be one of the Seven Participating Nations?

Let us know as soon as possible, by no later than 24 November 2017, by sending your application to eron@iwrf.com.