



Project Outline

Sport Inclusion of Refugees across Europe (SPIN Refugees)

European Commission Call 2019 - Sport as a tool for integration and social inclusion of refugees, see: https://ec.europa.eu/sport/news/inclusion-refugees-call-now-available_en

Project duration: 01-01-2020 - 31-12-2022 (36 months)

Lead Organisation: Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation (VIDC)

Implementing partners:

FAI – Football Association of Ireland, Camino, UISP – Unione Italiana Sport Per Tutti, SJPF – Portuguese Players Union, Huis voor Beweging, Liikkukaa – Sport for all, Mahatma Gandhi Human Rights Organisation, ISCA – International Sport and Culture Association and BSO – Austrian Sports Organisation.

Background

For many newly arrived refugees & asylum seekers a sports club is often the only opportunity to meet locals and to integrate into society. At the same time, grass-roots sport clubs lack experience on how to approach and include this target group. They require knowledge, training and qualification. Hence, the overall objective of the project “Sport Inclusion of Refugees across Europe” (SPIN Refugees) is to enhance the social inclusion and participation of refugees & asylum-seekers on the local sport level through training, education and capacity building of local sport stakeholders.

The project will be carried out through transnational partnerships (SPIN Network) including 9 EU countries. It involves refugees & asylum seekers, as well as clubs & sport organisations, national experts, trainers and trainees, supporting NGOs & initiatives, as well as FAs & other key sport stakeholders.

The project identifies main obstacles that impede access of refugees to sport and shares experience of how organisations have confronted these challenges and facilitated access to sport for the newly-arrived migrants. The project contributes to the creation of an evidence base which will allow a clearer path forward for future action.

Aims and Objective

The overall objective of the SPIN Refugees project is to enhance the social inclusion and participation of asylum-seekers and refugees on the local sport level through training, education and capacity-building of local sport stakeholders.

The project is designed to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. Facilitate grass-roots sports participation of refugees and asylum seekers through local partnerships with and capacity building of voluntary sport clubs
2. Training of sport coaches and staff and developing high-quality educational tools for sport stakeholders how to practically foster intercultural openness and inclusion in sport organisations

3. To generate evidence-based knowledge about best practice approaches and methods how to integrate refugees into European grass-roots sport
4. To capacity-build and empower refugee initiatives to harness the role of refugees, in particular women, as volunteers (coaches, administrators, referees) in sport clubs

Activities

Workstream 1: Identifying Good Practices in the EU

1.1. Mapping Study: European Programmes and Projects for Inclusion of Refugees

To identify sport projects, programmes and methodologies which work or don't work, a mapping study will be conducted. The mapping study creates an empirical base for the practical activities of the project.

Timeframe:

1-6/2020:	Desk research
7-12/2020:	Analysis by defined criteria
1-3/2021:	Development of the study
4-5/2021:	Publication and delivery

1.2. Case Studies of Good Practice Examples

Good practice examples across the EU will be identified; 3-5 examples are selected for a deeper analysis. The quality criteria for inclusive sports projects, developed in the framework of the Sport Welcomes Refugees project will support the selection of the examples.

Timeframe:

7-11/2021:	Collection and selection of good practice
12/21-6/2022:	Data collection and interviews
7-12/2022:	Publication and delivery of Case Study Report

Workstream 2: Sport Inclusion Training for Coaches and Staff

2.1. Development of a European Training Programme (ETP)

A high-quality European Training Programme for coaches and staff of sport clubs and organisations will be developed. The key components will be an Electronic Learning Environment (ELE) and a Train the Trainer (TTT) Workshop.

The ELE is an online tool for coaches and sport staff on how to practically increase local sports participation of refugees, in particular women and girls. To maximize the impact of the ELE, a European TTT Workshop will be organised, where qualified trainers from 8 EU countries will be taught on how to implement the tool in their countries.

Timeframe:

08/2020:	Pre-training survey
08-10/2020:	Development of the Electronic Learning Environment (ELE)
11-12/2020:	Programming, design and technical setup
01/2021:	Beta version will go online, up-dating process
03/2021:	European TTT Workshop
03/2021:	Post-training survey

2.2. National Training Sessions

The trained trainers will apply the methods in their specific national context. In 8 countries two pilot NTS will be organised.

Timeframe:

03/2021: Design of guidelines on trainings
04/2021: Announcement of trainings
05-11/2021: Implementation and reporting

Workstream 3: Involvement and Capacity Building of Refugees

3.1. Getting Refugees Involved in Coaching and Volunteering

Refugees are absent as coaches and volunteers in organized sport clubs, e.g. due to lack of financial resources to obtain qualification. A scheme will be set up where refugees can apply for financial support for courses to become coaches or volunteers.

Timeframe

02/2020: Designing a call
04/2020: Online call in 8 partner countries
06/2020: Announcement of action and successful applicants on the World Refugee Day
06/2021: Closing of scheme, publication of online summary and reports

3.2. Inclusion Ambassadors – Refugees as Role Models

A group of refugees who have been successful in their sport or became coaches/managers will be approached to raise awareness about the valuable contribution of refugees and asylum seekers to sport. About 10 ambassadors will record testimonial videos.

Timeframe

01/2021-03/2021: Identifying & contacting ambassadors
04/2021: Guidelines for recording testimonial videos & media plan
05/2021: Visits of ambassadors & video production
06/2021: Launch of social media campaign on World Refugee Day

Workstream 4: Promoting Active Sports Participation of Refugees

4.1. Connecting Local Sport Clubs with Refugees

This activity will help clubs, refugees and those that support refugees establish simple but effective partnerships. A call will be launched in selected member states to find sport clubs who are invited to jointly organise local events. 8 countries with an average of 2 sport clubs will be supported.

Timeframe

02-03/2022: Launch of the call
04/2022: Deadline for applications, selection of clubs
05/2022: Orientation evenings
09/2022: Implementing Sport Refugee Days during the EWoS 2022
11/2022: Reporting and closing

4.2. SPIN Refugees Workshop

The workshop will build on the 2018 UEFA Football and Refugees seminar by bringing together key stakeholders to share practice on how they have used football to bridge the gap between refugees and host sporting structures & communities.

Timeframe

04/2022: Call for attendees to include FA's and other stakeholders
05/2022: Develop key themes for Workshop based on project research and pre-workshop survey
06/2022: Implementation of the Workshop

Workstream 5: Coordination, Monitoring & Communication

For the success of the project external and internal communication is key and a range of specific dissemination activities are foreseen

Timeframe

01/2020-12/22: Ongoing

Contact

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