European Commission

The CulturEU funding guide

EU Funding Opportunities for the Cultural and Creative Sectors 2021-2027

Culture

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European Commission

The CulturEU funding guide

EU Funding Opportunities for the Cultural and Creative Sectors 2021-2027

Culture

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Preface by European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel

Mariya Gabriel
European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

Dear Reader,

Europe's rich cultural heritage and dynamic cultural and creative sectors strengthen European identity, creating a sense of belonging. Culture and the creative sectors also have the power to improve lives, transform communities, generate jobs and growth, and create spill-over effects into other sectors.

This is why I am very pleased to present the CulturEU funding guide - a guide of **EU funding opportunities for the cultural and creative sectors (CCS)**. It has been developed to support all types and sizes of stakeholders working in the CCS to help them navigate the EU funding landscape, to understand which opportunities are available to them, and ultimately to help them access EU funding more easily.

In the CulturEU funding guide, you can find an overview of all EU programmes which are relevant for the cultural and creative stakeholders, including key information on who can apply and how, as well as the kinds of activities supported. The guide covers opportunities linked to the European Commission's **flagship programme Creative Europe,** which offered €1.8 billion of financial support to the sector across 2014-2020 and will provide a further €2.44 billion of support across 2021-2027. However, and crucially, it summarises the opportunities that exist for the CCS across a wide range of other EU programmes and themes, including those sometimes overlooked and not immediately linked to the sector.

Information on a **wide spectrum of EU funding programmes** with a cultural and creative sectors angle, from the environment, to digital Europe and EU Structural Funds are presented. The guide also presents a set of **inspiring examples of cultural and creative projects** which received financial support from various EU funding programmes during the previous programming period (2014-2020).

Linked to the CulturEU funding guide, we have developed and launched an **interactive online tool,** which stakeholders can use to automatically filter relevant funding opportunities based on their needs, their sector and the type of organisation they represent.

It is the first time that the Commission has developed a user-centred "one-stop-shop" like the CulturEU funding guide on EU funding opportunities for the cultural and creative sectors. Whether you are a large or smaller organisation, newly formed or established, and whatever type of cultural activity you are looking to develop, I truly hope that these tools will make a difference in the way you access EU funding, and ultimately to your work.

Signature of the Commissioner

Mariya Gabriel
European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth

1. How to navigate the guide

The CulturEU funding guide is filled with visual aids to help you easily navigate the EU funding landscape and quickly find those opportunities which are most relevant to you. Icons are provided to indicate for which sector, type of action and organisation each funding programme is likely to be most relevant.

Type of sector

8

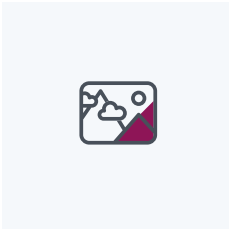
Sectors

The cultural and creative sectors have been divided into **8 sectors.** Each of the **8 sectors** is represented by its own icon and colour as shown below:

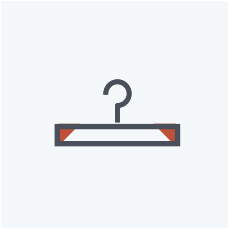
Architecture
buildings, public spaces and urban landscapes

Artistic crafts
design, creation, distribution and sales of goods that are handmade by artisans

Cultural heritage
natural, built and archaeological sites, museums, monuments, artworks, historic cities, including the knowledge, practices and traditions of European citizens



Visual arts
art forms creating works that are primarily visual in nature, such as ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, and photography

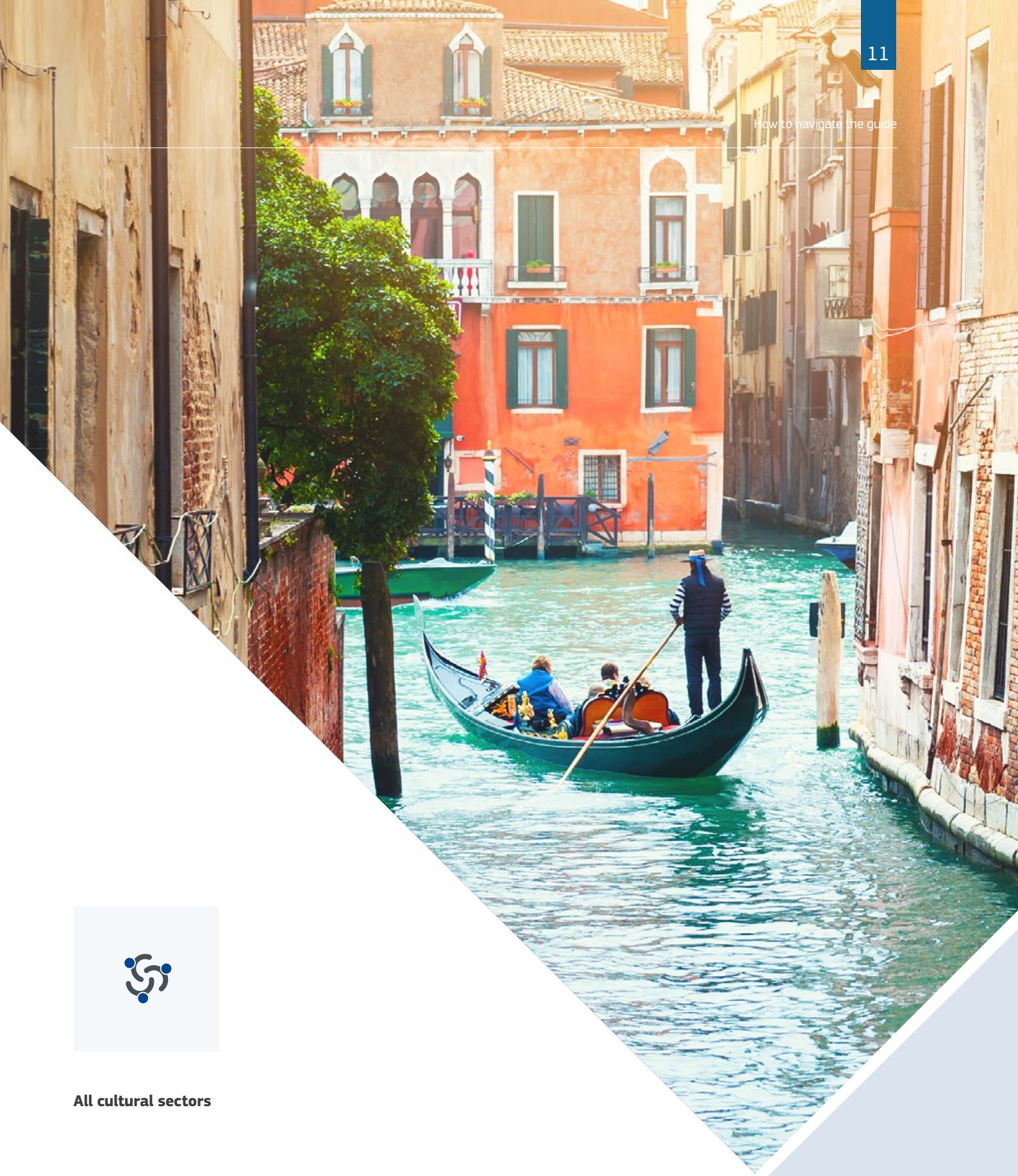


Design & fashion
textiles and clothing, footwear, leather sectors, operating at the crossroads between the arts, business, and technology

Literature, books and publishing
the entire publishing value chain, including authors, booksellers, printers, designers, etc.

Music
musicians, producers, audio engineers, managers, teachers, etc.

Performing arts
forms of creative activity performed in front of an audience, including theatre and dance



All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

6

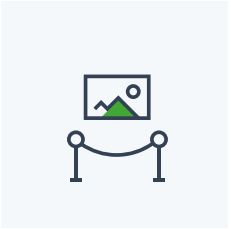
Organisations

The type of organisations have been divided into **6 categories.** Each of the **6 organisations** is represented by its own icon and colour as shown below:

Educational institution
primary and secondary schools, universities, academies, colleges, etc.

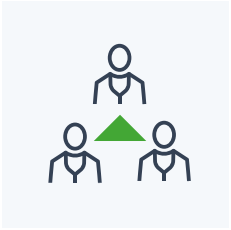
NGO, non-profit & civil society organisation
any non-profit, voluntary citizens' group organized on a local, national or international level

Private or public cultural foundation / institution
museums, libraries and archives, churches, art galleries, etc



Private organisation
a self-employed individual, start-up, micro-company, SME or a large company

Public service (local, regional or national)
central government, federated states and local authorities (regions, provinces, districts, municipalities)



Social enterprise
business with specific social objectives as its primary purpose

All types of organisations

Type of actions

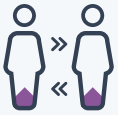
12

Actions

The type of actions supported by the funding programmes have been divided into **12 categories**. Each of the **12 actions** is represented by its own icon and colour as shown below:

Audience development
activities undertaken to meet the needs of existing and potential audiences, to develop on-going relationships with audiences or to enlarge audiences

Artistic creation
support for cultural actors involved in artistic creation



Artistic and cultural mobility & residency
support for traditional and new mobility forms for cultural and creative professionals (including also capacity building, new employment opportunities)

Developing business & management skills
support to the development of hard and soft skills, including planning, strategy, budget management, leadership, communication, etc.

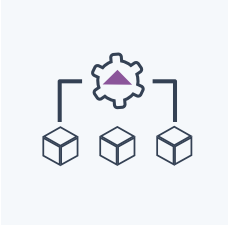
Developing creative & technical skills
improving skills through training, experimenting and by learning specialized knowledge and expertise

Digitalisation & new business models
support for the use of digital technologies to change a business model and provide new revenue and income

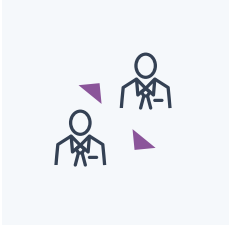
Financing for direct costs funds allocated to costs
directly related to producing specific goods or performing a specific service

Financing for scaling up
raising investment to fund the growth of a company

Internationalisation of activity/access to new markets
support for integration to global value chains, export promotion or trade facilitation



Product, service and infrastructural development
support in the process of creating and launching a new product, service or infrastructure, or relaunching an existing service, product and infrastructure



Networking & knowledge sharing
opportunities to bring together individuals and teams in order to develop, distribute or apply knowledge

Research, development & innovation
activities undertaken to conduct scientific research aimed at innovating and developing new actions, products and services

All types of actions

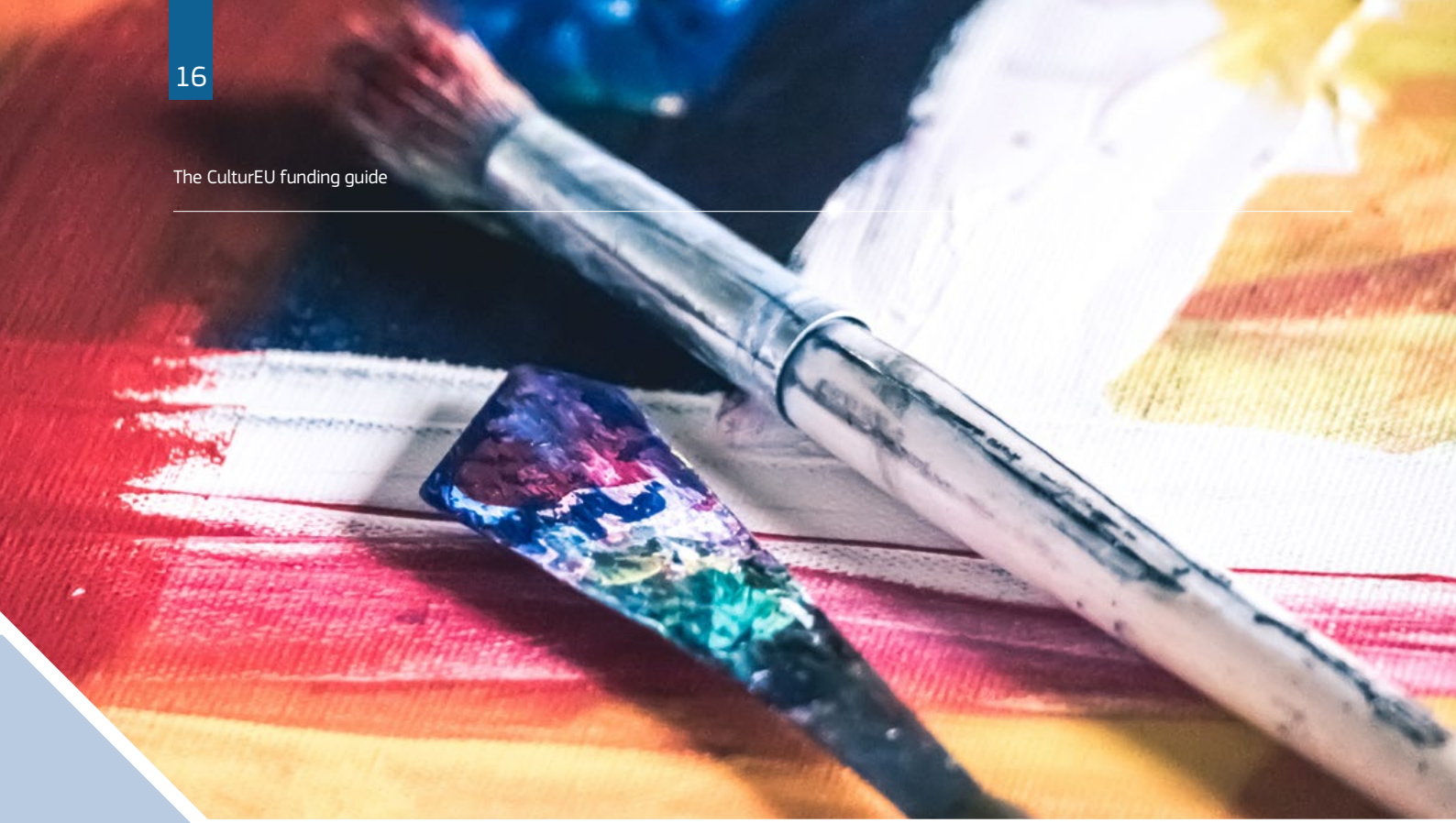
Other icons

Total programme budget
Each programme has an indication of the total programme budget from 2021 until 2027.

More information
Each of the programmes also includes a link to the relevant EU web page which gives more information about the specific EU funding programme and associated opportunities.

Funding opportunities
Where relevant, each programme also includes a link to the EU's online funding portal, where you can browse and directly apply for relevant calls for proposals.

Questions/get in touch
Each programme also includes an email address and/or contact point at EU or national level in the case that you have questions or need support when submitting an application.



2. Creative Europe

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 2.44 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation:

All

Type of actions:

Artistic and cultural mobility & residency;

Artistic creation;

Audience development;

Developing business & management skills;

Developing creative & technical skills;

Mission

Creative Europe is the EU's flagship programme providing specific support to the cultural and creative sectors. It seeks to develop all cultural sectors in Europe and protect Europe's shared cultural heritage, in particular by providing various funding opportunities aimed at co-creation, skills development, network and platform building, knowledge-sharing and mobility and distribution and promotion of content.

Actions

The programme includes two main strands, Culture and MEDIA, and it is also supported by a cross-sectoral sub-programme:

- The **Culture sub-programme** supports projects that seek to strengthen the sector's capacity to operate transnationally by co-creating, establishing networks, platforms for emerging artists and supporting mobility of culture and creative professionals as well as the circulation of their works. It also aims to create and engage audiences, with a focus on inclusion and diversity, and to foster innovative business models and cross-sectoral spill-overs.
- The **MEDIA sub-programme** addresses the needs of the EU film and other audiovisual industries, all undergoing digital transformation. Industries include theatrical feature films, high quality mini-series, documentaries, videogames and other genres. MEDIA offers financial support and help with non-formal training of audiovisual professionals, and at all stages of audiovisual work production cycle: from development, through production, to distribution and promotion, including through access to markets.

Digitalisation & new business models;

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Product, service & infrastructural development;

Research, development & innovation

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/crea2027

Questions? Get in touch here!

https://ec.europa.eu/culture/resources/creative-europe-desks

- The **cross-sectoral strand** of Creative Europe promotes transnational policy cooperation and development and supports the setup of a network of Creative Europe Desks - a peer-led network that includes 38 national Creative Desks, which provide programme-related assistance in each participating country. It also supports innovative projects across all creative sectors and introduces an action to support independent journalism in news media.

What's new under Creative Europe?

Creative Europe offers funding opportunities to a wide range of organisations working in all cultural sectors. The new Programme is more oriented towards the new Commission priorities, therefore focusing on greening, gender equality, social inclusion and a stronger international dimension. The Culture sub-programme also pays more attention to supporting small and micro-organisations, through the introduction of three different types of projects: small scale projects (minimum 3 organisations from 3 different countries); medium scale projects (minimum 5 organisations from 5 different countries); and large-scale projects (minimum 10 organisations from 10 different countries).

"Creatives Unite" is a platform for and by the cultural and creative sectors, which has been set up with the help of the Commission and the EP Pilot project "FLIP Finance, Learning, Innovation and Patenting for CCIs" (https://creativeflip.creativehubs.net/), and is hosted by the European Creative Hubs Network (http://creativehubs.net/). It offers a common space for all cultural and creative sectors in Europe and beyond to share their initiatives and actions in response to the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.

iPortunus is a mobility scheme aimed at exposing artists to new markets, new audiences and new partners, paving the way for new career opportunities and professional development.

Keychange and *Orfeo and Majnun*, are two examples of projects funded under the 2014-2020 Creative Europe programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- Project applicants need to be legally established and officially registered in a **participating country of the Creative Europe programme**. More information on eligible countries can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/culture/resources/creative-europe-desks
- Individuals are not eligible, with the exception of self-employed individuals
- The **coordinating organisation** must have been legally established for at least two years on the date of the deadline for submission of applications
- For **cooperation projects**, proposals must be submitted by a consortium with a of minimum three organisations from three different eligible countries (small scale); five organisations from five different eligible countries (medium scale); and ten organisations from ten different eligible countries (large scale)

More information available at

https://www.i-portunus.eu/ and info@i-portunus.eu.

Featured opportunity!

iPortunus / New mobility scheme

iPortunus was created to expand mobility opportunities and boost international collaborations allowing artists and cultural professionals to work, perform and co-produce across countries. It caters to the specific needs of participating artists and organisations through a bottom-up demand-driven approach, so the beneficiaries are able pick which locations and collaborators they are willing to explore and develop.

Who can apply?

All artists, creators and cultural professionals, as well as host organisations like NGOs, institutions, museums, etc., private or public, from all sectors except audio-visual, are eligible as long as they are based in one of the countries participating in the Creative Europe programme.

How to apply?

The candidate needs to have found a host organisation in another Creative Europe country and apply with a project for international collaboration, production oriented residency, outreach to new audience/market or professional development. Also, a host or hosting organisation can apply requesting to bring in individual artists for similar reasons. The end beneficiary is the artist or cultural professional.

Get Inspired! – Keychange

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Music

Dates:

2019-2023

Budget:

€1,405,100

More Information:

https://www.keychange.eu/

Supported by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, Keychange is the second phase of a European talent development programme which is now recognised as an **international campaign for gender equality in music**. It stimulates **artist development, exchange and innovation** by creating new international opportunities for performance, creative collaboration and capacity building amongst European female musicians and industry professionals. The project aims to promote the creative and economic contribution that **female talent** could be making to Europe's music industry through innovative and inclusive actions.

The core action of the project involves an extensive **programme of career development** for women and gender minority artists and industry innovators. Showcases, networking, training and "Creative Lab" Capacity Building provide **three cohorts of 72 women** with the chance to access new markets, build international profiles and extend their audience in Europe and beyond. The Lab provides opportunities for music creators to connect with pioneering artists and entrepreneurs from tech, AV and other sectors shaping change and innovation.

The project also aims to develop a database promoting the skills of the Keychange participants to a network of more than **140 international festivals**. Moreover, a dynamic web platform will offer learning opportunities and webinars to hundreds of men and women across Europe who aren't directly involved in the Keychange project. Finally, the project also proposed and promoted a pledge to achieve gender balance in festivals, music organisations and companies. The pledge has been already signed by over **500 festivals and music companies**.

Left: Keychange © Lidija Delovska 2021

Get Inspired! – Orfeo and Majnun

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Music,

Performing arts,

Visual arts

Dates:

2017-2020

Budget:

€1,999,868

More Information:

https://www.orfeoandmajnun.eu/orfeo-and-majnun/#project

Orfeo & Majnun (O&M) is an **inclusive, intercultural and multilingual music theatre** project developed with a participatory **community-driven approach**. O&M is characterised by a strong interdisciplinary nature, combining multiple art forms and aiming to address different social, cultural and urban challenges. It involves communities, professional and citizen artists, as well as groups in **risk of social exclusion**.

Starting from the combination of two ancient myths (the Greek myth of Orfeo and Eurydice and the Arab love story of Layla), the project aims to develop and present a music theatre piece incorporating an interdisciplinary and participatory community-driven approach, by promoting opportunities for a common interpretation of the two myths, mutual understanding and cultural transfer. In this context, the project plays with the cultural differences and similarities and it requires a process of **exploration of the different cultures** that can be found in the two myths.

The project is divided into two parts, the first one is aimed at creating a **travelling exhibition** where citizens can showcase their artistic crafts in the different cities of the partner organisations. The second part of the project focuses on a **theatre and musical performance** written from the perspective of Layla and Eurydice, and thus combining occidental and oriental music and myths, considered as intangible cultural heritage and providing opportunities to bring together people of diverse background. The performance features both professional performers and musicians as well as non-professionals.

Right: Orfeo and Majnun © Shutterstock

3. Erasmus+

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 26.2 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Artistic and cultural mobility & residency;

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets;

Developing creative & technical skills;

Digitalisation & new business models;

Mission

Erasmus+ is the EU's flagship programme for education. It addresses both **formal and non-formal education and training**, and also focuses on youth, sport, and culture. Erasmus+ promotes lifelong and inclusive learning across Europe, therefore contributing to sustainable growth and innovation, social cohesion, and active EU citizenship. It provides opportunities for mobility, partnerships, and policy dialogue through project funding, often reinforcing cross-sectoral cooperation with a specific focus on creativity.

Actions

The programme is organised across three **Key Actions (KAs)** for individuals and organisations from EU Member States, third countries associated to the Programme and other Partner countries.

- KA1 focuses on **mobility projects and virtual exchanges** that promote individuals' intercultural dialogue and acquisition of skills, attitudes, and competences (including but not limited to language ones).
- KA2 places great emphasis on **organisational cooperation and partnerships**, by developing networks, capacity, and boosting internationalisation and innovation, as well as vocational and educational excellence.
- KA3 provides support to policy cooperation at European Union level, thereby contributing to the development of new policies, which can trigger modernisation and reforms, at European Union, and systems' level, in the fields of education, training youth and sport.

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Research, development & innovation;

Developing business & management skills

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/education/set-projects-education-and-training/erasmus-funding-programme_en#about-the-erasmus-funding-programme

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/erasmus2027

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact/national-agencies_en

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

There is a strong link between education and culture. Through the Erasmus+ programme, schools, universities, libraries, museums, cultural centres, among other formal and non-formal learning institutions, have the opportunity to experiment with new creative approaches. Erasmus+ is key to **capacity-building, skills development, research and innovation** both for adult education and youth work. For instance, opportunities can be seized through **job-shadowing, training, and exchanges**. Moreover, Erasmus+ can also contribute to increased **opportunities for cultural and artistic mobility**. ***HeritagePRO***, is an example of a project funded under the 2014-2020 Erasmus+ programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- Applicants across all three Key Actions must be located in an **EU Member State or third country associated to the programme**. More information on eligible countries: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/programme-guide/part-a/who-can-participate/eligible-countries_en
- Please get in touch with the relevant Erasmus+ National Authority in your country or check its website to get more information on eligibility criteria for each Erasmus+ key action: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact/national-agencies_en

Get Inspired! – Heritage PRO

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage

Dates:

2018 –2021

Budget:

€350,000

More Information

https://heritage-pro.eu/

Heritage-PRO is an Erasmus+ project carried out in the context of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. It responded to the growing demand for **interdisciplinary training** for professionals of different disciplines linked to the **sustainable management and preservation of cultural heritage**.

The project proposed a **multilingual training scheme** on how to carry out preservation activities at heritage sites. It also provided **guidelines for heritage managers** and developed a multilingual **training kit** to make the training scheme accessible and cost-effective.

A dedicated **training camp** allowed young people and future heritage managers to learn from experts on the heritage preservation subject. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the two-days camp was held online, bringing together around 50 young professionals from various disciplines related to the administration and preservation of cultural heritage. The camp allowed the participants to establish new contacts and strengthen their interdisciplinary competences.

A German non-profit cultural organisation, Kultur und Arbeit EV, together with **5 partners** from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Spain and Sweden, carried out this project. It was launched in September 2018 and concluded in August 2021.

Right: HeritagePRO © Pixabay

4. European Solidarity Corps

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 1 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

Educational institution;

Private or public cultural institute / foundation;

NGO, non-profit & civil society organisation;

Social enterprise;

Private organisation

Type of actions:

Developing creative & technical skills

Mission

The European Solidarity Corps aims to enhance the engagement of young people and organisations in solidarity and volunteering activities to strengthen **social cohesion, solidarity, democracy, European identity and active citizenship**. The programme supports both individuals and organisations seeking to get engaged in a volunteering or solidarity project.

Actions

More specifically, the European Solidarity Corps seeks to fund volunteering activities that seek to promote:

- Social inclusion and diversity
- Environmental protection, sustainable development and climate action
- Digital transformation
- Democratic participation
- Health prevention, promotion and support

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The European Solidarity Corps programme is particularly relevant for **educational institutions, NGOs, cultural institutions and social enterprises** interested in developing volunteering and solidarity projects that contribute to **promoting inclusion and diversity, democratic participation, active citizenship and European identity**. *FeMENism*, is an example of a project funded under the

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/organisations/calls-for-proposals_en

Questions? Get in touch!

https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/contacts_en

2014-2020 European Solidarity Corps programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- The programme is open to any organisation legally established in an EU Member State or a third country associated to the Programme. More information on national agencies and eligible countries: https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity/organisations/contact-national-agencies_en
- Organisations should hold a valid volunteering Quality Label or Erasmus+ volunteering accreditation. The Quality Label is a process certifying that an organisation is able and willing to carry out high quality solidarity activities in compliance with the principles, objectives and quality standards of the European Solidarity Corps
- The composition of the volunteering teams must be **international** and at least a quarter of the volunteers must come from a country other than the one where the activity takes place

Get Inspired! – FeMENism: anders denken over gelijkheid (FeMENism: thinking differently about equality)

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Performing arts

Dates:

2018

Budget:

€18,040

More information:

https://www.jint.be/verhalen/femenism-anders-denken-over-gelijkheid

FeMENism is a youth exchange project combining **human rights education and theatre performances**, funded by the European Solidarity Corps. The project involved an exchange between **30 young people** (aged 18-25) from **Belgium, Greece, France, and Serbia**, for the duration of one week, where participants were encouraged to reflect on **gender issues** and develop a **theatrical performance** based on their collaborative explorations.

The activities consisted of a gender workshop, which entailed discussions about gendered **experiences in the young peoples' respective countries**, and theatre workshops, which involved **drama exercises** and prompts for exploration. The whole performance was made out of scenes created by the participants, based on exercises that the trainer supported them to develop. One of the main success factors of the projects related to the **youth-led** organisation and design of the activities.

In the words of one of the lead facilitators: "We didn't want to work around activism, or protest. It's about the little revolutions you can start, about inspiring each other, about doing things differently in your own environment". The project took place in a Centre for Youth, Art and Creation, called Destelheide in Flanders, Belgium over the summer of 2018. The project originated from a European volunteer who did an internship in Destelheide the previous year, where she conducted research on the possible combination between theatrical performances and human rights education.

Right: FeMENism © Shutterstock

5. Horizon Europe

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 95.5 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Digitalisation & new business models;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets;

Mission

Horizon Europe is a scientific research and innovation multiannual programme, a successor of the recent Horizon 2020 programme and the earlier Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development. It is an initiative aimed at ensuring European leadership in frontier research, tackling climate change, developing new technologies and innovation, achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth.

The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports the creation and better spread of knowledge and technologies. It creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened **European Research Area**.

Actions

The programme structure contains three pillars:

- **Pillar 1 – Excellent Science**. This strand aims to increase the EU's global scientific competitiveness. It supports frontier research projects through the European Research Council, funds fellowships for experienced researchers, doctoral training networks and exchanges through Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.
- **Pillar 2 - Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness**. This Pillar supports research relating to societal challenges

Developing creative & technical skills;

Audience development;

Artistic creation;

Product, service and infrastructure development

Want to know more about the programme?

Visit the webpage: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en

Want to apply?

Visit the webpage: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/horizon

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/contact/research-enquiry-service_en
AND
https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp

and technological and industrial capacities, through clusters. It also includes the Joint Research Centre which supports EU and national policymakers with independent scientific evidence and technical support.

- **Pillar 3 – Innovative Europe**. This part of the programme aims to make Europe a frontrunner in market-creating innovation via the European Innovation Council. It also helps to develop the overall EU innovation landscape through the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, which fosters integration of the knowledge triangle of education, research and innovation.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

Within Pillar 2, **Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive society**, is of especially high relevance for the cultural and creative sectors, as it can support sustainable innovation, job creation, and improved working conditions. It can also tap into the full potential of cultural heritage, arts and cultural and creative sectors and industries. Research and innovation can support access to **common heritage through new technologies, high quality digitisation and curation of digital heritage assets** and by developing **solutions for sustainable and inclusive cultural tourism** in Europe, for example. The cultural and creative industries are expected to play a prominent role in many projects funded under this cluster, and there are funding opportunities specifically directed towards the CCIs.

There are also funding opportunities for individuals doing research through the **Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Actions**, where the European Research Council supports social science and humanities projects, which could also be relevant for cultural and creative organisations. For projects focused on innovation there is a new scheme under the **European Innovation Council** which focuses mainly on breakthrough, deep-tech and disruptive innovation, targeting market-creating innovation in particular.

A new Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) dedicated to supporting innovation ecosystems in the Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries will connect the various institutional and individual players, facilitating access to finance, retraining and upskilling CCSI professionals.

The Startup Europe initiative aims at building a healthy ecosystem that allows startups across the EU to scale-up and accelerate their businesses.

The STARTS programme supports innovation in both art and industry to develop more creative, inclusive, and sustainable technologies.

RURITAGE, HAP4MARBLE and ROCK, are three examples of projects funded under the 2014-2020 Horizon 2020 programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- There are different eligibility requirements and funding rules depending on whether the type of action is a Research and Innovation Action (RIA), an Innovation Action (IA) or a Coordination and Support Action (CSA). Participants have to be legally established organisations

- More information on Cluster 2 can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/cluster-2-culture-creativity-and-inclusive-society_en
- There is a network of National Contact Points (in each Member State or associated country) to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of participation in Horizon Europe. More information can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp

Featured opportunity!

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) - Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC)

The EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities are pan-European partnerships bringing together businesses, research centres and universities.

A new Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) dedicated to supporting innovation ecosystems in the Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries will aim at strengthening ecosystems, which is the most efficient way to support innovation and CCSIs, linked to cultural heritage. It will stimulate the ability of the sectors to innovate by connecting the various institutional and individual players, facilitating access to finance, retraining and upskilling CCSI professionals. It aims to strengthen cooperation and create favourable environments for creative thought processes and innovation to flourish.

Activities cover the entire innovation chain: training and education programmes, reinforcing the journey from research to the market, innovation projects, as well as business incubators and accelerators. The EIT Culture and Creativity community will train the sector's future entrepreneurs, support cutting-edge ventures, and deliver innovative solutions to the challenges facing the sectors.

Who can apply? The applicant consortium must include at least one higher education institution, one research institution and one private company established in at least three different Member States.

How to apply? A call for proposal invites consortia to submit their ideas for the new EIT Culture & Creativity KIC, in the lead up to funding opportunities opening in 2023. Organisations are also invited to join a networking platform to learn more and to connect with potential partners for the upcoming EIT Call for Proposals: https://eit-culture-creativity.b2match.io/

More information at: https://eit.europa.eu/our-communities/eit-innovation-communities

Featured opportunity!

Sub-programme: Startup Europe

Startup Europe is an initiative connecting high tech startups, scaleups, investors, accelerators, corporate networks, universities and the media to accelerate growth of the European startup scene. It is supported by a portfolio of EU funded projects and policy actions such as:

- **Startup Europe One Stop Shop**, which offers entrepreneurs, investors and ecosystem builders trusted information and support on topics ranging from scaling up, investment opportunities and networking. Upcoming opportunities and open calls are updated at the Startup Europe one-stop-shop at https://startupeuropeclub.eu/
- **The EU Startup Nation Standard**, aims at helping European SMEs and startups to pursue their market ambitions by focusing on making it easier to launch a startup and expand across borders, promoting venture-building and tech transfer from universities, increasing access to finance for scaling-up and easing visa processes to retain third country talent.
- **The Innovation Radar**, a data-driven initiative to identify high potential innovations and innovators in EU-funded research and innovation projects, with the goal of allowing every citizen, public official, professional and business person to discover the outputs of EU innovation funding.
- Digital innovation and scaleup initiative (DISC) aimed at addressing the investment gap that digital startups in central, eastern and south-eastern Europe (CESEE) region face when compared to innovators in other European regions.

More information at: https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/startup-europe

Featured opportunity!

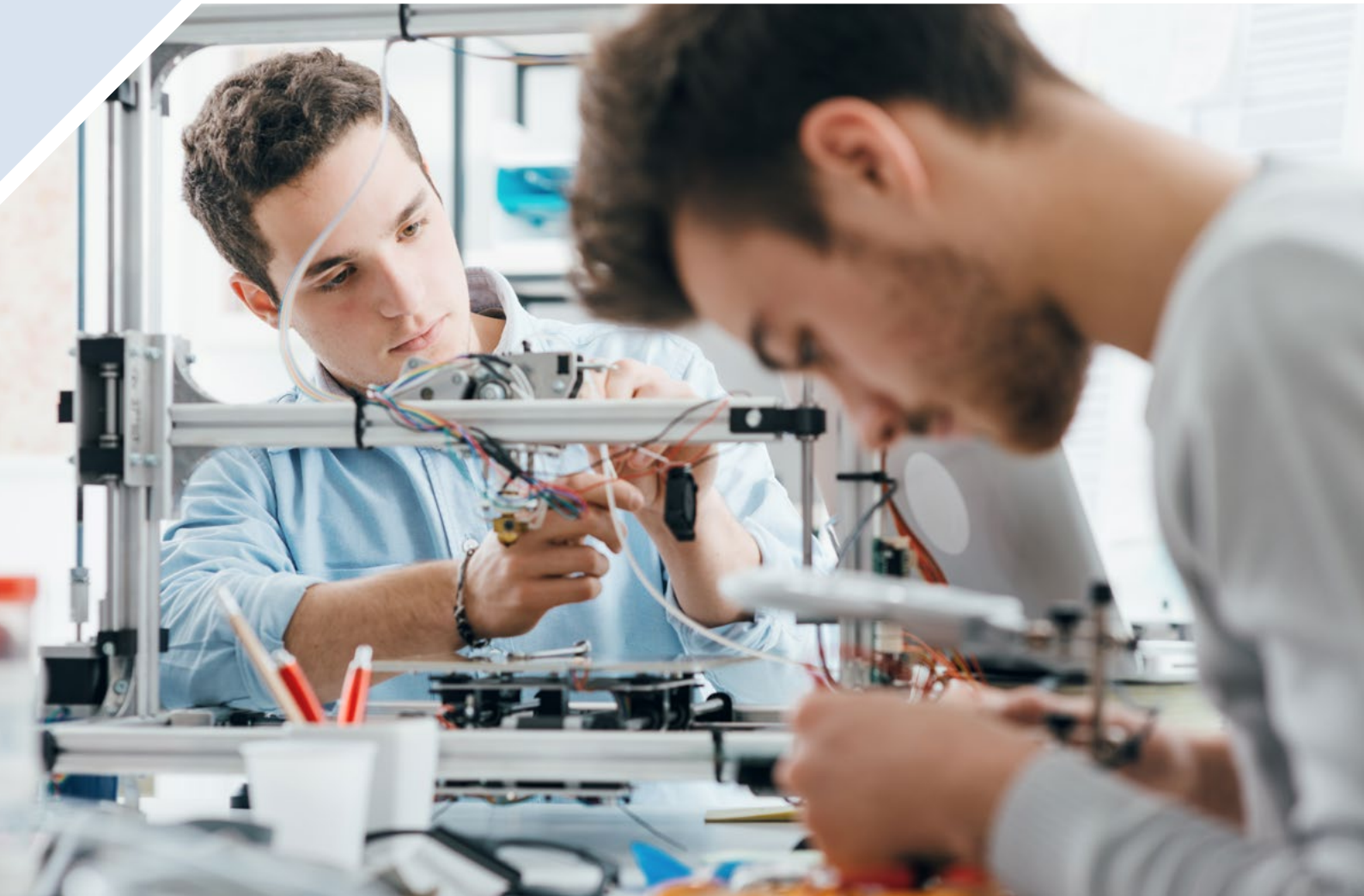
STARTS programme

S+T+ARTS is a platform linking technology and artistic practice more closely in order to address Europe's social, environmental and economic challenges. It supports the development of more creative, inclusive and sustainable technologies through the collaboration between artists, scientists, engineers and researchers. It is centred around the idea that art, science and technology can benefit from sharing of perspectives and opening up new pathways for research and business.

Through its different pillars, S+T+ARTS offers:

- **Residencies** that deepen knowledge sharing and collaboration,
- **Academies** focused on bridging the gap between the arts and technology through education,
- **Regional centres** intended to expand the initiative at the local level,
- **Thematic pilots and prizes** which support radically innovative technologies developed in collaboration with artists and focused on contemporary challenges.

Check upcoming opportunities and open calls at https://www.starts.eu/calls/.
More information at:
https://www.starts.eu/



Get Inspired! – RURITAGE

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage;

Crafts

Dates:

2018 –2022

Budget:

€10,000,000

More information:

https://www.ruritage.eu/project/

RURITAGE is a project funded under the 2014-2020 Horizon 2020 programme. It aims at transforming rural areas in sustainable development laboratories by enhancing their **cultural and natural heritage**. The project gathers stakeholders and local communities in a new collaborative manner, engaging them in a participatory and community-based heritage management, ensuring ownership, capacity building and skills transfer.

RURITAGE identified 13 **role models** that redeveloped their territories through heritage-led regeneration strategies in different fields): **pilgrimage, local food, migration, arts & festival, resilience and landscape**. The knowledge built by the role models is transferred to 6 replicators across Europe, by setting up **Local Rural Heritage Hubs** gathering stakeholders and civil society. The Hubs work as living labs where heritage-led rural regeneration strategies are co-created and implemented with the support of role models. The project is also making available the RURITAGE Resources Ecosystem, including different tools for regeneration strategies, such as an interactive web-based atlas, a set of good practices and innovative solutions for rural regeneration, games kits and regeneration guidelines.

The project was launched in June 2018 and its activities will be carried out until August 2022. The University of Bologna (Italy) is the main coordinator, and the project includes **38 partners** from different EU countries (Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Spain) and non-EU countries (Colombia, Iceland, Norway, Turkey and the UK).

Right: Ruritage © Urosh Grabner 2019

Get Inspired! – HAP4MARBLE

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage;

Dates:

2015-2018

Budget:

€244,269

More information:

https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/655239/reporting

The HAP4MARBLE project was fully funded under the Horizon2020 programme. It was aimed at developing a new multi-functional treatment for the **conservation of marble artworks** in cultural heritage, and particularly at preventing marble dissolution, arresting marble bowing, repairing of sugaring marble and developing self-cleaning abilities.

Marble has been widely used in architecture and sculpture across history, but it is sensitive to deterioration processes, some of which are predicted to worsen due to the impact of **climate change**. Moreover, all the currently available treatments for conservation of marble present some significant limitations, in terms of efficacy, compatibility and/or durability.

The project was aimed at multi-functionalising a recently proposed **biomimetic treatment** based on formation of **hydroxyapatite** (HAP, the main constituent of human teeth and bones), by reaction of marble with an aqueous phosphate solution. The achievement of the project objectives was made possible by a multi-disciplinary research activity, combining different competences and laboratory facilities. The obtained results were published in **14 scientific publications** with open access, 7 articles in high-level journals and 7 contributions in international conference proceedings. The project also contributed to make European citizens, including school children, **more aware of the cultural and economic importance of monuments** and of the challenges connected to their conservation, thanks to the extensive outreach activities carried out during the project.

Right: HAP4MARBLE © Enrico Sassoni 2016

Get Inspired! – ROCK - Regeneration and Optimisation of Cultural heritage in creative and Knowledge cities

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage;

Dates:

2017-2020

Budget:

€10,629,453

More information:

https://rockproject.eu/

The ROCK project received funding from the Horizon 2020 Programme and it brings together a network of 10 cities across Europe (Lyon, Turin, Cluj, Eindhoven, Athens, Vilnius, Liverpool, Lisbon, Skopje, Bologna). The aim is to support the **transformation of historic city centres** afflicted by physical decay, social conflicts and with a poor quality of life into **Creative and Sustainable Districts**, through new sustainable environmental, social and economic processes.

ROCK develops and applies an **innovative circular systemic** approach to connect different actors, places of Cultural Heritage value and systems, at a European level as well as at a local level. ROCK has focused on historic city centres as real laboratories to demonstrate how cultural heritage can be an **engine of regeneration, sustainable development and economic growth**. It has applied a series of role-model practices in three testing sites in Bologna, Lisbon and Skopje. Over almost four years, the ten ROCK cities have been developing **innovative solutions** that demonstrate how cultural heritage can be the driving force behind urban sustainability. They have been supported by project partners, such as service providers, universities, network of enterprises, companies and development agencies, to test and advance tools and approaches aimed at shaping sustainable and cultural heritage led urban regeneration.

Some of their innovative training solutions include an **incubation programme** to boost green and creative business creation in each city and **eco-innovation workshops** to stimulate sustainable business innovation via exchanges of know-how between green SMEs and ecopreneurs from all across Europe. The EU contributed with € 9,873,585 to the overall budget of the project.

Right: ROCK © Comune di Bologna 2020

I AM TEMPORARY

6. Digital Europe Programme

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 7.6 billion

Sector:

All sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Digitalisation & new business models

Mission

The Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) is a new EU funding programme focused on **bringing digital technology to businesses, citizens and public administrations**. It will provide strategic funding to answer the many challenges we face today with regards to digital technologies and infrastructures. The programme aims to accelerate the economic recovery and shape the digital transformation of Europe's society and economy, bringing benefits to everyone, but in particular to small and medium-sized enterprises.

Actions

DIGITAL will support projects in **five key capacity areas**:

- Supercomputing
- Artificial Intelligence
- Cybersecurity
- Advanced Digital Skills
- Deployment and accessibility of digital technologies (including through Digital Innovation Hubs)

The Digital Europe Programme will also complement the funding available through other EU programmes, such as the Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation and the Connecting Europe Facility for digital infrastructure, the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the Structural funds.

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

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

Questions? Get in touch!

https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/contact

More information at:

https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/edihs

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The Digital Programme can be a particularly relevant financial instrument to fund projects providing all the different cultural and creative organisations with access to the **newest digital technologies**, spanning from artificial intelligence to supercomputing. There is also support available for the improvement of **digital skills**, targeted at students, IT professionals, entrepreneurs and SME leaders and various other professionals.

The EU's Digital Innovation Hubs initiative functions as one-stop shops to enable businesses and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to increase their competitiveness and respond to digital challenges.

Who can apply?

Details on eligibility criteria and specific calls will be detailed in work programmes for 2021-2027 which are currently being adopted. Check the following links for updates: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/digital

Featured opportunity!

Digital Innovation Hubs (DIHs)

Digital Innovation Hubs help companies take advantage of digital opportunities to improve their processes and products with a view to enhance their competitiveness. DIHs provide access to technical expertise and experimentation through networking and cross-border knowledge transfer so that companies can "test before invest". It also provides innovation services, such as financing advice, training and skills development needed for a successful digital transformation.

To help DIHs to effectively collaborate and network, the European Commission launched the European catalogue of DIHs, a repository that includes more than 450 existing digital innovation hubs across Europe and that will keep growing with new additions in the future, accessible at http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/digital-innovation-hubs-tool.

7. Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 33.71 billion

Sector:

Cultural heritage & museums

Type of organisation

Educational institution;

Private or public cultural foundation / institute

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Developing creative & technical skills;

Digitalisation & new business models;

Mission

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) aims to build, develop, modernise and complete the trans-European networks in the transport, energy and digital sectors. In order to **empower the cultural heritage sector in its digital transformation**, the CEF programme also supports the **Europeana** initiative. The Europeana Foundation provides grants for projects aimed at developing expertise, tools and policies to embrace digital change and encourage partnerships that foster innovation.

Actions

The Connecting Europe Facility funds can support different sectors:

- **Transport**: promoting interconnected and multimodal networks in order to develop and modernise rail, road, inland waterway and maritime infrastructure, as well as ensuring safe and secure mobility.
- **Energy**: contributing to the further integration of the European energy market, improving the interoperability of energy networks across borders and sectors, facilitating decarbonisation, and ensuring security of supply.
- **Digital**: contributing to the deployment of digital connectivity infrastructure throughout the Union.

The Europeana research grants seek to support cultural heritage professionals and researchers to:

Networking & knowledge sharing

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/connecting-europe-facility/about-connecting-europe-facility_en
AND
https://pro.europeana.eu/

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/calls-proposals_en
AND
https://pro.europeana.eu/page/grants-programme

Questions? Get in touch!

EuropeanaResearchGrants@Europeana.eu

- Address challenges and opportunities related to the reuse of **digital cultural heritage in research**
- Help build up the **digital capabilities of cultural heritage professionals** involved in cross-sectoral projects
- **Encourage collaborations** between the cultural heritage and the research sectors

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The Europeana research grants programme is particularly relevant for the **cultural heritage sector**. Proposals can address cultural heritage in general or focus on one of its specific sectors (such as galleries, libraries, archives, or museums). There are also specific opportunities for academic disciplines that use **digital cultural heritage as a resource for research** (for instance, disciplines within the humanities, such as Archaeology, History, Linguistics, History of Art and Architecture).

Who can apply?

- The Europeana research grants programme is open to **cultural heritage and/or research institutions**, comprising universities and foundations
- Institutions must be located in one of the **EU Member States or Iceland, Norway, and the UK**
- Find more information on the Europeana initiative: https://pro.europeana.eu/
- Check the Europeana funding opportunities: https://pro.europeana.eu/page/grants-programme

8. New European Bauhaus (NEB)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

n/a

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructure development;

Developing creative & technical skills;

Mission

The New European Bauhaus initiative aims to develop a creative and interdisciplinary movement that connects the European Green Deal to the everyday life of the EU citizens. It is a platform for experimentation aimed at uniting citizens, experts, businesses and institutions to imagine and design a **sustainable, aesthetic and inclusive** future.

Actions

The initiative was co-designed through the direct involvement of citizens, experts, businesses, and Institutions. Following the co-design phase, a delivery phase was launched in order to set up and implement the New European Bauhaus pilots. The final dissemination phase of the initiative will focus on amplifying the ideas and actions that emerged and reaching a broader audience in Europe and beyond. The New European Bauhaus initiative is aimed at:

- providing financial support to innovative ideas and products through ad-hoc calls for proposals and through coordinated programs
- mobilising designers, architects, engineers, scientists, students, and creative minds across disciplines to reimagine sustainable living
- making tomorrow's living more accessible and affordable
- improving the quality of the EU citizens' living experience

Financing for direct costs;

Financing for scaling up

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/index_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/delivery_en

Questions? Get in touch!

https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/stay-touch_en

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The calls for proposals supporting the achievement of the New European Bauhaus objectives are offered from different EU funding programmes. Cultural and creative stakeholders can benefit from many such calls. In particular, the cultural and creative sector can contribute to the transformation of the built environments reflecting values such as **aesthetics, sustainability and social inclusion**. Other funding opportunities might involve cultural and creative stakeholders in defining and implementing co-design processes to addressing social and environmental challenges through **multidisciplinary collaboration**. Finally, cultural and creative stakeholders can become partners and key members of the NEB community. Find more information on how to **become a partner** here: https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/partners-0/call-partnerships_en

Who can apply?

Eligibility depends on specific calls. The calls for proposals supporting the achievement of the New European Bauhaus objectives are offered from different EU funding programmes. Check the website for more information on the specific calls: https://europa.eu/new-european-bauhaus/delivery_en

9. InvestEU

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

The InvestEU Fund aims to mobilise more than €372 billion of public and private investment through an EU budget guarantee of €26.2 billion that backs the investment of implementing partners such as the European Investment Bank (EIB) Group and other financial institutions

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructure development;

Mission

The InvestEU programme builds from the Investment Plan for Europe and it is aimed at providing long-term funding to companies and supporting EU policies in a recovery from a deep economic and social crisis. It brings together the European Fund for Strategic Investments and 13 other EU financial instruments from the previous funding period. Among these instruments, the Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility (CCS GF) will be continued under InvestEU, and new financial tools (equity) will be developed with the CCS in sight.

Actions

The instrument works in the following way: the **intermediary** signing up with the EIB Group can include **banks, equity funds, or venture capital funds** which operate at the ground level. Only once this step is established, a **company or organisation** can benefit from this instrument by contacting the local bank and pitching their project, which can then activate the financing. There are also **micro-loans** of up to €25,000 that are offered through this instrument. Companies and organisations can benefit from the micro-loans, but individuals who need small loans can also apply.

The InvestEU Fund supports the following **four Policy Windows**:

- Sustainable infrastructure
- Research, Innovation and Digitalisation
- Small and medium-sized companies (SMEs)
- Social investment and skills

Digitalisation & new business models;

Financing for scaling up;

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Financing for direct costs;

Developing creative & technical skills

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/investeu/investeu-fund/about-investeu-fund_en
AND
https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/guarantees/cultural_creative_sectors_guarantee_facility/index.htm

Moreover, the **Cultural and Creative Sectors Guarantee Facility** (CCS GF) is an initiative managed by the European Investment Fund on behalf of the European Commission. It benefits **micro-businesses and SMEs in the cultural and creative sectors**, which often face difficulties in accessing affordable debt financing for their projects.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

In addition to the **CCS Guarantee Facility**, the Policy Windows of the InvestEU fund that focus on **Research, Innovation and Digitisation, SMEs, and Social Investments and Skills** are all relevant for the cultural and creative sector. In particular, the SME policy window is also directly aimed at facilitating access to finance for SMEs and organisations from the cultural and creative sectors and investments in tangible and intangible assets, including in cultural heritage. In the field of social investment and skills, financial support aims at improving social infrastructures, social inclusion, the integration of vulnerable groups as well as promoting education and training - all activities that can fall under the remit of cultural and creative organisations. Individual artists, or groups and bands can also benefit from the small micro-loans offered.

The WORTH Partnership Project /COSME is an initiative aimed at boosting the added-value of creative products and processes through design and technology, thus enhancing the competitiveness of creative SMEs.

Who can apply?

- It is important to note that there will be no calls for proposals. It is up to the applicant to approach the financial intermediaries, such as the banks
- Please check here the list of financial intermediaries for the CCS Guarantee Facility:
  https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/guarantees/cultural_creative_sectors_guarantee_facility/ccs_signatures.pdf

The InvestEU fund can be accessed by:

- members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) which are members of the EEA
- acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates
- European Neighbourhood Policy countries
- other third countries

Featured opportunity!

WORTH Partnership Project /COSME

The WORTH Partnership Project supports creative sector SMEs to collaborate transnationally with a view to develop innovative design-driven products by stimulating exchange and partnership between creatives, designers, manufacturers, crafters and technology firms. It is based on key principles such as quality of

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://europa.eu/youreurope/business/finance-funding/getting-funding/access-finance/index_en.htm

Questions? Get in touch!

https://europa.eu/investeu/form/contact_en

More information available at

http://worthproject.eu/

experience, including style and aesthetics, healthy and safe living environments, sustainability and circularity as well as inclusion, accessibility and affordability.

The project provides financial support, but also coaching on business strategy and technology development, as well as advice on intellectual property, participation in exhibitions and networking opportunities.

Who can apply?

Both the lead applicants and partners should be active in lifestyle industry sectors such as textile/fashion, footwear, leather/fur, furniture/home decoration/interior design/architecture, jewellery, and accessories and pursue business activities such as design, manufacturing/craftsmanship or technology development. They must be established in an EU country, in a COSME associated country or in the United Kingdom. Universities, research organisations or design labs can also participate if justified and relevant to the project.

How to apply?

The proposed project must be developed around its potential for growth and added value of the cooperation, level of innovation and creativity, scalability and sustainability of the results, market potential and commitment, mentoring needs and the identification of obstacles and barriers. The partnership can be self-arranged but a partner search tool is also available.

The WORTH Partnership Project is funded under COSME, the EU Programme for the competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

10. Single Market Programme

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 4.2 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

Private organisations;

Social enterprise

Type of actions:

Business & management skills development;

Product, service & infrastructure development;

Audience development;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Mission

The new Single Market Programme (SMP) brings together six predecessor programmes[1] from different policy areas, in particular the grants and contracts part of COSME. The Single Market Programme aims to help ensure a **well-functioning Single Market for goods and services**, provide high-quality statistics on all EU policies and coordinate capacity building for joint actions between the Commission and Member States.

SMP brings many activities together under one coherent umbrella to reduce overlaps. One strand provides various forms of support to businesses, in particular SMEs. It aims to boost their competitiveness and sustainability, in particular:

- facilitate access to markets
- promote entrepreneurship and the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills
- promote the modernisation of industry and address global and societal challenges

Specific types of actions to support are defined in an annual financing decision and multi (annual) parts of the SMP work programme.

1 The six predecessor programmes are: 1) COSME; 2) European Statistical Programme (ESP); 3) Reporting and Auditing; 4) Enhancing consumers involvement in the EU policy making in the field of financial services; 5) Food and Feed; and 6) Consumer Programme

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

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

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/support-businesses_en

Actions

The programme includes different areas of intervention, including food safety, consumer protection, competitiveness, Single Market effectiveness, European statistics and standards. The priority "Competitiveness of SMEs" is of particular relevance for cultural and creative sectors. SME pillar of the Single Market Programme will provide various forms of support to businesses, in particular SMEs, in order to foster a favourable business environment and entrepreneurial culture, facilitate access to markets, reduce administrative burden, support uptake of innovation and address global and societal challenges.

The Programme also supports a better enforcement of EU law and promotes the competitiveness of SMEs, also through the following initiatives:

- **Enterprise Europe Network**: regional network which functions as a one-stop-shop to improve SME competitiveness and to provide business support and advisory services to SMEs seeking to explore the opportunities of the internal market
- **Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs**: a cross-border exchange programme which gives new or aspiring entrepreneurs the chance to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other countries
- **Joint cluster initiatives**: a new generation of actions involving industrial clusters - groups of specialised enterprises, often SMEs, and other related supporting actors that cooperate closely in a shared location

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The Single Market Programme 2021-2027 in particular under support to businesses (SME) pillar is open to all eligible organisations under the SMP, including potentially from cultural and creative sectors. It is particularly relevant for micro-companies, SMEs and start-up, as the programme seeks to promote the **competitiveness of SMEs in different areas and sectors**. *TraCEs*, is an example of a project funded under the COSME predecessor programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- The programme is open to **any legally established organisation** created under Union law or any international organisation, as well as to organisations legally established in a third country associated to the Programme (i.e., EFTA members, candidate and potential candidate countries, countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy)
- The Programme is also open to **new entrepreneurs** that are firmly planning to start a business, based on a viable business plan and also to new entrepreneurs with less than 3 years of total entrepreneurial experience

Get Inspired! – TraCEs, Cultour Is Capital - Transformative Tourism across European Capital of Culture

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

All sectors

Dates:

2019-2020

Budget:

€470,167

More Information

https://www.cultouriscapital.eu/

Funded under the EU's COSME (Competitiveness of Enterprises and SME) programme 2014-2020, TraCEs seeks to lay the foundations of **a cultural and sustainable tourism model** in European Capitals of Culture (ECoC) that pivots around their heritage, cultural and creative sectors, and ways of living.

Its aim is to develop methodologies, procedures, and tools that will favour the creation of **new tourist experiences in ECoC cities**, involving two key sectors: creative and cultural industries and tourist operators. Ultimately, TraCEs believes that ECoC should not be a one-year event but should build a future for the cultural and creative sector of cities and region, for their impact on other sectors and for cultural tourism.

For this project **8 partners** from Italy, Slovakia, Croatia, Spain, Germany and The Netherlands came together to share the unique qualities of their countries and, above all, the potential of their culture capitals from a local and innovative perspective. This is how TraCEs understands transformative tourism: linking communities so that visitors tap into regional cultures and meaningfully interact with locals, reinforcing the concept of the tourist as a temporary citizen rather than a holidaymaker. TraCEs brings all this together by putting forward a new way of traveling to European Capitals of Culture.

The project actively involves **tourism and creative industry operators** to interact in "laboratories", where local resources – previously mapped and clustered – are used to shape an **innovative thematic tourist product**. Synergies between tourism and culture are used at the outset of the overall project development process, and the project provides a unique opportunity for the tourism sector to develop innovative products, and for creative industries to cross-fertilize other economic sectors.

Right: TraCEs CulTour © Nicholas Burns 2020

11. EU funding instrument for the environment and climate action (LIFE)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 5.4 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructural development;

Networking & knowledge sharing

Mission

The LIFE programme is the only EU's funding instrument dedicated specifically to environmental issues and climate action. The programme aims to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation. The programme co-financed more than five thousand projects since 1992.

Actions

The new LIFE programme will cover the following areas:

- **Nature and biodiversity**: this sub-programme will aim to protect and restore Europe's nature and halting and reversing biodiversity loss. It will continue to fund nature conservation projects, in particular in the areas of biodiversity, habitats and species.
- **Circular economy and quality of life**: this aims to facilitate the transition toward a sustainable, circular, toxic-free, energy-efficient and climate-resilient economy and at protecting, restoring and improving the quality of the environment. The sub-programme provides mostly action grants for projects implementing innovative solutions in these areas through the so-called Standard Action Projects (SAP).
- **Climate change mitigation and adaptation**: it provides support for pilot, demonstration and projects that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the implementation and development of EU policy and legislation, best practices and solutions. LIFE provides action grants for information, awareness and dissemination projects on climate matters.

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life/life-calls-proposals_en#ecl-inpage-1380

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/programmes/life2027

Questions? Get in touch!

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life/life-european-countries_en

- **Clean energy transition**: this sub-programme continues to support the delivery of EU policies in the field of sustainable energy, in particular, the European Green Deal, the Energy Union (2030 energy and climate targets) and the European Union's 2050 long-term decarbonisation strategy.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

Cultural and creative projects that raise public awareness about, and inspire public engagement with environmental issues will find relevant funding opportunities here. Initiatives that seek to educate people about environmental and climate actions could also apply to this fund. In addition, cultural projects that aim to provide environmental solutions, by protecting biodiversity, contributing to the circular and climate-resilient economy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, or drawing on renewable energy, are eligible for support under this opportunity. *LEWO*, is an example of a project funded under the 2014-2020 programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

Any public or private legal organisation registered in the EU can submit a proposal under the LIFE Programme.

Get Inspired! – LIFE Evergreen with volunteers (LEWO)

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage

Dates:

2017-2020

Budget:

€800,162

More Information

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4761
and
https://voluntariadogalego.org/es/planes-y-programas/plan/programa-de-voluntariado-juvenil-en-espacios-naturales-2020

LIFE Evergreen with volunteers (LEWO) project received funding under the LIFE programme 2014-2020. The main objective of LEWO was to reduce the impact of **human actions on natural heritage**, encourage the sustainable use of natural resources and promote environmental education and **citizenship participation**. It sought to do this with the participation of **volunteers** through the European Solidarity Corps programme.

The project carried out volunteering activities aimed at the protection, restoration and management of **17 Natura 2000 network sites** (core breeding and resting sites for rare and threatened species) in the Galicia region, Spain. The project was also aimed at promoting citizens' environmental awareness through a participation model able to connect them with stakeholders. It also strived to raise awareness on citizenship rights and promote the value of volunteering for young people, while contributing to **training opportunities** for 300 young Galicians who can make a significant contribution to society.

The project contributed to the management and preservation of habitats and species in these 17 network sites through daily actions of cleaning, improvement of access and fighting against invasive species. The benefits of **nature conservation** encouraged the replication of the same actions in all Natura 2000 sites in the region, boosting participation from a greater number of volunteers and fostering the collaboration with new stakeholders. The project also contributed to create improved **environmental awareness** for at least 20,000 people through the promotion of environmental volunteering, educational activities, as well as information campaigns for the reduction of carbon footprints. The project also promoted European awareness among young people, and improve perception of European environmental policies among local communities to make rural areas more aware of opportunities through programmes such as LIFE and the European Solidarity Corps.

The project was coordinated by the regional office for youth, volunteering and participation of the Galicia region, in collaboration with the regional office for the natural heritage protection. While the total project budget was €800,162, the EU contributed with €478,677 in funding.

Right: LEWO © LEWO Project 2018

12. Cohesion fund (CF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) (including Interreg)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 63.4 billion for CF and EUR 226 billion for ERDF (including EUR 9 billion for the Interreg programme)

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Mission

The Cohesion Fund is one of the funds through which EU Cohesion policy is delivered, aimed at Member States whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90 % of the EU average, and which support projects in the field of TEN-T and the environment. ERDF is also part of the EU Cohesion policy and it aims to **strengthen the economic, social and territorial cohesion** in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions, by supporting economic recovery, job creation, competitiveness, innovation, and sustainability. It delivers on the Union's political priorities, especially the green and digital transition. Within ERDF, the **Interreg programme** supports **cross-border** (Interreg A and IPA), **transnational** (Interreg B) and **interregional** (Interreg C) cooperation.

As ERDF/CF are managed predominantly via shared management, managing authorities and participating countries are entrusted to allocate funding and set up a management and control system to ensure the implementation of the fund based on agreed programmes (which are also developed and implemented in a multi-level governance approach, in line with the partnership principle).

Type of actions:

Local/regional/national/transnational/cross-border authorities call for projects adapted to their specific needs, please check the website of your managing authority for relevant opportunities tailored to your needs under the CF and ERDF: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/

For cross-border/transnational cooperation actions, please check the Interreg website for relevant information and opportunities: https://interreg.eu/

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

Cohesion Fund: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/cohesion-fund-cf_en

European Regional Development Fund: https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/european-regional-development-fund-erdf_en

Interreg Europe: https://www.interregeurope.eu/about-us/what-is-interreg-europe/

Check the website of your managing authority to learn more about funding opportunities:

Cohesion Fund and European Regional Development Fund: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/

Interreg Europe: https://www.interregeurope.eu/in-my-country/

Actions

In 2021-2027, the funds will prioritise investments aimed at making Europe and its regions **smarter and more competitive, greener and low-carbon, more connected, more social and inclusive and closer to citizens**, thus intersecting with the priorities and needs of the cultural and creative sectors, and their key players. Cohesion Fund mainly finances activities in field of environment (including investments related to sustainable development and energy presenting environmental benefits, with a particular focus on renewable energy) and trans-European networks in the area of transport infrastructure.

The majority of the ERDF funds (between 55% and 85%) will be allocated to actions contributing to smart growth and transition towards a greener, carbon neutral economy. Furthermore, at least 8% of the ERDF resources are set aside for sustainable urban development, through 'integrated actions' managed by cities to reduce economic, environmental and social problems in urban areas. Under the Interreg programme, ERDF can support public authorities, managing authorities, agencies, research institutes, thematic and non-profit organisations through interregional cooperation projects[1] and policy learning platforms.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

ERDF investments in culture, sustainable tourism, and cultural heritage are possible under all five EU Cohesion policy objectives. This provides access for cultural and creative sector stakeholders to funding opportunities that contribute to the achievement of the above-mentioned policy objectives as well as individual programme objectives. The guiding principle behind this support for culture and creative industries under ERDF and CF is to strengthen the sectors' long-term resilience and environmental, social and economic sustainability and to use the COVID-19 crisis as an opportunity for transformation. For 2021-2027, an additional ERDF specific objective directly focuses on the tourism and cultural sectors' capacity to strengthen potential to drive economic recovery, social inclusion and social innovation, without prejudice to the funding possibilities under other policy objectives. In certain cases, the CF can support projects which indirectly benefit the cultural and creative sectors, e.g. when improving accessibility and environmental protection of cultural heritage sites. Fortress *Reinvented, Lascaux 4* and *Design and Innovation* are three examples of projects funded under the 2014-2020 European Regional Development Fund and Interreg programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- ERDF and CF are subject to the **Common Provisions Regulations**, thus to the same rules in terms of programming, management, and monitoring of ERDF, CF and six other shared management funds (i.e., the European Social Fund+, the Just Transition Fund, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, the Asylum and Migration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Border Management and Visa Instrument)

1 The programme will co-finance up to 85% of project activities carried out in partnership with other policy organisations based in different countries in Europe.

- More specific regulatory provisions are laid out in the European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund and the European Territorial Cooperation Regulations: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R1058 **AND** https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R1059
- **All EU regions** are eligible for the ERDF. For Interreg, organisations must be based in one the 27 EU Member States (including their insular and outermost areas) or a participating country
- For the 2021-2027 period, the Cohesion Fund concerns Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia
- ERDF and CF are delivered under shared management. In addition, there is also a specific ERDF instrument under direct management, the Interregional Innovation Investments (I3) https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/themes/research-innovation/i3/. For the implementation of the ERDF programmes, the **respective managing authorities' launch call for projects adapted to the specific needs**. See the website of your **managing authority** for further details:
  - https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/ AND
  - https://www.interregeurope.eu/in-my-country/

Get Inspired! – Fortress Reinvented: Unleashing the tourism potential of historical fortresses in the western Balkans

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage;

Dates:

2017-2019

Budget:

€1,310,232

More information:

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/Croatia/unleashing-the-tourism-potential-of-historical-fortresses-in-the-western-balkans

This project received funding under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Interreg-IPA CBC Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro programme during the 2014-2020 period. It aimed to develop and promote the **tourism potential of historical fortifications** in the cross-border area of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Adriatic Croatia and Montenegro. It involved **applying innovative approaches to showcasing digital content** about cultural and historical heritage, with the aim of placing the fortresses on **Europe's cultural map** and promoting tourism in the area.

The four historical fortresses concerned were St Michael's, Klis, Vranduk, and Kanli Kula. One of the main achievements of the project was to create a 'Fortress Reality Window' at each site, in the form of a **touchscreen** with an application that allows visitors to take a tour of the other three fortresses using **live-streaming technology**. The project also involved the installation of **state-of-the-art audio guides** and **digital touchscreen kiosks**, displaying information on the four different fortresses.

A further element of the project concerned the **training of 120 participants** on the management and maintenance of heritage sites. The training and knowledge-sharing opportunities aimed to create sustainable and responsible tourism management of historical fortification monuments. With its **cross-border approach**, the project aims to stimulate growth and harmonised development of cultural tourism in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro, opening up opportunities for collaboration and joint cultural events.

The lead partner of the project was Šibenik City Museum, and the total investment for the project was approximately 1.3 million EUR, with the ERDF contributing to around 85% of the overall budget.

Right: Fortress Reinvented © Fortress of Culture 2020

SEAWARD DEFENCE

Get Inspired! - Lascaux 4

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage;

Dates:

2014-2020

Budget:

€57,000,000

More information:

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/france/faire-lexperience-de-lart-parietal-a-lascaux-4-en-dordogne-fac-simile-de-la-celebre-grotte-de-la-prehistoire

Funded under the European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme of the Aquitaine region in the 2014-2020 programming period, the Lascaux 4 project creates a reproduction of a **famous prehistoric cave** in the Dordogne region, in France. Located at Montignac-Lascaux, the International Centre of Parietal Art aimed to transform the hill of the Lascaux cave to improve its conservation, to foster the cultural tourism and contribute to the economic development of the Dordogne region.

With a building area of 8.084 m2, it extends to the foot of the hill on a 6.5-hectare site. The relief and paintings have been reproduced identically by painter-sculptors, resin workers and moulders using a stone veil technique. At the exit of the cave experience, various **digital and interactive** areas allow the visitors to expand their knowledge about the art and civilization of the Cro-Magnon man. For instance, the project contributed to develop a parietal **art theatre** to discover the works of prehistorians, the **cinema for a 3D trip** through Lascaux and other parietal art sites in the world, and also the **Imagination Gallery** to explore the links between parietal (cave) art and modern art.

Technological innovation is a key aspect of the visitor experience proposed by the Lascaux 4 project. There are interactive features allowing the visitors to immerse themselves in **augmented reality experiences**, while each visitor is also provided with a multifunctional digital "companion", adapting to the profile of the visitor and allowing the visitor to interact with the scenographic device (via BLE technologies and Wifi).

Lascaux 4 expects to attract 400,000 visitors each year. A total of EUR €57,000,000 was invested in the project, with €12,000,000 provided by EU funding.

Right Lascaux 4 © Shutterstock

Get Inspired! – Design and Innovation - Cross-border Cooperation of Design Institutions in Digital Age

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Design & fashion

Dates:

2018-2020

Budget:

€1,400,000

More information:

https://www.vsvu.sk/en/events/oXz6MbXd/cross-border-cooperation-of-design-institutions-in-the-digital-age/ and https://www.mak.at/en/collection/research/forschung_artikel?article_id=1542957247421

This project received funding from Interreg V-A - Slovakia-Austrian the 2014-2020 programming period. The project entails the creation of a Slovak-Austrian **research cooperation** on the topic of "Design and Innovation". In the future, they plan to build an international network of designers and innovators, which will research the latest design knowledge and find answers and solutions to increase the sustainability of fabric design products through the optimal use of **current technological developments**, as well as to assess the habits and patterns of design products consumption.

The *White Papers Database* is the key output of the project. It is a collection of research on the most recent findings in the field of design and a repository of information on how the technological and digital progress can support sustainability-related aspects. The *White Papers Database* offers various materials that are the result of activities and research carried out by the Slovak Design Center in cooperation with its project partners. Furthermore, the results of the project have been also used for the development of the **MAK DESIGN LAB**, an exhibition organised within the framework of the Vienna Biennale For Change 2019.

The partner organizations in the project are professional institutions for design and applied arts - in Bratislava the Slovak Center for Design (SCD) and the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava (VŠVU), in Vienna MAK - Österreichisches Museum für angewandte Kunst / Gegenwartskunst and Die Angewandte - Universität für ange Art in Vienna.

Right: Design and Innovation © Petra Rjabinin 2019

13. Just Transition Fund (JTF)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 19.3 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation,

Product, service and infrastructure development,

Developing creative & technical skills,

Digitalisation & new business models

Mission

The Just Transition Fund (JTF) is a new financial instrument within the Cohesion Policy, and the first pillar of the **Just Transition Mechanism** (JTM). It aims to provide support to territories facing serious socio-economic challenges arising from the **transition towards climate neutrality**. The JTF can facilitate the implementation of the European Green Deal, which aims to make the EU climate-neutral by 2050. Its main objectives are to alleviate the impact of the transition by financing the diversification and modernisation of the local economy and by mitigating the negative repercussions on employment.

Actions

In order to achieve its objective, the JTF can support:

- Investments in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, including microenterprises and start-ups
- Creation of new firms, including business incubators
- Research and Innovation

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/just-transition-mechanism/just-transition-funding-sources_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/just-transition-fund_en

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/finance-and-green-deal/just-transition-mechanism/just-transition-platform-contact-page_en

- Investments in regeneration and decontamination of brownfield sites, land restoration and including, where necessary, green infrastructure and repurposing projects
- Investments in digitalisation, digital innovation and digital connectivity
- Clean Energy
- Up- and reskilling of workers
- Job-search assistance
- Re-purposing of existing carbon-intensive installations

While these remain the general approach for funding opportunities under the JTF, it is important to mention that Member States and relevant regional authorities need to further specify their needs and fields of activities in their Territorial Just Transition Plans.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

Cultural and creative organisations that focus their activities on sustainability, implementing the clean energy transition and achieving net-carbon neutrality, educating and training people in sustainable skills could seek funding from the Just Transition Fund. In addition, there are support options for organisations involved with revitalising areas previously dependent on fossil fuels or environmentally polluting industries. Projects compatible with the Green Deal and located or based in these territories facing serious socio-economic challenges from the transition to climate neutrality could also look for support from this fund.

Who can apply?

- In order to apply for funding from the JTF, EU countries prepare their Territorial Just Transition Plans (TJTPs) identifying the eligible territories that are expected to be the most negatively impacted by the green transition
- In the TJTPs, EU countries will need to identify the territories and sectors eligible for funding under the Just Transition Fund

14. European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 99.26 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Under shared management, the ESF+ Managing Authority in each EU Member State or region is responsible for making the ESF+ available to beneficiaries, based on the specific needs of each territory

Mission

The European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) is the main EU financial instrument for supporting **jobs, social inclusion, education and training**. The 2021-2027 ESF+ will help Member States to tackle the socio-economic consequences of the Covid-19 outbreak, foster a skilled and resilient workforce that is ready for the transition to a green and digital economy, achieve high employment levels and fair social protection.

Actions

The level of ESF+ funding and the types of projects that are funded differ from one region and Member State to another depending on their particular investment needs and relative economic competitiveness. In 2021-2027, €98.7 billion will be made available to Member States and local authorities under shared management to finance the implementation of the principles of the **European Pillar for Social Rights** through actions in the area of **employment, education & skills, and social inclusion**.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The ESF+ can be a relevant financial instrument to support cultural and creative stakeholders affected by the pandemic and willing to develop projects **boosting employment, improving the quality of education or upskilling of workers**. Moreover, ESF+ projects can also be aimed at promoting the **social inclusion of people in vulnerable situations**, the integration of marginalised groups and at combating all forms of **discrimination** through cultural activities and initiatives. Member States should use the ESF+ to support actions of social

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/european-social-fund_en

Check the website of your managing authority to learn more about funding opportunities:

https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/

innovation and social experimentations, including those with a socio-cultural component. Include and Activate, is an example of a project funded under the 2014-2020 ESF programme, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- ESF+ is subject to the Common Provisions Regulations, therefore to the same rules in terms of programming, management, implementation and monitoring as other structural funds (i.e., ERDF, Cohesion Fund, Just Transition Fund, etc.)
- ESF+ is mostly delivered under shared **management and managing authorities organise calls for projects** adapted to their specific needs
- See the website of your **managing authority** for further details: https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=45&langId=en

Get Inspired! – Include and Activate

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Literature, books and publishing,

Visual arts

Dates:

2016-2019

Budget:

€1,000,000

More information:

https://www.jakrs.si/en/reading-promotion-in-slovenia/include-and-activate/

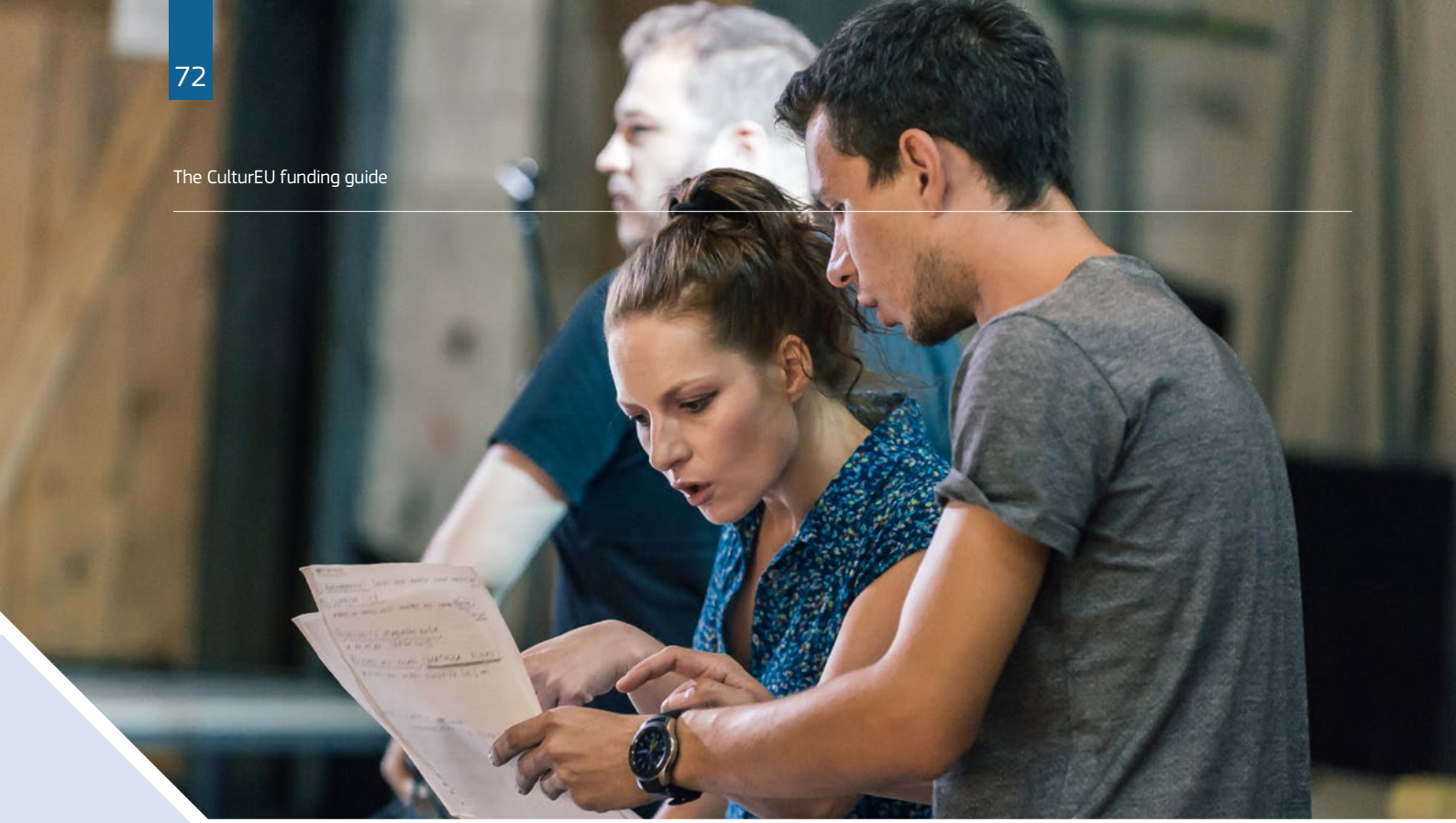
Include and Activate is a project supported by the 2014-2020 European Social Fund (ESF). The main objective of the project was to foster **social inclusion** of vulnerable groups through **cultural activities and trainings**. The final goal of the project was to support the participating individuals' transition to the labour market and to decrease unemployment and consequently, the share of people living below the poverty line.

The final beneficiaries of this project are individuals facing mental health issues, people with mental disabilities, those serving prison sentences scheduled for release and individuals participating in drug rehabilitation programmes. Experienced guides and mentors were supporting the participants to take part in activities based on **creativity and culture** and to acquire skills and competences that will enable them to actively integrate into society and subsequently gain **access the labour market**.

The project proposed training modules focusing on **literature, illustration, digital literacy, creative writing and expression**. As part of this project, an Almanac including literary texts (poems, short stories, essays, etc.) and illustrations conceived by the participants, has been published.

Between 2016 and 2019, the project supported over 300 people that attended the training, took part in theatrical performances or became co-authors of the Almanac. The Slovenian Book Agency coordinated the project, with the support of writers, poets, illustrators and other institutional partners from Slovenia. The overall budget available for this project was of approximately 1 million EUR, with the ESF contributing to 80% of the overall budget.

Right: Include and Activate © Mohai Balazs



15. Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency (SURE)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 100 billion

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/economic-and-fiscal-policy-coordination/financial-assistance-eu/funding-mechanisms-and-facilities/sure_en

Mission

The SURE programme is a **temporary funding instrument** to support Member States that need to mobilise significant financial means to fight the negative economic and social impacts of the coronavirus outbreak on their territory.

Actions

SURE provides financial assistance in the form of loans to affected Member States to address sudden increases in **public expenditure for the preservation of employment**. Specifically, these loans seek to support Member States to cover the costs directly related to the creation or extension of national short-time work schemes, and other similar measures they have put in place for the self-employed, as a response to the current crisis. As of May 2021, the EU has provided nearly €90 billion in **back-to-back loans** to 19 Member States, that have received all or part of the requested amount.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The SURE initiative can be particularly relevant for Member States willing to finance direct costs of cultural organisations and stakeholders that were strongly affected by the Covid-19 outbreak. Employers and employees working in all the cultural sectors can then benefit from **wage subsidy schemes**, measures supporting **self-employed workers or seasonal workers** but or training linked to short-term work.

Who can apply?

- The financial instrument has a temporary nature, as its duration and scope are limited to tackling the **consequences of the coronavirus pandemic**
- The instrument can finance Member States' **short-time work schemes**, and other similar measures, helping to protect jobs
- The **Member States** that can benefit from this temporary funding instrument are: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain

16. Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 723.8 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Developing business & management skills;

Financing for scaling up;

Financing for direct costs;

Developing creative & technical skills;

Mission

The Recovery and Resilience Facility is a key component of **NextGenerationEU**, a temporary recovery package of the European Union to support the Member States hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Facility seeks to promote **socio-economic cohesion territorially**, mitigate the **negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**, and prepare the Member States to fully seize the opportunities offered by the **digital and green transitions**.

Actions

The financial support provided by the Recovery and Resilience facility totals EUR 672.5 billion. This amount consists of loans (EUR 385.8 billion) and grants (EUR 338 billion), with a specific allocation defined for every Member State. To benefit from the support of the Facility, Member States have to submit their **national recovery and resilience plans** to the European Commission. Each plan sets out the reforms and investments to be implemented by end of 2026.

The plans adopted by the Member States shall contribute to:

- Environmental sustainability
- Productivity
- Fairness
- Macroeconomic stability

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructure development;

Digitalisation & new business models;

Audience development;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Internationalisation of activity / access to new markets

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/recovery-coronavirus/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en

Check the national plans submitted by your country:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/recovery-coronavirus/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en

Moreover, there are **seven components of reforms and investment**: scale up; power up; reskill and upskill; digital connectivity; public administration; renovation wave; and clean, smart and fair urban mobility.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

Member States can support their cultural and creative sectors via the Facility, as these sectors are strongly reliant on the overall state of the economy to perform well - and the Recovery and Resilience Facility has a substantial focus on **competitiveness and innovation**. **Large cultural events** can be a key economic driver and help to support cultural heritage and tourism, in a sustainable and safe way. Digitalisation can boost the **modernisation of museums, archives, libraries, and cultural sites**, thus leading to a quick post-pandemic recovery and to preparedness for new crises. Digitalisation can also offer opportunities for smarter, more creative, environmentally friendly, and healthier mobility patterns.

Who can apply?

- A Member State must have submitted its **recovery and resilience** plan to the European Commission. The scope of potential support to cultural and creative sectors is defined individually by every country
- The plans detail how the Member States will **address the challenges identified in the European Semester** and how these funds will be made available at national level, including for cultural and creative sectors
- The plans submitted by the relevant national authorities can be accessed here: https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/recovery-coronavirus/recovery-and-resilience-facility_en

17. Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 1.68 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructure development;

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Digitalisation & new business models,

Mission

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV) is a **new EU funding instrument** merging two previous funding programmes: the Europe for Citizens and the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programmes. The programme is aimed at: promoting and protecting EU values; promoting rights, non-discrimination and equality; promoting citizens' engagement and participation in the democratic life of the EU, as well as raising awareness on their common European history; and preventing and combating gender-based violence and violence against children.

Actions

In order to achieve these specific objectives, the programme has four strands with specific objectives:

- **Union values strand**: this strand funds projects which contribute to nurturing and sustaining a rights-based, equal, open, pluralist, inclusive and democratic society. Through a system of intermediaries, the European Commission is funding mostly small and grassroots organisations as part of this strand, related to promoting and protecting the rule of law, fundamental rights and democracy.

Developing creative & technical skills

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/eu-budget/performance-and-reporting/programmes-performance/citizens-equality-rights-and-values-programme-performance_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

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

Questions? Get in touch!

EACEA-CERV@ec.europa.eu

- **Equality, rights and gender equality strand**: this strand supports actions to promote equality, tackle discrimination and improve responses to racism and xenophobia, in the form of hate speech and hate crime, both on- and offline. It also addresses the vulnerabilities of specific groups and communities particularly affected by discrimination, such as Roma, Jews, Muslims, migrants, people of colour and people of African descent.
- **The citizens' engagement and participation strand**: it supports action to make the voices of people heard and increase inclusion and democratic participation, as well as building a more democratic EU, by supporting the activities of civil society organisations and other relevant organisations active in promoting rights and values at local, regional and national level. In the area of European remembrance, it supports projects that commemorate defining events in modern European history, including the causes and consequences of authoritarian and totalitarian regimes as well as education and research about crimes such as the Holocaust.
- **Daphne strand**: this strand will finance activities based on preventing and combating gender-based violence and violence against children, including online violence.

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The citizens' engagement and participation strand is particularly relevant for the cultural and creative sectors, as funding opportunities under this strand support activities aimed at reflecting on **European diversity and values, and encouraging tolerance and respect, mutual understanding, intercultural dialogue and reconciliation**.

Who can apply?

- Applicants need to include a partnership of at least two organisations
- Partnerships need to include **different organisation types** (local authorities, civil society organisations, research and archival institutes, cultural organisations, memorial and learning sites, etc.)
- Partnerships need to develop **different types of activities** (training activities, publications, online tools, research, non-formal education, public debates, exhibitions, collection and digitisation of testimonies, innovative and creative actions, etc.)
- Partnerships need to involve people from **different target groups**
- Activities must take place in any of the **eligible countries**: EU Member States, including overseas countries and territories and listed EEA countries

18. Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 9.9 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Research, development & innovation;

Product, service and infrastructural development

Mission

The AMIF is the successor programme of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), which was set up in the 2014-2020 period. AMIF has a specific focus on early-integration measures, with a possibility for higher than standard co-financing rate for local and regional authorities, and civil society.

Actions

The new programme predominantly focuses on **early stages of integration** and the overall aims are the following:

- Developing and fostering the **Common European Asylum System, including its external dimension**.
- **Supporting legal migration** to the Member States and facilitating the **integration of third-country nationals**.
- **Reducing irregular migration** and improving the effectiveness of return and re-admission in third countries.
- **Enhancing solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility between the Member States**.

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/asylum-migration-and-integration-funds/asylum-migration-and-integration-fund-2021-2027_en

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

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

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/migration-and-home-affairs_en#contact

The AMIF is implemented under **shared, direct or indirect management**. The largest part of the resources (63.5% of the total budget) are to be allocated to the Member States' programmes under shared management. The remaining part (36.5% of the total budget) are to be allocated to a thematic facility to be used for specific actions (implemented by the Member States nationally or transnationally), Union actions (direct/indirect management), emergency assistance (shared, or direct or indirect management), transfers of beneficiaries of and applicants for international protection and resettlement (shared management) and the European Migration Network (direct management).

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The second objective of the AMIF that focuses on **integration activities** is an area where the cultural and creative sector can be involved and receive support. Projects that promote **social dialogue** on the topic of migration, and activities that foster exchange between migrants and local societies play an important role in supporting the integration of third-country nationals. Cultural projects can help enhance migrants' active participation and inclusion within society, while also improving society's acceptance and tolerance of its new community members.

Who can apply?

- Legal organisations established in a Member State participating in the AMIF (all EU Member States except Denmark)[1], or an overseas country or territory can participate in the calls for proposals
- Legal organisations established in third countries associated to the AMIF can participate in the calls for proposals
- International organisations may also be established outside the Member States participating in the AMIF
- Legal organisations (other than international organisations) established in third countries can participate in the call for proposals:
    - only as part of a consortium composed of at least two independent organisations, at least one of which is established in a Member State;
    - only for the third countries which are relevant for the call for proposals. These countries will be further specified in the calls for proposals if applicable

1 The notification for participation by Ireland was pending at the time of writing.

19. Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 408 billion[1]

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

Private organisations;

NGOs, non-profit & civil society organisations;

Private or public cultural foundation / institute;

Public service;

Social enterprise

1 The budget and working programmes for the 2021-2027 period is still being negotiated and the new programme will be launched in 2023. For this reason, the 2014-2020 budget and working programmes will still be relevant until 2023.

Mission

The common agricultural policy (CAP) supports agriculture and farmers through income support, market measures, and rural development. Rural development, the second pillar of CAP, in particular strengthens the socio-economic, socio-cultural, and environmental sustainability of rural areas and has a strong impact on the broad cultural sector. **Rural development focuses on** fostering knowledge-sharing; enhancing competitiveness; promoting food chain organisation; encouraging the shift towards a climate resilient economy; preserving ecosystems; and supporting socio-economic inclusion and development.

Actions

The programme facilitates investments in rural infrastructures, including cultural ones. For instance, it helps to **restore and protect cultural heritage**, such as local food product production (with geographical indications and local productions methods, also as part of our cultural heritage), historical cultural sites, therefore promoting **cultural activities, services, and rural tourism**. In turn, these investments support rural areas to retain their attractiveness, and help to limit skill shortages, youth drain, and the deepening of territorial imbalances. The programme '**Leader**', to which at least 5% of funding must go, supports bottom-up approaches in which Local Action Groups (LAGs) lead local development.

Type of actions:

Product, service & infrastructure development

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/rural-development_en

Check the rural development programmes in your country:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/rural-development/country_en

Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/rural-development/country_en

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

The CAP Strategic Plans and local action groups (LAGs), facilitates investments in **cultural rural infrastructures**. What is more, food mapping, labelling and **food heritage**, as well as the protection of the ways food is produced can also be inherently considered as cultural activities. Infrastructure and sustainability (environmental, cultural, socio-economic) are therefore key in benefiting the cultural, creative, and heritage sectors. Lake Peipus Festival, is an example of a project funded under the 2014-2020 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- **Rural development programmes** (RDPs) are co-financed by national budgets and may be prepared on either a national or regional basis
- Starting from 2022, a transition plan will be in place that uses current rules with regards to goals, instruments, and procedures. The regulation will remain the same for the **next two years**, until 2023, as negotiations are still ongoing
- EU countries are tasked with implementing their **national and regional rural development programmes**. Please check this webpage for more information on the current rural development programme in your country: https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/key-policies/common-agricultural-policy/rural-development/country_en

Get Inspired! – Lake Peipus Festival 2017

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage,

Performing arts,

Visual arts,

Music

Dates:

2017

Budget:

€38 000

More information:

https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/projects-practice/lake-peipus-festival-2017_en

The Lake Peipus Festival project was funded under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) during the programming period 2014-2020. The Festival is an **itinerant cultural event**, where over a period of 8-10 days each summer, a fleet of boats sail from the northern end to the southern end of Peipus lake, stopping every day in a different harbour. Participants are invited to experience **local culture, heritage and gastronomy** in a variety of creative ways.

The Festival was part of a larger marketing and development campaign to **boost tourism, development, and awareness of the diverse coastal culture** of Peipsimaa (Peipus land), an area which was economically lagging behind the rest of the country. The Festival promoted **boating and sailing activities** while also introducing local boating culture and heritage preservation. Boat owners and enthusiasts were encouraged to sail with the festival fleet and become part of the event itself. Different workshops (gastronomy, water rescue actions, fishing, model ship building) and activities were organised in each harbour, as well as free concerts. The festival also partnered with the Fisheries Information Centre on the delivery of several **fisheries' education workshops**.

The project has been well received by both the local communities and the visitors, and the number of participating water vessels has increased considerably since its first year in 2017. Following a successful pilot phase of the initiative, a cooperation project was set up between 4 Local Action Groups (LAG) and 1 Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) in order to upscale the event by helping to cover the marketing, communication and organisational costs and thus building synergies between funds available through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF).

The project was supported by a large number of actors, such as the Tartu Rural Development Association, the Jõgevamaa Cooperation chamber, Borderlands LEADER, PeipsiAlutaguse Chamber of Cooperation and the Peipus Fisheries Area Development Chamber. While the total budget of the project was €38,000, the EU contribution was of €25,200.

Right: Lake peipus festival © shutterstock

20. European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 6.1 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Needs are identified locally through the Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAG). Check here the relevant FLAG in your territory: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/on-the-ground/flag-factsheets-list_en

Mission

The EMFAF supports the EU common fisheries policy (CFP), the EU maritime policy and the EU agenda for international ocean governance. It provides support for developing innovative projects ensuring that aquatic and maritime resources are used sustainably. It also helps achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 14 ('conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources'), to which the EU is committed. Furthermore, the EMFAF helps fulfil the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Actions

The EMFAF supports innovative projects that contribute to the sustainable exploitation and management of aquatic and maritime resources. The programme focuses on four priorities:

- Fostering sustainable fisheries and the conservation of marine biological resources
- Contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable aquaculture and markets
- Enabling the growth of a sustainable blue economy and fostering prosperous coastal communities
- Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed seas and oceans

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

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

Questions? Get in touch!

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/about/contact_en

Under **FARNET** (Fisheries Areas Network) and the **Community-Led Local Development** (CLLD) initiatives, there is a bottom-up approach that brings local people together to decide how they want to improve their area. They do so by setting up partnerships of civil society, businesses and public bodies, called **Fisheries Local Action Groups** (FLAGs).

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

Through the participation in local actions identified through the FLAGs, cultural and creative sector stakeholders can support cultural activities related to fishing and aquaculture. For instance, **cultural heritage and food heritage** projects, but also **performing and visual arts** activities might contribute to foster the economic and social vitality of coastal communities. *From Denmark to the Rhodopes: bringing fisheries closer to citizens*, is an example of a project funded under the 2014-2020 EMFAF predecessor programme (EMFF), which can serve as inspiration for future applicants.

Who can apply?

- EMFAF is subject to the Common Provisions Regulations, thus to the same rules in terms of programming, management, and monitoring of other structural funds (i.e., ERDF, ESF+, Cohesion Fund, Just Transition Fund, etc.)
- EMFAF is delivered under both shared and direct management, meaning that calls can be issued by both local authorities and by the European Commission relevant authority, i.e. European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)
- More information on FARNET can be accessed from: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/about/at-a-glance/farnet_en
- The list of countries that can access the fund can be found here: https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/funding/recipients-eu-funding_en

Get Inspired! – From Denmark to the Rhodopes: bringing fisheries closer to citizens

Participating Countries:

Sector(s):

Cultural heritage,

Visual arts

Dates:

2020-2021

Budget:

€43,271

More information:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet2/on-the-ground/good-practice/projects/denmark-rhodopes-bringing-fisheries-closer-citizens_en

This project was funded through the FARNET network, under the European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF). FARNET brings together Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) and creates partnerships to fund **local projects**. In the case of this project, after a study visit to the FLAG located in Fyn, Denmark, a fishers' association member from Bulgaria was inspired to adapt one of the Danish projects to his local area. The Bulgarian FLAG identified the **strengthening of tourism** and recreational fishing as priorities for the Rhodopes area, to be achieved while respecting the protected natural areas. This project aimed to boost tourism and **improve local knowledge of fisheries heritage**.

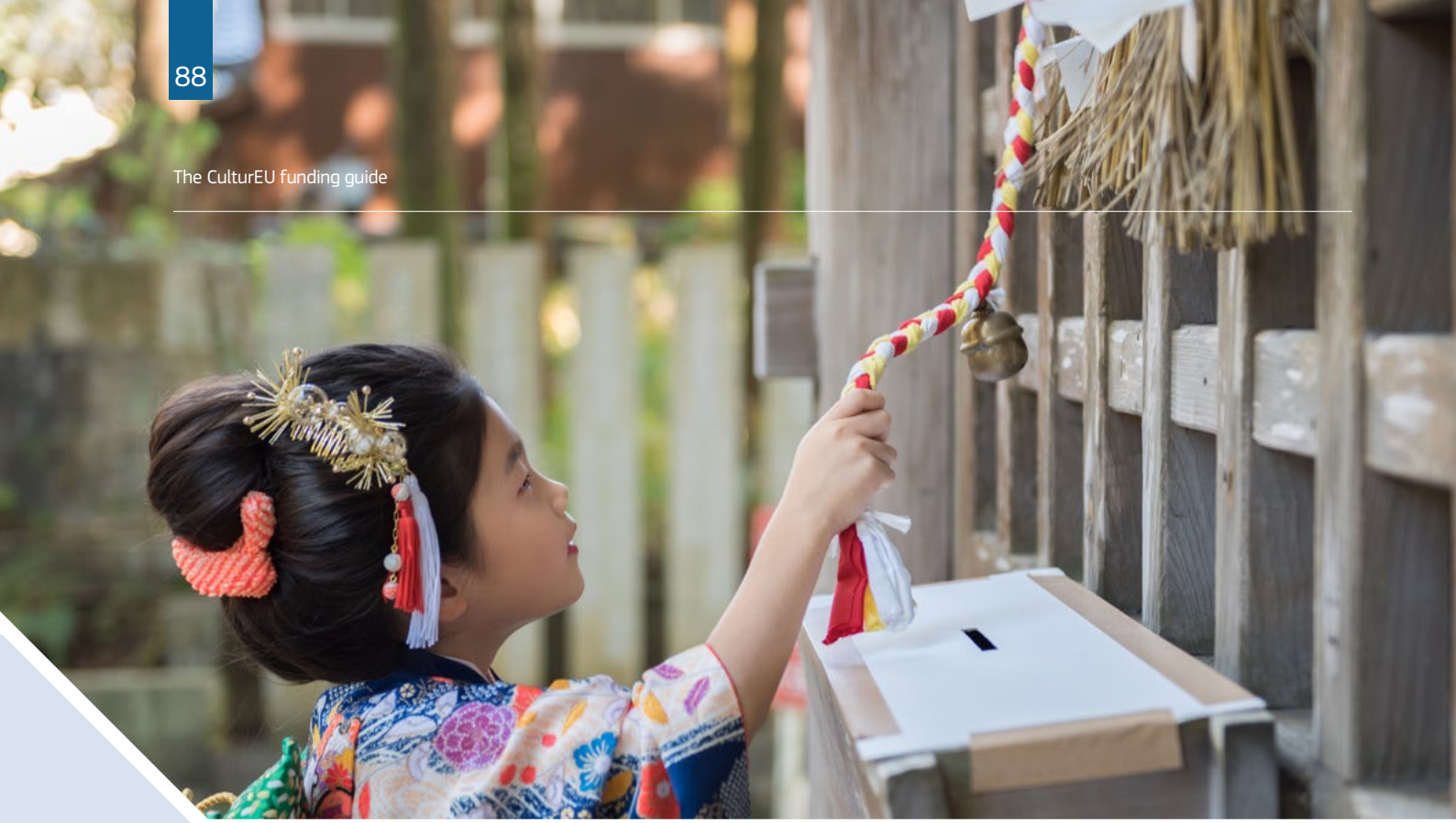
Through this FLAG project, the local Hunting and Fishing Society built a **fisheries exhibition centre** in an old building they owned and designed the material to be showcased, such as full-size replicas of the local fish species. They also developed a **web platform** which lists tourist and fisheries information such as accommodation, info points, fishing tackle shops, as well as shops and restaurants where visitors can taste fresh products.

Launched in 2020, the web platform received more than 1,700 visits in its first couple of months, and the exhibition centre is being used for school visits, environmental education activities, raising-awareness events as well as knowledge-sharing on topics relating to natural heritage. This project has already proved to be transferable and could represent a useful good practice for all fisheries areas with the potential to develop fisheries-based tourism, **especially where the protected status of the area to be exploited makes it difficult to start new businesses**.

The project was coordinated by the Devin Hunting and Fishing Society in collaboration with the High Western Rhodopes FLAG. While the total budget of the project was €43,271, the EU contributed with €36,780 through funding from the EMFF.

Right: Denmark To Rhodopos © Vladimir Peykov 2021

Сребриста каракуда
Carassius gibelio



21. Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 79.5 billion

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

NGO, non-profit & civil society organisation;

Social enterprise;

Private or public cultural institute / foundation

Mission

The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) is the main instrument within the external action, covering EU cooperation with all partner countries, except for Pre-Accession countries and Overseas Countries and Territories. This instrument, combining a number of instruments under the previous Multi-Annual Financial Framework, is the EU's main tool to contribute to **eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development, prosperity, peace, people and partnerships**. The instrument also covers cooperation on human rights and democracy, peace and stability, as well as other global challenges. Funding from this instrument will also be used to finance actions related to learning mobility to, from or between third countries under the Erasmus+ programme.

Actions

The thematic programmes that the instrument addresses are:

- Human Rights and Democracy;
- Civil Society Organisations;
- Peace, Stability and Conflict Prevention;
- Global Challenges

Type of actions:

Networking & knowledge sharing;

Artistic and cultural mobility & residency;

Audience development;

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/global-europe

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

Cultural actors might benefit indirectly from this programme (e.g. sub-granting, training, etc.). Please check for funding opportunities on the webpage of the EU Delegations in third countries: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/area/geo_en

Questions? Get in touch!

https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/infopoint_en

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

This funding instrument can indirectly support cultural activities that promote sustainable development in and international partnerships with partner countries through sub-grants, training, etc. The 2016 Joint Communication "Towards an EU strategy for international cultural relations" sets out the main work streams for culture in the EU's external assistance, which remain valid also the 2021-2027 funding programme, i.e., supporting culture and creative industries for social and economic development; promoting intercultural dialogue for peaceful inter-community relations and social cohesion; reinforcing cooperation on cultural heritage.

Who can apply?

- The Instrument has a **worldwide geographic scope**
- A variety of actors from Member States and from outside the Union may have access to its funds and/or become partners to implement them
- Organisations from developing countries and territories, which are the main beneficiaries of this programme, are eligible for Union funding

22. ACP-EU Culture

Total programme budget 2021-2027:

EUR 40 million

Sector:

All cultural sectors

Type of organisation

All

Type of actions:

Internationalisation of activity/ access to new markets,

Developing creative & technical skills,

Networking & knowledge sharing,

Artistic creation

Mission

Managed by the Organisation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and funded by the European Union, the "ACP-EU towards a viable cultural industry" Programme, ACP-EU CULTURE, aims to boost the potential of the cultural and creative sector and its contribution to the social and economic development of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries. The programme aims to **encourage entrepreneurship and cultural innovation, create new jobs and increase artists' and cultural professionals' revenues**. It also seeks to raise the quality of ACP cultural productions and valorise artists and creators from OACPS countries on regional and international markets.

Actions

ACP-EU Culture covers **all cultural sectors**, from cinema to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and from crafts, fashion and design to visual and performing arts, literature, multimedia and digital creation. With a budget of €40 million euros for the period 2019-2024, the programme is aimed at:

- Encouraging **entrepreneurship and cultural innovation**, as well as the participation of youth
- **Creating new jobs** and increasing artists' and cultural professionals' revenues
- Raising the **quality of ACP cultural productions**
- **Valorising the cultural productions and artists** from ACP countries on international markets.

Want to know more about the programme? Visit the webpage:

https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/about

Want to apply? Visit the webpage:

https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/support-for-the-cultural-creative-sectors-in-acp-countries/
and
https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/support-mechanisms-for-audiovisual-coproduction/

Get in touch!

info@acp-ue-culture.eu

How can the cultural and creative sectors benefit in 2021-2027?

This funding programme is aimed at directly supporting the cultural and creative sectors until 2024 (an extension is possible). In particular, the programme provides funding opportunities to develop **audio-visual and cultural co-productions** in ACP countries, **partnerships and knowledge-sharing practices** among EU and ACP cultural stakeholders, as well as to promote **artistic and cultural mobility**. In particular, the specific types of support provided by this funding instrument will be based on the assessment of needs in the specific **regional hubs** established to manage the fund.

Who can apply?

- Six regional hubs are tasked with launching calls for proposals and setting up eligibility criteria for each call
- Check here the opportunities offered by each regional hub: https://www.acp-ue-culture.eu/en/support-for-the-cultural-creative-sectors-in-acp-countries/

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The EU Open Data Portal (**http://data.europa.eu/euodp/en**) provides access to datasets from the EU. Data can be downloaded and reused for free, both for commercial and non-commercial purposes.

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