



Strasbourg, 17 April 2023

Seminar: Quality development in pilot activities supported by the EYF

17 – 20 July 2023

European Youth Centre Strasbourg

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Deadline: 17 May 2023, 14.00 CET

Background

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established by the Council of Europe to provide financial and educational support for European youth activities. Currently, the Foundation supports around 180 youth activities a year that are implemented by youth organisations or networks. The EYF supports local and international youth projects with a strong educational component, based on the principles of non-formal education, addressing societal challenges affecting young people, in line with the priorities of the youth sector of the Council of Europe.

At local level, the EYF support youth projects through its pilot activity grants. The aim of pilot activity grants is to support actions which address young people's needs or challenges at a local level. The actions have a clear link to the local context and address the [priorities of the youth sector of the Council of Europe](#). These activities should be based on innovation or on replication of good practice, have a clear youth work dimension and be based on non-formal education principles. The link between the action and the envisioned local impact should be clearly thought out. Pilot activities are flexible in their format and may utilise a range of approaches, such as training sessions, meetings with experts, local workshops, local actions, visits, campaigns, workshops in schools, festivals etc. Pilot activities are based on youth work and [non-formal education](#) approaches.

In the recent years, there has been an increase in the requests of youth organisations to run pilot activities with the support of the EYF, and in 2021 and 2022 182 pilot activities were supported, for over 230 applications received.

The seminar

In order to ensure quality development in pilot activities, the EYF will organise a seminar for current and potential grantee organisations, in order to increase their capacity to carry out high-quality youth projects, responding to youth needs in a given context, with innovative methodologies, and with a potential for multiplication. The seminar will also be an opportunity for participants and the EYF to learn more about the challenges youth organisations face locally, as well as for organisations to share more on the projects.

The main objectives of the seminar are:

1. Increase youth organisations' project management skills to carry out successful pilot activities
2. Support organisations to develop further their project intervention logic in relation to needs assessment, youth work, local impact and the involvement of young people in the project
3. Increase youth organisations' understanding of gender mainstreaming and the human rights approaches in local projects
4. Create spaces for local organisations to learn more about the EYF and the work of the Council of Europe
5. Provide a space for exchanges on challenges, project methodologies, innovation among participants.

Profile of participants

The seminar is designed for participants who:

1. Are project managers and leaders of organisations that have carried out pilot activities supported by the EYF, OR project managers and leaders of organisations that have not yet carried out pilot activities supported by the EYF but have a strong profile for delivering pilot activities in the future
2. Are aged between 18 and 30, exceptions are possible if justified
3. Have relevant experience in project management at local level in youth organisations
4. Are committed to work in their organisations at local level with young people through youth projects on the Council of Europe priority areas
5. Are supported by a youth organisation
6. Are able to work autonomously in English
7. Reside in one of the [state parties to the European Cultural Convention](#).

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the specific profile of the activity, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

The call is open to all interested applicants. Organisations wishing to nominate several applicants should state the internal priority between these applicants. This should be stated in a support letter by the organisation.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

The seminar will take place at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg on 17 to 20 July 2023 (full working days, excluding travel).

Travel expenses

Participants are expected to travel to Strasbourg on 16 July and depart on 21 July 2023. Travel expenses and visa fees for accessing Strasbourg will be reimbursed according to the rules of the Council of Europe. Only the participants who attend the entire seminar can be reimbursed.

Accommodation

Board and lodging for the residential training course will be provided and paid for by the Council of Europe at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg. The European Youth Centres are accessible to people with disabilities and can take measures to accommodate for any specific needs of participants in this respect. Please provide all the necessary information in your application form.

Working languages

English will be the working language of the seminar.

Application procedure and selection of participants

The full application form including the support letter from sending organisation must be submitted on-line before 14:00 (CET), 17 May 2023.

The Council of Europe will select up to 40 participants on the basis of the profile outlined above. In the selection process, it will try as far as possible to respect the organisation's

priorities, but also to ensure a balance between genders, geographical regions, different types of experiences, cultural backgrounds, organisations and projects. A waiting list may be established.

Applicants will be informed whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list. The application form must be submitted **online by 17 May 2023, 14.00 CET, at** www.surveymonkey.com/r/applyPAseminar