

INTERIM REPORT  
PROJECT 101089734  
WOMAD

The project under review is highly relevant to the Erasmus+ SSCP call's objectives, focusing on local sports clubs to engage teenagers and their families with European cultural and social contexts, creating an ecosystem of entities and individuals that will be informed about gender mainstreaming in sports as the focal point, so as to create favorable environment for improvement of the way sports is being organized for kids/students on teenage level. It uses sports as a tool to tackle gender inequality, encouraging social inclusion and equal opportunities, aiming for a sustainable and inclusive impact on society.

Project streamlines the practices of all involved, including local communities, in a way that is tailor-made, relevant and applicable. We have been holding our course of action following the initial principles:

- Relevance for beneficiaries: The project directly benefits teenagers aged 13-17, coaches, and sports club directors by offering them roles in project development. It aligns with the aim of small-scale partnerships by involving people not typically engaged in European contexts.
- Objectives: To raise awareness about gender inequality in sports, specifically football and to enhance sports participation among women and girls promoting social inclusion and equal opportunities in sports.
- Implementation in line with the project plan: A course on gender mainstreaming in sports was being developed, with feedback from students used to refine future sessions. Coaches and managers realized their need to improve their communication skills to meet European standards.
- Caring of the quality outcomes and dissemination: Project teams, in this sense, were aware that production of guidelines for gender mainstreaming in sports, intended for testing and dissemination across Europe to 40 organizations, sports clubs, and local schools should be up-to-date, relevant for the participating organizations and localities and adjusted in a way that is fully comprehensive to participants. These guidelines are planned to be shared openly, promoting environmental sustainability by avoiding printed materials and reducing travel for meetings.
- Making sensible social Impact: The initiative was aimed at grassroots level to promote gender balance, potentially leading to broader societal inclusivity. By focusing on sports, it sought to effectively address gender issues at a community level, influencing both teenagers and their families.
- Alignment with other call priorities: The project is environmentally sustainable and enhances digital dimensions, fitting the horizontal priorities of the call.



Caring about the needs of target groups and participating organizations, from the very start we wanted to give its small, but very significant, contribution to fill the existing gender gap starting from its very base: involving boys and girls in sport activities usually considered a male prerogative, such as football.

Therefore, the first meeting was held at the Stadium “Rajko Mitic” in Belgrade, where Red Star Football Club has its premises. All the partners’ team members were present, so we kick-started the project by finalizing agreements, agreeing on the way the processes will be led, timelines, tasks, workload balance, tackling overall management, communication, visibility and dissemination and monitoring, agreeing on the deliverable formats and signing the internal agreement papers.

With insignificant delays, project activities and processes were done and were ongoing during the finalization of the first progress report, due to be submitted by the project’s mid-term, namely:

- Research report on girls and women involvement in sports: practice, women as coaches was developed. It is a comparative report to discover similarities and differences among partner countries which also provides a strong relevance at European level.

- Activities were taken to prepare and organize the summer camps (signing up, setup of the team and the location), and subsequently camps were held in all localities with the target group 13-17 y/o. As foreseen camps included workshops on the gender mainstreaming topic.



- Partners were collecting audio-visuals and video materials, translating them into the video forms aimed to be presented to the target group.

- Gender mainstreaming in sport guidelines was initiated as the main project output, after the partners delegated their staff members that would work on it and after all the relevant experts were consulted.



- Programme drafts of the training courses for students and programme drafts of the training courses for coaches were prepared and discussed among management and trainers team.

- After the finalization of training courses programmes – coordinator and partners were working on the realization of trainings in line with the project's plan, current state of play in all the countries and capacities of organizations implementing them (taking care of the schedules of sport clubs' competition periods, etc).

- Tackling all the management and implementation issues, during regular online meetings, monitoring was done through the evaluation by project teams, focusing on what works well, what should be continued as a practice and what approaches should be discontinued in order to have better efficiency in implementation.

Creating an interim report served the consortium to evaluate the work performed and to set up milestones for the following 12 months of the project implementation.



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