

## European Funding (Pan European)

**Project title:** European Observatory for Sport Education and Employers Network EUROSEEN

### Short description:

This project will target, build and develop a network of key research organisations across European countries (EOSE), all of whom have an interest in developing research related to standards, materials and methods in education and training for the Sports and Active leisure industries. This project will support the Social Dialogue Network in the Sports Sector to map the Sport and Active Leisure Market of Europe. It will carry out research to establish the number, size, type, services and products of enterprises active in this sector, their skill requirements gaps and shortages. This will include:

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- A review of the skill needs and shortages within the sector
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- Development of a database of skills research in the sector
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- Production of a European Workforce Development plan for the sector

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The network will run an Observatory to research and collect data relevant to skill needs of employers and establish the training and educational requirements to meet skill shortages in the sports and leisure sector. It will promote social dialogue, and facilitate European co-ordination between employer, employee and social partners in the private, public and voluntary sectors and support the analysis of the job market in sport and recreation. This will also involve providing support and advice to other European countries, not already network members, seeking to establish their own National Observatoires which could provide valuable data to the European Observatoire.

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The European Observatoire for Sport Education and Employment (EOSE) will research, survey and report on the qualitative and quantitative analysis of the employment market across the sports and leisure sector in a representative sample of European countries. EOSE will become the central focus for research and data collection related to sports employment within Europe and will also provide a dissemination channel to a wide audience including the European Commission, National Governments, National employer organisations, employee organisations, and training providers. The aim of the dissemination channel is to provide accurate information and to influence decision makers in the sports sector at European, National, Regional and Local levels across Europe.

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The project will provide a mechanism to co-ordinate and link databases of employment information providing statistical analysis on enterprises and occupations in sport and its related sectors across Europe which will be invaluable to policy development, planners, employers and training providers. The results of research including skills forecasting mechanisms that identify trends, changes and skills gaps in the job market will be published and disseminated to relevant organisations and authorities across Europe. This mapping exercise will include equal opportunities analysis of employees and service users, quantifying participation by disadvantaged and socially excluded groups, and identifying areas of good practice. The project will develop a vocational skills map and guidance on vocational opportunities across Europe, which could provide the impetus for the accreditation of a European vocational qualifications framework for the sector.

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**Objectives and activities:** The specific objectives of the project are:-

- To build and strengthen the EOSE Network as a European umbrella organisation and European Observatory which focuses on and promotes employment in sport and leisure industries. Ensuring representation of all social partners, employer organisations, employee organisations, educational institutions, public agencies and national bodies.
- To increase social dialogue at a European level, recognising the growing importance of dialogue between social partners in developing employment in sport and the need to produce an

integrated and co-ordinated European strategy based on an increased responsibility of the social partners.

- Provide a structure that enables the development of European skills forecasting mechanisms to identify trends, changes and skill gaps in sector.

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- To Strengthen and develop education, career and employment links in European countries.
  - To provide guidance, tools and support to appropriate bodies in other European countries to enable them to establish National Observatories.

The project specifically meets the following programme objectives:

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*To improve the skills and competences of people* - by providing data and information to training and educational institutions on the type, range of occupations and skill requirements within the industry to inform the development of relevant training programmes and qualifications framework. *To improve the quality of, and access to, continuing vocational training* - the network will research and disseminate information to training providers about the skill and training needs of the industry, and to employees and potential employees within the sector on methods of accessing continuing vocational training to enable them to develop the skills to meet the changing needs of the industry. The network will identify barriers to employment in the sector and share examples of good practice in overcoming these barriers across member states.

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Partner organisations fall into three categories. Lead partners are SPRITO, EOSE and Prevista who will form the project management team. National partners with observatory status will conduct the research in a minimum of four European countries. European partners ENSSEE, EASE and EHFA who will join the project advisory group.

### **Results and products:**

Specific results of the project will include:-

- Vocational skills mapping tools - guide to methods and tools which can be applied to the various industry sectors, for use by network members in carrying out research. The guide will be available within the first 3 months of the project in English and French. The guide will be available in paper version and will also be posted on the EOSE Network website.
- Survey Report identifying current LMI in sports and leisure sector in a minimum of four of the named countries - UK France, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands. The research will be carried out in the first year of the project and results published in month 18. The reports will be available in English and French. The reports will be available in paper version and will be posted on the EOSE Network website.
- Survey Report identifying sector skill needs and shortages in a minimum of four of the named countries - UK, France, Italy, Sweden, Netherlands. The research will be carried out in the first year of the project and results published in month 18. The reports will be available in English and French. The reports will be available in paper version and will be posted on the EOSE Network website.
- A data base of skills research in the sector will be developed in the second year of the project. It will be accessible through the EOSE Network website. It will be available in English and French.
- A Portal will be developed to provide access to the websites of the network. The portal will be available in July 2004
- The findings of the research will be used to produce a European Workforce Development Plan for the Sport and Leisure industry. The WDP will be available at the end of the project produced in English and French
- The existing partners of the trans-national network will develop a guide for prospective network member organisations on the proposed tools and methodology for establishing their own National Observatories. This will be available at the end of the first year of the project - in all European languages. The guide will be available in paper version and will be posted on the EOSE website.

### **Future potential (sector, professional, geographic area):**

Please provide a short description of your project's future potential in relation to specific sectors, professionals and geographic areas (maximum 10 lines)

The future potential of this work will be to provide a structure and action plan for the rationalisation of qualifications and training programmes within the sport and active leisure sector. The work will inform decision makers and providers alike of the needs, gaps shortages in relation to skills, knowledge and personal attributes of workers within the sector.

### **Main Theme (Thematic Group) Covered by the Project**

Developing of Skills within Companies, particularly SMEs

### **Related Theme Covered by the Project (Where Applicable)**

Adapting of the Training Supply and New Training Methods - The Quality of Training

### **Relevance of the project to the main theme**

The project was allocated to the Major theme "**Developing of Skills within Companies, particularly SMEs**". The project # will identify the skills gaps and shortages within companies within the sector and attempt to interrogate the current knowledge provision associated with the Sport and Active Leisure Sector. There is currently no information or intelligence related to skills at the European level within the Sports sector and this project will signpost decision makers and providers alike towards aligning supply with sector demand.

### **Relevance of the project to the related theme**

### **Justification**

The related theme of "**Adapting of the Training Supply and New Training Methods - The Quality of Training**" was allocated as the project will have a direct effect on the supply of quality vocational learning provision within the Sports Sector. One of the outcomes of the project is a workforce development plan that will identify the needs of SMEs in the sector. The project will analyse the current provision and make recommendations as to the relevance of the current vocational learning within the Sports Sector. European partners will disseminate this analysis and it is expected that a review of vocational learning provision will be undertaken as a direct result of the project.

<b>Name of Partner</b>	<b>Country of Origin</b>
1 SPRITO	UK
2 PREVISTA Ltd	UK
3 Osservatorio dele Professioni Operatori dello Sport	Italy
4 Réseau Universitaire d'Observation et de Prospective de l'Emploi Sportif (RUNOPES)	France
5 European Observatory Sports Employment - EOSE	Italy
6 European Health and Fitness Association - EHFA	Belgium
7 European Association of Sports Employers (EASE )	France
8 Arbetsgivaralliansen	Sweden
9 SkillsActive	UK
10 European Network Sports Science Education and Employment - ENSSEE	France
11 Deutsche Sporthochschule Koln	Germany