

EUROPEAN WORKSHOP

*“Skills and workforce development challenges
in the sport and physical activity sector”*



Lyon (France), 10th of July 2017



As part of the three year ESSA-Sport project (“A European Sector Skills Alliance for Sport and Physical Activity”) that will run until October 2019 and which is funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme, a specific European workshop focusing on “skills and workforce development” was organised in Brussels on Thursday 29th of June 2017.

Hosted by UNI-Europa, the event gathered a total of 14 European networks / umbrella organisations from the sector, identified as the EU Expert Advisory Board in the ESSA-Sport project, to discuss and exchange on the main realities and challenges facing the sector and its labour market (paid/unpaid).

On the occasion of the workshop, the new EU Work Plan for Sport 2017-2020 was officially introduced by Agata Dziarnowska from the European Commission (DG EAC – Sport Unit) and an open debate with questions/answers was arranged with the participants.

The ESSA-Sport project was then introduced by EOSE with a focus on the expected activities and final outputs as well as an update on the activities undertaken so far at the national and European level. On behalf of the test phase EU Social Dialogue partners, UNI-Europa and EASE introduced the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in the sector and the link with the project.

A tour de table was then arranged to obtain concrete opinion and feedback from EU network organisations on potential ways of collaboration and synergies and on how the project can contribute to the overall EU Work Plan and priorities for the sector.

In discussion the representatives were able to highlight many of the wide ranging skills challenges facing the sport and physical activity sector as the employment market evolves, and which will be explored during the consultation phase of the project in 2018.

This workshop gathered for the first time a wide number of umbrella organisations from the whole sector to focus on skills issues and we hope it will create the conditions to be in a good position to work in collaboration through this unique opportunity created by the ESSA-Sport project.

The goal of this initiative is to deliver the most relevant European wide Employment and Skills map and provide a sector strategic action plan with concrete priorities and recommendations to be implemented to help ensure education, training and qualifications are geared towards the realities of the sector.

The ESSA-Sport project, coordinated by EOSE with the support of a partnership of 18 national partners and 5 European networks, aims to engage for the first time the whole sport and physical activity sector at both the EU and national level to deliver the first EU-wide Employment and Skills map.



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The ESSA-Sport project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This article reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.