

Proposal for a Call for an expert or a team of experts for the development and implementation of a joint 'Monitoring and Evaluation system' of Strategic National Agency Cooperation Projects (SNACs)

On behalf of the Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps NA & SALTO RC network,, the National Agency of, calls for **experts or a team of experts** to conceptualize and set up a needs-based **Monitoring and Evaluation system** for the Strategic National Agency Cooperation projects of the European youth work and youth policy field.

Background information

The National Agencies (NA) including the SALTO Resource Centres (SALTO RCs) for the EU youth programmes Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps are cooperating in 15 Strategic National Agency Cooperation Projects (SNACs). These projects share that they represent a strategic multi-annual cooperation between NAs & SALTO RCs, involving external cooperation partners and experts and aiming to contribute to the objectives of the EU youth programmes, the EU Youth Strategy and/or development of youth work. The number of partners varies by project, but each SNAC has at least ten partners involved (the largest one has 35 partners) and several actors are involved in different SNACs. Each SNAC has a coordinating National Agency that is responsible for the overall management of the project. The SNACs also vary by their history, some of them started 5-6 years ago while others are at their kick-off phase currently. The SNACs are financed by the National Agencies through the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps funds. The following SNACs are being implemented:

- Europe Goes Local (<https://europegoeslocal.eu/>)
- European Academy on Youth Work (<https://www.eayw.net>)
- Education and Training of Youth Workers (EaT SNAC)
- Digital Youth Work (<https://www.oph.fi/en/education-development-and-internationalisation/long-term-cooperation-projects/digital-youth-work>)
- Strengthening youth work in Europe by supporting the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda (SNAC EYWA) (<https://www.bonn-process.net/about/snac/>)
- Strategic Partnership on Volunteering: New Waves for European Volunteering
- YOUTH VOICE, YOUTH CHOICE: HOW ERASMUS + AND ESC CAN INSPIRE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
- Strategic Partnership for Inclusion (SPI)
- Beyond Borders - Cooperation with Neighbouring Partner Countries (NPC)
- Democracy Reloading
- Govern with Youth New Power in Youth (NPiY)
- EuroPeers International
- Mental health and well-being of young people
- Sport
- YOUTH@WORK Partnership of Youth Employability and Entrepreneurship

The aims of setting up a Monitoring and Evaluation system

Besides the request by the European Commission to demonstrate the monitoring activities planned under the SNACs, the network of National Agencies and SALTO RCs agreed to develop a joint **Monitoring and Evaluation system**. The overall aim is to present the SNACs' contributions within the youth work field, supported with tailored communication to targeted and public audiences. In practice, the provision of basic data, further qualitative and quantitative data and material on the current management as well as an analysis of the gained insights will enable the SNAC coordinators and the Head of NAs drawing conclusions and next steps.

This system would contribute to the assessment of the impact and effects of the single SNAC projects, hence supporting the identification and analysis of outcomes, commonalities, effects, and impact, which can be used for political and quality development purposes in youth work and youth policy development in Europe. Each SNAC shares with the others certain general aims while at the same time, each SNAC has also a series of specific objectives which relate to different thematic foci or ongoing political processes. These different realities and thematic areas are to be considered while developing the monitoring system.

The following aspects are to be tackled in the **Monitoring and Evaluation system** or supported by it:

- Management and working mechanism of the SNACs, adequacy of the way how the work was planned and how tasks have been set and allocated within the SNAC or with the entire network of NAs including the involvement of diverse levels in the SNAC,
- Internal structures and decision-making processes within the SNACs and how they were set up,
- Internal and/or external communication mechanisms,
- The added value of the core topic and subtopics for reaching the objectives of the EU youth programmes, the EU Youth Strategy and/or development of youth work,
- The allocation of resources within the SNAC,
- Trends, similarities, and differences of similar processes in the different fields as well as connections and synergies between the SNACs,
- Analysis of the activities, outputs, and outcomes of the SNACs.

Tasks

We expect the **Monitoring and Evaluation system** to be set up and implemented by an external expert or a team of experts in two phases:

Phase 1:

- a) Creating the **Monitoring and Evaluation system**: The joint **Monitoring and Evaluation system** shall be conceptualised according to the needs of the involved SNACs. Therefore, the concrete aims and areas of monitoring and evaluation will be identified in the first phase of the project.

The first phase will start with mapping the needs and expectations of SNACs and the NA/SALTO RC network. That mapping should be conducted to generate a solid basis for a targeted design of the joint **Monitoring and Evaluation system**.

The expert/team of experts need to consider and, where relevant, link to existing monitoring processes or research projects of the single SNACs and/or related/similar contexts. The development of the **Monitoring and Evaluation system** should also consider the approaches and different projects implemented through RAY (Research-based analysis of EU youth programmes) – where appropriate. The Monitoring and Evaluation system should be designed in a modular way enabling the collection of basic information from all 15 SNACs as well as the monitoring and evaluation of specific dimensions according to the diverse needs and foci of the SNACs.

- b) Based on the outcomes of the mapping of needs, a proposal for the joint **Monitoring and Evaluation system** is to be created, including the aims, objectives, thematic areas, tools and methods of the Monitoring and Evaluation System. The proposal should contain the different dimensions – quantitative and qualitative, with concrete tools and means of measurement to use and refer to.

Phase 2: Carrying out the monitoring and evaluation of the SNACs

In a second phase, this system needs to be introduced for implementation, communicated amongst the SNACs, applied, and eventually evaluated:

- a) Each SNAC will contribute to the implementation of the **Monitoring and Evaluation system** based on the common plan (to be identified in the first phase), using the different methods such as regular questionnaires via online surveys, reporting schemes, interviews, group discussions et al. The implementation will be managed and supported by the expert(s).
- b) Production of outcomes such as regular reports containing detailed data as well as an analysis of data/recommendations to facilitate the drawing of internal conclusions. Production of material for external use (e.g., policy briefs, briefs for beneficiaries et al.)

The two phases will be installed by two separate agreements. The current call for tender covers Phase 1 of the activity. Phase 2 might be covered by new call(s) for tender(s) and potentially involve new service providers to implement the monitoring and evaluation of the different SNACs and create the necessary reports based on the data provided through the means and tools of the Monitoring and Evaluation System.

