

Erasmus+ Key Action 2:

Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.

Sport & inclusion of migrants

Applicant: Big Bang Ballers - France

Call for Associated Partners

Build a strategic partnership (Sept. 2017 - Aug. 2020) & develop sport activities to foster the inclusion of migrants, refugees and minorities.

End of the call:
17/02/2017



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Introduction:

At *Big Bang Ballers*, we strive to develop **solidarity** at **every level** and we hold strong values of **living together** and **social diversity**. You will have the chance to learn more about us in the next pages. For a start, know that we work to **include minorities** as much as possible through **local** and **international sport programs**.

We would like to design a project...

- for a **fairer** and more **supportive** society in which everyone can **find a place**;
- to help migrant populations **integrate in their hosting societies** and play a **positive role in their hosting community**;
- to deconstruct **prejudices** and **fears** by allowing communities to **meet** and **play together**;
- to support **actors in the youth** and **sport fields** in fulfilling their **role of citizen**;
- to empower actors working with migrants through **education** and **sports methods**;
- to combat **pessimism** and **immobility** to make Europe a **land of hope**.

What is the **project** about?

This project will gather at least **five organisations** from **five different EU countries** from **September 2017** to **August 2020**. First, we intend to build an **efficient network** of partners working with different but complementary skills to strengthen their capacities to integrate migrants to our societies by using **sport** and **non-formal education**. Second, we aim to develop **sport activities** (basketball and ball sports) for **migrants, refugees** and **minorities** (children, youth and adults) **regardless of their physical abilities**, that is to say everyone, including those **distant from sports practice** (such as disabled people or women).

The project should be comprised of three dimensions : building a **significant expertise** on the target group (background and challenges); developing an extensive **knowledge** on the **stakes and challenges** that local authorities and communities face in welcoming migrants (what are the discriminatory behaviours and speeches?;

what are the main difficulties that migrants encounter on the territory?; etc.); identify **good practices** in **formal** and **non-formal education**, particularly through basketball and other ball sports, with the concern to propose ludic activities for all (regardless of gender or handicap).

We would see the project starting with a **seminar in France** during which partner organisations would exchange about how they use sport as a way of integrating people. This seminar aims at precisely **explaining our respective actions** at local level. Experts and speakers would support participants in reflecting on their practices and identifying areas of improvement and cooperation as well as the project orientations.

We would like our partners to be **actively involved** in the project-design phase. We look forward to hearing about your **ideas, advices and good practices** that could be reused in the application.

Who are the Big*Bangs?

The **Big Bang Ballers** (short: *Big*Bangs*) have been **using basketball and other sport activities** since **2009** in more than **10 countries**. The international NGO acts as a network and coordinates **worldwide initiatives** that promote **physical activities for disadvantaged children in developing and developed countries**. The **Big Bang Ballers - France** is an **independent body**, linked to the international NGO but having its **own legal existence in France**, its own budget and its own programs. *The Big Bang Ballers - France* will be **applicant organisation** for this project.

The *Big Bang Ballers - France* strive to develop solidarity at every level in doing **non-formal education** through **sport**, mostly **basketball**, and **active methods**. Its members have built an extensive **expertise** in using sport for **educational purposes**. **Basketball** has always been a way to **meet people**, to build **connections** with them and to contribute to their **education, personal development and well-being**. The *Big*Bangs* sees sport activities as essential for the **physical, psychological and social development** of children, youth and adults, especially those with **fewer opportunities** (street kids, disabled persons or isolated people). Sport and especially basketball have enabled us to create rich **intercultural encounters** and strengthen **social diversity**, whether in our international or local programs. The *Big Bang Ballers - France* pays a particular attention to **include people distant from sports practice**, such as people with disabilities, women, obese people or seniors.

www.bigbangballers.fr (French)





Our activities are divided in **three sectors**:

1. Sport in my hood.

We organise sports events (tournaments and contests) to develop urban sport practices and promote access to sports for all. The money raised during these actions is allocated to our local and international solidarity projects.

2. Sport for all.

We have noticed that sport is an incredible tool for sharing and stretching people's mind. It is an extraordinary means to fight against discriminations and to strengthen social cohesion amongst communities that never meet. We promote ludic sports practices for all by developing health and socio-educational programs. For instance, we have developed a program called *Ramène ta copine* (*Girls, take your friend with you*) as a way to work with girls populations in Grenoble, especially Roma girls.





3. Sport around the globe.

We consider sport as a powerful tool for intercultural encounter and living together. We take action at the international level because sport has no borders. We support French youth interested in international solidarity by organizing youth mobilities. We also share the know-how of the Big Bang Ballers with local structures, to help them reach their aims and implement their projects. For example, we have been running sport activities with migrants and refugees through international camps in Rabat (Morocco) since 2014 by establishing a partnership with *Caritas Morocco* and the *HCR*.



Context & identified needs:

The number of international migrants worldwide has continued to grow rapidly over the past fifteen years reaching **244 million in 2015¹**. The phenomenon is particularly visible **in Europe**, that **is the major area of destination** with nearly **one thirds** of all international migrants living in Europe (**76 million**). The number of international migrants including foreign nationals living for years in France increased from 6.278.700 in 2000 to **7.784.400 in 2015¹** (12% of the population), and **females account for 51%¹** of this number. According to *Amnesty International*, French authorities recorded 79.914 asylum applications in 2015 (22% higher than in the previous year). Moreover, the country has pledged to **resettle** 11.000 refugees since 2013, but only 2000 have arrived on French soil.

There is no doubt that **we can and must do better:** it concerns of course the number of people welcomed but also the quality of our integration system. Indeed, the impact of international migration is deep, and it causes some **undesirable consequences** such as segregation, social conflict, religious intolerance, etc. Formerly a senior director in the *United Nations*, Elizabeth Longworth said «*The issue of migrant inclusion /.../ concerns both internal and international migrants. Inclusion does not only mean meeting migrants' basic needs, such as housing, food, or health care, but also creating an urban environment in which civic, social and economic inclusion is understood*

as essential prerequisites for sustainable urban development.» We believe that non-formal education through sport activities is an extraordinary way to **explore this type of urban policies and practices.**

Our past experience showed us how difficult it is to build **inclusive programmes** in which disadvantaged populations participate in a **sustainable way**. Activities have to be organised on a **regular basis** to allow participants to see their own **long-term participation** as a real **added value for themselves** and a **way to socialize and integrate**. By bringing people together, sport has the potential to build communities and contribute to the fight against racism, xenophobia, or sexism. Non-formal education through sport enables people to meet each other and develop tolerance and mutual understanding: it is a **key aspect of inclusive policies**. Furthermore, it is an efficient way to allow migrants to **access to public space**, which is supposed to be an **open area for each individual**, regardless of ethnicity, race, socio-economic level or gender. Public

spaces such as playgrounds or parks *«fulfil important social functions, providing venues for recreation, civic participation, interactions with similar or different groups of people, developing informal networks and constructing, expressing and celebrating identities.»*² Our wish is clearly to make these areas more accessible and welcoming for all.

We noticed that there is a **lack of awareness** about **migration issues in non-formal education and sport institutions**. There are **too few opportunities of collaboration and exchange of practices** between organisations specialized in migration issues and for actors active in the youth and sport fields. **We must build more bridges urgently.**

1. *International Migration Report 2015*

- United Nations - 2016

2. *Migrants' Inclusion in Cities: Innovative Urban Policies and Practices*

- UN-Habitat Conference - January 2012

Why do we apply for the **E+ KA2: Cooperation** for **innovation** and the **exchange of good practices**?

We consider this program as the **most appropriate** to **develop a strong network of organisations** working together to **improve their skills and knowledge on the social inclusion of migrants through sport and non-formal education**. A **3-year partnership** allows us to precisely **analyse our respective needs** by meeting in person and **reflect on the most relevant agenda** to reach our **common goals**.

- Organisations working with migrants will provide with knowledge in understanding **the specificities of migrants and refugees** to build a **common knowledge base**.
- Organisations working in education and non-formal education through sports activities will **provide knowledge and practical skills** to other participants to favor **the emergence of social inclusion actions** and design collectively a **booklet of good practices** (toolbox, cards, film, educational materials...).

Aim, objectives, methods & results:

Draft general aim:

A better social inclusion of migrants and refugees regardless of their backgrounds with their receiving society.

Draft objectives:

- Run actions to support exchanges of migrants and refugees with the receiving society through non-formal sport activities, including persons distant from sports practice.
- Empower the participating organisations in supporting the social inclusion of migrants, refugees and minorities through non-formal education and inclusive sport practices by learning from each other and being involved in the local actions of each partner.
- Disseminate good sport practices that include such aspects as human rights education, intercultural learning and gender equality more widely into local levels of partners.
- Allow migrants and refugees to share personal experiences to support an understanding of personal and collective identities and their role in discriminatory speeches and behaviours.

Possible methods:

- Trainings and seminars related to the inclusion of migrants through sport and non-formal education to allow youth workers, sport coaches, instructors and volunteers to develop knowledge and practical skills for this topic.
- Seminar about the therapeutical use of sport supported by experts on psychological support of migrants and traumatized population.
- Exchanges for partners, youth workers, sport coaches, instructors and volunteers willing to use sport activities for educational purpose to develop competencies and put them into practice by participating into partners actions.
- Intercultural camps allowing European young people, migrants and refugees to meet and get into inclusion topics through informal education and sport.
- European volunteering to disseminate good practices about social inclusion of migrant and refugees in different regions.
- Developing pedagogical materials to share them with the partners and beneficiaries as well as with external relevant stakeholders involved on the topic.

Expected results:

- Concrete sport activities combatting discrimination and increasing migrants' and refugees' participation within receiving societies.
- Duplicable trainings and seminars for actors in the youth and sport fields aiming to raise awareness about the interest of sport activities as a way to foster social inclusion of migrants and refugees.
- Duplicable seminar on the role of sport for therapeutic and integration purposes. The seminar will be addressed to experts and practitioners working with migrants and refugees.
- Pedagogical materials on the topic of inclusion through sport activities and the role of sport for therapeutic and integration purposes. These materials would be shared with volunteers and professionals of the youth, sport and sociological fields.
- A network of European actors to implement volunteering programs on the social inclusion of migrants and refugees through sport and non-formal education.
- Dissemination of good practices related to the inclusion of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees in sporting federations and national organisations.
- A greater tolerance for a wider diversity in receiving societies.
- An increase of social inclusion initiatives in receiving societies.

Agenda:

Drafting the call for partners:

02/01/2017 to 18/01/2017

Call for partners open:

19/01/2017 to 17/02/2017

Collaborative work:

20/02/2017 to 31/03/2017

Drafting and refining:

03/04/2017 to 26/04/2016

Deadline for apply!

Project start!
First seminary
in France:
September 2017

End: August 2020

Local training

Developing tools

Specific seminary

Solidarity
tournament

1st European
volunteer

International
camp for youth

Conference

Q&A:

What is the **role** of each **organisation**?

«Hey Big Bang Ballers France, you're the applicant. Can you tell us more about your role ?»

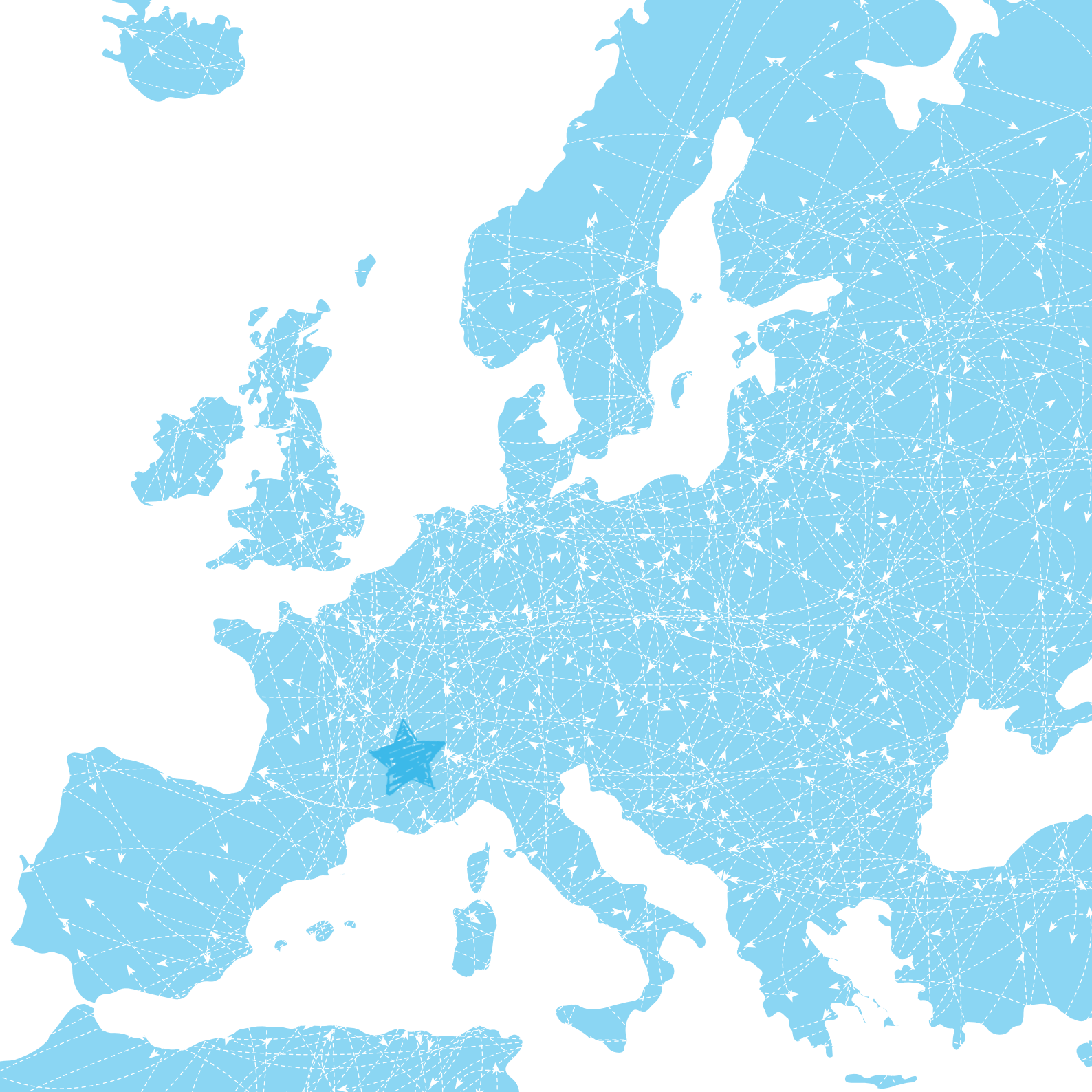
«We will coordinate and take care of the administrative management of the KA2 project. Our daily work will include keeping in touch with the National Agency, writing reports and emails, manage the funds, and so on. As a partner and an organisation working with non-formal methods through sport, we will of course take part of the exchange of good practices and ensure effective pedagogical outcomes built through a co-construction process.»

«And what are you expecting from us as partners?»

«As mentioned earlier, we aim to build an efficient network consisting of different organisations with common and different but complementary skills. It means that we are expecting you to contribute to the project by sharing your expertise. We will create spaces for sharing practices and learning from each other and increasing the visibility of our actions.»

«How does it work?»

«As described in the document, there are many possible actions to consider. For instance, a seminar to share good practices and to develop follow-up initiatives could be organised. Participants could identify new relevant methodologies to be tested and transfer in their local work context. They would then be able to give a feedback on the original methodology. Let's have a look at another example: some partners could develop a pedagogical tool using a seminar or remote work. Then, all partners could use and disseminate this tool on its own territory. We could even organize a European volunteering to disseminate the good practices in social inclusion of migrant and refugees we would have developed and shared !»





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