



VSport – Volunteering in Sports



Newsletter
01/2023



Co-funded by
the European Union



This Issue's Highlights

What is the VSport project about?

The sports sector, especially at the local level, relies heavily on **volunteers in sports** to engage more people for being physically active. The involvement of volunteers in sports is a key factor in the success and long-term sustainability of sports clubs, organizations, and events. Sports organizations and clubs all over Europe play a crucial role in encouraging and engaging people to get physically active. The VSport project refers to the contribution of all participating organizations to **promoting voluntary activities in sports and developing awareness towards such involvement**.

The following **project objectives** have been specified to bring positive solutions to the described situation:

- To promote volunteering in sports through extra-curricular activities and courses given increasing innovation capacity of sport clubs delegates and other related target groups to involve volunteers.
- To embed innovative approaches towards volunteering in sports, through mainstreaming the development of awareness towards volunteering actions.

- To encourage sports clubs to stimulate volunteering in sports given developing such mindsets among their members.
- To stimulate sports clubs on how to better engage volunteers in their activities
- To enhance the volunteering spirit among young people in sports practice in general.
- To demonstrate the benefits of multidisciplinary educational approaches by the development of a “Training module and training guide on enhancing volunteering in sports”.
- To encourage the development of a multilevel cross-sectorial system that fosters learning through direct involvement in volunteering in sports activities.

In the upcoming two years the project VSport will work actively on delivering the following intellectual outputs:

1. **Comprehensive international research** on volunteering in sports
2. **Training guide/ Toolkit** for volunteer managers
3. **Web platform** for supporting the work of volunteer managers in sports

Comprehensive international research on volunteering in sports

All participating partners did **comprehensive desk and field research** to find out more about volunteering in their own countries.

The aim of this desk research was to collect and analyse data on volunteering legislation in each of the seven participating countries and will serve as a tool that can be used to support the future work on finding learning solutions for enhancing volunteering. This output presents real sustainability in time since its' potential use by various direct target groups will be ensured. It will serve as a guide throughout the preparation of the next project results, such as producing a training module for volunteer managers.

Consequently, the consortium will develop **interactive training material to enhance volunteering in sports**. The following

topics will be tackled in the training module:

- Introduction to the project and Quality Management Systems in civil society/sport sector
- Teamwork, Communication, Leadership and presentation skills
- Volunteer Management Cycle and its main phases
- Management of volunteers in the setting of sports events + training module evaluation

The training material will then be tested and evaluated by sports managers and volunteers in the participating countries Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Poland, Serbia, and Spain. The evaluation results from the training participants of all countries will then be processed and integrated into the final training guide.

