

# Making Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps **MORE INCLUSIVE**

Inclusiveness of the programmes and contribution of the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy in enhancing inclusion in the youth field.

## Inclusion and Diversity data (period 2021-2023)

PROJECTS ADDRESSING **INCLUSION**

**3885** [24.05%]

Erasmus+ Youth

**3528** [56.49%]

European Solidarity Corps

These activities represent **22%-25%** of all programmes' participants, with **more than 40%** of them being young people with fewer opportunities.

"INCLUSION IS BOTH A MEANS AND AN END"  
— SALTO I&D



## Main insights and findings

Perspectives, experiences, insights, and feedback concerning the inclusiveness of the Erasmus+ and ESC programmes since 2021.

### NATIONAL AGENCIES

- National I&D strategies – positive development
- Budget allocation difficulties
- Need to reach out to **new organisations & target groups**
- Simplification of **application procedures**
- Support dimensions require **effort and time**



### SALTO RCs

- Unequal budget allocation** between Erasmus+ and the ESC
- TEC training:** mental health support and diversity in trainers' teams
- Relationship between **policy, strategy, and implementation**

TOOLS, EXPERTISE, RESOURCES, & TRAINING EVENTS



### TRAINERS, EXPERTS, AND BENEFICIARY ORGANISATIONS

- Nuanced perspectives** influence how organisations apply I&D in the programmes
- Bureaucratic complexities** – inclusive intentions vs. practical implementation
- Project formats** do not align with the programme's objectives

### NEWCOMERS

- Valued opportunities** for personal development and intercultural engagement
- Inclusion and **accessibility measures** for participants with disabilities
- Complex procedures can lead to discouragement. More **accessible and simplified information is needed**

## Conclusions and suggestions



Since 2021, **Erasmus+ Youth and the ESC have significantly enhanced I&D** within the youth sector, but **improvements are still needed:**

### MAIN AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Changes in the approach and evaluation of the programmes
- Understanding and addressing barriers to inclusion
- Structural change over individual 'integration'
- New monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- A more sensitive approach to labels
- Revision of inclusion budgets

- programmes' design
- budget allocation
- application processes
- outreach mechanisms
- evaluation measures

**GREATHER DIVERSITY and EASIER ACCESS FOR A BROADER RANGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

### NEIGHBOURING PARTNER COUNTRIES

**Need for enhanced cooperation** with neighbouring countries and regions, promoting values such as solidarity, democracy, and human rights.

**Increased funding for E+ Youth and ESC** will lead to stronger intercultural exchanges and collaborative projects benefiting vulnerable communities.

### THE "DISCOVER EU INCLUSION CHALLENGE"

- A possibly stigmatising title
- Restrictive age limits
- Complex and time consuming procedures