



Children & Young People Pre-Application Workshop – Friday 10th December 2021

Please see below a list of questions and answers raised during and following the workshop

	Question	Answer
1	What will the good relations requirements be for the PEACEPLUS cohorts?	We understand that young people in the region are less inclined to be defined by their community background. For the entire Programme, we are exploring possibilities for measuring community background, and this remains to be determined. As a working brief we propose that you continue with existing Programme Output Indicator Guidance. You should also consider the community background of the area in which you are working and ensure that participation is reflective of that. The objective of the PEACEPLUS Programme is to build healthy and trusting relationships between communities and therefore this must be evidenced in order to determine results for each funding award. This is what makes the Programme different from mainstream government interventions, and therefore is very clearly not a source of replacement funding for other interventions no longer available.
2	Please explain the rationale of costs being calculated per completers but the targeting of young people with deep social and emotional needs who are at risk of not completing.	A target output is an EU Programme requirement, and in order to set budgets, an indicative cost needs to be established. We recognise the challenges around engaging with children and young people with deep social and emotional needs and we have raised the indicative cost accordingly to €6,000 per participant, an increase of €1,000 per participant from the last programme. This should allow for the attrition rate associated with this target group. We understand that the target group is difficult to keep engaged, however the current PEACE Programme was able to implement projects that did achieve the outputs.



3	<p>Can bids be submitted across multiple streams within the PEACEPLUS Programme, and, if so, what is the process for this when the streams are being released at different times? For example, we want to get people involved in activities that benefit the wellbeing of young people and communities and also increase biodiversity, but it appears that these outcomes are funded separately.</p>	<p>Each thematic area will have a separate call and each area will require a separate application. Bids from the same organisation can be made to more than one part of the programme. However, you should carefully consider your capacity as a Lead Partner in managing more than one project, especially if they are all of significant scale. Thematic Area 3.2 has a sharp focus on the five areas of: building good relations, citizenship, personal development, employability skills, and positive progression. If your project is not directly contributing to all five, then this is most likely not the theme for you. If, as an organisation, your work delivers results for one or more of these themes, then you may wish to be part of a project partnership or look to another investment area of the programme.</p>
4	<p>I work with a group of researchers at Ulster University focusing on the marginalisation of post-primary pupils from different migrant backgrounds – including those who are asylum seekers and refugees. I wonder if this call for funding is suitable for our type of research.</p>	<p>This is not a research call; this is hands-on programme delivery. It could be that you may be suited as a project partner. You should refer to the Potential Partner Notice Board on our website (https://seupb.eu/events/latest-events) and open a conversation with those organisations whose details you will find there.</p>
5	<p>How does SEUPB envision the programme being person-centred and needs-led when there are still restrictions around minimum hour requirement and length of intervention?</p>	<p>The success of previous youth programmes has shown that a quality programme can be young-person centred and needs-led, whilst being shaped according to the indicative model of suggested contact hours and programme duration. Each project should be designed to take account of these factors.</p>
6	<p>How is SEUPB going to manage the geographical distribution of the projects to ensure there is no saturation in main areas – i.e., Belfast?</p>	<p>That aspect of achieving regional balance is the responsibility of SEUPB, and this will be taken account of in the development stage and the Call itself. SEUPB must also ensure complementarity with other funding Programmes for young people available in areas.</p>



7	<p>Not everyone might be familiar with SEUPB structures/functions. It might be useful to take a moment to explain what JS stands for and what its role/function in PEACEPLUS will be - especially in the application process.</p>	<p>The JS stands for the Joint Secretariat and is a Directorate within SEUPB which essentially is the direct contact for projects. The JS is responsible for reviewing applications and presenting them to a Steering Committee for decision. Once a grant is awarded, personnel within the JS will work with the Lead Partner to ensure the project is delivered according to EU rules. The MA stands for Managing Authority, and this directorate within SEUPB is responsible for the management of the Programme overall.</p>
8	<p>A small grants programme has been mentioned in Eimear's presentation, can you tell us more about that? Will there be a small grants programme as part of Theme 3 - Empowering and Investing in our Young People? What size or scale of grants might it offer?</p>	<p>There is no small grants programme within the Children and Young People theme. Investment Area 1.2 (Empowering Communities) contains a small grants programme to support the delivery of people-to-people projects by local community organisations. Grants will be up to a maximum of €100,000, and this theme is currently under development.</p>
9	<p>What is meant by the Lead Partner 'accepting risk' in relation to claims? Is a Lead Partner responsible for reimbursing losses of other partners?</p>	<p>In signing the Letter of Offer, the Lead Partner accepts overall responsibility for ensuring implementation of the entire project. It is a significant role, and the Lead Partner should put in place a partnership agreement, in order to manage that responsibility.</p>
10	<p>Will there still be Incentive payments? Is there any indication that DfE will return with Incentive payments? Will participants be paid a fee (typically an EMA-type payment) on the programme?</p>	<p>Incentive payments are not eligible as part of the EU funding. Whether or not these sit outside of the programme and will be paid by DfE is a matter for the Department. SEUPB are currently aware DfE are looking into this matter and a decision on this is anticipated prior to the Call launch.</p>
11	<p>I am concerned that community-based charitable training providers will be overlooked during the calls. We have hundreds of student participants registered but also run a wide-range of non-formal enrichment activities. Can the body give us any comfort that we will be considered comparatively?</p>	<p>A Lead Partner will be an organisation who can handle the governance associated with a project of significant size and value and can manage the outputs and results for the young people concerned. Smaller, community-based organisations may participate as partners, or they may apply directly to the small grants</p>



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		programme within Investment Area 1.2 (Empowering Communities) when it opens. There are also opportunities within the PEACEPLUS Local Development Plan, which is currently under development by each Council, and must be co-designed with the local community.
12	Will the claims process be faster in PEACEPLUS?	The turnaround time for payment of claims is linked to the quality and eligibility of those claims. SEUPB are reviewing all aspects of the funding administration to see if efficiencies can be achieved.
13	Will there be a return and increase of the upfront payments (possibly annually) to assist with Cashflow in projects?	<p>SEUPB would advise that Lead Partners should not rely on advances for cash flow and should have sufficient funding in place to be paid expenditure in arrears. However, SEUPB does understand that investment in a new project can be a drain on cash flow in an organisation, and we are considering the use of advance payments to aid cash flow before the claim can be submitted and repaid.</p> <p>SEUPB implemented a system of making COVID emergency payments to projects during the pandemic to assist with cash flow and non-access to paperwork in offices. These were always seen as a short-term measure, and it has not yet been determined if they will be needed in PEACEPLUS.</p> <p>It is expected that wider use of Simplified Cost Options (SCOs) and procurement in the PEACEPLUS programme will have the effect of speeding up the certification and payment process.</p>
14	Could SEUPB consider a loan function during the period of funding for organisation?	The SEUPB cannot provide loans to projects.
15	Can you be a Lead Partner and Project Partner on differing projects within the CYP strand?	Depending upon the capacity of your organisation, it may be possible to be both Lead Partner and Project Partner within different



		Investment Areas of Theme 3 (Children and Young People). SEUPB will consider this when assessing the governance of each proposed partnership, however there is no restriction to an organisation doing this.
16	Is it possible for young people to participate more than once with differing projects? If not, can we have a system in place to quickly assess if a YP have been a completer?	The young person can only be counted once. They should declare if they have been on any of the other projects and this can be checked by reviewing the ULN system in Northern Ireland and checking with other projects through the young person's unique ID in Ireland.
17	Is it possible to partner with other organisations outside of N. Ireland and the border region of Ireland e.g., Eco-villages and International Communities who have a lot of experience working with diversity and promoting sustainability?	<p>Commission rules allow for participation with partners outside of Northern Ireland and the six border counties. Involving partners from outside the region should demonstrate a natural affiliation with the Lead Partner and must show that their participation also can bring additional benefits for the programme area that could not otherwise be gained without their taking part. SEUPB encourages such natural collaborations.</p> <p>It is important to note that SEUPB is not being prescriptive as to the nature of the project activities. However, please remember that your project must have the prime objective of building peace and positive community relationships. The activity to do this is not the primary objective of the PEACEPLUS Programme.</p>
18	As mentioned, 'one size does not fit all'. Does the theme and area allow for alternative complementary programming that doesn't fit in with a 3-4 day per week contact, 250hrs?	This is an indicative number of contact days and hours for a youth programme, and it is anticipated that most will fit this model. However, we understand that some adjustment may be required according to the needs of the young person, and as long as the project can demonstrate and evidence that the programme of activity will make a sustained impact on the young person, other structures will be considered. Another aspect to consider is any negative effect on the welfare payments for the young person.



19	I work with young people with intellectual disabilities, and many with Down Syndrome and autism have displayed very aggressive behaviour over the past 20 months of COVID-19. Isolation, lack of understanding, and fear have all contributed to this. We are very active socially online, but it has its limitations. Maybe I can take the material delivered in the workshop and adapt it for our members.	We would welcome that adaptation of the materials provided, and if you require any further assistance from us, please do not hesitate to contact us.
20	What do you see the role of Scotland being in this area? At OK Positive and Bright Futures, we would be happy to speak to any Lead Partners about collaborating on what is clearly a fantastic project area.	Commission rules allow for participation with partners outside of Northern Ireland and the six border counties of Ireland. Involving partners from outside the region should demonstrate a natural affiliation with the Lead Partner and must show that their participation can also bring additional benefits for the programme area that could not otherwise be gained without their taking part. SEUPB encourages such natural collaborations, please have a look at the Potential Partner Notice Board on our website (https://seupb.eu/events/latest-events) for collaboration opportunities.
21	Is there a minimum number of partners?	There is no minimum number of partners. An organisation which is cross-border and has the reach and ability to deliver to the target group in question and deliver on the peace-building aspects required in the PEACEPLUS Programme would be eligible on its own.
22	What is the expected timeframe for projects starting? I know calls are in April 2022.	We are hopeful that project activity for the PEACEPLUS Youth Programme will begin before the end of 2022.
23	Do you have to complete a concept note to be eligible to apply when the call formally opens?	You do not need to have completed a concept note to make an application when the call opens. However, we would strongly recommend that you take advantage of the support which is being offered as part of this pre-development stage, and all information related to concept ideas will be kept confidential.



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24	In our project we intend to involve international volunteers with a background in Youth Work. These volunteers will not receive a wage, but they will need financial support regarding Board, Lodging, Pocket Money, Travel Money, Cost of UK Visa and Immigration Health surcharge. Is it possible to include these costs in our application and compare them to the equivalent of employing people in the same situation?	Volunteers may support project delivery, but the needs of these young people are complex, and the programme should be delivered by qualified youth workers. Only the salaries of staff working directly on the project are eligible and all other costs will make up the 40% (staff costs + 40%). It is very unlikely that the costs you describe would be considered eligible for funding.
25	Will PEACE PLUS participants will be excluded from participating in ESF programmes (or their replacements) while they are participating on PEACEPLUS?	You cannot participate in both the ESF Ireland Programme and PEACE PLUS Programme.