



**SportHub: Alliance for Regional development in Europe
(SHARE)**

How to Access Structural funds for sport?

05 February 2019

**Brussels,
Erasmus+ Sport Info Day**

1. What is SHARE?

- SportHub: Alliance for Regional development in Europe = SHARE Initiative
- **Objectives:**
 - raise awareness on the role of sport for local and regional development
 - build capacity and strengthen partnerships between the sport movement, local/regional authorities
 - empower stakeholders to unlock European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for sport activities
- **Network:** The SHARE initiative currently brings together more than 100 local & regional authorities, EU and national sport organisations across Europe
- **Main deliverables:**
 - 8 policy papers on the role of sport to regional development
 - 18 mentoring visits in different EU regions
 - 6 national conferences
 - Communication and dissemination activities
 - Raising awareness to enhance the visibility of sport in the future Regulation of ESIF

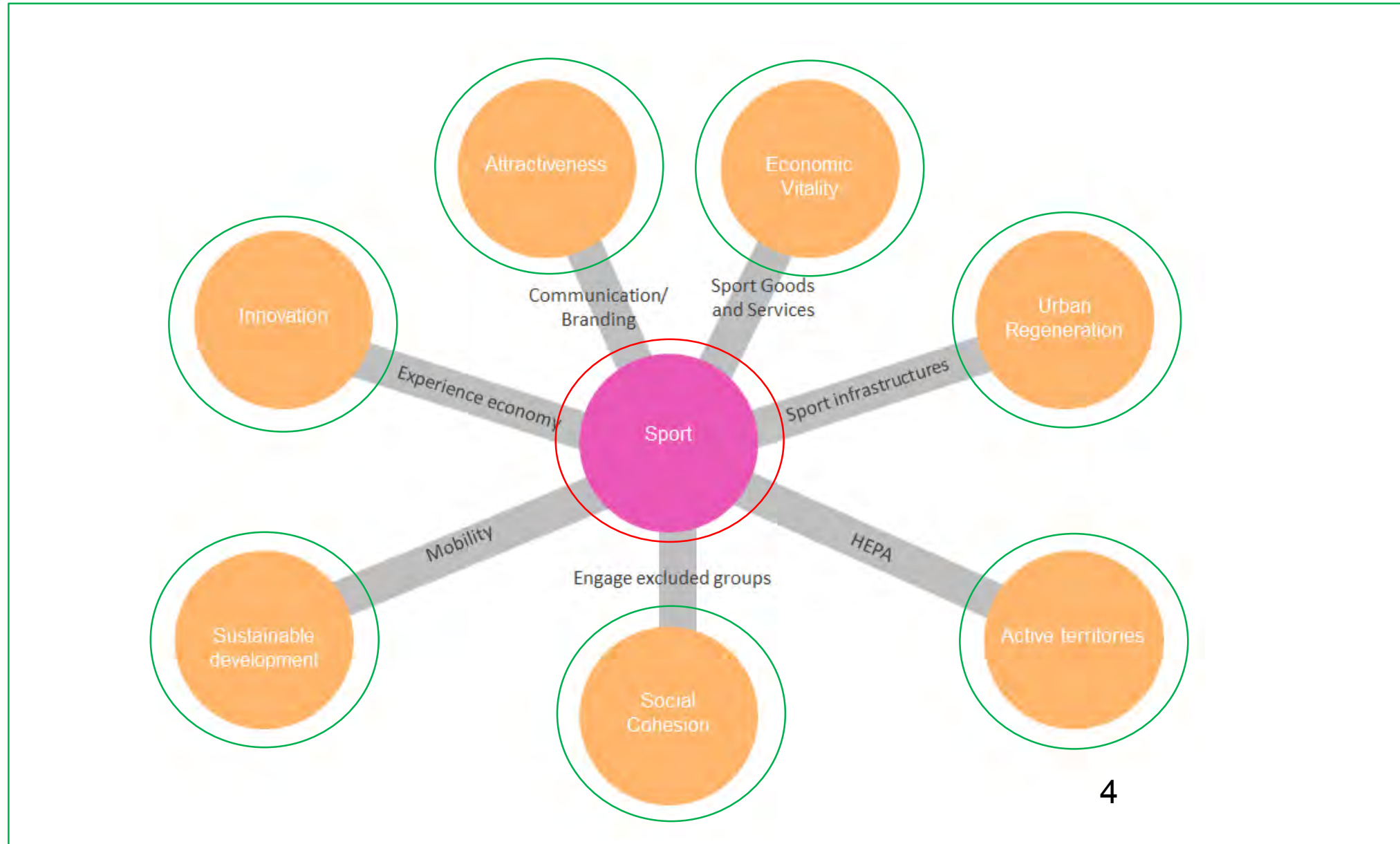
ESIF and RIS³ for sport: the entry points

- Sport is not listed as a priority or a thematic objective under structural funds
 - But has direct links with many broader objectives,
 - Objective 8 (a) investing in health and social infrastructure which contributes to national, regional and local development, reducing inequalities in terms of health status, **promoting social inclusion through** improved access to social, cultural and **recreational services** and the transition from institutional to community-based services
 - Objective 9 (b) supporting employment-friendly growth through the development of endogenous potential as part of a territorial strategy for specific areas (...), through **(vi) Active and healthy ageing**
- ⇒ 70 regions across Europe have included sport in their smart specialisation strategies as an economic priority.

Worth noting that actual use of ESIF is strongly correlated to RIS³ priorities

⇒ Mapping and in-depth analysis of 16 regional strategies.

The manifold impacts of sport for territorial development





11 thematic objectives

- 1) Research, development, innovation
- 2) ICT
- 3) SME Competitiveness
- 4) Low-carbon economy
- 5) Adaptation to climate change
- 6) Heritage and environment protection
- 7) Sustainable transport
- 8) Employment and mobility
- 9) Social Inclusion
- 10) Professional education and training
- 11) Better public administration

Sport initiatives?

- 1) R&D in Sport companies (e.g. new materials)
- 2) e-sports; IoT for sports
- 3) Sport incubators, hubs and clusters
- 4) Energy efficiency of sport infrastructures
- 5) Smart urban planning – active cities
- 6) Outdoor sports, ecotourism/experience economy
- 7) Soft mobility solutions
- 8) Jobs & skills in sport
- 9) Sport projects for social inclusion
- 10) Train the trainers, sport in education;
- 11) Get creative here!



Strategic objectives post-2020

11 objectives simplified and consolidated to form 5 objectives:

1. A smarter Europe (transition to smart and innovative economy) →
2. A greener and low-carbon Europe (including energetic transition, circular economy, adapting to climate change and risk management)
3. A more connected Europe (mobility and ICT connectivity)
4. A more social Europe (European charter of social rights) →
5. Bringing Europe closer to citizens (sustainable development of urban, rural and coastal areas and local initiatives) →

Sport initiatives?

1. R&D in Sport companies (e.g. new materials); Sport incubators, hubs and clusters
2. Energy efficiency of sport infrastructures
Smart; Outdoor sports, ecotourism/experience economy
3. E-sports and IoT for sports (digital connectivity) and Soft mobility solutions
4. Sport projects for social inclusion; job creation and skills development schemes
5. Urban planning – active cities



Some tips and tricks – for discussion !

- **Broad vision of sport = key**
- Define your project based on broader policy objectives (cf examples) – find the entry points.
- Think ‘intermediaries’: development of sport incubators or clusters, social inclusion programmes
- Develop long-term partnerships and include project partners that help you deliver on broad strategic objectives.
- Identify the right contacts and resources to inform yourself on ERDF funding (regional services and some national contact points)
- More generally, set up training and workshops to structure the diversity of the sport movement.

Structural funds for sport – useful resources

- Study on the contribution of sport to regional development through the structural funds:
https://ec.europa.eu/sport/news/20161018_regional-development-structural-funds_en and especially the practical guidance to develop projects (all EU languages).
- Research for CULT Committee - ESIF and culture, education, youth & sport – the use of European Structural and Investment Funds in policy areas of the Committee on Culture & Education
[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=IPOL_STU\(2018\)617475](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=IPOL_STU(2018)617475)
- Thematic guidance (sport and culture):
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/information/publications/guidelines/2014/thematic-guidance-support-to-culture-and-sport-related-investments
- Find your managing authority!
- For European Regional Development Funds: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/managing-authorities/
- For European Social Funds: <http://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=380&langId=en>
- Development of the SHARE initiative empowering local sport actors to access SF – get in touch for more info !



EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

51 rue du Trône
1050 Brussels
Belgium

T. +32 2 289 26 00

W. www.keanet.eu

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