



## YouSports Summer 2024 newsletter (public)

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*Updates of YouSports SNAC, for NAs who are not in the YouSports partnership*

*Giving an overview of:*

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- *What exactly is the YouSports SNAC?*
- *'Social Sports' - what does that mean?*
- *What YouSports does as a SNAC*
  - *How YouSports works*
- *How it has built up as a strategic project, 2023-2024?*

- *Where to ask to get more information*

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*Use your arrow buttons to navigate this Sway. You can click the navigation button (bottom right) to go directly to the part that interests you most.*

Compiled by Susie Nicodemi, Coordinator

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What is the YouSports SNAC?



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*A Youth Strategic Project focusing on Social Sport as a tool for change (personal and social)*

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## Quick overview

- Created in 2022
- 14 NAs contributing
- Hosted by the French NA
- Funded by Youth TCA



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YouSports is a Strategic National Agencies Cooperation (SNAC), a long term strategic project to connect sport, youth work and non-formal education, for individual competence development and community/societal impact. We aim to increase and improve the use of sport in non-formal education, and the use of non-formal education in sport.

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### Social Sports: What is that?

Using sport as a tool can have different meanings and interpretations. We needed a definition to frame our project:

#### Social sport means:

Using sport as an educational tool for added value; to focus on the experience, as well as winning; to be engaging and fun; to reflect on the learning; to debrief the transferable competences to other real-life situations; to use as a process for individual development and community / societal impact.

From the Kick Off Event, France, June 2023

YouSports Strategic Project,

Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps European Programmes

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# For YouSports, Social sports...

## Non-formal Education

...is a pre-planned educational process built on the diverse needs of individual participants, with clear realistic and measureable objectives and outcomes; has experience as the source of learning; is based on the values of youth work, with voluntarily engaged participants who have an active role in the learning process.

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## Individual development

...develops attitudes, behaviours, skills, values and knowledge (competences) through the learning experience, and its transferability potential; improves physical and mental health and well-being; encourages a value-based approach for more respect (for others, for self, for rules, for environment) fairness, team work, equality, honesty, solidarity, empathy, cooperation, rights-based non-violent approach, excellence and integrity.

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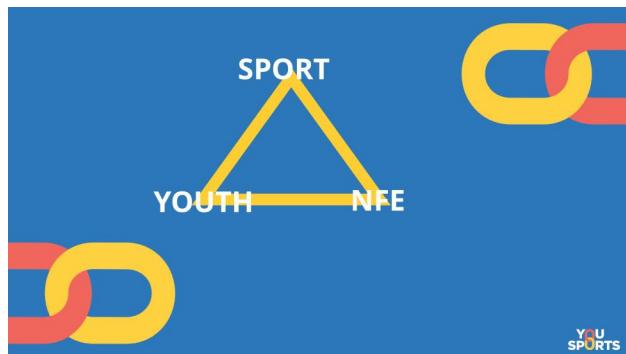
## Community & Social impact

...connects people; brings awareness of 'other' and difference; builds relationships and networks; reaches those with fewer opportunities; bridges & transforms communities through improved competences; develops social and citizenship competences of political importance (inclusion, equity, sports ethics, accessibility etc); is a tool for international projects and intercultural learning; supports grass roots activism for positive social change.

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## What YouSports does



1 - The common ground for involved NAs is to have more and better connection between sport, youth and non-formal education



For more... *partnerships Quality Recognition*

of social sport in European Youth Programme projects

**Using sport as a educational tool in non-formal learning for personal & community impact**

**The 5 Action Areas for 2024 & 2025**

**1. Build a community of practice**  
For those using social sport as a tool in their youth projects, including a database of contacts

**2. Use social sport for impact**  
How different people can use sport as a tool, for personal competence development, and/or community impact

**3. Increase Awareness**  
Showing the potential of using sport as a tool to a wider audience. Training multipliers to promote social sports and European opportunities to different audiences, including for vulnerable and disadvantaged youth groups

**4. Newcomers to E+ / ESC**  
Reaching new (specific) target groups, encouraging partnerships and projects, supporting them step by step to get on board 'international projects'

**5. Showcase projects**  
Experienced projects explaining the impact of their social sports, increasing recognition and quality.

2 - YouSports has 3 key aims: increase quality, recognition and partnerships for social sport in European Youth Programmes. We work in 5 Action Areas for 2024-2025, with all activities connecting to at least one Action Area.

To be a YouSports SNAC activity, an activity should:

- emphasise Social Sport (as a tool for individual/community change)
- be with and for the youth field
- be coordinated by the NA network (or associated SALTOs or SNACs)
- take place within the Erasmus+ / ESC programme environment, explain about grant opportunities, promote the European values and the priorities of the programmes
- Include the logo, the strapline and the #YouSports hashtag

#YouSports

3 - We defined what makes a YouSports activity. Different NAs host the decentralised KA1 for Sports differently. This definition provides a frame for all.

**2024 Open Activities**

Open for all programme countries [LEARN MORE](#)

**Partnership building:**

- Sept 23-27, Italy, Seminar for 50 youth workers + sports practitioners
- Dec 16 & 17, Online event (GatherTown) with interactive programme
- May 28, Online, Webinar on KA1 projects

**Training on sport as a tool:**

- Oct 13-18, Belgium, Sport Praxis Training
- Nov 25-29, Tunisia, Sport as a tool for inclusion

**Study Visit, Euromed**

[LEARN MORE](#)

**YouSports**  
Connecting sport, youth work and non-formal education in European Youth Programmes

Partners: Service Civique, SALTO, OSBD, Fonds Européen, Fonds Jeunesse, Mise à Part, EFSSE, European Solidarity Corps, Erasmus+

4 - Some activities are open and available for the whole NA network (email: [snacsports@service-civique.gouv.fr](mailto:snacsports@service-civique.gouv.fr) for more info)



5 - Some TCA '24 activities are only for the 13 x NAs that work within YouSports (foreseen to later be rolled out to whole NA network)



## How YouSports works

There are 13 NAs involved in YouSports: Austria, Belgium (Flanders), Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Türkiye.

YouSports works for the whole NA network. Most of the activities, products and outputs can be used by all Programme country NAs.



6 - First ever YouSports Steering Group, Dec '22

YouSports had its first Steering Group in Paris, December '22. It has 3 meetings per year, one of them in-person the others online. The Steering Group has representatives from youth sector, sports sector, TCA, communication teams...



7 - Sharing, co-creating, ideating

We have a Core Team, including Coordinator and host NA staff, and a Steering Group of active NA members



8 - 2024 connection moments.

We have regular themed Coffee Catch Up check-ins to keep up momentum, share practice, and encourage peer support between NA staff

Building up Yousports as a strategic project

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YouSports has an **internal communication** approach, with the use of Basecamp, Satellite Working Groups, Coffee Catch ups, and online and physical Steering Group meetings.

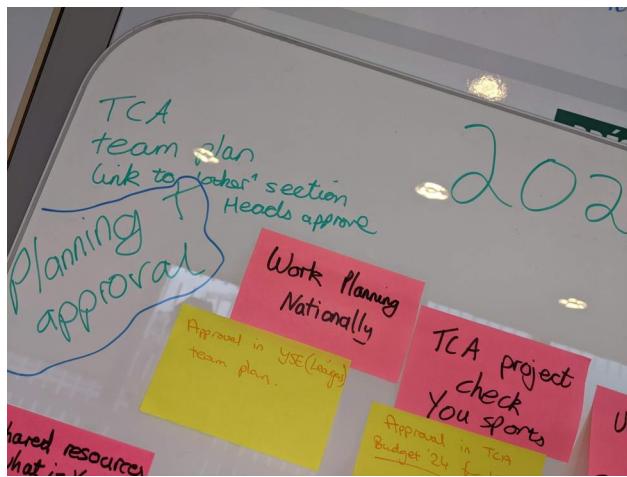
For **external communication**, we produce two newsletters per year to keep people updated, have developed a visual identity, including a logo, hashtag, CVI Guidelines and shared templates on Canva for NAs to promote activities in a coherent way.



In June 2023, we had a large successful **Kick Off Event** in France, where 100+ practitioners active in social sport helped us co-create a definition of social sport as a frame for our SNAC. There were also many outputs that can be used further by the SNAC (visual resources, videos, final report with text etc).



In 2023, we connected with other SNACs in the NA network to look at **synergies** with TCA/NET processes. We connected to the Inclusion & Diversity Steering Group for Youth, explaining our SNAC and showing how YouSports links to I&D and the Erasmus+ strategy for I&D.



We have an agreed **co-created timeline** for the next steps, with combined TCA/NET activities shared between 13 NAs built from national realities, all contributing to the wider aims of YouSports.



We are building activity **tools and templates to re-use**, such as a Short Study Visit format and National Promotion toolbox for outreach to new audiences, Training Course format for youth leaders/sports coaches together, Online Webinars to showcase projects fitting Programme Action types etc.

We are looking at how to 'sportify' existing elements of European youth programmes, benefitting from sport as a tool. We will then start to look at how to 'youthify' some sports elements, increasing recognition of non-formal education, and encouraging sports coaches to develop their approach towards youth work.

Want more info?

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If you still have questions, or want more information about YouSports, contact Susie Nicodemi, the coordinator, on: [snacsports@service-civique.gouv.fr](mailto:snacsports@service-civique.gouv.fr)