An overview of EU Funding Programmes for Creative and Cultural Organisations

The UK, including Scotland, is still fully eligible to apply for European Union funding opportunities while we remain a member of the EU. This document provides an overview of the funding programmes applicable to creative and cultural organisation. These funding programmes were presented at our EU Funding Information Day on Wednesday 10 May 2017 in Glasgow.

The funding programmes included in this document are:

- Creative Europe
- Erasmus+
- Europe for Citizens
- Enterprise Europe Network
- Horizon 2020
- Interreg
Creative Europe is the European Union’s programme that specifically targets the cultural, creative and audiovisual sectors. From 2014-2020, €1.46 billion is available to support European projects with the potential to travel, reach new audiences and encourage skill sharing and development.

Launched in January 2014, Creative Europe brings together a Culture sub-programme, which provides funding for the cultural and creative sectors, and a MEDIA sub-programme, which invests in film, television, new media and games.

- **Creative Europe’s Culture sub-programme** supports the cultural, creative and heritage sectors and funds mainly transnational collaborative projects and initiatives across all artforms, as well as publishers looking to translate European fiction.

  The **Cooperation Projects** funding scheme has annual deadlines in the Autumn, and supports cross-border projects involving at least three different organisations from at least three different countries participating in the programme.

  There are currently 13 Culture sub-programme supported projects involving Scottish organisations, including three projects where they are the lead partner (Imaginate, Shetland Amenity Trust and Historic Environment Scotland). The Culture sub-programme also supports European professional networks across different artforms, as well as Platforms for emerging European talent, and several Scottish organisations are members of these wider networks such as IETM, European Music Council, European Dancehouse Network, European Festivals Association, Literature Across Frontiers, In Situ and Small Size.

- **Creative Europe’s MEDIA sub-programme** supports film, television, new media and video games, offering funding, training and networking opportunities. This includes funds for content development, distributors and sales agents working with European films, training programmes, film festivals and initiatives promoting audience development and film education.

  Fourteen projects involving Scottish organisations have been supported by the MEDIA sub-programme, ranging from
development and production, through to distribution, exhibition and audience development. Audiovisual professionals in Scotland have also taken part in a wide range of MEDIA supported training, market and festival opportunities.

- Creative Edinburgh and Creative Dundee are also partners in British Council led project European Creative Hubs Network which is supported by Creative Europe’s cross-sectoral strand.

What is the news following the EU referendum?
Visit our website for an update following the EU referendum & Article 50.

How do I find partners?
We have a list of tips on finding partners for projects, including joining a network and getting in touch with existing partnerships and projects. Eleven countries beyond the EU member states participate in Creative Europe, and there some ways to include activity and professionals from countries beyond those participating in the programme.

Who in Scotland has been involved?
Organisations across Scotland and across the creative sectors have been involved in the current and previous programmes, including Imaginate, Scottish Storytelling Centre, Regional Screen Scotland, Rural Nations, Ironworks, IndepenDance, UZ Arts, Creative Carbon Scotland, Dundee & Angus College, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, YDance, Scottish Sculpture Workshop, Scottish Poetry Library, National Youth Orchestras of Scotland, Red Kite Animation, Centre for the Moving Image, Scottish Documentary Institute, Distrify, Cinefile, and more.

Where can I find project examples?
Take a look at the case studies on the blog, our database of funded projects involving UK organisations, and the European Commission has a larger search engine for all projects across Europe.

Where can I go for more information, advice and support?
Kate Deans and Ben Taylor at Creative Europe Desk UK-Scotland are the Scottish contact points. Sign up to our newsletter or come to
one of our events for more information. www.creativeeuropeuk.eu
ERASMUS+

**Erasmus+** is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport. It runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020, with organisations invited to apply for funding each year to undertake creative and worthwhile activities.

Your organisation does not have to be an educational institution to take part in Erasmus+. Many opportunities are available to organisations that are actively involved in delivering education, training, youth or sport activities. This could include (but is not limited to) local authorities, businesses and enterprises of all sizes, social enterprises, non-profit organisations, non-governmental organisations, voluntary organisations, charitable organisations, networks, associations and community organisations.

Organisations in the creative, cultural and audio visual sector can apply for funding to send staff, trainers, young people or apprentices on European training or volunteering placements that can last anywhere between three days and one year. Opportunities also exist to work face-to-face with similar European organisations on strategic cooperation projects on areas of common interest.

Since the start of Erasmus+ in 2014, almost 3,000 projects in the UK have been awarded funding totalling 363 million euros.

**What is the news following the EU referendum?**

Read our update following the EU referendum & Article 50.

**How do I find partners?**

The UK National Agency is not in a position to directly support organisations find partners, however there are various initiatives that can help, such as **EPALE** for adult education and **SALTO** for youth. The European Commission's **Projects Results Platform** can also be used to find contact details of an organisation or a project that interests you. Erasmus Plus is open to several countries beyond the EU members states.

**Who in Scotland has been involved?**
Across current and previous programmes (including Comenius, Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci and Gruntvig), organisations have participated in a range of projects and activity including Scottish Book Trust, the firm of ARCH, Ceolas, The Forest, Visible Fictions Theatre Company, Dundee & Angus College, Youth Theatre Arts Scotland, Firefly Arts, Argyll & Bute Council, Create Paisley, Circus Alba, Beyond Borders, Voluntary Arts Network, Solar Bear, Glasgow School of Art, University of the West of Scotland, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh Film Production Group, Xchange Scotland, and more.

**Where can I find project examples?**

You can read about Erasmus+ projects on our website on the case studies page [erasmusplus.org.uk/case-studies](http://erasmusplus.org.uk/case-studies). Other examples include:

- **Leeds City College** working with partners across Europe in Estonia, Greece, Italy, Malta and Romania on the ‘V-Game’ based learning environment project to boost interest among students to learn the technical features of programming. From HTML to JavaScript, the game enables players to gain and apply skills that work towards modules in web production and client customisation on students’ Level Three courses.

- **University of the Arts London**, Europe’s largest specialist art and design institution, encourage their staff and students to engage with mobility both within and beyond Europe. Enabling and encouraging their staff to visit partner institutions allows them to identify and explore different approaches to teaching and learning practices, and to understand better the different contexts from which their students originate.

**Where can I go for more information, advice and support?**

In the UK the Erasmus+ programme is delivered by the UK National Agency, a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK, which reports to the Department for Education. You can get in touch, sign up to our newsletter, and attend a range of information, support and partner matching events.
EUROPE FOR CITIZENS

This is perhaps the easiest EU funding programme to apply for – no budget required, and no details of match funding necessary.

The next project deadlines are early March 2018 so there is plenty of time to prepare an application.

Projects funded by Europe for Citizens usually focus on a number of partners getting together, where each hosts a meeting with participants from their own country and from the other partner countries - and these meetings could be stimulated by an arts or culture activity, such as a performance or an exhibition.

These meetings are an opportunity to explore key issues facing the EU at this time – ranging from the stigmatisation of immigrants, Euroscepticism and the future of Europe, through to exploring key anniversaries – for 2018, these include the end of the WWI, the beginning of WWII, the beginning of the Cold War and 1968 which saw protest and civil rights movements, the invasion of Czechoslovakia, and an anti-Semitic campaign in Poland.

In the absence of any official contact point in the UK, Euclid offers information and advisory services for this programme.

What is the news following the EU referendum?

Please note that there is no official contact point for this programme in the UK. This statement is made by Euclid, an independent agency which advises on this & other EU funding programmes, on the basis of informal contact with other contact points & the EC/EACEA.

The situation is similar to that for the other trans-national funds – i.e. the UK remains fully eligible to submit applications or to be a partner in applications submitted by others, and there will be no discrimination from EC/EACEA officials or jury members. There does not seem to be any resistance from organisations in other parts of Europe to having a UK partner, including a UK lead partner. The overall success rate is around 10-15% though the UK has had a success rate of 1 in 3 – but has submitted far fewer applications than other large EU countries. The UK remains eligible for applications until 29 March 2019, which leaves 3
deadlines (**1 March 2018 and 2019** for all strands plus **1 September 2018** for mobility strands). This eligibility covers projects that may last beyond (or even starting after) the UK leaves the EU. Current non-EU eligible countries are Albania, Bosnia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

**Who in Scotland has been involved?**

There are relatively few applications to this programme from Scotland and the UK as a whole. Benchtours Productions was successful for a Remembrance project, and Aberdeen City Council for a Town Twinning initiative.

**Where can I find project examples?**

You can find some project examples and case studies on the [Irish contact point’s website](http://example.com).

**Where can I go for more information, advice and support?**

There is no official contact point in the UK for Europe for Citizens, however there are [contact points in other countries](http://example.com), including [Ireland](http://example.com).
The Enterprise Europe Network Scotland helps Scottish businesses make the most of business opportunities in the EU and beyond.

- Do you need hands on support to take your innovation to market?
- Do you need sound business advice on international markets?
- Are you looking for help in finding a commercial partner abroad?

Our solution driven services take innovative ideas to commercial success on international markets. With a database of over 6,000 technology, research and business opportunities we can advise on the best opportunities to expand internationally.

We are part of the Enterprise Europe Network, the world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions, with 600 member organisations in over 50 countries.

The **Enterprise Europe Network** is your gateway to competitiveness and innovation. Wherever you are in Europe, you can get access to all the information you need to develop your business and find the right business partners.

The Network offers support and advice to businesses across Europe and helps them make the most of the opportunities in the European Union. Our services are specifically designed for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) but are also available to all businesses, research centres and Universities across Europe.

The Enterprise Europe Network is made up of close to 600 partner organisations in more than 40 countries, promoting competitiveness and innovation at a local level in Europe and beyond.

Whether you need information on EU legislation, help with technology transfer or finding a business partner, want to benefit from innovation networks in your region or need information on funding opportunities, this is the place to start.
**How do I find partners?**

On our website, you can search for partners to manufacture, distribute co-develop and supply your products, ideas and business. The network contact points in Scotland are also here to help match you to businesses in more than 40 countries.

**Where can I go for more information, advice and support?**

Ken Gordon at Scottish Enterprise is the Enterprise Europe Network Scotland contact for the Creative Industries.
HORIZON 2020

**Horizon 2020** is Europe’s Research and Innovation programme. With over €76 billion of funding available over the period 2014 to 2020 for cutting-edge projects, Horizon 2020 aims to ensure that the best ideas and discoveries are brought to the market faster and that their results help drive social and economic growth in Europe.

The opportunities that Horizon 2020 brings are open to a wide spectrum of organisations - from universities and research institutes, to businesses and public and third sector organisations. The programme focuses on the following three core themes: **Fostering excellent science; Strengthening industrial leadership** in innovation, and **Addressing major societal challenges** across Europe such as climate change; sustainable transport and mobility; making renewable energy more affordable; ensuring food safety and security; and coping with the challenge of an ageing population.

There are a number of strands to the programme which may have relevance to arts, culture & creative industries, such as:

- #5i: Industrial Leadership - Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies (LEIT)
- #13: Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative & reflective societies

Recent calls have included:

- CULT-COOP-06-2017: Participatory approaches and social innovation in culture
- CULT-COOP-06-2017: Participatory approaches and social innovation in culture
- CULT-COOP-07-2017: Cultural heritage of European coastal and maritime regions
- CULT-COOP-09-2017: European cultural heritage, access and analysis for a richer interpretation of the past
- CULT-COOP-10-2017: Culture, integration and European public space
- CULT-COOP-12-2017: The significance of cultural and core values for the migration challenge
- SCC-1-2016-2017: Smart Cities and Communities lighthouse projects
- SMEInst-12-2016-2017: New business models for inclusive, innovative and reflective societies

You can find more information about different calls and themes on the European Commission’s [Horizon 2020](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020) website.

**What is the news following the EU referendum?**

Read [their update](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020) following the EU referendum & Article 50.

**How do I find partners?**

The [Scottish EU Funding Portal](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020) is an online information-sharing resource for Scottish organisations interested in EU funding and for international organisations wishing to work with Scottish organisations. Enterprise Europe Network is a matchmaking service that can help too (see more information in the EEN section).

**Who in Scotland has been involved?**

Organisations such as Black Cube Collective, Robert Gordon University, the University of Dundee and the University of Glasgow have been involved in projects with creative elements.

**Where can I find project examples?**

The [Projects & Results Service](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020) is your one stop for information on EU-funded research projects and project results.

**Where can I go for more information, advice and support?**

INTERREG

Interreg programmes support transnational projects with partners from several countries or regions. There are currently six Interreg programmes that involve regions within Scotland. Each programme has its own set of priorities for what it is setting out to support with the funding.

Each programme has a different contact point, depending on which organisation has been delegated responsibility, but Filippo Compagni at the Department for Communities and Local Government will be giving an overview of all six.

Please find below a summary of the six programmes involving Scotland.

Interreg North-West Europe

The 2014-2020 North-West Europe (NWE) is a transnational Interreg programme and covers the UK, Ireland, Belgium, Luxembourg and areas of France, Germany, The Netherlands and the whole of Switzerland.

The programme encourages public, scientific, private and civil society organisations to cooperate with a view to improving the economic, environmental, territorial and social development of the programme area.

The programme co-finances these organisations to work together in transnational projects on one of the three specific themes: **Innovation, Low Carbon** and **Resource and Materials Efficiency**. The innovation priority is probably the most interesting for the creative and cultural industries sector.

The programme has normally **two calls for proposals each year**, usually late Spring and early Autumn. [www.nweurope.eu](http://www.nweurope.eu)
The 2014-2020 NorthSea Region Programme (NSR) is a transnational Interreg programme, and covers the eastern part of the UK, the whole of Denmark and Norway and parts of: Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden.

The programme is open to public, scientific, private and civil society organisations to lead the way to stronger, more sustainable economies and societies around the North Sea.

The programme supports projects on four priorities: **Growth; Eco-innovation; Sustainable North Sea region** (protecting against climate change and preserving the environment); and **Green transport and mobility**. The first two priorities are probably the most interesting for the creative and cultural industries.

The programme has normally **two calls for proposals each year**, usually late Spring and early Autumn. The next call will open in July 2017. [http://www.northsearegion.eu/](http://www.northsearegion.eu/)

The 2014-2020 Atlantic Area Programme has a strong maritime focus, linking EU regions on the Atlantic coast from **Spain** including Canary Islands, **Western France, Ireland, Portugal** including Azores & Madeira, **Western England, Western Scotland, Northern Ireland** and **Wales**.

The programme aims to strengthen the integrated territorial development and cooperation in the Atlantic area, implementing solutions addressing shared regional challenges in the fields of innovation, resource efficiency, environment
and cultural assets, supporting regional development and sustainable growth.

The programme encourages public authorities, Education and research institutions, SMEs, not-for-profit and community organisations to cooperate with a view to improving the economic, environmental, territorial and social development of the programme area. Two of the four Priority Axes are particularly relevant to the creative and cultural sector: **Stimulating innovation and competitiveness**, and **Enhancing biodiversity and natural and culture assets**.

The first call projects closed in January 2017 and **the second call has not yet been announced**. [www.atlanticarea.eu](http://www.atlanticarea.eu)

**Interreg Europe** is an interregional programme that covers the whole of the EU as well as Norway and Switzerland.

The total programme budget is €359m of ERDF; project partners are supported with an intervention rate up to 85% for public authorities and up to 75% for non-for profit private partners.

The programme is designed to support policy learning among relevant policy organisations, especially regional and local governments, to improve the performance of policies and programmes for regional development. Project partners can be public authorities and institutions governed by public law, as well as third sector organisations. SMEs are considered as part of stakeholder groups rather than project partners.

The programme supports projects on four priorities: **Strengthening research, technological development and innovation**; **Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs**; **Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors**; **Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency**.

The programme has normally **one call for proposals per year**, usually in Spring. The current call will close on 30th June 2017. [http://www.interregeurope.eu/](http://www.interregeurope.eu/)
The Northern Periphery and Arctic 2014-2020 Programme forms a cooperation between 9 programme partner countries; the Member States of Finland, Ireland, Sweden and the United Kingdom (Scotland and Northern Ireland) in cooperation with the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and Norway.

Despite geographical differences, the large programme area shares a number of common features.

Priorities of the programme include: Using innovation to maintain and develop robust and competitive communities; Promoting entrepreneurship to realise the potential of the region’s competitive advantage; Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage; Fostering energy-secure communities through renewable energy & efficiency.

http://www.interreg-npa.eu/contact/regional-contact-points/

The Interreg Ireland-NI-Scotland Cross Border Programme is designed to promote greater levels of cross-border co-operation.

Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland share a number of common features with other border areas across Europe where developmental problems are exacerbated by the existence of borders.
The priorities of the programme are: Increase regional R&I capacity and foster SME and research collaborations; Protect habitats and species, manage priority marine areas and improve water quality; Promote sustainable mobility and increase connectivity for an integrated transport network; Quality healthcare service through improved sharing and coordination of health solutions.

There are no Calls currently open. [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)

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What is the news following the EU referendum?

Read the [UK Government statement](http://www.gov.uk), and programme updates for Interreg North West, North Sea Region, Atlantic Area, Interreg Europe and Northern Peripheries and Arctic following the EU referendum & Article 50 (all have similar messages).

How do I find partners?

Speak to a programme contact point to indicate your interest and to find out if there are projects in development that you could get involved in.

Where can I find project examples?

Examples of projects involving Scottish organisations include ConnectG, Creative Futures Programme, INNOVATE, CCC: Creative City Challenge, CREALAB, North Sea Screen Partnership, CURE: Creative Urban Renewal in NW-Europe, Green and Blue Futures, NoCry: Northern Creative Youth and InCompass.

Where can I go for more information, advice and support?

North West Europe: UK contact points are Filippo Compagni, Emily Shephard and Vanessa Piley at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

North Sea Region: UK contact point to be appointed, contact the Secretariat in the meantime: [info@northsearegion.eu](mailto:info@northsearegion.eu)

Atlantic Area: UK contact point is Guillaume Le Palud at the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Europe: UK contact point is Sallyann Stephen at the Department for Communities and Local Government.
Northern Periphery and Arctic: Contact point is Kateryna McKinnon at Highlands and Island Enterprise.

Northern Ireland-Ireland-Scotland: The programme contact point is SEUPB, Northern Ireland, www.seupb.eu