

Radiographer tips for gaining European research funding-our experience with the SAFE EUROPE project

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DISCLOSURES

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BACKGROUND

- ERASMUS+ grant call - Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.
- Aims to identify the gaps between the skills required by therapeutic radiographers (TR) in comparison with the educational training provided across Europe.
 - develop a set of online modules to address the “skills gap” .
 - Recommend skills that need developed/included in curricula



- There are 7 international partners involved as illustrated in Figure 1 above.

General tips from the outset



-Teamwork is key

-Use **lay language** in your application if it is profession specific (the evaluator may not be an expert in the field)

-Identify measures you will use to maintain the **integrity** of the research e.g. kick-off meeting, regular steering meetings, bi-annual reports, monthly updates between consortium members, internal/external quality assurance.

Tips for securing an ERASMUS+ grant

1: Start early

2: Be strategic

3: Prepare

4: Distribute responsibilities

5. Contracts of employment

Finalise the grant application a month before the actual deadline to allow time to address any issues and secure CV's.

If acting as PI ensure you have examples of institutional management and successful delivery of large grants if possible. The grant funder needs to know you/your institution are capable of acting as PI. area).

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When selecting partners to work/collaborate with.

...ensure **ALL** grant call requirements are addressed (exceeded if possible!).

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All organisations applying as an applicant or a partner for Erasmus+ funding **MUST** be registered at the Participants Portal:

Erasmus+ requires institutional reference numbers and PIC numbers for registering on the EU portal

NB The grant payment **will not proceed** until all partners have registered.

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Among partners and ensure all partners are aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Revisit these responsibilities when doing internal quality assurance to check if outputs are all on schedule.

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All members of the consortium need to have a contract of employment to meet budget approval and claim expenses.

Difficulties arose where partners were working voluntarily on behalf of an organisation/professional body

Management of the grant

1. Communicate effectively and efficiently
2. Be determined
3. Adapt
4. Be consistent
5. Work as a team
6. Quality Assurance
7. Seek help
8. Manage budgets effectively

DISSEMINATE YOUR FINDINGS

- Set up a dedicated project website to inform the public about the project and share results e.g. www.safeurope.eu
- Use social media platforms e.g. Twitter, Facebook, Linked In
- Publish and present locally, nationally and internationally
- Upload outputs onto the EC portal for free access

CONCLUSION

- Essential to comply with the grant call, which is facilitated by combining the strengths of multiple institutions.
- Frequent and transparent communication, adapt to different needs and unforeseen issues, deliver the outputs on time, work as a team and effectively manage finances.
- Managing a research grant is challenging but it gives us the opportunity to increase our radiographer led research and develop our Evidence Based Practice at an international level.

REFERENCES

- <http://ec.europa.eu/education/participants/portal/desktop/en/organisations/register.html>
- www.safeeurop.eu

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