



Co-funded by the
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Croatian Paralympic Committee and partners held first Kick off meeting of South-East European Youth Parasport Exchange project

On 3 and 4 March, the partners of the South-East European Youth Parasport Exchange project (Acronym: SEEYou) have gathered in Rijeka, Croatia for the 1st time to hold the kick off meeting. SEEYou is a project Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union and led by Croatian Paralympic Committee with the aim to Promote South-East European youth para-sport participation by addressing social and economic barriers of youth para-sport participation through developing South-East European exchange of knowledge and experiences as well as cooperation.

Parasport has common challenges and opportunities at EU and global level; to overcome these challenges and support these opportunities, there are EU recommendations, on which this project has been built upon. However, this project focuses on local activities, because sport happens at grassroots level and change can happen at grassroots level.

The meeting is a start to find common challenges and opportunities in the South-East European region, for which the expertise of project partners is indispensable. This project wants to exploit the expertise and experience of partners and support them to create a good practice example for Europe.

Project will implement three Youth Para-Sport Training Camps for South-East European young para-sport athletes and three Youth Para-Sport Coaching Workshops that will facilitate exchange of knowledge among the primary target group. Awareness session around training camps will familiarize the public with the issues faced by persons with disabilities in sports and the ways in which these difficulties can be reduced or eliminated in the long run. Further, project will consist of Organization of a sub-regional and cross-sectoral Cooperation Symposium and Roadmap that will ensure sustainability of the project results.

Commenting on the project, Ratko Kovačić the president of the Croatian Paralympic Committee noted „We are glad to have the opportunity to implement the South-East European Youth Parasport Exchange project. We truly hope that we could showcase a good practice for Europe on how include people with disabilities in sport and build regional

cooperation. The project's main activities to organise Workshops for coaches and Training Camps for young parasport athletes resonate with Croatian plans on building capacity of sport clubs."

