

TANDEM

FRYSLÂN

FAQ

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iepen mienskip

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ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Why Fryslân?

- ✦ Leeuwarden is the Capital of Fryslân, a region in the North of the Netherland, and it is going to be European Capital of Culture in 2018: Leeuwarden-Fryslân 2018 (LF2018). This is the main reason to set up a Tandem programme around this special year in Fryslân.
- ✦ Fryslân is a rural region, facing diverse challenges similar to many other regions in wider Europe, such as: the relationship between the city and the countryside, the future of natural heritage, better diversity and inclusion with our communities, and many more regional issues. During 2018, LF2018 wants to address these challenges and try to find solutions together with partners and communities across Europe. While learning from other regions, LF2018 also has something to offer to its European peers.
- ✦ Both Tandem and LF2018 share the belief that culture can be at the heart of transformation in the strengthening of the social fabric as well as the creative and innovative potential of European societies. This approach and search for answers to those regional questions is what Tandem Fryslân builds on.
- ✦ To learn more about Fryslân and the European Capital of Culture programme, [visit the LF2018 website](#).

What do you mean by *iepen mienskip*?

- ✦ *Iepen* is the Frisian word for 'open', whereas *Mienskip* represents the Frisian sense of 'community'. Core values – among them mutual respect, equality and responsibility –

flourish whenever *Mienskip* is embraced. Arguably, the process can be found almost everywhere, yet in Fryslân it has been given a name, and its presence is felt by people as a part of the Frisian culture. There is a dark side to *Mienskip*, as communities can also appear as closed structures wary of external input, clinging to a static definition of their own culture. This is why LF2018 wants to transform *Mienskip* into *Iepen* - an Open *Mienskip*. Creating an open *Mienskip* means bringing together people with different backgrounds, from different areas around Europe. It retains the action-oriented, bottom-up spirit, but incorporates the open-minded, outward-looking attitude that is needed if societies are to evolve and connect with each other in Europe. With the Tandem programme we believe to contribute to this transformation towards open communities, in Fryslân and anywhere in wider Europe.

Why do you organise this programme?

- ✦ We believe in the importance of cultural collaboration to create lasting connections between different groups and communities. Working with new organisations and in new localities provides inspiring learning experiences. The Tandem scheme feeds into a variety of objectives – from facilitating creative innovation to nurturing local cultural communities. Our vision is to see creative networks emerge from this programme. We are confident that Tandem partnerships will continue beyond the year-long collaboration and thus contribute to the social and cultural well-being in their region.

PRACTICALITIES

What is the timeline of the programme?

- ✦ Saturday 30 September 2017 (23:59 CET): Deadline online applications for Partner Forum.
- ✦ End of October 2017: Selected participants are informed.
- ✦ 20-24 November 2017: 5-day Partner Forum in Fryslân, the Netherlands.
- ✦ Monday 11 December 2017: Deadline online Tandem applications.
- ✦ Mid-January 2018: Selected Tandems are informed.
- ✦ February 2018: 5-day Kick-off Meeting in Rijeka, Croatia.
- ✦ Between March and September 2018: Mutual 8-day working placements at the Tandem partner organisations.
- ✦ July 2018: 6-day Interim meeting in Fryslân, the Netherlands.
- ✦ October/November 2018: 4-day Final Meeting in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands.

All meetings are **compulsory** for selected participants.

What is the Partner Forum all about?

- ✦ After the first round of applications, selected applicants are invited to the Partner Forum. At the Partner Forum, you will (try to) find your Tandem partner with whom you will work on an artistic or community pilot project and where you will have your working visit / placement. After finding your prospective partner, you'll write the second application together as a tandem with ideas for the pilot project/co-production and the placement, including a budget and time plan. Tandem is about finding new partners, which means you cannot apply with existing partnerships.

What happens if I don't find a partner at the Partner Forum?

- ✦ Without a partner, you will not be able to apply to participate to the rest of the programme. We do hope that you will leave with useful input and network possibilities that you can share with your organisation back home. The Partner Forum will also give you a better idea of how the Tandem programme works, which could help if you decide to apply again to one of our programmes.

I took part in the Partner Forum. Does this mean that I will be part of all Tandem activities?

- ✦ No. The main goal of the Partner Forum is for selected applicants to find a suitable partner for their organisation. After the partner is found at the Forum, tandems re-apply with a joint project proposal. When the evaluation of these applications is completed, seven tandems will be selected to take part in the full programme and receive funding.

What happens at the planned meetings?

- ✦ **Kick-off Meeting (February 2018)**
Selected Tandem participants are invited for the Kick-off Meeting: as the name suggests, this is where you kick-off your tandem. During the Kick-off Meeting, we offer workshops that help you prepare for the upcoming placements to your Tandem partner organisation. Together with the group, you will also discuss selected topics in cultural participation, community arts and citizen involvement processes with a regional focus. The Kick-off Meeting also serves for arranging all organisational details.
- ✦ **Interim Meeting (July 2018)**
Half-way through the programme there is an Interim Meeting. Besides sharing experiences from the placements, the main topic is to set a common working agenda for the Final Meeting. Workshops will focus on the past working visits to the partner organisation and will follow-up on the training topics from the Kick-off Meeting.
- ✦ **Final Meeting (October/November 2018)**
At the Final Meeting in the end of 2018, you will get the chance to present your collaboration internally by sharing the outcomes of the process and projects you worked on with your Tandem partner. There will be an evaluation and the opportunity to connect to the growing Tandem network.

What do you mean with placements?

- ✦ The placements are a key element in the Tandem programme. You will receive a grant to spend an 8-day working visit at your partner organisation. During the visit, you become directly involved with the community and the activities of your partner organisation. Together you will spend time on developing your pilot project but you will also be introduced to the organisation, its local team and the immediate working environment, such as other partner organisations, the local cultural scene, etc. You will get the unique opportunity to present your organisation, communities and artists to your hosting organisation and community. And of course, your Tandem partner will also come to stay with you for 8 days. During the placements, participants are mentored and supported by the cultural manager, the 'guest' organisation and by the project coordination team.

Can you explain what you mean by "Tandem pilot project/co-production"?

- ✦ During the placements and throughout the whole project period until the Final Meeting, you will have time to work on your artistic or community pilot project. The exact format of these projects will be defined by your own collaboration and should be an experimental / prototype / incubator / pilot type project. However, all projects are expected to operate within the field of cultural participation, community arts and citizen involvement processes. Tandem initiatives typically reach from involving citizens in public space, to community theatre plays, (new) media workshops, community-based cultural heritage or local craft/design projects and small-scale educational initiatives addressing the developing of new talent or a cultural/social topic of mutual interest. Most important however will be that all projects have a truly innovative and transnational character and explore local community practices in the partner locations. You will receive a modest project/production budget (4,500 Euro). You can use this 'start-up capital' to fundraise for additional production budget in the likely case that provided means are not sufficient.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

I'm not from one of the target countries, can I still participate?

- ✦ No. You can only apply to Tandem Fryslân if you are based in one of the 28 EU member states (see next question if you are based in the Netherlands), or from Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Iceland, Israel, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Macedonia (FYROM), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Palestine, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey or Ukraine.
- ✦ However, you could consider applying for one of the other four Tandem editions which might include your country. Please keep an eye on the website, our Facebook page or subscribe to our newsletter if you want to be informed about other Tandem schemes, which are Tandem Turkey, Tandem Shaml, Tandem Ukraine and Tandem Europe.

I'm working in another region in the Netherlands, can I participate?

- ✦ That depends. Due to strategic and financial restrictions, you can apply to Tandem Fryslân only if you work in Fryslân and/or with a Frisian community. This means that if you only work in other regions, you cannot participate in this programme. However, if you normally work in another region in the Netherlands but are working or, planning to work, on a cultural/social project including a Frisian community in 2018, you can apply for the programme.

How many people per organisation can take part in the programme?

- ✦ The Tandem programme is designed for one cultural manager representing a cultural organisation, institution or initiative. In order to help you choose the right Tandem partner one colleague may partly join you at the Partner Forum. Other colleagues from the participating organisations will get involved and get to know the Tandem partner during the placements (working visits) in their organisations - depending on their involvement in the joint Tandem project.

I would like to apply; however, I don't work for an institution or organisation (I'm a freelancer). Do you accept individual applications?

- ✦ No. In order to be accepted to the programme, you should be working for an institution/NGO/organisation/association/initiative or collective that has some level of organisational and financial capacity. If you are not associated with any of the organisation types listed above, we cannot accept your application.

Is the programme also open to artists?

- ✦ No. This programme is targeting cultural managers and their organisations. Only if you are an artist also working as a cultural manager at an organisation, you are welcome to apply.

Is there an age limit for the participant? Are there other prerequisites for application?

- ✦ There is no age limit. Cultural managers should have institutional as well as international experience, be open to new ideas, interested in new input and improving themselves professionally.

Can I participate in only one part of the programme? Is it compulsory to take part in all the activities of the programme?

- ✦ Yes, it is compulsory to participate in the full programme; participation only in one part is not possible. The aim of the Tandem programme is to support an intense collaboration between cultural managers and partner organisations over the course of one year, thereby creating a long-term cooperation that continues beyond the Tandem programme. As a cultural manager, by applying for the Tandem cooperation, you apply for the whole programme.

Can we apply twice in the name of one organisation?

- ✦ Yes and no. It is possible to apply twice in the name of one institution if there are two cultural managers in your organisation who are interested in taking part in the programme. However, please note that only one application per institution will be selected.

What kinds of project ideas are eligible for taking part in the Partner Forum?

- ✦ We ask for 1-2 planned projects in the application form in order to get a picture of your understanding of a possible cooperation within the programme and to get to know you better. They are not fixed ideas which you necessarily have (or could expect) to implement with the future Tandem partner. You will discuss and design a new Tandem project idea together with your future Tandem partner during and after the Partner Forum.

What is the maximum funding that you will provide for the joint projects? What if we need more?

- ✦ All Tandems will receive a modest project/production budget (4,500 Euro) for realising their pilot project (as a 'prototype for their future collaborations after Tandem). You can use this 'start-up capital' to fundraise for additional production budget in the likely case that the means provided are not sufficient for realising your project.

Who will cover the travel expenses for the programme activities?

- ✦ Accommodation, meals, transportation and other necessary expenses during the programme are covered by Tandem. However, we only reimburse costs that have been previously agreed upon and can be proven by ways of submitting receipts.

Should I try to find a Tandem partner beforehand?

- ✦ No. You can find a partner during the Partner Forum.

I already have a partner. Can I apply with my existing project?

- ✦ No. Tandem is about finding new partners.

When do you inform us on the selection results?

- ✦ We will inform you by the end of October 2017, on the results of the selection for the Partner Forum.
- ✦ The selection for the Tandem applications will happen mid-January 2018.
- ✦ See the timeline provided above for all the dates.

Do you need a copy of the organisation registration certificate from our institution?

- ✦ No, at this stage we will not be asking for such documents.

Who will make the selection?

- ✦ Applications will be assessed by European Cultural Foundation, MitOst and Leeuwarden-Fryslân 2018, with advice from Keunstwurk.

How do you select the participants? What are your selection criteria?

- ✦ Selection for the Partner Forum is based on the quality of the application and bringing together a balanced group for the Partner Forum. Selection will strictly focus on organisations working in the field of cultural participation of citizens, community development, voluntary or amateur arts, and (informal) arts education. However, the disciplinary boundaries of the thematic areas concerned will be interpreted in an open manner and applicants shall be specifically reviewed for their innovation, internationalisation and regional multiplication potential.
- ✦ Selection for the main Tandem collaboration phase is based on the quality of the project proposal, the placement plan and ideas for future cooperation. For the project, we will assess: (1) relevance of the project to the thematic field and the communities involved; (2) its innovation, internationalisation and regional multiplication potential; and (3) feasibility in terms of time and budget.

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