

The EFA RISE project runs from 2014-2017 with activities which act on exchange of expertise on audiences, management models, artistic and policy making choices (working groups, think tanks, conferences), development of skills (Atelier and technical workshops with Pearle), incentive to cooperation (Artistic Collaborations WG) and engagement in policy making (Round Table with Culture Commissioner, Conferences).

Through educational, exchange and networking platforms, festivals and various groups such as young festival managers develop skills, acquire knowledge and engage in artistic collaboration.

Knowledge is made accessible via publications and digital platforms, e.g. the online Festival Knowledge Centre, Festival Bytes, Beyond Visions, Atelier 10 years, from Goerlitz to Beirut or What you didn't know about Europe – the Ultimate Cookbook for Cultural Managers.

Member and participating festivals, through these tools, will be able to further enrich their audience's lives through their artistic and outreach programmes and to build a better Europe through its most valuable resource, its culture. The experience of every single actor and partner is multiplied across the larger festival landscape through various activities, open also to non-EFA members increasing the scope artistically, geographically, and politically at international, European, national, regional, and local level, and complementing EFA's expertise in specific areas (artistic creation, skills, research, advocacy, business). Through RISE, EFA takes its 60+ years of experience to set up new initiatives, engage with more partners, and interact with more festivals.

2016 key activities will mainly focus on improvement of skills in collaboration with Pearle with open to all events such as workshops on European legislation affecting live performance Wroclaw (May), Brussels (Sep), Zurich (Nov), Ateliers for Young Festival Managers: Budapest (Jun) & Chiang Mai (Dec) and Trainings for Production Managers Antwerp (Jan 16) & Istanbul (Nov). We will also concentrate on artistic practices, adaptation to digital technologies, audience development & business model strategies encouraging festivals to not only exchange but cooperate with "For-heavens'-sake" conference Wroclaw (April) and Festival Readings Sochi (Feb). Last but not the least we will bring artistic directors in dialogue with policy makers contributing to an educated and knowledgeable policy making process during EFA Exclusive Round Table with EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Brussels (Feb), Festival Launches, Brussels (Feb) and Brussels Conversations@deBuren, Brussels (Mar).