

Forward Funding Guide 2008



North West of England House



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North West of England House Forward Funding Guide

The Brussels based offices of the North West of England, co-located in North West of England House, have collaborated to compile this Forward Funding Guide to give our partners in the North West information about EU funding opportunities and timely information on future opportunities.

The objective has been to provide a cohesive collection of the funding opportunities that are currently available and those that will become available. Not only is this a practical resource, but it has the added advantage that many funding opportunities can be identified long before they might have been had such a guide not been compiled.

This guide covers the policy areas that we thought are most relevant to actors in the North West. While we have tried to cover all relevant funding programmes, if you can think of a programme that you would like to see included in next year's edition please do let us know. Equally, if you have experience of funding under a programme which has not been mentioned, please let us know if you would like us to include it in future editions. Indeed, we are constantly reviewing how to best compile future editions so any recommendations will be warmly welcomed.

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European Agriculture Funding Guide

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Information Measures relating to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

This scheme aims to support information measures relating to the CAP. More specifically, to:

- Help explain, implement and develop that policy
- Promote the European model of agriculture and help people understand it
- Raise public awareness of the issues and objectives of the CAP
- Inform farmers and other parties active in rural areas

Types of actions to be funded include Information campaigns running through the countryside, such as mobile workshops, conferences and seminars, especially in rural areas, TV and radio campaigns, exchange information visits, especially between old and new Member States (MS), workshops in rural areas targeted at information multipliers for farmers and potential beneficiaries of rural development measures.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a non profit making private entity and must have been established in a MS for at least two years.

The [2008 call for proposals](#) concerns specific information measures to be implemented between 1 June 2008 and 31 May 2009.

Current call	:	2008 call has closed (deadline 30 November 2007)
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	The total available budget is €2,800,000 and the contribution from the European Commission (EC) to the selected measures is limited to 50 per cent of total eligible cost excluding the staff costs.
Budget per project	:	The amount of grant requested from the Commission shall be between €12,500 and €100,000 per specific measure
Partners required	:	N/A
Next call	:	The next call for proposals is expected in the second half of October 2008 with a two/three month period for submitting applications.
No. of projects funded:	:	List of grants awarded during budget year 2006 can be viewed at:

<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:094:0026:0033:EN:PDF>

Website:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/grants/capinfo/index_en.htm

The 2008 call for proposals concerns specific information measures to be implemented between 1 June 2008 and 31 May 2009 and the expected date for the end of the evaluation procedure for budget year 2008 is the 31 May 2008.



The list of grants awarded during budget year 2007 under budget line 05.08.06 will be published during the first semester of 2008.

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Rural Development Programme for 2007 – 2013

On 20 February 2006 the Agriculture Council adopted EU strategic guidelines for rural development. These guidelines set out a [strategic approach](#) and a range of options which Member States could use in their national strategy plans and Rural Development programmes.

On 12 September 2006, the EC finalised the annual allocations of rural development funding for MSs from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). The UK's rural development allocation for the 7-year period 2007-2013 has been confirmed as €1,909,574,420 – equivalent to approximately £1.3 billion.

In the UK what was previously administered by Defra will now also be administered by Natural England and the Regional Development Agencies (The North West Development Agency for the North West of England).

The future Rural Development policy 2007-2013 will focus on three areas in line with the three thematic axes laid down in the new rural development regulation: improving competitiveness for farming and forestry; environment and countryside; improving quality of life and diversification of the rural economy. A fourth axis called "Leader axis" based on experience with the Leader Community Initiatives introduces possibilities for locally based bottom-up approaches to rural development.

Member States shall prepare their national rural development strategies on the basis of six community strategic guidelines, which will help to:

- identify the areas where the use of EU support for rural development creates the most value added at EU level;
- make the link with the main EU priorities (Lisbon, Gothenburg)
- ensure consistency with other EU policies, in particular cohesion and environment;
- accompany the implementation of the new market orientated CAP and the necessary restructuring it will entail in the old and new Member States.

The six strategic guidelines are:

1. Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sectors
2. Improving the environment and the countryside
3. Improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging diversification
4. Building Local Capacity for Employment and Diversification
5. Translating priorities into programmes



6. Complementarity between Community Instruments

On 6 December 2007 the EU Rural Development Committee agreed the Rural Development Programme for England 2007-2013 (RDPE) which will be delivered in the Northwest by the Northwest Development Agency (NWDA). The Northwest Regional Implementation Plan (RIP) has been drawn up by regional partners, which forms part of the England Programme and it has 4 thematic areas:

- Making farming and forestry more competitive and sustainable
- Enhancing the environment and countryside
- Enhancing opportunities in rural areas
- Skills, knowledge transfer and capacity building

Each sub-region has prepared a RIP which provides details of how the RDPE will be delivered and the key priorities within the region. The North West RIP can be downloaded at www.nwda.co.uk/rdpe.

Website : http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev/index_en.htm

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Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA):
Jennifer Wilson
Jennifer.Wilson@nwda.co.uk

North West Environmental Stewardship
Help Line 0845 602 4093

For details on Woodland Schemes please go to:
www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs

For specific enquiries relating to the environmental measures in the regional implementation plan please contact:

Forestry Commission: Penny Oliver
penny.oliver@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

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Single Farm Payment

In 2003 the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) underwent a reform which introduced a new system of direct payments, the so-called: **single payment scheme (SPS)**, an annual income payment to farmers, which basically implies that aid is no longer linked to production (decoupling).

The single payment scheme is the most important system of direct payments and aims to guarantee farmers more stable incomes. To be eligible for the single payment, a farmer requires payment entitlements. These are calculated on the basis of the payments received by the farmer during a reference period (historical model) or the number of eligible hectares farmed during the first year of implementation of the scheme (regional model).

The introduction of the SPS is mandatory as from 1 January 2007. Application of the SPS will be reviewed within two years of its introduction by all EU-15 states which include the UK (i.e. by 2009 at the latest).

However, MS may decide to reduce the value of payment entitlements and continue to make direct payments linked to production. To receive direct payments, farmers must meet certain standards concerning public, animal and plant health, the environment and animal welfare and keep their land in good agricultural and environmental condition. Existing direct aids may be continued until 2012 but they will be gradually reduced through the instrument



known as modulation, which provides a means to ensure the transfer of CAP funds from direct aids to farmers and market measures (Pillar 1 of CAP) to rural development measures (Pillar 2).

On 20 November 2007 the EC published its blueprint for streamlining and further modernising the CAP, called the "Health Check". This Communication will build on the approach which began with the 2003 reforms, improve the way the policy operates based on the experience gathered since 2003 and make it fit for the new challenges and opportunities in an EU of 27 Member States in 2007. The reforms have modernised the CAP, but the Health Check represents a perfect opportunity to take the policy review further.

The main thrust of the "Health Check" agenda is to make the SPS simpler and more efficient and includes the following proposals:

- moving away from payments based on historical receipts towards a "flatter rate" system.
- increasing the rate of decoupling in those countries which opted in a number of farm sectors to maintain the link between subsidy and production, although coupled support may still play a role in regions where production is small-scale but of particular economic or environmental importance.
- gradually reducing the support level as overall payments to big farmers increase, starting from a level of, for example, €100,000 per year. This would have to differentiate between multiple-owner farms with many workers and single-owner farms with just a few.
- increasing the amount of land a farmer has to own before he qualifies for EU support from the current level of 0.3 hectares.
- reviewing the cross-compliance standards which farmers are obliged to respect to receive their support from Brussels. This could mean stripping out unnecessary obligations, but also adding new ones to deal with new challenges like improving water management and mitigating climate change.

As the next step the EC will publish a legislative proposal in the end of May 2008.



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The Maastricht Treaty introduced a chapter on culture that introduced an EU competence to promote education and training and the flowering of cultures; this should only take place, however, where Member States' individual efforts are not enough. The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights enshrines the respect of cultural diversity. Internal market, competition and international trade rules also affect culture.

The Commission is preparing its work programme post-2006 on culture. Some of the main current initiatives on culture concern multilingualism, the upcoming European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008, maritime culture and the annual European Capitals of Culture.

The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue will take place in 2008. This will support information and promotion campaigns, events and initiatives, and surveys and studies to build links between people from different walks of life across the EU. A dedicated fund will support these activities.

The annual European Capital of Culture is a well established initiative for cultural promotion. It is, of course, very well known in the North West because Liverpool will be the Capital for 2008, along with its non-EU European partner city Stavanger (Norway). Other Capitals include Cork (2005), Patras (2006), Luxemburg and Sibiu (2007), Linz and Vilnius (2009).

The current EU Maritime Policy Green Paper consultation puts forward several ideas on maritime heritage and culture: demonstrating the interconnectedness between different maritime sectors and eras; bringing all relevant stakeholders together in maritime heritage planning; an atlas of underwater heritage; EU best-practice awards; the removal of legislative obstacles; possible associated EU funding.

On multilingualism:

- in 2003 the Commission committed to 45 actions to encourage all levels of government to promote linguistic diversity;
- Member States will report in 2007 on their implementation of the EU Action Plan on Promoting Language Learning and Linguistic Diversity;
- EU education funds support multilingualism;
- 2006 was the European Year of Worker Mobility;
- in 2006 an inventory of language certification systems available in the EU was undertaken and work is under way on a European indicator of language competence.

The main EU funds dedicated to culture under the new budget for 2007-13 – Culture 2007 and Media 2007 – are detailed below. There is also dedicated funding for the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008, again described below. Other funds that may be of relevance include: the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development (previous research programmes supported R&D for the preservation of cultural heritage, digitalising cultural content, and training and mobility of researchers); Interreg (which historically has covered cultural aspects of economic regeneration); and education and training programmes. All of these are detailed in other sections of this guide.



Culture 2007 (2007-13)

Culture 2007 replaces Culture 2000, which has now closed. Culture 2007 is intended as a tool for multicultural cooperation in Europe and should contribute actively to the development of a European identity from the grassroots. This should happen through the development of cultural cooperation between the creators, cultural players and cultural institutions of the countries taking part.

The specific objectives are:

- to promote the transnational mobility of people working in the cultural sector
- to encourage the transnational circulation of works and cultural and artistic products
- to encourage intercultural dialogue

There are three funding strands:

- support for cultural actions
- support for bodies active at European level in the field of culture (e.g. European cultural networks)
- support for analyses and the collection and dissemination of information and for activities maximising the impact of projects in the field of European cultural cooperation and European cultural policy developments

In Culture 2007 there are no separate strands for different cultural sectors. Projects can focus on one cultural sector or be cross-sectoral.

Two types of projects are supported:

- Cooperation measures (i.e. smaller projects - lasting 1-2 years). Here the priority is to be given to "creativity and innovation" and sustainability beyond the term of funding.

More rarely, multi-annual cooperation projects (i.e. larger projects - lasting 3-5 years). This support is for projects in their start-up and structuring phase or in their geographical extension phase. The aim is to encourage them to establish sustainable foundations and achieve financial autonomy. Each project should carry out a number of structured cultural activities over a substantial period.

All projects supported must have a clear European flavour.

Specific activities by the European Capitals of Culture (such as Liverpool) may receive a grant under Culture 2007.

Current call	:	2007 call
Current deadline	:	28 February
Budget	:	€ 400million
Budget per project	:	For cooperation projects, € 50,000 to 200,000 For multi-annual projects, € 500,000 per year
Programme funds	:	50% of costs
Partners required	:	For cooperation projects, three partners from three Member States For multi-annual projects, six partners from six Member States

Websites:

European Commission: http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/eac/index_en.html Commission



UK : www.culture2007.info

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Media 2007 (2007-13)

Media 2007 is a programme to support the European audiovisual sector, with the following specific priorities:

- the acquisition and improvement of skills in the audiovisual sector (7% of the overall funding available)
- developing European audiovisual networks (20%)
- the distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works (55%)
- pilot projects in response to market developments (9%)
- horizontal issues (5%)

Under the acquisition and improvement of skills in the audiovisual sector, specific priorities include:

- scriptwriting techniques;
- economic, financial and commercial management of production, distribution and promotion;
- digital technologies for production and post-production;
- the European dimension of audiovisual training;
- the networking and mobility of European training professionals;
- training for trainers;
- support for film schools;
- co-ordination and promotion activities by training bodies;
- special scholarships for professionals from the new EU Member States.

Under developing European audiovisual networks, specific priorities include:

- developing independent production companies' and SMEs' production projects for a European and international market;
- financing plans for European production companies and projects, including co-production projects.

Under the distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works, priorities include:

- encouraging distributors to invest in the co-production, acquisition and promotion of non-national European films and to set up co-ordinated marketing strategies;
- incentive schemes for export and distribution;
- cooperation between broadcasters and producers to encourage trans-national broadcasting
- putting European audiovisual works into digital format;
- encouraging access to international markets for the European audiovisual sector;
- encouraging common actions between national promotional organisations



Under pilot projects in response to market developments, priorities include:

- the introduction and use of new information and communication technologies;
- disseminating the results of pilot projects.

Current call : 2007
Current deadlines : Various, depending on project type: 2 February, 12 February, 9 March and 6 April
Budget : €755million
Budget per project : No maximum budget per project is set overall, but the calls currently open out have set maximum amounts between €5,000 and €150,000, depending on the type of project.
Programme funds : between 50 and 60% of costs, depending on the type of project
Partners required : Not specified

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/media/overview/news/index_en.htm

Contact : All queries should now be directed through the UK contact point:
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www.mediadesk.co.uk

European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008

The decision establishing 2008 as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue has been published in the Official Journal of the EU. The main objectives of the Year are to promote and highlight the role of intercultural dialogue in enhancing the ability of European citizens to deal with a more open, but also more complex, cultural environment. As with all other such "years", a variety of actions and measures will be supported - and in some cases co-funded - by the European Commission. There will be a specific emphasis on raising the awareness of young people and fostering the role of education as an important medium for teaching about diversity.

The actions envisaged are as follows:

- Co-financing of actions on an EU scale. A limited number of emblematic actions on a European scale aimed at raising awareness, particularly among young people, of the objectives of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue may receive a grant of up to 80 % of the total cost. These actions may consist of particular events, including an EU event to open and close the Year in cooperation with the EU presidencies in office during 2008. As an indication, approximately 30 % of the total budget allocated will be devoted to these actions.
- Co-financing of actions on a national scale. Actions at national level with a strong European dimension may fulfil the conditions for receiving EU aid of up to 50 % of the total cost. These actions may relate in particular to the co-financing of one national initiative per Member State. As an indication, approximately 30 % of the total budget allocated will be devoted to these actions.



- Actions on an EU scale. Information and promotion actions and surveys, studies and consultation with transnational networks and civil society stakeholders. These will not exceed 40 % of the total budget allocated.

Actions receiving non-financial EU support, including written authorisation to use the logo, once developed, and other materials associated with the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, in initiatives from public or private organisations, in so far as the latter may provide assurances to the Commission that the initiatives in question are or will be carried out during 2008 and are likely to make a significant contribution to achieving the objectives of the Year.

Current call : N/a
Current deadline : N/a
Budget : €10million for January 2007 to December 2008
Budget per project : Levels vary according to project type; see overview above.
Programme funds : Rates vary according to project type; see overview above.
No. of projects funded: See overview above.
Partners required : See overview above.
Next call : Unknown

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/portal/action/dialogue/2008_dial_en.htm

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European Education, Training and Youth Funding Guide

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Education is a primary concern of all Member State governments, but the structures of education systems differ considerably, both within and between countries. The European Union does not have a 'common education policy', and each Member State remains responsible for the content and organisation of its education and training systems. The mission of the European Commission regarding education is to build a Europe of knowledge through developing a European area of lifelong learning that will be a benchmark for the world by 2010 and help to make the European Union the most competitive and dynamic knowledge economy in the world, capable of sustained economic growth accompanied by more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.

The EU provides:

- Multinational education, training and youth partnerships
- Exchange schemes and opportunities to learn abroad
- Innovative teaching and learning projects
- Networks of academic and professional expertise
- A framework to address cross-the-board issues, such as new technologies in education and the international recognition of qualifications
- A platform for consensus, comparisons, benchmarking and policy making

There are a number of EU funding programmes for education, training and youth with which local authorities and higher education institutions can get involved.



Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013

The Lifelong Learning Programme comprises four sectoral programmes on school education (Comenius), higher education (Erasmus), vocational training (Leonardo da Vinci) and adult education (Grundtvig), and is complemented by a transversal programme focusing on policy cooperation, languages, information and communication technology and dissemination and exploitation of results. If an application is to be made which will cover the education systems from more than one of the sectoral programmes, the scheme will normally come under the transversal programmes. Finally, the Jean Monnet programme focuses on European integration and support for certain key institutions and associations active in the field. The budget for this call is €901 million, and the total programme budget (2007-2013) is €6,970 million.

The aim of the new programme is to contribute through lifelong learning to the development of the Community as an advanced knowledge society with sustainable economic development, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. It aims to foster interaction, cooperation and mobility between education and training systems within the Community, so that they become a world quality reference.

The four sectoral programmes, have quantified targets – set in order to ensure a significant, identifiable and measurable impact for the programme. These targets are as follows:

- For Comenius: To involve at least three million pupils in joint educational activities, over the period of the programme;
- For Erasmus: To contribute to the achievement by 2012 of three million individual participants in student mobility under the present programme and its predecessors;
- For Leonardo da Vinci: To increase placements in enterprises to 80,000 per year by the end of the programme;
- For Grundtvig: To support the mobility of 7,000 individuals involved in adult education per year, by 2013.

These four pillars are joined by what will be known as a 'transversal programme' (€369 million), which will pursue the following four key activities:

- Policy cooperation and innovation in lifelong learning;
- Promotion of language learning;
- Development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practice for lifelong learning;

Dissemination and exploitation of results of actions supported under the Lifelong Learning Programme and previous related programmes, and exchange of good practice.

Contact for Transversal study visits and projects on languages, ICT and policy

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Email : transversal@ecotec.com
UK Website : <http://www.transversal.org.uk/>
EU Website : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/downloads_en.htm
Deadline : 31 March 2008



General

Website for whole Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013:
http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/newprog/index_en.html

2008 calls for proposals are available at:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/index_en.htm

UK website: <http://www.lifelonglearningprogramme.org.uk/schools.asp>

Information line on new LLP or former EU Socrates programme:
British Council: 0161 957 7755
general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org

Comenius (Socrates)

The Comenius programme covers general education actions **up to and including upper secondary school level**. It aims to develop understanding among young people and educational staff of the diversity of European cultures and its value and to help young people acquire the basic life-skills and competences necessary for their personal development, for the future employment and for active citizenship.

The objectives of the programme are:

- To increase the volume and improve the quality of exchanges involving pupils and educational staff in different Member States
- To increase the volume and improve the quality of partnership between schools in different Member States
- To encourage the learning of a second foreign language
- To reinforce the quality and European dimension of teachers training
- To improve pedagogical approaches and school management

At least 85% of the budget will be devoted to actions increasing mobility of students and staff and to creating partnerships between schools.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	Mobility 29 February 2008 Multilateral projects 14 March 2008
Budget	:	€0.91 billion (2007-13), €13 million in 2008
Budget per project	:	varies depending on 'mobilities', but can be €25,000
Programme funds	:	up to 75%
No. of projects funded:	:	40 multilateral projects and 8 multilateral networks
Partners required	:	3 for projects, 10 for networks
Next call	:	Due late 2008

For more detailed information, see page 2 of:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/documents/call2008/annex_4_en_final.pdf

Comenius website: http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/comenius/index_en.html

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Erasmus (Socrates)

The Erasmus programme covers higher education actions, including work placements for higher education students which formerly fell under the Leonardo da Vinci programme. The programme aims to support the realisation of a European Higher Education Area and to reinforce the contribution of higher education and advanced vocational education to the process of innovation.

The objectives of the programme are:

- To increase the volume and improve the quality of student and teaching staff mobility throughout Europe
- To increase the volume and improve the quality of multilateral cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe
- To increase the degree of convergence of higher education and advanced vocational education qualifications gained in Europe
- To foster cooperation between higher education institutions and enterprises

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	Multilateral projects 29/02/08 Mobility 14/03/08
Budget	:	€2.8 billion (2007-13), €18.7 million for 2008
Budget per project	:	€150,000 - €200,000
Programme funds	:	up to 75%
No. of projects funded:	:	40 multilateral projects and 17 multilateral networks
Partners required	:	3-31 depending on project
Next call	:	November 2008

For more detailed information on budgets etc, see page 4 of:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/documents/call2008/annex_4_en_final.pdf

Erasmus Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/erasmus/index_en.html

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Web : www.britishcouncil.org/socrates

Leonardo da Vinci

The Leonardo da Vinci programme covers vocational education and training and aims to facilitate adaptation to labour market changes and to the evolution of skills needs. The objectives of the programme are:

1. To increase the volume and to improve the quality of mobility throughout Europe of people involved in initial vocational education and training and in continuing training.
2. To increase the volume and to improve the quality of cooperation between learning providers, enterprises, social partners and other relevant bodies throughout Europe
3. To facilitate the development of innovative practices in the fields of initial and continuing training and disseminating this information.
4. To improve the transparency and recognition of qualifications and competences, including those acquired through non-formal and informal learning.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	Mobility projects 9 February 2008 Partnerships 15 February 2008 Multilateral projects 29 February 2008 Transfer of innovation projects 14 March 2008
Budget	:	€1.75 billion(2007-2013), €15.3 million for 2008
Budget per project	:	€200,000
Programme funds	:	up to 75%
No. of projects funded:	:	30 multilateral projects and 10 multilateral networks
Partners required	:	3 for projects and 5 for networks
Next call	:	2009, although preparatory visits may take place at any time

For more detailed information see page 6 of:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/documents/call2008/annex_4_en_final.pdf

Euro Website: http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/leonardo/index_en.html

UK website: <http://www.leonardo.org.uk/>



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: Helen.fisher@dfes.gsi.gov.uk
- Mobility : The British Council
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Grundtvig

The Grundtvig programme covers **adult education**. The programme aims to respond to the educational challenge of an ageing population in Europe and to help provide adults with alternative pathways to improving their knowledge and competences. The objectives are:

- To increase the volume and to improve the quality of mobility throughout Europe of people involved in adult education
- To increase the volume and to improve the quality of cooperation between organisations involved in adult education throughout Europe



- To facilitate the development of innovative practices in adult education and their transfer, including from a participating country to others
- To ensure that people from vulnerable social groups and in marginal social contexts, in particular those who have left education without basic qualifications, are given alternative opportunities to access adult education
- To improve pedagogical approaches and the management of adult education organisations

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	Mobility 31 January 2008 Partnerships 15 February 2008 Multilateral projects 29 February 2008 In service training 30 September 2008
Budget	:	€280 million (2007-2013), more than €19.5 million for 2008
Budget per project	:	varies depending on 'mobilities', but can be €25,000
Programme funds	:	up to 75%
No. of projects funded:	:	65 multilateral projects and 7 multilateral networks
Partners required	:	3 for projects and 10 for networks
Next call	:	Expected autumn 2008

For more detailed information on budgets see page 8 of:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/documents/call2008/annex_4_en_final.pdf

Grundtvig site: http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/socrates/grundtvig/index_en.html

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Jean Monnet Project

The Jean Monnet Project 'European Integration in University Studies' is a European Commission information project. The project facilitates the introduction of European integration studies in universities by means of start-up subsidies. The Jean Monnet Project is aimed at universities and other higher education establishments in the Member States of the European Union.



Activities include :

- Jean Monnet chairs and honorary titles
- European Centres of Excellence
- Permanent courses on European integration
- European modules
- Research projects on the subject of European integration

Budget : approximately €5 million for 2008 to be distributed between both new and existing projects

Deadline : 15 February 2008
Publication of new calls & deadlines expected 2008

Unilateral Projects: Associations of Professors and Researchers

Budget per project : €25,000
Programme funds : 75%, for up to 5 years
Est. No. of projects funded : 3

Unilateral Projects: Information and research activities

Budget per project : €50,000
Programme funds : 75%, for up to 1 year
Est. No. of projects funded : 35

Multilateral projects: Research groups

Budget per project : €100,000
Programme funds : 75 %, for up to 2 years
Number of partners required : 3
Est. No. of projects funded : 2

Website http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/ajm/index_en.html

More financial info (p.11):

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/llp/documents/call2008/annex_4_en_final.pdf

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Socrates: Erasmus Mundus

The Erasmus Mundus programme is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education. It aims to enhance quality in European higher education and to promote intercultural understanding through cooperation with third-countries. The programme is intended to strengthen European cooperation and international links in higher education by supporting high-quality European Masters Courses, by enabling students and visiting scholars from around the world to engage in postgraduate study at European universities, as well as by encouraging the outgoing mobility of European students and scholars towards third-countries.

The Erasmus Mundus programme comprises four concrete actions:

- **ACTION 1** - Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses: they constitute the central component around which Erasmus Mundus is built. They are high-quality integrated Masters Courses offered by a consortium of at least three universities in at least three different European countries.
- **ACTION 2** - Erasmus Mundus scholarships: in order to give the Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses a strong external projection, a scholarship scheme for third-country graduate students and scholars from the whole world will be linked to them.
- **ACTION 3** - Partnerships: in order to encourage European universities to open themselves up to the world and to reinforce their world-wide presence, Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses will also have the possibility of establishing partnerships with third-country higher education institutions.
- **ACTION 4** - Enhancing attractiveness: Erasmus Mundus will also support measures aimed at enhancing the attractiveness of and the interest in European higher education. It will support activities that will improve the profile, the visibility and the accessibility of European higher education as well as issues crucial to the internationalisation of higher education, such as the mutual recognition of qualifications with third-countries.

Current call	:	No current open calls
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€230 million (2004-2008), €88.9 million 2008
Budget per project	:	€21,000/year for third country students €3,100/3months for European students €13,000/3months scholars
Programme funds	:	up to 75%
No. of projects funded:	:	unknown
Next call	:	Expected late 2008

Frequently Asked Questions:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/faq/index_en.html



Website http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/index_en.html

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EU Canada Cooperation 2006-2013

The EU Canada Cooperation project aims to add a new EU/Canada dimension to student cooperation in higher education and training. There are a number of objectives which include promoting closer understanding between the people of the European Community and Canada, including broader knowledge of their languages, cultures and institutions and an exchange of skills related to the knowledge based economy.

The European Union and Canada have extended the agreement in the fields of higher education, training and youth for another eight-year period (2006-2013). The agreement, signed on 5 December 2006 at the informal education ministerial meeting in Helsinki (Finland), renews and reinforces the longstanding EU-Canada cooperation programme that was established in 1995. It aims primarily at promoting understanding between the peoples of the European Union and Canada and improving the quality of their human resource development.

Consortium projects will continue to be a cornerstone of the new programme. Important new dimensions are added, such as measures to foster an in-depth dialogue on policy issues, new activities in the area of youth, and the establishment of an alumni association to help keep former grantees in long-term touch with one another and to promote the cooperation scheme among future generations of students.

The EU-Canada Programme is administered jointly by the European Commission's Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) and by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC), in conjunction with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. The new programme plans to implement roughly



210 projects with some 4.500 EU and Canadian individuals participating in mobility activities over the eight year period from 2006 to 2013.

Current call : 2008
Current deadline : 11 April 2008
Budget : €18million (2006-2013), €1.242 million for 2008
Budget per project : up to €138,000
Programme funds : around 20 students from each institution
No. of projects funded: 210 projects, 4500 EU and Canadian individuals
Partners required : 2 x EU and 2 Canadian provinces in each joint consortium
Next call : Expected call 2009

Website

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/eu-canada/index_en.html

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EU USA Cooperation 2006-2013

The EU – USA Cooperation in higher education, vocational education and training programme aims at promoting understanding between the people of the EU and the USA and improving the quality of their human resources development. The programme supports innovative, multilateral, student centred projects with the potential to stimulate substantive and long lasting structural transatlantic cooperation.

From implementing small curriculum components among consortia composed of six partners, as in the past, the new programme pursues the more ambitious aim of implementing joint or dual transatlantic undergraduate degrees within a smaller consortium. In doing so, the European Commission and the US Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE) decided to promote a Transatlantic Degree Programme that can contribute to innovation and recognition of curricula and teaching methods and to the acquisition of skills required to meet the challenges of the global knowledge-based economy. Proposals for Transatlantic Degrees may focus on any postsecondary programme of study provided that they clearly demonstrate how an international degree programme will prepare students better for work in an international context. The programme plans to implement over 200 projects with some 6,000 EU and US individuals participating in mobility activities over the eight year period from 2006 to 2013.

The European Commission provides funding for the direct use of the EU partners, and the U.S. Department of Education (FIPSE) provides funding for the direct use of American partners. For EU institutions, the budget available in 2008 amounts to approximately €4.5 million. Comparable funding will be provided for U.S. institutions, pending annual congressional appropriations. The largest portion will be devoted to Transatlantic Degree



Consortia Projects. It is anticipated that eight Transatlantic Degree projects, four Excellence in Mobility and seven Policy-Oriented Measures projects will be funded in 2008.

More specifically, the **Transatlantic Degree** Programme foresees, for the EU side of each selected 4-year consortia project, maximum funding of €408 - €428,000 which will be earmarked as follows: up to €288,000 for student mobility grants, €60-€80,000 for Faculty mobility grants and €60,000 for the partner institutions. For 4-year **Excellence in mobility** projects a maximum of €180,000 of funding is available. Two-year **Policy oriented measures** may receive funding up to 75% of the actual project cost with a maximum of €70,000 per selected project. FIPSE will provide equivalent funding to the US side of each selected consortium. For further details on financial provisions please refer to the detailed guidelines in section 9 of the 2008 call for proposals. Activities within this programme include:

- **Transatlantic Degree action** providing support to multilateral partnerships of EU and US institutions for the purpose of setting up joint study programmes - including joint/double degrees - and transatlantic mobility of students and faculty;
- **Excellence Mobility Projects**, providing follow-up financial support for student mobility to joint consortia that have a proven track record of excellence in transatlantic cooperation;
- **Policy-oriented measures**, addressing comparative higher education and vocational training issues, and promoting dialogue on recognition of qualifications and accreditations;

Transatlantic Degree consortia:

Deadline	:	2 April 2008 Next expected call 2009
Budget	:	The overall amount of funding on the EU side for a 4-year project cannot exceed a maximum of €428,000
No. of projects funded	:	8 transatlantic degree actions
Partners required	:	Must involve 2 higher education institutions from different Member States and at least 1 US institution

Excellence Mobility Projects:

Deadline	:	2 April 2008 Next expected call 2009
Budget	:	The overall amount of funding on the EU side for a 4-year project cannot exceed a maximum of €180,000
No. of projects funded:	:	4 projects
Partners required	:	Must involve 2 higher education institutions from different Member States and at least 1 US institution

Policy oriented measures:

Deadline	:	2 April 2008
Budget	:	Maximum of €70,000 from EU side for a 2-year project
Programme funds	:	Up to 75% of the eligible expenditure
No. of projects funded:	:	7 measures
Partners required:	:	Must involve 2 higher education institutions from different Member States and 1 US institution

Websites http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/usa/call2008/index_en.htm
http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/eu-usa/index_en.html



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Europe for Citizens programme 2007-2013

The Europe for Citizens 2007 – 2013 follows on from the previous programme which ended in 2006 and supports a wide range of activities and organisations promoting 'active European citizenship', especially the involvement of citizens and civil society organisations in the process of European integration. The programme has a total budget of budget of €215 million. It is a contribution to addressing a major challenge of the European Union, namely how to bridge the gap between citizens and the European Union.

This programme provides the Union with instruments to promote active European citizenship. It puts citizens in the centre and offers them the opportunity to fully assume their responsibility as European citizens. It responds to the need to improve citizens' participation in the construction of Europe and will encourage cooperation between citizens and their organisations from different countries in order to meet, act together and develop their own ideas in a European environment which goes beyond a national vision, meanwhile respecting their diversity.

Intercultural exchanges will contribute to improving the mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the European peoples. It will bring our common heritage to the fore and strengthen the basis for our common future. Mutual understanding, solidarity and the feeling of belonging to Europe are indeed the building blocks for the involvement of citizens and are reflected by the four different programme actions:

- **Action I "Active citizens for Europe"** involves citizens directly, either through activities linked to town-twinning or through other kinds of citizens' projects (at least 45% of total budget to be spent on Action 1). **Rolling deadlines apply depending on when the project is to start.**
- **Action II "Active civil society for Europe"** is targeted to Europe-wide civil society organisations, receiving either structural support on the basis of their work programme or support trans-national projects (approx. 31% of budget to be spent on Action 2). **An annual deadline of 15 February applies for projects under this action.**
- **Action III "Together for Europe"** supports high visibility events, studies and information tools, addressing the widest possible audience across frontiers and making Europe more tangible for its citizens (approx. 10% of budget to be spent on Action 2).
- **Action IV : "Active European Remembrance"** supports the preservation of the main sites and archives associated with the deportations and the commemoration of the victims of Nazism and Stalinism (approx. 4% of budget to be spent on Action 2). **An annual deadline of 30 April applies for projects under this action.**

NB: the funding for each project varies depending on a number of factors, for some projects funding can extend to €50,000. For more information see the programme guide.

Website : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.htm

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Youth in Action (2007 – 2013)

The Programme is open to youth in 31 European countries as well as many further partner countries. The YOUTH programme offers possibilities to young people, from the age of 13 to 30, in the form of both group exchanges and individual voluntary work, as well as support activities. The Programme has a total budget of €885 million. The Commission intends to implement at least 35 000 youth exchange projects by the time the Programme ends in 2013 with 10,000 volunteer projects per year.

The Youth in Action Programme makes an important contribution to the acquisition of competences and is therefore a key instrument in providing young people with opportunities for non-formal and informal learning with a European dimension, encouraging involvement from young people with fewer opportunities.

This Programme is the result of a large consultation with the different stakeholders in the youth field and is the response to the evolutions in the youth sector at European level. It aims to inspire a sense of European citizenship among the youth of Europe and to involve them in constructing the future of the Community. In order to achieve its objectives, the Youth in Action Programme foresees five operational Actions:

- **Action 1** - Youth for Europe: supporting exchanges and youth initiatives and encouraging young people's participation in democratic life;
- **Action 2** - European Voluntary Service: encouraging young people to take part in a voluntary activity abroad that benefits the general public;
- **Action 3** - Youth in the World: encouraging cooperation with Partner Countries by building networks, promoting the exchange of information and assisting with cross-border activities;
- **Action 4** - Youth Support Systems: promoting the development of exchange, training and information schemes;
- **Action 5** - European Cooperation in the youth field contributing to the development of policy cooperation in the youth field, e.g. transnational youth seminars.

2008 is the Commission's Year of Intercultural Dialogue, therefore priority will be given to projects with a specific focus on this theme. Other priorities for 2008 include combating violence against women, sport as a tool to promote active citizenship and social inclusion of young people, promoting healthy lifestyles through physical activities including sport, and preparation of the 2009 European Year of Innovation and Creativity and European Parliament election.

Typical European level Deadlines: Sept 1 for projects starting Jan – July

Budget	:	€885 million over 2007-2013 period
Intended No. of Projects	:	35,000 youth exchanges over 2007-2013 period 10,000 volunteer projects per year
Program Funds	:	Must be co-funded



For specific funding details Action 1 see pages 24-47; Action 2 see 48-68; Action see 69-84; Action 4, see 85-94; Action 5 see 95-102 of the Youth in action Programme Guide (http://ec.europa.eu/youth/pdf/doc599_en.pdf)

Websites :
http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-in-action-programme/doc74_en.htm
<http://www.britishcouncil.org/connectyouth.htm>

Intelligent Energy Education Initiative

The aim of the initiative is to contribute to the development of energy education in primary, secondary and higher education by encouraging co-operation between member states & to make the younger generation aware of and adopt intelligent energy behaviour. The total budget allocated to implementation of Intelligent Energy – Europe II (the umbrella programme) for the period 2007-2013 is €727.3 million. With €65 million allocated in 2007.

The Initiative had 2 actions in **2007**:

- To contribute to development of energy education in primary, secondary and higher education by encouraging cooperation between Member States
- To make young generations adopt intelligent energy behaviour

The following types of actions were supported **last year**:

- Development of information, education and training structures and utilisation of results
- Promotion and dissemination of know-how and best practices involving all consumers
- Dissemination of results of the action and projects and cooperation with Member States through operational networks

Current call	:	N/A
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€50 million
Budget per project	:	unknown
Programme funds	:	75%, co-funded
No. of projects funded:	:	65 UK grants expected
Partners required	:	3
Next call	:	Expected in mid-March

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/index_en.htm

For details of specific projects within the framework of this programme see:
http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/projects/education_en.htm

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Tempus IV (2007-2013)

The 'Trans-European mobility scheme for university studies' is the EU programme that supports the modernisation of higher education in the partner countries of the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, North Africa and the Middle East. It contributes to creating an area of cooperation in the field of higher education between the European Union and partner countries surrounding the European Union. It was established in 1990 following the fall of the Berlin Wall and has been renewed four times.

Tempus finances two types of action:

- **Joint Projects** - based on multilateral partnerships between higher education institutions in the EU and partner countries. They can develop, modernise and disseminate new curricula, teaching methods or materials, boost a quality assurance culture, and modernise the management and governance of higher education institutions
- **Structural Measures** contribute to the development and reform of higher education institutions and systems in partner countries, to enhance their quality and relevance, and increase their convergence with EU developments.

NB: Joint Projects include small scale and short duration mobility activities for students, academic staff, researchers, university administrators and enterprise, and new curricula includes the development and establishment of study programmes with a double or multiple degree or a joint degree.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	28 April 2008
Budget	:	€51 million (2007-2013)
Budget per project	:	€500,000 to €1.5 million
Programme funds	:	up to 50%
No. of projects funded:	:	25
Partners required	:	varies depending on the project – see page 12 of the call
Next call	:	Expected 2009

Website : http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/tempus/index_en.html

For the full text of the call see:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/tempus/call08/call_en.pdf

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European Energy Funding Guide

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European Union cooperation in the energy sector concentrates on the following objectives:

- To improve competition among firms engaged in the energy sector
- To create common legislation that encourages the liberalisation of the natural gas and electricity sectors
- To guarantee stable and secure supplies
- To protect the environment
- To encourage energy saving policies
- To encourage investment in renewable forms of energy

The European Union wants to encourage common energy policies with the aim of ensuring equal access conditions at the European level to the advantage of firms that purchase and sell energy alike. Guaranteeing sufficient energy resources by assuring the availability of supplies and protecting the environment through the development of alternative energy sources are goals that are considered best achieved through common measures.

Within the context of the Kyoto Protocol, increased energy efficiency and incentives for using clean energy have become issues of fundamental importance. In line with this, in June 2005, the European Commission published its Green Paper entitled 'Energy Efficiency – Doing more with less'. This was followed, in October 2006, by the publication of its action plan to help encourage energy savings, entitled 'Energy Efficiency – Realising the potential'.

The European Commission has created a strategy for doubling the use of energy from renewable sources from 6% to 12% by 2010. In line with this goal, in March 2006, the European Commission published a green paper on a 'European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy'.

The nuclear sector, coordinated by the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), is an important aspect of EU energy policy. Euratom was founded in 1957 and has a series of tasks, among which is the study and development of a peaceful use of nuclear energy, the definition of safety standards and the creation of a common market for this type of energy.



Intelligent Energy – Europe II Programme

The Intelligent Energy – Europe II Programme (IEE II) is a follow-up to the Intelligent Energy – Europe programme, which ran from 2003-2006. The IEE II programme falls under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP).

The IEE II programme is designed to foster action in line with the European Commission's Security of Supply Green Paper (COM (2000) 769). The programme aims to strengthen security of the EU's energy supply, fight climate change and stimulate competitiveness within the European energy industry.

The programme provides financial support to local, regional and national initiatives in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy aspects of transport. For energy funding linked to transport, see the Transport funding section that is also available.

The objectives of the 2007-2013 IEE II Programme are:

- Foster energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources
- Increase the uptake and demand for energy efficiency
- Promote new and renewable energy sources and support energy diversification
- Stimulate energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources in transport
- Promote security of energy supply

The IEE II Programme is structured around three strands. These are:

- **SAVE** – This strand aims to promote energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources, particularly in the building and industry sectors
- **ALTENER** – This strand focuses on renewable heating and cooling, domestic and small-scale power generation and integrating new and renewable energy sources into local energy systems
- **STEER** – This strand supports initiatives relating to the diversification of fuels, promoting renewable fuels and energy efficiency in transport

Current call:	N/A
Current deadline:	N/A
Budget:	€45 million (2008 call for projects)
No of projects:	N/A
Programme funds:	Up to 75% of eligible costs
Partners required:	Yes – a minimum of 3 different partners from 3 different eligible countries
Next call:	Expected late February 2008
Website:	http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html
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7th Framework Programme for Research - Cooperation Theme 5: ENERGY

The main aim of the Seventh Framework Programme is to take forward the achievements of the 6th Framework Programme in establishing a European Research Area (ERA). The objective of the ERA is to promote and encourage a knowledge economy and society in Europe. For more information on the 7th Framework Programme see the Research Section that is also available.

The Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) brings all research-related European Union initiatives together into a common framework and is the main financial tool through which the European Union supports research and development activities in almost all scientific disciplines.

The 7th Framework Programme is structured around 4 main programmes. These are:

- **Cooperation** – collaborative research will form the most significant element of FP7. This programme will also include the co-ordination of non-European Community research programmes and international cooperation.
- **Ideas** - This programme aims to promote dynamism and excellence at the frontier of knowledge in European research. Projects will be based on proposals by researchers on topics of their choice. Projects submitted under this programme will be assessed through a process of peer review.



- **People** – This programme aims to improve training and opportunities for European researchers by developing an open European labour market, increasing the numbers of researchers in the R&D sector and encouraging European researchers to stay in Europe.
- **Capacities** – This programme aims to support research infrastructures including data banks, imaging systems and observatories.

The **Cooperation** programme is divided into 9 themes. These are:

1. Health
2. Food, agriculture and biotechnology
3. Information and communication technologies
4. Nano-sciences, nano-technologies, materials and new production technologies
5. Energy
6. Environment (including climate change)
7. Transport
8. Socio-economic sciences and humanities
9. Space and security

The total budget for the Seventh Framework Programme for 2007-2013 is €50.5 billion Euros. The Cooperation budget is 32,365 million Euros and the Energy theme budget is €2350 million.

The Energy theme under FP7 will focus research on the development of cost-effective technologies. The Energy theme aims to adapt the current fossil-fuel based energy system to make it more sustainable, with less dependence on imported fuels and a more diverse and environmentally friendly energy mix. Energy efficiency and conservation are also key to creating a more secure and sustainable energy supply in the European Union.

In 2008, the Energy theme will launch calls on the following energy topics:

- **Hydrogen and fuel cells** - supporting EU fuel cell and hydrogen industries, for stationary, portable and transport applications.
- **Renewable electricity generation** - technologies to increase overall conversion efficiency, cost efficiency and reliability, driving down the cost of electricity production.
- **Renewable fuel production** - fuel production systems and conversion technologies. Renewables for heating and cooling - technologies for cheaper, more efficient active and passive heating and cooling from renewable energy sources.
- **CO₂ capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation** - technologies reducing the environmental impact of fossil fuel use by capturing CO₂.
- **Smart energy networks** - increasing the efficiency, safety, reliability and quality of the European electricity and gas systems and networks in the context of a more integrated European energy market.
- **Energy efficiency and savings** - technologies to improve energy efficiency and to enable final and primary energy consumption savings, over their life-cycle, for buildings (including lighting), transport, services and industry.
- **Knowledge for energy policy making** - tools, methods and models to assess the economic and social issues related to energy technologies and to provide quantifiable targets and scenarios for medium and long term horizons.



Current call : 29 November 2007
Current deadline : 26 February 2008
Budget : €26 million
No of projects : N/A
Programme funds : Research – 50% (75% for SMEs, public bodies and universities). Demonstration – 50% for all organisations
Partners required : Yes – calls will be implemented using Collaborative Projects (CP), Networks of Excellence (NoE) and Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)
Next call : Expected March 2008.
A larger call, the '2009' call for proposals, is expected late 2008/early 2009
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European Research Portal: www.ec.europa.eu/research

General information on the 7th Framework Programme: www.ec.europa.eu/research/fp7

Information on programmes, projects and FP7 call documents: www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7

General information requests: www.ec.europa.eu/research/enquiries



CONCERTO Initiative

The Concerto initiative is a European Union initiative which supports local communities in developing concrete schemes that are both sustainable and highly energy efficient. Communities supported by Concerto work towards a completely integrated energy policy, harmonising a substantial use of renewable energy sources with innovative technologies and systems to minimise energy consumption and to improve the quality of citizen's lives.

The Concerto initiative will support the demonstration of integrated design and planning processes as well as energy efficient technologies such as co-generation/tri-generation. The initiative will apply to both new and retrofitted communities and municipal zones, with the objective of drastically reducing specific and overall energy consumption, particularly conventional energy.

The funding available comes from the EU's Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7) and supports integrated demonstration and dissemination actions which are carried out with an EU dimension and which involve the real scale application of new, renewable and efficient energy technologies.

While the Seventh Framework Programme will run from 2007-2013, first calls for proposals under the Concerto initiative are not expected until 2008.

Current call	:	N/A
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€2350million for the Energy theme for 2007-2013.
No of projects	:	N/A
Programme funds	:	Not known
Partners required	:	Yes – calls will be implemented using Collaborative Projects (CP), Networks of Excellence (NoE) and Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)
Next call	:	Expected late 2008/early 2009
Europe contact	:	Alexandros Kotronaros DG Energy and Transport Fax : + 32 2 296 6016 Email : TREN-concerto@ec.europa.eu : Alexandros.Kotronaros@ec.europa.eu

European Investment Bank

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the European Union's financing institution and it is driven by European Union policy. The EIB raises funds on the markets and uses these funds to finance, using favourable terms, capital projects that meet EU objectives.

The EIB lending facility is available for renewable energy. EIB lending for renewable energy initiatives is expected to reach up to 50% of the Bank's total financing for new electricity generation capacity in the EU by 2008-2010.

Examples of schemes funded to date include a solar module production plant, wind farms (both onshore and offshore) and the construction of biomass-fired combined heat and power plants.



The EIB's five priority areas under the Energy Theme are:

1. Renewable Energy
2. Energy Efficiency
3. Research, Development and Innovation
4. Diversification and security of internal supply
5. External energy security and economic development

The EIB provides loans for projects costing a minimum of €25 million. The maximum support available is 50% of these project costs.

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European Enterprise & Innovation Funding Guide

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The Lisbon European Council, held in March 2000, set the European Union a strategic objective for the coming decade: to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustained economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion. In 2005, the Lisbon strategy was re-launched with a renewed emphasis on growth and jobs.

EU Enterprise Policy is a central plank of the EU's effort to meet the Lisbon objectives. It aims to enhance the competitiveness of European enterprises and meet the challenges of globalisation and the knowledge economy. This is achieved by helping to create an environment in which firms can thrive through:

- Enhancing the growth and competitiveness of business in a knowledge based internationalised economy
- Promoting entrepreneurship
- Simplifying and improving the administrative and regulatory framework for business so that research, innovation and business creation, in particular, can flourish
- Improving the financial environment for business, especially SMEs
- Giving business easier access to Community support services, programmes and networks and improving the coordination of these facilities

As well as outlining funding opportunities, this section also contains information on EU projects that aim to provide support and advice for European SMEs. For details on funding opportunities in third countries, please see the Asia-Invest programme in the Enterprise Section of this guide.



Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) (2007-2013)

The CIP programme came into being in October 2006 after approval by the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament. It is a specific Community support programme that solely focuses on boosting European productivity, innovation, competitiveness and growth, taking into consideration environmental concerns. The Programme has Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) at its heart and this means facilitating easy access for SMEs into the programme. The Commission has published a manual for SMEs on how to get involved. The Programme has a budget of €3.621billion.

The programme incorporated several existing programmes in this field, including;

- Measures to strengthen competitiveness of European industry
- Multi-annual programme for enterprise and entrepreneurship, especially SMEs
- Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE)
- Multi-annual programme for monitoring of the eEurope 2005 Action Plan
- Multi-annual programme to stimulate development and use of European digital content

The CIP is open to all EU27, EEA members, candidate countries of the Western Balkans and other third countries, especially neighbouring countries.

There are three individual and specific sub-programmes of the CIP, and the theme of SMEs runs through all three:

1. The **Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)** (€2.17 billion) includes:
 - Bringing together activities on entrepreneurship, SMEs and industrial competitiveness and innovation
 - Targeting SMEs that range from high tech, high risk firms to traditional family owned companies
 - Looking at gender and age issues and entrepreneurship
 - Removing obstacles and increase involvement and development in environmental technologies.
 - Fostering sector-specific innovations, clusters, public-private innovation partnerships and innovation management
 - Providing support for regional innovation policy-making and innovation support services
 - Analysing and monitoring of innovation performance
 - Development of innovation governance
2. The **ICT Policy Support Programme** (€728million) includes:
 - Supporting actions identifies in '2010: European Information Society'
 - Stimulating uptake of ICT by citizens, businesses and governments
 - Intensifying public investment in ICT
 - Actions to develop the single European information space
 - Development of common approaches, best practices and coordinated actions
3. The **Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme** (€727million) includes:
 - Non-technological activities in the field of energy and sustainability
 - Creation of market opportunities in this area
 - Raising awareness
 - Accelerating action to the agreed Community strategy in sustainable energy



- Facilitating development and implementation of energy regulatory framework
- Increasing investment in new and best performing technologies
- Increasing uptake and demand for energy efficiency and renewable sources
- Bridging the gap between innovative technologies and introduction into the mass market

This sub-programme has three specific fields of focus

- I. energy efficiency (SAVE)
- II. new and renewable sources (ALTENER)
- III. energy aspects of transport (STEER)

The Competitiveness and Innovation Programme is intended to be complementary to the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) but with more of a focus on innovation and SMEs.

NB: Funding opportunities under the **ICT Policy Support Programme** and the **Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme** are addressed in the Information Society and Environment sections of this guide.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)

Access to Finance for SMEs

This heading covers measure 'A' of the 2008 work programme and consists of a number of financial instruments, as well as measures to improve policies on access to finance. The overall objective of the financial instruments is to improve access to finance for the start-up and growth of SMEs, and investment in innovation activities, including eco-innovation. This will be achieved by:

- Increasing the investment volumes of risk capital funds and investment vehicles promoted by business angels
- Providing leverage to SME debt financing instruments and thus increasing the supply of debt finance to SMEs

Three Community instruments, managed by the European Investment Fund in Luxemburg (EIF), finance this part of the programme:

- High Growth and Innovative SME Facility (GIF)
- SME Guarantee Facility (SMEG)
- Capacity Building Scheme (CBS)

These instruments are not directly available to SMEs; they will have access to them via financial intermediaries in the UK. Note that SMEs do not need to go through a call for proposals process; these instruments are *not* grants but normal loans and/or equity with risk participation by the European Union.

Current call	:	N/A
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€143 million to be split 50/50 between guarantees and venture capital investments. Of this, €23 million is earmarked for eco-innovation projects.
Budget per project	:	Not known
Programme funds	:	Maximum 90% of the total costs of an action (as loan)
No. of projects funded:	:	Not known



Partners required : N/A
Next call : Four calls throughout 2008

Measure 'A' also includes 'improving access to finance' which aims to identify good practice relating to policies on access to finance, help participating countries implement them and monitor progress. Outcomes will be bringing innovative ideas to market and creating the right environment for banks and SMEs.

Calls for tenders are expected in the 1st quarter of 2008 with a budget of €160,000.

Support Services

This heading covers measure 'B' of the 2008 work programme, the objective of which is 'the creation of an environment favourable to SME cooperation'. It consists of a new network which aims to ensure the support of business and innovation for SMEs. This network will provide information, feedback, business cooperation, internationalisation services, services for innovation and the transfer of technology and knowledge services encouraging the participation in FP7. See the 2008 work programme for full details of the support measures.

Current call : Ongoing
Current deadline : Ongoing
Budget : €320 million 2008-2013, €74.2 million inc. €1.38 million for animation of the new network (2008)
Budget per project : N/A
Programme funds : Maximum 60% of eligible costs
No. of projects funded: Not known
Partners required : None
Next call : N/A

Other implementing measures

This heading includes measures 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' of the work programme, this includes innovation, eco-innovation, entrepreneurship and innovation culture and administrative reform. Under these headings the EU will provide support to projects applying for the first time or market replication of innovative or eco-innovative techniques which have already been technically shown to be successful but which, due to residual risk, have not yet significantly penetrated the market. Funding under this heading will also be available for studies, surveys and data collection; pairing and meetings of experts; awareness raising networking and other relevant activities; and benchmarking of national and regional performances.

Current call : N/A
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : €48 million (2008) combined for headings C,D,E & F.
Budget per project : Not known
No. of projects funded: Not known
Partners required : Not known
Next call : There will be a number of calls under this heading in 2008, dates varying depending on project and heading. See 2008 work programme for details.



Website http://ec.europa.eu/cip/eip_en.htm
2008 Work Programme http://ec.europa.eu/cip/docs/eip_wp2008.pdf
See also www.eif.org

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Business and Innovation Centres (BICS)

BICs act as a catalyst to enhance and motivate business and entrepreneurial activity. BIC services are available to individual entrepreneurs and SMEs who have an interest in developing new technology based products. BICs have links with both the public and private sectors and also with research centres such as universities.

Both the business and technological potential of the projects are assessed as well as market research projects. Entrepreneurs are assisted with formulating a sound business plan, funding and assistance with self funding is available.

There are more than 160 such centres across Europe – some of which set up cross border links to encourage business partnerships with other European regions.

Website <http://www.ebn.be>
http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/innovation/innovating/guidec_en.htm

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Community Strategy on Health and Safety at Work 2007-2013

The Community Strategy on Health and Safety at Work aims at cutting work-related illness and accidents by a quarter across the EU. It follows on from the previous Community Strategy 2002-2006 which led to reductions in workplace fatalities and absences of over three days. As with previous strategies a particular emphasis is placed on partnership at European and national levels to achieve good results in safety and health.

The Commission has set the objective of the strategy as reducing by 25% the total incidence rate of accidents at work per 100 000 workers in the EU 27 for the period 2007-2012. In order to achieve this the following measures are undertaken:

- Guaranteeing the proper implementation of EU legislation
- Supporting SMEs in the implementation of the legislation in force
- Adapting the legal framework to changes in the workplace and simplify it, particularly in view of SMEs
- Promoting the development and implementation of national strategies
- Encouraging changes in the behaviour of workers and encourage their employers to adopt health-focused approaches
- Finalising the methods for identifying and evaluating new potential risks
- Improving the tracking of progress
- Promoting health and safety at international level

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work acts as a driving force in matters concerning awareness building and risk anticipation in this field. Actions which are funded tend to focus on benchmarking and the exchange of best practice. Each year awards are given for best practice. No details are yet available for the 2008 competition however general information and information on how to nominate an organisation can be found at the 2007 website: <http://ew2007.osha.europa.eu/goodpracticeawards/>.

In principle, the Agency as such does not have the resources to give financial support to external projects. From time to time, however, the Agency is commissioned by the European Union to administer and implement specific funding activities that are directly related to improving safety and health at work. You can find information about such schemes on the news section of the agency's homepage: <http://osha.europa.eu/>.

For the full text of the strategy see:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/news/2007/feb/commstrat_en.pdf

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Executive Training Programme – Japan & Korea

This programme offers executive training abroad in Japan or Korea. It is a 12 month training programme for multinational corporations, SMEs and family owned business that currently have, or would like to develop, business links with Japan or Korea, allowing SMEs to develop staffing in and exports in these countries. The company or organisation that participants come from must be based in the EU.

The programme offers:

- **3 months** of lectures on Japanese or Korean business culture and cross cultural communication, together with intensive language lessons. The training is organised in Paris, Milan and London, complemented by distance learning.
- **6 months** of advanced language and business culture training, organised in Tokyo (ETP Japan) or Seoul (ETP Korea)
- **3 months** of internship in a Japanese or Korean-based company, plus reinforced language training

Those wishing to take part should be EU nationals, working for an internationally oriented EU company with an Asian aspect, which includes or will include Japan or Korea. They should be graduates, with at least two years business experience, a full year contract of employment and a record of early achievement in business. Candidates should also be able to demonstrate the role they play in their company's Japanese or Korean strategy. A good command of English is essential.

The European Commission will pay departure and tuition costs. Employers will be expected to pay the participant's return travel costs and make a contribution towards living expenses.

Next call : Expected first quarter of 2008
Next deadline : Unknown
Budget per project : European Yearly Scholarship of €24,000. The sponsoring corporation is expected to make further contributions
Programme funds : All the costs of the training and provides a basic living allowance for 12 months
No. of projects funded: **Japan:** 45 places are available
Korea: 15 places are available
Partners required : No
Website : <http://www.etp.org>
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British Chambers Of Commerce
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UK contact (NW) : Lynn Shaw
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H RTP Japan Industry Insight

The EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation - a non-profit public organisation - has been running training programmes in Japan on behalf of the Directorate General for Enterprise of the European Commission and the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) for over 15 years. This is a scholarship based programme that allows business executives to spend 4 – 5 weeks in Japan learning Japanese language, industrial structure and business practices, and to experience Japanese culture. This programme is targeted at managers who have a major role in defining and implementing their company's policies in relation to Japan or who are to be transferred to Japan or who wish to be kept informed about the management practices and technological evolutions in Japan.

The candidates must:

- Mainly be managers from industrial companies
- Have a minimum of 5 to 10 years experience in industry
- Have a good command of the English language
- Be nationals of an EU Member State
- Be presented by their employer
- Be able to participate in the entire programme.

The main criteria for selection are the professional & educational background of the candidate and the strategy of the participant's company regarding business with Japan.

In addition to the training programme, there is a total of €100,000 available in scholarships per year. These scholarships are restricted to participants from EU small and medium enterprises with a maximum of 250 employees worldwide, with a maximum turnover of €40 million and a maximum balance sheet of €27 million.

Current call	:	For departure May 2008
Current deadline	:	27 February 2008
Programme funds	:	All costs directly related to the programme, a single room at a local hotel, Commission grant of around €74/day to some SMEs Participant's company pays travel and further subsistence costs
No. of projects funded:		Unknown, but limited number
Partners required	:	No
Next call	:	2009
Website	:	http://www.eujapan.com
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Employment, Social Affairs & Equal Opportunities Funding

Industrial Relations and Social Dialogue

This programme supports actions in the field of European social dialogue and in the field of knowledge on industrial relations. The types of actions which are funded include: preparatory research activities, surveys, meetings, conferences, dissemination of results, setting up of networks of experts, round tables of experts, setting up of databases, training of social auditors. The programme runs on a yearly basis and eligible organisations include: social partner organisations, public authorities, NGOs for the promotion of fundamental social rights.

Current call : 2008
Current deadline : 14 March & 1 September 2008 depending on start date
Budget : €13 million (2008)
Budget per project : Average for 2007 was €155,000
Programme funds : Up to 80% of the total costs of the action
No. of projects funded: Not known
Partners required : Yes
Next call : Expected 2009

Website http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=2565

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Information, Consultation and Participation of Representatives of Undertakings

This annual call for proposals funds measures which are aimed at strengthening trans-national cooperation between worker and employer representatives in respect of information, consultation and participation within undertakings operating in more than one Member State. In particular it aims to fund measures which increase the presence of



women and also innovative measures concerning the prevention and resolution of conflicts in multinational undertakings particularly those relating to restructuring.

Applicants must be representatives of workers or employers, such as trade unions. Joint worker/employer measures are particularly encouraged.

Current call	:	Open
Current deadline	:	31 March & 5 September 2008 depending on start date
Budget	:	€8 million (2008)
Budget per project	:	Average for 2007 was €118,000
Programme funds	:	Up to 80% of eligible costs
No. of projects funded:	:	Not known.
Partners required	:	Yes
Next call	:	2009

Website http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=2785

Europe contact	:	European Commission – DG EMPL/F2 DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Rue de Genève 1-J37 4/21 B-1049 Brussels Belgium empl-04-03-03-03@ec.europa.eu
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"INFOPOINT" managed by SDA asbl, mandated by ETUC (European Trade Union Confederation) and financed by [the European Commission](#) offers free assistance to project promoters in the preparation of transnational cooperation projects in this field.

For further information, contact Mr. STANZANI, Director of SDA:

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Information and Training Measures for Worker's Organisations

This programme supports information and training measures for workers' organisations. The types of actions which can be funded include: preparatory surveys, meetings, seminars, conferences, round tables, setting up of networks, setting up of databases, and dissemination of results.

The programme runs on a yearly basis and European social partners organisations representing workers are eligible to apply as are national, regional or local social partners representing workers.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	25 April 2008
Budget	:	€3.6 million (2008)
Budget per project	:	Average for 2007 was €140,000
Programme funds	:	Up to 90% of the total costs of an action
Partners required	:	Not known
Next call	:	2009



Website http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/tenders_en.cfm?id=2685

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Innovation 2010 and loans from the European Investment Bank

The Innovation 2010 Initiative (i2i) is a loan programme rooted in the European Investment Bank's (EIB) experience with implementing the Innovation 2000 Initiative, which was launched in June 2000 to take forward the conclusions of the Lisbon European Council, aimed at fostering the development of a knowledge and innovation-based European economy. Innovation 2010 provides a framework for EIB action until the end of the decade. The EIB will conduct a mid-term review to fine tune the initiative's priorities and instruments up to the end of 2010.

The Bank's overall objective for i2i is to mobilise up to €50 billion until 2010. From 2000-2006, loans advanced under i2i had reached close to €45 billion. In order to further the €5 billion remaining, under FP7 a Risk-Sharing Finance Facility (RSFF) has been set up which will use

Community grant resources, together with its own funds, to cover part of the risks associated with loans that have a higher risk profile, which allows the EIB to make available in loans for an additional amount of six times the value of the grant. The programme uses senior loans, loans through risk sharing, and equity participations and counter guarantees.

Innovation 2010 gives priority to projects located in regional development areas: the creation of centres of excellence in the less favoured regions of the EU or the countries due to become Members. It concentrates on four priority areas:

- Education and training
- Innovation and competitiveness
- R&D and downstream investment
- Creation and dissemination of information and communication technologies (ICT)

Current call : Ongoing
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : €5 billion (2008-2010)
Budget per project : Not known
Programme funds : Up to 50% from the EIB (as loans)
No. of projects funded: 5 in UK, 88 in total in 2007
€915 million worth of loans provided in 2007
Partners required : N/A

Website : <http://www.eib.org/i2i/en/index.htm>
http://www.eib.org/cms/htm/en/eib.org/attachments/thematic/innovation_2010_initiative_en.pdf

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FP7 Funding for SMEs

Research for the benefit of SMEs

Under the capacities strand of the seventh framework programme funding is available to help strengthen the innovation capacity of European SMEs and their contribution to the development of new technology based products and markets by helping them outsource research, increase their research efforts, extend their networks, better exploit research results and acquire technological know how, bridging the gap between research and innovation.

Research and technological development activities must form the core of the project. The research and technological development activities of the RTD performers should form the bulk of the project. SMEs should focus on testing and validation of project results and the preparatory stages for further use. Knowledge management and IPR protection should support the SMEs in protecting and using the research results to their best advantage, leading to a clear economic impact.

Demonstration activities designed to prove the viability of new technologies that offer a potential economic advantage, but which cannot be commercialised directly (e.g. testing of product-like prototypes) can also be funded.

Other activities to facilitate the take-up of results by the SMEs, in particular training and dissemination: Training activities are performed in general by the RTD performers and are aimed at technical and managerial staff from the participating SMEs. Training should focus on results/technologies generated by the projects. Training activities should normally not exceed 10% of the total eligible project costs. Dissemination activities may include conferences, publications, workshops or web-based initiatives.

Identifier : FP7-SME-2008-1
Current call open : 30 November 2007
Current deadline : 11 April 2008
Budget : €93 million
Budget per project : €0.5 - 1.5 million
No. of projects funded: 100 - 150
Partners required : 5-10: at least 3 independent SMEs from three different countries and 2 RTD performers independent from any other participant. Other legal entities that make a particular



contribution to the project and to solving specific problems or needs of SMEs may participate, though not in a dominant role. These must be independent from the SME participants and the RTD performers.

Next call : Possibly late 2008

Website

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=105

Research for SME Associations

Research for SME associations supports SME associations in developing technical solutions to problems common to a large number of SMEs in specific industrial sectors or segments of the value chain through research, for example, to develop or conform to European norms and standards, and to meet regulatory requirements in areas such as health, safety and environmental protection. Projects must be driven by the SME associations which outsource research to RTD performers for the benefit of their members and must involve a number of individual SMEs.

Identifier : FP7-SME-2008-2
 Current call : Closed
 Current deadline : Expected deadline for next call 26 September 2008
 Budget : Not yet decided, however not less than €10 million
 Budget per project : In 2007 was €1.5 – 4 million
 No. of projects funded: 5-6
 Partners required : At least 3 independent SME Association/Groupings established in 3 member states or 1 participant must be a European SME Association/Grouping established in a member. This Association/Grouping must be made up of a minimum of 2 independent legal entities established in 2 member states or accession countries. At least two participants must be RTD performers and at least 2 participants must be SMEs established in 2 member states.
 Next call : June 2008

Website – see the work programme at:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=105

Co-ordination and support actions for SMEs

This strand of the programme will support actions to disseminate and exploit the results of research and the exchange of good practices. Examples of what will be supported include clustering of projects on common topics to improve interaction and joint dissemination and exploitation activities and development and implementation of strategies aimed at improved results. Contributing to the identification of priority research topics for SME associations, especially by establishing a dialogue with European Technology Platforms (ETPs) will also be funded.

Identifier : FP7-SME-2008-3
 Current call : Closed
 Current deadline : N/A, but for next call expected deadline is third quarter of 2008
 Budget : Unknown, some of 2009 budget will be used, €2 million 2007
 Budget per project : Not known



No. of projects funded: Not known
Partners required : For co-ordination of research activities: at least three legal entities established in different EU Member States or Associated countries. The entities must be independent of each other. For other co-ordination and support activities: at least one legal entity.
Next call : Second quarter of 2008

Website – see the work programme at:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.CapacitiesDetailsCallPage&call_id=105

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European Environment Funding Guide

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Environmental policy has been an issue subject to EU deliberation since 1972. The 1992 Treaty on European Union (Maastricht) was particularly important in introducing the concept of sustainable growth into environmental issues. Article 6 of the Amsterdam Treaty further strengthened the role of environmental policy: "Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the community policies and activities referred to in article 3, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development."

The treaty states that EU Environmental policy should contribute to the pursuit of:

- Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of the environment
- Protecting human health
- Ensuring a prudent and rational utilisation of natural resources
- Promoting measures to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems

At the Cardiff Summit in 1998, it was also decided that environmental considerations and the aim of sustainable development should be integrated into all EU policy areas. This has become known as the Cardiff process.

The cornerstone of EU environmental action is the Sixth Environment Action Programme entitled 'Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice' which covers the period 2001 to 2010. The priorities are: tackling climate change and global warming; protecting the natural habitat and wildlife; addressing environment and health issues and; preserving natural resources and managing waste.

In this section we will concentrate on core environment funding from the EU. However, it is important to note that funds mentioned elsewhere in this publication such as EAFRD, FIGF, ERDF, European Social Fund, URBACT, LEADER+, CIP, 7th RTD Framework Programme, Education, Training, Culture and Youth programmes and also external programmes such as the Instrument for Pre-accession and the Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument also contribute to environmental financing.



LIFE + (2007-2013)

Launched in 1992, LIFE is the main funding tool of DG Environment. LIFE is now in its fourth phase. LIFE+ will focus on the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EU environment policy and legislation. DG Environment's legislative remit is quite wide and would include policies, such as: waste; water; climate change; nature protection; chemicals; and, air quality. Those responsible for LIFE+ emphasise that activities that can be funded under other European programmes, such as ERDF and the research Framework Programme will not be funded under LIFE+. LIFE Third Countries, for example, will now be covered by the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument and the Instrument for Pre-Accession (the successor of IPSA). Even with a strict application of this rule it will be difficult to demarcate one programme from another.

LIFE+ has not yet been formally adopted. Disagreement between the Council and European Parliament means that an agreement has not yet been reached. However, adoption is expected in Spring 2007. The main bone of contention is the proposal that 80% of the programme will be delegated to national administrations to manage. This delay means that there will be delays in setting up the necessary national agencies and calls for proposals will not appear until 2008.

The Commission will draft multi-annual programmes for 2007 – 2010 and 2011 – 2013. These programmes will define the principal objectives and priority areas of action. The draft MAP (Multi-annual Programme) for 2007 - 2013 is already available and can be found on the Defra website below. Member States will then draw up their National Annual Work Programmes (NAWP) on the basis of the MAP. Defra will consult stakeholders on implementation of the programme in 2007.

LIFE+ will consist of three strands:

- Nature and Diversity – To contribute to the implementation of EU policy and legislation on nature and biodiversity, with particular reference to Natura 2000 and the Birds and Habitats Directive.
- Environment Policy and Governance – To support innovative approaches, with a special focus on climate change, environment and health, use of resources and waste. Demonstration projects, support for innovative implementation approaches to monitoring and assessment, as well as governance projects will be included.
- Information and Communication – To improve the dissemination of information and to raise awareness on environmental issues through information campaigns, conferences, publications and training.

Current call	:	Late 2007 at the earliest
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€10 - 15 million allocated to the UK for 2007
Budget per project	:	The budget available per project will probably depend on the strand being funded. Demonstration projects are likely to be more resource intensive than conferences.
Programme funds and	:	Up to 50% funding for Environment and Information strand up to 75% for the Nature strand.



Partners required : Not stipulated, appears to be less important than in previous programmes
Next call : Not imminent

A call for the submission of proposals from pan-European non-governmental organisations primarily active in the field of environmental protection has been announced. The budget is €8.5M. The deadline is 28th February 2007. The guidance note emphasises that this is subject to the adoption of LIFE+.

Website <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/funding/index.htm>
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/life/index.htm>

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Project example Merseyside is currently participating in a LIFE Environment project in collaboration with towns in Romania and Italy. The project is called 'CATCH' and aims to promote sustainable mobility in cities in order to improve air quality.

Civil Protection: Rapid Response and Preparedness Instrument for major Emergencies Proposed Regulation

On 5 March 2007 the European Council of Ministers adopted the [Council Decision](#) establishing a Civil Protection Financial Instrument to rapid response and preparedness for major emergencies coming from natural, industrial and technological disasters or terrorist acts. The purpose of this action is to contribute to the effectiveness of national system for preparedness and response to risk situations for people, the environment or property either by improving the capacity of such system or by encouraging coordination. In addition, action and measures funded by this instrument are complementary to other EU instruments and policies, such as the European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF).

Potential beneficiaries of grants include both private and public organisations.

Current call : 2007 (deadline 1 August 2007)
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : Total budget for 2007-2013 is €189.8 million (indicative annual amounts of €20 million are available for actions within the EU and €8 million for actions in third countries)
Budget per project : from €437.738 to € 86.482
Programme funds : up to 75 per cent of EC contribution per project



No. of projects funded: 6
Next call : The next call for proposals is expected between March and May 2008.
Partners required : Yes, more information will be published in the next call
Website : <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil/prote/finance.htm>

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Cooperation Framework for Accidental or Intentional Marine Pollution

This programme expired in 2006. However, many actions will be continued under the auspices of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). EMSA will support training and best practice events through its own work programme.

EMSA will support efforts of the Member States to protect the marine environment, coastlines and human health from the risks of accidental or intentional pollution at sea. Land based sources of pollution are not covered under this programme.

The 7th research framework programme (2007-13) will continue with the development of reference actions in the field of marine pollution. In addition, the Joint Research Centre intends to launch an institutional action dedicated to maritime monitoring (MASURE). For further information, please see the Research Section.

Current call : No further calls
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : N/A
Budget per project : Subject to availability of funds and number of applications
Programme funds : N/A
Website : www.emsa.europa.eu

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Environment Funding in the Structural Funds

The Structural Funds are highlighted in other sections of the Forward Funding Guide. Though the Operational Programmes for the mainstream funds (what was Objective 1 and 2) and Inter-regional Cooperation are at a **draft stage**, there are currently references to environmental funding possibilities.

North West Competitiveness Operational Programme

The Operational Programme has identified four priority areas and separate actions¹ under each priority. Some of these actions make specific reference to environmentally linked grants. However, the themes of equality and environmental sustainability are cross-cutting and apply to all actions.

The CCT² recognises the importance of tackling sustainability issues related to waste, energy, pollution and transport. Particular emphasis is placed on becoming a low-carbon economy and links to the North West Climate Change Action Plan.

Priority One Stimulating Enterprise and Supporting Growth in New Sectors and Markets

AA1-2 Developing higher added-value activity in target regional sectors.

In particular, this action will look at the possibilities for the energy and environmental technologies sector.

AA1-3 Increasing sustainable consumption and production

Eligible Activities:

- Business resource and waste efficiency (BREW) support to SMEs including support for environmental audits.
- Support for the development of low-impact technologies relevant to North West businesses.
- Awareness raising to future proof SMEs in relation to environmental legislation (EU directives etc). This will also relate to domestic UK legislation as EU directives are transposed into UK law.
- Awareness raising of the risks and opportunities presented by climate change (including the potential implications for different market and sectors)
- Promotion of alternative energy sources, use of renewables and best practice in SMEs.

¹ AA – Action Area

² CCT – Cross Cutting Theme



Priority Two Exploiting Innovation and Knowledge

Whilst this priority focuses on productivity and competitiveness (but not at the expense of environmental sustainability objectives), the drive for improved competitiveness can directly and indirectly support sustainable outcomes by reducing resource inputs, exploiting less environmentally harmful methods of production and generating new R&D capacity to develop and exploit the commercial potential of future generations low impact technologies.

Priority Three Creating the Conditions for Sustainable Growth

There is very little specifically linked to the environment under this priority. New buildings will have to meet BREEAM standards³. The programme states that it will not invest in major new sites and premises on motorway junctions, unless green transport plans and environmental measures are also in place.

Priority Four Growing and Accessing Employment

Like Priority Three there is no specific reference to the environment, but support for business start up will include environmentally focused businesses.

Objective 3 (formerly Interreg IIIb) North West Europe

The overall aim of Priority 2 of the current draft Operational Programme is to Promote an innovative and sustainable approach to natural resource management, risk management and the enhancement of the natural environment.

Benefits of transnational cooperation:

Objective 1: To promote an innovative and sustainable approach to natural resource management, including water, biodiversity and energy, and to minimise greenhouse gas emissions.

Possible activities include:

- Integrated transnational approaches to the management of trans-boundary river basins, coastal zones...
- Promotion of responsible production and consumption patterns and energy efficiency in all economic sectors and society at large, through for example joint awareness-raising measures and integrated concepts and action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to increase energy efficiency.
- Joint strategic actions for energy savings, promotion and transfer of knowledge in alternative and renewable energy management patterns.
- Transnational actions to promote eco-innovation, improved management tools for green technologies, lifecycle thinking and cleaner production processes.

Objective 2: To promote an innovative approach to risk management, in particular water management (impacts of sea level rise on coastal areas and flood risk; the marine environment) in the context of climate change.

³ BREEAM –The Government’s Code for Sustainable Homes will be operated by BRE using it’s UKAS accredited EcoHomes systems and procedures. BRE (the name of the operator) EAM (Environmental Assessment Method)



Possible activities include:

Integrated flood risk management in large river basins of NWE, including: harmonisation of different standards; improved institutional cooperation and better integration of national and regional administrative structures; interdisciplinary partnerships and PPPs; jointly developed hazard strategies/risk management plans and damage limitation; and harmonised standards for qualifications in the area of risk management.

Objective 3: To promote a transnational and spatial approach to improving the quality of soil, water and air.

Possible activities include:

- Transnational actions aimed at improving the marine environment
- Joint innovative approaches to dealing with high groundwater tables in old mining areas
- Joint innovative approaches to territorial development to improve the quality of soil and combat soil erosion which are of transnational relevance
- Joint innovative approaches to territorial development to improve the quality of air which are of transnational relevance

Objective 3 (formerly Interreg IIIb) Atlantic Area

A draft copy of the Operational Programme is not yet approved.

URBACT

URBACT formerly received funding from the Urban Community Initiative Budget. It will now come under Objective 3, Trans-national Cooperation. The URBACT Programme aims to develop exchanges of experience between European cities, formerly this was limited to those cities which have been involved in the URBAN Programmes; it is now open to all cities. The idea is that by networking cities will be able to develop efficient solutions to common problems. Among the themes in the current programme is a, Transport and Environment Theme, to date networks funded under this theme have concentrated on transport issues. For further information on URBACT, see the Regional Policy Funding Section that is also available from the North West of England House.

REGIONS FOR ECONOMIC CHANGE

Again for a full explanation of Regions for Economic change see the Regional Policy Funding Section that is also available from the North West of England House.

Among the themes identified by the Commission are : Improving air quality; moving to a low carbon economy; improving quality of water supply and treatment; moving to a recycling society; making healthy communities; developing sustainable and energy-efficient housing stock; and, improving monitoring of environment and security by and for the regions.



European Union Solidarity Fund

The EUSF supplements public expenditure by the individual Member States for the following emergency aid, limited in principle to non-insurable damage:

- Restoration to working order of infrastructure and plant in the fields of energy, drinking water, waste water, transport, telecommunications, health and education;
- Providing temporary accommodation and emergency services to meet the immediate needs of the population;
- Immediate securing of prevention infrastructures and measures to protect the cultural heritage;
- Cleaning up of disaster-stricken areas, including natural zones. The total budget available is around €75M

Website www.ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funds/solidar/solid_en.htm

EAFRD – European Agricultural Rural Development Fund

Please ask your contact for the Agriculture Funding Section for further information on this.

Priority Two: Improvement of the environment and the countryside through better forms of land management and the conservation of natural resources.

EIB and the Environment

The EIB promotes the environmental policy of the European Union, in particular the EU's Sixth Environment Action Programme. The protection and improvement of the environment is a priority objective of the Bank. The EIB finances projects that protect and improve the environment, and promote social well-being in the interests of sustainable development. The EIB supports environmental investments that focus on: tackling climate change, including energy efficiency and renewable energy; protecting and enhancing biodiversity; safeguarding environment and health (e.g. reduction of industrial pollution, provision of water and wastewater treatment); promoting the sustainable use of natural resources & waste management, including minimisation, recycling, re-use and disposal of domestic, commercial and industrial waste; improving the quality of life in the urban environment, particularly through urban renewal and sustainable urban transport projects.

The Bank devotes between 30 to 35% of individual loans to environmental projects in the EU-25. Environmental projects totalled around €12.3 billion of loans in 2006 in the EU-25. In addition the Bank supported small-scale environmental schemes financed through intermediaries such as local financial institutions and municipal authorities. Just over half of this is individual loans towards urban environmental projects.

Website www.eib.org

EIB and Climate Change

EIB climate change initiatives:

- The €500 million Climate Change Financing Facility (CCFF) – of which €100 million is allocated for Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and JI (Joint Implementation)



projects – in support of European businesses participating in the EU's Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).

- The €10 million Climate Change Technical Assistance Facility (CCTAF), designed to provide conditional grant finance for preparing JI and CDM projects – see the list;
- The World Bank-EIB Carbon Fund for Europe (CFE), subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

7th Framework Programme for Research and Development

Please also see the Research Funding Guide Section of this guide that is also available from the North West of England House.

Under the nine research themes, 'Environment (including climate change)' is of particular relevance to environmental funding. € 1.8 billion of funding has been allocated to this theme over the duration of FP7.

The main objective of environment research under FP7 is to advance our knowledge on the interactions between climate, biosphere, ecosystems and human activities and to develop new technologies, tools and services, for the sustainable development of the environment and its resources. Emphasis will be given to the following activities:

- Climate change, pollution and risks
- Pressures on the environment and climate
- Environment and health
- Natural hazards
- Sustainable Management of Resources
- Conservation and sustainable management of natural and man-made resources and biodiversity
- Management of marine environments
- Environmental Technologies
- Environmental technologies for observation, simulation, prevention, mitigation, adaptation, remediation and restoration of the natural and man-made environment
- Protection, conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage, including human habitat improved damage assessment on cultural heritage
- Technology assessment, verification and testing
- Earth observation and assessment tools
- Earth and ocean observation systems and monitoring methods for the environment and sustainable development
- Forecasting methods and assessment tools for sustainable development taking into account differing scales of observation



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EU as a Global Partner

On 1 January 2007 the European Union entered into a new *Financial Perspective*, or budgeting period, which will run till 2013. This budget determines the annual investment of EU funding according to six thematic policies designed to address an overarching EU growth and employment agenda. One of these thematic policies, *The EU as a Global Partner*, will receive €49 billion to support a wide range of trade and other bilateral and multilateral agreements with 'Third' (i.e. external to the EU) countries.

These initiatives promote and support cooperation between the EU and the region involved. Eligible applicants include public or private sector operators which are representing SMEs and are promoting trade and investment between the regions.

The EU's external aid programmes are organised on a geographical basis. On 1 January 2007 the new external aid instruments were launched. These new programmes are:

- the **European Development Fund (EDF)** for Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific countries. The Fund provides grants for investment and technical assistance in social infrastructure, poverty alleviation, agriculture and rural development, road construction and private sector development.
- the **Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA)** covers candidate countries (Croatia, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and potential candidate countries (Serbia including Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Albania). IPA focuses on transition assistance and institution building, regional and cross border co-operation, regional development, human resources development and rural development. IPA supersedes the previous pre-accession instruments - Phare, ISPA, SAPARD, the Turkey Instrument and CARDS.
- the **European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI)** provides assistance to the neighbouring countries of the enlarged EU to the south and to the east. ENPI aims at supporting public administration reform, economic reform, private sector development, management of water, energy and other environmental resources, telecommunications and transport infrastructure, research and innovation and cross-



border co-operation. ENPI replaces the two previous instruments for the Mediterranean region (MEDA) and for the Commonwealth of Independent States (TACIS).

- the **Development Co-operation Instrument** (DCI) is the EU's assistance programme to countries in Latin America, Asia, Central Asia and South Africa. Its aim is to provide development assistance supporting poverty reduction, sustainable economic and social development, and integration into the world's economy. It also supports work on promoting respect for human rights and democratic principles. DCI replaces the previous ALA programme of the EU.

Please note that outstanding projects approved for financing under the previous financing instruments (e.g. Phare, CARDS, ALA, MEDA, TACIS) are continuing with many still being put out to tender during 2007 and 2008, in parallel with projects financed under the new instruments. For a summary of the old external aid instruments see below.

Former External Aid Instruments

These instruments are still listed in the guide as there may still be some calls for tender in 2007 and 2008. The best way to find out about tenders which are currently open is through the search tool on the EuropeAid website at: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/cgj/frame12.pl>

- The Pre-Accession programme for accession and candidate countries to the EU (currently Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). This programme comprises three parts: **PHARE** provides technical assistance and investment to help these countries in their efforts to align national legislation with EU legislation and to strengthen their public administrations so that they will be able to function effectively within the EU; **ISPA** focuses on investment in the environment and transport infrastructure; and **SAPARD** is aimed at agriculture and rural development;
- The **TACIS** programme provides technical assistance to the 12 countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (that is, those in Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia). This programme aims to strengthen democracy and to smooth the transition to market economies. Activities include institutional and legal reform, private sector development, social reform, environmental protection and nuclear safety;
- The **CARDS** programme focuses on the countries in the Western Balkans, including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia (including Kosovo) and Montenegro. Its aim is to promote political and economic stability, and to help these countries develop closer links with the EU so that they may eventually look towards EU membership;
- The Asia and Latin America Programme (**ALA**) supports activities promoting peace and security, social reform, poverty alleviation, human rights development, economic reform and international trade;
- The **MEDA** programme focuses on countries in North Africa and the Middle East. It funds work on economic reform, private sector development, rural development and education and training.

The New Development Assistance Programmes



The EU spends approximately €9 billion a year on development assistance to more than 150 countries and territories outside the EU. Its aim is to improve the prosperity and well-being of people in these countries. But it needs commercial companies to make its projects happen.

There are substantial opportunities for British companies including consultancy, supply of equipment and major construction projects.

The EU recognises that promoting partnerships and investment between UK companies and those in the developing world assists the development process. Fostering the private sector in poorer countries also promotes growth and employment, develops capacity and encourages the transfer of technology.

From 1st January 2007 there are three new programmes in place:

- Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)
- European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI)
- Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

UKREP Commercial Section helps British companies take advantage of business opportunities under EU funded programmes, primarily those under the EU's external aid programmes – the UKREP contacts are given at the end of each new programme.

Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)

The Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) is the EU's assistance programme to countries in Latin America, Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and South Africa. The aim is to provide development assistance supporting poverty reduction, sustainable economic and social development, and integration into the world's economy. It also supports work on promoting respect for human rights and democratic principles. Much of the work funded under the DCI is put out to commercial tender.

The DCI also funds global thematic programmes in areas such as the environment, energy, health, education, employment, civil society, food security and migration. Some DCI projects extend beyond the countries specified below, for example for cross-border work.

Countries receiving assistance in 2007-13

- **Asia** - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam.
- **Central Asia** - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
- **Latin America** - Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.
- **Middle East** - Iran, Iraq, Yemen.
- **South Africa**

DCI budget for 2007-13

For the period 2007-13 the budget for the DCI is almost €17 billion, of which €2 billion is allocated for programming in 2007. Individual allocations by country have not yet been formally approved.



For geographic programmes the Commission and beneficiary country set out their priorities in a Country Strategy Paper and Multi-Annual Indicative Programme, followed by an Annual Action Programme. For global thematic programmes the Commission drafts a Thematic Strategy Paper followed by an Annual Action Programme. The Strategy Papers and Multi-Annual Indicative Programmes set out assistance priorities along with desired outcomes. The Annual Action Programmes detail specific projects, which will later be put out to tender.

Key sectors

The following are key sectors under the geographic programmes:

- Governance, democracy, human rights and the rule of law
- Education and health
- Trade policy reform
- Private sector development
- Environment and sustainable development of natural resources
- Sustainable integrated water and energy resource management
- Infrastructure, communications and transport
- Rural development, agriculture and food security
- Reconstruction and rehabilitation in post crisis situations and fragile states

The five global thematic programmes for cross-border projects are:

- Investing in People - health, education, gender equality, culture and employment
- Environment and sustainable management of natural resources
- Non-State actors and local authorities in development
- Food security
- Migration and asylum

How to get involved

- Check out the Country and Thematic Strategy Papers and the Multi-Annual Indicative Programmes to find out about the Commission's priorities in specific countries or thematic programmes. The Annual Action Programmes outline specific projects, which will be put out to tender. These documents will be available on the Commission's web-site once they have been formally approved early in 2007.
- Look at the Commission's EuropeAid web-site for project forecast and current tender information at <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>.
- Check out UK Trade & Investment's web-site at www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk for EU aid-funded business opportunities. This service is free of charge for UK registered companies.
- For information on UK Trade & Investment's services to companies interested in aid-funded business look at the Aid-Funded Business Service (AFBS) on the UK Trade & Investment web-site. Alternatively, contact Claire Gamage at the AFBS on + 44 845 603 0084 or by email at info@afbs.org.uk. The AFBS offers workshops for companies on bidding effectively for EU external aid contracts.
- You can also get help from the Commercial Section at the UK Permanent Representation to the EU look - web-site at <http://www.ukrep.be> (click on Commercial). Alternatively, contact Paula Nobes, Head of Commercial Section on + 32 2 287 8246 or by email at paula.nobes@fco.gov.uk.



European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI)

The EU assistance programme to the neighbouring countries of the enlarged EU is the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument (ENPI). ENPI replaces the two previous instruments for the Mediterranean region (MEDA) and for the Commonwealth of Independent States (TACIS). Development Assistance to Central Asia is not funded by the ENPI but by the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI). Much of the project work under ENPI is put out to commercial tender.

Countries receiving assistance in 2007-13

ENPI South: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, and Tunisia

ENPI East: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, and Ukraine

ENPI budget for 2007-10

Algeria:	€220m	Moldova:	€209.7m
Armenia:	€98.4m	Libya:	€8m*
Egypt:	€558m	Russian Federation:	€120m
Azerbaijan:	€92m	Morocco:	€654m
Israel:	€8m	Ukraine:	€494m
Belarus:	€20m	Palestinian Authority:	€632m
Jordan:	€265m	Syria:	€130m
Georgia:	€120.4m	Tunisia	€300m
Lebanon:	€187m		

Regional programmes and Cross-border cooperation: €1.104billion

* Figures are indicative as formal programming has not yet been done

Sectors and activities

- Public administration reform
- Economic reform
- Private sector development
- Management of water, energy and other environmental resources
- Telecommunications and transport infrastructure
- Research and innovation
- Cross-border cooperation

The European Commission and the beneficiary country devise a seven-year Strategy Paper outlining the priorities and key issues to address. This country Strategy Paper is accompanied by a Multi-Annual Indicative Programme before individual projects take shape under the Annual Action Programme, which outlines projects including those which will be put out to commercial tender.

How to get involved

- For an overview of the ENPI and its priorities look at the Commission's Q&A website at http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/faq_en.htm . Check out the Country Strategy Papers and Multi-Annual Indicative Programmes to find out about the EU's priorities in specific countries. These will also give you an idea of the sectors and types of projects that are likely to be put out to tender.



- Look at the Commission's EuropeAid website for forecasted and current tenders and project information at <http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl> .
- Check out UK Trade & Investment's website at <http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk> for multilateral aid-funded business opportunities in the ENPI region. This service is free of charge to UK registered companies.
- For information on UK Trade & Investment's services to companies interested in aid funded business look at the Aid-Funded Business Service (AFBS) on the UK Trade & Investment web-site. Alternatively, contact Claire Gamage at the AFBS on + 44 845 603 0084 or by email at info@afbs.org.uk. The AFBS offers workshops for companies on bidding effectively for EU external aid contracts.
- You can also get assistance from the Commercial Section at the UK Permanent Representation to the EU - website <http://www.ukrep.be>. Alternatively, contact Jan Soeltenfuss, Commercial Officer on + 32 2 287 8387 or by email at jan.soeltenfuss@fco.gov.uk.

Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)

The EU's assistance programme to candidate and potential candidate countries is the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA). IPA supersedes the five previous pre-accession instruments - PHARE, ISPA, SAPARD, the Turkey Instrument and CARDS. Much of the work funded under IPA is put out to commercial tender.

Countries receiving pre-accession assistance in 2007-13

Candidate countries: Croatia, Turkey and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Potential candidate countries: Serbia including Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Albania.

Pre-accession programme budgets for 2007-13

The allocation for IPA for 2007-2013 is approximately €11.5 billion, of which €1.2 billion is allocated for programming in 2007. The allocations by country in 2007 are set out below:

- Turkey - €497.2m
- Croatia - €138.5m
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - €58.5m
- Serbia - €186.7m
- Kosovo - €63.3m
- Montenegro - €31.4m
- Bosnia and Herzegovina - €62.1m
- Albania - €61m

IPA comprises five components under which projects are funded and contracts tendered:

- Transition assistance and institution building
- Regional and cross border cooperation
- Regional development
- Human resources development
- Rural development

The first two components apply both to candidate and potential candidate countries. The remaining three apply only to candidate countries.



Assistance to potential candidate countries focuses on institution building and on encouraging alignment with EU legislation. Assistance to candidate countries comprises similar activity, but also includes the final three components aimed at preparing these countries for managing EU funds after accession to the EU. These three components are pre-cursors to the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund (3rd component), the European Social Fund (4th component) and the Common Agricultural Policy and related policies (5th component).

Sectors and activities

- Strengthening of democratic institutions and public administration reform
- Promotion and protection of human rights including minority rights and gender equality
- Economic reform
- Civil society development
- Reconciliation and confidence building
- Regional and cross border cooperation
- Infrastructure and investment in regional, human resources and rural development..

How IPA works

The European Commission sets out its political priorities and financial allocations in a Multi-Annual Financial Framework on a three year rolling basis. For each beneficiary country the Commission then devises a Multi-Annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD), also on a three year rolling basis, outlining its assistance priorities. Using this MIPD an Annual Programme is adopted for each country, with individual projects detailed.

How to get involved

- For more information on IPA it is useful to check out the Commission's web-site at http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/financial_assistance/index_en.htm MIPDs and Annual Programmes will be published here as they are approved in early 2007.
- Look at the Commission's EuropeAid website for project forecast and current tender information at <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>.
- Check out UK Trade & Investment's website at www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk for EU aid-funded business opportunities. This service is free of charge for UK registered companies.
- For information on UK Trade & Investment's services to companies interested in aid-funded business look at the Aid-Funded Business Service (AFBS) on the UK Trade & Investment web-site. Alternatively, contact Claire Gamage at the AFBS on + 44 845 603 0084 or by email at info@afbs.org.uk. The AFBS offers workshops for companies on bidding effectively for EU external aid contracts.
- You can also get help from the Commercial Section at the UK Permanent Representation to the EU look - web-site at <http://www.ukrep.be> (click on Commercial). Alternatively, contact Paula Nobes, Head of Commercial Section on + 32 2 287 8246 or by email at paula.nobes@fco.gov.uk.

Most tenders are published on <http://www.tendersdirect.co.uk/>

AL-INVEST III and IV

Europe and Latin America have historically strong trade links among themselves. To foster this economic cooperation between Europe and Latin America, the European Commission launched in 1993 the AL-INVEST programme, to benefit the **small and medium sized**



enterprises, in both the regions. Since then, the programme has successfully supported thousands of SMEs and business organisations in all sectors of the economy in facilitating trade and investment between the two continents.

The programme offers financial support to economic operators from the European Union and Latin America who wish to set up joint initiatives in the area of economic cooperation. This include, among others, matchmaking events, trade fair visits, training and development for SMEs, institution building for business organisations, etc. (see below for details).

AI-INVEST III

To consolidate this success, AL-INVEST III was launched in 2004, for a 4-year period with a European Commission grant of €42million.

The programme operates through regular "call for proposals"; during which operators submit project proposals, which then are screened by independent experts. Successful proposals receive a grant – ranging from €14,000 to €250,000 – covering 80% of the eligible costs of the project.

Proposals are submitted by a "main operator" and 2 or more partners, on the basis of a manual, providing all the technical details, application forms, financial guidelines, etc. Operators can be involved in different projects simultaneously offering to their companies' privileged contacts on a daily base. To participate, the operators first have to become a member of the AL-INVEST III network. In the European Union, members are called COOPECOs, and in Latin America EUROCENTROs.

Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industrial Associations, Foreign Trade Institutes, Development Agencies, other similar non-profit organisations are all eligible to become a member of AL-INVEST III.

Members have access to the AL-INVEST III funds. The network unites over 200 organisations both in the European Union and Latin America, organisations with common objectives and working methods. The AL-INVEST network gets together annually in a Connect Meeting, in order to prepare new projects, exchange information and meet new partners.

The European Commission entrusted the 3rd phase of AL-INVEST to a Consortium consisting of European and Latin American business organisations, represented by Eurochambres. The daily management of the programme has been assigned to EUROCHAMBRES as the Executive Office, hosting a dedicated project management team.

The European Commission – Europe Aid – provides 80% of the AL-INVEST III budget through a global grant; the members of the network contribute the remaining 20%. The programme is currently in Phase III which will run until end 2007.

North West Links: Currently there are no organisations in the North West registered as members of AL-INVEST III.

N.b. As from November 2006 the AL-INVEST III Consortium does not accept any new members for this third phase of the Program. However, if your institution is interested in becoming one of our operators you can submit an e-mail to the Team Director, Mr. Maurizio Queirazza, (director@al-invest3.org) to express your interest and they will take it into account in case they accept applications again in the future.



Current call : Last call was July 2007
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : Not known
Budget per project : N/A
Programme funds : Maximum 80% of total costs
No. of projects funded: Total of 600 will be funded between 2003 and 2007
Partners required : N/A
Next call : Ongoing
Website : <http://www.al-invest3.org>

AL-INVEST IV

In May 2007 the Latin American Regional Planning Document was approved by the European Commission and the Member States. This means that AL-INVEST IV will go ahead and the content of it will be defined in 2007, with the first call for tender in mid-2008. In the transition period there are two studies into how the programme can be approved and links with other programmes.

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ASIA-INVEST

Asia-Invest was launched in 1998 and aims to promote the internationalisation of European and Asian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The last period for the programme was 2006-2007 and the final call in this period closed on 9th March 2007.

This was the last Asia Invest call as we know it. Basically the agreement that forms the base of Asia Invest is the 'Asia and Latin America Agreement' which has now been replaced by the 'Development and Cooperation Instrument DCI'. A new Regional Strategy Paper which will outline what the European Commission proposes under the DCI for Asia will be out in 2007 and we will keep this section updated on the outcome. There are no details yet, but it seems that a future business cooperation/capacity building project like Asia Invest will be highly focused on environment and energy issues, including sustainable production and consumption. There is also likely to be less money available.

Update September 2007

The programmes for Asia 2007-2013 will be launched at the end of October and there will be Information Sessions. Regular updates on progress can be found at: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/projects/asia-invest/html2002/main.htm>), and it will be possible to download all needed guidelines and application forms.

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B-1049 Bruxelles
Tel: +32-2-298 67 37



Fax: +32-2-298 48 63
Email : europaaid-asia-invest@ec.europa.eu
Web : <http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europaaid/projects/asia-invest>

Project example : Halton Chamber of Commerce with Sichuan Chamber of Commerce – SME business meeting and partnership building

PRO€INVEST

There are no further calls under Pro€Invest at this time until the future of the programme is clarified.

Contacts for the previous programme

Europe Contact : PRO€INVEST Management Unit - CDE
Centre for the Development of Enterprise
Avenue Herrmann-Debroux 52
B-1160 Brussels, Belgium
Tel : +32 2 679 18 50/1
Fax : +32 2 679 18 70
Email : infos@proinvest-eu.org
Web : www.proinvest-eu.org

Asia-Link

There will be no more Calls for Proposals under the Asia-Link Programme. As from 2007 a new form of EU-Asia higher education cooperation will start up.

It is planned that the new programme - funded by the Regional Strategy for Asia - will operate using the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window (EMECW). This new programme for international higher education mobility was launched for the first time in 2006 in three geographical areas: the Neighbourhood zone, Central Asia, and the zone comprising Iran, Iraq and Yemen.

It is planned that the new higher education programme for Asia will therefore extend EMECW to cover the countries in Asia hitherto covered by the Asia-Link Programme. **The Call for Proposals for participating consortia of universities should be launched in September or October 2007.** This Call will select a number of mobility schemes managed by the winning consortia: mobility for students and academics under these schemes will then start in the academic year 2008/2009.

You can get an idea of the programme by looking at the 2006 Call documents and frequently-asked questions, which are available on the website of the Executive Agency for Culture, Education and Audiovisual:

<http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/mundus/extcoop/call/index.htm>

Please consult these documents for guidance only: while the EMECW 2007 Call will maintain much of the structure and scope of the 2006 Call, some changes will be introduced.

Website for previous programme : http://ec.europa.eu/europaaid/projects/asia-link/index_en.htm



Email : europaaid-asia-link@ec.europa.eu

Asia Pro Eco II

The call for proposals 2006 was the last call under the current Asia Pro Eco Programme, which finishes at the end of 2006. There will be no further call under the current Asia Pro Eco Programme.

The new Regional Strategy for Asia for the period 2007-2010 as well as the financial support programme for environment are currently being prepared by the European Commission and may provide future opportunities for funding. The Regional Environment Programme for 2007-2010 will replace Asia Pro Eco and will focus on Sustainable Production and Consumption and target SMEs.

The new initiative will be published on the website below in mid-September 2007

Website http://europa.eu.int/comm/europaaid/projects/asia-pro-eco/index_en.htm

Europe contact : EuropeAid Cooperation Office
Directorate D – Asia
Tel : +32 2298 6742
Fax : +32 2298 4863
Email : europaaid-asia-pro-eco@ec.europa.eu

To see if there are thematic programmes in EuropeAid for your specific projects or regions of interest, check out the website:
http://ec.europa.eu/europaaid/projects/index_en.htm



European Public Health Funding Guide

Health is an important priority for Europeans. We expect to be protected against illness and disease. We want to bring up our children in a healthy environment, and demand that our workplace is safe and hygienic. When travelling within the European Union, we need access to reliable and high-quality health advice and assistance.

Public authorities in Member States have a responsibility to ensure that these concerns are reflected in their policies. In addition, the EU has a vital role to play through its obligations in the European Treaties. Community actions complement Member States' national health policies, but at the same time bring European added value: issues such as cross-border health threats – for example influenza - or free movement of patients and medical personnel need a response at European level.

A coherent and co-coordinated approach to health policy was first set out in the European Commission [Health Strategy](#) put forward in May 2000. As a key component of the May 2000 Health Strategy, the Commission proposed a new Public Health Programme for the European Community. This Programme was adopted on 23 September 2002, and runs from 1 January 2003 until 31 December 2008.

The on-going [Public Health Programme](#) has three priority objectives:

- to improve citizens' health security and safety;
- to promote health to improve prosperity and solidarity, and;
- to generate and disseminate health knowledge

The Public Health Programme is based on Article 152 of the European Community Treaty. It is an 'incentive measure designed to protect and improve human health', 'excluding any harmonisation of the laws and regulations of the Member States'.

It constitutes one of the Community actions foreseen by Article 152 in the field of public health, together with the promotion of co-operation and co-ordination between Member States and other legislative measures: setting up of high standards of quality and safety of tissues and blood, measures in the veterinary and phytosanitary fields which have as direct objectives the protection of public health or Council recommendations. All these actions shall fully respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care.

The Commission implements the Public Health Programme assisted by the newly appointed Public Health Executive Committee (PHEA) from 2006. This Committee, based in Luxembourg has to give its opinion on the implementation measures defined and decided by the Commission. These measures include the annual work plan, selection criteria and financing of actions and methods for evaluating the Programme.

The Public Health Programme also builds on experience acquired in the international context, in particular co-operation with [international organizations](#) such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the [Council of Europe](#).



Community Action Programmes in the Field of Public Health (2008-20013)

The Public Health Programme is divided into three general strands:

- [Health information](#)
- Rapid reaction to [health threats](#)
- health promotion through addressing [health determinants](#)

Projects will need to address one of these strands and the sub-areas that are set out on a year by year basis in accordance with current European public health priorities. There will also be key 'cross-cutting themes' that all projects should aim to incorporate. Information on the areas to be funded in each of the strands is published in the annual work plan. The Work Plan for 2008 can be found here:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:056:0036:0062:EN:PDF>

Budget:	Total budget for 2008-2013 is € 321.5 million Budget for 2008 is € 46.6 million
Current Call:	27 February 2008
Current deadline:	23 May 2008
Budget per project:	Subject to availability of funds and number of applications. However no more than 10% of the funded projects should receive a co-financing over 60%.
Programme Funds:	In principle, up to 60% of the eligible costs. Exceptionally, however, a maximum co-financing of 80% of eligible costs could be envisaged where a project has a significant European added value.
No. of projects funded:	Approximately 68 under 2007 call for proposals
Partners required:	Only one main partner per project is allowed but there is no minimum number of associated partners. Previous experience leads us to conclude that funded projects have on average 10-20 associated partners, from a variety of different Member states and third countries. However, as a general rule a proposal should include at least two legal entities from different Member States.
Next Call:	February 2009
Much of this information was taken from the European Commission's DG Health and Consumer Protection Website: http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_programme/programme_en.htm	
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European Information Society Funding Guide

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i2010 - A European Information Society for growth and employment

The European Union's Information Society policies aim to create a digitally enhanced EU. The current ambitions of the Information Society are found in the i2010 action plan. The key objectives of eEurope are:

- A single European Information Space
- Innovation and investment in research
- Inclusion, better services and quality of life

The EU is striving to reduce social exclusion, increase employment and boost the economy via the information sector. The increase of use of information communication technology (ICT) will be facilitated by the increase in availability of information technologies in remote rural areas and increased training in schools in order to minimise computer illiteracy.

On 1 June 2005, the Commission launched a five-year strategic action plan that replaced the eEurope 2005 plan. The plan focuses on those parts of information and communication technologies that the Commission considers vital to the overall objective of boosting innovation and jobs. The 'i' represents these major initiatives; information space; innovation and investment; and inclusion.

***eContentplus* (2005-2008)**

This 4-year programme will have a budget of €149 million to tackle organisational barriers and promote take up of leading-edge technical solutions to improve accessibility and usability of digital material in a multilingual environment. A multiannual Community programme to make digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable.

The Programme addresses specific market areas where development has been slow: geographic content (as a key constituent of public sector content), educational content, cultural, scientific and scholarly content. The Programme also supports EU-wide co-ordination of collections in libraries, museums and archives and the preservation of digital collections so as to ensure availability of cultural, scholarly and scientific assets for future use.

The programme aims at facilitating access to digital content, its use and exploitation, enhancing quality of content with well-defined metadata, and reinforcing cooperation between digital content stakeholders. It will tackle multilingual and multicultural barriers.



In the area of geographic information, eContentplus will stimulate the aggregation of existing national datasets into cross border datasets, which will serve to underpin new information services and products.

In the area of educational content, the programme will support the emergence of adequate information infrastructure, and encourage the use of open standards to stimulate the development of effective pan-European learning services.

In the area of cultural content, scientific information and scholarly content, eContentplus will support the development of interoperable collections and objects from cultural institutions (archives, libraries and museums...), and solutions to facilitate exposure, discovery and retrieval of these resources.

A call for proposals is expected in March 2008 with a deadline of approximately 12th June 2008. The draft 2008 work programme can be found here http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/econtentplus/docs/call_2008/ecp_2008_draft_work_programme.pdf

7th Framework Programme for Research and Development – ICT Theme

The ICT theme of the Seventh Research Programme (FP7) is the largest theme within the Cooperation section. ICT has been allocated a total of €9.1bn over the period of 2007-13.

A full copy of the 2007-2008 work programme for the ICT theme can be found here ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/fp7/ict/docs/ict-wp-2007-08_en.pdf A list of all the priorities and the calls are listed in detail on page 67-68 of this document. The budget for 2007-2008 will be just over €2bn and the topics covered during this time will be 1. Network and Service Infrastructures (€585m), Cognitive Systems, Interaction, Robotics (€193m), Components, systems, engineering (€434m), Digital Libraries & Content (€203m), Sustainable and personalised healthcare (€174m), Mobility, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency (€159m), Independent Living & Inclusion (€73m), Future & Emerging Technology (€185m) and Horizontal support actions (€15m).

Also part-funded by FP7 is the EU's new Ambient Assisted Living Programme <http://www.aal-europe.eu/> This €1bn programme (2007-13) will specifically address the needs of the older population through using new products and services, generally assisted by ICT, to help older people retain their autonomy and stay at home longer and safer. The programme is currently being agreed in the EU institutions.

Please also see Research and Development funding guide for further information on other parts of FP7.

Media Plus

The budget for 2006 is €53.6m under this programme and has been extended a year until the end of 2006.



The MEDIA Plus Programme (2001-2006) (3rd generation) entered into force in January 2001 and aims at strengthening the competitiveness of the European audiovisual industry with a series support measures dealing with:

- the training of professionals;
- the development of production projects and companies;
- the distribution of cinematographic works and audiovisual programmes;
- the promotion of cinematographic works and audiovisual programmes;
- the support for cinematographic festivals.

Equipped with a budget of 452 million euro MEDIA brings support both before and after production. MEDIA co-finances training initiatives for audiovisual industry professionals, the development of production projects (feature films, television drama, documentaries, animation and new media), as well as the distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works.

A proposal has gone to the European Parliament and European Commission on the Media 2007 programme a decision has been made by the Parliament but still awaiting decision from the Council.

IDABC 2005-2009

IDABC stands for **I**nteroperable **D**elivery of European eGovernment Services to public **A**ministrations, **B**usiness and **C**itizens. It uses the opportunities offered by information and communication technologies to encourage and support the delivery of cross-border public sector services to citizens and enterprises in Europe, to improve efficiency and collaboration between European public administrations and to contribute to making Europe an attractive place to live, work and invest.

To achieve its objectives, IDABC issues recommendations, develops solutions and provides services that enable national and European administrations to communicate electronically and offer modern public services to businesses and citizens in Europe. The programme also provides financing to projects that address European policy requirements and improve cooperation between administrations across Europe.

National public sector policy-makers are represented in the IDABC programme's management committee and in many expert groups. This makes of the programme a unique forum for the coordination of national e-government policies.

By using state-of-the-art information and communication technologies, developing common solutions and services and providing a platform for the exchange of good practice between public administrations, IDABC contributes to the eEurope objective of modernising the European public sector.

The Commission proposes that the IDABC programme be endowed with a budget of just over €148 million, of which €59 million for the period up to 31 December 2006.

More information can be found here <http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/>



ICT PSP (2007-13)

The ICT Policy Support Programme is part of the larger Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP), and is one of the main financial instruments of the i2010 initiative. It is one of three major themes of the CIP, the other two being energy and entrepreneurship. The ICT Policy Support Programme (€728m) will include:

- ✓ supporting actions identifies in 'i2010: European Information Society'
- ✓ stimulate uptake of ICT by citizens, businesses and governments
- ✓ intensify public investment in ICT
- ✓ actions to develop the single European information space
- ✓ development of common approaches, best practices and coordinated actions

The 2008 work programme and detailed information on all calls to be published in 2008 will be available on the Commission website soon

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/ict_psp/index_en.htm

Safer Internet Programme (2005-2008)

The Safer Internet *plus* programme aims to promote safer use of the Internet and new online technologies, particularly for children, and to fight against illegal content and content unwanted by the end-user, as part of a coherent approach by the European Union. See also

The 4-year programme (2005–08) will have a budget of € 45 million..

The programme has four main actions:

- Fighting against illegal content
- Tackling unwanted and harmful content
- Promoting a safer environment
- Awareness-raising

The coverage of the Safer Internet *plus* programme extends to new online technologies, including mobile and broadband content, online games, peer-to-peer file transfer, and all forms of real-time communications such as chat rooms and instant messages primarily with the aim of improving the protection of children and minors. Action will be taken to ensure that a broader range of areas of illegal and harmful content and conduct of concern are covered, including racism and violence.

Digital Libraries

The digital libraries initiative aims at making European information resources easier and more interesting to use in an online environment. It builds on Europe's rich heritage combining multicultural and multilingual environments with technological advances and new business models.



Digital libraries are organised collections of digital content made available to the public. They can consist of material that has been digitised, such as digital copies of books and other 'physical' material from libraries and archives. Alternatively, they can be based on information originally produced in digital format. This is increasingly the case in the area of scientific information, where digital publications and enormous quantities of information are stored in digital repositories. Both aspects – digitised and born digital material – are covered by this initiative.

Three key areas for action are to be considered:

- Online accessibility, a precondition for maximising the benefits that citizens, researchers and companies can draw from the information.
- Digitisation of analogue collections for their wider use in the information society.
- Preservation and storage to ensure that future generations can access the digital material and to prevent precious content being lost.

For more information please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/index_en.htm



European Justice and Home Affairs Funding Guide

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The 1997 Amsterdam Treaty and the 1999 "Tampere Agenda" set out a new blueprint for the EU to work on justice and home affairs. Since then, a great deal of legislation has been passed that is applicable in the UK on: the EU-wide fight against crime, including terrorism; cooperation against attacks on information systems and financial crime and money laundering; asylum and migration; cooperation against drugs; road and infrastructure safety; visas and border control; Europol; individuals' access to justice and the mutual recognition of court judgements from one member state to the next; police and judicial links with countries outside the EU.

The EU has also made available substantial funds to support these policy objectives.

The EU recently established a new five-year action plan, called the Hague Programme, to take forward its work on justice and home affairs; the main priorities are as follows:

- On justice and security: sharing of police information across member states; fundamentalism and terrorism; greater use of Europol; greater civil and criminal justice cooperation across borders; more mutual recognition of court judgements from one member state to the next; fighting organised crime.
- On asylum, immigration and border control: common systems and procedures for receiving asylum seekers; joint measures on legal migration; integration of migrants; partnerships with countries of origin and transit; return programmes; common visa rules.

Under the new EU budget for 2007-13 even more funds will be available to support the above. Please note that the legislation establishing these funds has not yet been formally approved, so some of the detail may yet change or is not available.



Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows (European Refugee Fund, Emergency Measures, Integration Fund, Return Fund and Borders Fund)

The new Framework Programme on Solidarity and the Management of Migration Flows will support the implementation of Community legislation relating to four complementary dimensions of management of migration flows:

- integrated management of external borders, in order to ensure an equivalent and uniform level of protection at the external borders;
- asylum policy, as is already the case under the European Refugee Fund, in order to support the development and implementation of a common European asylum policy based on solidarity between Member States and promote a balance in the efforts made by Member States in bearing the consequences of receiving refugees and displaced persons;
- fight against illegal immigration, and in particular the return of illegally resident third country nationals in the EU or persons irregularly migrating towards the EU;
- admission and integration of third country nationals, in particular as regards their social, civic and cultural integration, in order to enable them to settle and take actively part in all aspects of European societies.

Consequently, four Funds are set up as part of the framework programme.

The European Refugee Fund has existed for some years and supports projects for the reception and integration of refugees and asylum seekers. The programme splits into two: "Community Actions" for trans-national projects (here, bids are made to the Commission); member state actions (in the UK bids are made to the Home Office).

The Integration Fund follows on from the previous INTI programme; it also funds integration projects, but this time directed at migrants from outside the EU who are not asylum seekers and refugees (for instance, economic migrants).

Current call	:	N/A
Next call	:	first half 2007 for European Refugee Fund Community Actions late summer/autumn 2007 for European Refugee Fund UK
Budget	:	€628million for Refugee Fund; €676million for Return; €1.8billion for External Borders; €825million for Integration
Budget per project	:	not confirmed (awaiting decision)
Programme funds	:	not confirmed (awaiting decision)
Partners required	:	not confirmed (awaiting decision)

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/intro/funding_intro_en.htm

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Fundamental Rights and Justice (Criminal Justice, Daphne, Drugs Prevention and Information, Civil Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship)

The Fundamental Rights and Justice Framework Programme has several specific objectives. They are:

- To promote the development of a European society based on the European Union citizenship and respectful of the fundamental rights provided for in the Charter of Fundamental Rights; to fight anti-Semitism, racism and xenophobia and to strengthen civil society in the field of fundamental rights.
- To combat all forms of public or private violence against children, young people and women.
- To contribute to the setting-up of an area of freedom, security and justice by providing information on and preventing the use of drugs.
- To promote judicial cooperation with the aim of contributing to the creation of a genuine European area of justice in civil and commercial matters.
- To promote judicial cooperation with the aim of contributing to the creation of a genuine European area of justice in criminal matters.

As these objectives have different legal bases in the Treaties, the programme is composed of several separate instruments.

Types of actions supported include:

- specific projects commissioned by the Commission, such as, studies and research;
- projects of EU interest under the conditions set out the annual work programmes;
- financial support for relevant NGOs.

The framework programme breaks down into a number of sub-programmes:

- Criminal Justice: this will support judicial cooperation on criminal matters.
- Daphne: this fund has existed for many years and is perhaps the one of most interesting for North West partners. The specific aim is to prevent and combat all forms of violence occurring in the public and private domain against children, young people and women, including sexual exploitation and trafficking in human beings, by taking preventive measures and by providing support and protection for victims and groups at risk.
- Drugs Prevention and Information: with respect to the fight against the use of drugs, the main challenges will be the dissemination of information as well as further research resulting into education, prevention and harm-reduction programmes. Not only the reduction of drug demand, but also the reduction of drug supply will be important issues. This is an area in which measures need to be taken in order to stop drug-trafficking and drug-related criminality, in particular when new synthetic drugs or their chemical precursors are involved and to fight money-laundering.
- Fundamental Rights and Citizenship.

Current call	:	N/A
Next call	:	Daphne call expected before May 2007
Budget	:	€117million for Daphne; €109million for Civil Justice; €21.4million for Drugs; €199million for Criminal Justice
Budget per project	:	not confirmed (awaiting decision)



Programme funds : not confirmed (awaiting decision)
Partners required : not confirmed (awaiting decision)

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/intro/funding_intro_en.htm

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Belgium

Security and Safeguarding Liberties (Prevention of and Fight against Crime; Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism)
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The Framework Programme on Security and Safeguarding Liberties contains two sub-programmes:

- The Prevention of and Fight against Crime;
- Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism

The specific Programme 'Prevention of and Fight Against Crime' seeks to contribute to a high level of security for citizens by preventing and combating crime, organised or otherwise, in particular terrorism, trafficking in persons and offences against children, illicit drug trafficking and illicit arms trafficking, corruption and fraud. It will take over from the framework programme on police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (AGIS). The three main objectives are:

- law enforcement: to promote and develop coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding among law enforcement agencies, other national authorities and related Union bodies;
- crime prevention and criminology: to stimulate, promote and develop horizontal methods and tools necessary for strategically preventing and fighting crime, such as public-private partnerships, best practices in crime prevention, comparable statistics and applied criminology, and
- protection of witnesses and victims: to promote and develop best practices for the protection of crime victims and witnesses.

The specific programme on Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism will aim at:

- stimulating, promoting, and supporting risk and threat assessments on critical infrastructure, including evaluations on site, to identify possible targets of terrorist attacks and possible needs for upgrading their security;
- promoting and supporting the development of common security standards, and an exchange of know-how and experience on protection of critical infrastructure;
- promoting and supporting EU wide co-ordination and cooperation on critical infrastructure protection;
- stimulating, promoting and supporting exchange of know-how, experience and technology on the potential consequences of terrorist attacks;
- stimulating, promoting and supporting the development of relevant methodology and contingency plans;



- ensuring real-time input of specific expertise on terrorism matters within overall crisis management, rapid alert and civil protection mechanisms.

For both strands of the Framework Programme on Security and Safeguarding Liberties, projects may be transnational or national, the latter being permitted only under certain conditions.

Current call : N/A
Next call : Prevention of and Fight against Crime work programme due March; call to follow shortly after
Budget : €605million for Crime; €139million for Terrorism
Budget per project : not confirmed (awaiting decision)
Programme funds : not confirmed (awaiting decision)
Partners required : not confirmed (awaiting decision)

Website http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/intro/funding_intro_en.htm

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Although the EU is one of the most prosperous regions in the world, disparities in income and opportunity between its regions are still evident. The gap between rich and poor widened in May 2004 with the arrival of the 10 new Member States whose national incomes are below the average of the old EU15, and again with the arrival of Romania and Bulgaria in January 2007.

Regional policy aims to bring solidarity and cohesion to all of the EU's regions. Solidarity because the policy aims at benefiting citizens and regions that are in some way economically and socially deprived compared to EU averages. Cohesion because there are positive benefits for all in narrowing the gaps of income and wealth between the poorer countries and regions and the better off.

Since 1 January 2007, the new structural fund programmes for the period 2007-2013 have been in place with total funding of €308 billion. 82% of the total amount is concentrated on the 'convergence' objective, under which the poorest Member States and regions are eligible. In the remaining regions, about 16% of the Structural Funds is concentrated to support innovation, sustainable development, better accessibility and training projects under the 'Regional Competitiveness and Employment' objective. The North West of England is eligible for funding under the Competitiveness and Employment objective. Of the €9.2 billion which the UK has received for structural funds, the North West has received a share of €678 million of which €280.9 million is ring fenced for Merseyside which has special 'phasing in' status.

2.5% of the structural funds also go on cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation under the 'European Territorial Cooperation' objective.



Structural Funds

The success of regional policy continues to be centred on its structural funding programmes. These funds are the traditional cornerstone of regional development in the EU and, in the period 2006 to 2013, spending on regional development is only surpassed by spending on agriculture.

In 2000 the EU adopted the Lisbon Agenda, with the aim of making Europe the most dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy in the world, the funds must target the priorities of the EU regarding the promotion of competitiveness and job creation. The Commission and the Member States oversee that 60% of the expenditure of all Member States for Convergence and 75% of the expenditure for Competitiveness and Employment target these priorities.

The political priorities in which the structural funds are to operate are defined by the Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion. The guidelines are complementary to the regulations. The regulations are the legal framework to ensure that everyone works in accordance with the Treaties and on the same basis. The strategic guidelines focus on growth and jobs. They show that the emphasis in future development should be on knowledge and the information society, entrepreneurship, the environment and employment.

There are five structural fund regulations as follows:

- A **General Regulation which** defines common principles, rules and standards for the implementation of the three cohesion instruments, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Cohesion Fund.
- The regulation on the **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** defines its role and where the fund will apply. The ERDF supports programmes addressing regional development, economic change, enhanced competitiveness and territorial cooperation throughout the EU. Funding priorities include research, innovation, environmental protection and risk prevention. A more detailed description of funding for the North West of England under this programme is given below under the heading 'North West Operational Programme'.
- The **European Social Fund (ESF)** is implemented in line with the European Employment Strategy, and focuses on four key areas: increasing adaptability of workers and enterprises, enhancing access to employment and participation in the labour market, reinforcing social inclusion by combating discrimination and facilitating access to the labour market for disadvantaged people, and promoting partnership for reform in the fields of employment and inclusion. A more detailed description of this programme is given in the Social Inclusion section of this guide.
- The **Cohesion Fund** contributes to interventions in the field of the environment and trans-European transport networks. It applies to Member States with a Gross National Income (GNI) of less than 90 % of the Community average.
- The fifth regulation introduces a **European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC)**. The aim of this legal instrument is to facilitate cross-border, transnational and/or inter-regional cooperation between regional and local authorities. The latter would be invested with legal personality for the implementation of territorial cooperation programmes based on a convention agreed between the participating national, regional, local or other public authorities.

Website : http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.htm



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website: <http://www.nwda.co.uk/contact-us.aspx>

New regional policy instruments and financial engineering

Three new regional policy instruments for 2007-2013 are designed to help Member States and regions to establish sound and efficient management of the funds and to make better use of financial engineering instruments.

- **JASPERS** (Joint Assistance in Supporting Projects in European Regions) seeks to develop cooperation between the European Commission, the EIB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in order to pool expertise and to assist Member States and regions in the preparation of major projects (this is most relevant to the new Member States and **not the UK**);
- **JEREMIE** (Joint European Resources for Micro to Medium Enterprises) is an initiative of the European Commission, together with the EIB and the European Investment Fund, to increase access to finance for the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in the EU regions; and
- **JESSICA** (Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas) is a European Commission initiative in cooperation with the EIB and the Council of Europe Development Bank to promote sustainable investment in urban areas.

Details of how these funds may be use is contained within the North West Operational Programme (see below).

Website : http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funds/2007/jjj/index_en.htm

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North West Operational Programme

The North West of England has developed its own operational programme to manage and distribute ERDF funds until 2013 when the current Structural Fund period comes to an end. The programme was approved by the European Commission in December 2007 and was officially launched on 15 February. First calls are likely in March.

The programme has overall funds of €756 million to be spent until 2013. It is important to note that within the North West, Merseyside has been granted special status known as 'phasing in'. The result is that €308 million is ring fenced for projects within Merseyside, while €448 million is available for the rest of the North West. Including match funding, this leads to a total of €1.5 billion funding for the entire North West for the period 2007-2013.

The vision of the programme is to create for the North West a *'dynamic, sustainable international economy which competes on the basis of knowledge, advanced technology and an excellent quality of life for all'*. Specific targets of the programme include the creation of 26,700 jobs, the creation of £1,170 additional GVA, and a 25% reduction in additional CO₂ emissions generated from NWOP investments.

The programme is divided into four priorities as follows:

OP1: Stimulating Enterprise and Supporting Business Growth in Target and Markets: Boosting the business base through support to improve competitiveness, especially in high value target sectors, and resource efficiency, and reduce businesses' carbon footprints

AA1-1. Developing high value new enterprise

- Support for start-ups and entrepreneurs with growth potential in higher value areas

AA1-2. Developing higher added-value activity in target regional sectors

- Support for businesses and supply chains to boost competitiveness in higher value segments

AA1-3. Increasing sustainable consumption and production

- Reduce the environmental impact of SMEs
- Explore business opportunities emerging from aspects of environmental improvement

The share of funding for this heading is **€205 million**

OP2: Exploiting Innovation and Knowledge: Helping the business base to become more competitive by helping businesses exploit the region's knowledge base and helping firms become more innovative.

AA2-1. Exploiting the science and R&D base of the region

- Build the region's capacity to commercially exploitable R&D relevant to the business base

AA2-2. Encouraging innovation to improve productivity in all companies

- Range of innovation improvements in process and products, including support for exploitation of ICT



The share of funding for this heading is **€205 million**

OP3: Creating the Conditions for Sustainable Growth: Developing infrastructure, improving the natural and built environment and regenerating communities

AA3-1. Exploiting the economic potential of major gateways in Merseyside

- Merseyside only - new or improved access to gateways and development of co-located employment sites

AA3-2. Developing high quality sites and premises of regional importance

- Support for development of regional strategic sites

AA3-3. Supporting the improvement of the region's visitor offer and image

- Improving the regions tourism and visitor infrastructure (including natural environment) and raising profile

The share of funding for this heading is **€157 million**

OP4: Growing and Accessing Employment: Tackling economic exclusion; creating employment accessible to areas of disadvantage

AA4-1. Stimulate enterprise in disadvantaged communities and under-represented groups

- Interventions that seek to contribute to an uplift in entrepreneurial culture/activity in deprived communities

AA4-2. Supporting linkages to key employment areas

- Assisting workless people to access job opportunities and link areas of regeneration need to areas of growth

AA4-3. Supporting employment creation in areas of regeneration need

- Targeted programmes of employment creation in prioritised regeneration areas

The share of funding for this heading is **€159 million**

These priorities are supported by a fifth – Technical Assistance – which supports management of the programme, trans-national and inter-regional cooperation and sector specific support. The share of funding for this heading is €30 million.

Current call	:	N/A
Current deadline	:	N/A
Budget	:	€756 million 2007-2013, €308 million ring-fenced for Merseyside
Budget per project	:	Not known
Programme funds	:	Up to 50%
No. of projects funded:	:	Not known
Partners required	:	Depends on the project
Next call	:	Expected March 2008 – see website for latest calls
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Web : <http://www.nwda.co.uk/what-we-do/projects-and-funding/nwop-erdf-faq.aspx>

Territorial Cooperation

Background information

Territorial cooperation is designed to strengthen economic and social cohesion throughout the EU, by fostering the balanced development through cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation. In this round (2007-2013) special emphasis has been placed on using interregional cooperation to help meet the Lisbon and Göteborg targets on creating a dynamic knowledge based economy which is also sustainable.

There are three distinct types of cooperation funded:

- Cross-border cooperation €5.6billion funding over seven years
- Trans-national cooperation €1.8billion funding over seven years
- Interregional cooperation €0.4billion funding over seven years

Cross-border cooperation (formerly Interreg IIIA)

Although the UK will be involved in 6 cross-border programmes, the North West is, unfortunately, not eligible to participate in any of them.

Trans-national cooperation (formerly Interreg IIIB)

The UK will be involved in **5 trans-national programmes**. The North West is not eligible to participate in all of these but it can participate in both of the following:

- The Atlantic Area Programme
- The North West Europe Programme



The overarching objective of this programme is to achieve a more cohesive, balanced and sustainable territorial development in the Community and better territorial integration. All projects should focus on the following priorities:

- Accessibility
- Environment
- Innovation
- Sustainable Urban Development

The Atlantic Area Programme

The Atlantic Area trans-national programme is a European Commission territorial cooperation programme. Its main goal is to 'increase transnational cooperation geared towards cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage'. It developed from the ATLANTIS pilot project which ran from 1989-1993. The current programme was put to public consultation in 2007 and the first calls were approved in December.

The programme has the following priorities and objectives:

Priority 1: Promote transnational entrepreneurial and innovation networks

- **Objective 1.1:** Develop knowledge transfers between companies and research centres
- **Objective 1.2:** Enhance competitiveness and innovation capacities in maritime economy niches of excellence
- **Objective 1.3:** Stimulate economic conversion and diversification by promoting regional endogenous potential.

The share of funding for this heading is **€27 million**

Priority 2: Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment sustainably

- **Objective 2.1:** Improve maritime safety
- **Objective 2.2:** Sustainable management and protection of the resources of marine spaces
- **Objective 2.3:** Exploit the renewable energy potential of the marine and coastal environment
- **Objective 2.4:** Protect and promote natural spaces, water resources and coastal zones

The share of funding for this heading is **€38 million**

Priority 3: Improve accessibility and internal links

- **Objective 3.1:** Promote interoperability and continuity of existing transport networks, and sea/road/rail/air intermodality
- **Objective 3.2:** Promote short sea shipping and cooperation between ports

The share of funding for this heading is **€18 million**

Priority 4: Promote transnational synergies in sustainable urban and regional development

- **Objective 4.1:** Pool resources and skills in the field of sustainable urban and rural development
- **Objective 4.2:** Make cities and regions more influential and attractive through networking
- **Objective 4.3:** Conserve and promote Atlantic cultural heritage of transnational interest



The share of funding for this heading is **€14 million**

These priorities are supported by a fifth – Technical Assistance – with a **€6 million** share.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	12 May 2008
Budget	:	€104 million (2007-2013), €13.8 million (2008)
Budget per project	:	Depends on project, average €2.3 million for period 2000-2006
Programme funds	:	Up to 65%
No. of projects funded:	:	84 in period 2000-2006
Partners required	:	Depends on project, average 7 for period 2000-2006
Next call	:	2009
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Website	:	http://www.coop-atlantico.com/



The North West Europe Programme

This programme was approved on 26 September 2007 with a budget of €355 million. The overall aim of the programme is to capitalise on the cooperation between key actors in order to contribute to North West Europe's (NWE) economic competitiveness while promoting regionally balanced and sustainable development.

In order to achieve this aim the programme has the following four priorities and objectives:

Priority 1: Developing the NWE knowledge-based economy by capitalising on its capacity for innovation

- **Objective 1.1:** to promote greater entrepreneurship and facilitate the translation of innovations and knowledge into products, processes and services that strengthen the competitiveness of NWE
- **Objective 1.2:** to develop new and strengthen existing growth clusters and SME networks by building on the endogenous potentials of NWE cities and regions
- **Objective 1.3:** to use and improve territorial cooperation in order to strengthen the institutional and territorial framework for innovation and the transfer of knowledge within NWE

The share of funding for this heading is **€89 million**

Priority 2: Sustainable management of natural resources and of natural and technological risks

- **Objective 2.1:** To promote an innovative and sustainable approach to natural resource management, including water, landscapes, biodiversity and energy, and waste management
- **Objective 2.2:** To promote an innovative approach to risk management and prevention, in particular water management in the context of climate change
- **Objective 2.3:** To promote a transnational and spatial approach to improving the quality of soil, water and air, to minimising greenhouse gas emissions and to reducing noise pollution

The share of funding for this heading is **€86 million**

Priority 3: Improving connectivity in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions

- **Objective 3.1:** to manage transport growth through optimisation of the capacity of existing transport infrastructure for both passenger and freight transport
- **Objective 3.2:** to support effective and innovative multi-modal strategic actions and efficient inter-operable systems on land, water and air
- **Objective 3.3:** to develop innovative approaches to the use of ICT in order to improve connectivity, including approaches aimed at reducing the need to travel and at replacing physical mobility through virtual activity

The share of funding for this heading is **€89 million**

Priority 4: Promoting strong and prosperous communities at transnational level

- **Objective 4.1:** to promote transnational actions that will enhance the economic and social performance of cities, towns and rural areas
- **Objective 4.2:** to identify and develop collective actions that will improve the environmental quality and attraction of towns and cities including the sustainable use of the cultural heritage, tourism, the creative economy and sustainable and innovative energy practices



- **Objective 4.3:** to promote transnational responses to the impacts of demographic change and migration on the NWE territory

The share of funding for this heading is **€68 million**

These priorities are supported by a fifth – Technical Assistance – with a **€21 million** share.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	9 May 2008
Budget	:	€355 million (2007-2013), €47 million (2008)
Budget per project	:	Varies depending on project
Programme funds	:	Up to 50%
No. of projects funded:	:	Possibly up to 100
Partners required	:	Varies depending on project
Next call	:	2009
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Inter-regional cooperation & networks (including former Interreg IIIC)

Funding under this heading will cover, *inter alia*, the following Europe-wide programmes:

- **Interreg IVC** (inter-regional cooperation)
- **INTERACT** (technical assistance & support programme)
- **URBACT** (building urban networks)

Regions for Economic Change

Projects under this heading may also be included in Regions for Economic Change. This is not a further funding programme but Commission a cross cutting measure which aims to further build on existing regional links. It aims to make a stronger link between the exchange of good practices developed and the main body of funding in the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment, and European Territorial Cooperation operational programmes. Through this it aims to address the core issues that Europe is facing.

It is designed to help regions gain maximum benefit from the wealth of knowledge, experience and good practice available in other regions. Ideas, tools and approaches will be developed, experiences exchanged, and these then implemented through the Operational Programmes.

As part of this, the Commission has identified 30 priority themes on which it wants projects to concentrate and a 'Fast Track' option, whereby projects within the above programmes may be given additional support and access to the expertise of the Commission. This ensures that the results of those projects addressing key priorities are proactively introduced into mainstream programmes.

Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/interregional/ecochange/index_en.cfm

Interreg IVC

INTERREG IVC promotes inter-regional cooperation between regional and other public authorities across the EU. The programme allows regions without joint borders to work together in common projects and to develop cooperation networks. Cooperation projects under INTERREG IVC should create synergies between best practice projects and the Structural Fund's mainstream programmes. The overall aim is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies and instruments, and contribute to economic modernisation and increased competitiveness of Europe. It seeks to do this through large scale information exchange and sharing of experience in a structured way allowing less experienced regions to work with more experience regions.

The programme has two priorities:

Priority 1: Innovation and the knowledge economy

- This focuses on innovation, research and technology development, entrepreneurship and SMEs, the information society, and employment, human capital and education

The share of funding for this heading is **€176 million**

Priority 2: The environment and risk prevention



- This focuses on natural and technological risks, water management, Waste prevention and management, biodiversity and preservation of natural heritage, energy and sustainable transport, and cultural heritage and landscape

The share of funding for this heading is **€125 million**

These priorities are supported by a third – Technical Assistance – with a **€19 million** share

This Operational Programme supports two different types of interventions:

Regional Initiative Projects: initiated by regional actors aiming to exchange experience in a specific policy field in order to identify good practice and to develop new tools and approaches

Capitalisation, including Fast Track projects: in order to ensure that good practice identified finds its way into the Convergence, Regional Competitiveness and Employment and European Territorial Cooperation programmes

NB: Although 'Fast Track' projects are submitted following calls for proposals, the Commission may itself identify projects it considers as candidates. For more information see 'Regions for Economic Change' above.

Current call : Closed on 15 January 2008
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : €321 million (2007-2013), €36 million for 2008
Budget per project : Not known
Programme funds : Up to 75%
No. of projects funded: Not known
Partners required : Depends on project
Next call : June 2008

Website : <http://www.interreg4c.net/index.html>
: http://www.interreg3c.net/sixcms/list.php?page=home_en

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INTERACT

INTERACT promotes coordination and exchanges of experience and good practice at Community level of actions undertaken through Interreg, technical assistance and promotion of the creation and consolidation of joint structures for programming, monitoring and management, coordination of interregional cooperation. Collection of information on projects approved (in order to avoid double financing of projects and to promote further synergies) and their implementation, publications, databases and web sites. Note that in the past, there were calls for proposals under the Interact programme, in the period 2007-2013, this will no longer be the case. There will be **no calls for proposals under this heading in the period 2007-2013**. Funding will go to the programme secretariat and it will produce publications, promote networks, hold seminars etc., perhaps following on calls for tender, where appropriate.

Current call : N/A
Current deadline : N/A
Budget : €34 million 2007-2013
Budget per project : N/A
Programme funds : N/A
No. of projects funded: N/A
Partners required : N/A
Next call : None in future

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URBACT II

The URBACT II programme 2007-2013 aims to promote exchange of best practice and build networks in relation to urban cooperation and regeneration. In contrast to the previous programmes it is very much focused on implementing the Lisbon strategy, to make Europe the most dynamic knowledge based economy in the world by 2010, in cities. It finances thematic networks and working groups. It will also finance networks under the European Commission's 'Regions for Economic Change', see above for more details on this programme.

The programme has two priorities:

Priority 1: Exchanges and dissemination of knowledge

- **Measure 1.1:** Thematic networks
- **Measure 1.2:** Qualification
- **Measure 1.3:** Studies and other initiatives

The share of funding for this heading is **€14.4 million**

Priority 2: The environment and risk prevention

- **Measure 2.1:** Information tools
- **Measure 2.2:** Co-ordination
- **Measure 2.3:** Working Groups

The share of funding for this heading is **€11.2 million**

These priorities are supported by a third – Technical Assistance – with a **€2.85 million** share

NB: URBACT II is **not an annual call programme**, networks will be funded for 2-3 years and it is expected that the **next call will be in 2010**. Note also that there will be an initial call for preparatory measures followed by a subsequent call for networks.

Current call	:	2008
Current deadline	:	15 February 2008
Budget	:	€28 million (not finalised) 2007-2013
Budget per project	:	Approximately €600,000
Programme funds	:	Up to 70%
No. of projects funded:	:	20 -30 per call
Partners required	:	Depends on project but generally 10 to 20 partners
Next call	:	2010

Website : www.urbact.eu



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Overview

On the 7th April 2005, the European Commission announced its proposals for the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development, more commonly known as FP7. Knowledge and research are key to achieving the goals of the Lisbon objective of becoming 'the most dynamic and competitive knowledge-based economy in the work by 2010' as well as the Barcelona target of achieving 3% of GDP invested in R&D activities. The programme, one of the largest EU funded programmes outside of the Structural and Cohesion Funds, will come into force on the 1st January 2007.

The first calls were released on 22 December 2006. There will be several calls launched on this date, under cooperation there will be calls on the ICT theme and under capacities there will be calls on strengthening innovative capacities of SMEs, Regions of Knowledge and unlocking research potential of (enlarged) EU's convergence and outmost regions. Most will have a deadline of the end of April 2007.

A target has been set by the European Commission that 15% of all FP7 funding will go to SMEs, if met this will amount to €8.1873bn over 7 years. Also in connection with the new Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) also targets SMEs and has a budget of €3.621bn. More information on the CIP can be found in the Enterprise and Innovation section of the funding guide.

FP7 will be based around 4 specific programmes:

1. **Cooperation** (€32.413bn) – range of transnational (including third countries) activities/projects/networks. There are nine themes covered in this section. Under each theme there will also be the opportunity to address in a flexible way emerging needs and unforeseen policy needs
2. **Ideas** (€7.510bn) – European Research Council is one of the main players in this section of the programme. It will fund individual or small scale cutting edge research projects. The subject will be up to the researchers themselves, there are no themes



guidelines for projects, but they do have to show that their research will offer something different

3. **People** (€4.750b) – Activities supporting training and career and skills development of researchers, known as Marie Curie actions
4. **Capacities** (€4.097bn) – Initiatives such as research infrastructures, SMEs in research, regional research clusters, improving the research potential in EU convergence regions etc.

There is also a specific programme for non-nuclear actions of the Joint Research Council which amounts to €1.752 billion; the remaining €4,061 million is allocated to activities related to nuclear research.

Across all themes transnational cooperation will be implemented in the following ways:

- **Collaborative research** – This is the core of research funding. The main aim is to attract researchers and investors from across the world
- **Joint Technology Initiatives** – Setting up of long term public private partnerships, related to European Technology Platforms that cover a small and specific area of European research
- **Coordination of non-Community research programmes** – using the ERA-NET scheme and participation of the Community in jointly implemented national research programmes. Also in this section any area not directly linked to the nine themes can be included under this as long as it offers sufficient European added value
- **International cooperation** – involvement of third countries



Cooperation: Themes (€32.413bn)

Health (€6.1bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: The main aim of this section of the programme is to improve the health of the European citizen. Also addressed are; the need to increase the competitiveness in European health-related industries and business, global health issues and epidemics, health promotion and prevention, diagnostic tools and technologies and sustainable and efficient healthcare systems. Also recently added via the European Parliament is research into children's health, respiratory diseases and neglected diseases.

The following activities are included under the health theme:

- **Biotechnology, generic tools and technologies for human health**
- Data generation, standardisation, acquisition and analysis
- Detection, diagnostic and monitoring
- Predicting suitability, safety and efficacy of therapies
- Innovative therapeutic approaches and intervention
- **Translating research for human health**
- Integrating biological data and processes
- Research on brain related diseases, human development and ageing
- Translational research in infectious diseases
- Translational research in major diseases
- **Optimising the delivery of health care to European citizens**

- Translating clinical outcomes to clinical practices
- Quality, efficiency and solidarity of healthcare systems
- Enhanced disease prevention and better use of medicines
- Appropriate use of new health therapies and technologies
- Child health and the health of the aging population are cross cutting themes in all of the above activities.

Food, agriculture and biotechnology (€1.935bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Building a European *Knowledge Based Bio-Economy* (industries that produce, manage and exploit biological resources) is a main objective in this theme. Interested stakeholders can use emerging research opportunities that address social and economic challenges such as demand for safer, better and healthier foods. This section of FP7 can address issues such as food safety, sustainable and security of production (i.e. climate change) as well as animal welfare.

The following activities are included under the food, agriculture and biotechnology theme:

Sustainable production and management of biological resources from land, forest and aquatic environment

- Organic farming
- Quality production schemes
- Sustainable, competitive and multifunctional agriculture
- Rural development
 - Animal welfare, breeding and production
 - Developing policy making tools in agriculture



“Fork to farm”: Food health and well being

- consumer, societal, industrial and health aspects of food and feed
- nutrition, diet diseases and disorders
- food/feed processing technologies quality and safety

Life sciences and biotechnology for sustainable non-food products and processes

- Improved crops and feed stocks for energy, environment and high added value products
- Novel farming systems
- Environmental remediation and cleaner processing

Information Communications Technologies (ICT) (€9.050bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Strengthen Europe’s scientific and technology base in ICT through innovative measures. Not only this but to make sure this progress is received by all including citizens and business of all sizes as well as industry and governments. This is an important section for business and the economy as half of all productivity gains are the result of ICT products and services, especially in the public domains of health and social care as well as education.

The following activities are included under the ICT theme:

ICT Technology Pillars

- Nano-electronics, photonic and integrated micro/nano-systems
- Ubiquitous and unlimited capacity communication networks
- Embedded systems, computing and control
- Software, grids, security and dependability
- Knowledge, cognitive and learning systems
- Simulation, visualisation, interaction and mixed realities

Integration of Technologies

- Personal communication and computing devices
- Home communication
- Robotic systems
- Intelligent infrastructures

Applications Research

- ICT meeting societal challenges – quality, efficiency, access and inclusiveness
 - Health – disease prevention, early diagnosis
 - Inclusion – prevent digital divides
 - Mobility – ICT based transportation systems that are safe, comfortable and efficient
 - Environment – natural disasters and industrial accidents
 - Government – openness, accountability, efficiency
- ICT for content, creativity and personal development
 - New forms of media
 - Enhanced learning
 - Cultural and multilingual resources
- ICT supporting business and industry
 - Digital eco systems and collaborative work environments
 - Manufacturing
- ICT for trust and confidence



- Privacy and protection against cyber threats
- Future and emerging technologies – nurturing novel ideas and to explore new ICT options

Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials & new production technologies (€3.475bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Transforming this industry from resource-intensive to knowledge intensive. It is the intention that the existing SME base is modernised in this area. The EU already has leadership and expertise in nanotechnologies, materials and production technologies. This section of FP7 will hopefully strengthen and develop this. The following activities are included under the Nanosciences, nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies theme:

- **Generating new knowledge on Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies**
- **New knowledge on high performance materials (environment friendly)**
- **New production responding to emerging industrial needs**
- **Integration of technologies for industrial applications**

Energy (€2.350bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Development of sustainable energy sources alongside enhanced energy efficiency with the underlying consideration of climate change and protecting the environment. This particular theme under FP7 will help the EU meet its Kyoto targets. The EU's competencies in the field of wind and bio-energy are increasingly coming under threat from Japan and the US. As a result of this new technologies must be fostered and developed and private investment should be mobilised. The following activities are included under the energy theme:

- **Hydrogen and fuel cells**
- **Renewable electricity generation**
- **Renewables for heating and cooling**
- **Renewable fuel production**
- **CO2 capture and storage technologies for zero emission power generation**
- **Clean coal technologies**
- **Smart energy networks**
- **Energy efficiency and savings**
- **Knowledge for energy making policy making. Development of tools, methods and models to assess economic and social issues related to energy technologies**

Environment (including climate change) (€1.890bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Sustainable management of the environment, advancement of knowledge of interactions between biosphere, ecosystems and human activities. The development of tools and technologies for monitoring and prevention will be a key focus area. The environment goes beyond national frontiers and for the EU to be successful then countries have to work with each other as well as globally. The following activities are included under the environment theme:



- **Climate change, pollution and risks**
 - Pressures on environment and climate
 - Environment and health
 - Natural hazards and the development of early warning systems
- **Sustainable management of resources**
 - Conservation and sustainable management of natural and man-made resources
 - Evolution of marine environment
- **Environment technologies**
 - Environment technologies for observation, prevention, mitigation, adaptation, remediation and restoration of the natural and man-made environment
 - Technology assessment, verification and testing
- **Earth observation and assessment tools**
 - Earth observation
 - Forecasting methods and assessment tools

Transport (including Aeronautics) (€4.160bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Technological advances based on “greener” and “smarter” pan European systems and the development of European industries in this field. Air and surface transport contributes to 13.6% of the EU’s GDP involving 19.1millions workers but transport is also responsible for 25% of all CO2 emissions in the EU. A large section of this theme is dedicated to reversing this trend (see also pp.77-79 in the European Transport Funding Guide Chapter). The following activities are included under the transport and aeronautics theme:

- **Aeronautics and air transport** Greening of air transport – alternative fuels, noise and emission reduction
 - Increase time efficiency- innovative air traffic management systems, Single Sky policy
 - Customer satisfaction and safety – innovative in-flight technologies, efficient passenger handling, improving all safety aspects
 - Protection of aircraft and passengers – improved data and identification, prevention against attacks
 - Pioneer the air transport of the future - long term challenges
- **Surface transport (rail, road, water)**
 - Greening of surface transport – reduce environmental and noise pollution, clean and efficient engines, alternative fuels
 - Encouraging modal shift and decongesting transport corridors – new regional and national transport networks
 - Ensuring sustainable urban mobility – clean and safe vehicles, new public transport modes
 - Improving safety and security
 - Strengthening competitiveness
- **Support to the European global satellite navigation system (Galileo)**



Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities (€623m)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Understanding of complex socio-economic challenges across Europe, such as employment, growth and competitiveness, social cohesion and sustainability, quality of life and interdependence. The following activities are included under the Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities theme:

- **Growth, employment and competitiveness in a knowledge society**
- **Combining economic, social and environmental objectives in a European perspective**
- **Major trends in society and their implications**
 - Ageing
 - Migration
 - Lifestyles
 - Work
 - Families
 - Gender
 - Health
 - Cultural interactions
 - Racism
- **Europe in the World: understanding changes**
- **The citizen in the EU**
- **Socio-economic and scientific indicators in policy development**
- **Foresight activities**

Security and Space (€2.830bn total – Space -€1.430bn, Security €1.400bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Develop technologies to secure citizens from terrorist threats and crime. The development of a European Space Programme and Policy complementing the efforts of Member States in this area will be encouraged under this section of the programme. The following activities are included under the Security theme:

- **Protection against crime and terrorism**
- **Security of infrastructure and utilities**
 - Transport
 - Energy
 - ICT
 - Financial and administrative services
- **Restoring security in case of crisis**
- **Border Security**

The above 4 principles will be supported by the following themes (cross-cutting)

- Security Systems Integration and Interoperability
- Security and Society
- Security Research Coordination and Structuring

The following activities are included under the Space theme:

- **Space based applications at the service of the European Society**
- **Exploration of Space**
- **RTD for strengthening space foundations**



Ideas (€7.510bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Enhance the dynamism, creativity and excellence of European research at the frontier of knowledge through supporting individual research projects. These projects will be judged individually, and the subjects can be chosen by the individual or team of researchers. Projects under this programme will run separately to the thematic section. Frontier research will be implemented and monitored by the European Research Council.

What the Commission is looking for under this programme:

- Most promising and productive areas of research
- Scientific and technological progress within and across the disciplines
- Young researchers, new groups as well as established teams

People (€4.750bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Strengthening the human potential in research and technology through encouraging people to stay and enter the research profession. This will be done by “Marie Curie” actions which address researchers at all stages of their careers:

Activities:

- **Initial training of researchers** – to improve career prospects in public and private sectors. Implemented through Marie Curie networks. Generally focused on younger or less experienced researchers
- **Life-long training and career development** - for experienced researchers, complimenting or acquiring new skills, or to resume a research career after a break. Will be implemented through individual fellowships and through co-financing of regional, national or international programmes
- **Industry academia pathways and partnerships** – longer term cooperation between academia and industry organisations, in particular SMEs. Aim to increase the sharing of knowledge through joint research partnerships. Targeted at experienced researchers
- **The international dimension** – attracting research talent and fostering contacts with researchers and organisations from outside Europe. Outgoing and incoming fellowships, common initiatives.
- **Specific actions** – Creation of a genuine Labour market for researchers, removing obstacles to mobility and enhancing career prospects.

Capacities (€4.097bn)

What the Commission aims to achieve: Enhance research and innovation capacities. This will be achieved through:

- **Development of research infrastructures** (advancement of knowledge) (€1.715bn)
 - Support to existing research infrastructures
 - Transnational access for European researchers
 - Integrating activities on a European scale



- Research e-infrastructure
- Support to new research infrastructures
 - Construction/major updates of existing ones
 - Design studies
 - Must offer added value
 - The capacity to offer the service at a European level
 - Relevance at international level
 - Commitment of major stakeholders
 - Thorough evaluation of construction and operating costs
- **Strengthening innovative capacities of SMEs** (€1.336bn)
 - Research for SMEs - small groups solving common technological problems
 - Research for SME associations – to develop technical solutions to problems in specific sectors
- The Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) will also offer significant support to SMEs for specific actions as well as participation in the framework.
- **Development of regional research driven clusters – Regions of Knowledge** (€126m)
 - Will bring together actors in all sectors related to research
 - Mentoring of regions with less of a research capacity by ones with highly developed ones
 - Improve research networking
 - Better integration of research actors in the regional economy
- **Unlocking research potential of (enlarged) EU's convergence and outmost regions** (€340m)
 - Trans-national two way secondments of research staff
 - Acquisition and development of research equipment
 - Workshops and conferences facilitating knowledge transfer
 - Initiatives disseminating and transferring research results
- **Bringing together science and society** (€330m)
 - Engagement of researchers and public – organised events
 - Reflection and debate on science and technology and society
 - Gender research
 - Promoting research amongst young people
- **International cooperation** (€180m)
 - Strategic partnerships in selected fields with 3rd countries
 - Addressing specific problems that 3rd countries face
- **Coherent development of research policies** (€70m)
 - The Commission aims to increase the effectiveness and coherence of national and Community research policies and improve the impact of public research and its links with industry. Activities include:
 - Monitor and analyse research related public policies and industrial strategies
 - Strengthen the coordination of research policies

Non Nuclear Actions of the Joint Research Centre (€1.751bn)

JRC will promote integration of the new Member States and Candidate Countries to the levels enjoyed by the EU15.

Activities supported:

- Prosperity in a knowledge-intensive society
- Solidarity and responsible management of resources



- Security and freedom
- Europe as world partner

Further information

More information on FP7 can be found at this comprehensive Commission website:
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

Frameworks North West is the regional organisation that assists North West companies in accessing framework programme funds for the next three years. Funded by the North West Development Agency, they offer free, strategic advice to North West companies and run workshops tailored to individual needs. Please see their website for more information:
<http://www.fp6northwest.co.uk/>.

Also available is a flyer promoting their services:
http://www.nwbo.be/uploads/documents/nov_06/nwbo_1163758356_Flyer_FP7_industry_in_house_s.pdf



European Social Inclusion Funding Guide

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The 1993 Maastricht Treaty gave the EU the role of promoting economic and social cohesion. In June 1997 the UK government acceded to the social provisions of Maastricht.

Then in 1997 the Amsterdam Treaty introduced the fight against social exclusion among the social policy provisions. The European Council of Lisbon in March 2000 recognised that the extent of poverty and social exclusion was unacceptable. Building a more inclusive European Union was thus considered as an essential element in achieving the Union's ten year strategic goal of sustained economic growth, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.

The European Council of Lisbon thus agreed on the need to take steps to make a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty by 2010. It also agreed that Member States' policies for combating social exclusion should be based on an open method of coordination combining common objectives, National Action Plans and a programme presented by the Commission to encourage cooperation in this field. The Nice European Council (December 2000) adopted the common objectives in the fight against social exclusion and poverty. Since 2006 three policy areas provide the framework for the mentioned open method of coordination process, namely:

1. Eradicating poverty and social exclusion
2. Adequate and sustainable pensions
3. Accessible, high quality and sustainable health and long-term care



PROGRESS Programme

There were four Community Action Programmes covering anti-discrimination, gender equality, the fight against social exclusion and employment incentive measures. However, for the period 2007-2013 the Commission has brought these four Action Programmes together to form **PROGRESS**, the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity.

The aim of regrouping the four action programmes is to simplify the way the Commission spends its money and to increase the visibility, clarity and coherence of the different policy areas covered by the programmes. The new standardised approach and harmonised implementing provisions of PROGRESS should also make it easier for beneficiaries to apply for funding, providing the possibility of co-funding the operating costs of European-level networks.

This new integrated programme has a budget of **€743.25 million** for 2007-2013 to fund actions such as studies, mutual learning and campaigns to raise awareness and support for key actors across five broad areas: employment, social inclusion, working conditions, equality between women and men and tackling discrimination. It focuses on activities with a strong European dimension to ensure an EU added-value, such as: Europe-wide studies to improve knowledge of employment and social issues or building networks of national experts to encourage mutual learning and exchange of good practices. The 2008 work programme anticipates 14 calls across the different fields to be made this year.

The financial breakdown and number of calls in the different sections for 2008 is:

Section 1	Employment - €20 million (23%) – 7 calls
Section 2	Social protection and inclusion - €28 million (30%) – 3 calls
Section 3	Working conditions - €10 million (10%) – 2 calls
Section 4	Non-discrimination - €20 million (23%) – 1 call
Section 5	Gender equality – €10 million (12%) – 1 call

The Programme is open to all public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions.

According to UK Permanent Representation sources in Brussels, the national allocation estimated for 2007-2013 under this programme amounts to approximately €150 Million. This fund can be dealt with on national or transnational initiatives.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/progress/index_en.htm

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Current call : 3 open – remaining calls can be expected between now and May

Current deadline : Varies depending on call – earliest 25 June 2008, latest 5 September 2008



Budget	:	€93.29 million
Budget per project	:	Not known
Programme funds	:	Community funds up to 80% of total eligible costs.
No. of projects funded:	:	Varies depending on the area and call
Partners required	:	15
Next call	:	Multiple calls with multiple deadlines throughout the year

For the 2008 work programme see:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/progress/docs/progress_005_en.pdf

For details of open calls see:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/emplweb/tenders/index_calls_en.cfm

European Social Fund

Created in 1957, the ESF is the EU's main source of financial support for efforts to develop employability and human resources. The ESF is one of the EU's four Structural Funds, which were set up to reduce differences in prosperity and living standards and help areas of Europe that suffer difficulties. The ESF channels its money into strategic long-term programmes in Member States and regions across the EU.

Seven-year programmes are planned by Member States together with the European Commission and then implemented through a wide range of organisations, both in the public and private sector. In the period 2000-2006, the ESF granted some €70 billion to people and projects across the EU.

For 2007-2013 the ESF focuses on four key areas for action:

- increasing adaptability of workers and enterprises
- enhancing access to employment and participation in the labour market
- reinforcing social inclusion by combating discrimination and facilitating access to the labour market for disadvantaged people.
- promoting partnership for reform in the fields of employment and inclusion

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf2000/2007-2013_en.html

At a regional level, the key document is the Operational Programme (OP) for England for European Social Fund. This covers all regions and combines ESF activities in priorities under Objective 1: Convergence and Objective 2: Regional Competitiveness & Employment. After two public consultations the North West England OP (ESF) was launched in November 2007.

Although the UK has had a 50% reduction in the EU Structural Funding, it will be receiving a total of €4.4billion under the Regional Competitiveness & Employment Objective.

For the period 2007-2013 the overall level of ESF grant funding available to the North West of England is €520 million, with some €197m is ring-fenced for Merseyside in light of its status as a 'phasing in' area. For 2008 there is an estimated €30 million budget for the North West, excluding Merseyside which has a budget of some €33.5 million.

For information on the UK's eligibility for funds see:



http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf/members/gb_en.htm

For a copy of the European Social Fund Regional Framework for the North West of England see:

http://www.esf.gov.uk/docs/final_north_west_esf_framework.pdf

The EQUAL initiative, which aims to develop innovative approaches to helping the most disadvantaged in the labour market, is fully integrated in the scope of the ESF, and mainstreamed within the national and regional operational programmes.

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European Tourism Funding Guide

Although the European Union has no direct responsibility for tourism policies, other EU policies in a number of areas have a considerable and growing impact upon tourism. As such, various EU programmes can potentially be used to fund tourism activities. Further information about schemes, funds, initiatives and actions in line with the tourism sector can be found on the official website of [DG Enterprise and Industry](#).

The DG website gives a non-exhaustive list of information on EU funding programmes (also covered in other sections of this forward funding guide) of interest to the tourism sector and includes structural funds (ERDF and ESF), Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme and the 7th EC Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development.

In addition, complementary information and support to business (in particular, SMEs) across Europe is available on the new [Enterprise Europe Network](#) website, which was launched in February 2008. As a source for further information at regional level, the general public can also contact the Europe Direct Information Centres. In the North West of England you can contact Europe Direct at:

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European Transport Funding Guide

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The objectives of the European Transport Policy are:

- A high level of mobility;
- Protection of the environment; pursuit of energy security and guaranteed minimum labour standards for the sector; protection of passengers and citizens;
- Innovation in support of the first two aims by supporting new technologies and promoting the efficiency and sustainability of the growing transport sector;
- International connections – projecting the Union's policies to reinforce sustainable mobility, protection and innovation in Europe and globally.

The key policy objectives are built around four main pillars: Mobility, Protection, Innovation and International Dimension.

Intelligent Energy – Europe II Programme 2007-2013

The Intelligent Energy – Europe II Programme (IEE II) is a follow-up to the Intelligent Energy – Europe programme, which ran from 2003-2006. The IEE II programme falls under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). The IEE II programme aims to support sustainable development in the field of energy by contributing to a number of the EU's general policy objectives, mainly the security and stability of energy supply and competitiveness and environmental protection. Like its predecessor, IEE II concentrates on non-technological projects in the area of energy. Its main goal is to continue efforts to change systems and behavioural habits to bring about more 'intelligent' use of energy in Europe.

IEE II has three main strands: SAVE (energy efficiency), ALTENER (renewable) and STEER (energy in transport). Of relevance for the transport sector are: ALTENER and STEER. For more details on SAVE and ALTENER, please consult the Energy Section of the Forward Funding Guide.

Priorities:

- Supporting initiatives relating to all energy aspects of transport and the diversification of fuels
- Promoting renewable fuels and energy efficiency in transport
- Supporting the preparation of legislative measures and their application.



Annual Work Programmes set a number of more specific, action-related objectives.

Types of projects:

1) Promotion and dissemination projects

- Awareness campaigns and institutional capacity building
- Information, education and training
- Sustainable energy development (incl. local & regional energy management)
- Promotion of sustainable energy systems and equipment
- Dissemination of best practice
- Strategic studies
- Development of financial products and market instruments

2) Market replication projects (from 2008 onwards)

- Replication of innovative techniques, processes, products or practices which have already been successfully demonstrated on a technical level, with the aim of promoting their broader application and facilitating their market uptake.

Actions for 2007 were :

- Biofuels (ALTENER)
- Alternative fuels and clean vehicles (STEER)
- Energy-efficient transport (STEER)

Budget : Approx. €730million for total period; €52million for 2007
Co-financing : Up to 75%
Partners required : Yes; minimum 3
Next call : Expected soon, mid March 2008
Eligibility : Any public or private organisation established in the EU; international organisations; organisations from Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Croatia)
Duration : max 3 years
Website : http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

European contacts : ALTENER - Biofuels
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Examples of previous STEER Projects in the North West of England:

MIDAS – Measures to influence travel demands to achieve sustainability (Merseytravel)

7th Framework Programme for Research and Development - TRANSPORT

The 7th Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7) is the European Union's main instrument for funding Research & Development. FP7 runs for seven years from 1 January 2007. The programme is organised into four programmes: Cooperation, Ideas, People & Capacities. The specific programme on 'Cooperation' supports all types of research activities carried out by different research bodies in trans-national cooperation and aims to gain or consolidate leadership in key scientific and technology areas. The Cooperation programme is sub-divided into ten distinct themes, one of which is transport including aeronautics. For more details on FP7 in general see the Research Section of the Forward Funding Guide.

Cooperation Theme: Transport including aeronautics

Objective: Based on technological advances, develop integrated, "greener", "smarter" and safer pan-European transport systems for the benefit of the citizen and society, respecting the environment and natural resources; and securing and further developing the competitiveness and the leading role attained by the European industries in the global market.

Activities:

- Aeronautics and Air Transport
- Surface Transport (Rail, Road and Waterborne)
- Support to the European Satellite Navigation System (Galileo)

Specific topics:

Aeronautics and air transport

The greening of air transport Developing technologies to reduce the environmental impact of aviation with the aim to halve the emitted carbon dioxide (CO₂), cut specific emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 80% and halve the perceived noise.

Increasing time efficiency: Realising a step-change in aviation in order to accommodate the projected growth of three times more aircraft movements by improving punctuality in all weather conditions and reducing significantly the time spent in travel-related procedures at airports.



Ensuring customer satisfaction and safety: Introducing a quantum leap in passenger choice and schedule flexibility, whilst achieving a five-fold reduction in accident rate.

Improving cost efficiency: Fostering a competitive supply chain able to halve the time-to-market, and reduce product development and operational costs, resulting in more affordable transport for the citizen.

Protection of aircraft and passengers: Preventing hostile action of any kind to incur injury, loss, damage or disruption to travellers or citizens due to the effects of aircraft misuse.

Pioneering the air transport of the future: Exploring more radical, environmentally efficient and innovative technologies that might facilitate the step change required for air transport in the second half of this century and beyond.

Surface transport (rail, road and waterborne)

The greening of surface transport: Developing technologies and knowledge for reduced pollution (air, water and soil) and environmental impact such as climate change, health, biodiversity and noise.

Encouraging modal shift and decongesting transport corridors: Developing and demonstrating seamless door-to-door transport for people and goods as well as technologies to ensure effective intermodality, including in the context of rail transport competitiveness.

Ensuring sustainable urban mobility (CIVITAS): Focusing on the mobility of people and goods by research on the 'next generation vehicle' and its market take-up, bringing together all elements of a clean, energy efficient, safe and intelligent road transport. For more details on the CIVITAS programme see detailed CIVITAS section on page 122.

Improving safety and security: Developing technologies and intelligent systems to protect vulnerable persons such as drivers, riders, passengers, crew, and pedestrians.

Strengthening competitiveness: Improving the competitiveness of transport industries, ensuring sustainable, efficient and affordable transport services and creating new skills and job opportunities by research and developments.

Support to the European global satellite navigation system (Galileo)

Exploiting the full potential: promoting growth in the use of the services ranging from open to commercial access, safety-of-life to "search and rescue" and public regulated service; freight transport management applications; exploiting by-product services; demonstrating the benefits and efficiencies of satellite navigation.

Providing the tools and creating the appropriate environment: ensuring safe use of services, mainly through certification in key application domains; preparing and confirming the adequacy of services to new policies and legislation, including their implementation; addressing public regulated services according to the approved policy of access; developing essential digital topology, cartography, geodesy data and systems for use in navigation applications; addressing safety and security needs and requirements.

Adapting receivers to requirements and upgrading core technologies: improving receiver performances, integrating low-power consumption and miniaturisation technologies, completing in-door navigation coverage, coupling with radio frequency identification devices,



exploiting software receiver technology, combining with other functions as telecommunication, supporting key navigation ground-based infrastructure technology to ensure robustness and flexibility;

Supporting infrastructure evolution: preparing second generation system, adapting to evolving user demands and market forecasts, taking advantage of infrastructure internationalisation to address global markets and developing world-wide standards.

Supporting infrastructure evolution: preparing second generation system, adapting to evolving user demands and market forecasts, taking advantage of infrastructure internationalisation to address global markets and developing world-wide standards.

Actions supported: collaborative projects; networks of excellence; coordination and support actions.

Current calls : FP7 Sustainable Transport
Deadline : 8 May 2008
Partners required : Yes

Websites:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/home_en.html

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/transport_en.html

Current calls : FP7 Transport- Horizontal activities
Deadline : 7 May 2008
Partners required : Yes

Websites:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/home_en.html

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/transport_en.html

Current calls : FP7 Aeronautics and Air Transport
Deadline : 7 May 2008
Partners required : Yes

Websites:

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/home_en.html

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cooperation/transport_en.html

http://ec.europa.eu/research/transport/transport_modes/aeronautics_en.cfm

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Email: transrtd@fp7uk.co.uk

Aeronautics : Gill Richards
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Regional Contact Point FrameworksNW
Tel: 0151 632 8888
<http://www.frameworksnw.co.uk>

CIVITAS (7th Framework Programme)

The objective of CIVITAS-Plus is to test and increase the understanding of the frameworks, processes and packaging required to successfully introduce bold, integrated and innovative strategies for clean and sustainable urban transport that address concerns related to energy-efficiency, transport policy and road safety, alternative fuels and the environment. It is open to proposals that could include local consortia from three 'leading cities' (at least one from one of the twelve new Member States) and local consortia from up to two 'learning cities'. Each city should be located in a different country. CIVITAS will give cities from the new Member States special attention.

'Leading cities' will implement integrated packages of policy and technology measures combining the eight categories proposed by CIVITAS. 'Learning cities' will develop a policy package, want to learn from the leading cities and test and demonstrate small elements of their future plans. Each of the local consortia should be coordinated by a city or by the responsible local or regional transport authority. The local consortia should include all the necessary public and private partners to carry out the project.

Topics:

1. Testing innovative strategies for clean urban transport
2. Support action for evaluation and monitoring
3. Support action for coordination and dissemination

Current call : Closed
Future call : 2nd called envisaged at end 2008 or 2009
Partners required : Consortia of 3 'leading' cities & consortia of up to 2
'learning' cities (all from different EU countries)
Website : <http://www.civitas-initiative.org>



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Marco Polo II – Freight transport

Objective: To reduce road congestion and improve the environmental performance of the whole transport system by shifting freight from road transport to short sea, rail and inland waterway transport.

Priorities

- Modal shift
- Support for ancillary infrastructure
- Motorways of the Sea
- Traffic Avoidance Actions

Types of actions:

Modal shift actions - aid to start up a service or developing an existing service- the minimum subsidy threshold amounts to €500,000, and the subsidy rate can be up to 35% of eligible costs.

Catalyst actions - overcoming structural barriers in the market- the minimum subsidy threshold amounts to €2 million and the subsidy rate might be up to 35% of eligible costs.

Common learning actions - improving co-operation and sharing of know how-the foreseen minimum subsidy threshold is €250,000 and the subsidy rate can be up to 50% of eligible costs.

Motorways of the sea actions - shifting freight from road to short sea shipping or a combination of short sea shipping with other modes of transport- the minimum subsidy threshold amounts to €2.5 million. The subsidy rate might be up to 35% of eligible costs.

Traffic avoidance actions - integration of transport into production logistics to avoid a large percentage of freight transport by road- the minimum subsidy threshold amounts to €1 million, and the subsidy rate cannot exceed 35% of eligible costs.

Guidance on how to apply for the funding is available on the website of the European Commission, DG transport.

Scope: Funds only services – no research, studies or infrastructure

Actions have to involve the territory of at least two Member States or involve the territory of one Member State and territory of a close third country.

Budget	€400m for 2007 - 2013
Next call	Currently open, since 8 February 2008
Deadline	7 April 2008
Co-financing	30-50% (depending on action type)



Budget per project €500,000 – 1.5 million (depending on action type)

Partners: The project should be submitted by 2 or more commercial public, private, undertakings, users or transporters from at least 2 different countries (either 2 EU Member States or one EU Member State and a close third country).

Website:

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/marcopolo/highlights/doc/nantes/01_past_present_future_en.pdf

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INTERREG IV B – North West Europe

The North West Europe (NWE) Programme aims to capitalise on the cooperation between key actors to address territorial issues across the NWE area. This is in order to contribute to the NWE’s economic competitiveness while equally promoting regionally balanced and sustainable development. The programme has got 4 priorities, one of which is focused on transport.

3) Improving connectivity in NWE by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions

- **Objective 3.1:** to manage transport growth through optimisation of the capacity of existing (uni-modal) transport infrastructure for both passenger and freight transport
- **Objective 3.2:** to support effective and innovative multi-modal strategic actions and efficient inter-operable systems on land, water and air
- **Objective 3.3:** to develop innovative approaches to the use of ICT in order to improve connectivity, including approaches aimed at reducing the need to travel and replacing physical mobility through virtual activity for both passenger mobility and freight transport

Next call : Foreseen for April, see Regional Policy Section
 Budget : €350 million for whole period
 Co-financing rate : 50%
 Partners required : Yes; minimum 3
 Eligibility : Local & Regional Authorities; public agencies; universities; research and development agencies etc
 Eligible countries : North West Europe zone: UK; Ireland, Belgium; Luxembourg; parts of France, Germany, the Netherlands as well as Switzerland
 Website : <http://www.nweurope.org>



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Examples of previous transport related INTERREG North West Europe Projects in the North West of England:

ITISS – Intermodal traveller Information Systems (North West Partner: Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (Lead partner) <http://www.itiss-eu.com>

HST – Platform: The High-Speed Train Platform project addressed 'incremental' aspects of investing in the infrastructure backbone of North West Europe. (North West Partner: Cross River Partnership) <http://www.hst-network.net>

LIRA II – The international network of light rail cities – from Vision to Action (North West Partners: Greater Manchester Public Transport Executive; East Lancashire Partnership) <http://www.lira-2.com>

OPTIMUM2: Optimal Planning through implementation of Mobility Management. Optimum2 seeks to better integrate Mobility Management into spatial planning and so promote sustainable transport alternatives. (North West Partner: Lancashire County Council) <http://www.optimum2.org>

INTERREG IV B – Atlantic Area

The main goal of the Atlantic Area programme is to contribute to the territorial cohesion of this area through the cooperation reinforcement between the European Union Member States of the Atlantic seaboard, able to create concrete progresses in terms of solidary development of the economic knowledge, heritage valorisation and maritime resources, emergence of new economic activity clusters, promotion of accessibility and logistic conditions, sustainable development and polycentrism. The programme has got four priorities, the third of which is focused on transport.

Priority 3: Improve accessibility & internal links



3.1 Promote interoperability & continuity of existing transport networks, and sea/road/rail/air intermodality

- Actions favouring better use of transnational rail links: better connection with multimodal platforms, optimisation of train capacities, road haulage pricing, one-stop shops, engine driver training, experimental launch of rail motorways etc.;
- Transnational partnerships to explore and test appropriate means to improve the efficiency of multi-modal logistic chains (introduction of smart technologies, simplification of administration, etc.);
- Feasibility studies and cost-benefit analyses concerning the creation of logistic platforms;
- Testing of possible responses to interoperability problems, e.g. adaptation of rolling stock (train length, etc.) to improve the effectiveness of the rail freight service;
- Creation of a research & innovation network focusing on Intermodality (new equipment, technological developments, management of logistic chains) involving operators, ports as well as academic and research institutions;
- Design and testing of transnational strategies to improve information about public transport services and optimise international trips of passengers (e.g. integrated ticketing);
- Transfer of know-how/pilot actions to improve local accessibility & economic development potential of regional airports

3.2 Promote short-sea shipping and co-operation between ports

- Contributions to the launch of the first experimental motorway of the sea in Western Europe;
- Joint development of smart technologies to improve the efficiency of SSS, e.g. real time tracking of cargoes;
- Joint experimentation of new solutions in the field of eco-innovation to reduce the shipping pollution;
- Coordinated strategy for infrastructure investments in Atlantic seaports, promoting complementarity between types of investments (taking account of the specialisation of ports in different market segments) and financial instruments;
- Feasibility studies about new inter-island or island-mainland connections between regions of different countries
- Joint promotional campaigns for maritime transport, raising awareness of its environmental & economic advantages
- Sharing "business intelligence" between ports, for example joint market studies.

Next call	:	see Regional Policy Section
Co-financing rate	:	65%
Partners required	:	Yes; minimum number not defined yet
Eligibility	:	National, regional & local authorities, public related agencies, trans-national bodies & partnerships, universities, research and development agencies, NGOs and organisations in the social economy
Eligible countries	:	Atlantic Area Zone: Ireland, Portugal, parts of the UK, parts France and parts of Spain
Website	:	http://www.coop-atlantico.com/
Contacts	:	National Representative

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Examples of previous transport related INTERREG Atlantic Area Projects in the North West of England:

PARTNER – Promoting Accessibility between Regional and Transnational transport Networks in Europe (Merseytravel, Liverpool Airport, Manchester Airport)

INTERREG IV C

Interreg IV C is the European Union's programme for interregional cooperation across the whole of the EU. The programme's objectives are to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies and contribute to economic modernisation; to improve regional and local policies in field of innovation & knowledge economy and environment and risk prevention; to enable regional and local level actors to exchange experiences and knowledge; to match regions less experienced in specific policy field with regions with more experience in that field; and ensure good practices identified in Interreg projects are made available to other regional and local actors to transfer into Convergence and Competitiveness Programmes.

The programme has two priorities – Priority 1 'Innovation & the Knowledge economy' and Priority 2 'Environment and Risk Prevention'. One of the subthemes under priority 2 focuses on transport.

Priority 2.5: Energy and sustainable transport

Exchanges of experience and knowledge, transfer and further development of policies dedicated to:

- Moving to a low carbon economy, including information to industrial customers, service providers and citizens on issues such as 'how to reduce energy consumption'
- Transferring knowledge concerning long-term targeted energy efficiency campaigns, including efficiency in buildings, notably public buildings
- Exchanging and transferring of knowledge on mechanisms to stimulate investment in production of renewable energy as well as in energy efficiency projects
- Adapting environmentally sustainable strategies in the transport sector
- Promoting the use of improved collective & non-motorised modes in conjunction with mobility management schemes
- Improving information systems for better traffic management & in improving traffic the monitoring of urban travel data

Next call	:	see Regional Policy Section
Budget	:	€302 million for 2007-2013
Types of interventions:		Regional Initiative Projects & Capitalisation Projects including Fast Track
Co-financing rate	:	up to 75% for EU 15; up to 85% for new Member States + Portugal and Greece



Partners required	:	Yes; at least 3 from three different countries (2 Member States)
Eligibility	:	All public authorities and public equivalent bodies.
Eligible countries	:	EU 27 + Norway & Switzerland
Website	:	http://www.interreg4c.net
Contacts	:	Joint Technical Secretariat 24 Boulevard Carnot; 3 rd floor 59000 Lille, France Tel: +33 328 381 111 Fax: +33 328 381 115 Email: info@interreg4c.net

Four regional contact points are in the process of being set up; the Contact Point for the UK will be based in Lille.

URBACT II

The overall objective of URBACT II is to improve the effectiveness of sustainable integrated urban development policies in Europe with a view to implementing the Lisbon-Gothenburg Strategy. The programme has two priorities: 1) Cities, Engines of Growth and Jobs & 2) Attractive and cohesive cities which offer scope for transport related projects.

Next call	:	expected October 2007
Budget	:	€67.8 million for 2007-2013
Co-financing rate (objective)	:	up to 70% (up to 80% for partners from Convergence)
Partners required	:	Yes
Eligibility	:	Cities of the EU27 – municipalities and organised agglomerations; Regions and Member States (as far as urban issues are concerned); Universities and research centres (as far as urban issues are concerned)
Eligible countries	:	EU27 plus Norway and the pre-Accession countries URBACT I was restricted to cities that were part of the URBAN initiative: this does not apply for URBACT II, so potentially all urban areas are eligible.
Website	:	http://urbact.eu/
Contact	:	URBACT Secretariat Jean-Loup Drubigny +33 149 17 47 51 Email: jl.drubigny@urbact.eu

Trans-European Transport Networks – TEN-T

Introduction



The idea of Trans-European Networks, more commonly known as TENs, was developed in the mid-1980s to support the development of the single market in Europe and reinforce economic and social cohesion. The Trans-European Transport Network carries about half of all freight and transport in Europe.

Aims and Objectives

The TENs aim to:

- integrate national networks
- link peripheral regions of the Union to the centre
- integrate transport modes (intermodality)
- improve safety and efficiency of the networks

A decision was taken in April 2004 by the European Parliament and Council on a list of 30 priority projects to be completed by 2020. This list recognises that some projects are of particular importance to the EU in terms of their scale, their role in supporting transnational trade, their contribution to reinforcing cohesion and their potential for concentrating long distance traffic flows on environmentally friendly forms of transport.

Of the 30 priority projects, the following are of particular interest to the North West:

13. United Kingdom/Ireland/Benelux road axis
14. West coast main line
21. Motorways of the sea
26. Railway/road axis Ireland/United Kingdom/continental Europe

Structure of the programme

There are two funding streams available:

- Multi-Annual Indicative Programme
The Multi-Annual aims to finance complex, long-term projects
- Non-Multi-Annual Indicative Programme
The Non-Multi-Annual aims to fund smaller projects and a new application for this funding can be submitted each year.

Assistance will take one or more of the following forms:

- grants for studies or works;
- interest rate rebates on loans given by the European Investment Bank or other public or private financial institutions;
- loan guarantees to cover post-construction-phase risks;
- participation in risk capital funds;
- a combination of the above

Co-financing:

For studies: 50% of the eligible cost of studies;

For works for priority projects: a maximum of 20% of the eligible costs and a maximum of 30% for cross-border sections and priority inland waterways



For works for projects other than the priority projects: a maximum of 20% of the eligible costs;

For the European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS): for track-side equipment, a maximum of 50% of the eligible costs of studies and works; for on board equipment, a maximum of 50% for the cost of developing and making prototypes or the cost of series equipment

Selection criteria:

- being part of TEN-T Priority Corridors
- implement Intelligent Traffic Management Systems
- being Cross-border in nature
- optimising capacity
- removing bottlenecks
- promoting interoperability between EU networks
- being environmentally friendly
- contributing to the integration of the single market

Funding the TENs projects will require funding from a range of sources in addition to the core TENS budget. These include national budgets, private sector, direct user contribution e.g. infrastructure charging and other sources of EU funding e.g. Structural Funds and loans from the European Investment Bank.

Further information:

European Commission – TENs website

http://ec.europa.eu/ten/transport/index_en.htm

TENs Executive Agency

http://ec.europa.eu/ten/transport/agency/index_en.htm