
EUROPEAN FUNDING AND NORTHERN IRELAND

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Introduction

Funding from the European Union comes in many different forms and accessing these funds is now a major part of the activities of many European regions. Projects funded range from developing a region's transport infrastructure to providing after-school clubs for local children.

The first step in applying for EU funding involves identifying which type of assistance is most relevant and under which system this operates. Broadly speaking, EU funding falls under the following categories:

- (i) Structural Funds packages which are drawn up between the European Commission and regional authorities, in order to identify the needs and priorities particular to that area. They are managed at regional level and projects are based in the region in question.
- (ii) Community Initiatives which are special forms of assistance which aim to tackle problems which the European Commission has identified as being common throughout the EU. They are financed by the Structural Funds and managed at regional level.
- (iii) EU Funding programmes which have a thematic aspect to them and correspond to many of the EU policy areas, for example education, vocational training, Research and Development. They are managed by the European Commission's Directorates-General and all projects must be transnational in nature.
- (iv) Ad-hoc calls for proposals issued by various Directorate-Generals of the European Commission.
- (v) Aid to applicant countries and to other non-Member States of the EU in order to support economic restructuring and democratic reforms.

European Funding and Northern Ireland contains information and contact points for the current round of EU funding 2000-2006. It aims to guide those organisations, companies or indeed individuals who are seeking to access European funding through the various channels and it is a particularly useful reference for those who may not be familiar with the processes involved.

Further information on EU funding and other EU policies can be found at www.europe.org.uk/info/ni – the website of the European Information Network in Northern Ireland.

Section1: Background to EU Regional Policy and the Structural Funds

Regional Policy

The European Union is characterised and enriched by its diversity. There are differences in language, culture and economic performance right throughout the EU and not just between the 15 Member States. These differences also exist within the Member States, hence the creation of the EU's Regional Policy.

The Directorate-General for Regional Policy is the department of the European Commission which is responsible for activities in support of the development of the EU's least-favoured regions, or those regions which are considered to be "lagging behind".

Regional Policy aims to bring about a certain level of economic and social cohesion between the 211 regions of the European Union. This makes an essential contribution towards improving standards of living and increasing levels of production. It also aims to promote a high level of competitiveness and employment, by helping those regions which are less prosperous or suffering from structural problems to generate sustainable development and adapt to new conditions on the labour market and to global competition.

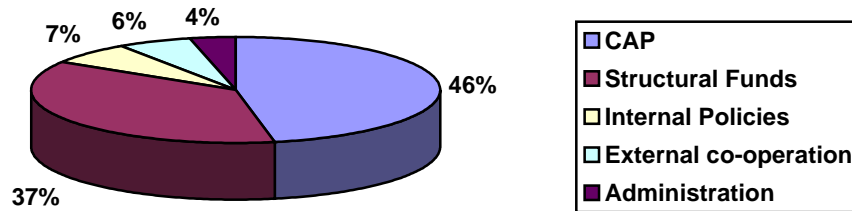
The Structural Funds

EU activities for social and economic development among the regions are financed by four inter-related funds known collectively as the Structural Funds:

- (i) *The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)* provides financial support to regional development programmes in order to reduce socio-economic imbalances.
- (ii) *The European Social Fund (ESF)* is the main instrument of Community social policy and provides financial assistance for vocational training, retraining and job creation schemes.
- (iii) *The European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)* is the financial instrument for agricultural and rural development policy and finances development in rural areas throughout the European Union.
- (iv) *The Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG)* enhances the competitiveness of the fisheries sector and strives to maintain the balance between fishing capacity and available resources.

The total budget for the Structural Funds for 2000-2006 amounts to 195 billion euro at 1999 prices. This amount includes 10.44 billion euro for the Community Initiatives, which will be looked in a subsequent section. This is over one third of the European Union's total budget and takes up approximately 1.27% of the EU's GDP (1999).

Figure 1: EU Expenditure by Category 2000



Reform of the Structural Funds

On 26 March 1999 at the Berlin European Council, the Heads of Government or States concluded a political agreement on the Agenda 2000 action programme. The main objectives of AGENDA 2000 are to strengthen Community policies and to give the European Union a new financial framework, bearing in mind that a possible 12 countries from Central and Eastern Europe could be full members of the EU by 2010.

The structural policy provisions of the Agenda 2000 reforms aim to:

- improve the effectiveness of the structural instruments by strengthening concentration through a reduction in both the structural policy Objectives (from 6 to 3) and the Community Initiatives (from 13 to 4)
- improve the management and clarify the share-out of responsibilities between the various parties involved
- maintain the budget for economic and social cohesion
- extend efforts on regional cohesion to the future Member States

The European Commission has accordingly redefined its priority Objectives for the classification of the regions. The Structural Funds are then used in different combinations in order to address these three priority Objectives, which for the funding period 2000-2006 are as follows:

Objective 1 (regions whose development is lagging behind)

Objective 1 aims to promote development and structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind. Regions with a GDP per capita of less than 75% of the Community average are eligible for Objective 1 funding.

Objective 2 (economic and social conversion)

Objective 2 aims to support the economic and social conversion of areas experiencing structural problems. For the 2000-2006 period, areas with structural difficulties have been divided into four distinctive categories: industrial, rural, urban and fisheries-dependent zones. Objective 2 replaces the Objectives 2 and 5b of the 1994-1999 period.

Objective 3 (Education, training and employment)

Objective 3 aims to support the adaptation and modernisation of education, training and employment policies and systems. It replaces the former Objectives 3 and 4 and reflects the new Title on Employment in the Treaty of Amsterdam.

Transitional support

Under the AGENDA 2000 reforms, regions that were eligible for Objective 1 funding during the 1994-99 period but have lost this entitlement for 2000-06 will be given transitional assistance. This system of phasing out support is designed to avoid a sudden ending of European funding and to consolidate the achievements of structural assistance in the previous period.

For the funding period 2000-2006, Northern Ireland has been classified as an Objective 1 in Transition region. This is because the level of GDP per capita in the region now sits at 82% of the EU average; 7% above the threshold for Objective 1 status.

The Cohesion Fund

Alongside the Structural Funds, a Cohesion Fund was set up in 1993. It finances transport and environment infrastructure in those Member States whose Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita is less than 90% of the Union average i.e. Greece, Ireland, Spain and Portugal. 18 billion euro has been allocated to the Cohesion Fund for 2000-2006.

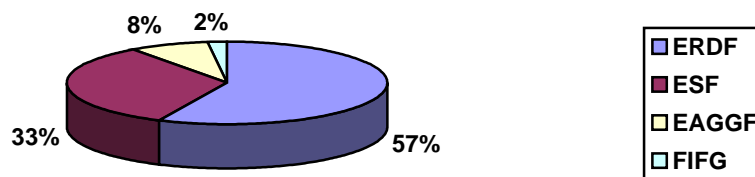
Section 2: The EU Structural Funds in Northern Ireland

For the 2000-2006 period, the UK has been allocated 16.596 billion euro (£10.7 billion) in EU Structural Funds support. On an annual basis, this represents a 2.4% increase compared to the previous planning period 1994-1999.

The details of the Structural Funds assistance to Northern Ireland are laid down in the Community Support Framework (CSF) 2000-2006¹. The CSF for the region was agreed following the submission of the Northern Ireland Structural Funds Plan and the subsequent negotiations between the European Commission and the Northern Ireland authorities.

A total of 1,315 million euro (£849m) has been allocated to the Northern Ireland Community Support Framework for the period 2000-2006 and the following diagram shows the breakdown per Structural Fund:

Figure 2: EU Finances in Northern Ireland by Structural Fund



The Northern Ireland Community Support Framework's 2000-2006 aims to achieve a transition to a more peaceful, stable, prosperous, fair and outward-looking society, sustained by a better physical environment. This aim is carried over into five Priorities and nine Horizontal Principles, while the CSF itself is divided into two Operational Programmes:

- (i) Northern Ireland Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity 2000-2006 – 890 million euro (£575m)
- (ii) EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of Ireland 2000-2004 - 425 million euro (£274m)

Northern Ireland Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity 2000-2006 (Transitional Objective 1 Programme)

This Transitional Objective 1 Operational Programme is the largest component of the CSF, accounting for 68% of the Structural Funds allocated. This Programme will therefore be the main instrument for the realisation of the

¹ www.europe-dfpni.gov.uk/funding_2000_6.htm

economic and social development identified in the CSF. The following Priorities have been adopted:

- Priority 1: Economic Growth and Competitiveness
- Priority 2: Employment
- Priority 3: Urban and Social Revitalisation
- Priority 4: Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry and Fisheries
- Priority 5: The Environment

Priority 1 Economic Growth and Competitiveness

The overall aim of Priority 1 is “to produce a fast-growing, competitive, innovative knowledge-based economy where there are plentiful opportunities and a population equipped to grasp them”. Most of this assistance is delivered by the relevant industrial development agency on behalf of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment. At time of writing, these are the Local Enterprise Development Unit (LEDU); Industrial Development Board (IDB) and the Industrial Research and Technology Unit (IRTU). A single Development Agency is planned to come into being 2001/2002. This Priority is divided into two sub-priorities and the following measures:

Sub-priority 1(a) Business Competitiveness

- Measure 1.1 Business Support
- Measure 1.2 Research and Technology Development and Technology Transfer
- Measure 1.3 Tourism
- Measure 1.4 Local Economic Development
- Measure 1.5 Information Society

Under this sub-priority, the measures are designed to meet the objectives of securing a competitive economy through:

- Promoting competitiveness, enterprise, innovation and creativity
- Making Northern Ireland more attractive for inward investment
- Increasing Northern Ireland’s attractiveness for visitors

Contact: Priority 1a Howard Keery
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
Room 31
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP
Tel: 028 9052 9328
Fax: 028 9052 9485
Howard.Keery@detini.gov.uk

Sub-priority 1(b) Creating the Conditions for Regional Competitiveness

Measure 1.6 Roads and Transport

Measure 1.7 Telecommunications

Measure 1.8 Energy

Under this sub-priority, the measures are designed to support:

- Economic growth and sustainable development
- Business competitiveness and business start ups
- Equality of opportunity in access to employment, training and employment
- Extending travel to work areas for employees
- Sustainable urban and social development
- The potential of the tourist industry

Sub-priority 1(b) above derives from the programme for Government.

Contact: Measure 1.6

Stephen Creagh

Department of Regional Development

Clarencourt

10-18 Adelaide Street

Belfast

BT2 8GB

Tel: 028 9054 0827

Fax: 028 9054 0081

Stephen.Creagh@drdni.gov.uk

Contact: Measure 1.7

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IRTU

17 Antrim Road

Lisburn

BT 28 3AL

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Fax: 028 9267 6054

Trevor.Forsythe@irtu.detini.gov.uk

Contact: Measure 1.8

David Stanley

DETI

Netherleigh

Massey Avenue

Belfast

BT4 2JP

Tel: 028 90529240

Fax: 028 90525449

David.Stanley@detini.gov.uk

Priority 2 Employment

The principal task of the Employment Priority is to tackle the specific labour market needs of those in education who are about to enter the labour market, those who are unemployed and those who are in employment. This Priority will implement the European Employment Strategy in Northern Ireland and will be implemented through the following measures:

Measure 2.1	Education and Skills Development
Measure 2.2	Tackling the Flows into Long-term Unemployment
Measure 2.3	Promoting a Labour Market Open to All
Measure 2.4	Improving Opportunities for Lifelong Learning
Measure 2.5	Education and Training ICT and Infrastructure Support
Measure 2.6	Developing Entrepreneurship
Measure 2.7	Human Resource Development in Companies
Measure 2.8	The Advancement of Women

Contact: Priority 2

John Neill
European Unit
Department of Employment and Learning
Adelaide House
39-49 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8FD
Tel: 028 9025 7874
Fax: 028 9025 7646
John.Neill@delni.gov.uk

Priority 3 Urban and Social Revitalisation

Priority 3 aims to reduce the socio-economic gap between disadvantaged urban areas and the wider society by improving the physical infrastructure of urban areas and by enabling community participation in sustainable economic development. Urban and Social Revitalisation will be implemented through the following measures:

Measure 3.1	Urban Revitalisation
Measure 3.2	Advice and information Services
Measure 3.3	Community Sustainability
Measure 3.4	Investing in Early Learning

Contact: Priority 3

Don Harley
Department of Social Development
5th Floor
Churchill House
Victoria Square
Belfast

BT2 4BA
Tel: 028 9056 9307
Fax: 028 9056 9303
Don.Harley@dndni.gov.uk

Priority 4 Agriculture, Rural Development, Forestry and Fisheries

Rural areas occupy over 95% of the total surface area of Northern Ireland and around 688,000 people live in such areas. The agricultural industry accounts for approximately 4.5% of GDP and 6% of employment in the region. However as with other countries, the contribution of agriculture and its related industries to the regional economy has been declining in relative terms. Priority 4 seeks to address the problems facing these industries through the following measures:

Measure 4.1	Training
Measure 4.2	Improving Processing and Marketing of Agricultural Products
Measure 4.3	Forestry
Measure 4.4	Setting up of Farm Relief and Farm Management Services
Measure 4.5	Marketing of Quality Agricultural Products
Measure 4.6	Basic Services for the Rural Economy and Population
Measure 4.7	Renovation and Development of Villages and Protection and Conservation of the Rural Heritage
Measure 4.8	Diversification of Agricultural Activities and Activities close to Agriculture to provide Multiple Activities or Alternative Incomes
Measure 4.9	Development and Improvement of Infrastructure connected with the development of Agriculture
Measure 4.10	Encouragement for Tourist and Craft Activities
Measure 4.11	Protection of the Environment in Connection with Agriculture, Forestry and Landscape Conservation as well as the Improvement of Animal Welfare
Measure 4.12	Financial Engineering
Measure 4.13	Fisheries
	<i>Axis I</i> Adjustment of Fishing Effort
	<i>Axis II</i> Renewal and Modernisation of the Fleet
	<i>Axis III</i> Ports, Aquaculture, Processing and Marketing
	<i>Axis IV</i> Other Measures

Contact: Priority 4
Noel Cornick
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Room 355B
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB
Tel: 028 9052 4557
Fax: 028 9052 4148
Noel.Cornick@dardni.gov.uk

Priority 5 The Environment

The Environment Priority aims to correct existing environmental problems, understand and manage the growing pressures on the environment and develop a proper awareness and understanding of the environment. It aims to achieve this through the following measure:

Measure 5.1 Sustainable Management of the Environment and Promotion of the Natural and Built Heritage

Contact: Priority 5
Stephen Creagh
Department of Regional Development
Clarens court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB
Tel: 028 9054 0827
Fax: 028 9054 0081
Stephen.Creagh@drdni.gov.uk

The full text of the Northern Ireland Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity can be found at www.europe-dfpni.gov.uk/bsp_op.htm
Application details can be found at www.eugrants.org

EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland 2000-2004 (PEACE II)

The PEACE II Programme is designed to address the legacy of “The Troubles” and aims to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and to promote reconciliation. It also aims to take the opportunities arising from the peace process and contribute to reconciliation by promoting appropriate cross-community contacts. PEACE II accounts for 38% of the Structural Funds allocated and complements the Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity. It also aims to build upon the creative cross-community approaches to funding adopted under the Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation 1994-1999 (PEACE I).

Its two specific objectives can be identified in relation to the overall aim of the Programme:

- Objective 1: *Addressing the Legacy of the Conflict;*

i.e. the Programme will address specific problems generated by the conflict in order to assist the return to a normal peaceful and stable society.

- Objective 2: *Taking Opportunities Arising from Peace*

i.e. to encourage actions which have a stake in peace and which actively help promote a stable and normal society where opportunities for development can be grasped.

The Priorities and measures for the PEACE II Programme are:

Priority 1 Economic Renewal

- Measure 1: Business Competitiveness and Development
- Measure 2: Sustainable Tourism Development based on shared, natural and cultural resources
- Measure 3: New skills and new Opportunities
- Measure 4: Promoting Entrepreneurship
- Measure 5: Positive Action for Women
- Measure 6: Training for Farmers
- Measure 7: Diversification of Agricultural Activities etc
- Measure 8: Technology Support for the Knowledge-based Economy
- Measure 9: Investment in Agricultural Holdings
- Measure 10: Basic services for the Rural Economy and Population

Priority 1 has an indicative allocation of 153.67 MILLION EURO in Northern Ireland and 17.07 MILLION EURO in the Border Region.

Priority 2: Social Integration, Inclusion and Reconciliation

- Measure 1: Reconciliation for Sustainable Peace
- Measure 2: Developing Children and Young People
- Measure 3: Skilling and Building the Social Economy
- Measure 4: Pathways to Inclusion, Integration and Reconciliation of Victims
- Measure 5: Investing in Childcare
- Measure 6: Promoting Active Citizenship
- Measure 7: Developing Weak Community Infrastructure
- Measure 8: Accompanying Infrastructure and Equipment Support
- Measure 9: Renovation and Development of Villages and Protection and Conservation of the Rural Heritage
- Measure 10: Encouragement for Tourist and Craft Activities
- Measure 11: Area-based Urban Regeneration – Belfast, Londonderry and Regional Towns

Priority 2 has an indicative allocation of 107.04 MILLION EURO in Northern Ireland and 24.46 MILLION EURO in the Border Region.

Priority 3: Locally-based Regeneration and Development Strategies

This Priority will be implemented by two Measures in Northern Ireland and by two Measures in the Border Region:

- Measure 3.1 NI Local Economic Initiatives for Developing the Social Economy
- Measure 3.2 NI Locally-based Human Resource, Training and Development Strategies
- Measure 3.3 Building Better Communities – Border Region
- Measure 3.4 Improving Our Rural Communities – Border Region

Priority 3 has an indicative allocation of 86.05 MILLION EURO in Northern Ireland and 16.95 MILLION EURO in the Border Region.

Priority 4: Outward and Forward Looking Region

- Measure 1: Outward and Forward Looking Region
- Measure 2: Marketing the Region as a Tourism Destination

Priority 4 has an indicative allocation of 25.03 MILLION EURO in Northern Ireland and 2.5 MILLION EURO in the Border Region.

Priority 5: Cross-border Co-operation

- Measure 1: Increasing Cross-border Economic Development Opportunities
- Measure 2: Improving Cross-Border Public Sector Co-operation
- Measure 3: Developing Cross-Border Reconciliation and Cultural understanding
- Measure 4: Promoting Joint Approaches to Social, Education, Training and Human Resource Development
- Measure 5: Education, Cross-border School and Youth Co-operation
- Measure 6: Agricultural and Rural Development Co-operation
- Measure 7: Cross-border Fishing and Aquacultural Co-operation

Priority 5 has an indicative allocation of 39.72 MILLION EURO in Northern Ireland and 39.72 MILLION EURO in the Border Region

For further information on any aspect of PEACE II contact:

Special EU Programmes Body
Freephone: 0800 02 73872 (Northern Ireland)
1800 905 999 (Ireland)
info@seupb.org

The full text of the PEACE II Operational Programme can be found at

www.inforegio.cec.eu.int/wbover/overmap/pdf_region/fp2mc_en.pdf

Application details can be found at www.eugrants.org

Information on PEACE I can be found at www.eu-peace.org

The following table lays out all the priorities and measures of the PEACE II programme and contains contact details for the relevant Implementing Body. See Annex 1 for contact details for Local Strategy Partnerships (LSPs) and County Council Led Task Forces and glossary of abbreviations.

Priority	Measure	Implementing Body	Contact	Telephone
1: Economic Renewal	1:1 Business Competitiveness and Development 1:1a Economic Revitalisation 1:1b Trade Development 1:1c Financial Engineering 1:1d Business Competitiveness 1:1e Business Competitiveness in the Border Region	LEDU LEDU DETINI DRD ADM/CPA	Sharon Polson Carol Keery Maeve Hamilton Michael Pollock Ailish Quinn	028 9049 1031 028 9049 1031 028 9025 7308 028 9025 7330 00353 47 71340
	1:2 Sustainable Tourism Development 1:2a Water based Tourism 1:2b Natural Resource Rural Tourism	DCALNI DARD	Barry Davison Angela Kelly	028 9025 8870 028 9052 5435
	1:3 New Skills and New opportunities	PROTEUS EGSA ADM/CPA	Pat Donnelly Kevin Donaghy Ailish Quinn	028 9037 1023 028 9024 4274 00353 47 71340
	1.4 Promoting Entrepreneurship	LEDU ADM/CPA	Sharon Polson Ailish Quinn	028 9049 1031 00353 47 71340
	1:5 Positive Action for Women	TWN Playboard ADM/CPA	Norma Shearer Caroline Mills Ailish Quinn	028 9077 7199 028 9080 3380 00353 47 71340
	1:6 Training for Farmers	DARD	Lesley Fay	028 9054 5893
	1:7 Diversification of Agricultural Activities 1:7a Obtaining Alternative Employment 1:7b Part-time Employment	DARD RDC	Robert Erne Director of Programmes	028 9054 5869 028 867 66980
	1:8 Technology Support for the Knowledge Based Economy 1:8a Innovation Technology and Networking 1.8b Information Age	IRTU DETI	Boyd McDowell Information Age Initiative	028 9262 3143 028 9052 6577
	1:9 Investment in Agricultural Holdings	DARD	Seamus Hughes	028 9054 7116
	1:10 Basic Services for the Rural Economy and Population 1:10a Retail Services 1:10b Basic Services for Rural Economy	RDC RDC	Director of Programmes	028 867 66980
2: Social Integration, Inclusion & Reconciliation	2:1 Reconciliation for Sustainable Peace	CRC ADM/CPA	Mark Adair Ailish Quinn	028 9022 7500 00353 47 71340
	2:2 Developing Children	SELB	Gregory Butler	028 3751 2281
	2:3 Skilling and Building			
	2:4 Reconciliation of Victims 2:4a Pathways to Inclusion 2:4b Integration & Reconciliation 2:4c Inclusion of Target Groups in Border Region	NIVT NIVT ADM/CPA	Felicity McCartney Ailish Quinn	028 9024 5927 028 9024 5927 00 35347 71340
	2:5 Investing in Childcare	NIPPA	Siobhan Fitzpatrick	028 9066 5220
	2:6 Promoting Active Citizenship	NIVT ADM/CPA	Felicity McCartney Ailish Quinn	028 9024 5927 00353 47 71340
	2:7 Developing Weak Community Infrastructure	NIVT ADM/CPA	Felicity McCartney Ailish Quinn	028 9024 5927 00353 47 71340
	2:8 Accompanying Infrastructure	DE	Gillian Ardis	028 9127 9628

		DSD NIPPA	Don Harley Siobhan Fitzpatrick	028 9056 9307 028 9066 5220
		OFMDFM ADM/CPA	Carolyn Barr Ailish Quinn	028 9052 0198 00353 47 71340
	2:9 Renovation and Development of Villages and Protection and Conservation of Rural Heritage			
	2:9a Conservation of the Rural Heritage	RCN	Michael Hughes	028 8676 6670
	2:9b Renovation	RDC	Director of Programmes	028 8676 6980
	2:10 Encouragement for Tourist and Craft Activities	RDC	Director of Programmes	028 8676 6980
	2:11 Area-based regeneration	DSD	Don Harley	028 9056 307?
3: Locally-based regeneration and development strategies	3:1 Local Economic Initiatives for developing the social economy	Contact your local LSP		
	3:2 Locally-based Human Resource, Training and Development strategies	Contact your local LSP		
	3:3 Building Better Communities	Contact your local Task Force		
	3:4 Improving our Rural Communities	Contact your local Task Force		
4: Outward and Forward Looking Region	4:1 Networking	OFMDFM SEUPB	Kenny Knox	028 9052 2563 028 8225 5750
	4:2a Marketing the Region as a Tourism Destination	NITB Task Forces	Caroline Bell	028 9023 1221
	4:2b Enhancing the Region as a Tourism Destination	NITB Task Forces	Caroline Bell	028 9023 1221
5: Cross Border Co-operation	5:1 Increasing Cross-Border Development Opportunities	Co-operation Ireland	Gina McIntyre	028 9032 2445
	5:2 Public Sector Co-operation	SEUPB		028 8225 5750
	5:3 Developing Cross-border Reconciliation & Understanding	ADM/CPA	Ailish Quinn	00353 47 71340
	5:4 Promoting Joint Approaches to Social, Education, Training and Human Resource Development	ADM/CPA	Ailish Quinn	00353 47 71340
	5:5 Education, Cross-border school and Youth Co-operation	DE DES	Richard Hodgett Mary O'Driscoll	028 9127 9567 0035318892179
	5:6 Agriculture and Rural Development Co-operation			
	5:6a Cross-Border Community Development	DARD DAFRD	Stephen Hogg Siobhan Stack	028 9052 4597 0035316072949
	5:6b Cross-Border Diversification	DARD DAFRD	Seamus Hughes Fergus Phelan	028 9054 7119 0035316072949
	5:7 Fishing and Aquaculture	NI Seafood Bord Iascaigh Mhara	Peter Toner Eoghan Beecher	028 9052 2373 0035316199688

Section 3 The Community Initiatives

The Community Initiatives are special forms of assistance which the Commission has proposed to the Member States. They can be implemented throughout the European Union and are financed by the Structural Funds with the aim of solving specific problems. They are complementary to a region's Community Support Framework.

The Community Initiatives have three particular features which give them added value, compared to other measures financed by the Structural Funds:

- Encouraging transnational, cross-border and interregional co-operation
- Increased involvement of people on the ground ("bottom up" approach)
- Support through a real partnership of those involved in the Community initiatives

Each Member State appoints a national or regional agent responsible for implementing each Initiative. Project promoters must contact these agents for information on how the programmes they are involved in are progressing or for getting their proposals included.

Reform of the Community Initiatives

With the reform of the Structural Funds under AGENDA 2000, the number of Community Initiatives has been reduced as the European Commission wanted to increase the European dimension of the initiatives and strengthen the way they complement the priority Objectives. For the period 2000-2006, there are 4 Community Initiatives, each financed by a Structural Fund. They have a total budget of 10.44 billion euro, or 5.3% of the budget allocated to the Structural Funds. A total of 961 MILLION EURO has been allocated to the UK for all four Initiatives, with 118 MILLION EURO of this allocated to Northern Ireland.

INTERREG III

The main objective of INTERREG III is to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the Community by promoting cross-border, transnational and international co-operation and balanced development of the Community territory. It is proposed to effect this by promoting integrated regional development within neighbouring regions.

Interreg III comprises 3 strands:

- Strand A: cross-border co-operation
- Strand B: transnational co-operation
- Strand C: interregional co-operation

INTERREG III has a total budget of 4,875 billion Euro (1999 prices) of which 362 MILLION EURO has been allocated to the UK. 81MILLION EURO has been allocated to Northern Ireland.

For further information contact:

The Special EU Programmes Body
European Union House
Monaghan
Co Monaghan
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INTERREG@seupb.ie
www.interregireland.org

LEADER +

The new Leader + initiative follows on from and strengthens the actions carried out under Leader II during the 1994-1999 period. Leader + encourages the design and implementation of innovative development strategies for rural areas. To achieve this, Leader + is based on partnerships established at local level.

These new rural development strategies must be widely disseminated through exchanges of information and networking by those involved. Leader + also supports interregional and transnational co-operation. All rural areas in the European Union may participate in the Leader + initiative.

Leader + comprises three strands:

- Strand 1: support for integrated and innovative development strategies for rural areas
- Strand 2: support for interregional and transnational co-operation
- Strand 3: networking all EU rural areas

The total Leader + budget for 2000-2006 is 2020 MILLION EURO (1999 prices), of which 106 MILLION EURO has been allocated to the UK. 15 MILLION EURO has been allocated to Northern Ireland.

For further information contact:

Angela Kelly
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Dundonald House
Belfast
BT4 3SB

Tel: 028 90524201
Fax: 028 90524776

Angela.Kelly@dardni.gov.uk
www.dardni.gov.uk

EQUAL

EQUAL is a recent addition to the Community Initiatives and leads on from the two previous human resources initiatives - ADAPT and EMPLOYMENT. The main aim of EQUAL is to promote new ways of tackling all forms of exclusion, discrimination and inequality in relation to the labour market

Equal covers all EU Member States. However, funding will be concentrated on a limited number of large-scale projects run by several partners. These projects must respond to a range of priorities defined by the Member States and the Commission.

EQUAL comprises three strands:

- Strand A: tackling discrimination and inequalities linked to the labour market
- Strand B: networking projects at national level to enable information exchanges and the dissemination of best practice
- Strand C: joint work by the Commission and Member States to learn the lessons of good practice

The Northern Ireland EQUAL Programme will target its efforts on the following two priorities:

- Employability
- Equal Opportunities for Women and Men

The EQUAL budget for 2000-2006 is 2,847 MILLION EURO, of which 376 MILLION EURO has been allocated to the UK. 12 MILLION EURO has been allocated to Northern Ireland.

For further information on EQUAL in Northern Ireland contact:

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39-49 Adelaide Street
BELFAST
BT2 8FD
TEL: 028 90 257874
FAX: 028 90 257646

john.neill@delni.gov.uk
www.equal.ecotec.co.uk

or

Pat Donnelly
Chief Executive
PROTEUS
8 Edgewater Office Park
8 Edgewater Road
Belfast
BT3 9JQ
Tel: 028 9037 0123
Fax: 028 9037 0124

Pat.donnelly@proteus-ni.org
www.proteus-ni.org

Urban II

The new Urban II Initiative aims to promote the design and implementation of innovative development models for the economic and social regeneration of urban areas in crisis. It also aims to strengthen exchanges of information and experience on sustainable urban development in the EU.

Around fifty towns with 10,000 inhabitants or more may be eligible for the Urban Initiative. The urban areas included may be inside or outside Objective 1 and 2 areas and must fulfil at least three of the following conditions:

- High long-term unemployment
- Low rate of economic activity
- High level of poverty and exclusion
- The need for structural adjustment due to economic and social difficulties
- High proportion of immigrants, ethnic minorities or refugees
- Low level of education, major gaps in terms of qualifications and a high rate of pupil failure
- High level of criminality and delinquency
- Unstable demographic development
- Particularly poor environmental conditions

Each Urban programme must include measures for strengthening information exchanges and sharing experience on the regeneration of urban areas in crisis.

The Urban budget for 2000-2006 is 700 MILLION EURO (1999 prices), of which 117 MILLION EURO has been allocated to the UK. 10 MILLION EURO has been allocated to Northern Ireland. At time of print, the Northern Ireland Urban II Programme has not been finalised.

For further information on URBAN II in Northern Ireland contact:

Mike Thompson

Belfast Regeneration Office
Brookmount Buildings
Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EE
Tel: 028 9025 1973
Fax: 028 0925 1939
mike.thompson@dndi.gov.uk

Section 4 The Fifth Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development 1998-2002

The Fifth Framework Programme (FP5) sets out the priorities for the European Union's research, technological development and demonstration (RTD) activities for the period 1998-2002. These priorities have been selected on the basis of a set of common criteria reflecting the major concerns of increasing industrial competitiveness and the quality of life for European citizens.

The Fifth Framework Programme has two distinct parts:

- the European Community (EC) framework programme covering research, technological development and demonstration activities
- the Euratom framework programme covering research and training activities in the nuclear sector

A budget of 13,700 million euro has been agreed for the implementation of the European Community section of FP5. Combined with the 1,260 million euro allocated to the Euratom programme, this brings the total budget for research during 1998-2002 to 14,960 million euro.

The Fifth Framework Programme is implemented for the most part by calls for proposals launched by the specific programmes within FP5. Each programme contains a number of key actions. All projects must have transnational partners.

The programmes under FP5 are:

Thematic Programmes

- Quality of life and management of living resources (2413 MILLION EURO)
- User-friendly information society (3.6 BILLION EURO)
- Competitive and sustainable growth (2705 MILLION EURO)
- Energy, environment and sustainable development (2125 MILLION EURO)

Horizontal Programmes

- Confirming the international role of Community research (475 MILLION EURO)

- Promotion of innovation and encouragement of SME participation (363 MILLION EURO)
- Improving human research potential and the socio-economic knowledge base (1280 MILLION EURO)

Euratom Programme

- Research and Training in the field of Nuclear Energy (979 MILLION EURO)

Information on FP5 can be found at www.cordis.lu/fp5/home.html
All calls for proposals can be found at www.cordis.lu/fp5/calls.htm

The sixth Framework programme is due to commence in mid 2002 and details can be found at : www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/

For further information and assistance contact:

Dr Robert Bunn
Manager
IRTU Europe
The Mount Business & Conference Centre
2 Woodstock Link
Belfast
BT6 8DD
Tel: 028 9073 5867
Fax: 028 9073 5864
IRTU-Europe@talk21.com
www.irtu-ni.gov.uk

CRAFT

The CRAFT programme is concerned with solving problems common to a group of SMEs. Projects are centred on the needs of SMEs with inadequate R&D means and SMEs assign third parties to carry out all or part of the RTD work. Ownership and exploitation of the RTD results lie with the SMEs

CRAFT projects can address any thematic priority as long as it is in line with the general objectives of at least one thematic programme under the Fifth Framework Programme (see above). Projects must have partners which come from eligible SMEs and recognised Research organisations which can carry out the actual research on behalf of the SMEs.

Further information can be found at www.cordis.lu/sme/src/craft.htm

or contact

Dr Robert Bunn
Manager

IRTU Europe
The Mount Business &
Conference Centre
2 Woodstock Link
Belfast
BT6 8DD

Tel: 028 9073 5867
Fax: 028 9073 5864
IRTU-Europe@talk21.com
www.irtu-ni.gov.uk

Technology Transfer

The Northern Ireland Innovation Relay Centre (IRC) is run by LEDU and is funded by the European Commission to promote the transfer of innovative technology to and from Northern Ireland. The IRC is one of over 65 centres throughout Europe and all are linked by an electronic information exchange network.

Local companies with innovative technologies or seeking new technologies are encouraged to contact the IRC to discuss possible licensing, joint ventures, manufacturing or marketing agreements with European companies. Advice and sign-posting is also available on the exploitation of EU funded projects and on the many aspects of European Union funding Programmes.

For further information contact:

Northern Ireland Innovation Relay Centre
LEDU HOUSE
Upper Galwally
BELFAST BT8 6TB
Tel: 028 9049 1031
Fax: 028 9069 1432
irc@ledu-ni.gov.uk
www.ledu-ni.gov.uk/irc

Section 5 SME Development

The Directorate-General for Enterprise is actively involved in a number of Initiatives to improve SMEs' access to finance. However DG Enterprise does not provide direct financial support to individual businesses or entrepreneurs. The following programmes are usually implemented via networks of financial intermediaries or specialised funds at national level, to which interested parties should refer directly if they wish to apply.

Entrepreneurs or businesses seeking business and commercial information from Europe and beyond, including assistance on Community funding should contact:

Euro Info Centre
LEDU Headquarters
LEDU House
Upper Galwally
Belfast
BT8 6TB
Tel: 028 9049 1031
Fax: 028 9069 1432
eic@ledu-ni.gov.uk
www.ledu-ni.gov.uk/info/index.asp?category=4

Joint European Venture programme (JEV)

JEV aims to stimulate the setting-up of Joint Ventures between European SMEs, thus enabling them to benefit from the opportunities offered by the single market. The EU contribution is intended to cover some of the expenses relating to the setting-up of a joint venture. JEV has an indicative budget of 85 MILLION EURO.

For further information contact:

JEV Information Unit
6 rue Jean Monnet
L-2180 LUXEMBOURG
Fax: 00 352 46 70 97

(Financial Intermediary)
Greater London Enterprise Ltd
28 Park Street
London
SE1 9EQ
Tel: 0207 403 0300
Fax: 0207 403 1742

Business Angels

"Business Angels" (or informal investors) are private individuals who, in addition to providing capital, offer their expertise in business development for start-ups and growing enterprises.

Obtaining finance is a particular problem for new or fast growing innovative SMEs, which banks often consider too risky to finance. For these enterprises, equity financing could be more appropriate. This is why the Commission commits itself to supporting the creation of Business Angel Networks.

A Business Angel Network (BAN) is a private or semi-public body whose aim is to match entrepreneurs looking for equity with Business Angels. BANs operate either at regional or national level.

Under the Business Angels programme the Commission finances up to 50% of the costs of feasibility studies for the creation of such networks, as well as a maximum of 50% of the costs of pilot actions aimed at setting up a regional or national network. Feasibility studies of up to one year are financed, pilot actions of up to three years.

For further information contact:

European Business Angels Network
Avenue des Arts, 12 Bte 7
B-1210 BRUSSELS
BELGIUM
Tel: 00322 218 43 13
Fax: 00322 218 45 83
info@eban.org
www.eban.org

Mutual Guarantee Schemes

Mutual Guarantee Schemes involve private groupings of companies, often linked to sector-specific interest groups, to provide loan insurance to banks.

The philosophy behind this system is that closer links between the interest groups in SME-dominated industries, such as the craft and retail sectors, can help improve banks' knowledge of a company's standing and of the markets in which it operates. This in turn allows a better evaluation of the project by the lender and allows credit risk to be considerably reduced.

The Commission finances 50% of the feasibility studies over a maximum period of 1 year and 50% of the running costs for the creation of Mutual Guarantee Companies over a maximum period of 3 years.

For further information contact:

Enterprise Directorate-General
Access to finance
Rue de la Loi 200 (SC-27 04/04)
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 00 322 295.91.86
Fax: 00 322 295.21.54

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/entrepreneurship/financing/mutual_guarantees.htm

ETF Start-up (European Technology Facility) – Venture Capital

The ETF Start-up scheme reinforces the European Technology Facility, established by the European Investment Bank (EIB) in co-operation with the European Investment Fund (EIF), by adopting an investment policy involving a higher risk profile, both as regards intermediary funds and their investment policies.

The aim of the programme is to support equity investments in SMEs which have a higher risk profile than would usually be considered by a seed fund.

For further information contact information:

Enterprise Directorate-General
Access to finance
Rue de la Loi 200 (SC-27 04/04)
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 00 322 295.91.86
Fax: 00 322 295.21.54

http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/entrepreneurship/financing/etf_start-up.htm

I-TEC

I-TEC is part of the Innovation Programme of the European Commission and aims to encourage early stage investments in technologically innovative SMEs.

The Commission provides risk capital participation in young SMEs through investments in specialised venture capital funds. The funds supported by the Commission undertake to invest in young (not older than 3 years) technologically innovative SMEs with growth potential. The Commission targets commercially-orientated funds with sufficient professional experience to demonstrate the necessary capability and credibility to manage venture capital funds.

For further information contact:

Enterprise Directorate-General

Innovation Policy

Office EUFO 2/2197

L-2920 Luxembourg

Tel: 00 352 4301 34194

Fax: 00 352 4301 34544

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/entrepreneurship/financing/itec.htm>

AL-INVEST

A network of operators from Europe and Latin America co-operate on organising meetings between companies active in the same sector. Participants receive a programme of face-to-face meetings specially arranged for them according to their profiles and products.

The meetings are open to business people from all sectors. Participating companies need only to pay travel and accommodation expenses. All organisational costs are covered by the Commission.

For further information contact:

AL-INVEST Secretariat

Avenue de Tyras 75

B-1120 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: (+32) 2 266 49 00

Fax: (+32) 2 266 49 01

E-mail: info@al-invest.net

www.al-invest.org

Section 6 Social, Health and Human Rights

DAPHNE

The DAPHNE Programme (2000-2003) is a four-year programme of Community action that supports preventive measures to fight violence against children, young people and women. It has a total budget of 20 MILLION EURO, with an annual budget for each of the four years of 5 MILLION EURO.

The Programme will be carried out through the following two actions:

- Transnational actions to set up multidisciplinary networks and to ensure exchange of information, best practice and co-operation at community level
- Transnational actions aimed at raising public awareness

Public or private institutions or organisations active in the field of prevention of and protection against violence against children, young people and women and in the support of victims can apply for support under the DAPHNE Programme.

For further information contact:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Justice and Home Affairs (Unit A.1)
LX 46 5/08,
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels
Fax: 00322 299 67 11
http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/daphne/en/index.htm

Grotius II

The purpose of the Grotius programme is to facilitate judicial co-operation between Member States by fostering mutual knowledge of legal and judicial systems.

For 2001-2002 the programme will cover judicial co-operation in criminal matters.

For further information contact:

JAI-GROTIUS@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/grotius_genpenal_en.htm

Oisin

The OISIN programme intends to stimulate relations among law enforcement authorities throughout the European Union by providing a framework for the exchange and training of, and co-operation between law enforcement authorities. This will enhance practical co-operation between law enforcement authorities through the support of innovative projects with an interest for the European Union. The expected results are to make law enforcement authorities better acquainted with the working methods of their counterparts throughout the European Union. A new programme has been proposed for 2001-2002.

For further information contact:

JAI-OISIN@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/oisin_en.htm

STOP II

The aim of the STOP programme is to encourage and reinforce networks and practical co-operation between the various persons responsible for action against the trade in human beings and the sexual exploitation of children in the Member States. It seeks in general to improve and adapt the training and skills of persons responsible for combating this form of crime in the Member States.

For further information contact:

JAI-STOP@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/stop_en.htm

Odysseus

The general objective of the Odysseus programme is to extend and strengthen existing cooperation in the matter of asylum, immigration and the crossing of external borders (and the security of travel and identity documents) within the Member States of the Union, and co-operation in the same areas with States applying for accession.

Public or private institutions, non-governmental organisations, research institutes and universities and training bodies can take part in the programme.

This programme has a total allocation of 128.12 million euro and covers the period 1998-2002.

For further information contact:

JAI-ODYSSEUS@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/odysseus/index_en.htm

Falcone

The Falcone programme intends to stimulate and enhance relations among persons and authorities involved in the fight of organised crime throughout the European Union by providing a framework for the exchange, training and co-operation between them. Practical co-operation is obtained mainly through training, seminars and conferences and joint projects with a multi-disciplinary character.

Falcone runs from 1998-2002 and has a total budget of 10 MILLION EURO.

For further information contact:

JAI-FALCONE@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/falcone_en.htm

Guidelines for the project management of the above Programmes can be found at: http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/jai/guidelines/guidelines_en.htm

Hippokrates

The Hippokrates programme aims to develop and enhance co-operation in the field of crime prevention in the Member States. It intends to stimulate and enhance relations among those involved in crime prevention, by providing a framework for training, exchange and co-operation. Hippokrates runs from 2001-2002 and has a total budget of 2 million euro.

For further information contact:

JAI-HIPPOCRATES@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/hippokrates/en/index-en.htm

Safer Internet Action Plan (IAP)

The Action Plan is part of a coherent set of policies at EU level to deal with illegal and harmful content on the Internet. The IAP is promoting Initiatives which are aimed at increasing the general awareness among parents, teachers, public sector and the information industry about how to deal with the issue of Internet content in practical terms.

For further information contact:

European Commission
Directorate General Information Society
BU 24 0/74
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 00 322 299 93 99
Fax: 00 322 299 94 99

iap@cec.eu.int
<http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/iap/index.html>

Robert Schumann Project

The Robert Schuman Project is designed to tackle the widespread lack of information and training in Community law of judges, prosecutors and lawyers. By raising the awareness of this law among the judges and lawyers of national jurisdictions, the Robert Schuman Project aims to gradually improve the application, throughout the EU, of Community law.

The Robert Schuman Project provides organisations responsible for the training of judges and lawyers with targeted financial support for training initiatives and the development of information sources with a marked practical dimension.

For further information contact:

JAI-SCHUMAN@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/project/schuman/en/index_en.htm

European Refugee Fund

The European Refugee Fund supports and encourages the efforts made by Member States in receiving and bearing the consequences of refugees and displaced people. The programme runs from 2000-2004 and has a total budget of 216 MILLION EURO.

For further information:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/justice_home/jai/prog_en.htm

Public Health Programmes

Following the Maastricht Treaty, public health got a legal base for the first time in the EU's history. In response, the European Commission presented its "Communication on the Framework for Action in the Field of Public Health"². Key elements were the establishment of 8 Public Health Programmes, which together would represent such a Framework. These cover health promotion and monitoring; Aids and other communicable diseases; cancer; pollution-related diseases; rare diseases; injury prevention and drug abuse.

Any organisation or group of organisations wishing to submit a project proposal to the European Commission must respond to calls for proposals which are published in the Official Journal of the European Communities and which appear at http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/tenders/index_tenders_en.html

² <http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/general/template2.htm>

For further information contact:

European Commission
DG Health and Consumer Protection
Unit G
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

sanco-helpline@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/index_en.html

Community Action Programme to combat discrimination 2001-2006

The Action Programme supports activities combating discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. Its priorities are: analysis and evaluation, developing the capacity to combat and prevent discrimination, and raising awareness. Funding is made available for suitable projects through ad-hoc calls for Proposals from the Commission.

For further information:

empl-antidiscrimination@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/fundamri/prog/index_en.htm

Section 7 Education, Training and Youth

Socrates II

Socrates is the EU Action Programme for education. Its aim is to promote the European dimension and improve the quality of education by encouraging co-operation between participating countries.

Socrates has five key objectives:

- To strengthen the European dimension of education at all levels
- To improve the knowledge of European languages
- To promote co-operation and mobility throughout education
- To encourage innovation in education
- To promote equal opportunities in all educational sectors

A total of 31 countries can participate and all stakeholders in education are targeted. The programme will run for seven years (2000-2006) and a total of 1850 MILLION EURO has been allocated. All projects must be transnational.

Socrates consists of eight actions:

- *Comenius* for school education
- *Erasmus* for higher education
- *Grundtvig* for adult education and other education pathways
- *Lingua* for learning and teaching of European languages
- *Minerva* for information and communication technologies in education
- *Observation and Innovation* of education systems and policies
- *Joint Actions* with other EU programme such as Leonardo da Vinci and Youth
- *Accompanying measures*

Socrates is administered by the European Commission in conjunction with National Agencies, which provide an important managing, advice and information role.

For further information contact:

Bernie McAllister / Liz McBain
European Schools West
Norwich Union House
7 Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EG

Tel: 028 9024 8220

Fax: 028 9023 7592

Email: Bernie.McAllister@britishcouncil.org/Liz.McBain@britishcouncil.org
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates.html>

Netd@ys Europe

Netd@ys Europe is a European Commission initiative to encourage educational, cultural and other organisations to set up educational on-line Projects.

Its aim is to raise awareness in the educational and cultural communities of the potential value of using new online technologies as teaching, learning and discovery resources. These include the Internet, video-conferencing and new audio-visual tools. Each year a specific **Netd@ys** Europe week is set aside when a huge number of people take part in what is Europe's biggest ever educational and cultural event involving the new media. Initially focusing on schools, this initiative has now opened up to organisations outside of formal education eg youth clubs, museums, cinemas, libraries and the business community. For 2001, **Netd@ys** Europe Week runs from 19-25 November.

For further information contact:

Maureen Gore
Learning and Teaching Scotland
74 Victoria Crescent Road
Glasgow G12 9JN
Scotland
Tel: 0141 337 5067
Fax : 0141 337 5030
m.gore@ltscotland.com
www.LTScotland.com
www.netdays2000.org

Support for measures to promote and safeguard regional or minority languages and cultures

Over the years the European Parliament has adopted a number of resolutions defending the idea of a European Union which respects its linguistic and cultural diversity. The European Commission has therefore set about to implement actions in favour of regional or minority languages and cultures.

The types of activities supported include:

- Exchanges of experience
- Networks
- Developing joint solutions
- Transfer of expertise
- Co-ordinated programmes

For further information on support in this area contact:

European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages
Sráid Haiste Íocht. 10

Dublin 2

Tel: 00 3531 661 22 05

Fax: 00 3531 676 68 40

eblul@indigo.ie

www.eblul.org

Or see <http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/langmin.html>

eLearning

The eLearning initiative of the European Commission seeks to mobilise the educational and cultural communities, as well as the economic and social players in Europe, in order to speed up changes in the education and training systems for Europe's move to a knowledge-based society. It is part of the Commission's eEurope Action Plan.

This initiative has four components:

- to equip schools with multimedia computers
- to train European teachers in digital technologies
- to develop European educational services and software
- to speed up the networking of schools and teachers

Most of the financial resources will be national, but they should be backed by all the relevant Community sources of funding (the education, training and youth programmes for innovative actions and exchange of good practice; the Structural Funds; the Fifth Framework Programme to support research and to promote European digital content

For further information on the Initiative contact:

elearning@cec.eu.int

or see

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/elearning/index.html>

European Year of Languages 2001 (EYL 2001)

The European Year of Languages 2001 is a celebration of Europe's linguistic diversity and promotes language learning and related skills. The theme of the year is "Language Learning opens doors". It is a joint Council of Europe and European Union initiative and is also supported by UNESCO. It is a celebration of languages and language learning involving all 47 countries associated with the Council of Europe, as well as EU Member States.

A number of events are being planned throughout the EU and Northern Ireland to celebrate EYL2001. The European Commission will co-finance projects submitted by organisations in the different Member States.

For further information contact:

Wendy Phipps
NICILT
8 College Green
Belfast
BT7 1LN
Tel: 028 9033 6476
Fax: 028 9032 6571
w.phipps@qub.ac.uk
www.qub.ac.uk/edu/nicilt/eyl

Jean Monnet Project

The Jean Monnet project “European Integration in University Studies” aims to facilitate the introduction of European integration studies in Universities by co-financing universities for the establishment of:

- Jean Monnet Chairs
- Jean Monnet permanent courses
- Jean Monnet modules
- Jean Monnet Centres of Excellence

The project awards funds on a co-financing basis for a start-up period of three years, in exchange for a commitment by the University to maintain the teaching activities for a further four years.

For further information contact:

Jean Monnet Project
DG For Education and Culture
European Commission
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

Tel: 00 322 296 03 12
Fax: 00 322 296 31 06
http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/university/index_en.html

Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo da Vinci is the action programme for implementing the European Union’s vocational training policy, thereby supporting and supplementing action taken by the Member States. It aims to use transnational co-operation to enhance quality, promote innovation and support the European dimension of vocational training systems and practices.

The three central aims are:

- To facilitate occupational integration

- To improve the quality of training and access to training
- To boost the contribution of training to innovation

A total of 31 countries are taking part and the programme is open to public and private sector organisations and companies operating in the field of training or concerned with vocational training issues. A total of 1.15 Billion euro has been allocated to the programme for the period 2000-2006.

There are five actions under Leonardo da Vinci:

- *Mobility projects* for people in vocational training
- *Pilot projects* to develop and transfer innovation and quality in vocational training
- Support for schemes to promote *language skills* and cultural skills in vocational training
- *Transnational networks* to collate and build on European expertise and innovatory approaches
- *Reference material* such as comparison of data, surveys and analyses, observation and dissemination of good practice

Leonardo da Vinci is administered by the European Commission in conjunction with National Agencies, which provide an important managing, advice and information role.

For further information contact:

The British Council
10 Spring Gardens
London
SW1A 2BN

Tel: 0207 389 4389

Fax: 0207 389 4426

leonardo@britishcouncil.org

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo/leonardo2_en.html

Youth

Youth is focused on promoting co-operation in youth-related matters. It is concerned with activities outside of normal teaching and training systems and it aims to widen the options available to young people.

A total of 31 countries are taking part and 520 million euro has been allocated to Youth.

The programme has five actions:

- *Youth for Europe* for exchanges of groups of young people inside and outside the EU

- *European Voluntary Service* offering 18-25 year olds the opportunity to take part as volunteers in projects in other countries for 6-12 months
- *Youth Initiatives* providing support for creative and innovative projects targeting the social integration of young people and designed and implemented by the young people concerned
- *Joint Actions* with Socrates and Leonardo de Vinci
- *Support Measures* to help those involved in youth activities in the preparation or development of projects under Youth

Youth is administered by the European Commission in conjunction with National Agencies, which provide an important managing, advice and information role.

For further information contact:

Youth Council for Northern Ireland
 European Bureau
 Forestview
 Purdy's Lane
 Belfast
 BT8 7AR
info@youthcouncil-ni.org.uk
www.youthcouncil-ni.org.uk
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth.html>

Culture 2000

Culture 2000 is the first Community Framework programme in the area of culture. It aims to help build up a common cultural area by promoting transnational co-operation between creative artists, cultural players and institutions throughout the EU. It also builds upon the previous EU Culture programmes Raphael, Ariane and Kaleidoscope.

Culture 2000 supports three types of actions:

- Specific innovative and/or experimental actions
- Integrated actions covered by structured, multiannual, transnational, cultural co-operation agreements
- Special cultural events with a European or international dimension

A total of 167 Million euro has been allocated to Culture 2000 and is administered by the European Commission. Cultural Contact Points in the Member States provide a link and information on the programme.

For further information contact:

Mr Geoffrey Brown
 EUCLID
 46-48 Mount Pleasant

Liverpool
L3 5SD
Tel: 0151 709 2564
Fax: 0151 709 8647
euclid@cwcom.net
www.euclid.co.uk

Media Plus

Media Plus follows on from the Media II programme and aims to assist the EU's audio-visual industry, while creating an environment which promotes the European cinematographic, audiovisual and multimedia industry.

Media Plus covers two major actions:

- Media training for professionals, trainers and firms operating in the audiovisual sector
- Media development, distribution and promotion

Media Plus is administered by the European Commission and Mediadesks in the Member States provide an important information role.

For further information contact:

Northern Ireland Film Commission
21 Ormeau Avenue
BELFAST
BT2 8HD
Tel. 028 9023 2444
Fax : 028 9023 9918
media@nifc.co.uk
http://europa.eu.int/comm/avpolicy/media/index_en.html

Financial assistance for town-twinning

The European Commission's town-twinning programme aims to strengthen existing links between towns in the EU by means of carefully targeted grants. It encourages in particular twinning agreements where in the past there have been few.

The Town Twinning programme aims to promote events and actions which contribute to bringing people closer together and to reinforcing European awareness, such as exchanges between citizens of twinned towns and municipalities, thematic conferences with a view to promoting twinning arrangements and training and information seminars for town-twinning officers.

For further information contact:

European Commission
Directorate-General for Education and Culture
Unit "Communication with the public – Partnerships with civil society - Town
Twinning"
200 Rue de la Loi
VM-2 4/35
B-1049 Brussels.
Belgium
Towntwinning@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/towntwin/index_en.html

Section 8 Environment, Energy and Transport

Environment

LIFE III

The LIFE programme covers three major areas of action - Environment, Nature and Third Countries. While all three areas aim to improve the environment, each has its specific priorities:

- **LIFE-Environment** is concerned with innovative and demonstration actions for industry, demonstration, promotion and technical assistance actions for local authorities and preparatory actions to support community legislation and policies
- **LIFE-Nature** is concerned with actions aimed at the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora of EU interest
- **Third Countries** is concerned with technical assistance in the establishment of environment administrative structures, nature conservation actions and demonstration actions to promote sustainable development

Projects under LIFE must comply with the aims of EU policy and legislation and it is open to persons or companies of whatever legal status who reside in the eligible countries.

LIFE-proposals must be submitted to the designated national authority and the proposals will then be transmitted by the national authorities to the European Commission.

For further information contact:

Mrs Karen Lee-Bapty
European Protection International
Department of Environment Transport and the Regions
Zone 5/F1 Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6DE
Fax: 020 7944 6469
karen_lee-bapty@detr.gsi.gov.uk
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/life/home.htm>

Funding for environmental actions is also available under the Energy, environment and sustainable development programme of the Fifth Framework Programme 1998-2002 for example ENERGIE
(<http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/eesd.html>)

The following programmes form part of the EU's Energy Framework Programme.

ALTENER II

ALTENER II is the Community programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources. It runs from January 1998 until December 2002 and its main role is to help create an appropriate environment for the Community Strategy and Action Plan for renewable energy sources. The programme also encourages both private and public investment in the production and use of renewable energy.

For further information contact:

Mr Mike Brook
Dept. of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Tel: 0207 215 2813
Fax: 0207 215 2674
mike.brook@dti.gsi.gov.uk
http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_altener_en.html

CARNOT

CARNOT promotes the use of clean and efficient technologies in industrial plants using solid fuels. The aim of the programme is to limit emissions, including carbon dioxide emissions, from plants and to encourage the uptake of advanced clean solid fuel technologies. It also aims to promote the environmentally sound use of solid fuels, from washery plants for upgrading coal, to handling, storage and transport facilities, burning and/or conversion plants, including waste disposal.

The total amount available under CARNOT is 3 million euro.

For further information contact:

Mr Utz Oppermann
European Commission
Directorate-General Energy + Transport
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium
Fax: 003 22 296 43 37
carnot@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_carnot_en.html

ETAP

The ETAP programme aims to promote a co-operative approach between the Community, the Member States, non-Community countries, international organisations and other interested parties to analysis of energy problems and trends at Community level.

The ETAP programme has the following objectives:

- to establish at Community level a shared approach to studies, analyses and forecasts in the energy sector
- to promote analysis of energy markets and policies at Community and Member State level
- to analyse:
 - the impact of energy production and use on the environment;
 - energy market trends in Europe and the world
- to help identify and transfer the best analysis methods
- to facilitate information networks in the energy field
- to develop the dissemination of results
- to develop methodologies for monitoring the implementation of the energy framework programme.

The programme comes to an end in 2002 and has had a total budget of 5 million euro.

For further information contact:

European Commission
Directorate-General Energy + Transport
Unit B1
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium
http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_etap_en.html

SAVE

SAVE is a multiannual programme for the promotion of energy efficiency in the Community. It aims to:

- stimulate energy efficiency measures in all sectors
- encourage investments in energy conservation by private and public consumers and by industry
- create the conditions for improving the energy intensity of final consumption

SAVE has a total budget of 66 million euro for 1998-2002.

For further information contact:

Mr. Roger Gebbels
DETR.6/F4 Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6DE
Tel: 0207 276 4435
Fax: 0207 276 4739
Roger_Gebbels@detr.gsi.gov.uk
http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_save_en.html

SURE

The program SURE is a specific programme of actions in the nuclear sector. It is divided in three fields:

- Transport of Radioactive Materials: Problems of safety, health protection and nuclear safety technologies
- Industrial Co-operation to promote certain aspects of the safety of Nuclear installations in NIS countries
- Experts' Training and implementation of Safeguards in CEECs and NIS countries

For further information contact:

European Commission
Directorate-General Energy + Transport
Unit C
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_sure_en.html

SYNERGY

SYNERGY is the international co-operation component of the EU "Energy Framework Programme" 1998-2002. It finances international co-operation projects with third countries to help them define, formulate and implement their energy policy in fields of mutual interest. It also finances projects promoting industrial co-operation between the European Union and third countries in the energy sector. To be eligible projects must contribute to accomplishing the objectives of the EU's energy policy.

For further information contact:

Lars Hyden
European Commission
DM 24 06/103

200, rue de la Loi
B - 1049 BRUSSELS
Lars.Hyden@cec.eu.int
http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/en/pfs_synergy_en.html
www.cordis.lu/synergy/home.html

Transport

Pact

PACT (Pilot Actions for Combined Transport) provides funding for innovative combined transport projects, with the aim of showing that this kind of transport can be viable and can survive without public aid after its start up phase. The 1997-2001 budget for the PACT programme is 35 million euro and projects must be transnational.

For further information contact:

European Commission
DG Energy and Transport/E2 'Combined Transport - PACT'
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200
B-1049 Brussels
Fax (322) 299 5887
E-mail: PACT@cec.eu.int
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/transport/themes/land/english/pact/index.htm>

Section 9 Aid to Candidate Countries and to other non-Member States

PHARE

The Phare Programme is currently the main channel for the European Union's financial and technical co-operation with the countries of central and eastern Europe (CEECs). The programme provides finance for economic development, social change and legislative work to enable candidate countries meet the criteria for membership of the EU. PHARE started in 1989 and will end when the candidate countries from eastern Europe become EU members. Phare's assistance takes the form of grants, and its work has grown to encompass a wide range of activities. It has a budget of Euro 1.5 billion per year for 2000-2006.

For further information see

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/pas/phare/index.htm>

or contact elarg-info@cec.eu.int

TACIS

The aim of the TACIS programme is to support the process of transition to market economies and democratic societies in the partner countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. This is achieved mainly through transfer of know-how and expertise through organised formal training, through co-operation or twinning between EU and partner organisations, and also by experts from the EU working with the organisation in the TACIS country on a specific project.

For further information contact:

Phare and Tacis Information Centre

Rue Montoyer 19

B-1000 Brussels

Tel: 00322 545 90 10

Fax: 00322 545 90 11

phare-tacis@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/ceeca/tacis/index.htm

ISPA

ISPA is a new fund in operation since 1 January 2000. It aims to assist the applicant countries of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Romania and Bulgaria prepare for membership of

the EU. ISPA co-finances investment projects in the transport and environment sectors. It runs from 2000-2006 and has a budget of 1 Billion Euro per year.

For further information see

http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/activity/ispa/ispa_en.htm

ALFA

ALFA supports joint co-operation projects between European and Latin American higher education institutions and aims to:

- create/strengthen the links between higher education institutions by enhancing the dialogue between the academic communities of both continents
- create systematic and sustainable mechanisms of co-operation between those involved in higher education in Europe and Latin America, in order to encourage the establishment of mechanisms for mobility between the two continents and at regional level in Latin America

For further information see <http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/alfa>

Alure

Alure supports economic co-operation in the energy sector between Latin America and the European Union and it funds Studies and the transfer of know-how in this area.

For further information see <http://www.alure.net>

URB-AL

The URB-AL programme brings together cities, regions and other local bodies in the European Union and Latin America. Its objectives are:

- to develop a direct and sustainable link between local authorities in the EU and Latin America (city to city)
- to promote the participation of local-level actors in relations between Latin America and the EU
- to encourage an exchange of experiences and dissemination of "good practices" in urban development

For further information see <http://www.urb-al.com>

Asia-Information and Communication Technology (Asia-IT&C)

The objective of Asia IT&C is to support and advance mutually beneficial economic co-operation between the EU and South and South-east Asia. In achieving this objective, Asia IT&C aims to fully utilise the potential of European Information and Communications Technology (IT&C) for applications in the agriculture, education, health, transport, society, tourism, intelligent manufacturing and electronic commerce domains. Asia IT&C will make available a range of instruments and support services to encourage co-operation activities, and to further the growth of an EU-Asia IT&C co-operation network.

For further information see <http://www.asia-itc.org>

ASIA-Invest

The ASIA-Invest Programme aims to:

- encourage growth in two-way trade & investment flows
- promote the development of mutually beneficial trading relationships and investments between the EU and South and South-East Asia
- Raise the profile of the EU in Asia
- Help raise awareness of opportunities in Asia among European investors
- Facilitate business co-operation
- Assist companies from less developed Asian countries to enter into beneficial co-operation with European companies.

For further information see <http://www.asia-invest.com>

ASIA-URBS

The aim of ASIA-URBS is to strengthen the EU's participation in the socio-economic development of Asia, through support to local authorities. It seeks to fund the implementation of pilot projects in the fields of urban management, urban socio-economic development, the urban environment, urban infrastructure and urban poverty mitigation.

For further information see <http://www.asia-urbs.com>

MEDA

The MEDA Programme is the main EU instrument to implement the Euro-Mediterranean partnership. The main aims of MEDA are:

- to develop better socio-economic balance
- to support economic transition
- to foster regional integration
- to gradually create a euro-Mediterranean free trade area.

This involves funding for projects in such areas as education, health, unemployment, women and young people, the economic and financial sector.

For further information see

http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/med_mideast/intro

SAPARD

SAPARD was set up to provide Community support for agriculture and rural development to the EU applicant countries of central and eastern Europe. Such assistance would help these countries implement the necessary conditions of membership of the EU, particularly the common agricultural policy and related policies. It would also help them resolve priority and specific problems for the sustainable adaptation of the agricultural sector and rural areas in the applicant countries.

For further information see

http://europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/external/enlarge/index_en.htm

TEMPUS

The aim of TEMPUS is to restructure higher education in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the newly-independent republics of the former Soviet Union. The programme provides assistance to joint European projects implemented by partnerships between universities in the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union and universities in the European Union

For further information see

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/tempus/home.html>

Section 11 Other Schemes

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)	
<p>The CAP was founded in 1962 and with the reform of the EU's structural funds in the late 1980's the focus of the CAP has shifted towards the provision of a greater role for rural development. The overall aim is to meet the challenges posed by the depopulation and abandonment of many rural areas.</p> <p>The CAP still provides the basis of EU support to farmers, through common market organisations in: arable crops, potato starch, cereals, olive oil, grain legumes, flax, hemp, silk worms, bananas, dried grapes, tobacco, seeds, hops, rice, beef and veal, milk and milk products, sheep meat and goat meat. The Member States administer the CAP funding, and they must take account of environmental and employment issues in awarding grants.</p> <p>Funding is also available for projects to make the CAP more comprehensible to farmers and the general public. Measures include seminars, visits, publications, exchanges, participation in international events.</p>	
Budget: 43 297.7 million euro for 2001	
Contact: http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/agriculture/index_en.htm	

Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)	
<p>The CFP is designed to manage fisheries for the benefit of both fishing communities and consumers. Measures cover conservation, structures, markets and relations with the outside world. In 1992 the CFP was reviewed and it was decided that the whole sector needed to be restructured and that financial support was necessary to protect the often fragile fishing communities.</p> <p>The FIG was created in 1993 to bring together all the structural budgets available to the fishing and aquaculture sectors. It makes funding available for structural measures in the catching, marketing, processing and aquaculture sectors, the creation of protected marine zones in coastal waters and the development of port facilities. Other measures such as the promotion and identification of new markets as well as other initiatives undertaken by the industry could also benefit from support.</p>	
Budget: 105 million euro for 2001 - 2003	
Contact: http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/fisheries/index_en.htm	

Organisations advancing the idea of Europe	
Duration: annual	Budget: Approx 1.8 million euro per year
<p>This supports non-governmental organisations that primarily aim to promote the ideal of an integrated Europe and to raise the public's commitment to the objectives pursued by the European institutions.</p>	
Contact: Secretariat General, http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgc/subvention/en/subv.htm	

European Information Society Technologies Prize	
Duration: Annual	Budget: 20 Winner Prizes of 5,000 euro each. Three Grand Prize Winners (worth 200,000 euro) are selected from the list of 20 winners.
The European IST Prize (Information Society Technologies) aims to give public recognition to products that represent the best of European innovation in IT. Applications should conform to a theme such as 'novel products with a high IT content and evident market potential'. The prize is supported by the Information Society Technologies Programme of the European Commission.	
Examples: Easyminer, software that allows e-commerce sites to be tailored according to the behaviour and needs on the users. The system was developed by Mineit Software based in London. The 'virtual patient', a unique method based on virtual simulation. It offers surgeons and students the possibility to train experiment and perfect their technique. The product was developed by a Swiss company.	
Applying: Invitations to apply are invited every year by Euro-Case, the organisation responsible for running the prize.	
Contact: Euro-Case, Tel: 00 33 1 53 59 53 40, E-mail: mail@it-prize.org , Web: http://www.it-prize.org	

Information measures relating to the euro	
Duration: Annual up to June 2002	Budget: Annual budget of 5 million euro
This funds information and communication actions related to the euro. Actions must target groups such as small and medium enterprises, the civil society, young people of school age, regional and local authorities as well as ultra-peripheral regions.	
Applying: Up to 75% of eligible project costs may be funded.	
Contact: M.G.Ingber, DG ECFIN, E-mail: ECFIN-EUROTENDER2000@cec.eu.int	

I2I (Innovation 2000) Initiative: Investment promoting the information society	
Duration: three years (2000 - 2003)	Budget: 12 to 15 billion euro in loans and 1 billion euro in venture capital.

<p>Funding through loans and venture capital will go towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of innovative SMEs; • Diffusion of innovation by financing projects of all sizes carried out by public authorities or companies; • Research and development, by supporting private and public research programmes, research infrastructure and structures enabling SMEs' access to research programmes; • Information and communications technology networks; • Human capital formation, eg through loans for IT training centres. 	
<p>I2I Audiovisual Initiative: Accelerating the adaptation of the audiovisual industry to digital technologies</p>	
<p>Duration: Three years (2000 – 2002)</p>	<p>Budget: 12 to 15 billion euro in loans and 1 billion euro in venture capital</p>
<p>This will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global loans from the EIB to the banking sector specialising in the audiovisual media for funding small companies in the audiovisual sector; • Medium and long-term loans to large public and private television groups, audiovisual production or distribution groups; • Risk capital funds specialised in the audiovisual media; • Joint actions by the EIB and the European Commission to promote the development of a film and television industry (eg through training in the financing of audiovisual works) 	
<p>Contact: For both programmes: EIB London Office, Tel: 0207 343 1200, E-mail: info@eib.org</p>	

Section 11

WHO CAN APPLY

Programme	1 Individuals	2 Public Organisations	3 private Organisations	4 not-for-Profit Organisations	5 partnerships
EQUAL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
LEADER +		Y		Y	Y
URBAN II		Y		Y	
Interreg III		Y			Y
5th Framework Programme	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
IST – creating a user-friendly information society	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Promoting competitive and sustainable growth	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Energy, environment and sustainable development	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Confirming the international role of research		Y	Y	Y	Y
Innovation, and encourage participation of SMEs		Y	Y	Y	Y
Human potential: human research potential and socio-economic research	Y	Y		Y	Y
6th Framework Programme	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Socrates	Y	Y		Y	Y
Leonardo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Youth	Y	Y		Y	Y
Netd@ys		Y			Y
Higher Education Cooperation		Y			Y
Action Programme to combat discrimination		Y		Y	Y
Robert Schuman Project		Y			
FALCONE		Y			Y
Grotius	Y				Y
Odysseus		Y			Y
Oisin		Y			Y
Stop		Y		Y	Y
Daphne		Y		Y	Y
European Refugee Fund		Y		Y	Y
Public health framework programme		Y		Y	Y
Health promotion		Y		Y	Y
Health monitoring		Y			Y
Prevention of AIDS		Y		Y	Y

Prevention of drugs dependence		Y	Y	Y
Europe against Cancer		Y	Y	Y
Injury prevention		Y	Y	Y
Pollution-related diseases		Y	Y	Y
Rare diseases		Y	Y	Y
Culture 2000	Y	Y	Y	Y
Media Plus	Y		Y	
Minority Languages		y	Y	Y
European Year Of Languages	Y	Y		
LIFE III Environment		Y	Y	
LIFE-Nature		Y	Y	
Cooperation against marine pollution		Y	Y	
PACT Pilot Actions for Combined transport		Y	Y	Y
Altener		Y	Y	Y
Save		Y	Y	Y
Synergy		Y	Y	Y
Carnot		Y	Y	Y
Multiannual Programme for Enterprise and Entrepreneurship			Y	
EIB			Y	
EIB support for SMEs			Y	
Growth and environment loan scheme			Y	
I2I (innovation 2000)		Y	Y	
I2I Audiovisual Initiative			Y	
eContent		Y	Y	
eLearning		Y		
European information society technologies prize			Y	
Information measures relating to the euro		Y		Y
Organisations advancing the idea of Europe				Y
Associations and federations of European interest				Y
Town twinning		Y		Y
URB-AL II		Y		Y
AL-Invest			Y	Y
ALFA II		Y		Y
ALURE II			Y	Y
Asia-Invest			Y	Y
Asia-Urbs		Y		Y
Asia IT&C		Y		Y
MEDA		Y	Y	Y
Phare		Y	Y	Y
Tacis		Y	Y	Y
Tempus		Y		Y

Section 12 Other Sources of EU Funding in Northern Ireland

International Fund for Ireland

The IFI is a unique organisation established by the British and Irish Governments in 1986 to promote economic and social advance and to encourage contact dialogue and reconciliation between nationalists and unionists throughout Ireland

The fund gives priority to projects located in the most disadvantaged areas in Northern Ireland and the six Border Counties of Ireland.

The IFI concentrates its efforts on promoting economic regeneration and reconciliation, using economic projects as a vehicle to discharge these core objectives. IFI also believes that everyone should have the opportunity to work together to bring a peaceful and prosperous future to the communities who have seen and experienced years of conflict and violence. It operates a variety of programmes and initiatives in pursuit of its aims and supports projects under three main headings:

- Regeneration of Deprived Areas which provides major focus for the Fund's work in the disadvantaged areas
- Community Capacity Building which is the most people orientated component of the Fund's work
- Economic Development which focuses on economic regeneration

Contributors to the Fund are the United States, the European Union, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

For further information on how to apply contact:

International Fund for Ireland
PO BOX 2000
Belfast
BT4 2QY
Tel: 028 9076 8832
Fax: 028 9076 3313
www.internationalfundforireland.com

European Investment Bank

The European Investment Bank (EIB) provides loans for capital investment in line with EU policy objectives. Projects eligible for funding fall into the following areas: regional development, transport and telecommunications, energy, natural and urban environment, health and education, competitiveness and integration of European industry, information society, research and development, small and medium sized enterprises or venture capital finance.

The members of the EIB are the Member States of the European Union, who have all subscribed to the Bank's capital.

The EIB enjoys its own legal personality and financial autonomy within the Community system. The EIB's mission is to further the objectives of the European Union by providing long-term finance for specific capital projects in keeping with strict banking practice. It thereby contributes towards building a closer-knit Europe, particularly in terms of economic integration and greater economic and social cohesion. Project promoters in both the public and private sectors, including banks, can apply for loans to the European Investment Bank. Some funding such as that for small and medium sized companies is provided through financial intermediaries.

For further information contact:

The European Investment Bank
68, Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5ES
Tel.: 0207 343 12 00
Fax: 0207 930 99 29
Web: <http://www.eib.org>
Email: info@eib.org

EUROPEAN FUNDING AND NORTHERN IRELAND

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Annex 1

List of contacts for Local Strategy Partnerships in Northern Ireland and County Council Led Task Forces in the Border Region of Ireland

Local Strategy Partnerships (LSP)

LSP	Contact	Telephone
Antrim LSP	Geraldine Girvan	028 9446 3113
Ards LSP	Tony McMullan	028 9181 4625
Armagh	Sharon O’Gorman	028 3752 9600
Ballymena LSP	Willie Devlin	028 2563 3930
Ballymoney LSP	Nigel Freeburn	028 2766 2280
Banbridge LSP	Liam Hannaway	028 4066 0609
Belfast LSP	Deirdre McBride	028 9032 8532
Carrickfergus LSP	Deirdre Convery	028 9335 1438
Castlereagh LSP	Joanne Boyd	028 9048 7997
Coleraine LSP	Patricia McCallion	028 7032 0592
Cookstown LSP	Maggie Bryson	028 8676 4714
Craigavon LSP	Francis Rock	028 3831 2571
Derry LSP	Oonagh McGillion	028 7137 6505
Down LSP	David Patterson	028 4461 7667
Dungannon & S. Tyrone	Wendy Elliott	028 8772 0312
Fermanagh LSP	Helen Maguire	028 6632 9225
Larne LSP	Patricia Brennan	028 2827 0742
Limavdy LSP	Martin Quinn	028 7776 0306
Lisburn LSP	Alice O’Kane	028 9260 5406
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County Council Led Task Forces

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List of Abbreviations for PEACE II Implementing Bodies

ADM/CPA	Area Development Management/Combat Poverty Agency
CRC	Community Relations Council
DAFRD	Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DCAL	Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
DE	Department of Education
DES	Department of Education and Science
DETI	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
DRD	Department for Regional Development
DSD	Department for Social Development
EGSA	Educational Guidance Service for Adults
IFB	Intermediary Funding Body
IRTU	Industrial Research and Technology Unit
LEDU	Local Enterprise Development Unit
LSP	Local Strategy Partnership
NITB	Northern Ireland Tourist Board
NIVT	Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust
OFMDFM	Office of the First Minister & Deputy First Minister
RCN	Rural Community Network
RDC	Rural Development Council
SELB	Southern Education and Library Board
SEUPB	Special EU Programmes Body
TWN	Training for Women Network

