

€UROFLASH



Issue 112

June 2006

Produced by NICVA



GRUNDTVIG

GRUNDTVIG is the Lifelong Learning action of the SOCRATES 2 EU Programme and presents a funding opportunity for voluntary and community sector groups, FE colleges, workplace and lifelong learning and other organisations.

A Northern Ireland briefing will take place on 3 July 2006 at NICVA, 61 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast. The emphasis for the briefing will be on the Learning Partnerships funding opportunity for groups.

The GRUNDTVIG programme targets both the formal and non-formal sector of adult education. In the Learning Partnerships area, funding is available for a range of activities that

- Are small-scale projects with a strong emphasis on hard to reach groups
- Bring together learners and trainers from different countries to work together on joint projects
- Involve learners directly in project activities
- Are process-oriented.

Funding is available to enable a limited number of learners to visit their partners. **The application deadline is 1 March each year.**

Funding is also available for activities in:

European co-operation projects that bring together at least three institutions from three countries to pool experience and expertise and that aim to produce new learning materials, tools and methods for assessment or awareness-raising. The average grant in this area is normally around €100,000 to be distributed amongst all the participating institutions.

Application for pre-proposals is 1 November each year.

Adult education — individual training grants can be made to staff that enable adult educators to update their skills through courses in another European country. Funding is available for formal courses and study visits or placements which to exchange best practice.

Applications can be made at any time.

Thematic Networks and Project Networks — Funding is available for large scale projects involving at least six organisations across six countries and which provide a forum for discussion on key policy issues or a basis for continuing contact between institutions that have participated in projects.

The application deadline for pre-proposals is 1 November each year.

Find out more at the briefing event. Please contact Ted Hartley on tel: 07813 770134, email: thartley@wea.org.uk, to reserve a place.

Visit www.socrates-uk.net for information about this and other SOCRATES programmes.

EUROPEAN NETWORK AGAINST RACISM

Funding is now available from the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) for projects that focus on the study of social and labour market integration of ethnic minorities.

The main focus of the study should be how to overcome the barriers that members of ethnic minorities may face in gaining access to employment.

Broader questions of social integration (education, housing, access to social services etc) should only be addressed in so far as they are relevant for access to the labour market. The study should take into account the interdependent nature of experiences of discrimination, as well as the impact of systemic/ structural discrimination.

The key issue for the purposes of the study is to analyse the extent to which membership of a particular ethnic minority may lead to specific barriers in gaining access to the labour market, and how to tackle these barriers more effectively. The report should also look into the relationship between action to promote integration of ethnic minorities and wider action to tackle social inequality.

Multiple discrimination experienced by members of ethnic minorities is an important issue in the context of the study. ENAR is a network of European non-government organisations working to combat racism in all the EU Member States and was set up during the 1997 European Year Against Racism.

Projects should focus on the following tasks:

- research and analysis of the labour market situation of ethnic minorities, covering all EU Member States plus Bulgaria and Romania;
- reporting, drafting, translation and layout; and
- organisation of a one day conference at which the report and recommendations of the high level group will be presented.

The available budget for projects is €400,000. The duration of the contract will be 18 months and the research work will presumably begin in October. The call is open to any person or organisation coming within the scope of the EU treaties or from a third country.

For more information please contact: <http://www.enar-eu.org/en/funding/calls/2006-07-17c.shtml>

European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Unit G/4, J37 2/23 B-1049 Brussels.

Email: empl-antidiscrimination@ec.europa.eu

The closing date for applications is 17 July.

EUROPEAN YEAR OF WORKERS' MOBILITY 2006

The European Commission has issued a call for proposals for pilot projects relating to the European Year of Workers' Mobility 2006. This funding for projects will focus on increasing the circulation of workers in Europe.

The purpose of the present call for proposals is the co-funding of a limited number of pilot projects in order to:

- develop and test innovative instruments which facilitate the geographic and labour market mobility of workers and their families and remove existing obstacles to mobility;
- transfer between sectors, regions and countries or mainstream existing successful instruments and practices in the area of mobility.

All projects need to show a clear European added value and should be able to be reproduced in other contexts. They should involve relevant stakeholders and should have the potential to lead to new policy initiatives.

Proposals must be developed and implemented by a partnership, preferably at transnational level, and must involve at least two relevant stakeholders potentially interested in the objectives of the call (ie public authorities and social partner organisations, non governmental organisations, public-private partnerships, academia, municipalities, etc).

The budget available for the present call is €2 million. The Commission will co finance projects up to a maximum of 85% of the total eligible costs. Depending on the quality of the applications the Commission expects to fund between 5 and 8 projects (average grant €300.000).

The deadline for the submission of applications is 17 July 2006.

Full information regarding the call for proposals, including the guide for applicants and all relevant documentation can be downloaded at the following address:

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

Please note that enquiries should be made by e-mail only to: empl-e-vp/2006/014@ec.europa.eu

ACTION PROGRAMME FOR CIVIL PROTECTION

The Community Action Programme in the field of civil protection is intended to support and supplement Member States' efforts at national, regional and local levels by implementing actions for the protection of persons, property and environment in the event of natural and technological disasters.

The Programme covers initiatives dealing with prevention, preparedness and response to disasters, as well as information and awareness-raising activities.

In addition, specific thematic priorities/actions are set every year within this overall context, in the framework of annual calls for proposals. It also intends to implement actions that facilitate cooperation, exchange of experience and mutual assistance between Member States.

The Programme provides financial support — in the form of grants — for activities such as major projects of general interest for several Member States, workshops, conferences, as well as information and other support actions.

According to the Programme these activities should give a contribution to:

- preventing the risks and damage to persons, property and environment, in the event of natural and technological disasters;
- increasing the preparedness of those involved in order to increase their ability to respond to an emergency;
- detecting and studying the causes of disasters;
- improving the immediate aftercare following an emergency; and
- public information, education and awareness, so as to help citizens protect themselves more effectively.

The total amount available for projects is €2 million. Applicants who propose more than one major project must submit a separate proposal for each one.

The programme will fund between 50% and 75% of total project costs.

Applications are open to any legal person based in one of the 25 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

The deadline for applications is 6 July.

The detailed criteria for applying for funding under this call, ie the Grant application guide 2006 and the Grant application AT and F forms 2006, are available for download at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil/prote/cp14_en.htm

NICVA PEACE III RESPONSE

NICVA organised four pre-consultation seminars with the voluntary and community sector, in Lisburn, Omagh, Belfast and Derry, attended by over 100 people.

Voluntary and community organisations raised questions and made recommendations on issues such as the design and delivery of Peace III, how Peace III should fit with existing policies and funding programmes, priorities and principles of the programme and how the programme can encourage local ownership. Recommendations included things like:

- Ensuring that Peace III is designed in a more transparent and open manner than its predecessor. An external advisory team should be created.
- The available structural funds in NI (Peace III, Interegg and Employment and Competitiveness) should be viewed as a suite of funds alongside mainstream government funding.
- Peace III should support actions which seek to reduce inequalities, incorporate a democratic and human rights dimension, involve women and engage with civil society, especially the most marginalised, in developing their own agendas and articulating needs and their experiences.
- Peace III should be a mixture of 'strategic/targeted' funding and an open call based small grants programme.
- There should be one delivery body for Peace III but the SEUPB should create mechanism to ensure local ownership, identity and knowledge is protected in the new programme.

The full response is attached separately.

LEONARDO DA VINCI DISSEMINATION PROJECTS

The objective of this call for proposals is to support dissemination and valorisation activities (particularly conferences and seminars) to encourage the transfer and use of results obtained by the Leonardo da Vinci programme and to promote the harmonisation of supply and demand on two to three subjects.

The Leonardo da Vinci programme promotes and supports the delivery of a wide range of interesting and innovative projects in the field of vocational education and training (VET). The initiative should have the following three stages, namely preparatory activities, the main activity and the follow-up. Only those proposals that conform to the requirements defined for these three stages will be considered:

1. Preparatory phase: identification and bringing into line of users' needs and the results of the selected projects. On the basis of an analysis of the users' needs identified, the products and results of at least five different Leonardo da Vinci projects, in at least three different countries should be defined and selected with a view to their promotion and exploitation.
2. Organisation of the main activity (event): Organisation of a conference, a seminar, an exhibition, a workshop or interactive sessions for building partnerships to address supply and demand. Interactive exchanges between project promoters and users should be arranged to facilitate the transfer and exploitation of the project results, with a view to responding to the needs of new users.
3. Final phase: Follow-up activities: proposals for follow-up activities to facilitate the transfer of results and the development of indicators for assessing the impact of the event.

Eligible applicants

Applications are welcome from European, national, regional, local and sectoral organisations or companies, including European networks, meeting the eligibility criteria, working in the field of vocational education and training and wishing to organise an activity in the specific areas covered by this call for proposals.

The applicants must have been legally established for more than three years and be established in one of the 25 EU Member States, the EFTA/EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) or one of the candidate countries (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey).

This call is addressed to bodies who can demonstrate their 'multiplier' effect (organisations active in the field

of Vocational Education and Training (VET), national agencies, etc.) to improve VET systems and practices.

The amount allocated for this call for proposals is €1,000 000. With this sum, the Directorate-General for Education and Culture plans to support projects which will benefit from grants of up to €100 000, covering a maximum of 75% of eligible expenditure. 30% of this budget must be devoted to funding follow-up actions (third stage).

The activities should start after the signature of the contracts, scheduled for between 1 November and 31 December 2006 at the latest. In principle, the maximum duration of the projects will be 18 months.

The deadline for applications is 10 July 2006.

The full text of the call for proposals and the application forms are available on the following website: http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/calls/2106/index_en.html

For further information, please email: Eac-B5-Call-Eac/21/06@ec.europa.eu

ONLINE INFORMATION:



For all the events affecting the voluntary and community sector within Northern Ireland visit: www.nicva.org



Grant Tracker has been designed by NICVA as a one-stop funding resource for voluntary and community groups in Northern Ireland. It functions as a searchable website and is supported by the staff from NICVA's Funding Advice Service. Visit: www.grant-tracker.org



European Information Network

This site provides a definitive list of EU information providers in Northern Ireland, as well as providing links to a whole host of related European, regional and national websites. Visit: <http://www.europe.org.uk>

If you require any further information please contact:

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