

EUROFLASH



Special Issue

Produced by NICVA

February 2006



Designing Peace III Seminars

It has recently been announced that a total of €200m will be allocated for the Third PEACE programme for the period 2007-2012 under the European territorial cooperation objective (PEACE III). Following the announcement, NICVA is organising three seminars, in conjunction with North-West Community Network and Lisburn Community Network in the Belfast, Derry and Lisburn areas to find out what it is the voluntary and community sector wants and expects from PEACE III. Seminars are:

- **TUESDAY 7 MARCH, BEECHLAWN HOTEL, DUNMURRY, 7.00pm-9.00pm**
- **WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH, NICVA, BELFAST, 10.00am-12.30pm**
- **TUESDAY 14 MARCH, THE JUNCTION, DERRY, 10.00am-12.30pm**

A short history

Beginning in December 2003, NICVA in Northern Ireland and the Community Workers' Co-op in the Republic began a consultation process on the way forward for a possible PEACE III. Participants then expressed the opinion that the development of PEACE I and PEACE II had presented unique opportunities to promote peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border counties, but that there was still much to be done. They agreed that the focus, moving forwards, should be on activities that promoted peace and reconciliation, with less emphasis on economic interventions. The system of administering money through IFBs and the further development of partnerships was broadly supported. There was much talk about the levels of bureaucracy surrounding PEACE II and agreement that changes were needed in the measuring and presentation of outcomes.

Designing PEACE III was published jointly by NICVA and CWC in April 2004 after intense consultation with the voluntary and community sector on both sides of the border. At the time, before the PEACE II Extension was announced and with no certainty of more PEACE money from Europe, there was widespread agreement that another programme should be designed to run alongside the next Structural Funds programme period (2007-2013). The document made a number of recommendations on areas such as design, applying the lessons from PEACE II, delivery, focus and criteria and administration of a new programme, including:

- strong support for continued European involvement in peace and reconciliation work;
- strengthening the commitment to peace and cementing the progress already made;
- extensive local consultation for PEACE III;
- the establishment of a Directory of Learning from PEACE II, with application of lessons a specific mandate of the design team;
- the retention of present criteria, but greatly simplified where possible;
- the repatriation of purely economic activity to mainstream government and structural fund programmes.

It was felt that any new programme should:

- have a strong international dimension and links, informed by and informing reconstruction and reconciliation in conflict zones in Europe and further afield;
- promote citizenship;
- have scope for innovation, risk and creativity;
- seek to build social capital;
- seek to involve women in the peace settlement;

- take on board difficult issues arising from the conflict and its legacy, such as in the areas of victims, violence, truth, justice and policing;
- meet the needs of excluded young people at risk of exposure to violence;
- tackle social inclusion, poverty and inequality in areas affected by conflict;
- develop cross border linkages;
- build in systems for mainstreaming once it is over.

A limited future?

Having had the extension period of two years to PEACE II we once again find ourselves in a position to have some input into the design of PEACE III funding. Perhaps this time, with far more limited funding, getting it right is even more crucial. With roughly £20m per year available, going on current information, the focus needs to be very clearly on work which demonstrates a direct link to peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border counties.

We ask you to think about:

- what the priorities should be
- what the money should be spent on
- what should not be included this time around
- whether previous recommendations are relevant in today's sector

Hear the views of others and have your say. Book now, as places will be limited.

Please contact Cathy Breslin at NICVA
by Friday 3 March 2006,
 tel: 028 9087 7777,
 fax: 028 9087 7799,
 email: cathy.breslin@nicva.org

PEACE II funds to improve rural communities

Measure 1.11 Open for Application

The Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) announced the final call for applications in Measure 1.11 of the EU PEACE II extension programme on 30 January 2006. The RDC Measure specifically focuses on support to rural communities and over the extension period will see a further £5.5m (€8m) investment in Northern Ireland's rural areas.

The measure is initially targeted at the voluntary and community sector as part of the Rural Development Programme for Northern Ireland and offers financial assistance for rural communities engaging in peace-building, social inclusion and rural regeneration projects which meet the objectives and priorities of the programme.

The measure will close for applications at 4.00pm on Friday 28th April 2006.

RDC will act as the sole implementing agent for Measure 1.11 Rural Reconciliation and Regeneration of the EU PEACE II extension programme.

The overall aim of the Programme is to help Northern Ireland become a more stable and peaceful society and to promote reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland.

For further details please visit:

<http://www.rdc.org.uk/rdc/peace2ext.asp>

Rural Development Council
 17 Loy St
 Cookstown
 Co Tyrone BT80 8PZ

Telephone 028 8676 6980

Fax 028 8676 6922

E-mail info@rdc.org.uk

PEACE II Extension Measure 2.2 closing

As part of the PEACE II Extension, the Youth Education Social Inclusion Partnership (YESIP), on behalf of the Department of Education, seeks new applications from groups and organisations under Measure 2.2 Developing Children and Young People.

This measure aims to target those groups of children and young people who are at greatest risk of social exclusion and marginalisation both in schools and the youth sector. Measure 2.2 tries to address that exclusion by enhancing their long term life chances and improving their employability through enhanced education and training support which is additional to mainstream provision.

The target age groups are 13-18 in the formal education sector and 13-25 in the non-formal education sector. This measure has been over-subscribed to date and a large number of applications are expected.

Complete your Part A on line by clicking on the Part A Registration at www.eugrants.org or contact YESIP to receive a word version by e-mail or a paper copy by return of post.

Formal Sector (schools etc.) contact SELB at:
 (028) 37 415404 or 415405

Non-Formal Sector (youth clubs etc.) contact YouthNet at
 (028) 90 237744.

E mail: peace2applications@selb.org

You can also access additional information on the Measure and dates/venues for information sessions by visiting the YESIP website www.yesip.org

The final call closes on Thurs March 16 2006 at 4.00 p.m.

Rural service centres

Applications for Development Support Programme

This is a joint programme between the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) and the Rural Community Network (RCN). The programme is funded by the International Fund for Ireland, the EU PEACE II Programme and the Carnegie (UK) Trust.

The Programme has two strands:

- Strand one involves a structured programme of service delivery development support targeting up to 16 communities across rural Northern Ireland.
- Strand two involves the development of rural service solutions to implement identified needs.

Who can apply?

Applications are invited from community based not for profit organisations located in rural communities in Northern Ireland. The programme will welcome consortium applications from groups or organisations coming together to deliver one or more services. The programme is designed to assist isolated disadvantaged communities where basic services are lacking.

For further details please contact:

Mary O'Neill
38a Oldtown Street
Cookstown
Tyrone BT80 8EF

Tel: 028 8676 6670
Fax: 028 8676 6006

Email: mary@ruralcommunitynetwork.org
www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org

The closing date for receipt of applications is Tuesday 20 March 2006 at 4.00pm

EU Youth work exchange across the world

This call aims at supporting projects which promote an exchange of experience and good practice in the field of youth between the European Union, candidate countries and EFTA/EEA on the one hand, and countries of Africa, the Caribbean, Pacific (ACP), Asia and Latin America on the other hand.

The general objectives of these projects shall be to contribute to the development of youth policies and youth work, and of the voluntary sector, as well as to capacity building and leadership development for youth organisations/structures in the countries concerned.

The specific objectives of the projects should address the needs of the partners in Africa, the Caribbean, Pacific (ACP), Asia and Latin America and shall be:

- To provide opportunities for youth workers and persons responsible for youth organisations and other youth structures to share good practices and working methods through activities such as seminars, workshops, training courses, study visits and practical training (job shadowing).
- To develop sustainable contacts and networks between youth organisations with the aim of continuous sharing of information and experience.
- Projects may focus on a wide range of themes relevant for the partners involved in the project, including cultural diversity and tolerance, youth participation and information, promotion and recognition of non-formal learning and innovation in youth work.

Applicants must be from one of the 25 EU Member States, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. Projects must involve organisations from at least four countries, at least one of which must be an EU Member State and two of which must be in ACP, Asia or Latin America.

The Commission has made €1 million available to co-finance up to 80% of each project's total costs. The maximum amount awarded to a project will be €100,000.

Projects must start between 1 November and 31 December 2006 and should last between six and twelve months.

Applications to be submitted by 30 June 2006.

Contact: eacea-acp-ala-call@cec.eu.int

Further details are available at:

http://europe.eu.int/comm/youth/call/eac4705/index_en.html

Actions to raise public awareness of development issues in Europe

This call is to support actions proposed by European NGOs specialising in development cooperation, as part of its own development cooperation policy. This call is specifically aimed at projects that raise public awareness of development issues.

The European Commission has published a call for proposals to support actions proposed by European NGOs specialising in development cooperation, as part of its own development cooperation policy. This call is specifically aimed at projects that raise public awareness of development issues.

The specific priorities for this call are activities that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- They aim to highlight the interdependence of the EU and developing countries
- They seek to mobilise support for more equitable North-South relations
- They encourage cooperation between NGOs

- They enable partners in the developing countries to play an active part
- They ensure an enlarged EU dimension by involving NGOs from the new Member States, including actions that facilitate exchanges of experiences and networking between NGOs from the 15 Member States and the new Member States.

Specific rules are set for grant levels to take account of the number of organisations participating in each programme, and the length of the project.

No grant may normally exceed 75% of the total eligible costs of the project. The overall amount made available under this call for proposals is €20 million. However, the Community grant applied for must fall within the minimum and maximum amounts set out below:

- minimum amount €50,000
- maximum amount €1,080,000

Projects must take place in one or more Member States and cannot last more than 36 months. Activities that form part of an action may also be carried out in developing countries concerned by the issues, provided that the activities in developing countries contribute directly to raising awareness in the EU of the issues, as well as, where appropriate, in the developing countries concerned.

How to Apply

In order to obtain all relevant information on this call for proposal and all the current Calls for Proposals, please use the following address:

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EuropeAid Co-operation Office, Unit 04
Attn. Ms Lidia RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ
Office: L-41 2/79
B-1049 BRUSSELS (Belgium)

Questions may be sent by e-mail no later than 21 days before the deadline for the receipt of proposals to the following e-mail address, indicating clearly the reference of the call for proposals: EuropeAid-ED@cec.eu.int

or visit the following website for more details:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm

Think you know your European Countries?

Try this fun quiz to see if you know where the 25 member states of the EU are on the map. This was found on the Norwegian Newspaper website Dagbladet which is one of the largest Norwegian newspapers. Use this link to download the MS Powerpoint file:

www.dagbladet.no/download/doyouknowEurope.pps

European year of workers mobility

Don't forget that 2006 is the European Year of Workers' Mobility. For more information on this please visit:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/workersmobility2006/index_en.htm

On this site you can find out more about activities and events carried out in the framework of the Year, and access a wealth of information on workers' mobility. It aims to open up the debate on the real benefits and challenges of working abroad or changing job.

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:

James Lavery, European Information Officer or
Lisa McElherron, Public Affairs Manager
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