

Bulletin 17



heefs

Higher Education European Funding Services

May 2010

Welcome

Welcome to issue 17 of our Bulletin. Set out in the panel on the right are the Programmes and calls covered in this edition.

Our activities this month

We have been working this month with a number of specialist, smaller Institutions. The Institutions were particularly interested in specific opportunities for international cooperation, curriculum development and cultural activities. We will continue to work with the Institutions concerned to progress individual applications, for instance, to the Lifelong Learning Programme. We also discussed issues relating to Institutional capacity for involvement in EU programmes and strategies for internationalisation. Over the next few months, we will be working with one of the Institutions to develop an Institutional approach to external funding and internationalisation.

We have been answering queries from HEIs about the current call for proposals under the **Safer Internet Programme** which was summarised in Bulletin 16.

A number of HEIs have asked us about opportunities for funding to work with partners in Africa. It is possible to work with African HEIs under the Erasmus Mundus Programme which was summarised in Bulletin 12. There are also opportunities under the **EduLink Programme** which specifically supports Cooperation between HEIs in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of states and the EU. A call for proposals under the EduLink Programme is expected towards the end of the year. Details will be provided in the Bulletin when they become available.

In this Issue

Calls for Proposals	Page
Prevention of and Fight Against Crime	2
Targeted calls for proposals	
1. Radicalisation leading to terrorism and the role of victims of terror preventing radicalisation – Deadline 18 June 2010	
2. Financial and Economic Crime – Deadline 18 June 2010	
3. Trafficking Human Beings – Deadline 25 June 2010	
ALFAIII	8
Latin America Academic Training Call for Proposals – Deadline 25 June 2010	
Erasmus for young Entrepreneurs Preparatory Action Call for Proposals – Deadline 28 June 2010	11
LIFE+ Programme Call for Proposals – Deadline 1 September 2010	14
Culture Programme Call for Proposals – Deadline 1 October 2010	22
Calls for Tenders	
Network of experts on social aspects of Education and training (NESET) Call for Tenders – Deadline 31 August 2010	25



Prevention of and Fight Against Crime

Targeted Calls for Proposals

Deadline: 18 and 25 June 2010

Background

The Prevention of and Fight Against Crime Programme forms part of the EU's Security and Safeguarding Liberties Programme (ISEC Programme). The Programme has four main objectives:-

- To stimulate, promote and develop horizontal methods and tools necessary for strategically preventing crime and guaranteeing security and public order
- To promote and develop coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding among law enforcement agencies and other national and EU bodies
- To promote and develop best practices for the protection of and support of witnesses
- To promote and develop best practices for the protection of crime victims

The Programme is delivered through an annual work programme. The work programme for 2010 was summarised in Bulletin 11. A series of 7 targeted calls for proposals have been announced, with initial deadlines in June 2010. The calls state that if funds remain following the selection of projects under this initial call, further calls will be held with deadlines in July and October 2010. Details of the calls can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm

Not all 7 calls offer opportunities for HEI involvement, further information about those that do is set out below.

I. Radicalisation leading to terrorism and the role of victims of terror preventing radicalisation

Deadline: 18 June 2010

Objectives of the Call

This call aims to:-

- identify factors underlying terrorism and radicalisation;
- promote strategies that encourage people to give up terrorism;
- reinforce the exchange of best practices and specific operational tools among Member States government institutions and the Commission, together with civil society.

It has a budget of €2m and it is expected that 12 projects will be selected for support.

Priorities

In 2010, the Commission seeks applications to achieve the following results:-

- improved operational cooperation, coordination and exchange of law enforcement staff and experts in order to strengthen networking, mutual confidence and understanding in tackling radicalisation and recruitment in places of increased vulnerability through:
 - enhancing exchange and dissemination of information, experience and best practices between stakeholders in the security, law enforcement and prison sector as well as among policy planners;
 - better training for law enforcement and other staff, i.e. prison staff, social workers and teachers

- better informed policy making through research and analysis concerning radicalisation. Projects should examine under which circumstances individuals can become willing to change their attitudes and behaviour and investigate the role that social identification plays in the emergence of radicalisation. Projects should focus in particular on the motivations of violent radicals, especially multidimensional nature of the conditions conducive to radicalisation
- increased effectiveness of measures and policies designed to prevent and tackle radicalisation leading to terrorism through development of analytical, monitoring and evaluation tools
- enhanced technological and methodological tools to early detect terrorist recruitment, links, cells and networks, including the misuse of the internet
- increased resilience among vulnerable communities and target groups through for e.g.:-
 - disengagement and de-radicalisation programmes and programmes challenging radical ideologies with the use of role models
 - enhancing knowledge and awareness, particularly among the youth, on the nature of radicalisation leading to terrorism
 - increased response capacity of citizens and civil society to tackle the phenomenon more effectively at grass roots level by e.g. providing media skills and platforms to mainstream voices, victims and others to challenge single extremists/terrorist narrative
 - devising/promoting effective channels for addressing (perceived or real) grievance also through improved communication and outreach activities; better explaining policies to target audiences; media training for moderate opinion leaders who counter extremist narratives, establish platforms which provide for exchange and debate contributing to more pluralistic discourse within target audiences
 - devising support to the dissemination of terrorist victims' testimonies and provide platforms for victims in order to counter terrorism in particular by delegitimising the violent narrative and radicalisation
- Empowered pluralist discourse by facilitating creation of networks of influential religious and secular opinion leaders (i.e. religious authorities, scholars, professionals, community leaders etc.) who have charisma and knowledge to counter the single extremist narrative
- Help create specific networks of scholars and historians who can legitimately expose the abuse and appropriation of religious concepts for the purposes of propagating an ideology that justifies, prepares or opens the door towards acceptance of the use of violence and terror

Types of Projects

Projects can be **transnational** or **national** in scope, as defined below:-

Transnational projects – must involve partners in at least two Member States, or one Member State and a candidate country

National Projects – activities taking place in a single Member State without the involvement of transnational partners, such projects must:-

- Prepare transnational projects and/or Union actions (starter measures) or
- Complement transnational projects and/or Union actions (complementary measures) or
- Contribute to the development of innovative methods and/or technologies with a potential for transferability to actions at Union level

Opportunities of UK HEIs

In the main, opportunities exist for HEIs to apply for support for social and action research relevant to the objectives of the call. There are also limited opportunities to develop and deliver training, for instance to law enforcement staff, teachers etc and to undertake networking activities.

Technical Features

- Grant rate of up to 80% of eligible cost
- No maximum grant amount, but a minimum of €80,000
- Maximum duration of 3 years

Selection Criteria

Projects will be assessed against the following equally weighted criteria:-

- Conformity with the objectives of the Programme and specific priorities of the call
- Quality of the proposed action
- Value for money and economies of scale
- Impact
- European added value

2. Financial and Economic Crime

Deadline: 18 June 2010

Objectives of the Call

This call aims to:-

- Strengthen the coordination of financial investigations and exchange of best practices
- Development and implementation of instruments regarding money laundering, terrorist financing, corruption, racketeering or extortion and transparency of legal entities and charities
- Development of a pan-European training programme for law enforcement financial investigators and financial criminal analysts

It has a budget of €12m.

Priorities

The following priorities have been established for 2010:-

- Financial investigation as a tool enabling effective fight with organised crime
 - Common training materials for 'EU Financial investigator' and delivery of standardised training in several EU countries through national police academies and centres of excellence
 - Centres of excellence on financial investigation and financial criminal analysis
 - Certification for financial investigation for public and private sectors, educational and graduate levels, including university diplomas
 - Enhancing the financial forensic by financial investigators of public and private sectors to investigate in all serious and organised crime cases
- Cooperation in the field of anti-money laundering
 - Effective cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units
 - Projects measuring the efficiency and the effectiveness of the fight against money laundering at EU level

- The protection of whistle blowers in the Member States with the Anti-money laundering framework as well as in the context of the fight against corruption
- Design of early warning systems in fraudulent market abuse, money laundering trends or cash smuggling
- Prevention and fight against corruption, development of anti-corruption policies
 - Improving exchange of information, best practices and professional standards between Member States
 - Analysing main trends of corruption in the EU and effects of corruption on society, with a focus on what could be extended as best practice
- Effective confiscation of criminal assets
 - Promoting confiscation and recovery of the proceeds of crime
 - Increasing transparency of legal entities and contractual arrangements and facilitating the identification of the beneficial owner of asset
 - Foster the establishment and development of effective Asset Recovery Offices in the Union and in countries candidate to EU accession
 - Increase the knowledge of law enforcement and judicial practitioners on legal issues related to confiscation and asset recovery
 - Promote dissemination of best practices on the re-use of confiscated assets
 - Developing public private partnerships and favour the involvement of civil society in the prevention and fight against economic and financial crime
- Identity theft
 - Preventing and combating identity theft and identity fraud and promoting identity management
 - Facilitating the investigation and prosecution of identity related crimes
 - Developing a data collection module on identity related crime
- Extortion racketeering
 - Preventing and combating extortion racketeering
 - Promote the exchange of best practices in the investigation of extortion racketeering and assistance to victims and witnesses
 - Develop a data collection module on extortion racketeering

Types of Projects

Projects can be **transnational** or **national** in scope, as defined below:-

Transnational projects – must involve partners in at least two Member States, or one Member State and a candidate country

National Projects – activities taking place in a single Member State without the involvement of transnational partners, such projects must:-

- Prepare transnational projects and/or Union actions (starter measures) or
- Complement transnational projects and/or Union actions (complementary measures) or
- Contribute to the development of innovative methods and/or technologies with a potential for transferability to actions at Union level

Opportunities of UK HEIs

In the main, opportunities exist for HEIs to apply for support to undertake studies and analyses in specific areas. There are also limited opportunities to develop and deliver training courses for financial investigators and to identify and disseminate best practices in relevant fields.

Technical Features

- Grant rate of up to 80% of eligible cost
- No maximum grant amount, but a minimum of €80,000
- Maximum duration of 3 years

Selection Criteria

Projects will be assessed against the following equally weighted criteria:-

- Conformity with the objectives of the Programme and specific priorities of the call
- Quality of the proposed action
- Value for money and economies of scale
- Impact
- European added value

3. Trafficking in Human Beings

Deadline: 25 June 2010

Objectives of the Call

This call aims at intensifying the EU anti-trafficking policy and should lead to the improvement of the non-legislative actions to fight trafficking in human beings. Priorities for 2010 are:-

- Prevention, protection of victims
- Prosecution and investigation of offenders
- Coordination and cooperation measures
- Collection of reliable data in particular

The budget available is €4m and it is expected that 12 projects will be selected

Priorities

The following measures and expected results are prioritised for 2010:-

- A raised level of knowledge and awareness of new or less investigated forms of trafficking, such as trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation, begging or forced criminal activities, or trafficking of removed organs
- Establishment of multinational networks of national rapporteurs or committed opinion leaders such as MPs, journalists, writers etc. to exchange best practice etc.
- A raised level of awareness among decision makers and the general public regarding trafficking as a threat to society and the rule of law
- A reduction of the demand for services provided by victims of trafficking, through a raised level of awareness
- Establishment of guidelines for employers aimed at preventing and dealing with trafficked persons in various sectors such as agriculture, construction or domestic work
- Development of training programmes for law enforcement, prosecutors and judges aimed at raising the level of protection of and support to victims before, during and after criminal proceedings
- Establishment of guidelines for all practitioners that come into contact with trafficking victims aimed at ensuring that the interests of victims are taken into account in criminal proceedings

- Development of concrete tools aimed at establishing methods for data collection and storage, to be used by national rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms for the monitoring and reporting on trafficking in human beings
- Establishment of national or international referral mechanisms to facilitate the reporting of relevant criminal activities

Types of Projects

Projects can be **transnational** or **national** in scope, as defined below:-

Transnational projects – must involve partners in at least two Member States, or one Member State and a candidate country

National Projects – activities taking place in a single Member State without the involvement of transnational partners, such projects must:-

- Prepare transnational projects and/or Union actions (starter measures) or
- Complement transnational projects and/or Union actions (complementary measures) or
- Contribute to the development of innovative methods and/or technologies with a potential for transferability to actions at Union level

Opportunities of UK HEIs

In the main, opportunities exist for HEIs to apply for support to undertake studies and analyses in specific areas. There are also limited opportunities to develop and deliver training courses for law enforcement professionals, prosecutors and judges; and to identify and disseminate best practices in relevant fields.

Technical Features

- Grant rate of up to 80% of eligible cost
- No maximum grant amount, but a minimum of €80,000
- Maximum duration of 3 years

Selection Criteria

Projects will be assessed against the following equally weighted criteria:-

- Conformity with the objectives of the Programme and specific priorities of the call
- Quality of the proposed action
- Value for money and economies of scale
- Impact
- European added value

Further Information

All documentation relating to these calls can be found at:-

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/isec/funding_isec_en.htm

ALFA III (Latin America – Academic Training)

Call for Proposals

Deadline: 25 June 2010

129-877

Background

The ALFA Programme was launched in 1994, with a budget of €32.4m, funding 846 projects between 1994 and 1999. ALFA II, the second phase of the programme was launched in 1998, with a budget of €55.5m for the period 2000-2006, during which 225 projects were supported. This is the second call for proposals under the third phase of the Programme, ALFA III, following the allocation of €19.4m to 14 projects under a call announced in December 2008.

The Programme aims to foster international cooperation between HEIs in the EU and Latin America to support the economic and social development of Latin America.

The budget for this call is €27m, split equally between two lots:-

Lot 1 Joint Projects

Lot 2 Structural Projects

Details of the types of projects to be funded under each Lot are set out below.

Programme Objectives and Priorities

The general objective of the Programme is to contribute to the development of HE in Latin America as a means of stimulating more balanced and equitable socio-economic development in the region.

The specific objectives are to:-

- Help improve the quality, relevance and accessibility of HE in Latin America, particularly for the most vulnerable groups;
- Contribute to strengthening the process of regional integration in the area of HE in Latin America, fostering progress towards the creation of a Common Higher Education Area in the region and promoting its synergies with the EU system.

The priorities for this call are as follows:-

- Reform and modernisation of the HEIs and systems in Latin America, with an emphasis on the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and the poorest countries in the region;
- Support to progress the creation of a Common Higher Education Area in Latin America;
- Promotion of cooperation and the establishment of networks between HEIs in the EU and Latin America; development of links between HEIs and other organisations that contribute to economic and social development and; measures that encourage the establishment of links between HEIs and the labour market.

Types of Projects

Lot 1 Joint Projects

- Designed to encourage exchange of experience between the HEIs taking part in the EU and Latin America

- Partnership must include at least 6 HEIs , 4 from 4 different Latin American countries and 2 from 2 different EU countries
- Projects must be concerned with one or more of the following:-
 - Access to HEIs for less privileged social groups, and measures to ensure they complete their studies
 - Links with the labour market, business and the public sector; promotion of entrepreneurship; applied research in relation to business and the public sector.
- Projects are expected to:-
 - Take account of the replicability potential of the actions in similar HEIs in Latin America
 - Lead to tangible and measureable results
 - Be implemented as a pilot, not just a study. (Examples given in the call include:- an administrative reform implemented in at least 1 faculty of each of the partner HEIs; the initiation of the 1st year of a new curriculum in the partner HEIs; a specific number of students being recruited by partner HEIs, following the implementation of a targeted access programme)
- ALFA is not a mobility programme, but it will support limited exchanges of staff for training and/or research purposes (student exchanges require specific justification and are limited to a cost of 10% of project budget and a maximum period of 6 months)

Lot 2 - Structural Projects

- To discuss and design mechanisms to promote modernisation, reform, harmonisation of education systems at regional level in Latin America
- Partnerships must include partners from at least 12 Latin American countries and 4 EU countries
- The main purpose of projects must be to promote convergence and/or harmonisation at intra-regional level and, where possible, links with progress made in the EU in this area. Projects must encompass one or more of the following themes:-
 - Modernisation of HE systems in Latin America (strategic plans):-
 - Governance of HEIs and systems in the Latin American region with a view to contributing to the process of consolidation of a Common Higher Education Area comprising Latin American and the EU
 - Curricular convergence at regional level, particularly in the light of challenges posed by the knowledge based society
 - Common practices at regional level for quality evaluation, accreditation, academic credit and other relevant subjects
 - Social cohesion:-
 - Measures at regional level to promote equitable access to HE and social integration for underprivileged groups
 - University and society: links between universities and their surroundings
- Projects are expected to:-
 - Implement innovative approaches to regional and structural development, they might, for instance:-
 - Promote sectoral or thematic dialogue at regional or inter-regional level
 - Disseminate best practice
 - Conduct studies and/or research
- Projects are expected to result in, for instance, sectoral political guidelines, joint strategies, joint action plans, agreements etc.

Technical Issues

- The maximum grant rate is 80% of eligible costs
- Applications must comply with minimum and maximum grant amounts, as follows;

Lot 1 minimum amount €750,000 maximum amount €1,250,000

Lot 2 minimum amount €1,500,000 maximum amount €3,000,000

- Projects must have a duration of between 24 and 36 months
- 70% of the overall budget for the project must be spent in Latin America
- Applicants are limited to one application per lot as project coordinator
- The following activities will not be eligible for support:-
 - Individual sponsorships for participation in workshops, seminars, conferences etc
 - Individual scholarships for studies or training courses
 - Pure research

Application and Selection Process

Prior registration with the European Commission's database PADOR is required. The database can be accessed at the following:-

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/onlineservices/pador/index_en.htm

For all those applications that meet the basic eligibility requirements, there is a two stage selection process. The first stage involves an evaluation of the '**concept note**', this involves assessment against the following criteria:-

Criteria	Max Score
Relevance of the action	15
Effectiveness and feasibility of the action	25
Sustainability of the action	10
Total	50

Only projects scoring 30 points or more and at least 12 points under 'Relevance of the action' will be considered for the second stage – assessment by the **Evaluation Committee**. The Committee will assess each proposal against the following criteria:-

Criteria	Max Score
Financial & operational capacity	20
Relevance	25
Methodology	25
Sustainability	15
Budget and cost effectiveness	15
Total	100

Thresholds are applied to the first 2 criteria, against which at least 12 and 20 points must be scored respectively. In addition, in order to encourage participation in the programme of the 8 less developed countries in Latin America (Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru) an additional 5 points will be awarded to proposals that include 2 or more partners from these countries.

Further Information

All information relating to this call can be found at:-

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/latin-america/regional-cooperation/alfa/index_en.htm

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Preparatory Action

Call for Proposals

Deadline: 28 June 2010

ENT/ERA/I0/411

Background

This Preparatory Action aims to support the 'Small Business Act' for Europe (SBA) objective of 'creating an environment in which entrepreneurs can thrive and entrepreneurship is rewarded'. There have already been two calls for projects, in 2008 and 2009. As a result, in 2008, 24 European partnerships were established to encourage exchanges of new entrepreneurs, in 2009 a further 31 exchange projects were selected.

In addition in each year a project was selected to support a coordinator and provide networking opportunities for the mobility projects.

Similar project are sought under this third call, the total budget available is €4.3m.

Programme Objectives

The overall aim is to help new entrepreneurs enrich their experiences, learn and network by spending periods in enterprises run by experienced entrepreneurs in other EU Member States.

By awarding grants to promote the mobility of new entrepreneurs, the specific objectives of the preparatory action are to:-

- Provide on-the-job training for new entrepreneurs in SMEs in the EU in order to facilitate successful start-up and development of their business ideas
- Foster sharing of experience and information between entrepreneurs on the obstacles and challenges of starting up and developing their businesses
- Enhance market access and identification of potential partners for new and established businesses in other EU countries
- Support networking between entrepreneurs from different Member States by building on knowledge and experience from other countries

Activities to be supported

There are two lots covered by this call:-

- Lot 1: Organisations enhancing and facilitating the mobility of new entrepreneurs (exchanges of entrepreneurs)
- Lot 2: Support, coordination and networking linked to the activities supported under Lot 1 (single body to coordinate the activities Lot 1 projects)

Eligible applicants are:-

Any public or private entity whose core activity is in the field of business support. Thus certain departments or functions in HEIs (such as business support units, enterprise centres etc) would be considered to be eligible applicants.

Opportunities for HEIs

Although there is scope for an HEI to be selected as a central support unit under Lot 2, the main opportunities for involvement lie under Lot 1. The Commission expects to select between 25 and 40 projects under Lot 1 in 2010. The information below, therefore, summarises the requirements for Lot 1.

The key to the Programme is the development of relationships between new entrepreneurs and host entrepreneurs and that is the main purpose of proposals to be selected for Lot 1.

New entrepreneurs are defined as:- ‘Someone in the early stages of becoming an entrepreneur.....primarily new entrepreneurs (i.e. ‘would-be’ or ‘wannabe’ entrepreneurs) intending to set up an enterprise, but not excluding those who have already started their own – but no more than 3 years ago’.

Host entrepreneurs are defined as:- ‘a successful entrepreneur (the owner of a micro or small enterprise, or someone directly involved in entrepreneurship at SME board level) with an ambition to share experience’

The intention is that exchanges will be arranged whereby the new entrepreneur stays with a host entrepreneur in another Member State for a period of between 1 and 6 months, either in one go or spread over a period spanning up to 12 months.

The definition of new entrepreneurs means that HEIs are appropriate bodies to submit proposals to co-ordinate exchanges of recent graduates, for instance, who have expressed a desire to set up their own business, to spend a period working with an enterprise in another Member State. In such a project the HEIs main tasks would be to:-

- Arrange successful matching between new entrepreneurs and host entrepreneurs
- Support the new entrepreneurs to undertake the exchange

Proposals for Lot 1 will be required to explain how they would undertake the following specific tasks:-

- Informing and screening and advising new entrepreneurs
- Promotion and engagement of host entrepreneurs
- Assessing applications from both new and host entrepreneurs
- Matching the relationships
- Information and induction for new entrepreneurs
- Management of contracts and commitments
- Logistical support
- Distribution of financial assistance to new entrepreneurs to support their cost of their exchange
- Quality control and evaluation
- Active networking
- Reporting

Technical Issues

Requirements for projects supported under Lot 1 are as follows:-

- Projects are expected to start in February 2011
- The maximum duration is 21 months
- The maximum grant rate is 90% of eligible costs
- The maximum grant available is €180,000 for a project delivered by a partnership and €150,000 for an individual applicant.

- The maximum amount of that grant to be paid directly to new entrepreneurs is €100,000 (max of €6,600 per person)

Selection Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the necessary technical and financial capacity to deliver the project. In addition, proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:-

Criteria	Max Score
Relevance	20
Visibility	15
Impact	20
Quality	20
Budget & Cost effectiveness	25
Total	100

Only those projects scoring more than 70 points and more than 50% of the points available for each of the criteria will be considered for support.

Further Information

All information relating to this call is available from:-

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemlongdetail.cfm?item_id=4258&lang=en

LIFE+ Programme

Call for Proposals

Deadline: 1 September 2010

Background

LIFE+ is the EU main financial instrument concerned with the environment. It aims to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of Community environmental policy and legislation, including the integration of environmental policies into other policies, thereby, contributing to sustainability. LIFE+ has an annual call for proposals, this is the fourth call under the Programme. The total budget for 2010 is €243m. An allocation is set aside for each Member State, proposals are submitted to a national authority, but the assessment and selection takes place centrally and is the responsibility of the LIFE Unit of DG Environment. Set out below are the main objectives of the Programme, an indication of the sorts of projects and details of where to go for further information.

Objectives

LIFE+ has three components:-

- LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance
- LIFE+ Information and Communication

The specific objectives of each area as follows:-

LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity

- To contribute to the implementation of Community policy and legislation on nature and diversity, including at local and regional level, and to support the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network, including coastal and marine habitats
- To contribute to the consolidation of the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of Community nature and biodiversity policy and legislation
- To support the design and implementation of policy approaches for the monitoring and assessment of nature and biodiversity and the factors, pressures and responses that impact on them
- To provide support for better environmental governance by broadening stakeholder involvement.

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance

- To contribute to the development and demonstration of innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments
- To contribute to the consolidation of the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of environmental policy and legislation
- To support the design and implementation of approaches to monitoring and assessment of the state of the environment and the factors, pressures and responses that impact on it
- To facilitate the implementation of Community environmental policy, with particular emphasis on implementation at local and regional level
- To provide support for better environmental governance by broadening stakeholder involvement.

LIFE+ Information and Communication

- To disseminate information and raise awareness on environmental issues, including forest fire prevention
- To provide support for accompanying measures, such as information, communication actions and campaigns, conferences and training, including training on forest fire prevention.

Activities envisaged for 2010

LIFE+ Nature

- Projects aimed at the direct conservation of habitats and species covered by the Habitats and Bird directives and, in particular, supporting the set-up and management of NATURA2000. These are the classic LIFE+ Nature projects (site or species related) that will remain the main axes of LIFE+ Nature financing. Ex-situ actions are also possible if justified.
- Projects for improving the ecological coherence/connectivity of the NATURA 2000 network ("Green Infrastructures").
- Projects aimed at fulfilling the obligations deriving from Article 8(1) and 8(2) of the Habitats Directive (i.e. identification of the financial needs and corresponding measures).
- Projects aimed at the preparation and planning for the designation of new marine Natura 2000 sites in territorial or off-shore waters and/or the extension of existing marine sites.
- Projects for the support and development of surveillance of the conservation status of habitats and species (Article 11 of the Habitats Directive).
- Projects for the control and eradication of invasive alien species.

Note: Data from past LIFE funding show that there are relatively few proposals addressing the direct conservation of a rather large part of the biodiversity covered by the Habitats Directive. For example arthropods and mollusc species are seldom the specific target of LIFE+ Nature projects. Applicants are invited to consider this aspect when preparing their proposals

LIFE+ Biodiversity

- Projects targeting threatened species that are not included in the annexes of the Habitats Directive but that have a status of "endangered" or worse in the available European Red Lists (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/index_en.htm) or in the IUCN Red List for those species that are not covered by the European red Lists IUCN Red List.
- Projects for the implementation of river basin management plans, or addressing Marine Regions, for the implementation of measures to guarantee a Good environmental status.
- Projects to test fisheries management measures in line with the requirements of the Marine Strategy Directive and technical measures to reduce by-catch of species which are not commercially exploited.
- Projects addressing ecosystem functions and services. The focus of LIFE-Nature has been, until now, on the conservation of habitats and species, for themselves and not for the functions and the services they deliver to society.
- Projects addressing biodiversity and soil. The Commission welcomes projects aiming at increasing the protection of soil biodiversity and its many ecological functions.
- Projects for the control and eradication of invasive alien species.

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance

I. Principal objective "Climate change"

Stabilise greenhouse gas concentration at a level that prevents global warming above 2°C. Priority areas of action:

- Ensuring the implementation of EU commitments under UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol, and facilitating development of post 2012 implementation programme with a view on further reducing EU greenhouse gas emissions up to 2020;
- Ensuring the adaptation of the EU economy and society, nature and biodiversity, water resources and human health to the adverse impacts of climate change (to a potential temperature increase of 2 °C resulting from increased greenhouse gas concentrations) and mitigating its impact;

- Ensuring the implementation and use of market-based instruments in particular in order to achieve a cost-efficient emission reduction in a post 2012 framework.

N.B. Proposals aimed at promoting and implementing innovative or demonstrative projects combining biodiversity and climate change, such as protecting and restoring natural ecosystems to conserve or enhance their carbon stocking capacity (for example: forests, water bodies), should be submitted under the LIFE Biodiversity strand.

2. Principal objective “Water”

Contribute to an enhanced water quality by developing cost-effective measures to achieve good ecological status in view of developing the river basin management plans under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Contribute to improving quantitative water management and water efficiency. Contribute to decrease vulnerability of water and ecosystems to climate change impacts and other anthropogenic pressures. Priority areas of action:

- Preparation of the WFD programmes of measures and integrating measures from parent directives such as e.g. the Urban Waste-water Treatment Directive, the Bathing Water Directive, the Drinking Water directive, the Plant Protection Products and Nitrates Directive, the Flood Directive and the IPPC Directive;
- Development of best practice examples for sustainable use of hydropower based on ecologically based minimum flow requirements;
- Development of best practice examples for improving long-distance fish migration;
- Development of best practice examples to reduce eutrophication from diffuse sources;
- Implementation of innovative technologies to reduce use of fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture;
- Development of innovative tools (technologies, practices, etc.) to improve water efficiency in households, agriculture and industry sectors;
- Natural flood management and increase water retention by re-establishing floodplains and providing space for water in urbanised areas;
- Improving the Nitrate Directive implementation, in particular focusing on the entire nitrogen cycle;
- Development of innovative urban water treatment systems;
- Development of innovative and cost-effective technologies for the improvement of the quality of drinking water;
- Implementation of innovative measures of Integrated Coastal Zone Management;
- Implementation of innovative actions for the improvement of bathing waters;
- Implementation of innovative activities contributing to a "good environmental status" of marine water according to the Marine Directive;
- Implementation of green/blue infrastructures, linking urban and rural areas, as well as marine and coastal areas (fish passes, restoration of river morphology, water retention in urban areas, restoration of links between water bodies and their flood- and marshplains).

N.B. When dealing with green/blue infrastructures that aim directly at creating the necessary connectivity among Natura 2000 sites, the proposal should be submitted under LIFE+ Nature.

3. Principal objective “Air”

Achieve levels of air quality that do not give rise to significant negative impacts on and risks to human health and the environment. Priority area of action:

- Implementing the Thematic Strategy on air pollution;
- To test technologies, methodologies and practices, which reduce air pollution and exposure of the population and/or the environment to poor air quality;
- Purification of air by ecosystems.

4. Principal objective “Soil”

Protect and ensure the sustainable use of soil by preserving soil functions, preventing threats to soil, mitigating their effects and restoring degraded soils. Achieve a sustainable agriculture which will contribute, on one side, to the enhancement of the positive aspects for the environment and, on the other side, also contribute avoiding negative impacts and environmental risks. Priority areas of action:

- Implementing the Thematic Strategy on the protection of soil (COM(2006)231, 22.9.2006); ensuring the protection of soil including soil biodiversity and the restoration of degraded soils;
- Implementing the 'priority area' (former 'risk area') approach contained in the proposal for Soil Framework Directive (COM(2006)231, 22.9.2006) for the soil degradation processes;
- Developing and implementing land use practices and techniques, particularly in farming and forestry production processes, which protect and improve the status of soil in terms of structure, organic matter, pollution, biodiversity, etc. This might include supporting farmers and foresters through pilot agro-environmental schemes, different types of environmental friendly agricultural management and technologies, reduction of residues coming from agriculture, etc.;
- Developing and implementing land use practices in urban development, which protect and improve the status of soil.

5. Principal objective “Urban environment”

Contribute to improving the environmental performance of Europe’s urban areas. Priority areas of action:

- Contributing to a better implementation of existing EU environment policies and legislation at the local level by supporting and encouraging local authorities to adopt a more integrated approach to urban management, including the transport and energy sectors and green public procurement;
- Contributing to urban green infrastructure, and its linkages to the peri-urban and rural countryside;
- Contributing to 'greening' existing energy and transport infrastructure and strengthening the functionality of the spatially linked ecosystems.

N.B. When dealing with green/blue infrastructures that aim directly at creating the necessary connectivity among Natura 2000 sites, the proposal should be submitted under LIFE+ Nature.

6. Principal objective “Noise”

Contribute to policy development and implementation on environmental noise. Priority areas of action:

- To test technologies, methodologies and practices which reduce noise, especially in the urban environment;
- To prevent and reduce the harmful effects from exposure to environmental noise.

7. Principal objective “Chemicals”

Improve the protection of environment and health from risks posed by chemicals by 2020 by implementing chemicals legislation, in particular the REACH Regulation. Priority areas of action:

- Enhancing science-policy integration and the transfer of results to provide a solid technical background in support of REACH;
- Development of non-toxic chemicals that can substitute toxic ones;
- Safer handling of chemicals;
- A more economical or sustainable use of chemicals;
- Ways of re-using chemical waste products;
- Innovation of low risk biocidal products;
- Eco-friendly delivery measures for the application of the active (biocidal) substance (i.e. precise delivery, no leaks).

8. Principal objective “Environment and health”

Develop the information base for policy on the environment and health (the Environment and Health Action Plan for 2004 to 2010). Priority area of action:

- Human biomonitoring and data linkage on environment and health;
- Protection of the ozone layer to reduce negative health and environmental impacts;
- Promoting the ecosystem services approach on projects targeted on health and human wellbeing.

9. Principal objective “Waste and natural resources”

Develop and implement policies designed to ensure sustainable management and use of natural resources and waste, improving the environmental performances of products, sustainable production and consumption patterns, waste prevention, recovery and recycling. Contribute to the effective implementation of the Thematic Strategy on waste and natural resources. Priority areas of action:

- Promoting sustainable use of natural resources, with a life-cycle approach, including environmental, social and economic aspects, in order to decouple environmental impact from economic growth;
- Promoting waste prevention, recovery and recycling with a focus on life-cycle thinking, ecodesign and the development of recycling markets;
- Contributing to the implementation of European Union policy and legislation on waste, in particular the Landfill Directive, the Waste Framework Directive, the Waste Shipment and POPs Regulations and the Directives on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), Restriction of the Use of Certain Hazardous Substances (RoHS), End-of-Life Vehicles (ELVs), Packaging, Hazardous Waste, Waste Oils, PCBs and mining waste;
- Implementing the new Waste Framework Directive, including a particular focus on the application of the waste hierarchy in waste policies, waste prevention and the implementation of recycling targets for household waste, as well as for construction and demolition waste;
- Managing manure to generate end-products easily reusable in agriculture allowing better nutrient management.

10. Principal objective “Forests”

Provide, especially through an EU coordination network, a concise and comprehensive basis for policy relevant information on forest in relation to climate change (impact on forest ecosystems, mitigation, substitution effects), biodiversity (further develop the existing baseline information and protected forest areas), forest fires, forest condition and the protective functions of forests (water, weather, soil and infrastructure) as well as contributing to protect forests against fires. Priority areas of action:

- Promoting the collection, analysis and dissemination of policy-relevant information concerning EU forests and interactions between forests and the environment;
- Promoting harmonisation, efficiency, and effectiveness of forest monitoring activities and data collection systems and making use of synergies by creating links between monitoring mechanism established at regional, national, European and global level;
- Stimulating synergies between specific forests related issues and environmental initiatives and legislation (e.g. EU soil strategy, Natura 2000, Water Framework Directive, Sustainable Production and Consumption, Green Public Procurement, Energy Efficiency, etc.);
- Contributing to sustainable forest management in particular by collecting data related to the carbon balance of EU forests, forest biodiversity and the improved Pan-European Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management as adopted by the MCPFE Expert Level Meeting 7-8 October 2002, Vienna, Austria;
- Building capacities at national and European Union level to allow for coordination and guidance on relevant and EU representative forest monitoring;
- Strengthening forest ecosystem services by (re)-establishing functional or spatial linkages between forested areas which also guarantee the permeability between forest areas and open land as part of Green Infrastructure.

N.B. When dealing with green/blue infrastructures that aim directly at creating the necessary connectivity among Natura 2000 sites, the proposal should be submitted under LIFE+ Nature.

11. Principal objective “Innovation”

Contribute to developing and demonstrating innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments to assist implementation of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP), through actions complementary to those of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme.

Priority areas of action:

- Identifying, testing and communicating innovative and emerging techniques, which could be potentially considered as Best Available Techniques (BAT) for the updating of the BAT Reference Documents (BREF) in specific sectors.

12. Principal objective “Strategic approaches”

Promote effective implementation and enforcement of EC environmental legislation and improving the knowledge base for environmental policy. Improve the environmental performance of SMEs. Promote strategic integrated planning approaches for improving the use of land and sea. Priority areas of action:

- Strengthening the knowledge base for policy making and implementation by building a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and supporting the implementation of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security initiative (GMES);
- Implementing the Environmental Compliance Assistance Programme for SMEs (ECAP)3;
- Improving access to and exchange of data and information on environment through implementation of INSPIRE and SEIS guidelines;
- Promoting integrated planning approaches which consider ecosystem approaches to tackle fragmentation, and developing a Green Infrastructure approach, supporting the multi-purpose use of land by safeguarding and improving ecosystem services.

Note: for the 2010 call, the Commission has indicated that whilst any project dealing with the abovementioned priorities is welcome, it would favour those dealing with: Natural resources and waste, to develop and implement policies designed to ensure sustainable management and use of natural resources and waste.

LIFE+ Information and Communication

- Halting the loss of biodiversity.
- Natural resources and waste, to develop and implement policies designed to ensure sustainable management and use of natural resources and waste.
- Forest and climate change. COM(2007)379. More information is available at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/sme>
- Water scarcity/efficiency awareness raising campaigns focused on water-stressed Member States.
- Compilation and active transfer to relevant stakeholders that could usefully implement them of the techniques used, results and lessons learnt from a significant number of previous LIFE projects for a specific theme/habitat/species (e.g. rivers, bogs, bats).
- Launching national public campaigns to promote NATURA 2000.
- Skills development for Natura 2000 site managers.
- The implementation of Art. 6 of the Habitats Directive with specific reference to the way the evaluation of incidence is carried out (e.g. developing and promoting a system for the accreditation of evaluators, sharing best practices, etc.).
- Promoting the integration of biodiversity concerns in territorial planning procedures.
- Awareness raising campaigns on biodiversity (aligned with the relevant EU Campaign) aimed at explaining to the general public what biodiversity is and why it is important.

- The promotion of connectivity between natural areas (Green Infrastructure) by explaining it better to citizens.
- Integrating the concept of Ecosystems services in private company management or in public spending in particular in connection to Green Public Procurement.
- Increasing the knowledge and awareness about soil and soil biodiversity and its many ecological functions.
- The broad and targeted dissemination of best practices (including best practices developed as part of previous LIFE projects).

Note: for the 2010 call, the Commission has indicated that it would favour proposals dealing with halting the loss of biodiversity.

Technical Features

- There are no fixed maximum or minimum budgets. However, large, ambitious proposals with a substantial budget are favoured. Historically the average grant awarded has been in excess of €1m
- In general the maximum grant rate is 50% of eligible costs
- Projects do not have to involve transnational partners but should demonstrate European added value

Application and Selection Procedure

LIFE+ proposals must be submitted to a national authority, in the UK, the contact details are as follows:-

Beta Technology Ltd
Area 1B, Barclay Court,
Doncaster Carr
Doncaster DN4 5HZ

jemma.ferguson@betatechnology.co.uk

Proposals are then forwarded to the Commission for evaluation and selection

Grant agreements for selected projects expected to be signed July/August 2011, the earliest possible start date for a project is 1 September 2011

The LIFE Unit of DG Environment is responsible for the evaluation procedure. Each proposal is subject to initial eligibility checks and all those deemed eligible will be assessed against the following weighted selection criteria:-

Selection Criteria	Maximum Points
Technical coherence and quality	15
Financial coherence and quality	15
Contribution to the general objectives of LIFE+	25
European added value and complementarity and optimal use of EC funding	30
Transnational character	5
Compliance with national annual priorities and national added value	10
Maximum score	100

Further Information

All documentation relating to the call, plus information about previous LIFE+ projects is available at:-
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

and from Beta Technology at:-
<http://betaeurope.co.uk>

An information event hosted by DEFRA and the European Commission is scheduled to take place in London on 11 June 2010. Information about the event can be obtained from the Beta technology website.

Interested?

If you or any of your colleagues are interested in developing a proposal for the LIFE+ Programme, then we may be able to offer some support. Although the 1st September deadline for applications allows a considerable amount time to prepare an application, Institutions should be aware that the application process for LIFE+ is one of the more complex of all the EU Programmes we have worked on. It is never too early to begin the planning process, if you would like advice or assistance from HEEFS, then please do not hesitate to contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help.

Culture Programme

Open Call for Proposals

Deadline: 1 October 2010

Background

DG Education and Culture is responsible for the delivery of the Culture Programme. It is the European Union's main financial support programme for cultural activities. It has been established to:-

'enhance the cultural area shared by Europeans, which is based on a common cultural heritage, through the development of cooperation activities among cultural operators, with a view to encouraging the emergence of European citizenship'.

The Programme operates on the basis of a pre-published timetable for calls for proposals. There are some significant changes to the Programme for 2010, which may be of particular interest to HEIs, not least the addition of a strand concerned with cooperation between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis. A summary of the Programme and the main opportunities for HEIs is provided below.

A new guide to the Programme has just been issued, a copy can be downloaded from http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/programme/programme_guide_en.php.

Objectives

The Programme has three specific objectives:-

- Promotion of the trans-national mobility of people working in the cultural sector
- Support for the trans-national circulation of cultural and artistic works and products
- Promotion of inter-cultural dialogue.

Activities

The Programme supports projects, organisations, promotional activities and research in all branches of culture, except the audiovisual branch for which there is a separate programme named MEDIA. It operates under three broad **strands** which cover the following types of activities:-

Strand I – Support for cultural actions

Cultural organisations are given support to work together across borders and to create and implement cultural and artistic activities. The thrust is to help organisations such as theatres, museums, professional associations, **research centres**, **universities**, cultural institutes and public authorities from different countries to cooperate so that different sectors can work together and extend their cultural and artistic reach across borders. This strand supports 5 categories of projects:-

Strand I.1 Multiannual cooperation projects (lasting 3 to 5 yrs), involving a minimum of 6 partners, intended to help set up or extend the geographical reach of a project and make it sustainable

Strand I.2.1 Cooperation projects (lasting up to 2 yrs), involving at least 3 partners

Strand I.2.2 Literary translation projects (lasting up to 2 yrs) aimed at publishing houses, designed to enhance knowledge of the literature and literary heritage of fellow Europeans by way of promoting the circulation of literary works between countries.

Strand I.3.5 Cooperation projects with third countries (lasting up to 2 yrs) supports cultural exchanges between EU countries and certain 'third countries' as prescribed each year by the European Commission.

Strand 1.3.6 Support for European Cultural Festivals support for festivals with a European dimension that contribute to the overall objectives of the Programme

Strand 2 – Support for organisations active at European level in the field of culture

This strand supports the running costs of organisations working or wanting to work, at a European level in the field of culture in one of the following areas:-

- Ambassadors
- Advocacy networks
- Structured dialogue platforms

Within this strand organisations can apply for an **annual operating grant** or a **framework partnership** if they wish to establish a long-term partnership for a period of between 3 and 5 years duration.

Strand 3 – Support for analyses and for the collection and dissemination of information for maximising the impact of projects in the field of cultural cooperation. This strand provides support for a ‘Cultural Contact Point’ in each member state and funds studies and analyses into various aspects of cultural cooperation.

Strand 3.2 – Cooperation projects between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis – support for cooperation between organisations, such as, cultural department of national/regional/local authorities, cultural observatories, **university departments specialised in cultural affairs**, professional organisations and networks

Opportunities for HEIs

The Culture Programme is open to any **‘public or private organisation with legal status, whose principal activity is in the cultural sphere (cultural and creative sectors)’**. HEIs are therefore eligible applicants and are increasingly being encouraged to apply.

The Programme offers opportunities for Institutions, or particular departments or schools within, to work with partners from other countries to deliver projects under **Strands 1.1 and 1.2.1 and 1.3.5**. Within these strands HEIs may have a particular interest in developing projects concerned with mobility of people working in the cultural sector and with the promotion of intercultural dialogue (which aims to “strengthen respect for cultural diversity...to support the coexistence of different cultural identities and beliefs...to acknowledge the contribution of different cultures to the EU member states’ heritage and way of life”).

The purpose of **Strand 1.3.6** is to offer **Support for European cultural festivals** with a view to:-

- Encouraging exchanges of experience through mobility of European cultural professionals
- Promoting the circulation of cultural works by giving access to non-national European cultural works to the largest possible audience
- Promoting intercultural dialogue

This is a new strand, which may be of interest to HEIs that regularly host festivals or programmes of cultural/arts events. To be considered for support, 5 editions of the festival must have already taken place and the programme of previous and planned events must show that participants from at least 7 countries are involved.

Another new strand is **Strand 3.2** which seeks to support cooperation between organisations which have direct and practical experience in the analysis, evaluation or impact assessment of cultural policies at local, regional, national and/or European levels, related to one or more of the following objectives of the European Agenda for culture:-

- Promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue
- Promotion of culture as a catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs

- Promotion of culture as a vital element in the Union's international relations, implementing the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
- Projects have to involve at least 3 organisations in at least 3 counties. Support is available for:-
- The coordination of the grouping
 - Exchange, analysis, comparison and consolidation of existing quantitative and qualitative data and evaluation methods
 - Production of proposals and recommendations for new evaluation methods or quantitative and qualitative data. (N.B. The launching of new specific studies or data collections is not covered).

Application timetable and Technical Features of Support

Action	Deadline for submission	Duration	Minimum & Maximum Grant	Max EC contribution
Strand 1.1 Multiannual cooperation projects	1 October 2010	3 to 5 years	€200,000 – €500,000 per year	50%
Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation Projects	1 October 2010	Max 2 years	€50,000 - €200,000	50%
Strand 1.3.5 Cultural Cooperation Projects with Third Countries	3 May 2010	Max 2 years	€50,000 - €200,000	50%
Strand 1.3.6 Support to European Cultural Festivals	15 November 2010	Max 1 year	Maximum €100,000	60%
Strand 3.2 Cooperation projects between organisations involved in cultural policy analysis	1 October 2010	Min 1 year Max 2 years	Maximum €120,000 per year	60%

Further Information

The Programme Guide, application forms and details of the application process are available from:-
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/culture/index_en.php

Interested?

Institutions considering developing applications for the October and November deadlines should be mindful that the application process, although not overly complex, is time-consuming, requiring significant input from transnational partners and cross Institutional commitment. It is never too early to begin the planning process and in particular to make sure that you have strong partnerships. We will of course, be more than happy to help any Institution wishing to develop a proposal and offer support through the application process and subsequently to assist in the delivery of a successful project.

Please feel free to contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to help.

Network of experts on social aspects of education and training (NESET)

Call for Tenders

Deadline: 31 August 2010

EAC 06/2010 NESET

Background

DG Education and Culture has issued a tender for the establishment of a network of experts in social aspects of education and training (NESET).

Objectives

The overall objective of the projects is to contribute to the improvement of policy cooperation in education and training in Europe through the creation of an advisory network of experts on social aspects in education. It is intended that the network will advise and support the Commission in the analysis of education policies and reforms and their implications at national, regional and European level mainly (but not exclusively) from a sociological perspective. The network is expected to support European-level policy making with state-of-the-art knowledge and expertise on a wide range of issues in education and training policy and practise. This support will include the identification of the most relevant evidence from both qualitative and quantitative research. The network will also contribute to the dissemination of knowledge on social aspects of education and training.

Technical Features

- The work is estimated to amount to around 250 days
- Indicative price is €225,000 to €250,000 exc VAT
- Maximum duration of contract is 12 months

Selection Criteria

The tender chosen will be the most economically advantageous in terms of the following criteria:-

Criteria	Weighting
Relevance	25
Experienced coordination	25
Quality of experts involved	20
Policy oriented expertise	15
Complementary expertise	15

Further Information

Details of the call for tenders can be found at
http://ec.europa.eu/education/calls/doc2292_en.htm

Higher Education European Funding Services (HEEFS)

Who we are

- A Non-profit making Registered Charitable Company, Limited by Guarantee
- Wholly owned and managed by the HE Sector. HEEFS is owned by Universities UK and GuildHE and has strong links with the HE Europe and International Units
- Hosted by Liverpool John Moores University
- Established in 1991 as the Higher Education European Social Fund Unit (HEESF) to manage the HE Sector's participation in national European Social Fund (ESF) Programmes
- As HEESF, the Company enabled 133 HEIs to mount 1750 projects with £207m support from the ESF
- Re-launched in 2009 as HEEFS, with a broader remit, to support UK HEIs to progress their internationalisation strategies through participation in a wide range of EU Programmes

What we do

Represent and act as a central resource for UK HEI participation in EU Programmes by:

- acting as an observatory, monitoring and reporting on UK HEI participation
- representing UK HEIs at EU and national level, responding to consultations and informing policy

Identify and promote EU funding opportunities and developments to HEIs by:

- analysing EU Programmes, identifying opportunities and interpreting them in an HE context
- providing an e-bulletin summarising funding opportunities
- visiting HEIs to promote and explain opportunities
- organising events for HEIs to come together to consider opportunities in specific fields of interest

HEEFS collaborates with HEIs to develop, deliver and manage effective EU funded projects by:

- working with HEIs to map opportunities against Institutional objectives
- helping HEIs to fully prepare for an application round, interpreting call documentation and drawing up a work plan to meet deadlines
- providing professional and technical support throughout the application stage, tailored to the needs of individual HEIs
- working with successful HEIs, ensuring an effective management plan is in place, carrying out project evaluation and completing reports and claims
- providing its expertise to support HEIs delivering transnational collaborative partnerships

For further information about HEEFS, our role and services and the EU Programmes we support please visit our website. Our services range from assisting individual academics to develop proposals and submit applications, to supporting the development of Institutional strategies. We do not operate as a consultancy and have a range of options for recovering our costs, to suit the Institution concerned and the specific EU Programme regulations.

Please feel free to contact us for an informal discussion about how we might be able to assist your Institution.