

European Funding support for Regional development

with Addendum for Acceding Countries

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for projects

Beep (Best eEurope Practices:

<http://www.beepknowledgesystem.org>)

Best eEurope Practices

and

Prisma (Providing Innovative Service Models and Assessment:

<http://www.prisma-eu.net>)

PRISMA

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Introduction

Background

Throughout the development stages of the European Union the ideal of closer co-operation between states for the mutual benefit of all has remained a key component. The Community was set the task of "promoting the harmonious development of economic activities, continuous and balanced expansion, increased stability, a rapid rise in living standards and closer relations between its Member States". As a result, European integration has delivered half a century of stability, peace and economic prosperity. It has helped to raise standards of living, built an internal market, launched the euro and strengthened the Union's voice in the world.

It soon became apparent that stronger economic and social cohesion was a sine qua non for solidarity between the Member States. This is why a regional policy and a social policy were introduced, and these grew in importance as new members joined the Community. (Europe in Ten Points - Pascal Fontaine)

Using contributions from Member States tax revenues the Community sets aside funds for measures aimed at

- (a) developing regions whose development is lagging behind,
- (b) promoting new activities in declining industrial areas,
- (c) helping the long-term unemployed,
- (d) making it easier for young people to find employment,
- (e) modernising agriculture and assisting poor rural areas.

This money is mainly channeled through Structural and Cohesion Funds. These funds have become the key instrument of economic and social policy that gives expression to intra-Community solidarity.

To help the Union fulfil its wider role the Community also supports actions such as Research and Technology Development (RTD), Structural Development of Applicant States, Environmental Protection, Art, Culture and Assistance for the Third World.

The Role of Regional Authorities

Regional political and administrative entities are key to the effective distribution of the Structure Funds. They are close enough to the citizen to understand their needs and how to meet them, whilst at the same time being tied into National government frameworks and having reliable and democratic administrative systems. Regional Authorities can also play a pro-active role in areas beyond the national implementation of Structure Funds. They can encourage and support local entities to become involved in activities such as European Research (RTD), disseminating information about the Union's activities and becoming involved in special actions initiated by individual DGs of the Commission.

More information on the structural policy is available on the site of the Directorate General for Regional Policy. (http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/index_en.htm)

General Information Sources

The Commission provides a wide range of information sources throughout the Union. These include :

¹ - Europe in ten points - by Pascal Fontaine. chef de cabinet of the President of the European Parliament from 1984 to 1987. http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/publications/brochures/docu/10lecons/txt_en.html

- (a) **Europe Direct** - a service to help you find answers to your questions about the European Union. Freephone Number: **00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11** (<http://europa.eu.int/europedirect/>)
- (b) National Information Centres On Europe (3) (http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/index_en.htm)
- (c) Info-Points Europe (140) (http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/ipe/index_en.htm)
- (d) Rural information carrefours (129)(http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/carrefours/index_en.htm)
- (e) European documentation centres (544) (http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/edc/index_en.htm)
- (f) EuroInfo Centres (258) For businesses:
(<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/networks/eic/eic.html>)
- (g) Euroguichets (15) For consumers
(http://europa.eu.int/comm/consumers/policy/euroguichets/index_en.html)
- (h) Team Europe Network of speakers (550)
(http://europa.eu.int/comm/relays/teameurope/index_en.htm)

Contact details for all these resources can be found on the Commission website Europa at http://www.europa.eu.int/geninfo/info/contact/local/index_en.htm
(Note: you can select your own language from the top of this page)

Structure Funds

Objectives & Objective Regions

For the period 2000 - 2006 the Commission has set three **priority objectives** for Structure Fund activities.

- **Objective 1** promotes the development and structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind, i.e. whose average per capita GDP is less than 75% of the European Union average. This Objective also covers the most remote areas as well as those with low population density in Austria, Finland and Sweden. All these areas are known as **Objective 1 regions**.
- **Objective 2** contributes to the economic and social conversion of regions in structural difficulties (other than those eligible for Objective 1 support). It includes the areas facing the need for economic diversification as well as areas undergoing economic change, declining rural areas, depressed areas dependent on fisheries and urban areas in difficulty. All these areas are known as **Objective 2 regions**.
- **Objective 3** covers all the measures for human resource development outside the regions eligible for Objective 1 funding. This is the framework for all the measures taken under the European Employment Strategy². There are 4 pillars to this objective
 - Pillar 1: Employability
 - Pillar 2: Entrepreneurship
 - Pillar 3: Adaptability
 - Pillar 4: Equal opportunities

Fund Allocations

The breakdown (in Euro) between the different types of assistance for the period 2000 to 2006 is as follows:

- 69.7% of the total allocation goes to Objective 1, i.e. 135.9 billion;
- 11.5% of the total allocation goes to Objective 2, i.e. 22.5 billion;
- 12.3% of the total allocation goes to Objective 3, i.e. 24.05 billion;
- 0.5% of the total allocation goes to the FIGG outside Objective 1, i.e. 1.1 billion;
- 5.35% of the total allocation goes the Community Initiatives, i.e. 10.43 billion;
- 0.65% of the total allocation goes to innovative measures and technical assistance, i.e. 1.27 billion.

² Further information is available at http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/empl&esf/ees_en.htm

The Structure Funds Explained³

Structural funds are designed to reduce disparities in development, and to promote economic and social cohesion within the European Union. The total budget for the Structural Funds amounts to 195 billion Euros in 2000-06.

The Commission does not normally allocate the Structural Funds to individual projects, instead it works through agencies established by National Governments. While the main priorities are defined in cooperation with the Commission, the choice of actual projects and their management are solely the responsibility of the national and regional authorities through the delivery of multi-annual action plans. The Union helps the States achieve more, and obtain better, results than they could by acting on their own. That is the real added value of the Structural Funds.

Once projects have been selected, they are financed from both national and Community funds. Budgets are always comprised of Union funds as well as national sources (public or private). These locally provided funds are often referred to as "match funding". The actual proportion of Community to National funding varies depending upon certain priority objectives (see above) and geographic location.

There are four structural funds

1. The European Regional Development Fund (**ERDF**) which contributes mainly to assisting those regions whose development is lagging behind the rest of Europe. It also covers those undergoing economic conversion or experiencing structural difficulties through industrial decline.
2. The European Social Fund (**ESF**) which mainly provides assistance under the European Employment Strategy to improve equality of opportunity in employment and the quality of training.
3. The European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (**EAGGF**) that helps rural areas whose development is lagging behind, by improving the efficiency of their structures for the production, processing and marketing of agricultural and forest products;
4. The Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (**FIFG**) that provides finance for a variety of actions within the fisheries sector.

The Structural Fund Regulations also include four "Community Initiatives". These are:

- **Interreg III**, which aims to stimulate cross-border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation;
- **Leader+**, which promotes rural development through the initiatives of local action groups;
- **Equal**, which provides for the development of new ways of combating all forms of discrimination and inequality in access to the labour market;
- **Urban II**, which encourages the economic and social regeneration of declining towns, cities and suburbs.

A more detailed description of these initiatives is given on pages 5 and 6 below.

There are also limited funds for innovative and research measures that do not fall within the Member States priorities or action plans, but still comply with one, or more, of the Communities priority objectives. These are usually managed directly through the Commission but still require some form of local (e.g. Regional) support.

In addition there is a new measure called "**The performance reserve**" which is designed to motivate the final beneficiaries. 4% of the appropriations allocated to each Member State were placed in reserve until 2003. This should be distributed to the best-performing programmes by 31 March 2004 at the latest. Each Member State had to make proposals to the Commission on the basis of monitoring indicators that it introduced itself.

³ (Source - Commission web-site www.europa.eu.int - various pages - October 2002)

Most Structural Fund assistance is granted in the form of non-repayable grants or "direct aid", and to a lesser degree refundable aid, interest-rate subsidies, guarantees, equity participation, and participation in venture capital.

Community Initiatives within Structure Funds

The Structural Funds provide funding to Member States to support four Community Initiatives.

- Interreg III:

This Community initiative aims to stimulate interregional cooperation in the EU between 2000-06. It is financed under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Based upon previous Interreg initiatives it is designed to strengthen economic and social cohesion throughout the EU, by fostering the balanced development of the continent through cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation. Special emphasis has been placed on integrating remote regions and those which share external borders with the candidate countries.

Interreg III is implemented under three strands whose objectives, eligible areas and priorities are:

- Strand A: Cross-border cooperation promoting integrated regional development between border regions;
- Strand B: Transnational cooperation contributing to harmonious territorial integration across the European Union and with the applicant countries and other neighbouring countries;
- Strand C: Inter-regional cooperation improving regional development and cohesion policies and techniques through transnational/interregional cooperation. With an appropriation of 295 million, this strand gives priority to operations involving non-member countries, particularly the candidate countries, and in island and most remote regions.

Projects must also comply with the general objectives of the Structural Funds and other Community policies, with the following principles:

- Establishment of joint strategies and initiative programmes for the territories concerned,
- Involvement of "institutional" partners and other competent bodies;
- Complementarity between the Interreg III programmes, the programmes under Objectives 1, 2 and 3, and the other Community Initiatives;
- Consistency with European Union policy instruments (Sapard, Phare, Ispa, Tacis and Meda) that deal with the Community's neighbouring states.

For an overview of Interreg III (connecting European Regions) visit http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/interreg3/

For the official Interreg III documents visit http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/guidelines/index_en.htm

The third call for project proposals for all four INTERREG IIIC programme zones runs from 8 March 2004 to 30 April 2004. The Application Pack can be downloaded from : <http://www.interreg3c.net> . In addition, this website contains a partner search database, where anyone having an idea for cooperation can search for partners.

- Leader+

The aim of the Leader+ Initiative is to complement the rural development programmes and structural objectives. It is implemented under three headings:

- Action 1: integrated rural development strategies, of a pilot nature, covering small-sized rural areas with a strong identity;

- Action 2: cooperation between rural territories in one or more Member States consisting in pooling know-how and human and financial resources;
- Action 3: the networking of all rural areas to facilitate exchanges of experiences and know-how. Beneficiaries under Leader+ are required to play an active role.

At Community level the network is organised by an "Observatory of Rural Areas".

For more information on the Leader+ programme for all the Member States, please see the website of the Directorate-General for Agriculture where you will find summaries for each member state and local contact points (select your preferred language from the pull-down menu) (http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/rur/leaderplus/index_en.htm)

For more background information on the previous Leader Initiatives visit the Rural Europe website
<http://www.rural-europe.aeidl.be/rural-en/index.html>

- EQUAL

Building on the lessons learned under the previous "Employment" and "Adapt" Initiatives, the EQUAL Initiative seeks to promote a labour market open to all through new means of combating all forms of discrimination and inequalities. Equal covers the whole of the territory of the Union and emphasises the transnational nature of projects, the genuine involvement of local and regional authorities, as well as businesses, and the dissemination of good practice.

EQUAL provides assistance in four fields based on the four pillars of the European Employment Strategy :

- employability
- entrepreneurial spirit
- capacity for change
- equal opportunities.

In order to obtain funding under the EQUAL initiative, a development partnership in a Member State must cooperate with at least one other partnership in another Member State, generally funded by the EQUAL initiative too. Partnerships are also possible with a non-Member State eligible for funding under the Phare, Sapard, Tacis or Meda programmes (see pages 8-10). The partnership's work programme must cover a period of between 18 months and three years.

The Member States' programming documents and National contact points for EQUAL can be found on the EQUAL website of the Directorate-General for Employment and Social Affairs.
http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/equal/ (English & French only).

For details of the European Employment Strategy visit:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/empl&esf/ees_en.htm

- Urban II

The aim of the Urban II Initiative is to promote innovative strategies for economic and social regeneration in deprived urban areas, at the same time facilitating the identification of good practice and exchanges of experience across the European Union. To achieve this, the strategies receiving support under the Initiative must:

- cover a critical mass of population (not less than 10 000) and offer sufficient support structures and a strong and broad-based partnership to implement innovative and sustainable urban development programmes;
- present an integrated approach (covering economic, social, transport, environment, security, and other aspects) that is particularly well adapted to promoting equality of access to jobs and training, equal opportunities, and complying with Community environmental requirements at local level;

- take account of existing strategies for the wider urban area or region, and complement the programmes with structural Objectives and the other Community Initiatives;
- maximise the impact and visibility of the selected areas and emphasise the innovative aspects compared to mainstream assistance. The communication lists the types of measure that may be funded under Urban II.

Provision was made for around 50 areas, each with a single problem and needing economic and social regeneration, to receive support under Urban II. These areas may be located within areas eligible under Objectives 1 and 2. Community funding is provided from the ERDF (700 million for 2000-2006), which may also finance measures eligible under the ESF and the FIG.

More information on the Member States' programming documents for Urban II can be found on the Inforegio website of Commission's Directorate-General for Regional Policy
http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/urban2/index_en.htm

Innovative Measures

ERDF innovative measures

Innovative measures (studies, pilot projects and exchanges of experience) to which the ERDF contributes are to reinforce competitiveness in Europe by reducing the gaps between regions and supporting innovation, RTD and the use of new information and communication technologies. It therefore forms part of the strategy which aims at boosting employment, economic competitiveness and social cohesion in the framework of a knowledge-based economy.

In the period 2000-2006 the innovative measures must therefore concentrate on three priorities:

- Regional economy based on knowledge and technological innovation : helping the less-favoured regions to raise the level of their technology;
- The information society at the service of regional development (e Europe-regio);
- Regional identity and sustainable development: promoting regional cohesion and competitiveness through an approach that integrates economic, environmental and social activity.

The innovative measures form part of regional programmes of innovative measures whose strategy is determined, in line with the regional partnership principle, by a steering committee. Programme proposals must be submitted to the Commission by 31 May each year at the latest from 2001 to 2005 so that the Commission can select those to be part-financed by the ERDF. The innovative measures have an annual allocation of EUR 400 million.

ESF Innovative Measures (Article 6)

The general objective is to support innovative measures that seek to promote new approaches and identify examples of "good practice" which can subsequently improve the implementation of the operations supported by the ESF. Types of action supported include innovative projects aiming to develop local employment strategies that reinforce the implementation of the applicable National Action Plan for Employment (NAP). Proposals may include the following activities (among others) within a single Member State:

- Analysis of existing local employment situation,
- Development of partnerships at local level including relevant actors from different sectors,
- Relevant studies and research to prepare the local employment strategies,
- Development and implementation of the local employment strategies,
- Development of indicators,
- Relevant and appropriate training on the European Employment Strategy, and
- Exchange of information, awareness raising.

The Commission will co-finance actions up to a maximum of 75% of the total eligible costs, between a minimum of 300.000 EURO and a maximum of 3.000.000 EURO over a two-year period.

As a general rule projects are managed directly by the services of the Commission. More information is available by downloading the pdf file at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/empl&esf/com894/com894_en.pdf

Details are also posted on the following Article 6 website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/esf2000/article_6-en.htm

The most recent call for proposals was published in the OJ C262/22 of 31.10.2003. The application deadlines are 18.02.2004 for the first round, 26.01.2005 for the second round and 25.01.2006 for the third round. There is a single theme for these calls titled "**Innovative approaches to the management of change**".

The Cohesion Fund

The Cohesion Fund supports improvement of environment and transport infrastructures in order to promote economic and social cohesion. The fund is restricted to states with a GNP less than 90% of the EU average (currently Greece, Spain, Ireland and Portugal and the acceding states). Unlike the Structural Funds, the Cohesion Fund does support individual projects (or stages of projects) which are clearly identified from the start. These individual projects are submitted to the Commission by the Member States, managed by the national authorities and supervised by a Monitoring Committee.

For the period 2000 to 2006 the allocation is EUR 18 billion.

Applications for projects are submitted through Member States to the European Commission. The Commission, in agreement with the beneficiary Member State, makes decisions on projects. The Cohesion Fund covers between 80% and 85% of public or equivalent expenditure on projects.

Phare, ISPA & Sapard (for Accession States)

These three actions were designed to help Newly Independent States by supporting their development. There was a close correlation between these funds and the Structure Funds (particularly Intereg III) and this has strengthened throughout the accession process. From January 2004 acceding states have full access to the Structure and Cohesion Funds so the section below is for reference as the concepts have been carried forward in the various National Action Plans (NAPs).

PHARE

The PHARE programme covered Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

PHARE aims to provide finance for economic development administrative reconfiguration, social change, legislative work to enable candidate countries meet the criteria for membership of the EU through grants (100%). PHARE could finance individual projects, but it is rapidly moving towards the Structure Fund format of working with Candidate States to fund thematic schemes developed by the State in conjunction with the Commission.

Each State has its own National Action Plan (NAP) and national agency who should be contacted in the first instance. Within these National schemes PHARE will contribute between 50,000 EURO and 2 million EURO for individual projects. For projects outside the national scheme the commission will only fund projects of more than 2 Million EURO. For 2002 there is a special

allocation for strengthening institutions in Candidate countries, and there is always encouragement to work with other member states, particularly border regions.

Implementing agencies may be national, regional or local administrations, foundations or financial intermediaries such as banks or investment agencies.

Malta-EU

Within PHARE there was special financing for administrative reconfiguration and strengthening and legislative work to enable Malta meet the criteria for membership of the EU. This is suitable for the state and regions of Malta, local authorities, regional organisations, public agencies, local or traditional communities, business support organisations, cooperatives and civil society. Malta has its' own Action Plan so applications must go through the National Agency.

ISPA

ISPA aimed at help Candidate States by

- Familiarising them with the policies and procedures of the Union
- Helping them catch up with EU environmental standards
- Expanding and linking with the trans-European transport networks

Application procedures are similar to PHARE in that Member States draw up their own action plans and manage the distribution of funds. Individual companies can tender for contracts as and when these are published through the official journals.

SAPARD

SAPARD is a new programme that aims to help candidate countries deal with the problems of the structural adjustment in their agricultural sectors and rural areas, as well as in the implementation of the acquis communautaire concerning the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) and related legislation.

SAPARD came into effect on January 1, 2000, and is budgeted until the end of 2006. However, candidate countries may only benefit through SAPARD between the year 2000 and the time they join the Union. Funding is normally up to 75% of the project costs and applications should be made through the National Agencies.

In summary:

- SAPARD finances major agricultural and rural development projects
- has an annual budget of EURO 520 million
- comes under the responsibility of DG Agriculture

Actions covered of special interest to Regional Authorities include co-financing of:

- improving the processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products
- development and diversification of economic activities, providing for multiple activities and alternative income
- setting up producer groups
- renovation and development of villages, and protection and conservation of the rural heritage
- improvement of vocational training
- development and improvement of rural infrastructure

EU External Aid

EU external aid is given by means of either contracts to provide services, supplies or works to beneficiary countries or grants (generally for projects proposed by non-profit making

organisations). This aid is usually provided under one of the EC external aid programmes and instruments

- **Phare, Ispa and Sapard** for the candidate countries as described above,
 - **Tacis** for the New Independent States and Mongolia,
 - **Cards** for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the FYROM,
 - **ALA** for Asian and Latin American countries,
 - **MEDA II** for the Mediterranean partners
 - **EDF** for the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries
- Also under specific budget headings, such as for South Africa.

Further details of all these programmes can be found at :
http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm.

Other funding suitable for regional Development

There are many other funding initiatives run by the Commission which should be of interest to Regional Development Agencies or organisations within their region.

DGs with programme funds (number of actions in brackets)

Agriculture (44)	External Relations (11)
Competition (1)	Fisheries (2)
Economic and Financial Affairs (7)	Health and Consumer Protection (6)
Education and Culture (9)	Humanitarian Aid Office (1)
Employment and Social Affairs (19)	Information Society (2)
Energy and Transport (12)	Joint Interpreting and Conference Service (1)
Enlargement (2)	Justice and Home Affairs (9)
Enterprise (14)	Regional Policy (6)
Environment (5)	Research (8)
Eurostat (1)	Secretariat-General of the Commission (1)
Trade (1)	

The following is just a sample. For the full list see the commission website at
http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgc/aides/dgs_prg_en.htm

It is also well worth visiting the EuroDesk website at <http://www.eurodesk.org> which is slightly less formal and has an excellent search facility.

Grants from the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)

Organisations representing those active in farming and in rural areas play a vital role in informing their communities about the common agricultural policy and relaying to the Commission the opinions of the parties concerned. The primary aim of these funds is to remove the most common misunderstandings regarding the Common Agricultural Policy. Regional development agencies can access these funds themselves for dissemination activities, or advise local agencies on their availability. European contribution is typically 50% of the action cost and in previous years has ranged from 5,000 Euro to 500,000 Euro

Information on the type of grants available and examples of previous grants can be found at :
http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/agriculture/grants_en.htm

Youth

This Community Action Programme offers young people opportunities for mobility and active participation in the construction of the Europe of the third millennium, based on non-formal

education. It encourages the concept of lifelong learning and the development of skills and competencies which promote active citizenship.

Suitable for Groups of young people, non-profit-making non-governmental organisations or associations, public authorities and others experienced in the field of youth and non-formal education. It compliments other actions aimed at young people, in particular Leonardo (see below).

Website: <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth/youthprogram.html>

Leonardo da Vinci

This action aims to enhance the aptitudes and skills of people, especially young people, in initial vocational training; to improve the quality of continuing vocational training; to promote the contribution of vocational training systems to the innovation process and thus improve competitiveness and entrepreneurship. The programme supports:

- mobility grants: €5 000 maximum per recipient;
- pilot projects: €200 000 maximum per annum and no more than 75% of the cost of the project;
- language skills: €200 000 per annum and no more than 75% of eligible expenditure;
- transnational networks: €150 000 maximum per annum and no more than 50% of eligible expenditure;
- reference tools: €300 000 maximum per annum and between 50% and 100% of eligible expenditure

Website: http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo_en.html

E-CONTENT (2002-2005)

This Community Action programme aims at stimulating the development and use of European digital content on the Internet and to promote the linguistic diversity in the Information Society. This programme is to follow-up the activities of the INFO2000 and MLIS programmes. The indicative budget for the call 2001-2002 is EUR 23 million. The programme is based on three action lines:

1. Improving access to and expanding the use of Public Sector Information (PSI);
2. Enhancing content production in a multilingual and multicultural environment;
3. Increasing dynamism of the digital content market:

The next call for proposals is December 2002.

Website <http://www.euodesk.org/euinfo/EUEnFset.htm>

eTEN

eTEN is the European Commission's Programme designed to accelerate the deployment of Information Society services with a trans-European dimension. The programme aims to accelerate the take up of e-services of common interest to sustain the European social model of an inclusive, cohesive society. Its objectives are at the very heart of the eEurope mission of "an information society for all". It promotes public interest services which give every citizen, enterprise and administration full opportunity to gain from the e-Society. Calls for eTEN proposals are expected in March 2004. Unlike its namesake (eTEN - TransEuropean Networks) this fund will support actions and services rather than infrastructures. There is particular emphasis on accession countries. More details are available at http://europa.eu.int/information_society/programmes/eten/index_en.htm

RTD - Framework 6

(Source Cordis)

The Sixth framework programme is the primary vehicle for RTD activities over the next four years and will be structured around three targets:

1. Integrating Research - these activities will represent the bulk of the efforts deployed under the framework programme and are intended to integrate research efforts and activities on a European scale, and develop our knowledge and understanding.
2. Structuring the European Research Area - defining the various activities in such a way as to enable them to exert a more structuring effect on the research activities conducted in Europe thanks to a stronger link with national, regional and other European initiatives;
3. Strengthening the foundations of the European Research Area - simplifying and streamlining the implementation arrangements, on the basis of the intervention methods defined and the decentralised management procedures envisaged.

First calls for proposals under Framework 6 will be issued at the end of 2002. See the Cordis website <http://www.cordis.lu>

How to obtain funding

Introduction

European funds derive from taxation, thus the Commission is accountable for obtaining value for money in an open and transparent procedure. To be successful an application must comply with both the spirit of the initiative, including the overall objectives of the European Union, as well as the formal application process. For Community Initiatives managed by Member States (Leader, Urban, Equal and Intereg) applications also need to comply with the individual States priorities as laid out in their National Action Plan.

The Commission and National Agencies provide a wide range of information and practical support for potential applicants. These services are free and highly regarded. There are a number of private consultants who have the experience to assist with applications for a fee or on a commission basis. It is also becoming more common to form a partnership agreement with others to apply for integrated projects through an experienced "lead partner". The wide variety of funding opportunities means that care is required when selecting which action to apply within.

Critical steps towards successful application at the preparatory stage are:

1. It is essential that the proposed project has a clear concept with identifiable outcomes.
2. Confirm that without EU funding the project would not happen, or would not be of such high quality.
3. It is important that the applicant is aware of the various funding channels so that the application is made within the appropriate framework and identifies synergies with other Initiatives. Time spent researching options may identify a more suitable avenue, but will also assist at the application stage by raising awareness of synergies with other actions.
4. The applicant must be capable of delivering the project, confirm that you have the resources available to undertake the application process itself, can identify the required match funding and can provide the required management and financial control if the project is approved.
5. The application needs to be driven by the need to deliver the project, not the need to access funds.

Finding the right fund

The various Commission websites listed in this document can provide all the information you require, but you will need to allocate adequate time for the task. If you do not have a clear task in mind the volume of information can be overwhelming. You will frequently find suitable funds, then

discover that the deadline for applications had passed. Don't be put off by this, contact the person responsible, or follow website links, to register your interest and ensure that you get advance notice of next year's round of calls or other suitable actions.

There will nearly always be more than one suitable fund into which you **could** submit an application. You should check all of these before deciding which is best for you. Competition for funds can be very strong in some of the larger, more popular actions so don't ignore the smaller funded actions. These smaller funds are more closely targeted than the larger ones, but the application process is usually less daunting.

Do not be frightened to ask any of the Commission staff for help.

Completing the Application

When completing the application process it is vital that you complete any forms accurately and completely. These will form the basis of a legal contract if your application is successful, many excellent projects have failed to receive funding because insufficient care was taken to complete (and sign) the forms. There is a myth that certain key words or phrases such as "cohesion", "subsidiarity" or "social inclusion" are essential, they may be helpful as focus points in the application, but unless they are evidenced by the text they will be ignored.

The following ten questions raise just some of the issues that applicants often fail to check with regard to their projects.

- 1) Does it fit any EU objective and have either/or (a) European potential, (b) Innovative nature or (c) Local support
- 2) Do you have some match funding available?
- 3) Do you have credibility as an organisation (able to handle the project of this size)
- 4) Have you researched for background information on other grants.
- 5) Is a National programme in place (Equal, Rural II etc), if so you must try these first.
- 6) Is it RTD (6th Framework) project?
- 7) Do you need partners? - if so register with Cordis partner search
- 8) Have you prepared a summary and obtained feedback from advisers?
- 9) Have you completed application forms carefully -check & double check
- 10) Have you read the evaluation criteria and independently evaluated your application

Whatever happens keep you proposal (good proposals can be adapted next year).

Contact Points

For information about the Structural Funds and how they are being applied in your region please contact the national agency established by your state for the purpose of managing these funds. A complete list of these can be found on the Europa website at http://europa.eu.int/comm/agriculture/use/index_en.htm. Each State has set its' own priorities within the overall framework so it is essential that you obtain local advice before proceeding with an application.

For further information on the activities of the DG for Regional Policy you can contact the office of:

Mr Thierry DAMAN
DG REGIO/01 - Information
CSM2 A01/200
B - 1049 Bruxelles/Brussel
Fax: +32 2 296 60 03

For more detailed information concerning the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund, please consult the INFOREGIO web site, which is supported by the DG for Regional Policy: - Internet address : http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/

For the most up-to-date information on who to contact for a particular purpose please either use the two following websites

Europa - www.europa.eu.int - for Structure Fund and other grants

Cordis - www.cordis.lu - for Research and Technology Development contracts

Or telephone Europe Direct (EU-wide free-phone service) on **00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11**. Someone will be able to speak to you in your own language and point you in the right direction. There are still a few (very few) technical problems in some regions with this free-phone service itself. If you are unlucky enough to be in one of these it is well worth asking a colleague in another region to enquire for you. It will save you a great deal of time and effort.

European organisations providing advice and support in the field of Regional Development

Eris@ (the European Regional Information Society Initiative) promotes universal access to ICT-based services and applications in the regions with a view to generating new employment opportunities, improving quality of life and addressing the challenges of structural adjustment, social inclusion, economic cohesion, democratic decision making and sustainable development in less favoured regions:

<http://www.erisa.be>

TELECITIES is a European network of cities committed to leadership in the information and knowledge society. established in 1993 in the framework of Eurocities, telecities provides a platform of over 100 local authorities from 20 different European countries, sharing experience and developing practical solutions achieving an inclusive information and knowledge society, both at european and local level:

<http://www.telecities.org>

ElaNet, the Local Authorities Telematic Network Initiative, is a specialised Information Society network operating as an Executive Committee of CEMR, the Committee of European Municipalities and Regions:

<http://www.elanet.org> and <http://www.ccre.org>

TeleRegions Network is a European cooperation network to enhance regional opportunities in the information society:

<http://www.teleregionsnetwork.org>

EURADA (European Association of Regional Development Agencies) exchanges experience between member RDAs and promotes best practice in the field of local and regional economic development, including information society:

<http://www.eurada.org>

Addendum - Structural Funds in the Acceding Countries

February 2004

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Introduction

*"The first priority (of the EU) for 2004 is of course enlargement. The administrative preparations for enlargement are in full swing....**All existing programmes will be open to new member states from 1 May onwards according to the same criteria as for the existing member states.** For enlargement, some € 11.8billion is available for starting new programmes".*

Extract from Commission press release regarding budget for 2004 published 18th December 2003.

Each acceding country has prepared a policy document on the use of Structure Funds post accession. In addition acceding country ministers have signed a Joint Memorandum for Social Inclusion (JIM) with the Commission. Each JIM identifies and outlines the principal challenges facing each country in tackling poverty and social exclusion. Both these documents should be read by anyone managing, or considering an application for, Structure Fund support within an acceding Country.

Structural Fund Allocation in the Acceding Countries

http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/index_en.htm

The European Commission completed negotiations on the strategy for the implementation of structural funds in the Acceding Countries for the period **2004 to 2006** in December 2003. This strategy covers the priorities and the measures that will be eligible for community co-financing as of 1 January 2004 provided that projects on the ground comply with Community legislation in areas such as regional policy, environmental protection, public procurement and financial management and control. The actual "programming documents" will only be formally approved however upon accession on 1 May 2004.

The table below shows the agreed allocation of funds (Euro Million) for the period 2004 to 2006.

Country	Structure Fund	Cohesion Fund
Cyprus	53.3	54
Czech Republic	1,525	936
Estonia	371	309
Hungary	1,995	1,100
Latvia	626	515
Lithuania	895	608
Malta	63.2	22
Poland	8,276	4,179
Slovakia	1,041	570
Slovenia	237.5	189

The priorities for each new member are listed below.

Slovenia

Slovenia will benefit from Community co-financing of € 237.5 million. The cohesion fund will make an additional 189 million available for Slovenia to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy and the priorities seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Slovenia is based on three priorities :

- **promotion of the productive sector and competitiveness:** such as the support to start-ups and small and medium-sized enterprises, the promotion of clusters and technology networks and increased support to regional tourist development with a Community contribution of € 129.2 million;
- **human resources development and employment:** such as the inclusion in the labour market of people with special needs, develop life long learning and improve the quality of and access to education and training with a Community contribution of € 72.7 million;
- **restructuring of agriculture, forestry and fisheries:** such as the improvement of the processing and marketing of products, the renewal and modernisation of the fleet with a Community contribution of € 25.3 million.

In addition an amount of EUR 10.2 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Poland

Poland will benefit from Community co-financing of € 8.276 billion . The Cohesion Fund will make an additional € 4.179 billion available to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy Poland has adopted is built on a Community Support Framework based on the following priorities :

- **the enterprise sector** with a Community contribution of € 1,251 million;
- **human capital** with a Community contribution of € 1,470 million;
- **infrastructure** with a Community contribution of €1,163 million;
- **regional and rural development** with a Community contribution of € 4,363 million.

An amount of € 181 million of Community contribution is made available for technical assistance.

Malta

Malta will benefit from Community co-financing of € 63.2 million. During the same period, the cohesion fund will make an additional € 22 million available for Malta to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy and the priorities seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Malta. The programme is based on four priorities:

- **strategic investments and the strengthening of competitiveness in Malta:** such as improvements in the environment sector with a strong focus on water quality and waste disposal and support to small and medium-sized enterprises in the manufacturing and tourism sectors with a Community contribution of € 39.5 million;
- **human resources development:** such as supporting the inclusion in the labour market of people with disability and developing life long learning with a Community contribution of € 8.8 million;
- **rural development and fisheries:** improvement of the processing and marketing of products, renewal and modernisation of the fleet, supporting aquaculture and fishing port facilities with a Community contribution of € 7 million;
- **special support to the island of Gozo:** such as the upgrading of transport infrastructure, supporting the tourism sector and the upgrading of education centres with a Community contribution of € 6.5 million.

In addition an amount of € 1.4 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Lithuania

Lithuania will benefit from Community co-financing of € 895 million. During the same period, the Cohesion Fund will make an additional € 608 million available for Lithuania to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy and the priorities seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Lithuania. The programme is based on four priorities :

- **social and economic infrastructure:** almost 39% of the whole budget is allocated to improve Lithuania's infrastructure, not only in transport, but also in energy, health, education, research institutions, labour market institutions and related social affairs sectors with a Community contribution of € 347.1 million;
- **human resources development:** such as upgrading of education and training, return into the labour market of socially excluded groups, training and retraining of researchers to increase the knowledge base of the country with a Community contribution of € 163.8 million;
- **strengthening competitiveness of enterprises:** such as the business environment, the competitiveness of enterprises, measures to support information technologies and the tourism sector with a Community contribution of € 222.4 million;
- **rural development, agriculture and fisheries:** such as the promotion of sustainable development in rural areas, and the diversification and restructuring of agriculture and fisheries with a Community contribution of € 135 million.

In addition an amount of € 26.9 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Latvia

Latvia will benefit from Community co-financing of € 626 million. During the same period, the cohesion fund will make an additional € 515 million available for Latvia to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy and the priorities seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Latvia. The programme is based on four priorities :

- **promotion of territorial cohesion:** almost 33% of the whole budget is allocated to improve Latvia's infrastructure, not only in transport, but also in environment, tourism, information and communication technologies, health care, education, and social sectors when related to labour market with a Community contribution of € 203.8 million;
- **enterprises and innovation:** such as supporting development of innovation and business infrastructure, business support to small and medium-sized enterprises as well

as facilitating their access to finance, development of public research with a Community contribution of € 156.4 million;

- **human resources and promotion of employment:** such as improvement of education and training, return into the labour market of socially excluded groups with a Community contribution of € 132.7 million;
- **development of rural areas and fisheries:** diversification and restructuring of agriculture and fisheries as well as development in rural areas with a Community contribution of € 115.7 million.

In addition an amount of € 17 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Hungary

Hungary will benefit from Community co-financing of € 1.995 billion. The cohesion fund will make an additional € 1,1 billion available for Hungary to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors

The strategy being adopted is built on a Community Support Framework (CSF) based on the following priorities :

- **increasing the competitiveness of the productive sector** with a Community contribution of € 721 million, including € 304 million for agriculture and rural development;
- **promoting employment and human resource development** with a Community contribution of € 535 million;
- **improving transport infrastructure and protecting the environment** with a Community contribution of € 314 million;
- **strengthening regional and local potential** with a Community contribution of € 338 million;

Additionally, an amount of € 88 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Estonia

Estonia will benefit from Community co-financing of € 371 million. The cohesion fund will make an additional € 309 million available for Estonia to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy is based on the following four priorities, which seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Estonia:

- **human resources development:** such as supporting the educational system, lifelong learning for all and enhancing administrative capacity with a Community contribution of € 76.1 million;
- **enterprise competitiveness:** such as financing possibilities and infrastructure of businesses, research, technology development and innovation, tourism at national level with a Community contribution of € 73.2 million;
- **agriculture, fisheries and rural development:** such as improvement of the processing and marketing of agricultural products, diversified economic activities in rural areas, land improvement, forestry, regulation of fishing capacity, modernisation and renewal of fishing fleet, social measures accompanying restructuring in fisheries with a Community contribution of € 69.3 million;
- **infrastructure and local development:** such as transport infrastructure, projects of environmental infrastructure, reorganisation of the hospital network, information society (e-government, e-citizen), local development projects with socioeconomic impact with a Community contribution of € 138.1 million.

In addition, € 14.6 million in Community contribution will be available for technical assistance.

The Czech Republic

The Czech Republic will benefit from Community co-financing of € 1.525 billion. Besides the structural funds' programmes, the Cohesion Fund will make an additional € 936 million available for 2004-2006.

The implementation framework is as follows :

- a Community Support Framework (CSF) for the objective 1 area (the whole country but the Prague region). It will be financed by the four Structural Funds of the EU that are managed under the responsibility of Commissioners Barnier (ERDF), Fischler (EAGGF and FIFG) and Diamantopoulou (ESF). It will amount to €1.454 billion. The strategy adopted will be implemented through a series of five Operational Programmes :
 - **operational programme industry and enterprise** with a Community contribution of € 261 million;
 - **operational programme infrastructure** with a Community contribution of € 246 million;
 - **operational programme human resources development** with a Community contribution of € 319 million;
 - **operational programme rural development and multi-functional agriculture** with a Community contribution of € 174 million;
 - **joint regional operational programme** with a Community contribution of € 454 million.

Within these allocations, an amount of €46 million will be made available for technical assistance.

In addition there is a Single Programming Document for the Prague region (objective 2). The funds assigned are as follows:

- **development and transformation of city environment** with a Community contribution of € 54 million;
- **building up the future prosperity of the selected area** with a Community contribution of € 16 million.

An amount of € 2 million will be made available for technical assistance for the above.

Cyprus

Cyprus will benefit from Community co-financing of € 53,3 million. The cohesion fund will make an additional € 54 million available for Cyprus to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy and the priorities of the Objective 2 single programming document (SPD) seek to promote development and structural adjustment in Cyprus. The programme is based on two priorities :

- **sustainable rural development:** create a more diversified economic base and improve the socio-economic conditions with a Community contribution of € 18.49 million;
- **development of urban areas in decline:** promotion of the socio-economic regeneration of selected urban areas in the Nicosia region adjacent to the cease-fire line with a Community contribution of € 8.41 million.

Additionally, an amount of € 1.12 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Modernisation and promotion of employment, education, and training

The strategy and the priorities of the Objective 3 SPD seek to promote the modernisation of policies and systems in the field of employment, education and training and life-long learning in Cyprus. It includes two priorities:

- **development and promotion of active labour market policies:** such as promoting employment, equal opportunities and access to labour market for those threatened by social exclusion with a Community contribution of € 11.4 million;
- **promotion and improvement of education and training systems and life-long learning:** such as the improvement of the education and training systems through the introduction of information and communication technology applications and modern methods of teaching in the context of life-long learning with a Community contribution of € 10 million.

In addition to that, an amount of € 0.54 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Supporting the fisheries sector in Cyprus

- **adjustment of fishing effort:** the purpose is to eliminate fleet overcapacity by permanently removing a number of fishing vessels from the fishing fleet with a Community contribution of € 1.64 million;
- **fleet renewal and modernisation:** such as the modernisation of existing vessels particularly in terms of safety and living conditions with a Community contribution of € 0.18 million;
- **development of aquaculture, fishing ports and processing and marketing:** improving the quality and increasing the quantity of fish available for human consumption with a Community contribution of € 1.50 million.

In addition, an amount of € 0.085 million will be made available for technical assistance.

Slovakia

Slovakia will benefit from Community co-financing of € 1.041 billion. The cohesion fund will make an additional € 570 million available for Slovakia to co-finance infrastructures in the environment and transport sectors.

The strategy focuses on four development priorities: increasing competitiveness, promoting employment creation, fostering balanced regional development and agricultural and rural development. It is implemented through four operational programmes:

- **industry and services:** € 151.2 million to support the development of industrial production, better integrating research and development into industrial production, improving energy efficiency and promoting tourism;
- **human resources:** € 284.5 million to increase labour market flexibility, reduce unemployment and reduce the risk of social exclusion of the most vulnerable groups in particular the Roma community;
- **basic infrastructure:** € 422.4 million to foster balanced regional development by improving transport accessibility, improving the environment and renovating local infrastructure;
- **agriculture and rural development:** € 183 million to increase the efficiency of agricultural and aquacultural production, modernising the processing of agricultural and fisheries products and to improving the quality of life of the rural population.

An amount of € 50.1 million in Community contribution will be available for technical assistance.

Contact Points

The Commission has produced a comprehensive (192 page) address book for acceding countries which is available in PDF format from the Europa website. The web address for this, and many other useful documents, is - <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/docs/index.htm>

Alternatively the latest information and contact details can usually be found through the local EU Information Centres. The web addresses for these is given below.

EU Information Centres in the Acceding Countries (Websites)

Bulgaria

<http://www.evropa.bg/ic>

Czech Republic

<http://www.evropska-unie.cz>

Cyprus

See the EC delegation website <http://www.delcyp.cec.eu.int>

Estonia

<http://eng.euroopaliit.ee/>

Hungary

<http://www.eudelegation.hu/etk>

Latvia

<http://www.eiropainfo.lv/delegacija/eng/delegation1.htm>

Lithuania

<http://www.eudel.lt>

Malta

See the EC delegation website <http://www.delmlt.cec.eu.int>

Poland

<http://www.europa.delpol.pl>

Romania

<http://www.infoeuropa.ro>

Slovak Republic

<http://www.europa.sk>

Slovenia

<http://www.evropska-unija.si>

Turkey

See the EC delegation website <http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int>

Commission Information - Candidate Countries

An excellent place to start for information relevant to Accession States is the Commission website at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/pas/index.htm>. It is currently (Jan 2004) only available in English but it has clear links to a wide variety of other sources as well as clear information.

Each State has its' own information service, but the Commission office below will be pleased to help if you have problems or get lost.

Enlargement and Phare Information Centre

Rue Montoyer 19 / Montoyerstraat 19

B- 1000 Bruxelles / Brussel Tel [32-2] 545.90.10 Fax [32-2] 545.90.11 e-mail

enlargement@cec.eu.int

EC delegations

Each Candidate country has an official delegation to the EU. The local addresses for these are given in the table below. For general information these are excellent places to start.

Bulgaria
EC Delegation
Mr Dimitris Kourkoulas, Head of Delegation
Moskovska Street 9, 1040 Sofia
Tel: (+359)2-933 52 40
Fax: (+359)2-933 52 33
E-Mail: mailto@delbgr.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.evropa.bg/>

Czech Republic
EC Delegation
Mr Ramiro Cibrian, Head of Delegation
Pod Hradbami 17, 160 00 Praha 6, PO Box 192 160
41 Praha 6
Tel: (+420)2 2431 2835
Fax: (+420)2-2431 2850, (+420)2-2432 0810
E-Mail: maribel.houben@delcze.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.evropska-unie.cz/>

Estonia
EC Delegation
Mr John Kjaer, Head of Delegation
Kohtu 10, 10130 Tallinn
Tel: (+372)626 4400
Fax: (+372)626 4439
E-Mail: eudelest@delest.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.euroopaliit.ee/index-eng.html>

Hungary
EC Delegation
Mr Jürgen Köppen, Head of Delegation
Bérc utca 23, 1016 Budapest
Tel: (+36)1-209 9700, (+36)1-209 9710, (+36)1-209
9715,
Fax: (+36)1-466 4221
E-Mail: delhun-mailto@delhun.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.eudelegation.hu>

Latvia
EC Delegation
Mr Andrew Rasbash, Head of Delegation
World Trade Centre, Tornu st, 4 block 1c, Jacob's
Barracks, 1050 Riga
Tel: (+371)732 5270
Fax: (+371)732 5279
E-Mail: mailto@dellat.cec.eu.int

Lithuania
EC Delegation
Mr Michael Graham, Head of Delegation
Naugarduko 10, 2001 Vilnius
Tel: (+370)2-31 3191
Fax: (+370)2-31 3192
E-Mail: michael.graham@delltu.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.eudel.lt/english/>

Poland
EC Delegation
Mr Bruno Dethomas, Head of Delegation
Warsaw Financial Center
Ul. Emili Plater 53, 29th floor OO-133 Warsaw
Tel: (+48)22-520 82 00
Fax: (+48)22-520 82 82
E-Mail: mailto@delpol.cec.eu.int

Romania
EC Delegation
Mr Jonathan Scheele, Head of Delegation
Boulevard Primaverii 48, 71297 Bucuresti
Tel: (+40)1-203 5400
Fax: (+40)1-203 2453
E-Mail: mailto@delrom.cec.eu.int

Slovakia
EC Delegation
Mr Dieter Thiel, acting Head of Delegation
Panská 3, 81101 Bratislava
Tel: (+421)2-5443 1718, (+421)2-5443 1736
Fax: (+421)2-5443 2972
E-Mail: mailto@delsk.cec.eu.int
URL: <http://www.europa.sk/>

Slovenia
EC Delegation
Mr E. Fouere, Head of Delegation
Trg revolucije 3/XI, 1000 Ljubljana
Tel: (+386)1-425 1303
Fax: (+386)1-425 2085
E-Mail: eudelsvn@eunet.si
URL: <http://www.evropska-unija.si/>

RTD (Framework 6 Programme) and Acceding Countries

Acceding countries can participate fully in all EU funded RTD actions. Calls for proposals under various actions are published on Cordis (www.cordis.lu) alongside links to individual tenders and other information.

FP6 - National Co-ordinators for Acceding Countries

The following contact points for National Co-ordinators are available on Cordis (<http://www.cordis.lu/fp6/getsupport.htm>). If you are considering involvement in RTD at a European level you are strongly advised to seek their help.

LITHUANIA	
PETRAUSKIENE, Jurgita (Ms) FP6 National co-ordinator	
Agency for International Science and Technology Development Programmes A. Gotauto 12-219 LT-2601 Vilnius LITHUANIA	Tel: +370-5-2644712 Fax: +370-5-2312292 URL: http://www.tpa.lt Email: j.petrauskiene@ktl.mii.lt Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
ESTONIA	
KAARLI, Rein (Dr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Archimedes Foundation, Innovation Centre Kompanii 2 EE-51007 Tartu ESTONIA	Tel: +372-7-350215 Fax: +372-7-350220 URL: http://www.irc.ee Email: rein.kaarli@hm.ee Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
SLOVAKIA	
KEDRO, Martin (Dr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Centre for Advancement, Science and Technology - SARC Stare Grunty 52 SK-842 44 Bratislava SLOVAKIA	Tel: +421-2-65420337 Fax: +421-2-65420308 URL: http://www.sarc.sk Email: kedro@sarc.sk Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
POLAND	
SUPEL, Jerzy (Dr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
IFTR PAS, Institute of Fundamental Technological Research, Polish Academy of Sciences Swietokrzyska 21 PL-00-490 Warsaw POLAND	Tel: +48-22-8269812 Fax: +48-22-8285370 URL: http://www.npk.gov.pl Email: jsupel@ippt.gov.pl Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
MALTA	
KENELY, Wilfred (Mr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Malta Council for Science and Technology Villa Bighi CSP 12 Kalkara MALTA	Tel: +356-23602130 Fax: +356-21660341 URL: http://www.mcst.org.mt Email: wilfred.kenely@mcst.org.mt Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
SLOVAKIA	
STRAKOVA, Soňa (Ms) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Ministry of Education Stromová 1	Tel: +421-2-69202212 Fax: +421-2-69202203

SK-813 30 Bratislava SLOVAKIA	URL: http://www.education.gov.sk Email: strakova@education.gov.sk Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
HUNGARY	
KLEINHEINCZ, Ferenc (Mr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Ministry of Education Research and Development Division Szervita tér 8. H-1052 Budapest HUNGARY	Tel: +36-1-4842565 Fax: +36-1-2660801 URL: http://www.om.hu Email: ferenc.kleinheincz@om.hu Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
LATVIA	
EGLE, Valdis (Dr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Ministry of Education and Science Valnu str.2 LV-1050 Riga LATVIA	Tel: +371-7047902 Fax: +371-7243126 URL: http://www.zinatne-5.lv Email: valdis.egle@izm.gov.lv Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
SLOVENIA	
BABIC, Albin (Mr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Ministry of Education, Science and Sport Trg OF 13 SI-1000 Ljubljana SLOVENIA	Tel: +386-1-4784688 Fax: +386-1-4784719 URL: http://www.rtd.si/eng/Default.asp or http://www.mszs.si Email: albin.babic@gov.si Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
CYPRUS	
IACOVOU, Costas (Mr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Planning Bureau Apellis and P. Nirvana Str. CY-1409 Nicosia CYPRUS	Tel: +357-22406831 Fax: +357-22666810 URL: http://www.planning.gov.cy Email: iacovou@ucy.ac.cy , planning@cytanet.com.cy Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
CZECH REPUBLIC	
KLUSACEK, Karel (Mr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
Technology Centre AS CR Rozvojev street 135 CZ-16502 Prague 6 CZECH REPUBLIC	Tel: +420-2-20390700 Fax: +420-2-20921217 URL: http://www.tc.cz/ Email: klusacek@tc.cas.cz Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C
LATVIA	
UBELIS, Arnolds (Dr) - FP6 National co-ordinator	
UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA Raina blv. 19 1586 RIGA LATVIA	Tel: +371-7229727 Fax: +371-7034513 URL: http://www.zinatne-5.lv Email: arnolds@latnet.lv Programme acronym: FRAMEWORK 6C

Other Research Help

The following organisation provide support in the area of European RTD.

Commission Research and Development Information System (CORDIS)

<http://www.cordis.lu>

In addition to providing calls for research projects and background information on all the research actions, Cordis also provides a partner finding service and basic details of existing and previous projects. Familiarity with Cordis is essential for involvement in the EU 6th Framework RTD programme.

IPR HelpDesk - Intellectual Property Rights

<http://www.cordis.lu/ipr-helpdesk/en/home.html>

To assist potential and current contractors taking part in Community funded research and development projects with IPR issues. The Helpdesk offers two main services: an informative website open to all interested parties, and a free legal Helpline aimed at participants in EU-funded research under the Framework Programmes.

Gate2Growth Initiative

http://www.gate2growth.com/g2g/g2g_welcome.asp

Unique portal, bringing together a community of entrepreneurs, investors, service providers, and several networks supported by the European Commission that provides information and guidance on innovation financing sources and helps to locate professional expertise in innovation financing issues.

IRCs - Innovation Relay Centres

<http://irc.cordis.lu/>

Network of centres in the European Union and beyond providing local help to promote technology partnerships and transfer. The goal of the IRC network is to promote innovation, to encourage exchange of research results between organisations across Europe, and to provide advice, consulting and training support which meets the specific needs of each company and their local industrial situation.

EICs - Euro Info Centres

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/networks/eic/eic.html>

As an interface between European institutions and the local companies, the EICs provide information, advice and assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises in all Community matters.

BICs - Business Innovation Centres

<http://www.ebn.be>

Regional structure of support to innovative SMEs and entrepreneurs which plays an important role in the development of regional economies throughout Europe. The network ensures an A to Z range of assistance to new and existing SMEs : promotion, detection, selection, strategic support and post launch follow-up.

BEEP Knowledge System

<http://www.beepknowledgesystem.org>

Bench learning knowledge base containing examples of the deployment of ICT (including over 100 EU funded cases). All cases include lessons learnt (good and bad) and the key factor analysis reports provide sound generic advice.

Accession States Documentation Centres

The tables underneath list all European Documentation Centres (EDC) in Candidate Countries as published in January 2004. These centres all hold a basic supply of general information booklets,

but some will hold more specific information, depending upon the interest of the organisation or individual involved.

Bulgaria

Plovdiv
European Documentation Centre
Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"
24, Tsar Assen str.
BG - PLOVDIV 4000
Tél. : +359 32 630955
Fax : +359 32 630955
E-mail : irinatch@pu.acad.bg
Responsible : Irina Chongarova

Sofia
European Documentation Centre
Institute for European Studies and
Information
52A, G.M. Dimitrov blvd.
BG - 1125 SOFIA
Tél. : +359 2 9712411
Fax : +359 2 707443
E-mail : mira@mail.cesbg.org ;
rummy@mail.cesbg.org
Responsible : Miroslava Pigova (doc.)

Varna
European Documentation Centre
Municipal Centre for European Integration
2, Shipka str.
BG - 9000 VARNA
Tél. : +359 52 601628
Fax : +359 52 601638
E-mail : edcvarna@hotmail.com
Responsible : Svetla Lefterova, Iordanka
Dimova

Veliko Turnovo
European Documentation Centre
Veliko Turnovo University - Faculty of
Economics and Law
Faculty Library - European Division
Sq. Centre-2, P.O. Box 345
BG - 5000 VELIKO TURNOVO
Tél. : +359 62 605060
Fax : +359 62 30048
E-mail : edc@coe.veliko-turnovo.com
Responsible : Gergana Daskalova (doc.)

Cyprus

Nicosia
European Documentation Centre
European Institute of Cyprus
11-13, Presidential Palace Street
CY - 1080 Nicosia

Regional Development Funds (2004)
Richard@steppingstones.co.uk

Tél. : (357) 22 66 15 50
Fax : (357) 22 66 28 80
Responsible : Mr Stefanos Stavridis, Ms
Maria Haili
E-mail : library@eic.ac.cy

Czech Republic

Brno
Univerzita Masaryk
Faculté de Droit
Veveri, 70
CZ - 61180 BRNO
Tél. : (42-5) 41 55 93 04
Fax : (42-5) 41 21 06 04/41 21 31 62
Responsible : Marie Zejdova

Ceský Krumlov
University of South Bohemia
Horni 155
CZ - 380 01 CESHÝ KRUMLOV
Tél. : (42-337) 71 30 75
Fax : (42-337) 71 30 75
Responsible : Viola Schimmerova (doc.)

Olomouc
European Documentation Centre
University Palacky
Faculty of Law
17. Listopadu 8
CZ - 771 00 OLOMOUC
Tél. : (420-68) 563 76 31
Fax : (420-68) 522 35 37/563 76 31
Responsible : Silvie Sommerová (doc.)

Plzen
European Documentation Centre
University of West Bohemia
Faculty of Law - Law Library
Univerzitní 8
CZ - 306 14 PLZEN
Tél. : (420-19) 722 55 50
Fax : (420-19) 722 76 02
E-mail : baslova@uk.zcu.cz
Responsible : Marie Baslová (doc.)

Prague
European Documentation Centre
Charles University in Prague
Manesova 75
CZ - 120 58 PRAHA 2
Tél. : +420 2 22000160
Fax : +420 2 22000164

E-mail : milena.mazacova@eis.cuni.cz
Responsible : Milena Mazacová

Prague
University of Economics
Faculty of National Economics
Center of Information and Library Services
W. Churchill Sq., 4
CZ - 13067 PRAGUE 3
Tél. : (42-2) 24 22 01 61
Fax : (42-2) 24 09 58 69
E-mail : daza@vse.cz
Responsible : Dana Zabranska

Estonia

Tartu
Tartu University Library
W. Struve Street, 1
EE - 50091 TARTU
Tél. : (372-7) 37 57 80
Fax : (372-7) 37 57 01
E-mail : ruth@utlib.ee
Internet : <http://www.euroinfo.ee/>
Responsible : Ruth Tammeorg

Hungary

Budapest
Budapest University of Economic Sciences
European Study Centre
Fövám tér 8.
H - 1093 BUDAPEST
Tél. : (36-1) 217 66 52
Fax : (36-1) 218 07 96
E-mail :
marianna.brincken@eustudce.bke.hu
Responsible : Hajna Istvánffy, Lőrinczné
(dir.)

Budapest
College of Commerce, Trade and Tourism
Central Library
Alkotmány u. 9-11.
H - 1055 BUDAPEST
Tél. : (36-1) 374 62 18
Fax : (36-1) 374 62 18
E-mail : vpoosne@kvif.hu
Responsible : Lászlóné Poós (doc.)

Budapest
ELTE University
Faculty of Law
Egyetem tér 1-3.
H - 1053 BUDAPEST

Tél. : (36-1) 266 59 99
Fax : (36-1) 266 59 99
Responsible : Lajos Ficzeré, Miklós Király
(dir.)

Debrecen
European Documentation Centre
University of Debrecen
University and National Library
PF. 39
H - 4010 DEBRECEN
Tél. : (36-52) 31 68 35/31 66 66
Fax : (36-52) 41 04 43
E-mail : ilevay@libware.lib.klte.hu
Responsible : Botondné Lévay, Judit
Csukás (doc.)

Gödöllő
Gödöllő University
European Study Centre
Tessedik Samuel u. 6.
H - 2103 GÖDÖLLŐ
Tél. : (36-28) 52 11 33
Fax : (36-28) 52 11 39
E-mail : agooz@gtk.gau.hu
Responsible : Ágnes Goóz (doc.)

Miskolc
European Documentation Centre
Miskolc University
Central Library
Egyetemváros
H - 3515 MISKOLC
Tél. : (36-46) 56 51 11 ext 1659
Fax : (36-46) 36 95 54
E-mail : kov11039@helka.iif.hu
Responsible : Beata Kovacs (doc.)

Pécs
Janus Pannonius University
Faculty of Law Library
48-as tér 1.
H - 7622 PÉCS
Tél. : (36-72) 21 14 33 - ext. 3246
Fax : (36-72) 21 51 48
E-mail : adamne@ajk.jpte.hu ;
szomor@ajk.jpte.hu
Responsible : Antalné Ádám, Ildikó Szomor
(doc.)

Szeged
European Documentation Centre
University Jozsef Attila of Szeged
Faculty of Law
54. Tisza Lajos krt.
H - 6720 SZEGED

Tél. : +36 62 454193
Fax : +36 62 454184
E-mail : kati@lib.juris.u-szeged.hu
Responsible : Katalin Forrásné Török (doc.)

Szombathely
Berzsényi Dániel Teachers' Training College
European Study Centre
Berzsényi tér 2.
H - 9700 SZOMBATHELY
Tél. : (36-94) 51 26 80
Fax : (36-94) 32 99 18
E-mail : edc@fsd.bdtf.hu
Responsible : Ferenc Miszlivetz (dir.)

Veszprém
Veszprém University
European Study Centre
Wartha V. u. 1.
H - 8200 VESZPRÉM
Tél. : (36-88) 42 38 52
Fax : (36-88) 42 38 52
E-mail : iszilagyi@almos.vein.hu
Responsible : Zsuzsanna Gergó (doc.)

Latvia

Riga
European Documentation Centre
University of Latvia - Dept. of Political
Science
Faculty of Social Science
Str. Lomonosova 1, korp. A, room 331
LV - RIGA 1019
Tél. : (371) 708 98 55
Fax : (371) 708 98 52
E-mail : palins@lanet.lv
Responsible : Rolands Palins

Lithuania

Vilnius
European Documentation Centre
University of Vilnius - Institute of
International
Relations and Political Science (IIRPS) -
Library
Didlaukio 47 - 205
LT - 2057 VILNIUS
Tél. : +370 2 762672/700266
Fax : +370 2 700779
E-mail : tspmi@tspmi.vu.lt
Responsible : Sigita Baronaite (doc.)

Malta

Msida
The University of Malta
European Documentation and Research
Centre
Tal-Qroqq
MT - MSIDA MSD 06
Tél. : (356) 32 90 20 01
Fax : (356) 33 76 24
Responsible : Roderick Pace

Poland

Cracow
Cracow Academy of Economics
Faculty of Economics
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Ul. Rakowicka 27
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Fax : (48-12) 412 05 99
E-mail : rudnickz@ae.krakow.pl
Responsible : Zbigniew Rudnicki

Gdansk
Uniwersytet Gdansk
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Theoretical Economy)
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Ul. Armii Krajowej 119/121
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Fax : (48-58) 551 16 13
Responsible : Iwona Fuchs-Jamroga (doc.)

Katowice
Europejska Akademia na Slasku
(European Academy in Silesia)
Centrum Dokumentacji Europejskiej,
Silesian Library

Pl. Rady Europy 1
PL - 40-022 KATOWICE
Tél. : (48-32) 208 38 64
Fax : (48-32) 208 37 20
Responsible : Elzbieta Rejmaniak (doc.)

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University of Lodz
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Ul. Piotrkowska, 262/264
PL - 90-361 LODZ
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Fax : (48-42) 673 05 86
Responsible : Radoslaw Kasprzyk (doc.)

Lublin
European Documentation Centre
University Marie Curie-Sklodowska
Plac Litewski 3
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Fax : (48-81) 532 66 10
E-mail : cde@hektor.umcs.lublin.pl
Responsible : Anna Broda (doc.)

Olsztyn
European Documentation Centre
University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn
Main Library
Oczapowskiego Str. 4
PL - 10-957 OLSZTYN
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Fax : (48-89) 523 37 96/527 21 65
E-mail : bibpost@art.olsztyn.pl
Responsible : Magdalena Malanowicz (doc.)

Opole
European Documentation Centre
Opole University
Institute of Ecumenism and Research on
Integration
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Fax : +48 77 4549384
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Fax : (48-61) 854 33 09

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Fax : (48-91) 484 53 38
E-mail : iwona@livre.bibl.univ.szczecin.pl
Responsible : Ariadna Wronska (doc.)

Torun
European Documentation Centre
Nicolas Copernicus University
Main Library
Gagrina, 13
PL - 87-100 TORUM
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Fax : +48 56 6542952
E-mail : E.Urbanska@bu.uni.torun.pl
Responsible : Edyta Urbanska (doc.)

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College of Europe
Natolin
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PL - 02-797 WARSZAWA
Tél. : (48-22) 545 94 40/27
Fax : (48-22) 649 12 90
E-mail : natolin@ikp.atm.com-pl ;
msalek@natolin.edu.pl ;
wtp@natolin.edu.pl
Responsible : Marzenna Salek (doc.)

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Responsible : Anna Pucek (doc.)

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Warecka, 1a - P.O. box 1000
PL - 950 WARSZAWA
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Ul. Uniwersytecka, 22/26
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Palatul Parlamentului, Corp B1
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RO - 76117 BUCAREST
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Fax : (40-1) 311 29 35
E-mail : clegi@gv.exec.gov.ro
Responsible : Andrei Popescu

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Ecole Nationale d'Etudes Politiques et
Administration Publique
Bibliothèque
6-8, Rue Povernei
RO - 1792 BUCAREST
Tél. : (40-1) 659 66 72 - ext. 303
Fax : (40-1) 312 25 35
Responsible : Lucia Preda

Slovakia

Bratislava
Comenius University
Law Faculty
Library

Safarikovo Namestie, 6
SK - 811 01 BRATISLAVA
Tél. : (421-7) 30 43 11
Fax : (421-7) 36 61 26
Responsible : Melánia Majerníková

Kosice
University of Pavel Josef Safarik
Law Faculty
European Documentation Centre
Kovácska 30
SK - 041 80 KOSICE
Tél. : (421-9) 56 22 32 41

Slovenia

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University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Economics
European Documentation Centre
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SLO - 1000 LJUBLJANA
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Fax : (386-61) 189 26 95
E-mail : efedc@uni-lj.si
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