CEV GUIDE:
EU Funding Opportunities
2007-2013
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Introduction

This guide has been developed by CEV in order to give volunteer support centres and volunteer involving organisations an overview about the main programmes and actions provided by the European Union, which might be of interest to these entities.

The selection proposed in this piece of work was made firstly on the basis of requests that CEV has received during the last years, and secondly on the basis of the social objectives pursued by the EU programmes and the possibility they give for small and medium-size organisations to take part on these programmes, according to the minimum requirements and the amount of funding and co-funding.

The information gathered in this guide is organised as follows:

- Brief description of the programme and of some specifically selected;
- Actions;
- Deadlines; and
- Links to websites.

We hope that this guide will be helpful in your work! If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact CEV secretariat.

Stefania Macchioni
Markus Held
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The Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

The Programme for Community Action in the Field of Lifelong Learning (the Lifelong Learning Programme – LLLP) aims at contributing through lifelong learning to the development of the EU as an advanced knowledge society, with sustainable economic development, more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.

General objective
To foster interchange, cooperation and mobility between education and training systems within the Community so that they become a world quality reference

Specific objectives
- To contribute to the development of quality LLL, to promote high performance, innovation and a European dimension in systems and practices in the field
- To support the realisation of a European area for Lifelong Learning
- To help improve the quality, attractiveness and accessibility of the opportunities for Lifelong Learning available within Member States
- To reinforce the contribution of LLL to social cohesion, active citizenship, intercultural dialogue, gender equality and personal fulfilment
- To promote creativity, competitiveness, employability and the growth of an entrepreneurial spirit
- To promote language learning and linguistic diversity
- To contribute to increased participation in LLL by people of all ages, including those with special needs and disadvantaged groups regardless of their socio-economic background
- To support the development of innovative ICT-based content, services, pedagogies and practices for LLL
- To reinforce the role of LLL in creating a sense of European citizenship based on understanding and respect for human rights and democracy, and encouraging tolerance and respect for peoples and cultures
- To promote cooperation in quality assurance in all sectors of vocational education and training (VET) in Europe
- To encourage the best use of results, innovative products and processes and to exchange good practice in the field covered by the LLL Programme, in order to improve the quality of education and training

The following sectoral programmes are addressed, among others, to civil society organisations.

Comenius Programme: School education

The Comenius programme focuses on the first phase of education, from pre-school and primary to secondary schools. It is relevant for all members of the education community: pupils, teachers, local authorities, parents’ associations, non-government organisations, teacher training institutes, universities and all other educational staff.

The following actions are supported by the Comenius Programme:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Managing body</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobility of individuals to another European country, which may include: Participation in training activities for teachers and other educational staff.</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>16 January 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In-Service Training for Teachers and other Educational Staff (IST)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>30 April 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regio Partnerships</strong> between local and regional authorities with a role in school education. Their aim is to enrich the educational offer for school-aged young people by supporting the cooperation between school education authorities, schools and other educational providers in different European regions.</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>15 September 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multilateral projects</strong> aim at developing, promoting and disseminating new curricula, new teacher training courses or materials and new teaching methodologies, and at providing a framework for the organisation of mobility activities for student teachers.</td>
<td>Executive Agency</td>
<td>27 February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multilateral Networks</strong> aim at promoting European co-operation and innovation in specific thematic areas of particular importance to school education in a European context.</td>
<td>Executive Agency</td>
<td>27 February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accompanying measures</strong> aim at supporting various activities, which will clearly contribute to achieving the Comenius Programme objectives.</td>
<td>Executive Agency</td>
<td>27 February 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Leonardo da Vinci programme: Vocational Education and Training**

The Leonardo da Vinci programme links policy to practice in the field of VET. Projects range from those giving individuals the chance to improve their competences, knowledge and skills through a period abroad, to Europe-wide co-operation between VET stakeholders in order to enhance the attractiveness, quality and performance of VET systems and practices.

The following **actions** are supported by the Leonardo da Vinci Programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Managing body</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study and preparatory visits</strong> for mobility, partnership, project or network activities</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>Deadlines set by each National Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Transnational placements in enterprises or in training institutions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Placements and exchanges aimed at the further professional development of trainers and guidance counsellors, and at those responsible for training establishments and for training planning and career guidance within enterprises</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>6 February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEONARDO DA VINCI IVT (Initial Vocational Training)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 If the managing body is the National Agency, it means that the applications have to be sent to the body officially in charge of the programme in the different Member states. A list of National Agencies can be found at the following website: [http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/national_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/national_en.html).

If the managing body is the Executive Agency, it means that the applications have to be sent to Brussels.
Training)
LEONARDO DA VINCI PLM (People in the Labour Market)
LEONARDO DA VINCI VETPRO (VET Professionals)

Partnerships focusing on themes of mutual interest to the participating organisations
National Agency 20 February 2009

Multilateral projects in particular those aimed at improving training systems by focusing on the transfer of innovation involving the linguistic, cultural and legal adaptation to national needs of innovative products and processes developed in different contexts
National Agency 27 February 2009

Multilateral projects aimed at improving training systems by focusing on the development of innovation and good practice
Executive Agency 27 February 2009

Thematic networks of experts and organisations working on specific issues related to vocational education and training
Executive Agency 27 February 2009

Accompanying Measures: initiatives aimed at promoting the objectives of the Leonardo da Vinci Programme
Executive Agency 27 February 2009

Grundtvig programme: Adult Learning

Addresses the teaching and learning needs relating to all forms of adult learning which are not of a predominantly vocational nature, as well as the institutions and organisations providing or facilitating any form of such learning opportunities for adults – whether of a formal, non-formal or informal nature – including those involved in the initial and in-service training of staff.

The following actions are supported by the Grundtvig Programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Managing body</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory visits: a mobility grant to enable a representative from an institution either to attend a contact seminar or a meeting with prospective partners.</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>See NA² website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops enable adult learners to participate in Workshops (learning events and seminars) taking place in another European country participating in the LLP</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>20 February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Partnerships is a framework for practical co-operation activities in the field of adult learning in the broadest sense - formal, non-formal or informal. Trainers and learners from at least three participating countries work together on one or more topics of common interest to the co-operating organisations.</td>
<td>National Agency</td>
<td>20 February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grundtvig Senior Volunteering Projects is a scheme of grants to support projects that aim at enabling senior citizens to volunteer in another</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

² National Agency
European country for any kind of non-profit activity, as a form of informal (and mutual) learning activity (learning / sharing knowledge); at creating lasting cooperation between the host and sending organisations around a specific topic or target group, and thanks to the exchange of volunteers; and at enabling the local communities involved in the exchange of volunteers to draw on the potential of senior citizens as a source of knowledge, competence and experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Multilateral projects</strong></th>
<th>National Agency</th>
<th>31 March 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aimed at improving adult education systems through the development and transfer of innovation and good practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Multilateral thematic networks</strong></th>
<th>Executive Agency</th>
<th>27 February 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of experts and organisations aim at developing adult education in the discipline, subject area or management aspect to which they relate; at identifying, improving and disseminating relevant good practice and innovation; at providing content support to projects and partnerships set up by others and facilitating interactivity between such projects and partnerships; and at promoting the development of needs analysis and quality assurance within adult education.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Accompanying Measures</strong></th>
<th>Executive Agency</th>
<th>27 February 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aim at supporting various actions such like raising awareness on the importance of European cooperation in the field of adult education / adult learning more generally; helping to improve the implementation of the Grundtvig programme, in particular through training activities and analysis; disseminating results; fostering trans-sectoral synergies between the Actions of the Lifelong Learning Programme; , for example around activities bringing together.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility: countries eligible under this programme are the 27 EU Member States\(^3\), Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey and "Overseas countries and territories" defined by Council Decision 2001/822/EC\(^4\).


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\(^3\) Includes applicants from the following regions: Canary Islands, Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana, Réunion, Azores, Madeira. Where specific financial provisions apply to the Overseas countries and Territories.

\(^4\) Greenland, New Caledonia and Dependencies, French Polynesia, French Southern and Antarctic Territories, Wallis and Futuna Islands, Mayotte, St Pierre and Miquelon, Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, Anguilla, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Ascension Island, Tristan da Cunha, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, Turks and Caicos Islands, British Virgin Islands.
The Youth in Action Programme

The Youth in Action Programme aims at responding at European level to the needs of young people from adolescence to adulthood. It makes an important contribution to the acquisition of competences and is therefore a key instrument in providing young people with opportunities for non-formal and informal learning with a European dimension.

The Youth in Action Programme is divided into five actions.

Action 1 – Youth for Europe

It aims at increasing mobility of young people by supporting Youth Exchanges; at developing their citizenship and mutual understanding by supporting Youth initiatives, as well as projects and activities concerning their participation in democratic life.

Sub-Action 1.1 - Youth Exchanges
Youth Exchanges offer an opportunity for groups of young people from different countries to meet and learn about each other’s cultures. The groups plan together their Youth Exchange around a theme of mutual interest.

Sub-Action 1.2 - Youth Initiatives
Youth Initiatives support group projects designed at local, regional and national level. They also support the networking of similar projects between different countries, in order to strengthen their European aspect and to enhance cooperation and exchanges of experiences between young people.

Sub-Action 1.3 - Youth Democracy Projects
Youth Democracy Projects support young people's participation in the democratic life of their local, regional or national community, and at international level.

Thematic Networking
With a view to increasing the impact of the Programme, an annual call for proposals may be published aimed at supporting thematic network projects.

Action 2 – European Voluntary Service

It supports transnational voluntary service of young people, both within and outside the European Union.

Objectives:
• To support young people's participation in various forms of voluntary activities, both within and outside the European Union
• To develop solidarity and promote active citizenship and mutual understanding

Under this Action, young people take part individually or in groups in non-profit, unpaid activities. The European Voluntary Service enables young people to carry out voluntary service for up to 12 months in a country other than their country of residence. It fosters
solidarity among young people and is a true ‘learning service’. Beyond benefiting local communities, volunteers learn new skills and languages, and discover other cultures.

**Action 3 – Youth in the World**

Action 3 supports the following sub-Actions:

*Sub-Action 3.1 - Cooperation with the Neighbouring Countries of the European Union*
This sub-Action supports projects with Neighbouring Partner Countries, namely Youth Exchanges and Training and Networking Projects in the youth field.

*Sub-Action 3.2 - Cooperation with Other Countries of the World*
This sub-Action concerns cooperation in the youth field, in particular the exchange of good practice with Partner Countries from other parts of the world. It encourages exchanges and training of young people and youth workers, partnerships and networks of youth organisations. Grant requests related to this sub-Action are to be submitted following specific calls for proposals. Sub-Action 3.2 is not covered by this Guide.

**Action 4 – Youth Support Systems**

It contributes to develop the quality of support structures, to support the role of those active in youth work and youth organisations.

Action 4 supports the following sub-Actions:

*Sub-Action 4.1 - Support to bodies active at European level in the youth field*
This sub-Action supports the operation of non-governmental organisations active at European level in the youth field that pursue a goal of general European interest (ENGOs). Their activities must contribute to young people's participation in public life and society and the development and implementation of European cooperation activities in the youth field in the broadest sense. Grant requests related to this sub-Action are to be submitted following specific calls for proposals. Specific calls for proposals will be published by the Executive Agency for this action.

*Sub-Action 4.3 - Training and networking of those active in youth work and youth organisations*
This sub-Action supports the training of those active in youth work and youth organisations, in particular the exchange of experiences, expertise and good practice as well as activities, which may lead to long-lasting quality projects, partnerships and networks:

**Job Shadowing** (Practical learning experience) – A short stay with a partner organisation in another country with the aim of exchanging good practice, acquiring skills and knowledge and/or building long-term partnerships through participative observation;

**Feasibility Visit** – A short meeting with potential partners to explore and/or prepare for a potential transnational project. Feasibility meetings aim at improving and developing existing cooperation and/or at preparing a future project within the Youth in Action Programme;

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6 European Non-governmental organisations
**Study Visit** – An organised study programme, for a short period, that offers a view of youth work and/or youth policy provisions in one host country. Study visits focus on a theme and consist of visits and meetings to different projects and organisations in a chosen country;

**Partnership-building Activity** – An event organised with a view to allowing participants to find partners for trans-national cooperation and/or for project development. Partnership-building activity brings together potential partners and facilitates the development of new projects around a chosen topic and/or an Action of the Youth in Action Programme;

**Networking** – Combination or series of activities aiming at creating new networks, or at strengthening and widening existing networks under the Youth in Action Programme;

**Multi-Measure projects** - Through a Multi-Measure project, a promoter who aims at carrying out several Activities under sub-Action 4.3 over a period of up to 18 months can submit one single application.

**Sub-Action 4.4 - Projects encouraging innovation and quality**
This sub-Action supports projects aimed at introducing, implementing and promoting innovative approaches in the youth field. Grant requests related to this sub-Action are to be submitted following specific calls for proposals.
Specific calls for proposals will be published by the Executive Agency for this action.

**Sub-Action 4.5 - Information activities for young people and those active in youth work and youth organisations**
This sub-Action supports activities at European and national level which improve young people’s access to information and communication services and increase the participation of young people in the preparation and dissemination of user-friendly, targeted information products. It also supports the development of European, national, regional and local youth portals for the dissemination of specific information for young people. Grant requests related to this sub-Action are to be submitted following specific calls for proposals.
Specific calls for proposals will be published by the Executive Agency for this action.

**Sub-Action 4.6 - Partnerships**
This sub-Action is for the funding of partnerships in order to develop long-term projects, which combine various measures in the programme. Grant requests related to this sub-Action are to be submitted following specific calls for proposals.
Specific calls for proposals will be published by the Executive Agency for this action.

**Action 5 – Support for European cooperation in the youth field**

It encourages the exchange of good practice, cooperation and structured dialogue between administrations, policymakers and young people at all levels.

Action 5 supports the following sub-Actions:

**Sub-Action 5.1 - Meetings of young people and those responsible for youth policy**
This sub-Action supports cooperation, seminars and Structured Dialogue between young people, those active in youth work and those responsible for youth policy.

**Sub-Action 5.2 - Support for activities to bring about better knowledge of the youth field**
This sub-Action supports the identification of existing knowledge relating to the priorities in the youth field, established in the framework of the Open Method of Coordination.
Specific calls for proposals will be published by the Executive Agency for this action.
For projects submitted to a National Agency there are five application deadlines per year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects starting between</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 May and 30 September</td>
<td>1 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 July and 30 November</td>
<td>1 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 September and 31 January</td>
<td>1 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 December and 30 April</td>
<td>1 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 February and 31 July</td>
<td>1 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For projects submitted to the Executive Agency there are three application deadlines a year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects starting between</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 August and 31 December</td>
<td>1 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 December and 30 April</td>
<td>1 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 March and 31 July</td>
<td>1 September</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility: countries eligible under this programme are

- Programme Countries: the 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey;
- Neighbouring Partner Countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Montenegro, Serbia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Syria, Tunisia;
- Cooperation is possible with the Other Partner Countries of the World listed in the Programme Guide, which have signed agreements with the European Community relevant to the youth field (almost every country of the World).


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6 The programme countries have a National Agency responsible for the management of the programme. Website: [http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm)
7 The European NGOs and Third Countries have to apply at a centralised level to the Executive Agency in Brussels.
The Europe for Citizens Programme

This Programme supports a wide range of activities and organisations promoting “active European citizenship”, i.e. the involvement of citizens and civil society organisations in the process of European integration.

Action 1 – Active Citizens for Europe

Measure 1.1. Town twinning citizens’ meetings

Objective:
To bring together a wide range of citizens and citizens’ groups from twinned towns, taking benefit of the partnership between the municipalities for developing strong, informal and personal relations between their citizens.
To be eligible, the applicant must be the municipality in which the meeting takes place, or its twinning association/twinning committee with a legal status (legal personality), and be established in a participating country.

Measure 2.1. Citizens’ projects

Objective:
To gather citizens from different horizons, whom will act together or debate on common European issues, at local and European level. Innovative methods enabling citizens’ participation should be applied.
http://ec.europa.eu/citizenship/programme-actions/doc38_en.htm

Action 2 – Active Civil Society in Europe

Measure 3. Support for projects initiated by civil society organisations

Objective:
To support concrete projects of civil society organisations from different participating countries.
Networking: The project should aim at setting the basis for, or encouraging the development of, long-lasting networking between many organisations active in the field. Such networking could lead to active cooperation, combining and structuring the different elements described above.
Deadline: 15 February 2009
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action 1 - Active citizens for Europe</th>
<th>Deadline for submission</th>
<th>Period covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measure 1.1: Town-Twinning Citizens’ meetings</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>1 January and 31 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>1 February</td>
<td>1 June and 28 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 3</td>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>1 August and 30 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 4</td>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>1 October and 30 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measure 2: Citizens’ projects and support measures</td>
<td>1st July 2008</td>
<td>This call covers projects starting between 1 December 2008 and 28 February 2009. The maximum duration of a project is 10 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 2 - Active civil society for Europe</td>
<td>15 February 2008</td>
<td>1 August 2008 to 31 July 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eligibility: countries eligible under this programme are the 27 Member States and Croatia.


The Culture Programme 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 activities supported within the Programme belong to three main typologies, which correspond to the strands of the Programme:

- Strand 1, support for cultural projects (cultural organisations are given support for projects to work together across borders and to create and implement cultural and artistic activities);

- Strand 2, support for organisations active at European Level in the field of culture (cultural organisations working, or wanting to work, at European level in the field of culture can receive support for their operating costs. This strand targets organisations that promote a sense of shared cultural experience with a truly European dimension);

- Strand 3, support for analyses and for the collection and dissemination of information and for maximising the impact of projects in the field of cultural cooperation (support is available for analysis and dissemination activities that help collect and research results in response to the need for strong quantitative evidence in the cultural sector and evaluate them in the light of the objectives of the programme).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Deadline for Submission</th>
<th>Publication selection results at latest</th>
<th>Starting date</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strand 1.1 Multi-annual Cooperation Projects</td>
<td>1 October</td>
<td>31 March of the following year</td>
<td>1 May of the following year</td>
<td>3 to 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation Projects</td>
<td>1 October</td>
<td>31 March of the following year</td>
<td>1 May of the following year</td>
<td>Max. 24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strand 1.2.2 Literary Translation Projects</td>
<td>1 February</td>
<td>31 July of the same year</td>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>Max. 24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strand 1.3 Cultural Cooperation Projects with Third Countries</td>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>30 September of the same year</td>
<td>1 November</td>
<td>Max. 24 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strand 2 Annual operating grant for organisations active at European level in the field of Culture: a) Ambassadors b) Advocacy Networks c) Festivals d) Policy support structures for the Culture Agenda</td>
<td>1 November</td>
<td>31 March of the following year</td>
<td>The financial year following the submission of the application</td>
<td>The financial year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Strand 2
Framework partnership (3 years) for organisations active at European level in the field of culture a) Ambassadors b) Advocacy Networks c) Festivals d) Policy support structures for the Culture Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1 November 2010</th>
<th>31 March 2011</th>
<th>The financial year 2011</th>
<th>The financial years 2011-2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Eligibility: countries eligible under this programme are: EU Member States; EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway); countries candidate to EU membership (Croatia, Turkey and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) plus Serbia.

The DG Environment has the following three funding opportunities:

- **Life +**
- **The Civil Protection Financial Instrument**
- **Operating Grants to European environmental NGOs**

### LIFE +

LIFE is the EU’s financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU, as well as in some candidate, acceding and neighbouring countries. It follows the LIFE III programme (2000 – 2006), which comprised three thematic components:

**LIFE-Environment**: it supported the development of innovative techniques and methods by co-financing pilot and demonstration projects. The countries eligible to apply for LIFE-Environment funding were the 27 Member States;

**LIFE-Nature**: it supported nature conservation projects that maintain or restore natural habitats and/or species populations. The countries eligible to apply for LIFE-Environment funding were the 27 Member States;

**LIFE-Third Countries**: it supported environmental capacity building and the transfer of knowledge in countries bordering on the Mediterranean and the Baltic Seas. The countries eligible to apply for LIFE-TCY funding were: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, the West Bank and Gaza, and the Baltic shoreline of Russia (Kaliningrad and the St. Petersberg region).

The last deadline was 21st November 2008.

### The Civil Protection Financial instrument

The Civil Protection Financial Instrument aims at supporting and complementing the efforts of Member States for the protection, primarily of people, but also of the environment and property, including cultural heritage, in the event of natural and man-made disasters, acts of terrorism and technological, radiological or environmental accidents. Furthermore, it intends to facilitate reinforced co-operation between the Member States in the field of civil protection.

The Civil Protection Financial Instrument covers three main aspects of civil protection activities:

- Prevention - objectives of prevention projects: the general requirement for eligible projects is to develop activities in long-term prevention and mitigation of damage by improving risk assessment and management. Ideally, consistency should be promoted in the ‘response-preparedness-prevention-remediation’ chain, by matching general policy requirements in the field of, for instance, environment, agriculture or economy with civil protection response requirements;
Preparedness - objectives of preparedness projects: Civil Protection responders (professionals and volunteers) operating in the Member States; enhancing the preparedness of the public in case of emergencies in the Member States; dissemination, promotion and implementation of results of clusters of completed projects.

The civil protection financial instrument will cover the financial aspects of preparedness and response actions covered by the Community mechanism for civil protection.

Calls for proposals are often published as “Simulation Exercises in the field of the Community Civil Protection Mechanism”

Simulation exercises organised at Community level are designed primarily as field tests aiming mainly at establishing a common understanding of the cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions and to improve the quality of the response in major emergencies.

The activities intended to be co-financed under this call for proposals are:

- Full scale civil protection exercises with a command post part, involving intervention teams
- Full scale civil protection exercises with command post part, involving civil protection modules and/or technical assistance and support teams defined in the recast and in the implementing rules on modules
- Command post exercises

The last deadline was 19th December 2008.

### Operating grants to European environmental NGOs

This funding programme provides for funding of "operational activities of NGOs that are primarily active in protecting and enhancing the environment at European level and involved in the development and implementation of Community policy and legislation".

Organisations that wish to apply for funding under this programme must be non-profit making and independent environmental non-governmental organisations. They must also be active at a European level (have activities and members in at least three EU Member States). National NGOs are not targeted by this programme.

The last deadline was 1st December 2008.

Website of Life + and The Civil Protection Financial Instrument: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm)

Website of Operating grants to European environmental NGOs: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm)
PROGRESS – Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity

PROGRESS supports the effective implementation of the principle of gender equality, promotes gender mainstreaming in all Community policies, supports the implementation of the open method of coordination (OMC) in the field of social protection and inclusion, supports the effective implementation of the principle of non-discrimination and promotes its mainstreaming in all Community policies.

The Programme is divided into 5 sections:

- Employment
- Social protection and inclusion
- Working conditions
- Anti-discrimination and diversity
- Gender equality

Types of actions

1. The Programme shall finance the following types of actions, which may be implemented, where appropriate, within a transnational framework:

Analytical activities:
- Collection, development and dissemination of data and statistics;
- Development and dissemination of common methodologies and, where appropriate, indicators or benchmarks;
- Carrying out of studies, analyses and surveys and dissemination of their results;
- Carrying out of evaluations and impact assessments and dissemination of their results;
- Elaboration and publication of guides, reports and educational material via the Internet or other media.

Mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities:
- Identification of, and exchanges on, good practices, innovative approaches and experiences, and organisation of peer review and mutual learning, by means of Meetings/workshops/seminars at European, transnational or national level, taking account, where possible, of specific national circumstances;
- Organisation of Presidency conferences/seminars;
- Organisation of conferences/seminars in support of the development and implementation of Community law and policy objectives;
- Organisation of media campaigns and events;
- Compilation and publication of materials to disseminate information as well as results of the Programme.

Support for main actors:
- Support for the running costs of those key European level networks whose activities are linked to implementation of the objectives of the Programme;
- Organisation of working groups of national officials to monitor the implementation of Community law;
• Funding of specialised seminars addressed to those working in the field, key officials and other relevant actors;
• Networking among specialised bodies at European level;
• Funding of experts' networks;
• Funding of European level observatories;
• Exchange of personnel between national administrations;
• Cooperation with international institutions.

2. The activities provided for in point (b) of paragraph 1 shall have a strong European dimension, to be of an appropriate scale in order to ensure a real European added value and be carried out by national, regional or local authorities, specialised bodies provided for under Community law or actors considered to be the key players in their area.

3. The Programme shall not finance any measures for the preparation and implementation of European Years.

Eligibility: countries eligible under this programme are: the 27 Member States, Croatia, Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo (UN Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999).

“Investing in People (2007 – 2013)” is the main thematic instrument of the European Commission for support of programmes in the area of human and social development, on top of country programmes that form the cornerstone for the implementation of the EC activities in this area. Driven by the ambition to help the EC’s partner countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the programme supports activities under four main pillars:

- Good health for all
- Education, knowledge and skills
- Gender equality
- Other aspects of human and social development: employment and social cohesion, children, youth and culture

**Health**

Under the health pillar, the thematic programme focuses on the human resources crisis in health-care systems, poverty-related diseases (HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis), access to public goods, neglected or emerging diseases and promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights.

**Education, knowledge, skills**

In the area of education, knowledge and skills, the programme focuses on promotion of universal access to quality primary education and has access to vocational and skills training.

**Gender equality**

The gender equality pillar has a focus on empowerment of women and improvement of literacy among adult women, and on activities in the other three areas, where gender should be part of the relevant thematic action.

**Other aspects of human and social development**

It will provide a thematic framework for sharing know-how, good practice and experience, for monitoring, data collection and analysis, for innovative approaches and pilot projects in the areas, which directly affect people’s livelihoods around the world.

Website: [http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/development_programmes/devprog_investing_en.cfm](http://ec.europa.eu/development/policies/development_programmes/devprog_investing_en.cfm)
The Programme Fundamental Rights and Justice is divided into five specific programmes:

- **Daphne III** aims to prevent and combat violence against children, young people and women and to protect victims and groups at risk and to attain a high level of health protection, well-being and social cohesion; to contribute to the prevention of, and the fight against, all forms of violence occurring in the public or the private domain against children, young people and women, including sexual exploitation and trafficking in human beings, by taking preventive measures and by providing support and protection for victims and groups at risk;

- **Drug prevention and information** aims to significantly reduce the social harm and health damage caused by the use of, and trade in, illicit drugs, to contribute to the improvement of information on the effects of drug use and to support the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy;

- **Fundamental rights and citizenship** aims to promote the development of a European society based on respect for Fundamental Rights and rights derived from citizenship of the Union, to strengthen civil society and to encourage an open, transparent and regular dialogue with it in respect of fundamental rights, to fight against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism, to improve the contacts, exchange of information and networking between legal, judicial and administrative authorities and the legal professions, including by way of support of judicial training, with the aim of better mutual understanding among such authorities and professionals;

- **Civil justice** aims to the creation of a genuine European area of justice in civil matters based on mutual recognition and mutual confidence, to promote the elimination of obstacles to the good functioning of cross-border civil proceedings in the Member States, to improve the daily life of individuals and businesses by enabling them to assert their rights throughout the European Union, notably by fostering access to justice, to improve the contacts, exchange of information and networking between legal, judicial and administrative authorities and the legal professions, including by way of support of judicial training, with the aim of better mutual understanding among such authorities and professionals;

- **Criminal justice** aims to the creation of a genuine European area of justice in criminal matters based on mutual recognition and mutual confidence, to promote the compatibility in rules applicable in the Member States as may be necessary to improve judicial cooperation. Furthermore, it shall improve contacts and exchange of information and best practice between legal, judicial and administrative authorities and the legal professions (lawyers and other professionals involved in the work of the judiciary), to foster the training of the members of the judiciary, and to further improve mutual trust with the view to ensuring protection of rights of victims and of the accused.

Each Specific Programme’s funding opportunity foresees **Operating Grants**, to co-finance the functioning of non-governmental organisations, and **Actions Grants**, to co-finance specific transnational projects.
The EU has established financial instruments and initiatives to address economics and social imbalances at Community level. Among others,

- The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), that covers programmes involving general infrastructure, innovation, and investments;
- The European Social Fund (ESF), that pays for vocational training projects and other kinds of employment assistance, and job-creation programmes.

### European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The ERDF can intervene in the objective of convergence, that means for those regions whose GDP (Gross Domestic Product) per inhabitant is less than 75% of the Community.

In regions covered by the Convergence objective, ERDF focuses its intervention on modernising and diversifying economic structures as well as safeguarding or creating sustainable jobs, with action in the following areas:

- Research and technological development (RTD);
- Innovation and entrepreneurship;
- Information society;
- Environment;
- Risk prevention;
- Tourism;
- Culture;
- Transport;
- Energy;
- Education;
- Health.

### Regions under the convergence objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bulgaria</strong></td>
<td>the whole territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Czech Republic</strong></td>
<td>Střední Čechy, Jihozápad, Severozápad, Severovýchod, Jihovýchod, Střední Morava, Moravskoslezsko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Germany</strong></td>
<td>Brandenburg-Nordost, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Chemnitz, Dresden, Dessau, Magdeburg, Thüringen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Estonia</strong></td>
<td>the whole territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greece</strong></td>
<td>Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki, Thessalia, Ipeiros, Ionía Nisia, Dytiki Ellada, Peloponnisos, Voreio Aigaio, Krti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spain</strong></td>
<td>Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura, Galicia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>France</strong></td>
<td>Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique, Réunion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hungary</strong></td>
<td>Közép-Dunántúl, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Dél-Dunántúl, Észak-Magyarország, Észak-Alföld, Dél-Alföld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Italy</strong></td>
<td>Calabria, Campania, Puglia, Sicilia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Latvia</strong></td>
<td>the whole territory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lithuania: the whole territory
Malta: the whole island
Poland: the whole territory
Portugal: Norte, Centro, Alentejo, Região Autónoma dos Açores
Romania: the whole territory
Slovakia: Západné Slovensko, Stredné Slovensko, Východné Slovensko
United Kingdom: Cornwall and Isles of Scilly, West Wales and the Valleys

A phasing-out system is granted to those regions, which would have been eligible for funding under the convergence objective if the threshold of 75% of GDP had been calculated for the EU at 15 and not at 25:

Belgium: Province du Hainaut
Germany: Brandenburg-Südwest, Lüneburg, Leipzig, Halle
Greece: Kentriki Makedonia, Dytiki Makedonia, Attiki
Spain: Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta, Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla, Principado de Asturias, Región de Murcia
Austria: Burgenland
Portugal: Algarve
Italy: Basilicata
United Kingdom: Highlands and Islands

European Social Fund (ESF)

The ESF sets out to improve employment and job opportunities in the European Union.

The ESF supports actions in Member States in the following areas:

- Adapting workers and enterprises: lifelong learning schemes, designing and spreading innovative working organisations;
- Access to employment for job seekers, the unemployed, women and migrants;
- Social integration of disadvantaged people and combating discrimination in the job market;
- Strengthening human capital by reforming education systems and setting up a network of teaching establishments.

The detailed management of programmes, which receive support from the Structural Funds, is the responsibility of the Member States. For every programme, they designate a managing authority (at national, regional or another level), which will inform potential beneficiaries, select the projects and generally monitor implementation.

Website of the managing authorities: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authority_en.cfm


Note: Under the ESF, special attention will be given to those projects that will focus on people with disabilities.