

# ENGLAND AND GIBRALTAR

## EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND 2007-2013



### LLOYD BROAD

Innovation, Transnationality and Mainstreaming (ITM)  
Birmingham City Council  
ITM Co-ordinating Body

# ENGLAND AND GIBRALTAR

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### Regional Competitiveness and Employment Objective (€2,894m)

*(All England and Gibraltar except Cornwall & Isles of Scilly)*

Priority 1: Extending employment  
opportunities (€1,794m)

Priority 2: Developing a skilled and  
adaptable workforce (€984m)

Priority 3: Technical Assistance (€116m)

*Note: 2% for Innovative & Transnational projects  
Approx €58m*

### Convergence Objective (€197m)

*(Cornwall & Isles of Scilly)*

Priority 4: Tackling barriers to  
employment (€75m)

Priority 5: Improving the skills of the local  
workforce (€118m)

Priority 3: Technical Assistance (€4m)

*Note: 2% for Innovative & Transnational projects  
Approx €4m*

# Birmingham City Council - ITM Co-ordinating Body

The Co-ordinating Body will assist the MA with;

- Developing guidance for ITM activity
- Publicity of ITM
- Calls for proposals
- Information events
- Set up Thematic Networks
- Facilitate cross-regional working
- Facilitate transnational co-operation
- Contact point for regions across Europe
- EU meetings and events
- Support to projects
- Reporting to ESF committees

NB: The MA maintain full responsibility for appraisals, contracting, audit and verifications

# 6 Themes for Innovation

All transnational activities/projects will target one of the 'Themes for Innovation'

- Active Inclusion
- Engaging with Employers
- ICT and the Digital Divide
- New challenges - Skills for Climate Change and Sustainable Development
- New Challenges - Demographic Change (older workers and migration)
- Social Enterprise

# Key Aims and Expectations

- This is not Equal !!!
- 1<sup>st</sup> call will fund 3 projects per region (4 in London)
- Match funding 50% (25% in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly)
- Regions to select thematic priorities for innovative projects
- Support regional frameworks and strategies
- Must involve key strategic stakeholders
- Develop strong partnership dimension
- Strategic benefits rather than organisational benefits
- **Innovative** actions beyond traditional ESF actions
- **Transnational** added value
- Demonstrate policy **Mainstreaming** opportunities

# Transnational Working (1)

- Minimum one partner from another member state
- Learning and the transfer of knowledge and good practice
- Must demonstrate clear added value & contribution to thematic area
- Aim for cities/regions that share common aims or problems
- Build on existing or established relationships & networks
- Does not have to be another ESF funded project
- Record the journey/capture the learning
- Understand its contribution to the thematic/policy area

# Transnational working (2)

- Activities could include;
  - Networking
  - Thematic workshops
  - Study visits
  - Joint research/studies
  - Piloting or testing new tools, methods, approaches etc
  - Joint events, conferences or seminars
  - New joint development initiatives
  
- What about reciprocity?

# Mainstreaming/Thematic Networks

- 6 new national networks to be created
- Involvement of key policy makers
- Facilitate cross-regional working
- Engagement with existing and new networks
- Influence policy and funding
- Emphasis on learning and the journey taken
- Recording and sharing innovative ideas/solutions

# Implementation timetable/key dates

Indicative timetable (to be confirmed):

- 15 Oct 2008 - Regions to select themes
- 31 Oct 2008 - Issue and publicise calls for proposals
- 10-20 Nov 2008 - Information events (North, Midlands & South)
- 12 Dec 2008 - Applications submitted to Co-ordinating Body
- 30 Jan 2009 - Appraisal and selection completed
- By 27 Mar 2009 - Contract with successful applicants
- From 1 April 2009 - Projects commence activities
- By 30 Jun 2009 - Set up thematic networks

# Further information/Contact

ITM Unit

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