



The National Rivers Authority is an effective and independent environmental watchdog.

Our prime purpose is to protect and improve the inland and coastal water environment throughout England and Wales.

Our responsibilities include water quality, water resources, flood defence, salmon and freshwater fisheries, conservation, navigation, and recreation.

The NRA is also responsible for a number of EC Environmental Directives and is generally regarded as the strongest Environmental Protection Agency in Europe.

This document has been produced by the Corporate Planning Section based in our Bristol Head Office with the assistance of other NRA colleagues.

The Corporate Planning Section is responsible for managing the NRA's planning and reporting processes. We assess external change, advise on future policy and priorities, develop strategies and plans, allocate resources, monitor and report on our environmental achievements and corporate performance.



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EUROPEAN FUNDING

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CORPORATE PLANNING SECTION

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



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EUROPEAN FUNDING

What Funds are available?

A potential source of funding for the NRA is through the receipt of grants via European funding as opposed to directly from UK Government. In essence there are 3 major funding areas of interest to the NRA, these are briefly described below:

Name of Funds

Purpose

Structural Funds

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
European Social Fund (ESF)
European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)
Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG)
(Plus support to a number of Community Initiatives described in the attached "Finance from Europe" booklet)

Set up to strengthen economic and social cohesion between the member countries and aid economic development of the poorer regions. The 4 funds have been set up to support this aim and areas eligible for support are nominated by national Governments and ratified by the Commission. Regions qualifying for support must fall under one of 5 objectives. These objectives are described in Annex 1 of this paper together with details of the areas that qualify.

R&D Programme

Fourth Research and Technological Development Programme
R&D Environment Programme

To add value to national research efforts and encourage transnational cooperation to make the most of Europe's know how and avoid duplication of effort.

Finance for the Environment (LIFE)

An update on the LIFE II programme (1996 - 2000) is given in Annex 3.

To provide funds for innovative demonstration projects which promote:

- sustainable development and quality of the environment
- protection of habitats and nature
- education and training measures
- public awareness and technical assistance.

These funds have total budgets in excess of £200 billion with environmental projects taking up an estimated £2 billion. Fuller details of all these programmes and others, including the types of projects that may qualify, are included in a European Commission booklet entitled "Finance From Europe". This is a provisional version, the definitive version is in preparation, but still acts as a very useful reference document and should be available through regional DoE offices or HMSO. A copy is attached to this note.

How can grants be applied for?

The NRA can apply directly for funds either on its own or in collaboration with others. Alternatively, collaboration can also be entered into where the NRA is a contributor of funds but not the lead partner and hence not the direct recipient of the Euro grant.

Whichever route is chosen, it does not obviate the need to adhere to internal FM/SoD rules and the Project Management procedures as set out in the procedural manual.

What is the application process?

For Structural Funds

Once a project has been identified by the NRA for possible eligibility applicants should approach the Regional Government Office (DoE or DTI) with an outline of the project - (a list of contacts is included in the attached booklet). The Regional Government contacts will advise on the best way to proceed with the application. A copy of any application should also be forwarded to the Director of Finance, the European Affairs Officer and R. Hartman at the DoE in London. Applications have to follow a strict timetable and, in general, have to be submitted by November each year to fit in with European budget setting procedures.

An alternative approach involves the use of consultancy firms who, for a fee naturally, will undertake the application taking away much of the time consuming nature of the process. This does not remove the need to supply copies to the Director of Finance, the European Affairs Officer and DoE or comply with internal SoD and Project Management rules.

Administration of applications is undertaken through local committees and therefore the coordination of these applications should be on a NRA regional basis through the business planning officer and coordinated nationally each year through the Corporate Planning process.

For R&D Funds

As R&D projects are all coordinated on a national basis all applications must be coordinated through G. Llewellyn at Head Office with copies also being sent to the Director of Finance and European Affairs Officer for information. A number of successful applications have already been progressed.

For LIFE Funds

Following the Internal Audit review it is proposed that applications for LIFE funding are coordinated nationally and approved via the Environmental Managers Group (EMG); with copies also going to the Director of Finance. Applications for LIFE funding for R&D projects should continue to be coordinated as for R&D Funds above.

There is a need to establish a national coordinating framework within which all NRA proposals/applications are progressed. This is to ensure that the NRA is seen to be acting in a consistent, national fashion and so that progress can be effectively monitored.

How does receipt of Euro funds affect UK Government Grant?

Following a recent Internal Audit review of EC funding within the NRA, consultation has taken place with DoE and MAFF resulting in a modification to the Financial Memorandum of the NRA and Environment Agency (EA). The revision to paragraph 25 of the NRAs FM is attached at Annex 2, and will be included as an amendment in the FM/SoD guidance manual shortly. The purpose of this section is to explain the situation concerning the rules relating to additionality. Additionality should mean that the receipt of EC funding would allow "additional" projects to proceed without a corresponding reduction in UK Government Grants for public expenditure. Because of HM Treasury interpretation of EC rules this principle will not always apply to the NRA/EA and is more fully explained below.

Each year the NRA/EA has to report the amount of EC grant it expects to receive in the next financial year through the Corporate Plan submission. The mechanism for reporting this to Head Office is during the annual Corporate Planning round through Regional Plan submissions and the completion of the financial planning proforma on EC funding. This grant may only be applied to the functions (projects) to which it relates. With the exception of grants received from Structural Funds, EC grants will not add to the total NRA/EA Government grant provision as notified in the annual PES statement. Any such grant would have to be surrendered back to the DoE (and MAFF) to maintain the GIA baseline, in effect giving no net benefit to the NRA i.e. not allowing "additional" projects to be undertaken.

Instructions on the accounting treatment of EC grants are provided in procedural manual FI\FIA\023, Accounting for Capital Grants and Contributions. Income from EC grant is monitored during the year by reference to financial management reports.

In short there are 3 main sources of grant available and the position regarding each of these is outlined below:

<i>Fund</i>	<i>Reported and reduction in GIA</i>	<i>Reported but no reduction in GIA</i>
<u>Structural Funds (see also below)</u>		
ERDF	No	Yes
ESF	No	Yes
EAGGF	No	Yes
FIFG	No	Yes
<u>R&D Programme</u>	Yes	No
<u>LIFE</u>	Yes	No

In addition, any Structural Fund grant received for non flood defence projects in excess of that forecast will also have to be reported to the DoE during the year. DoE will make judgement as to the overall grant position at that time and consider whether any adjustments may be necessary. In effect they could claw back GIA on receipt of structural funds not originally planned for.

The same process is applicable to flood defence projects which are reportable through MAFF/WO. However, it appears from correspondence received that MAFF will be more relaxed and make displaced grant available for other schemes subject to satisfying MAFF criteria and being approved in the same financial year.

The situation regarding projects where the NRA/EA is not the lead authority or where the NRA/EAs contribution is through means other than GIA or MAFF/WO grant is not made clear. For the time being we should assume that the above rules would not be applicable in these instances and that additionality would apply.

In short there is a potentially huge pool of funds that can be tapped but getting them is time consuming and potentially of no net benefit to the NRA because of the rules of additionality. However both of these disadvantages can be overcome through entering into collaboration with third parties with some other body acting as the lead partner and the recipient of the funds.

Where can further help be found?

Within the NRA, any queries should be addressed to the following:

Of a general EU nature	European Affairs Officer (C. Hager)
Of a EC Directives nature	EC Directives Officer (P. Bird)
Of a planning nature	Corporate Planning Officer (J. Handley)
Of a financial nature	Principal Financial Accountant (W. Huntley)
Of an R&D nature	R&D Planning Officer (G. Llewellyn)

The Internal Audit review also established regional business planning officers as EC funding coordinators to help promote national consistency. They can be contacted on any region specific queries and are listed below:

Northumbria & Yorkshire	Mark Tallintire
North West	Harry Stopforth
Welsh	Jim Poole
Severn-Trent	Richard Mains-Smith
Anglian	Steve Wheatley
Thames	Julian Waghorn
Southern	Paul Batty
South-Western	Richard Symonds

What success have we had so far?

The following table gives some examples of projects the NRA is involved in which have been successful in attracting EC funding. It does not show all EC funded projects that the NRA has had an involvement in but aptly demonstrates what can be achieved for, in the majority of cases, relatively low NRA funding input.

Project Name	Leading Partner	NRA Region/ Department and Contact	Project Costs (£k)	NRA Contribution (£k)	EC Funding
Restoration of River Pelenna	Welsh Development Agency	Welsh - Niall Reynolds	607	40	256
River Corridor Countryside Management	Kent County Council	Southern - Paul Batty	76	10	38
Redgrave and Lopham Fen Alleviation	NRA, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Essex and Suffolk Water (equal partners)	Anglian - Neil Osborne	1675	450	650
Restoration of Norfolk Broads	Broads Authority	Anglian - Geoff Phillips	112	49	63
Toxicity Criteria	WRC Plc	R&D - Nerina Holden (So)	328	39	164
Pesticide Analysis	WRC Plc	R&D - Dave Tester (An)	363	28	182
Biomanipulation	Broads Authority	R&D - Geoff Phillips (An)	291	25	186
Functional Analysis of European Wetland Ecosystems	Royal Hollaway and Bedford College	R&D - Mark Everard (HO)	912	20	456
TOTAL			4364	661	1995

Definitions of objectives for Structural Funds and areas that are eligible.

ANNEX 1

Objective 1

- to promote the development and structural adjustment of regions (in the EU) whose development is lagging behind.

Eligible areas of England and Wales.

Merseyside.

Objective 2

- to convert the regions, frontier regions or parts of regions (including employment areas and urban communities) seriously affected by urban decline.

Eligible areas of England and Wales.

i) Satisfying basic criteria

In England

Cleveland: All

Durham:

- Newcastle (part)
- Sunderland (part)
- Hartlepool (part)
- Durham
- Bishop Auckland
- Darlington (part)

Greater:

- Bolton & Bury (part)

Manchester:

- Manchester (part)
- Oldham (part)
- Rochdale (part)
- Wigan & St Helens (part)

Tyne & Wear: All

Humberside:

- Doncaster (part)
- Grimsby (part)
- Hull (part)
- Scunthorpe (part)

South: All

Yorkshire

West Yorkshire:

- Bradford (part)
- Castleford & Pontefract (part)
- Wakefield &
- Dewsbury

Nottinghamshire:

- Mansfield (part)
- Nottingham (part)
- Worksop (part)

West Midlands:

- Birmingham (part)
- Dudley & Sandwell (part)
- Walsall (part)
- Wolverhampton (part)

In Wales

Gwent:

- Blaenau Gwent & Abergavenny (part)
- Merthyr & Rhymney (part)
- Newport
- Pontypool & Cwmbran

Mid Glamorgan: All

West Glamorgan: All

ii) adjacent areas

In England

Northumberland:

Alnwick & Amble (part)
Morpeth & Ashington
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne (part)

Lancashire:

Bolton & Bury (part)
Liverpool (part)
Wigan & St Helens (part)

Derbyshire:

Chesterfield
Mansfield (part)
Worksop (part)

Cheshire:

Liverpool (part)
Widnes & Runcorn (part)
Wirral & Chester (part)

Shropshire:

Wolverhampton (part)

Staffordshire:

Birmingham (part)
Walsall (part)
Wolverhampton (part)

Warwickshire:

Birmingham (part)
Coventry & Hinckley (part)

In Wales

South Glamorgan:

Cardiff (part)

Powys:

Aberdare (part)
Swansea (part)

Dyfed:

Llanelli
Swansea (part)

iii) urban communities suffering from industrial decline

Greater London:

Enfield (part)
Hackney (part)
Haringey (part)
Newham (part)
Tower Hamlets (part)
Waltham Forest (part)

Kent:

Thanet

iv) areas suffering from restructuring in important industrial sectors

Cumbria:

Workington
Whitehaven
Barrow-in-Furness

Lancashire:

Accrington & Rossendale
Blackburn
Burnley
Pendle (part)

Staffordshire:

Burton-on-Trent (part)

Devon/Cornwall:

Plymouth (part)

v) areas with severe problems linked to industrial dereliction

Staffordshire:

Stoke (part)

Shropshire:

Telford & Bridgnorth (part)

Objective 3

to combat long-term unemployment and facilitate the integration into working life of young people and of persons exposed to exclusion from the labour market.

Eligible areas of England and Wales

All areas of the UK.

Objective 4

to facilitate the adaptation of workers of either sex to industrial changes and to changes to production systems.

Eligible areas of England and Wales

All areas of the UK

Objective 5

to promote rural development by:

objective a) - speeding up the adjustment of agricultural and fisheries structures in the framework of the reform of the common agricultural policy and of the review of the common fisheries policy.

objective b) - facilitating the development and structural adjustment of rural areas.

Eligible areas of England and Wales

5a) All areas of the UK

5b) English Northern Uplands
Northumberland (part)
Durham (part)
North Yorkshire (part)
Cumbria (part)
Lancashire (part)
Humberside (part)

Lincolnshire & Fens
Cambridgeshire (part)
Norfolk (part)
Suffolk (part)
Lincolnshire (part)

English Midland Uplands
Derbyshire (part)
Staffordshire (part)

South West England

Cornwall (all)
Devon (part)
Somerset (part)

Rural Wales & Marches

Gwynedd (all)
Dyfed (part)
Powys (part)
Clwyd (part)
Shropshire (part)
Hereford & Worcester (part)

19. The systems shall be such as to enable total administrative costs (as defined in Schedule 2) across the whole Agency to be identified.

Public Expenditure

20. The public expenditure classification of the Agency's income is defined and explained in Schedule 3. The Agency's public expenditure in each year shall not exceed the levels notified by the Departments, normally in November preceding the financial year in question.

Income

21. Grant-in-aid towards fisheries activities is paid by the Minister from a Ministry Vote. Grant-in-aid in respect of non-fisheries functions is paid by the Secretary of State from a Departmental Vote.

22. Grant-in-aid is paid on such terms and conditions as the Secretary of State or Minister thinks fit. It shall not normally be applied to the Agency's flood defence function. However, in exceptional circumstances where resources are necessary to meet public liability insurance claims upon the Agency which result from its flood defence activities, the Minister may, exceptionally, make grant-in-aid available.

23. The maximum amount of grant-in-aid available in each year is the amount voted by Parliament in the Main Supply Estimates, subject to any provision in approved Supplementary Estimates.

24. Income other than grant-in-aid shall, unless specifically provided for in paragraphs 32, 33 and 34, be applied only to the function to which it relates.

25. In preparing its corporate plan, and subsequently Main Estimates for Departments (see paragraph 39 below) the Agency shall make allowance for and notify the relevant Department of any EC grant, including ERDF, that it expects to receive during the next financial year. Such grants shall be applied only to the functions to which they relate. With the exception of ERDF grants, and grants from other EC structural funds such as the European Social Fund and the European Agricultural Guarantee and Guidance Fund, EC grants will not add to the Agency's total grant provision, and should be reported to the Department for surrender to the Consolidated Fund. ERDF or other structural fund receipts (other than for flood defence or fisheries projects) in excess of those forecast in the corporate plan should also be reported to the Department, who will review the overall resource position and consider whether any adjustment should be made to the Agency's grant-in-aid. In cases where ERDF or other structural fund grants are to support flood defence or fisheries projects, these should be reported to the Ministry or Welsh Office for similar consideration.

ANNEX 3

The LIFE Programme

Introduction

The LIFE programme is the principal source of European Community funding for environmental initiatives. Its general objective is to contribute to the development and implementation of EC environmental policy, taking into account the Fifth Environmental Action Programme "Towards Sustainability".

The LIFE financial instrument for the environment (Council Regulation 1972/92/EEC) was adopted by the Council of Ministers on 21 May 1992 and came into force on 23 July 1992. It is administered by the Commission, assisted by a management committee made up of representatives from each Member State. Proposals are submitted through the Member State.

The Commission establishes annual priorities both within and outside the Community for funding, which in 1994 covered :

- Promotion of sustainable development and the quality of the environment
- Protection of habitats and nature
- Administrative structures and the environment services
- Education training and information

The limited budget of the programme is geared to model projects which can then be reproduced on a bigger scale with the help of other financial instruments. Only the most innovative projects are eligible for financial support. Therefore, LIFE cannot be used to finance routine environmental activities, concerning technologies or methodologies already under implementation.

In 1993, 129 projects were selected out of a total of 1,713 proposals received, and in 1994, 210 projects were selected out of a total of 1,587 proposals received. Projects for 1995 have yet to be selected.

LIFE I Assessed (1992 - 1996)

The first stage of the LIFE programme comes to a close on 31 December 1995. On 12 April 1995, the Commission produced a report on the implementation of the LIFE programme and also tabled a proposal for a second phase of LIFE (COM(95)135 final).

The Commission analysis of the projects showed that a large number of the projects have produced generally positive results clearly recognised as useful. The budget for these projects for the period between 1993 and 1995 amounted to ECU 400 Million. There were areas of the first phase in which problems were recognised, and the Commission has sought to address these in the proposal for the second phase (LIFE II). It was concluded that action undertaken would be more effective and more visible if more of the funds available were concentrated on a smaller number of targets, which, as a result, would require stricter selection criteria for funding. The Commission report indicated that priority action should

focus on the following areas :

- nature and habitats
- consolidation and application of Community legislation
- better integration of environmental considerations into industrial activity
- aid for local authorities which wish to integrate environmental requirements into activities in local planning
- assistance to third countries

For "Habitats" projects, both the LIFE Committee and the Committee set up by the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) vote on projects. This has led to duplication of tasks and has not helped the work flow. The Commission seeks to create a clearer division of tasks and a simplification of the decision-making process.

LIFE II (1996 - 2000)

The proposal for a LIFE II programme will carry the initiative on from 1996 to the year 2000. This proposal calls for greater visibility in setting criteria for selecting projects and redefining eligible activities, more openness in the way the instrument operates, and greater simplicity in the way it is run. Priorities will no longer be decided every year, with projects being required to fall within the principal aims laid down in the LIFE II proposal. Funding for "nature conservation" projects will be decided upon separately.

LIFE is also to be extended to the Central and East European countries, whose measures will be financed from other budgetary resources, Mediterranean third countries, and the Baltic States. Despite this increase in the coverage of the programme the budget earmarked by the Commission for LIFE is only ECU 450 million, though this will be reviewed in 1997.

The Commission proposal, tabled in April 1995, was on the agenda for the Environment Council of Ministers meeting on 06 October 1995. All Ministers were favourable to the proposal and a preliminary political agreement was reached, although a common position cannot be adopted until the European Parliament has handed down its Opinion, in November. It is thought that the proposal will be formally adopted by the beginning of 1996 and the new LIFE II timetable for the bidding process will be agreed.

The NRA and LIFE

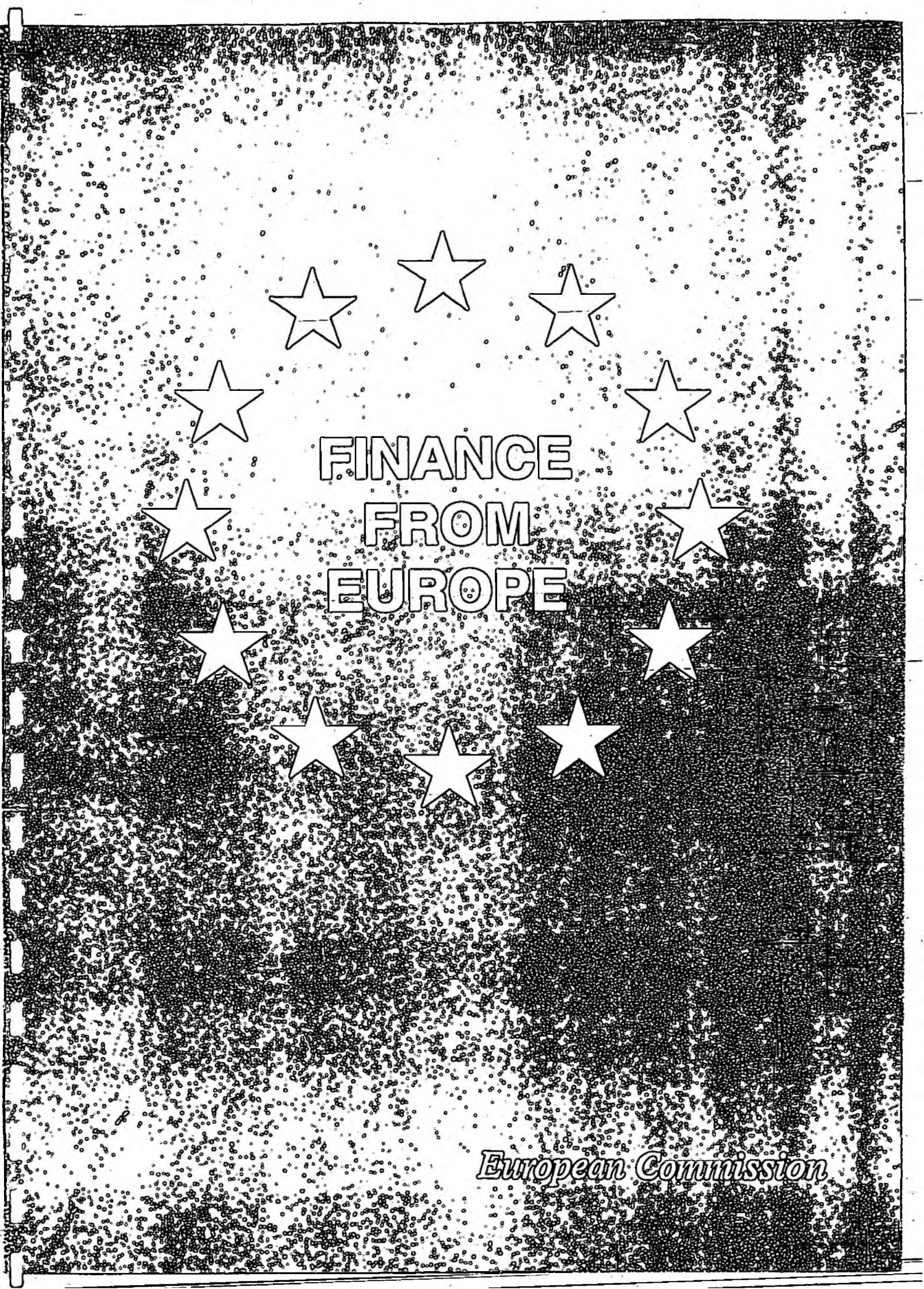
The NRA was successful in obtaining funding for three projects out of 14 UK projects awarded Life funding in 1993. These were :

- A Constructed Wetland Treatment System for the Rehabilitation of Sites Contaminated by Coalwater Discharges - Welsh Region and West Glamorgan Council
- Restoration of Redgrave and South Lopham Fen - Anglian Region and Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- River Restoration Project (three sites: 2 UK, 1 Denmark) - Thames and Southern Region and South Jutland Council (Denmark)

As NRA project proposals are submitted via Regional offices, in partnership with other interest organisations, the European Affairs Office, London HQ, are not always made aware of NRA bids for LIFE funding. To our knowledge there were no successful NRA joint bids in 1994.

Conclusions

This fund is highly competitive, and is set to become even more so, with emphasis going on fewer target projects and stricter selection criteria for the second phase of LIFE. The amount of money available has also been initially increased by only ECU 50 million for LIFE II, despite a larger remit than for LIFE I. As a result, any future project proposals by the NRA will have to be carefully evaluated before submission. The timing of future calls for tender under LIFE II will be totally dependant upon the date of adoption of the proposal. Further information will be circulated early in 1996.



FINANCE FROM EUROPE

European Commission

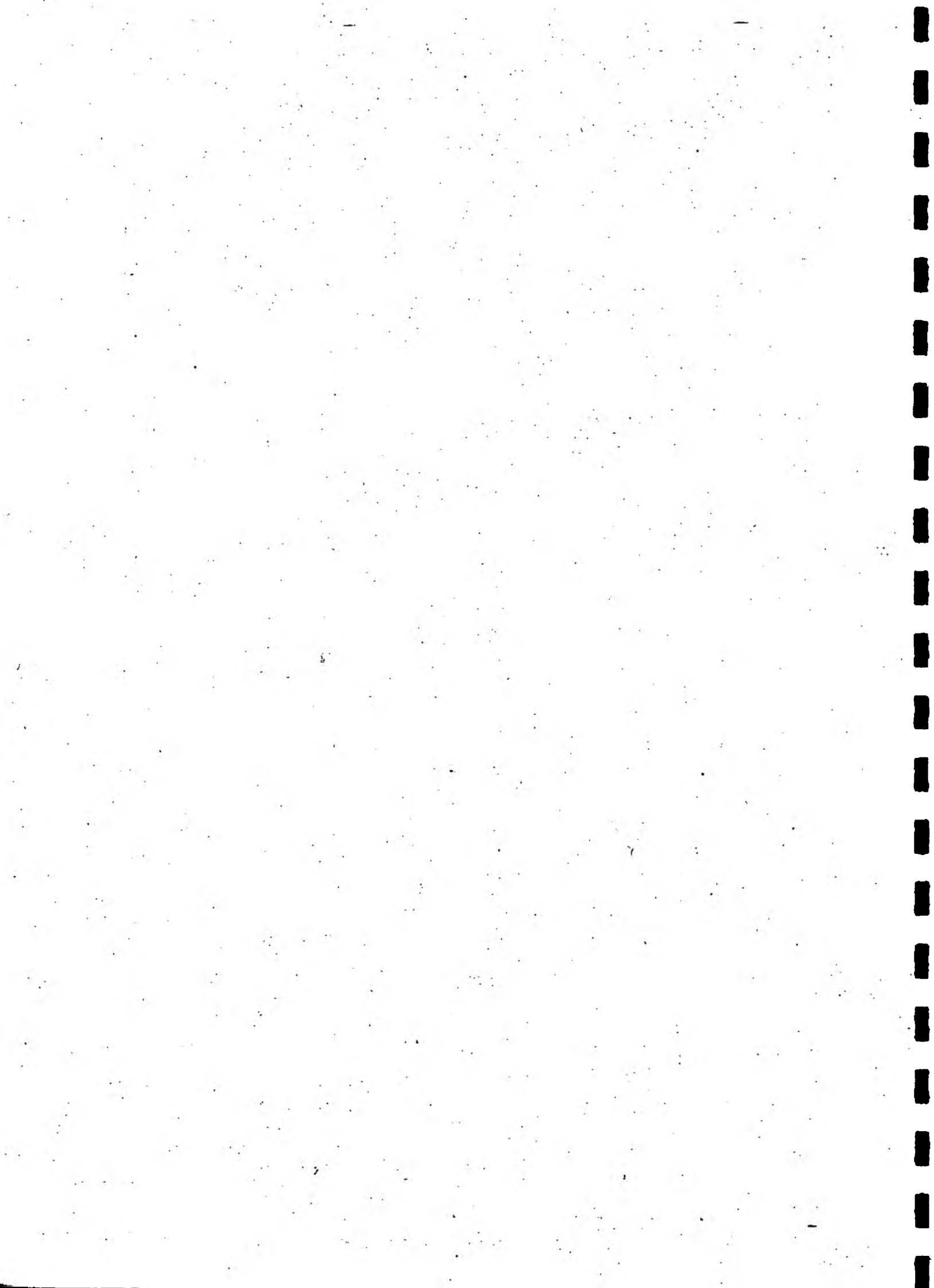


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1. STRUCTURAL & REGIONAL AID

Although the European Community has for many years provided financial assistance to the regions, the advent of the Single European Market and the moves towards economic and monetary union signalled in the Maastricht Treaty, have given greater urgency to the need to combat regional disparities, so that people in all economic sectors and in every geographical area can share the benefits of a frontier-free Europe. The principal way in which the European Community encourages greater economic and social cohesion and uniformity of living standards is to channel financial assistance and resources to the less well-off regions of Europe through a series of inter-related funds, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF), the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF/FEOGA) and the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG), collectively known as the structural funds. Assistance is also provided through the European Investment Bank (see Chapter 2) and a number of additional financial instruments, including the new Cohesion Fund for the most disadvantaged member countries.

STRUCTURAL FUNDS

The structural funds provide the main impetus for regional aid in the EC. During the period from 1989 to 1993 the ERDF, ESF and the EAGGF operated under a common set of financial guidelines and procedures for the first time; revised guidelines have been agreed for the period from 1994 to 1999 and the FIFG has been created. Although some operational details have changed, the following basic principles continue to determine the way in which the funds operate:

- concentration of resources on those regions, target groups and areas most in need of assistance in order to make the most effective use of resources
- emphasis upon a programme-based rather than a project-based approach to funding, with the EC providing cash for multi-annual programmes agreed between the Commission, member governments and regional and other authorities nominated by the latter
- a three-way partnership between the Commission, the national government and local and regional authorities and economic and social partners in the negotiation of Community Support Frameworks (CSFs) and operational programmes and the monitoring of plans, programmes and projects
- consistency with the economic policies pursued by Member States at a national, regional and local level
- application of the principle of additionality, with the expectation that

Community resources will supplement rather than replace resources already allocated at a national level.

OBJECTIVES

In order to ensure that scarce resources are used to best effect financial assistance is concentrated on measures which focus on regions and groups in society most in need of assistance. The revised objectives for 1994 to 1999 are as follows:

- to promote the development and structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind (*Objective 1*)
- to convert the regions, frontier regions or parts of regions (including employment areas and urban communities) seriously affected by industrial decline (*Objective 2*)
- to combat long-term unemployment and facilitate the integration into working life of young people and of persons exposed to exclusion from the labour market (*Objective 3*)
- to facilitate the adaptation of workers of either sex to industrial changes and to changes in production systems (*Objective 4*)
- to promote rural development by:
 - a) speeding up the adjustment of agricultural and fisheries structures in the framework of the reform of the common agricultural policy and of the review of the common fisheries policy (*Objective 5a*)

b) facilitating the development and structural adjustment of rural areas (*Objective 5b*)

Objective 1 remains the main overall priority, with no major changes introduced to Objectives 1 or 2. Objectives 3 and 4 now take account of social policy priorities embodied in the Maastricht Treaty, with four fifths of the social budget going on employment measures under Objective 3 and the remainder on training and retraining activities under Objective 4. A revised Objective 5 addresses the need to improve agricultural and fisheries structures and promote the development and structural adjustment of rural areas as a whole.

Applicants for finance must consequently be sure that grant proposals satisfy these priority objectives. Although more than one Fund may contribute to the achievement of each Objective, the ERDF deals principally with Objectives 1 and 2, the ESF primarily with Objectives 3 and 4 and the EAGGF and FIFG with Objective 5. Loans from the EIB and other financial instruments also contribute to these objectives.

ELIGIBLE REGIONS

In just the same way as resources are concentrated on five priority objectives, so they are at the same time directed towards the most disadvantaged areas and regions of the Community. The three main types of region earmarked for special attention are listed below, in which approximately 50% of the total EC population resides.

All parts of the United Kingdom qualify for support under Objectives 3, 4 and 5a. However, only specific regions and areas qualify for support under the other Objectives as indicated below.

Least favoured regions (Objective 1)
Much the biggest share of regional aid is directed towards those parts of the European Community whose economic development is lagging behind. Approximately 70% is reserved for measures designed to bridge the gap between these less prosperous regions and the rest of the Community for 1994 to 1999.

Regions which qualify for assistance under Objective 1 are generally defined as those where per capita GDP is less than or close to 75% of the Community average. More than a quarter of the Community's population lives in such regions, including the whole of Greece, Ireland and Portugal as well as parts of Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and the new German Lander and East Berlin.

In the United Kingdom only Northern Ireland has in the past qualified for Objective 1. However, it has now been agreed that Merseyside and the Scottish Highlands and Islands Enterprise area should also be accorded Objective 1 status.

Industrial areas and regions in decline (Objective 2)
High priority is given to those areas hardest hit by industrial decline, where traditional industries can no longer compete successfully, causing major economic and social hardship and dislocation for the local workforce. Areas affected by restructuring in the fisheries sector can also now be eligible for Objective 2 status.

Areas heavily dominated by traditional industries such as shipbuilding and textiles have received assistance over the years to help manage the economic and social consequences of major contraction. Coal and steel areas have also received special attention, with grants, loans and guarantees being provided to improve economic and social conditions in those areas where job losses have been experienced.

In drawing up its list of industrial areas

eligible for assistance the Commission uses unemployment and job loss statistics together with special factors drawn to its attention by Member States by reference to criteria established in the fund regulation. Nearly 17% of the Community's population live in the designated areas. In the United Kingdom most of the eligible areas are concentrated in the industrial areas of the West and East Midlands, the North of England, Scotland and Wales, although a few areas in the South are also included. A full list appears in Appendix 1.

Agriculture, fisheries and rural areas (Objective 5)

The EC also recognises the need to provide support for rural areas where agriculture needs to be modernised and reorganised or coastal areas where the fishing industry is subject to major upheaval. There are no geographical limitations on assistance for modernising and re-structuring agricultural and fishery production in the light of market trends and current demand (Objective 5a); all parts of the United Kingdom are eligible.

Actions to promote the development of rural areas (Objective 5b) are limited to areas most in need of assistance, taking into account their level of economic development, including such factors as the degree to which they depend on agricultural employment, their population density and level of agricultural income. Areas suffering from a decline in fishing also now qualify for support under Objective 5b.

Some 8% of the Community's population is currently covered by this rural development objective. Those areas in the United Kingdom which currently qualify for support are listed in Appendix 1.

PROJECTS

As a general rule the EC contributes no more than 50% of the total cost of projects for Objectives 2, 3, 4 and 5b and not more than 75% of the total cost for assistance under Objective 1. The kinds of project which are eligible for support are those which are designed to promote economic growth and prosperity. Such projects may be divided into the following four main groups.

Infrastructure projects

Some parts of the European Community are not as well placed as others to gain maximum benefit from the advent of the single internal market. They may be disadvantaged, for instance, by poor transport facilities, inadequate telecommunications or energy networks or costly environmental problems.

Finance from the structural funds, in particular the ERDF, as well as from the European Investment Bank and European Coal and Steel Community, is consequently used to finance public works of the following kinds, particularly in the most disadvantaged regions.

- road, rail, air and inland waterway networks
- public transport
- telecommunications
- trans-European networks
- tourist facilities
- health and education
- facilities for industrial development
- environmental measures, including reclamation of derelict land

Productive investment

The decline of traditional industries such as coal, steel, shipbuilding, heavy engineering and chemicals has caused serious social and economic problems in many parts of the European Community. The structural funds provide support for projects which encourage and facilitate industrial regeneration and revival in such areas.

Attention is concentrated upon investment which can create new jobs, including projects which

- improve facilities for the development of business and industry (including the provision of business premises and industrial sites)
- facilitate the development of new businesses, particularly small and medium size enterprises (SMEs)
- encourage the take-up and effective use of new technology
- attract tourism
- support research and development and training facilities to overcome skills and manpower shortages

Separate provision is made under the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty for financial assistance in the

form of social payments, loans and guarantees to improve economic and social conditions in the coal and steel producing regions of Europe, which have suffered particular hardship as a result of industrial decline and contraction (See Chapter 2 for further details).

Employment and training projects
The ESF provides finance for measures to improve the quality of the workforce, expand employment opportunities and improve job prospects in the European Community. The battle against unemployment remains its principal task, with projects designed to combat long-term unemployment and to facilitate the occupational integration of young people continuing to attract high priority.

Additionally, the new regulations make explicit provision for projects which promote equal employment opportunities for men and women and which help particularly vulnerable groups in society, such as immigrants, refugees, the disabled and the homeless, to find work. The new Objective 4 aims to prevent unemployment by making provision for workers to adapt to industrial change through vocational training and re-training schemes.

Typically, the ESF provides funds for

- training and re-training schemes which
 - allow workers to upgrade their basic skills
 - enable workers to adapt to new production methods, technologies and market conditions
 - allow SMEs to adapt to new forms of cooperation with large firms
 - provide young people with up to two years initial vocational training
- subsidies for the creation of new jobs
- start-up aids for the self-employed
- assistance for vocational guidance and counselling
- a variety of back-up measures, including studies, technical assistance and other innovative schemes concerned with training and employment initiatives

Agricultural, fisheries and rural development projects

All parts of the United Kingdom are eligible for support for measures designed to speed up the adjustment of agricultural structures (*Objective 5a*). Grant aid is provided for measures which

- support farm incomes and provide compensatory aids for farmers in mountainous and less favoured areas
- rejuvenate farms by means of installation grants for young farmers
- improve efficiency by investments which help to reduce production costs, improve living and working conditions, promote diversification and preserve the environment
- improve the processing and marketing of farm and forestry products

Objective 5c now also covers projects to modernise and restructure the fisheries and aquaculture sector and the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products. Eligible projects might include:

- renewal and modernisation of the fishing fleet
- improved processing and marketing of fish products
- the search for new markets
- measures to improve facilities at fishing ports

Actions to promote rural development are limited to areas most in need of assistance (see Appendix 1). In these areas eligible projects might include measures to:

- promote locally produced agricultural and forestry products
- restore agricultural and forestry production after natural disasters
- support forestry and protection of the environment
- develop the rural infrastructure
- renovate villages and protect the rural heritage

APPLICATIONS

The structural funds operate on a programme-based rather than a project based approach to funding. The EC provides global sums for the implementation of national or regional Community Support Frameworks and programmes which emerge from discussions between the Commission, member governments and other representative organisations nominated by the latter, rather than for specific projects. Lead government departments play a major role in these.

Who may apply

Given that structural fund expenditure complements national policies and actions and has to be matched by funds from within the Member State, the public sector is the principal beneficiary of support, particularly government departments, local government, regional development authorities, Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs), the higher education and voluntary sectors and other publicly funded organisations. However, the private sector is not excluded. Recipients may be small and medium-sized firms (SMEs), but this is usually the case when national schemes are co-financed by Community Funds.

How to apply

In most cases applications for finance from the structural funds must be submitted not by individuals but by recognised organisations which are supported financially by a public body and must be directed not to the European Commission but to the government department responsible for managing the operations of the funds in the United Kingdom.

European Regional Development Fund
Initial contact should be made with the regional offices of the Department of the Environment or the Department of Trade and Industry depending on the nature of the project, or with the equivalent offices for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, from whom application forms, information packs and other information on procedures may be obtained (see Appendix 2).

UK contact:

Department of the Environment,
Regional Policy Division,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB
Tel: 071 276 3812

Department of Trade and Industry,
Regional Policy Division,
Room 232,
Kingsgate House,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1P 6SW
Tel: 071 215 2556

European Social Fund

The Department of Employment is the lead department, although applications are normally processed and first considered by a network of sectoral and

regional coordinators from the local authorities, Training and Enterprise Councils and other organisations in the voluntary, academic and business sectors which work in partnership with the Department.

Further details of application procedures and a list of regional and sectoral coordinators may be obtained from:

The European Social Fund Unit,
Department of Employment
236 Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4740

European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

Further information on the opportunities for funding from the EAGGF may be obtained as follows:

- *on the structure of agricultural holdings*

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Rural Structures and Grants Division,
Room 724, Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3JR
Tel: 071 238 5651

- *on processing and marketing of agricultural products*

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Food and Marketing Policy Division,
Room 325B,
Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HX
Tel: 071 238 6315

- *fisheries and aquaculture*

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Rural Structures and Grants Division,
Room 729, Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HX
Tel: 071 238 5651

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Food and Marketing Policy Division,
Room 325b, Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HX
Tel: 071 238 6315

Further reading

Council Reg (EEC) 2080/93 (FIFG regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

Council Reg (EEC) 2081/93 (revised framework regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

Council Reg (EEC) 2082/93 (revised coordination regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

Council Reg (EEC) 2083/93 (revised ERDF regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

Council Reg (EEC) 2084/93 (revised ESF regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

Council Reg (EEC) 2085/93 (revised EAGGF regulation) *OJ L193, 31.7.1993*

industrial waste

- strengthening of know-how and training relating to these areas

In the United Kingdom the programme applies only to Northern Ireland.

Further information: OJ C115, 9.5.1990

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels.

UK contact:

Department of the Environment,
26 Lanenall Street,
Belfast BT2 8BE
Tel: 0232 239 364

Euroform

The aim of the Euroform programme is to develop new qualifications, new skills and new employment opportunities through transnational measures to promote convergence at Community level, particularly in the least favoured regions of Europe. The measures supported by the programme include

- promotion of transnational partnerships between administrations, public and private bodies responsible for vocational training and the promotion of employment

- encouragement for the setting up, development and operation of transnational initiatives to prepare, programme and implement training and employment schemes at a regional, sectoral or technological level

Further information: OJ C327, 29.12.1990

EC contact:

DG V,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Employment,
European Social Fund Section,
236 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4710

Horizon

The aim of the Horizon programme is to aid the economic, professional and social integration of disabled persons. The programme provides grant aid to people with either a serious disability resulting from physical or mental impairment or to those suffering from other specific difficulties which hinder their economic or social integration. Preference is given to transnational projects with partners in the least developed regions, with support being provided for measures which include:

- vocational training for the disabled
- creation of small enterprises to create employment for the disabled
- start-up services or products
- equipment or information sources
- counselling, training, studies and exchanges for the disadvantaged

Further information: OJ C327, 29.12.1990

EC contact:

DG V,
European Social Fund,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Employment,
European Social Fund Section,
236 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4710

In the United Kingdom Northern Ireland (excluding Belfast) and Kent are at present eligible.

Further information: OJ C215, 30.8.1990

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contacts:

EC Branch,
Room 278,
Department of Finance and Personnel,
Parliament Buildings,
Belfast BT4 3SW
Tel: 0232 521 509

Kent County Council,
Economic Development Department,
Springfield,
Maidstone,
Kent MA14 2LL
Tel: 0622 694 066

Konver

The aim of this programme is to provide assistance to those regions heavily dependent on the defence sector which have been hit hard by reductions in military spending. Measures eligible for support include:

- job creation and retraining
- redevelopment of military sites for civilian use
- business support services for SMEs
- economic diversification

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
Regional Development and Inward
Investment
Division,
Kingsgate House,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SW
Tel: 071 215 5000

Leader

The aim of the Leader programme (1991-1993) is to encourage an integrated approach to rural development at the grass-roots level. Support is provided for Local Action Groups which devise programmes for developing local areas. Measures which attract support include:

- technical support to aid rural development
- vocational training and recruitment aid
- rural tourism and farm tourism
- SMEs, craft enterprises and local services
- support for local rural development groups
- networking of local groups across the Community

Support is provided for Objective 1 and 5b regions.

Further information: OJ C73, 19.3.1991

EC contacts:

Commission of the European
Communities,
DG VI (Agriculture),
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Leader Coordinating Unit,
34 rue Breydel
B-1040 Brussels

UK contacts:

- for England
Department of the Environment,
South West Regional Office,
Tollgate House,
Houlton Street,
Bristol BS2 9DJ
Tel: 0272 218172

- for Scotland
Scottish Office,
Industry Department,
Room 5/88,
New St Andrews House,
St James Centre,
Edinburgh EH1 3TA
Tel: 031 244 5283

- for Northern Ireland
Rural Development Council,
Loughry College,
Cookstown,
BT80 9AA
Tel: 06487 66980

- for Wales
Welsh Office,
Section ERP 2A,
New Crown Building,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff CF1 3NQ
Tel: 0222 823127

Interreg

The aim of the Interreg programme is to assist border areas of the Community to prepare for the advent of the single market, principally through greater cooperation between regions straddling national borders. Eligible measures include:

- support for SMEs
- tourism
- provision of public utilities, including water, gas, electricity and telecommunications
- rural development
- pollution prevention and control
- transport and communications infrastructure
- training and employment measures

Now

The aim of the Now programme is to help women to take full advantage, on equal-terms with men, of the positive effects expected from economic growth and technological development. The whole of the Community is eligible although priority is given to transnational measures covering the least favoured regions. Activities supported by the programme include:

- schemes to encourage the establishment of small businesses and cooperatives by women
- schemes to provide guidance and advice, training and access to women wishing to return to work

Further information: OJ C327, 29.12.1990

EC contact:

DG V,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Employment,
European Social Fund Section,
236 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4710

Prisma

The aim of the Prisma programme (1991-1993) is to help firms in the least developed regions to benefit from the completion of the single market. Measures eligible for support include:

- creation and upgrading of calibration and metrology facilities and services for businesses
- assistance for SMEs to prepare for opening up public procurement

In the United Kingdom Prisma applies only to Northern Ireland.

Further information: OJ C33, 8.2.1991

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Economic Development,
Industrial Science Centre,
17 Antrim Road,
Lisburn BT28 3AL
Tel: 0846 665161

Rechar

The aim of the Rechar programme (1989-1993) is to help designated coal-mining regions of the Community to overcome the economic and social consequences of major contraction in the industry. In order to focus assistance on the most needy regions assistance is concentrated in those regions where job losses have been most severe. In line with the provisions governing the operation of the Structural Funds, member states are required to submit detailed proposals for operational programmes to the Commission.

Grants and loans may be provided for the following purposes:

- environmental improvements, including reclamation of coal tips, cleaning-up and conversion of disused coal-mining buildings and their surroundings, landscaping, road improvements, subsidence correction, etc
- construction of new factory units and workshops
- improvement of community facilities, roads, water and electricity supplies in mining villages
- measures to promote the creation of SMEs
- promotion of tourism, particularly activities based on industrial heritage
- vocational training and employment measures
- redeployment aid and start-up assistance
- early retirement assistance

A list of areas eligible for assistance under Rechar appears in Appendix I.

*Further information:
OJ C20, 27.1.1990 (operational
guidelines)*

*OJ C185, 26.7.1990 (criteria for
readaptation aid)*

*OJ C177, 18.7.1990 (list of eligible
areas)*

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities

Communities,

200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SW
Tel: 071 215 2557

Regen

The aim of the Regen programme (1990-1993) is to improve energy networks in the most disadvantaged regions of the Community. Funds have been made available to build natural gas networks in Portugal and Greece, to link the natural gas networks of Ireland and the United Kingdom, Spain and Portugal and to link the electricity networks of Italy and Greece.

Further information: OJ C326, 28.12.1990

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Regis

The aim of the Regis programme (1990-1993) is to promote the socio-economic integration of the most remote island regions of the Community, such as the Azores, Madeira, Guadalupe, French Guyana, Martinique, Reunion and the Canary Islands. Eligible measures include:

- assistance for the diversification of agricultural production
- investment in environmentally friendly forms of tourism
- assistance for SMEs
- consolidation of links with the rest of the EC
- measures to reduce risks associated with natural disasters
- training and employment measures

Further information: OJ C196, 4.8.1990

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Renaval

A programme adopted in 1988 to assist shipbuilding areas which have suffered large-scale job losses. Funds are available for projects concerning

- improvement of run-down industrial areas
- development of business consultancy
- support for SMEs.

In the United Kingdom the travel to work areas of Plymouth, the boroughs of Sefton and the Wirral in Merseyside, the districts of Middlesborough and Langbaugh in Cleveland, Tyne and Wear and Strathclyde and Fife are eligible for support.

Further information: OJ L225, 15.8. 1988

UK contacts:

- North East of England
DTI North East,
Stanegate House,
2 Groat Market,
Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 1YN
Tel: 091 232 4722

- Tyne and Wear
Department of the Environment,
Tawsen Secretariat,
10th Floor,
Wellbar HOUse,
Gallowgate,
Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 4TD
Tel: 091 201 3300

- Plymouth
Department of the Environment,
South West Regional Office,
Room 227,
Tollgate House,
Houlton Street,
Bristol BS2 9DJ
Tel: 0272 218169

- Scotland
Scottish Office,
Industry Department,
New St Andrews House,
St James Centre,
Edinburgh EH1 3TA
Tel: 031 556 8400

Resider

The aim of the Resider programme is to help solve socio-economic problems in regions seriously affected by steel closures. Assistance is concentrated in

areas designated by member states according to criteria which identify those areas in which job losses have been most severe. Grants may be awarded for purposes which include the following:

- job creation in steel areas
- environmental and social improvements, including the reclamation of derelict land, sites and buildings
- measures to promote SMEs, including advisory services
- promotion of tourism
- promotion of innovation

Further information: OJ L33, 5.2. 1988

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Retex

The aim of the Retex programme is to encourage the diversification of economic activities in those regions heavily dependent on the textiles and clothing industries. Eligible measures include:

- improving know-how for businesses
- formation of local business groupings and cooperatives
- setting up of advisory teams to provide ideas and advice
- vocational training
- rehabilitation of industrial wasteland
- aid to reduce pollution and facilitate recycling
- improving access to venture capital and loans

The Retex programme applies to Objective 1, 2 and 5b areas (See Appendix 1).

Further information: OJ C142, 4.6.1992

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Regional offices of the DTI (see Appendix 2)

Stride

The aim of the Stride programme (1990-1993) is to promote innovation and technological development in the least developed regions and in regions in industrial decline. Eligible measures include

- strengthening the research capacity of Objective 1 regions
- improving participation in EC R&D programmes and networks
- promoting cooperation between research and industry

In the United Kingdom Objectives 1 and 2 areas are eligible (see Appendix 1).

Further information: OJ C196, 4.8.1990

EC contact:

DG XVI (Regional policy),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contacts:

Department of Economic Development,
Neitherleigh,
Massey Avenue,
Belfast BT4 2JS
Tel: 0232 529 409

Department of Trade and Industry,
Bay 317,
Kingsgate House,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SW
Tel: 071 215 2555

Telematique

The aim of the Telematique programme (1991-1993) is to promote the use of advanced telecommunications services in the least developed regions of the Community. Eligible measures include:

- use of advanced telecommunications services by SMEs
- development of telecommunications services in the public sector which could contribute to regional development
- development of links within regions and between them and the rest of the Community

In the United Kingdom only Northern Ireland is eligible.

Further information: OJ C33; 8.2.1991

C contact:

Commission of the European Communities,
20 rue de la loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Economic Development,
Industrial Development Board,
Room 324,
DB House,
64 Chichester Street,
Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel: 0232 233233

1994-1999

At the time of writing details of Community Initiatives for the 1994 to 1999 period have yet to be finalised. However, the Commission has announced that programmes will be based on the following principal themes.

• cross-border and transnational cooperation and networks

Continuation of the INTERREG programme will ensure that substantial funds continue to be made available for cross border cooperation on both internal land borders and on external borders and on specified maritime borders. Special attention will be paid to cross-border cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The programme will also subsume REGEN.

• rural development

The new programme envisages increased resources for the LEADER initiative on rural development.

• outermost regions

The intention here is to continue the support provided by REGIS to the Community's ultra-peripheral regions.

• employment

The EMPLOYMENT initiative will incorporate strands corresponding to the NOW initiative targetting women and to HORIZON, which addresses the problems of the disabled. It will also cover other disadvantaged groups.

including the long-term unemployed. YOUTHSTART will aim to provide young people with a youth guarantee scheme to improve access to education and training.

• industrial change

It is proposed to continue with such initiatives as RECHAR, RESIDER, RETEX and KONVER which bring assistance to regions hit by decline in specific industries. A specific initiative to assist the Portuguese textile industry is also envisaged. Also under this theme a new initiative called ADAPT will seek to help workers threatened with unemployment due to industrial change and help enterprises to improve their competitiveness. A new initiative targetting SMEs is also planned as part of the initiative to ease adaption to industrial change. It will incorporate some aspects of the PRISMA, STRIDE and TELEMATIQUE programmes.

• urban areas

The URBAN initiative will support about 50 urban programmes designed to improve working and living conditions in inner city areas.

• fisheries

PESCA will help areas heavily dependent on fishing to adapt to change, assist with the economic and social consequences of restructuring and encourage further diversification.

Further reading

Community initiatives. Office for Official Publications, 1993. (Folder)
ISBN 92-826-6095-8

The future of Community initiatives under the structural funds
COM(93) 282 final. 16.6.1993.

2. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

During the past decade the EC has shown increasing concern for the enterprise sector and has recognised a need to develop a favourable climate for business, taking particular account of the needs of smaller firms in the enlarged European market. Support measures of various kinds have been taken to create a business environment in which SMEs can flourish and to provide support services to assist their creation and development. This section illustrates how finance has been provided for project investment, a range of support services has been developed and measures also taken to stimulate innovation and exploitation of the benefits of technological development. Although SMEs are encouraged to take advantage of many of the schemes and funding opportunities described elsewhere in this guide, a number of initiatives designed specifically for SMEs in relation to business development, innovation and technology are highlighted in this section.

LOANS

European Investment Bank (EIB)

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the European Community's own bank, providing long-term finance for investments which further the balanced development of the Community. As an institution established by the Treaty of Rome, the EIB works to promote European integration by financing capital investment projects in industry, infrastructure and energy that meet European Community priority objectives. Working on a non-profit basis the Bank is able to raise funds on excellent terms and to pass on the benefits to project promoters. It raises the bulk of its funds for on-lending on the capital markets where its bond issues have consistently been awarded the best credit ratings - 'AAA' - by the leading rating agencies.

Lending objectives

The EIB makes loans or guarantees for a wide range of projects, both private and public, across all economic sectors. The pattern of lending is not tied to any predetermined geographical or sectoral quota but depends on demand, the viability of projects and their consistency with Community policies. The EIB finances projects which help:

- the economic development of the less favoured regions
- to improve communications - telecommunications and transport (roads, rail links, urban transport systems, ports, airports, aircraft, aerospace)

- to protect and improve the environment and quality of life - reducing air and water pollution, waste treatment schemes, ensuring security and purity of water supplies, land conservation and safeguarding Europe's cultural heritage
- to improve the competitiveness of Community industry and promote industrial integration - modernisation and introduction of advanced technology, technical cooperation between companies from different Member States
- to support the activities of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), regardless of location, in the industrial and related services (including tourism in regional development areas).
- improve the security of energy supplies and the rational use and diversification of energy sources

Eligibility

EIB loans may be granted to public or private sector borrowers for financing infrastructure, energy, industry, services and agriculture projects which satisfy one or more of the above objectives. Projects in the productive sector have to be technically and commercially viable, able to meet their interest and amortisation payments from operating revenues. Infrastructure projects have to be technically and, directly or indirectly, economically viable. Social investment such as health, general education and welfare cannot be financed by the Bank.

Loans

The EIB normally finances up to 50% of

a project's cost, with large-scale loans of about £10 million or more financed by means of individual loans concluded directly with the EIB. Smaller scale projects are supported indirectly through Banks and financial institutions who have arranged global loans for on-lending in smaller amounts to SMEs and other organisations according to EIB criteria. Barclays Bank performs this function in the United Kingdom.

Interest rates

The EIB lends at fixed or floating rates in currencies or currency mixes to meet a borrower's needs. Rates reflect the cost of the Bank's borrowing plus a 0.15% margin to cover administrative expenses. Interest rates are not influenced by the type or location of the project, the nationality of the borrower or the size of the loan. Maturity periods depend on the type of project and the asset life of the proposed investment, with industrial projects generally ranging from 5 to 12 years and infrastructure projects up to 20 or more years.

Applications

No particular formalities are involved in approaching the EIB. Initial contact can be made by letter or telephone directly to the Head Office in Luxembourg, to the EIB's London Office or to one of its offices in Athens, Brussels, Lisbon, Madrid and Rome. SMEs in the United Kingdom with projects costing up to £20 million should contact Barclays Bank.

EC contact:

European Investment Bank,
100 Bd Konrad Adenauer,
L-2950 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4379-1

UK contacts:

European Investment Bank,
68 Pall Mall,
London SW1Y 5ES
Tel: 071 839 3351

Barclays Bank PLC,
European Loans Unit,
Fleetway House,
25 Farrington Street,
London EC4A 4LP
Tel: 071 832 3085

European Investment Fund (EIF)

A European Investment Fund is set up with an initial subscribed capital of 2 billion ecu to provide financial guarantees for major Trans-European Networks projects of transport, telecommunications and energy, as well as projects promoted by SMEs, especially in assisted areas.

EC contact:

European Investment Bank,
100 Bd Konrad Adenauer,
L-2950 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4379-1

ECSC Loans

Separate provision is made under the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) Treaty for financial assistance in the form of grants, loans and guarantees for a variety of measures to improve economic and social conditions in those coal and steel producing regions of the EC which have suffered particular hardship as a result of industrial decline and contraction.

Industrial loans

Article 54 of the ECSC Treaty provides for loans to be made at attractive interest rates to help carry out investment programmes on projects which increase production, reduce costs, facilitate the marketing and promote the consumption of coal and steel products. The amount of money to be loaned for each project is decided on a case by case basis by the Commission but may not exceed 50% of the gross capital costs of the project. Business organisations, public bodies or local authorities may make application for industrial loans direct to the Commission.

EC contact:

DG XVIII,
Commission of the European Communities;

Batiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 43011

Conversion loans

The ECSC provides medium-term fixed and floating interest rate loans of up to 50% of project costs to co-finance projects which improve employment prospects in areas where contraction of the coal and steel industries has resulted in severe job losses. Projects should not be related to the coal and steel industries but they must involve the creation or expansion of job opportunities in defined coal and steel areas. Private firms and public bodies in designated coal and steel closure areas may apply for loans of the sterling equivalent of 7.5 million ECU or more direct to the Commission, although the UK government is required to complete part of the application relating to employment and economic conditions in the area concerned.

Applications for loans for projects whose total investment value does not exceed 15 million ECU may be made direct to financial intermediaries in receipt of global loans from the Commission (see Appendix 2 for addresses). Applications for larger loans should be addressed direct to Luxembourg.

EC contact:

DG XVIII -B/2,
Commission of the European Communities,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 43011

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SW
Tel: 071 215 2557

Housing loans

In order to improve living conditions for coal and steel workers the ECSC runs a low cost housing programme for the purpose of providing long-term loans, normally at an interest rate of 1%, to build, purchase or improve dwellings.

Housing funds may be provided for a) the construction, purchase or improvement of individual houses, b)

group projects for the construction, purchase, or improvement of housing with some direct link to coal and steel undertakings.

The exact amounts of loans available for each dwelling and other details such as income limits and cost ceilings are determined by the Commission with advice from national Housing Committees.

Further information: OJ C19, 22.1.1994.

EC contact:

DG V-A (Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs),
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
1049 Brussels, Belgium.

UK contacts:

Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation,
25-27 Huddersfield Road,
Barnsley,
South Yorkshire S70 2LX
Tel: 0226 298 871

British Steel PLC,
9 Albert Embankment,
London SE1 7SN.
071 735 7654

Personnel Director,
Sheerness Steel Company,
Sheerness,
Kent ME12 1TH
Tel: 0795 663333

Readaptation grants

The ECSC provides assistance for workers who have been made redundant owing to market changes and plant closures in the coal and steel industries.

Grants may be made for the following purposes:

- additional income benefits often in the form of a guaranteed wage or complement to unemployment benefit during the transition period from redundancy to new employment or retirement
- resettlement allowances for workers
- vocational training allowances for workers undergoing approved retraining

UK contact:
Department of Trade and Industry,
Coal Division,
1 Palace Street,
London SW1E 5HG

Department of Trade and Industry,
Steel Metals and Materials Division,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1087

EURATOM Loans

Loans are available under the provisions of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) for promoting the use of nuclear energy as a means of reducing the Community's dependence on external energy sources. Projects relating to investments in nuclear power stations and industrial nuclear fuel cycle installations are eligible for support.

EC contact:
DG XVIII,
Commission of the European Communities,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
L- 2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 43011

VENTURE CAPITAL

Eurotech Capital
Eurotech Capital is a scheme to promote private financing of transnational high technology projects. The scheme operates through a number of private organisations known as Eurotech Funds granted the Eurotech Capital label, which in return for devoting a specified amount of their capital to new venture capital financing of transnational high-technology projects receive a financial contribution from the Commission and various other advantages.

EC contact:
DG XVIII,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
Commission of the European Communities,
L-2920 Luxembourg,
Tel: 010 352 4301 6261

UK contact:
Longinan Cartermill Ltd.,
The Technology Centre,

St. Andrews,
Fife KY16 9EA
Tel: 0334 77660

Seed capital

The aim of this pilot scheme is to provide financial support for seed capital funds designed to provide investment in new or embryonic companies to allow them to develop product prototypes to the point where venture capital or alternative sources of funding become available. Typically, the scheme provides start-up investment for projects which have a long development phase, involve new technology and by their nature are high risk but offering the prospect of high returns. The twenty-four seed capital funds established throughout the Community for this purpose also provide support services in such areas as financial planning, market analysis and business strategies.

EC contacts:
European Venture Capital Association,
Keibergpark,
Minervastraat 6, Box 6,
B-1930 Zaventum,
Belgium
Tel: 010 322 720 6010

DG XXIII/B/3,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 2443

Venture Consort

The Venture Consort pilot scheme aims to encourage the formation of cross-border syndicates of venture capitalists in order to assist SMEs to gain access to venture capital for innovative projects at a European level. Under the scheme the Commission provides financing to venture capital syndicates which are members of the European Venture Capital Association and which have agreed to finance SME projects satisfying agreed criteria. Projects undertaken by SMEs have been funded in areas such as biotechnology, energy saving, computer software and information technology. Apart from financing the syndicates also offer certain specialised services to SMEs, such as management support and advice.

EC contact:
DG XXIII/B/3,
Commission of the European Communities,
Centre Wagner,
Rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4301 6189

European Venture Capital Association,
Keibergpark,
Minervastraat 6, Box 6,
B-1930 Zaventum,
Belgium
Tel: 010 322 720 6010

BUSINESS SUPPORT

The initiatives described in this section underline the importance that the Single European Market has given to cross-border cooperation and partnership between businesses. Many of the schemes are designed to encourage and make it easier for SMEs to join forces to meet the challenges of the wider market and to assist them with business development, innovation and technology transfer.

Business Cooperation Centre (BCC)
The Business Cooperation Centre is a central clearinghouse which performs non-confidential partner searches on behalf of SMEs who wish to cooperate with other businesses on technical, commercial and financial operations. Company profiles are disseminated to a network of more than 340 professional correspondents located in nearly 50 EC and third countries.

EC contact:
DG XXIII
Business Cooperation Centre,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 9117

Business Cooperation Network (BC-NET)

The Business Cooperation network helps businesses, particularly SMEs, to identify other enterprises with which they can cooperate on a regional or transnational basis. The scheme consists of a computer-based network linking more than 600 business advisers throughout the Community and in more

than 30 non-member countries who compile confidential computer profiles of clients' activities and compare them against other profiles in a central database maintained in Brussels. Matching profiles are examined by business advisers and potential partners put in contact with each other if appropriate.

A list of members of the BC-NET network may be obtained from national offices of the Commission and from Euro-Info Centres (See Appendix 2).

EC contact:
DG XXIII
Business Cooperation Network,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 9421

Euro-Info Centres (EICs)
Finance has been provided by the European Commission for the creation of a network of more than two hundred Euro Info Centres across the Community whose function is to provide SMEs with the vital information which they require if they are to take full advantage of the opportunities afforded by the completion of the single market. The network is also progressively being opened up through correspondence centres to EFTA countries and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. A list of UK Centres is provided in Appendix 2:

EC contact:
DG XXIII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue Montoyer 70,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 287 1570

Europartenariat
Europartenariat is a business cooperation programme designed to encourage cross-border business links between SMEs in the less favoured regions of the EC and others in the rest of the Community. Now arranged on a biannual basis, each Europartenariat draws together several hundred selected SMEs from a designated region for meetings spread over several days with relevant firms from other parts of the Community and elsewhere.

EC contact:
DG XXIII/B/2,
Europartenariat Programme,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 235 1285

European Community Business and Innovation Centres (BICs)
Finance has been provided for the creation of a network of Business and Innovation Centres (BICs) to stimulate the growth of new SMEs and to offer existing SMEs a comprehensive programme of services in areas such as training, finance, marketing, business planning and technology transfer. EC BICs are small organisations set up as commercial companies or not-for-profit organisations by partnerships between such bodies as local authorities, chambers of commerce, financial institutions, large and small companies, universities and other local interest groups.

EC contact:
DG XVI,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 3046

European Business Innovation Centres Network,
rue Froissart 89, Box 5,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 231 0747

Information on UK BICs may also be obtained from national offices of the European Commission and from Euro-Info Centres (See Appendix 2).

European SME Observatory
Established in December 1992, the European SME Observatory monitors the state of SMEs and assesses their future prospects in a single, frontier-free market. The Observatory will collect information and develop understanding on the role of SMEs in business as a whole, study trends and generally analyse external factors likely to impinge upon the future well-being of European SMEs.

EC contact:
DG XXIII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 6433

In order to assist its work the Observatory will draw upon twelve national bodies specializing in the analysis of SMEs. The UK participant is:

Centre for SMEs,
University of Warwick,
Coventry,
CV4 7AL

INTERPRISE

The Initiative to Encourage Partnerships between Industries and Services in Europe (Interprise) scheme is intended to support local, regional and national actions designed to stimulate contacts among entrepreneurs and to create partnerships between SMEs. Activities supported by the programme include the creation of partner search programmes, the organisation of business-contact meetings, fairs and other opportunities for interested firms to make contact and enter cooperation agreements.

EC contact:
DG-XXIII/B/2,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue d'Arlon 80,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 1285

MED-INVEST
See Chapter 6

INNOVATION

An important strand in EC enterprise policy, particularly in relation to SMEs, is the promotion of innovation, the exploitation of new technologies and the transfer of knowledge between firms so as to improve business performance in the most disadvantaged regions and increase overall industrial competitiveness. The programmes described below address these issues.

CRAFT

The European Co-operative Research Action for Technology programme is an initiative under the BRITE/EURAM programme (see page 1) which aims to promote research by and for SMEs by helping SMEs without their own research facilities to pool resources and have their projects handled by third parties.

EC contact:

DG XII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 5517

UK contact:

CRAFT,
Beta Technology Ltd.,
Riverside House,
Weeden Street,
Sheffield S9 2FT.
Tel: 0742 422004

Euromanagement

A pilot action to make SMEs aware of the possibilities offered by Community research and transnational technological cooperation, involving a representative sample of more than 650 industrial SMEs active in the field of technological research and development.

EC contact:

DG XXIII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 0940

Information market policy actions (IMPACT II)

In recognition that information is a strategically important raw material the Commission has provided finance through a series of multiannual programmes for actions designed to create an environment in which information can flow freely across national boundaries. Following a preparatory phase which ran from 1989 to 1990, the aim of IMPACT II (1991-1995) is to establish an internal market for information services in Europe, to stimulate and strengthen the competitive capacity of European suppliers of information services and to promote the use of advanced information services.

Against this background, the programme consists of four main action lines:

- improving understanding of the market, particularly through the work of the European Information Market Observatory
- overcoming legal and administrative barriers to the exchange and dissemination of information
- increasing user friendliness and improving information literacy
- supporting strategic information initiatives

*Further information: OJ L377,
31.12.1991*

EC contact:

DG XIII/E,
IMPACT Central Office,
Commission of the European
Communities,
P.B. 1907,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 3498 1222

Strategic programme for innovation and technology transfer (SPRINT). Funds are available under the Sprint programme (1989-1993) for measures designed to improve industrial competitiveness by promoting innovation and the transfer of technology between sectors and regions in the Community. The programme has the following three main objectives:

- to strengthen transnational networks of specialised intermediaries who can help SMEs to find partners in other EC countries with whom to make technology agreements
- to develop and implement specific projects for the transfer of innovation and technology across national boundaries
- to improve the environment for innovation by monitoring developments and encouraging the exchange of experience between member countries

SPRINT is open to industrial and commercial enterprises, including SMEs, as well as universities, research institutions, representative sectoral organisations, regional development organisations and other bodies which help business to exchange technology and to innovate.

*Further information: OJ L112,
25.4.1989*

EC contact:

DG XIII/C/2,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Bâtiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4301 4371

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
Technology Programmes and Services
Division,
5th Floor Grey,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1511

VALUE II

The aim of the VALUE II (Valorisation and Utilisation for Europe) programme is to promote the collection, dissemination and exploitation of the results of Community scientific and technological research, by providing a range of services to contractors involved in EC R&D projects to help them protect, exploit and disseminate the results of their work. The programme has three main elements, each of which involves a number of activities:

- the interface between research and industry, including the creation of relay centres to promote and publicise R&D programmes and of the CORDIS database and related publications on R&D activities
- the interface between research and the scientific community, including the research environment, the management and communication of research and the effectiveness and efficiency of R&D
- the interface between research and society, including evaluation of social impact, communication with the public and analysis of public demand

Assistance with utilisation, protection and promotion of results is available only to contractors who are or have been participants in EC R&D projects and their partners.

The UK Relay Centres established in the United Kingdom to help promote EC R&D programmes and to disseminate

Information about them are listed in
Appendix 2.

EC contact:

DG XIII/C,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4301 3610

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1614

Further reading

EIB information. European Investment
Bank. Irreg.

Euro - info (SME craft industry).

Commission of the EC. 10 issues per
annum.

Frontier-free Europe. Commission of the
EC. 10 issues per annum.

Innovation and technology transfer.

Commission of the EC. 5-6 issues per
annum.

3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The EC is a major source of funding for research and development in areas designed to strengthen the scientific and technological base of European industry and improve the international competitiveness of the European economy. Although much of the EC research effort is consequently concentrated on industrial research in such 'pervasive' or 'enabling' technologies as telecommunications, materials and information technology, opportunities also exist for participation in programmes in many other research areas. Some work is undertaken by the EC's own research staff but most programmes are implemented by means of projects undertaken by external researchers under contract to the Commission.

FRAMEWORK PROGRAMMES

It is the aim of EC research policy to complement national research efforts by means of projects which are more effectively dealt with at a European rather than national level. Financial constraints alone make it essential that EC research is selective in character, concentrating upon those areas which are crucial if European industry is to become more competitive at an international level. In practice, funds are channelled into priority research areas by means of 'framework programmes' consisting of a set of objectives and priorities to guide resource allocation and planning over a four or five year period. The third such programme comes to a conclusion in 1994 and the fourth programme to cover the years from 1994 to 1998 awaits final approval.

3rd Framework Programme 1990-1994

Each framework programme lays down the scientific and technical objectives to be achieved during the research period, defines priorities and the main lines of action for their implementation, establishes the total amount of money to be set aside for the programme and allocates funds between the various research areas which make up the programme. The Third Framework Programme provides approximately £4 billion to fund research and technological development programmes in the following principal areas.

Enabling technologies

1. Information and communications technologies
2. Industrial and materials technologies

Management of natural resources

3. Environment
4. Life sciences and technologies
5. Energy

Management of intellectual resources

6. Human capital and mobility

Institutions and individuals contemplating applications for research funding must ensure that their research proposals conform with the general aims and priorities as outlined in the current Framework programme; the closer the match the higher the chances of attracting support.

Further information: OJ L 117, 8 May 1990

EC contact:

DG XII/A,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

4th Framework Programme 1994-1998

Although discussions between Community institutions have yet to be concluded it is currently envisaged that the new framework programme will concentrate on research themes which are likely to have a significant economic and commercial impact and which meet genuine economic and social needs. Within each of the major field listed below, funds will be centred on generic technologies which are capable of multiple applications:

- information and communication technologies
 - information technologies
 - advanced communications
 - telematics

• industrial technologies

- design, engineering, production systems & human management
- materials & materials related technologies
- advanced propulsion technologies
- standards, measurement & testing

• environment

- natural environment, environmental quality & global change
- environmentally-related technologies
- earth observation & space technologies

• life sciences and technologies

- biotechnology
- biomedical & health research
- application of life sciences to agriculture & fisheries

• energy

- clean & efficient energy technologies
- nuclear safety & safeguards
- controlled thermonuclear fusion

• transport

- multimodal trans-European network optimisation of transport networks

• socio-economic research

- science & technology policy options
- education & training
- integration in Europe & social exclusion phenomena

Further information:

Proposal ...concerning the fourth framework programme
COM (93) 276 final. 16.6.1993

Working document concerning the scientific and technological content of the specific programmes implementing the fourth framework programme
COM (93) 459 final. 6.10.1993

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The medium-term guidelines identified in framework programmes are given practical effect by means of multi-annual research programmes in each of the identified priority areas (see below). Each programme has its own distinct complexion and operates within its own administrative arrangements. However, the individual projects supported by these programmes share a number of common characteristics which must be taken into account by potential applicants for funds.

Shared cost

Research projects are co-financed by the Commission and the external research partners. Although the size of the budgets available for each research programme and the conditions under which funds are disbursed can vary, the usual arrangement is for the EC to provide up to 50% of total costs and the research partners to provide the rest. In the case of universities, marginal cost contracts may be used as an alternative, allowing additional costs required for implementation of a project which cannot be met from the university's own budget to be reimbursed up to 100% by the European Commission.

Collaborative research

A major objective of R&D policy is to encourage cross-frontier collaboration and the development of a truly European dimension to industrial research work. Consequently, it is usual for research programmes to be industry led and to require applications to be made jointly by partners in at least two member countries. Partnerships which bring industrial companies, research institutes and universities together are encouraged as are cooperative projects which include participation by SMEs.

Large-scale

One of the criteria used to justify the conduct of research at a European rather than a national level is that it is research on a scale which one Member State alone would find difficult to sustain in terms of finance and personnel. Consequently, within individual research programmes it is usual for funding to be provided for a relatively small number of large projects rather than for numerous, relatively small projects.

Pre-competitive research

The EC does not finance product development. In industrial research programmes the emphasis is upon pre-competitive research, that is, applied research which is beyond the stage of fundamental research but whose successful conclusion would still leave further work to be done before marketable products or processes emerge.

Pre-normative research

Research which contributes to wider objectives concerning the definition of standards and norms in relation to the completion of the internal market and other policy areas (such as health and safety and the environment) is also favoured.

APPLICATIONS

Although a proportion of funds are reserved for work carried out by the EC's own research staff in the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and for the coordination of national research policies, about 80% of the money available for R&D is used to finance research projects undertaken on behalf of the Commission by universities, research centres and private industry.

Generally, research proposals may be submitted by nationals of member countries or by public or private bodies established in member states. However, specific provision may be made for participation by individuals or organisations from other countries, particularly EFTA countries (Austria, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and Iceland) and, increasingly, from Eastern Europe.

Applications for research funds are made direct to the Commission. Research contracts are awarded after a competitive tendering process which begins with the publication of a call for research proposals published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. In some cases calls for proposals are preceded by calls for expressions of interest, in which the Commission invites potential applicants to register their interest prior to the official call for tenders.

The number of calls depends on the

duration and size of the research programme, but may be as few as one or two during the life of the programme. Consequently, it is important to note that research funds are available for application only on a very limited number of occasions during the life of a research programme. If deadlines for the submission of applications are missed then the prospect of research support is lost.

The selection of projects to be funded is undertaken by the Commission with assistance from advisory committees consisting of government representatives and other experts. Projects are selected after application of such criteria as scientific merit, technical feasibility and potential application. Other factors taken into account include the transnational composition of research teams, the type of organisation involved in the bid and the qualifications of applicants.

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

The Third Framework programme is currently being implemented by means of the 15 separate multi-annual research programmes described below.

Information technology (ESPRIT II)

First launched in the 1980's to help the European information technology industry to improve its international competitiveness, ESPRIT II supports research activities in the following principal areas:

- microelectronics
- advanced software intensive systems
- high performance computing and networks
- advanced business and home systems: peripherals
- computer integrated manufacturing and engineering
- basic research
- open microprocessor systems initiative

Further information: OJ L218, 6.8.1991.

EC contact:

ESPRIT Information Desk,
DG XII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Avenue de Beaulieu 29,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 8596

UK contact:
ESPRIT Unit,
Information and Manufacturing
Technologies Division,
Department of Trade and Industry,
4th Floor Grey,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1381

Communications technologies (RACE II)

Intended to promote a strong manufacturing industry in broadband communications in Europe and a competitive market for telecommunications equipment and services, RACE II concentrates resources in the following eight main research areas:

- Integrated broadband communications
- Intelligence in networks/flexible communications resource management
- Mobile and personal communications
- Image and data communications
- Integrated services technologies
- Information security technologies
- Advanced communications experiments
- Test infrastructures and interworking

Further information: OJ L192, 16.7.1991

EC contact:
RACE Central Office,
DG XIII/B,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Bu9 4/4b,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 296 3443

UK contact:
Telecommunications and Posts Division,
Department of Trade and Industry,
2/131 Red Zone,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1795

Telematics systems

This wide-ranging telematics programme provides funds for developing electronic information exchange infrastructures in response to user needs in the following separate work areas, some of which build on work previously undertaken in such research programmes as DRIVE, AIM, DELTA and EUROTRA.

*Further information: OJ L 192,
16.7.1991*

Area 1: Administrative services

To support the establishment of trans-European networks between public administrations, including customs and frontier controls, collection of statistics and the collection and evaluation of indirect taxation.

UK contact:

Information and Manufacturing
Technologies Division,
Department of Trade and Industry,
4th Floor, Grey
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1226

Area 2: Transport services (DRIVE)

The aim is to use advanced information technology and communications to improve the performance of passenger and goods transport services.

EC contact:

DG XIII/C-4,
DRIVE Central Office,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 296 3458

UK contacts:

Chief Scientist's Unit,
Department of Transport,
Room P2/032A,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB
Tel: 071 276 5878

Department of Trade and Industry,
Information and Manufacturing
Technologies Division,
4th Floor Green,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1233

Area 3: Health care (AIM)

The programme seeks to apply information and communications technologies to health care and the development of a European healthcare information infrastructure.

EC contact:

DG XIII C/ AIM,
Commission of the European
Communities,
BU/29,

Rue de la Loi 200,
Brussels B-1049
Tel: 010 322 296 3441

UK contacts:

NHS Management Executive,
5th Floor, Quarry House,
Quarry Hill,
Leeds LS2 7UE
Tel: 0532 546003

Department of Trade and Industry,
5th Floor, Green
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1224

Area 4: Flexible learning (DELTA)

This programme focuses on the needs of the users of electronic distance learning services.

UK contact:

Department of Employment,
Room 513, Steel House,
Tothill Street,
London SW1H 9NF
Tel: 071 273 5406

Area 5: Libraries

Designed to facilitate the effective application of new technologies in libraries and the inter-connection of library and information services and systems.

EC contact:

DG XIII/B/3
Commission of the European
Communities,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
L-2920 Luxembourg

UK contact:

Advisory Committee on the European
Library Plan,
Department of National Heritage,
Libraries Division,
Horse Guards Road,
London SW1P 3AL
Tel: 071 210 3939

Area 6: Linguistic research (EUROTRA)

Designed to develop linguistic technology to help overcome the difficulties brought about by the use of different languages in the EC.

EC contact:

DG XIII/E,
Commission of the European

Communities,
Bâtiment Jean Monnet,
B-4-002,
L-2920 Luxembourg

Department of Trade and Industry,
Information and Manufacturing
Technologies,
4th Floor, Green
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1283

Area 7: rural areas

Covers technological applications in such areas as inter-regional agri-tourism, rural business activities and multimedia management systems.

EC contact:
DG XIII/C,
Commission of the European Communities,
BU 29,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 296 3525

UK contact:
Directorate of Rural Affairs,
Department of the Environment,
Room N19/13A,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB
Tel: 071 276 3700

Industrial and materials technologies (BRITE/EURAM II)

The aim of this programme is to contribute to the regeneration of European manufacturing industry by strengthening its scientific and technological base. Special emphasis is placed on encouraging participation from SMEs through the Feasibility Awards Scheme - which provides Community support for SMEs to establish the feasibility of a device, process or concept before seeking partners for a proposal under the main programme - and the Cooperative Research Action for Technology (CRAFT) scheme - which allows SMEs to join together to nominate companies, universities or other organisations to carry out research on their behalf. The programme is divided into three technical areas:

- materials - raw materials, including exploration and mining technology, recycling and recovery of materials and

metals, the development of new and improved materials

• design and manufacturing, including the design of products and processes, manufacturing tools techniques, engineering and management

• aeronautics research, including environment related technologies, aerodynamics, aeronautical structures and manufacturing technologies, avionic system technologies

Further information: OJ L269, 25.9.91

EC contact:

DG XII,
Directorate for Technological Research,
75 rue Montoyer,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 2345

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
Information & Manufacturing
Technologies Division 5B,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1555

Measurement and testing

The aim of this programme is to improve and harmonize measurement and testing techniques in member countries and to assist in the development of new methods for physical measurement as well as chemical and biological analysis. The programme has four main technical areas of research:

- support for regulations and directives
- sectoral testing problems
- common means of calibration
- development of new methods of measurement

Further information: OJ L 126, 12.5.1992

EC contact:

DG XII/C,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 7464

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
Research and Technology Policy
Division 1,

3rd Floor,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1424

Environment

This programme seeks to develop the scientific and technical knowledge the Community needs in order to carry out its role in respect of the environment. It makes provision for activities in four main areas:

- global environmental change programmes
- technologies and engineering for the environment
- economic and social aspects of environmental issues
- technological and natural risks, including desertification

Further information: OJ L192, 16.7.1991

EC contact:

DG XII-E,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue Montoyer 75,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 3024

UK contact:

Department of the Environment,
A3.19 Romney House,
43 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3PY
Tel: 071 276 8365

Marine science and technology (MAST)

The aim of the MAST programme is to improve knowledge of the marine environment and provide a scientific and technological basis for the exploration, exploitation, management and protection of European coastal waters and surrounding seas. The programme is divided into five main research areas:

- marine science
- coastal zone science and engineering
- marine technology
- supporting initiatives
- large-scale projects - initially on the Mediterranean and the Atlantic

Further information: OJ L192, 16.7.91

EC contact:

DG XII/E (MAST)
SDM13 3/48,

75 rue Montoyer,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 6787

UK contact:
Natural Environment Research Council,
Marine and Atmospheric Sciences
Directorate,
North Star Avenue,
Swindon SN2 1EU
Tel: 0793 411616

Biotechnology (BIOTECH)

The aim of the BIOTECH programme is to extend basic biological knowledge and develop application technologies for agriculture, industry, health, nutrition and the environment. It complements the earlier BRIDGE programme and supports research in the following areas:

- molecular approaches
- cellular and organism approaches
- ecology and population biology

Further information: OJ L107, 24.4.92

EC contact:
DG XII F-2,
Genetics and Biotechnology,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 9347

UK contacts:
Agricultural and Food Research Council,
Central Office,
Swindon SN2 1UH
Tel: 0793 413027

Department of Trade and Industry,
Biotechnology Unit,
Chemicals and Biotechnology Division,
Laboratory of the Government Chemist,
Queens Road,
Teddington,
Middlesex TW11 0LY
Tel: 081 943 7591

Agriculture and agro-industry

The programme aims to secure a better match between the production of land and water based biological resources and their use by industry and consumers. It concentrates funding in the following four main areas:

- primary production, including improved quality and management
- inputs, including improved strains of

plants, animals and fish
• processing methods for raw materials
• end use products, including manufacturing processes and processing technologies

Further information: OJ L265, 21.9.91

EC contact:
DG VI,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 8612

UK contact:
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Food,
Room 107,
Nobel House,
17 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3JR
Tel: 071 238 5599

Biomedicine and health (BIOMED)

The aim of the BIOMED programme is to improve the effectiveness of medical and health research by better coordination and application of national activities and by encouraging basic research in biomedicine and health. The programme concentrates upon four main research areas:

- coordinated research on prevention, care and health systems
- major health problems and diseases, including AIDS, cancer, cardiovascular disease, mental disorders and ageing
- human genome analysis, including genetic and physical mapping
- research on biomedical ethics

Further information: OJ L267, 24.9.91

EC contact:
DG XII-F-6,
Commission of the European
Communities,
75 rue Montoyer,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 3582

UK contact:
Medical Research Council,
International Section,
20 Park Crescent,
London WIN 4AL
Tel: 071 636 5422

Life sciences and technologies for developing countries

The aim of this programme is to increase cooperation between European scientists and those in developing countries in the fields of tropical agriculture, medicine, health care and nutrition. The programme has two main areas of activity:

- agriculture, including improvements in farm, crop and livestock production, forestry resources and bio-energy production
- medicine, health and nutrition, including new methods of diagnosis, medicines, preventive measures, health care and nutritional studies

Further information: OJ L196, 19.7.91

EC contact:
DG XII-G-4,
Division for Scientific and Technical
Cooperation with Developing Countries,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 235 1731

UK contact:
Overseas Development Administration,
94 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 5JL
Tel: 071 917 0795

Non-nuclear energies (JOULE II)

In continuation of the JOULE (Joint Opportunities for Unconventional or Long-Term Energy Supply) programme the aim is to contribute to the development of new energy technologies and energy options that are both economical and environmentally safe. The programme supports projects in the following main areas of research:

- analysis of strategies and modelling
- minimum emission power production from fossil sources
- renewable energy sources
- geothermal energy and deep reservoir geology
- energy utilization and conservation

Further information: OJ L257, 14.9.91

EC contact:
DG XII,
Commission of the European
Communities,

rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels;
Tel: 010 322 235 3978

UK contact:
Department of Trade and Industry
Room 3.4.9.,
1 Palace Street,
London SW1E 5HE
Tel: 071 298 3318

Nuclear fission safety
The aim of this programme is to contribute to the safe use of nuclear energy, including reactor safety and radiological protection. The programme supports projects in the following main research areas:

- radiation protection, including the prevention, effects, risks and management of radiation exposure
- reactor safety, including accident progression analysis, management and control

Further information: OJ L 336, 7.12.91

EC contact:
DG XII,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 235 3978

UK contacts:

Radiation protection:
Department of Health,
Room 917a,
Hannibal House,
Elephant and Castle,
London SE1 6TE,
Tel: 071 972 2157

Reactor safety:
Health and Safety Executive,
Broad Lane,
Sheffield S3 7HQ
Tel: 0742 768141

Controlled nuclear fusion
The aim of the programme is to promote the joint creation of safe, environmentally sound prototype reactors. The main areas of research include:

- next step design, including Net (Next European Torus) and ITER (International Thermonuclear

- Experimental Reactor)
- longer-term technical developments
- JET (Joint European Torus)
- scientific support

Further information: OJ L 375, 31.12.91

EC contact:
DG XII,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 399 235 1111

UK contact:
Department of Energy,
Room 4.2.8.,
1 Palace Street,
London SW1E 5HE
Tel: 071 238 3771

Human capital and mobility

The aim of this research programme is to promote the creation of a European scientific community by increasing the quality and quantity of human resources in the fields of education, research and technological development in Europe. It supports the following main activities:

- the creation of research training fellowships
- the creation and development of research networks for scientific and technical cooperation
- the provision of access to and training in the use of large-scale scientific and technical facilities for Community researchers
- the organisation of Euro-conferences

Further information: OJ L 107, 24.4.1993

EC contact:
Directorate-General XII/G (Science, Research and Development),
Human Capital and Mobility,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue Montoyer 75,
1040 Brussels,

Tel: 010 322 295 4044

UK contacts:
Cabinet Office,
Office of Science and Technology,
Room 1/1,
Albany House,
84-86 Petty France,
London SW1H 9ST
Tel: 071 271 2112

Science and Engineering Research Council,
Polaris House,
North Star Avenue,
Swindon SN2 1ET
Tel: 0793 411 269

OTHER RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Although the Maastricht Treaty envisages that all research and development activities will be brought together under the Fourth Framework programme, a number of research activities currently exist outside the scope of the Third programme. The principal programmes are described below:

Coal and steel

Special provision is made in the ECSC Treaty for financial assistance to be provided for technical and economic research relating to the production and increased use of coal and steel and occupational safety in the coal and steel industries.

Technical research

Medium-term guidelines for technical coal and steel research are laid down by the Commission from time to time, in which priority objectives, selection criteria and other procedures are established.

The guidelines for coal for 1990 to 1995 provide for research to be concentrated on a number of specified areas in mining engineering and in product upgrading. The guidelines for steel for 1991 to 1995 identify a number of research areas designed to improve cost-competitiveness in the production and processing of steel, to stimulate steel consumption and reduce environmental pollution.

There are no calls for proposals in relation to technical coal and steel research. Enterprises, research bodies and individuals may apply direct to the Commission before 1 September for implementation in the following calendar year. Although the amount of money available varies from year to year, the Commission usually pays up to 60% of eligible project costs.

*Further information: OJ C52, 1.3.1989
(Guidelines for coal 1990-1995)*

*OJ C252, 6.10.1990
(Guidelines for steel 1991-1995)*

*EC contact (coal research):
Energy Technology Directorate,
DG XVII/D/2,
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 295 5576*

*EC contact (steel research):
DG XII/C/4,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels*

Social research
Research funds are also made available
for external research associated with
ergonomics, environmental nuisances,
medicine, occupational health and safety
in the coal and steel industries.

*EC contact:
DG V/D (Employment, Industrial
Relations and Social Affairs),
Commission of the European
Communities,
Batiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg*

Energy

ALTENER (1993-1997)

A scheme to promote renewable energy
sources which provides funding for the
following types of action:

- studies and technical evaluations for defining standards and specifications
- measures to support national initiatives for extending or creating appropriate infrastructures
- measures to foster the creation of an information network
- studies, evaluations and other measures relating to energy from biomass

Further information: OJ L235, 18.9.1993

*EC contact:
DG XVI/C/2,
Commission of the European
Communities.*

rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

*UK contact:
Department of Trade and Industry,
Room 2-5-3A,
1 Palace Street,
London SW1E 5HE
Tel: 071 238 3416*

SAVE
The Specific Actions for Vigorous
Energy Efficiency programme (SAVE)
provides funds for the following types of
action on energy efficiency:

- technical evaluations for assessing the data needed for defining technical standards or specifications
- measures to support infrastructures concerned with energy efficiency
- measures to promote the creation of an information network aimed at promoting better coordination between national, Community and international activities
- measures to implement the programme for improving the efficiency of electricity use

Further information: OJ L307, 8.11.1991

*EC contact:
DG XVII,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels*

*UK contact:
Energy Efficiency Office,
SAVE Programme,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB
Tel: 071 276 3763*

THERMIE

Grants are available to support demonstrations of the technical and economic effectiveness of projects to promote innovative technologies in the field of energy under the Thermie programme. The main fields of application are

- the rational use of energy
- renewable energy sources
- solid fuels
- hydrocarbons

Further information: OJ L185, 17.7.1990

*EC contact:
DG XVII,
Thermic Programme,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels*

*UK contact:
Department of Trade and Industry,
Room 342,
1 Palace Street,
London SW1E 5HE
Tel: 071 238 3643*

Environment

ACE
The Action by the Community relating to
the Environment (ACE) programme
provides funds for demonstration
projects designed to develop clean
technologies and to encourage
conservation and the creation of nature
conservation areas.

*Further information: OJ L207, 29 July
1987*

*EC contact:
DG XI,
Unit C2, ACE Environmental
Programme,
Commission of the European
Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels*

LIFE
The LIFE programme funds
demonstration projects, awareness
campaigns and other actions in the
following five areas:

- promotion of new clean technologies in such areas as surface treatments, textiles, tanneries, the paper industry and the agri-food industry
- protection of habitats and of nature
- administrative structures and environmental services
- education, training and information
- actions outside Community territory

*EC contact:
DG XI/C/2
Commission of the European
Communities,
T-174 4/88,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 8822*

UK contact:

Department of the Environment,
EPC, Room A132,
Romney House,
43 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3PY
Tel: 071 276 8114

Intergovernmental collaboration

COST

European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) was established in 1971 with a membership consisting of the 12 EC member States together with Austria, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Iceland, Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia. It operates through a series of cooperative projects in such fields as informatics, telecommunications, transport, the environment and technology.

UK contact:

COST Secretariat,
Cabinet Office,
Room 421,
70 Whitehall,
London SW1A 2AS
Tel: 071 270 0081

EUREKA

This European Collaborative Initiative is a European rather than an EC initiative, designed to foster cross-border cooperation in research and technology between the 12 Member States and the six EFTA countries and Turkey. Funding is made available from national sources for collaborative projects in a wide range of research fields, including communications, energy, information technology, biotechnology and transport.

UK contact:

National Project Co-ordinator,
EUREKA,
Department of Trade and Industry,
3rd Floor,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 333 5161

Public health

Europe against Aids (1991 - 1993)

This EC programme (which has been extended into 1994) covers the following activities:

- assessment of the knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of general public
- informing and increasing public awareness
- health education for young people
- prevention of HIV transmission
- social support, counselling, medical treatment
- estimating the cost of managing HIV infection
- data-gathering on HIV/AIDS
- enhancement of human resources
- measures to combat discrimination
- research and international cooperation

*Further information: OJ L175, 4.6.1991
OJ C15, 18.1.1994*

EC contact:

DG V/E/I,
Commission of the European Communities,
Bâtiment Jean Monnet,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 322 352 4301

Europe against cancer (1990-1994)
Cancer research is supported in several different R&D programmes, e.g. Biomed, Life Sciences, Biotech. However, there is also a 'Europe against Cancer' programme which funds fellowships to encourage the mobility of cancer research workers in Europe, awards research grants for targeted projects and funds monitoring work on a European scale in the cancer field. The programme includes support for measures on

- smoking prevention
- nutrition
- carcinogenic agents
- health education and information
- training for health professionals
- screening and cancer registers

*Further information: OJ L137, 30.5.1990
OJ C15, 18.1.1994*

EC contact:

Europe Against Cancer Secretariat,
DG V/E/I,
80 rue de Cortenbergh,
B-1040 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 295 1742

Research results

MONITOR

The MONITOR programme aims to identify new directions and priorities for EC R&D policy and to show more clearly the relationship between R&D and other common policies. It brings strategic analysis together with forecasting and evaluation with reference to research and technological development in the EC. The programme consists of three complementary activities:

- SAST: Strategic Analysis in Science and Technology, the aim of which is to identify, for a given problem, the available options and give precise recommendations for action
- FAST: Forecasting and Assessment of Science and Technology, following up previous FAST programmes by studying scientific and technological developments and the interactions with economic and social changes in the Community in the light of world-wide developments
- SPEAR: Support Studies for the Evaluation of Community R&D, providing the Commission with improved theoretical and methodological tools for the evaluation of the social and economic impacts of its R&D programmes

EC contact:

DG XII/H,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 235 1111

UK contact:

UK MONITOR Co-ordinator,
Department of Trade and Industry,
Research and Technology Policy
Division 2a,
3/181 Green,
151 Buckingham Palace Road,
London,
SW1W 9SS
Tel: 071 215 1632

In order to encourage wider participation and better dissemination of results a UK node has been established at the address below, also constituting the first point of contact for those wishing to participate in the programme:

UK MONITOR National Network Node,
PREST,
University of Manchester,
Oxford Road,
Manchester,
M13 9PL
Tel: 061 275 5921

Transport

EURET

Although approved in 1990 as part of the Second Framework programme, research projects in such areas as rail and air traffic management, vessel traffic services systems, intermodal freight systems and the manning of ships are still operational.

EC contact:

DG VII/A/4,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 8250

UK contact:

Department of Transport,
P2/032
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1P 3EB
Tel: 071 276 5869

FURTHER READING

EC research funding: a guide for applicants. 3rd rev ed. Commission of the EC, 1992. ISBN 92-826-3640-2

Sources of European Community funding.
Commission of the EC (London Office),
1993.

Infoguide: guide to sources of information on European Community research. Commission of the EC, 1993.
ISBN 92-826-3647-X

EC R&D: a guide to European Community research & development programmes. Dept of Trade & Industry, 1993. (Folder)

Euro abstracts. Commission of the EC.
Monthly.

I&T magazine. Commission of the EC.
Quarterly.

Innovation & technology transfer.
DGXIII, Commission of the EC.
Quarterly.

4. EDUCATION, TRAINING & EXCHANGE

The European Commission recognises that the future prosperity and competitiveness of Europe depends largely on the skills, ingenuity and versatility of its people. During the period from 1989 to 1992 the Commission consequently initiated a number of action programmes which have provided education, training and youth exchange with a truly European dimension in the period up to the end of 1994 by promoting cooperation and facilitating the exchange of information and experience. Although discussions have already been initiated on how best to organise action in the period beyond 1994, the principal programmes from which funds are currently available are described in this chapter.

EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY

Although EC policy recognises the independence of existing national education systems it also recognises a vital need for the different education systems to work together in partnership at a European level. The action programmes described in this section aim to help Member States to develop this European dimension by providing funds for the creation of transnational networks, staff and student mobility and joint transnational projects.

ARION

Funds are provided under this scheme for educational specialists nominated by national, regional and local authorities to undertake week long visits to study educational systems in other member countries.

EC contact:

Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges,
Seymour Mews House,
Seymour Mews,
London WIH 9PE
Tel: 071 486 5101

ERASMUS

As the centrepiece of Community action in this area Erasmus is designed to provide financial support for measures which facilitate increased student and staff mobility between universities and other European higher education institutions and promote lasting inter-institutional cooperation. The programme provides funds for the following purposes:

Universities

Financial support is given to universities in order to encourage them to develop closer academic links with their counterparts in other eligible states by

establishing Inter-University Cooperation Programmes (ICPs). Funds are provided for

- student mobility programmes which allow students to undertake fully recognised periods of study of between 3 and 12 months duration in another eligible country (8,600 ecu per programme or 1,500 ecu per institution in 1992/93)
- teaching staff mobility programmes, which allow academic staff to teach in partner institutions for between one week and one year (7,300 ecu per programme in 1992/93)
- the joint development of new curricula (7,000 ecu per programme in 1992/93)
- the organisation of intensive joint teaching programmes (11,500 ecu per programme in 1992/93)

Universities must complete application forms which are available, along with guidelines for applicants, from the Erasmus Bureau, rue Montoyer 70, B-1040 Brussels, (tel: 010 322 233 0111) and return them to the Bureau by 31 October for the following academic year.

Students

Grants may be awarded to students who carry out a formally recognised part of their course in another eligible country. Such grants - which average about 2,000 ecu - are intended only to cover the extra expenses involved in studying abroad (e.g. travel expenses, higher cost of living), with preferential treatment being given to students participating in the ICPs referred to above. Applications from financially disadvantaged students are given particular attention and applications from handicapped students are also encouraged.

The administration of student grants is undertaken in each country by a National Grant Awarding Authority (NGAA). In

the United Kingdom further information may be obtained from individual universities or from the UK Erasmus Student Grants Council, the University of Kent, Canterbury, CT2 7PD (tel: 0227 762712).

Staff

Grants are also made available for teaching and administrative staff who might wish to visit universities in other eligible countries for the purpose of discussing the development of ICPs, participating in teaching programmes, developing teaching methods and materials or studying certain aspects of the way in which higher education operates there. Visits may be undertaken by individuals or by small groups and must be of not longer than four weeks duration. Applications for grants to assist with travel and subsistence - which average about 700 ecu per person - must be made at least 5 months before projected visits on forms available from the Erasmus Bureau, rue Montoyer 70, B-1040 Brussels (tel: 010 322 233 0111).

Complementary measures

Financial support may also be granted for projects relevant to Erasmus objectives and for activities concerned with its operation and promotion. However, it should be noted that Erasmus is not intended to fund research activities and that participation in Erasmus was extended to the countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in the 1992/93 academic session.

Further information: OJ L395, 30.12.1989

EC contact:

Erasmus Bureau,
rue Montoyer 70,
B-1040 Brussels,
tel: 010 322 233 0111

UK contact:

UK Erasmus Student Grants Council,
The University of Kent,
Canterbury, CT2 7PD
Tel: 0227 762712

LINGUA

The Lingua programme consists of a five year programme (1990-1994) designed to improve the teaching and learning of foreign languages in education, training and working life. Funds are provided for measures which promote

- the in-service training of foreign language teachers, including teacher training in other member countries (*Action I*)
- the learning of foreign languages in universities and other institutions of higher education, including pupil and teacher mobility grants (*Action II*)
- the knowledge and use of foreign languages in the work place and in economic life (*Action III*)
- the development of exchanges of young people (*Action IV*)
- institutions and associations specialising in foreign language teaching (*Action V*)

Further information: OJ L239, 16.8.1989.

EC contact:

Bureau LINGUA,
10, rue du Commerce,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 511 4218

UK contact:

UK Lingua Unit,
Seymour Mews House,
Seymour Mews,
London W1H 9PE
Tel: 071 725 9493

Applications relating to foreign language teaching in higher education should be directed to the Erasmus Bureau (see above).

Human Capital and Mobility Programme

The Human capital and mobility programme, which forms part of the 3rd Framework Programme described in Chapter 3, is principally aimed at young researchers in Community countries who wish to pursue further research work at a post-doctoral level in high quality research institutions elsewhere in the

Community. The programme applies to all of the exact and natural sciences, economic and management sciences and the human and social sciences dealing with the improvement of European competitiveness. It supports the following activities:

- the creation of research training fellowships
- the creation and development of research networks for scientific and technical cooperation
- the provision of access to and training in the use of large-scale scientific and technical facilities for Community researchers
- the organisation of Euro-conferences

Third European countries may participate in the programme on a case by case basis but must provide the necessary finance themselves, although special arrangements have been made to assist Central and East European countries.

Further information: OJ 107, 24.4.1993

EC contact:

DG XIV/G (Science, Research and Development),
Commission of the European Communities,
rue Montoyer 75,
1040 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: 010 322 295 4044

UK contact:

Cabinet Office,
Office of Science and Technology,
European Section,
SC7 Sanctuary Buildings,
Great Smith Street,
London SW1P 3BT
Tel: 071 925 6422

MED-CAMPUS

See Chapter 6

Other mobility grants

Research programmes running under the 3rd Framework Programme also include provision for short-term research training and mobility grants and advanced training courses in relevant subject disciplines. The Agriculture and Agro-Industry, Biotechnology, Biomedicine and Health and Marine Science and Technology programmes, for instance, all make such provision, details of which may be obtained from the addresses

included in the descriptions of these programmes in Chapter 3.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

If Europe is to prosper then it is essential that its workforce has the necessary skills and qualifications. Measures designed to improve training provision by providing funds to encourage innovation, information exchange and partnerships across national boundaries or which target specific problems, such as the training needs of SMEs and the exploitation of new technologies, are highlighted in this section. Vocational training as an instrument for combatting unemployment is dealt with in Chapter

CEDEFOP

Funds are available from the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (usually known as CEDEFOP from its French title) for research and studies concerning vocational training. Established in 1975 to provide Community institutions with a source of expertise and technical assistance on all aspects of vocational training, the Centre organises its activities around four year programmes which identify priority themes and which are implemented by means of annual work programmes.

EC contact:

The Director,
European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training,
Jean Monnet House,
Bundesallee 22,
D-1000 Berlin 15,
Germany

UK contact:

National Liaison Officer,
Dept of Employment,
Room N704,
Moorfoot,
Sheffield,
S1 4PQ
Tel: 0742 594131

COMETT

Comett (Community Action Programme in Education and Training for Technology) is a flagship programme which provides financial support for initiatives designed to promote cooperation between universities and industry in the field of training for

technology. The current five year programme (1990-1994) is open to EFTA countries and supports the following four types of action:

Strand A: European network

Financial support is provided for the development of University-Enterprise Training Partnerships (UETPs) as a means of bringing companies and universities together either on a regional sectoral basis for the organisation of joint training projects and other cooperative activities.

Strand B: Transnational exchanges

Grants are available for various types of exchange between industry and universities across national boundaries. Finance is available, for instance, for students undergoing periods of training between three and twelve months in industry in another eligible country, for persons who after their initial training wish to find placements of between 6 months and two years in business undertakings in another eligible country before taking up permanent employment and for personnel exchanges between universities and industry in another European country.

Strand C: Joint projects

Finance is provided for training courses in advanced technology and joint training pilot projects in technology, including the development of multi-media distance training products.

Strand D: Promotion and back-up measures

Finance is also available for measures which include support for Comett information centres, the creation of databanks on Comett projects; conferences and seminars relating to Comett, evaluation of the programme and the dissemination of information between projects and partners.

Calls for proposals are issued through the pages of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, although it should be noted that applications during the 1993 and 1994 round are restricted to existing UETPs.

Further information: OJ L13, 17.1.1989.

EC contact:

Comett Technical Assistance Office,
rue Montoyer,

B-1040 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 513 8959

UK Contact:
UK Comett Liaison Office,
Department for Education,
Sanctuary Buildings,
Great Smith Street,
London, SW1P 3BT
Tel: 071 925 5254

EUROTECNET

The aim of this five year programme (1990-1994) is to promote innovation in relation to basic and continuing vocational training, with particular regard to current and future technological change and its impact on the job market and on qualifications and skills. The programme provides funds for various actions which stimulate European cooperation and coordination in this area, including funds to

- link innovative projects
- exchange information
- undertake studies
- organise conferences
- prepare publications for the dissemination of information

Further information: OJ L393
30.12.1989

EC Contact:
Technical Assistance Unit,
Eurotecnnet Programme,
Avenue de Cortenburgh 66/Bte 13,
B-1040 Brussels

UK contacts:

National Liaison Officer,
Department of Employment,
Room N704,
Moorfoot,
Sheffield S1 4PQ
Tel: 0742 594 131

National Animation and Dissemination Unit,
Coventry University Enterprises,
Priory Street,
Coventry CV1 5FB
0203 838 727

FORCE

The aim of the Force (Continuing Vocational Training in Europe) programme (1991-1994) is to give extra impetus to innovation and investment in the field of continuing professional education by providing funds to facilitate

closer cooperation and interchange of information across national boundaries between all parties concerned, including both sides of industry, public and private authorities. Funds are provided for measures which include developing transnational partnerships, innovative demonstration and pilot projects and analytical and evaluative studies.

Further information: OJ L156,
21.6.1990

EC Contact:
Force Technical Assistance Unit,
rue du Nord 34,
B-1000 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 209 1311

UK Contact:
Force UK National Coordination Unit,
Department of Employment,
Room N704,
Moorfoot,
Sheffield S1 4PQ
Tel: 0742 594 819

IRIS

The purpose of the IRIS network is to stimulate and support vocational training programmes designed to meet the needs of women. Funds are provided for exchange visits between projects participating in the network, seminars and for other means of disseminating information.

EC contact:
CREW,
rue Stevin 38,
B-1040 Brussels

UK contact:
Equal Opportunities Commission,
Overseas House,
Quay House,
Manchester, M3 3HN
Tel: 061 833 9244

PETRA

This action programme is designed to assist member states to expand and improve the provision they make for young people who wish to receive vocational training on completion of their compulsory education. Funds are provided to support

- training and work experience placements in another member country
- the creation of a European network of training partnerships for the joint

- development of training modules
- the creation of a Community network of contact points for the exchange of vocational guidance data and experience
- the training of guidance counsellors and specialists

Further information: OJ L214, 2.8.1991

EC contact:

PETRA Office for Technical Assistance,
32 square Ambiorix,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 230 7106

UK contact:

PETRA National Co-ordination Unit,
Central Bureau for Education Visits and
Exchanges,
Seymour Mews House,
Seymour Mews,
London W1H 9PE
Tel: 071 486 5101

TEMPUS

See Chapter 6.

EXCHANGE

In addition to the educational and training schemes outlined above, the EC offers numerous opportunities for people to experience life and working conditions in other Member States. Although a number of specific exchange programmes are described below, readers should note that opportunities for exchange visits are often incorporated within other programmes, for example those listed in Chapter 3 (Research and development) and Chapter 6 (Development Aid).

Exchange of Experience Programme

A programme designed to foster links between local authorities within the EC for the purpose of running short cooperative projects which foster a European outlook and the dissemination of ideas and know-how between local and regional authorities. Co-financing is available for such activities as conferences, seminars, meetings, publications and evaluation visits.

EC contact:

Council of European Municipalities & Regions,
Boulevard Charlemagne 23,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 230 4775

UK contact:

Local Government International Bureau,
35 Great Smith Street,
London SW1P 3BJ
Tel: 071 222 1636

Young Workers' Exchange Programme

The programme is open to young people of between 18 and 28 who are citizens of a member states of the EC and who have received basic vocational training or some form of work experience. Preference is given to applicants who have not been to university. Funds are provided for short-term study visits and brief work placements lasting between 3 weeks and 3 months and for longer term vocational work placements lasting from 4 to 16 months in any trade or economic sector.

EC contact:

European Community Youth Exchange Bureau,
Place du Luxembourg 2/3,
B-1040 Brussels

UK contact:

Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges,
Seymour Mews House,
Seymour Mews,
London W1H 9PE
Tel: 071 486 5101

Youth for Europe Programme

This action programme enables young people aged between 15 and 25 to take part in a wide range of exchange activities. The current programme extends until 31 December 1994. Youth assistance grants are also provided for projects conceived and managed by young people which promote creativity, initiative and enterprise.

Further information: OJ L217, 6.8.1991

EC contact:

European Community Youth Exchange Bureau,
Place du Luxembourg 2/3,
B-1040 Brussels

UK contact:

Youth Exchange Centre,
British Council,
10 Spring Gardens,
London SW1A 2BN
Tel: 071 389 4030

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, ETC

A number of funds and prizes exist for the purpose of encouraging the study of European integration in universities and other institutions of higher education.

EIB prize

Every two years the European Investment Bank offers a prize of approximately £8,500 for a thesis on the topic of investment and finance successfully presented as a doctorate dissertation to a higher education institution in an EC Member State.

EC contact:

Information Division,
European Investment Bank,
100 boulevard Konrad Adenauer,
L-2950 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4379 3249

Paul Finet Foundation

The Foundation provides support for the schooling and training of the children of coal miners and steel workers killed by an occupational disease or industrial accident.

EC contact:

Secretary General,
Paul Finet Foundation,
JMO/C4/26A,
Jean Monnet Building,
Plateau du Kirchberg,
Luxembourg

UK contact:

Chief Executive,
Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation,
27 Huddersfield Road,
Barnsley,
South Yorkshire S70 2LX
Tel: 0226 294139

Jean Monnet Fellowships

Each year the European University Institute offers 30 Jean Monnet Fellowships of one year's duration to academics who wish to undertake full-time research in Florence on topics which contribute to the work of the University Institute.

EC contact:

Academic Service,
European University Institute,
Via Dei Roccellini, 5,
San Domenico di Fiesole,

ovincia di Firenze 50016,
Italy

Jean Monnet Project

In order to encourage universities to adapt the content of courses primarily in law, economics, political and social science and history to take account of Community developments, funding is available to co-finance the creation of new teaching posts for a three year period, to develop European Studies courses and modules and to support research on European integration.

EC contact:

University Information (Jean Monnet Project),
DG X/C/6,
Commission of the European Communities,
75, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

UK Offices of the Commission (see Appendix 2)

Robert Schuman Scholarships

The European Parliament offers scholarships to postgraduate students and young researchers for work carried out over a one to three month period in the European Parliament.

EC contact:

Directorate-General for Research and Documentation,
European Parliament,
Bâtiment Robert Schuman,
Rue de la Kirchberg,
Luxembourg

UK contact:

Office of the European Parliament,
2, Queen Anne's Gate,
London SW1H 9AA
Tel : 071 222 0411

Stagiaires

The Commission provides the opportunity for a limited number of graduates to follow training courses of about five months at the Commission. Trainees or 'stagiaires' are recruited twice a year.

EC contact:

Bureau de Stages,
Commission of the European Communities,
75, rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049, Brussels

Since competition is fierce potential applicants should also seek advice from the UK Offices of the Commission (see Appendix 2).

FURTHER READING

EC education & training programmes 1986-1992: results and achievements: an overview
COM(93) 151 final. 5.5.1993.

Erasmus newsletter. Erasmus Bureau. 3 per annum.—

European university news. Commission of the EC. Bi-monthly.

Guidelines for Community action in the field of education and training
COM(93) 183 final. 5.5.1993.

5. CULTURE AND SOCIAL ISSUES

The social and human impact of Community policies has become a concern of growing significance in recent years. In relation to social issues finance may be made available for applied research and for projects and studies associated with the development, implementation and evaluation of policy. On cultural issues funds have been established to give recognition to outstanding achievement in specific areas and to encourage increased human endeavour on a European level. Details of specific programmes, prizes and awards are provided below.

CULTURE

Although much attention has recently been focussed on the economic benefits associated with the completion of the Single European Market, the EC is also anxious to play a part in cultural life and to create an environment in which cultural activities and artistic creativity can flourish. Details of specific programmes, prizes and awards are provided in this section.

Architectural Heritage

Funds are available for the conservation and promotion of the EC's architectural heritage based on specific themes selected on an annual basis. The theme for 1993 is gardens of historic interest. The amount of financial assistance provided varies from 5% to 25% depending on the size of projects.

Further information: OJ C304, 4.12.1990

EC contact:

Cultural Action Division,
Office JECL 2/116,
Commission of the European
Communities,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contacts:

English Heritage,
Historic Buildings and Monuments
Commission for England,
Fortress House,
23-25 Savile Row,
London W1X 1AB
Tel: 071 973 3019

Historic Buildings and Monuments,
Scottish Development Department,
20, Brandon Street,
Edinburgh, EH3 5RA

CADW Welsh Historic Monuments,
Brunel House.

2, Fitzalan Road,
Cardiff, CF2 1UY

Conservation Service,
Department of the Environment for
Northern Ireland,
Calvert House,
23, Castle Place,
Belfast 8TI 1FY.

European Literary Prize

An annual prize of 20,000 ECU is awarded to the author of a literary work which has made a significant contribution to contemporary European literature. A further grant of up to 25,000 ECU may be made to facilitate translation into other official languages of the EC. Each Member State may nominate up to three separate works for consideration by a European jury.

Further information: OJ C100, 22.4.1992

UK contact:

UK Offices of the Commission (see
Appendix 2)

European Translation Prize

An annual prize of 20,000 ECU is awarded to a translator for an outstanding translation of a significant work of contemporary European literature. Each Member State may nominate up to three translations for consideration by a European jury.

Further information: OJ C100, 22.4.1992

UK contact:

Director of Literature,
The Arts Council,
14 Great Peter Street,
London SW1P 3NQ

Film festivals

Funds are provided to assist with the

presentation and promotion of short films, feature films, documentaries and fiction audiovisual programmes which raise public awareness of Europe's rich cultural heritage as well as for meetings on specific themes between professionals in the audiovisual industry.

Further information: OJ C249, 26.9.1992

EC contact:

DG X-A.1,
Commission of the European
Communities,
T.120-3/3,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Kaleidoscope programme

The principal award scheme through which the Commission provides both financial and non-financial assistance for the organisation of a wide variety of innovative artistic and cultural events which have a European dimension. Events or activities must involve at least three Member States and must meet one or more of the following objectives:

- support innovative cultural events with a European dimension
- encourage artistic and cultural creation, notably by supporting the mobility and further training of creative and performing artists and others active in the cultural field
- promote cultural cooperation through networks

Further information: OJ C228, 24.8.1993

EC contact:

Kaleidoscope Scheme,
Room 4/42,
DG X/C-1,
Culture Unit,
Commission of the European
Communities.

120 rue de Treves,
B-1049 Brussels

K contact:
**K offices of the Commission (see
Appendix 2)**

MEDIA programme

The aim of the MEDIA (Measures to Encourage the Development of the Audiovisual Industry) programme (1991-95) is to create an environment within which the European film and television industries can flourish. It provides funds measures in the following areas:

- distribution mechanisms, including actions to promote the distribution of films in cinemas, the distribution of video cassettes, support for multilingualism in television programmes and support for independent producers
- improvement of production conditions, including pre-production, restructuring the animated cartoon industry and use of new technologies
- stimulation of financial investment improving the economic and commercial management abilities of professionals
- development of potential in countries with smaller audiovisual production capacities
- participation in audiovisual Eureka projects

Further information: OJ L380, 3.12.1990

B contact:
B-12 X,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

C contact:
UK Media Desk,
British Film Institute,
27 Stephen Road,
London W1P 1PL
Tel: 071 255 1444

MED-MEDIA

See Chapter 6

Town twinning

Funds are made available to encourage town twinning in the Community, with particular reference to small towns in disadvantaged areas and activities which

enhance European awareness. Grants are made in respect of particular events, covering preparatory meetings, twinning ceremonies and other official visits.

EC contact:

Town Twinning Unit
Secretariat-General,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
Brussels B-1049
Tel: 010 322 295 3966

UK contact:

Local Government International Bureau,
Twinning Section,
35 Great Smith Street,
London SW1P 3BJ
Tel: 071 222 1636

Translations

In order to promote the wider circulation of contemporary literary works the Commission has established a five year pilot scheme to provide financial assistance for translation. Particular though not exclusive priority will be given to the translation of works written in the Community's minority languages.

Further information: OJ C19, 22.1.1994

EC contact:

Cultural Activities Division,
Room 4/45,
120 rue de Treves,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

UK Liaison Office,
Arts Council,
105 Piccadilly,
London WIU 0AU

Other European events

The Commission provides support for a wide range of cultural events, including, for instance, the European City of Culture and the European Cultural Month events, as well as support for the European Community Youth Orchestra, the European Community Youth Opera, the European Poetry Festival and the European Community Baroque Orchestra and other activities which have a European flavour. General enquiries about the eligibility of events for Community support should be made, in the first instance, to the UK Offices of the Commission (See Appendix 2).

SOCIAL POLICY

A number of action programmes in social policy areas offer opportunities for external participation, usually taking the form of financial assistance for pilot and demonstration projects or grants for technical assistance and applied research associated with the administration, implementation and evaluation of such programmes. Brief details of principal programmes are provided below.

The disabled

HELIOS II

Actions in favour of disabled people are mainly grouped within the Helios programme (1993-1996) whose main aim is to promote the functional rehabilitation, educational integration, vocational training, employment rehabilitation, economic and social integration and an independent way of life for disabled people.

Funds are provided under the action programme for a wide range of measures concerned with the social integration of the disabled and with promoting their greater independence. Such activities include:

- the exchange of information and experience between Member States
- meeting the information needs of disabled people, particularly through the HANDYNET computerised information and documentation system
- cooperation with national disability councils and other representative organisations on support for conferences, seminars, study visits, training courses, etc
- campaigns to increase public awareness of the possibilities of integrating disabled people
- special themes, programmes, studies and technical assistance

Further information: OJ L56, 9.3.1993.

EC contact:

Commission of the European Communities,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Health,
Wellington House,
Room 3B2,

133-135 Waterloo Road,
London SE1 8UG
Tel: 071 972 4125

HORIZON

The aim of the HORIZON programme is to aid the economic, professional and social integration of disabled persons. The programme provides grant aid to people with either a serious disability resulting from physical or mental impairment or to those suffering from other specific difficulties which hinder their economic or social integration. The aid covers:

- vocational training for the disabled
- creation of small enterprises to create employment for the disabled
- start-up services or products
- equipment or information sources
- counselling, training, studies and exchanges for the disadvantaged

Funding derives from the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund. Consequently, although the whole of the Community is eligible preference is given to projects in the least developed regions.

*Further information: OJ C327,
29.12.1990*

EC contact:

DG V,
European Social Fund,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

Department of Employment,
European Social Fund Section,
236 Grays Inn Road,
London,
WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4710

TIDE

TIDE (Technology for the socio-economic Integration of the Disabled and Elderly) is a Community initiative in the field of rehabilitation technology which seeks to integrate elderly and disabled people into society through the application of modern technology.

It provides support for collaborative development work on the following aspects of technology for the elderly and disabled:

- access to communication and information technology and support for interpersonal communication
- environmental control technologies
- restoration and enhancement of function
- integrated systems technologies

Further information: OJ L240, 25.9.1993

EC contact:

DG XIII/C/3,
TIDE Secretariat,
Building BU 29/3/20,
Avenue de Beaulieu 29,
B-1160 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 299 0240

UK contact:

Department of Health,
14 Russell Square,
London WC1B 5EP
Tel: 071 636 6811

The elderly

The Commission undertakes a programme of actions for the elderly which includes studies being undertaken by voluntary services and others on a range of age-related issues, the organisation of conferences and seminars and other means of information exchange. See also TIDE above.

EC contact:

DG V-B,
Commission of the European Communities,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Equal opportunities

NOW

The aim of the NOW programme is to help women to take full advantage, on equal terms with men, of the positive effects expected from economic growth and technological development.

Activities supported by the programme include:

- schemes to encourage the establishment of small businesses and cooperatives by women
- schemes to provide guidance and advice, training and access to women wishing to return to work

The whole of the Community is eligible although priority is given to transnational measures covering the least favoured

regions.

*Further information: OJ C327,
29.12.1990*

EC contact:

DG V,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

Department of Employment,
European Social Fund Section,
236 Grays Inn Road,
London WC1X 8HL
Tel: 071 211 4740

Labour market

Funds are available for studies, applied research, seminars, etc. on topics concerned with the development of the labour market in Europe.

EC contact:

DG V-A-1,
Commission of the European Communities,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

ERGO

The aim of the ERGO (Community programme on combatting long-term unemployment and labour-market exclusion) programme (1993 - 1996) is to enhance awareness of the problems faced by those who are long-term unemployed or otherwise excluded from the labour market and to examine, and enable improvement of, the actions adopted at national, local and Community levels to tackle these problems.

EC contact:

DG V,
Commission of the European Communities,
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

LEDA

The LEDA programme (Local Employment Development Action) concerns studies of and support for strategies for the local development of employment and the labour economy in areas where unemployment is high.

EC contact:

DG V/B/1,
P11 7/23,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

UK contact:

RDP,
South Bank Technopark,
90 London Road,
London SE1 6LN
Tel: 071 922 8835

SPEC

The Support Programme for Employment Creation (SPEC) provides technical and financial support for projects to create employment on a regional or local basis, particularly in connection with the completion of the internal market. Priority is given to innovative measures, pilot schemes and measures which are a direct response to the impact of the single market on employment.

EC contacts:

DG V/B/1,
P11 7/23,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

Council of European Municipalities & Regions,
23 Boulevard Charlemagne,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 304 775

Living and Working Conditions

The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions was established by the EC in 1975 as an autonomous body with the task of providing the EC with a scientific base against which to develop a policy for the improvements of social and work-related matters in Europe. It operates as a Community research centre investigating, reporting and disseminating information on themes which form part of four year rolling programmes. During the 1993 to 1996 period work is being concentrated upon the following six themes:

- social cohesion
- access to employment, innovation and work organisation

- human relations within the company, social dialogue and industrial relations
- health and safety
- socio-economic aspects of the environment
- equal opportunities between women and men

Conferences, workshops, publications, surveys, pilot projects and research are all activities undertaken by the European Foundation, regularly drawing on expertise and support from a network of external contacts. Researchers interested in becoming involved in the work of the Foundation should write in the first instance to:

The Director,
European Foundation for the
Improvement of Living and Working
Conditions,
Loughlinstown House,
Shankill,
Co. Dublin,
Ireland
Tel: 010 353 1 282 6888

Poverty

The Third Programme on Poverty provides a policy framework for Community action from 1989 to 1994, with the main aim being to promote innovation, the transfer of knowledge and public debate on social exclusion. The programme provides for two main types of action:

- corrective measures to meet the needs of extreme poverty
- preventive schemes for groups at risk

A total of more than 40 projects are being funded under the programme, 30 of which are large-scale 'model actions' experimenting at a local level with schemes for combatting social exclusion. 12 are 'innovatory initiatives' that deal with social exclusion on behalf of a particular population group or problem area.

In the UK major 'model action' projects are being funded in Liverpool Toxteth, Craigavon, Northern Ireland and Pilton in Edinburgh, in addition to one 'innovatory initiative', the Single Parent Action Network in Bristol.

Further information: OJ L224, 2.8.1989

EC contacts:

DG V/C/1,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 235 3032

GEIE Animation et Recherche,
60 rue Jacquemars Gielee,
F-59800 Lille
France
Tel: 010 3320 543527

UK contact:

The Local Government Centre,
Warwick Business School,
University of Warwick,
Coventry CV4 7AL
Tel: 0203 524109

Sport

The EC has a budget for communication and campaigns and events which are likely to instill a sense of belonging to the Community. Sporting events which have a suitably European dimension and which are likely to attract media attention fall within the scope of this budget.

EC contact:

DG X/C/4,
Commission of the European
Communities,
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 299 9366

Vocational training

See Chapter 1 for a description of the role of the European Social Fund in this area and Chapter 4 for other training initiatives.

Youth Initiative Grants

Grants are available under the programme for the transition of young people from school to adult and working life to co-finance projects managed by young people between the ages of 15 and 25 in areas which include community work, voluntary work, information and advice for young people, the use of the media and new technology.

EC contact:

DG V (Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs),
Commission of the European
Communities,
200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

6. DEVELOPMENT AID

As the world's largest trading bloc the European Community recognises its obligations to assist former dependencies of its member states and other countries in course of economic development. The first European Development Fund (EDF) was created as long ago as 1958 and cooperation, trade and aid agreements of various kinds have been arranged with numerous developing countries, particularly through the Lome Conventions for African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States. Community aid consists mainly of grants for development projects to encourage trade, to promote rural development, to combat food shortages and assist with emergencies and natural disasters. More recently the focus of attention has switched to the newly-emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe, where substantial economic aid has been provided in order to help these countries to make the difficult transition from centrally planned to market-oriented economies.

HUMANITARIAN AID

A significant part of EC development assistance takes the form of humanitarian aid aimed at combatting the consequences of civil strife, drought, epidemics and other natural disasters. It may be divided into the following main categories:

- food aid for distribution in emergency situations and for distribution to vulnerable groups such as the elderly, the handicapped, children and refugees
- emergency aid in the form of medicine, medical equipment, personnel, food and finance to help countries respond immediately when confronted with economic, natural or man-made disasters
- refugee aid, providing food and shelter for displaced persons

Such work is coordinated by the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO), established in 1992 to improve the effectiveness of the EC's humanitarian effort.

Further information:

Humanitarian aid from the European Community: annual report 1992. Office for Official Publications, 1993. ISBN 92-826-6527-5.

EC contact:

DG I,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The European Development Fund (EDF) is the most important instrument for providing technical and financial assistance to developing countries. Some 69 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries are eligible for aid under the terms of the various Lome Conventions, the fourth of which covers aid for the ten years up to the end of the century (*The Courier*, No 120, March/April 1990).

Although the Commission is responsible for the overall financial administration and management of the EDF, ACP countries themselves have a crucial part to play in determining priorities and projects to be supported. Indicative programmes are agreed between the Commission and each ACP country setting out objectives and priorities for the use of Community aid. Specific projects are proposed by national authorities and, after approval by the Commission, are put out to international competitive tender.

Tenders for public works, supply and service contracts to implement the contents of indicative programmes agreed between the Commission and each ACP State, are published in the *Supplement - or S series - of the Official Journal*, and through TED (Tenders Electronic Daily) its electronic equivalent. Project information also appears in an 'operational summary' in each issue of *The Courier*, published bi-monthly by the Commission.

EC contacts:

Directorate-General I (External Relations).

Commission of the European Communities,

Rue de la Loi 200,
Brussels B-1049

The First Secretary (Commercial),
UK Permanent Representation,
6 Rond Point Schuman,
1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 230 6205

UK contact:
World Aid Section,
Department of Trade and Industry,
Room 042,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H OET
Tel: 071 215 4255

CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

The EC plays a prominent part in helping the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe with economic reconstruction and reform as they make the difficult transition to market-oriented economies. The EC provides direct assistance not only through the financial facilities provided by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the European Investment Bank (EIB) but also through a variety of emergency and humanitarian aid programmes, trade, commercial and economic cooperation agreements and loan schemes.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The EBRD was established in 1991 as an international expression of support for those countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union

producing political and market oriented reform. The principal aim of the Bank, which currently has more than 50 member countries together with the EC and the EIB, is to provide finance to foster the transition of Central and Eastern European countries to market economies, to promote private entrepreneurial activities through the provision of loans and equity capital, to stimulate the development of capital markets and to provide financial advice and other forms of technical assistance.

The Bank lends and invests exclusively in Central and Eastern Europe, supporting activities which include

- technical assistance and training to overcome skills shortages and to promote technology transfer
- market economy measures such as decentralisation, privatisation and regulation
- public infrastructures projects
- measures to stimulate SMEs
- regional development projects
- environmental improvement projects

UK contact:

EBRD,
1 Exchange Square,
London,
EC2A 2EH
Tel: 010 338 6000

European Investment Bank (EIB)
Although the EBRD provides the principal source of lending activity in relation to Central and Eastern Europe, the EIB nevertheless continues to operate in these countries. Whilst EBRD activities are concentrated on market economy measures in Central and Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union, the main role of the EIB is to support the EC's balanced development and integration by avoiding long-term loans for priority capital investment projects.

Contact:
The European Investment Bank
10 Bvd Konrad Adenauer,
L-150 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 43791

Contact:
European Investment Bank,
Pall Mall,
London SW1Y 5ES
Tel: 071 839 3351

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

PHARE

The PHARE programme (Poland and Hungary Assistance for Economic Restructuring) was conceived as a direct response to the urgent needs for technical assistance and economic aid experienced by the countries of Central and Eastern Europe as they made the transition from centrally planned to free market economies. Originally designed for Hungary and Poland the programme was extended in 1990 to Bulgaria, Czech and Slovak Federal Republics, Romania and Yugoslavia and later to the Baltic States. (Yugoslavia is currently ineligible because of the political situation there).

The programme provides funds from which beneficiary countries can finance their own programmes of economic reconstruction. Financial and technical assistance is concentrated in certain priority areas with annual 'indicative programmes' being prepared on a bilateral basis by recipient countries in partnership with the European Commission, which set out priority areas for funding, on the basis of which separate programmes and projects are identified.

Typically, priority areas for economic reconstruction include agriculture, industry, investment, energy, training, environmental protection, trade and services, with aid typically taking the form of technical assistance, studies, training projects, supplies and financial assistance. Although projects and programmes vary from one country to another according to national requirements, core themes include:

- abolition of state monopolies
- restructuring and privatization of public enterprises
- modernization of financial services
- promotion of the private sector
- development of the labour market and social sector

Programmes to be funded by PHARE are initiated by national authorities in consultation with the European Commission. Consequently, consultants, Western experts and organisations that wish to provide technical assistance or otherwise participate in PHARE programmes should make direct contact with the national coordinators in

recipient countries in the first instance. In relation to the provision of services and procurement of supplies the PHARE programme follows established Community procedures with open tendering processes and publication in the *Official journal of the European Communities*.

Further information: OJ L375, 23.12.1989

EC contact:

PHARE Advisory Unit,
DG I,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue d'Arion 88,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 299 1500

UK contact:

Department of Trade and Industry,
FSU, Central and Eastern Europe
Branch,
Kingsgate House,
66-74 Victoria Street,
London SW1E 6SW
Tel: 071 215 5112

TACIS

The EC's main contribution to the international effort to assist the countries of the former Soviet Union has been channelled through the TACIS (Technical Assistance for Economic Reform in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia) programme, which aims to support the process of economic and democratic reform and the development of market economies in those countries by making funds available for such activities as policy advice, institution building, training and the design of legal or regulatory frameworks.

The programme covers Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. (The Baltic States are now covered by PHARE). Financial and technical assistance is concentrated in certain priority areas identified within 'indicative programmes' agreed by recipient countries in partnership with the European Commission. The following principal sectors have been identified:

- management training in the public and private sectors
- financial services
- energy
- transport
- food distribution

TACIS is a decentralised programme, with recipient states closely involved in the preparation and execution of programmes. There is consequently scope for external consultants and organisations to assist in the implementation of actions already defined and chosen by the Commission in cooperation with recipient states.

Interested parties should in the first instance make contact with the European Commission which is responsible for the overall coordination and operation of the programme, from where the addresses of national coordinators and EC delegations may also be obtained.

Further information: OJ L201, 24.7.1991

EC contact:
CIS Technical Assistance Unit,
DG I/E/2,
Commission of the European
Communities,
rue de la Loi 86,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 2331

TRAINING, MOBILITY & EXCHANGE

ACE
ACE (Action for Cooperation in the field of Economics) provides funds within the context of the PHARE programme to stimulate the exchange of economic techniques and concepts between Central and Eastern European countries and the EC. Finance is available for research projects, fellowships and scholarships to enable East European doctoral students and researchers to study at EC universities or institutes, seminars, conferences and publications.

EC contact:
DG II/B/1,
Commission of the European
Communities, 200, rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 299 3405

COPERNICUS

This programme is intended to encourage scientific and technical cooperation with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe by providing funds for joint research projects and scientific networks in the following areas: information technology; communications technologies, telematics and language engineering; manufacturing, production, processing and materials; agri-foodstuffs and biotechnology.

Further information: OJ C30, 1.2.1994

EC contact:
Scientific and Cooperation with Central & Eastern Europe,
DG XII-B2,
Commission of the European
Communities,
75 rue Montoyer,
B-1040 Brussels

ECOS

The ECOS (European City Cooperation Scheme) programme facilitates cooperation between local and regional authorities in the EC and Central and Eastern Europe. Co-financing is available for transnational partnerships concerning activities such as the exchange of experience, the training of officers and elected members and seminars on topics such as local democracy, transport, environmental protection, urban planning and social policy.

EC contact:
Council of European Municipalities & Regions,
General Secretariat,
41 Quai d'Orsay,
75007 Paris
Tel: 010 331 4551 4001

UK contact:
Local Government International Bureau,
35 Great Smith Street,
London SW1P 3BJ
Tel: 071 222 1636

European Training Foundation (ETF)
Intended as a means of helping the countries of Eastern Europe to adapt their training systems to the new market conditions, the ETF will act as a focus for assistance on vocational training, continuing education and training in specific sectors, working in close collaboration with CEDEFOP (see Chapter 4).

Further information: OJ L131, 23.5.1990

OUVERTURE

Designed to assist the regions and cities of the less-favoured areas of the EC to establish contact and develop cooperation with their counterparts in Central and Eastern Europe. The programme provides for a wide range of contacts and cooperative activities, particularly in relation to regional democracy, regional services and economic development.

UK contact:

Strathclyde Regional Council,
Overture,
20 Blythswood Square,
Glasgow G2 4AR
Tel: 041 248 7949

PECO

PECO (Pays de l'Europe Centrale et Orientale) provides funds for Central and Eastern European countries to take part in such 3rd Framework Programmes as Human Capital and Mobility, BIOMED, Environment, Non-nuclear energy and Nuclear fission safety (see Chapter 3).

EC contact:

Scientific and Cooperation with Central & Eastern Europe,
Commission of the European
Communities,
75 rue Montoyer,
B-1040 Brussels

TEMPUS

The Trans-European Mobility Scheme for University Studies (TEMPUS) concentrates upon the urgent training needs of Central and Eastern Europe, drawing together aspects of existing programmes such as Erasmus, Comett and Lingua. Aimed initially at Hungary and Poland but now opened up to the Czech and Slovak Federal Republics, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, the Baltic States and Slovenia, Tempus is intended to enable higher education institutions in EC countries to cooperate with their counterparts in Central and Eastern Europe in meeting their vocational training needs and in providing for student mobility. Tempus II (1994-1998) will also include the republics of the former Soviet Union.

Financial support falls into three categories

Joint European Projects (JEP's)
Funds are available for university/industry consortia in EC and eligible Eastern European countries to undertake actions which promote the development of higher education systems in eligible countries and encourage cooperation between them and academic/industrial partners in the European Community. Such measures might include student mobility schemes, curriculum development, continuing education and retraining schemes, open and distance learning packages and support for upgrading facilities such as libraries and laboratories.

Mobility grants for staff and students
Grants are available for higher education teaching and administrative staff and industrial trainers to move between EC and eligible East European countries for the purpose of undertaking teaching assignments, practical placements and short study visits. Grants are also available to allow student mobility between institutions of higher education for periods of study or practical placement.

Complementary activities
Financial support is also available for a range of cooperative activities, including the preparation of publications, studies and surveys and youth exchanges.

*Further information: OJ L112, 6.5.1993
OJ L131, 23.5.1990*

EC contact:
Tempus Office,
rue Montoyer,
B-1040 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 504 0711

JK contact:
Europe Unit,
Education and Science Division,
British Council,
Medlock Street,
Manchester,
M5 4PR.
Tel: 061 957 7074

MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

As part of its Mediterranean policy the Commission has developed a number of programmes to foster joint projects and cooperation between EC and Mediterranean non-member countries

(MNCs) - Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey.

MED-CAMPUS

This inter-university cooperation programme is designed to boost ties between institutions of higher education in EC and Mediterranean non-member countries. Projects must involve at least one MNC partner and two from two EC countries, with priority being given to training projects for university teachers in such areas as regional economic and social development, public and private enterprise management, the environment and multicultural development.

Further information: OJ C140, 19.5.1993

EC contact:
DG I/H/2
Commission of the European Communities,
Science 14 - Office 8/39,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Belgium

MED-INVEST

A two year pilot programme to help promote an environment favourable to the development of SMEs in the non-EC Mediterranean countries by using existing instruments and networks such as the BCC, BC-NET and Europartenariat (see Chapter 2).

EC contacts:
DG XXIII,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
(ARLN 80)
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: 010 322 296 6155

DG I/H/2,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Tel: 010 322 299 0933

MED-MEDIA

A programme which provides for cooperative projects on television, radio and newspaper, training, co-productions,

seminars and workshops as well as programme exchanges.

EC contact:

DG I/H/2,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

MED-URBS

A programme designed to promote cooperation between local authorities in the EC and those in Mediterranean non-member countries. Programmes must involve at least one MNC partner and at least two other partners from two EC states, with priority being given to urban development issues, including projects on such topics as environmental protection, urban planning, energy resource management, municipal administration, economic development, urban transport, culture, local taxation and local democracy.

Further information: OJ C140, 19.5.1993

EC contact:
DG I/H/2,
Commission of the European Communities,
rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

APPENDIX 1: ELIGIBLE AREAS

The following regions and areas in the United Kingdom qualify for support under the provisions governing the operation of the ERDF, the ESF, the EAGGF and the ECSC.

OBJECTIVE 1 (least favoured regions)		In Scotland Central	In Scotland Tayside	In Scotland Arbroath
Highlands and Islands Enterprise area		Alloa (part)	Dundee	
Merseyside		Falkirk (part)	Dunfermline (part)	
Northern Ireland		Glasgow (part)	Bathgate	
OBJECTIVE 2 (Industrial areas)		Fife	Stirling (part)	Falkirk (part)
<i>i) Regions satisfying basic criteria</i>		Strathclyde	Alloa (part)	Edinburgh (part)
In England			Dunfermline (part)	
Cleveland	All		Dundee (part)	
Durham	Newcastle (part)		Kirkcaldy	
	Sunderland (part)		Ayr	<i>iii) Urban communities suffering from industrial decline</i>
	Hartlepool (part)		Cumnock & Sanquhar (part)	
Durham	Darlington (part)		Dumbarton	Greater London
	Bishop Auckland		Girvan	Enfield (part)
			Glasgow (part)	Hackney (part)
Greater Manchester	Bolton & Bury (part)		Greenock	Haringey (part)
	Manchester (part)		Irvine (part)	Newham (part)
	Oldham (part)		Kilmarnock	Tower Hamlets (part)
	Rochdale (part)		Lanarkshire	Waltham Forest (part)
	Wigan & St Helens (part)	<i>ii) Adjacent areas</i>		Thanet
Tyne and Wear	All	In England	Alnwick & Amble (part)	
Humberside	Doncaster (part)		Morpeth & Ashington	Cumbria
	Grimsby (part)		Newcastle-upon-Tyne (part)	Workington
	Hull (part)		Bolton & Bury (part)	Whitehaven
	Scunthorpe (part)		Liverpool (part)	Barrow-in-Furness
South Yorkshire	All		Wigan & St Helens (part)	Accrington & Rossendale
West Yorkshire	Bradford (part)		Chesterfield	Blackburn
	Castleford & Pontefract (part)		Mansfield (part)	Burnley
	Wakefield & Dewsbury		Worksop (part)	Pendle (part)
Nottinghamshire	Mansfield (part)		Liverpool (part)	Staffordshire
	Nottingham (part)		Widnes & Runcorn (part)	Burton-on-Trent (part)
	Worksop (part)		Wirral & Chester (part)	Devon/Cornwall
West Midlands	Birmingham (part)		Wolverhampton (part)	Plymouth (part)
	Dudley & Sandwell (part)		Birmingham (part)	Gibraltar
	Walsall (part)		Walsall (part)	
	Wolverhampton (part)		Wolverhampton (part)	
In Wales		Cheshire	Birmingham (part)	<i>v) Areas with severe problems linked to industrial dereliction</i>
Gwent	Blaenau Gwent & Abergavenny (part)	Derbyshire	Coventry & Hinckley (part)	Staffordshire
	Merthyr & Rhymney (part)			Shropshire
	Newport			Stoke (part)
	Pontypool & Cwmbran			Telford & Bridgnorth (part)
Mid Glamorgan	All	In Wales		OBJECTIVE 5b (rural areas)
West Glamorgan	All	South Glam		English Northern Uplands
		Powys	Cardiff (part)	Northumberland (part)
		Dyfed	Aberdare (part)	Durham (part)
			Swansea (part)	North Yorkshire (part)
			Llanelli	Cumbria (part)
			Swansea (part)	Lancashire (part)
				Humberside (part)
				Rural Wales & Marches

Gwynedd (all)
Dyfed (part)
Powys (part)
Clwyd (part)
Shropshire (part)
Hereford & Worcester (part)

Lincolnshire & Fens
Cambridgeshire (part)
Norfolk (part)
Suffolk (part)
Lincolnshire (part)

English Midland Uplands
Derbyshire (part)
Staffordshire (part)

South West England
Cornwall (all)
Devon (part)
Somerset (part)

Scottish Borders
Borders region (all)
Dumfries & Galloway (all)

Southern Scottish Highlands
Central region (part)
Tayside region (part)
Clydebank region (part)

RECHAR: ELIGIBLE AREAS

Defined travel to work and other coal mining areas in the following regions. A detailed list appears in *Official Journal* C 77, 18 July 1990.

England
Derbyshire, Durham, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, South Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Tyne and Wear, Warwickshire, West Yorkshire

Scotland
Central, Dumfries, Fife, Lothian, Strathclyde

Wales
Dyfed, Gwent, Powys, Mid Glamorgan, West Glamorgan

APPENDIX 2: USEFUL ADDRESSES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION	DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT	DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
European Commission Rue de la Loi 200, 1049 Brussels Tel: 010 322 235 1111	REGIONAL OFFICES West Midlands Five Ways Tower, Frederick Road, Birmingham B15 1SJ Tel: 021 631 4141	REGIONAL OFFICES ENGLAND DTI South-East Bridge Place, 88-89 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1PT Tel: 071 215 0574
European Commission Batiment Jean Monnet Rue Alcide de Gasperi, L-2920 Luxembourg Tel: 010 352 43011	 Yorks & Humberside City House, New Station Street, Leeds LS1 4JD Tel: 0532 43232 x2238	 DTI West Midlands 77 Paradise Circus, Queensway, Birmingham B1 2DT Tel: 021 212 5000
London Office 8, Storey's Gate, London SW1P 3AT Tel: 071 973 1992	 North West Sunley Tower, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BE Tel: 061 832 9111 x2000	 DTI North-West Sunley Tower, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA Tel: 061 838 5000
Belfast Office Windsor House, 9/15 Bedford Street, Belfast Tel: 0232 240708	 Northern Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 4TD Tel: 091 232 7575 x2566	 DTI South-West The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB Tel: 0272 272666
Cardiff Office 4 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF1 9SG Tel: 0222 371631	 South West Tollgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol BS2 9DJ Tel: 0272 218811	 DTI Yorks and Humberside 25 Queen Street, Leeds LS1 2TW Tel: 0532 443171
Edinburgh Office 9 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4PH Tel: 031 225 2058	 East Midlands Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1EY Tel: 0602 476121 x391	 DTI East Midlands Sevens House, 20 Middle Pavement, Nottingham NG1 7DW Tel: 0602 506181
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT		
Secretariat Plateau du Kirchberg, BP 1601 Luxembourg Tel: 010 352 43001	 South East Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH Tel: 071 605 9003	 DTI North-East Stanegate House, 2 Groat Market, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE1 1YN Tel: 091 232 4722
London Office 2 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AA Tel: 071 222 0411	 Eastern Heron House, 49-51 Goldington Road, Bedford MK40 3LL Tel: 0234 63161	 DTI East Building A, Westbrook Research Centre, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1YG Tel: 0223 461939
EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK		
European Investment Bank 100 bd Konrad Adenauer, 2950 Luxembourg Tel: 010 352 43791		
London Office 68 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5ES Tel: 071 839 3351		

WALES

Welsh Office
Industry Department,
New Crown Building,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff CF1 3NQ
Tel: 0222 825111

12 Throgmorton Avenue,
London EC2N 2DL
Tel: 071 454 6151

Manchester Chamber of Commerce &
Industry,
Euro Info Centre,
56 Oxford Street,
Manchester M60 7HJ
Tel: 061 236 3210

SCOTLAND

Scottish Trade International,
Farnborough House,
10 Bothwell Street,
Glasgow G2 7JP
Tel: 041 228 2869

TSB Scotland
120 George Street
Edinburgh EH2 4TS
Tel: 021 600 5153

South East

Federation of Sussex Industries and
Chamber of Commerce
169 Church Road,
Hove BN3 2AB
Tel: 0273 326282

NORTHERN IRELAND

Industrial Development Board
for Northern Ireland
113 House,
54 Chichester Street,
Belfast BT1 4JX
Tel: 0232 233233

Welsh Development Agency
Pearl House,
Greyfriars Road,
Cardiff CF1 3XX
Tel: 0222 222666

Euro Info Centre London,
Centre for European Business
Information,
11 Belgrave Road,
London SW1V 1RB
Tel: 071 828 6201

FINANCIAL AGENTS FOR ECSC LOANS

Bank of Scotland
Grassmarket
Edinburgh EH1 2JF
Tel: 031 243 5764

Barclays Bank
European Loans Unit,
C/o Box 256,
Lowry House,
5 Farrington Street,
London EC4A 4LP
Tel: 071 832 3081

Lyndesdale Bank
10 Vincent Place
Glasgow G1 2HL
Tel: 041 248 7070

Investors in Industry
Unity Park,
Calthill,
Birmingham B37 7ES
Tel: 021 782 3131

Standard Bank
1000 House,
Upper Street Head,
Leeds LS1 3GG
Tel: 0742 529 316

National Westminster Bank
1000 Gardens,

EURO INFO CENTRES

East Anglia

Norwich and Norfolk Chamber of
Commerce & Industry
112 Barrack Street,
Norwich NR3 1UB
Tel: 0603 625977

East Midlands

The Business Centre
10 York Road,
Leicester LE1 5TS
Tel: 0533 559944

Nottinghamshire Chamber of
Commerce & Industry,
309 Haydn Road,
Sherwood,
Nottingham NG5 1DG
Tel: 0602 624624

North East

Northern Development Company,
Great North House,
Sandyford Road,
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE1 8ND
Tel: 091 261 0026

North West

Euro Info Centre North West,
Liverpool Central Libraries,
William Brown Street,
Liverpool L3 8EW
Tel: 051 298 1928

Greater London Business Centre,
Bastille Court,
2 Paris Gardens,
London SE1 8ND
Tel: 071 261 1163

London Chamber of Commerce &
Industry,
33 Queen Street,
London EC4R 1AP
Tel: 071 489 1992

Kent European Information Centre,
Springfield,
Maidstone ME1 2LL
Tel: 0622 694109

Thames Chiltern Chamber of
Commerce,
Commerce House,
2-6 Bath Road,
Slough,
Berks SL1 3SB
Tel: 0753 577877

Southern Area Euro Info Centre,
Central Library,
Civic Centre,
Southampton SO9 4XP
Tel: 0703 832866

South West

Bristol Chamber of Commerce and
Industry,
16 Clifton Park,
Bristol BS8 3BY
Tel: 0272 737373

Exeter Enterprises Ltd.,
University of Exeter,
Reed Hall,
Exeter EX4 4QR
Tel: 0392 214085

West Midlands

Birmingham Chamber of Industry & Commerce,
75 Harborne Road,
PO Box 360,
Birmingham B15 3DH
Tel: 021 454 6171

Staffs European Business Centre,
3 Martin Street,
Stafford ST16 2LH
Tel: 0785 59528

Shropshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
Euro Info Centre,
Industry House,
Halesfield 20,
Telford,
Shropshire TF7 4TA
Tel: 0952 588766

Hereford & Worcester County Council,
Business Promotion Centre,
Taylor's Lane,
Worcester WR1 1DN
Tel: 0905 765335

Yorks & Humberside

West Yorks European Business Information Centre,
Britannia House,
Broadway,
Bradford BD1 1JF
Tel: 0274 754262

Humberside European Business Information Centre,
Brynmor Jones Library,
University of Hull,
Cottingham Road,
Hull HU6 7RX
Tel: 0482 465940

Mid-Yorks Euro Info Centre,
Leeds Metropolitan University,
Leeds LS1 3HE
Tel: 0532 833126

Yorks and Humberside Development Association,
Westgate House,
Wellington Street,
Leeds LS1 4LT
Tel: 0532 439222

South Yorkshire European Information Centre,
Eric Mensforth Library,
Sheffield Hallam University,
Pond Street,
Sheffield S1 1WB
Tel: 0742 532126

Northern Ireland

Local Enterprise Development Unit,
LEDU House,
Upper Galwally,
Belfast BT8 4TB
Tel: 0232 491031

Scotland

Scottish Development Agency,
Atrium Court,
50 Waterloo Street,
Glasgow G2 6HQ
Tel: 041 221 0999

Highland Opportunity Ltd.,
Development Department,
Highland Regional Council,
Regional Buildings,
Glenurquhart Road,
Inverness IV3 5NX
Tel: 0463 702551

Wales

Wales Euro Info Centre
University College Cardiff,
PO Box 430,
Cardiff CF1 3XT
Tel: 0222 229525

Library & Information Service,
County Civic Centre,
Shire Hall,
Mold CH7 6NW
Tel: 0352 704748

UK RELAY CENTRES

Southern and Central England
The Technology Broker,
Station Road,

Long Stanton,
Cambridgeshire,
CB4 5DU
Tel: 0954 261199

Northern England
Regional Technology Centre North,
Unit 3D,
Hylton Park,
Wessington Way,
Sunderland,
SR5 3NR
Tel: 091 549 8299

Scotland and Northern England
EuroInfo Centre Ltd.,
Atrium Court,
50 Waterloo Street,
Glasgow,
G2 6HQ
Tel: 041 221 0999

Highlands and Islands of Scotland
Business Information Source Ltd.,
Bridge House,
20 Bridge Street,
Inverness,
IV1 1QR
Tel: 0463 715 400

Central, Southern and North East Scotland
Technology Transfer Centre Ltd.,
43 Falkland Street,
Glasgow,
G12 9QZ
Tel: 041 339 5010

Scottish Office,
Industry Department,
Technology Unit,
Alhambra House,
45 Waterloo Street,
Glasgow G2 6AT
Tel: 041 242 5527

Northern Ireland
LEDU - Small Business Agency,
LEDU House,
Upper Galway,
Belfast,
BT8 4TB
Tel: 0232 491031

Dept of Economic Development,
Industrial Research and Technology Unit,
Netherleigh,
Massey Avenue,
Belfast,
BT4 2JP
Tel: 0232 764244

Wales
Welsh Development Agency,
QED Centre,
Main Avenue,
Tafforest Industrial Estate,
Pontypridd,
Mid Glamorgan,
CF37 5YR
Tel: 0443 841345

Welsh Office,
Industry Department,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff CF1 3WQ
Tel: 0222 825111

EUROPEAN DOCUMENTATION CENTRES (EDCs)

Aberdeen
Open Mother Library,
University of Aberdeen,
Union Walk,
Aberdeen AB9 2UE
Tel: 0224 272000 x 2588

Bath
The Library,
Ye College,
Bath,
BA2 2SAH
Tel: 0223 812401 x 497

Bath
The Library,
University of Bath,
Clifton Down,
BA2 7AY
Tel: 0225 826826 x 5594

Belfast
Main Library,
Queens University,
University Road,
Belfast BT7 1NN
Tel: 0232 245133 x 3605

Birmingham
Information Services Library,
Rock Building,
University of Central England in
Birmingham,
Newgate Street,
Birmingham,
B42 2SU

Birmingham
The Library,
University of Birmingham,
Birmingham B15 2TT
Tel: 021 414 5823

Bradford
JB-Priestley Library,
University of Bradford,
Richmond Road,
Bradford BD9 4JL
Tel: 0271 383402

Brighton
The Library,
University of Sussex,
Falmer,
Brighton BN1 9QH
Tel: 0273 678440

Bristol
The Law Library,
University of Bristol,
Wills Memorial Building,
Queens Road,
Bristol BS8 1RJ
Tel: 0272 303370

Cambridge
The Library,
University of Cambridge,
Cambridge CB3 9DR
Tel: 0223 333138

Canterbury
Templeman Library,
University of Kent,
Canterbury CT2 7NU
Tel: 0227 764000 x 3835

Cardiff
Guest Library,
University of Wales College of Cardiff,
PO Box 430,
Cardiff CF1 3XT
Tel: 0222 874262

Colchester
Albert Sloman Library,
University of Essex,
PO Box 24,
Wivenhoe Park,
Colchester CO4 3UA
Tel: 0206 873333 x 3181

Coleraine
The Library,
University of Ulster,
Cromore Road,
Coleraine,
Co. Londonderry
BT52 1SA
Tel: 0265 44141 x 4257

Coventry
The Lanchester Library,
Coventry University,
Much Park Street,

Coventry CV1 2HE
Tel: 0203 838698 x 8295

The Library,
University of Warwick,
Coventry CV4 7AL
Tel: 0203 523523 x 2041

Dundee
The Law Library,
University of Dundee,
Dundee DD1 4HN
Tel: 0382 23181 x 4100

Durham
The Library,
University of Durham,
Stockton Road,
Durham DH1 3LY
Tel: 091 374 3041

Edinburgh
Europa Library,
University of Edinburgh,
Old College,
South Bridge,
Edinburgh EH3 9YL
Tel: 031 650 2041

Exeter
The Law Library,
University of Exeter,
Amory Building,
Rennes Drive,
Exeter EX4 4RJ
Tel: 0392 262072

Glasgow
The Library,
University of Glasgow,
Hillhead Street,
Glasgow G12 8QE
Tel: 041 339 8855 x 6747

Guildford
George Edwards Library,
University of Surrey,
Guildford GU2 5XN
Tel: 0483 300800 x 3323

Hull
Brynmor Jones Library,
University of Hull,
Cottingham Road,
Hull HU6 7RX
Tel: 0482 465941

Keele
The Library,
University of Keele,
Keele ST5 5RG
Tel: 0782 621111 x 7738

Lancaster The Library, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YH Tel: 0524 592539	Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PP Tel: 061 275 3727 x 3751	Highfield, Southampton SO9 5NH Tel: 0703 593451
Leeds The Library, Lyndon Terrace, University of Leeds, Leeds LS7 9JT Tel: 0532 431751	Newcastle The Library, University of Northumbria, Sandyford Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 8ST Tel: 091 261 5131	Wolverhampton Robert Scott Library, University of Wolverhampton, St Peter Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1RH Tel: 0902 322314
The Library, Leeds Metropolitan University, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 3HE Tel: 0532 832600 x 3126	Norwich The Library, University of East Anglia, University Plain, Norwich NR4 7TJ Tel: 0603 56161 x 2412	DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES
Leicester The Library, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 9QD Tel: 0533 522044	Nottingham Hallward Library, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD Tel: 0602 514560	Liverpool Central Libraries, William Brown Street, Liverpool L3 8EW Tel: 051 298 1928
London The Library, Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS Tel: 071 775 3321	Oxford Bodleian Library, St Cross Building, Manor Road, Oxford OX1 3UR Tel: 0865 271463	Westminster Libraries, St Martin's Street, London WC2 7HP
The Library, University of North London, Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 Tel: 071 607 2789 x 4110	Portsmouth Frewen Library, University of Portsmouth, Cambridge Road, Portsmouth PO1 2ST Tel: 0705 843242	
The Library, Royal Institute for International Affairs, 10 St James Square, London SW1Y 4LE Tel: 071 957 5700 x 221	Reading The Library, University of Reading, Whitenights, PO Box 223, Reading RG6 2AE Tel: 0734 318782	
British Library of Political and Economic Science, 10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HD Tel: 071 955 7273	Salford The Library, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT Tel: 061 745 5000 x 5846	
Loughborough The Pilkington Library, Loughborough University of Technology, Loughborough LE11 3TU Tel: 0509 222344	Sheffield The Library, Sheffield Hallam University, Pond Street, Sheffield S1 1WB Tel: 0742 532126	
Manchester John Rylands Library, University of Manchester,	Southampton The Library, University of Southampton,	

APPENDIX 3: SOURCES OF EC INFORMATION

1. Publications

References occur throughout this guide to official texts which provide further authoritative information on the various policies, programmes and projects supported by EC institutions. Brief details of the two principal sources are provided below.

Official journal of the European Communities (OJ)

The official gazette of the European Communities containing not only the authentic texts of Community law but also a rich variety of additional material associated with the legislative activities of each of the main community institutions.

The OJ is published in two main parts. The 'Legislation' or 'L' series contains the texts of regulations, directives, decisions and other legal acts adopted by community institutions. The *Information and Notices* or 'C' series includes draft legislation from the Commission, the debates and resolutions of the European Parliament, parliamentary questions, the judgments of the European Court of Justice as well as many other reports, tables and official announcements. In addition, the *Supplement* or 'S' series contains details of public works and supply contracts and the *Annex* contains the debates of the European Parliament.

The OJ is published on a daily basis and available on subscription in paper or microfiche versions from national sales agents for EC publications. The OJ is also available online via CELEX and on CD-ROM.

COM documents

The means by which the Commission conveys its legislative proposals to the Council for further consideration and decision, COM documents provide a unique insight into Commission thinking in advance of impending legislation. Many hundreds are issued each year, the numerical majority consisting of draft proposals for regulations, directives and decisions. However, the Commission also issues substantial policy documents, discussion papers, communications and other items as COM documents.

COM documents are available in paper or microfiche versions on annual subscription from national sales agents. Selective subscriptions are also available by subject.

Other publications

Community institutions, particularly the Commission, publish numerous reports, monographs, statistical bulletins, newsletters, magazines and other material during the course of their activities. Further information is available from:

The Office for Official Publications of the European Communities,
2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 499 281

Detailed information on the scientific, technical and research publications (EUR reports) issued by the EC may be obtained from:

DG XIII/D-2,
Technical Knowledge Unit,
Commission of the European Communities,
Bâtiment Jean Monnet,
rue Alcide de Gasperi,
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: 010 352 4301 33161

2. Bibliographical sources

The Office for Official Publications issues a number of sales catalogues which may be used to select and order EC publications. These include:

Documents

Monthly listing of COM documents, European Parliament reports and Economic and Social Committee reports available to the public.

EUR-OP news

Information about current EC publications.

The European Community as a publisher
Annual selection of the main and most popular EC publications in print.

Eurostat index

Annual listing of the publications and electronic sources available from the

statistical Office of the European Communities.

Publications

Quarterly catalogue of EC publications arranged by subject.

These titles are available free of charge from the Office for Official Publications. In addition, the following sources also provide bibliographical information on EC publications and documents:

Euro abstracts. Commission of the EC. Monthly.

Bibliographical details of scientific and technical reports, monographs, conference proceedings, etc. resulting from EC research (EUR reports). Also now includes news, reviews and brief topical articles on research issues. Also available online (see CORDIS below).

European Access. Chadwyck-Healey. Bi-monthly.

Current awareness bulletin which not only provides bibliographical references to the latest EC publications, documents and legislation but also covers commercial publications and also contains bibliographical reviews, news and brief articles on topical issues.

SCAD bulletin. Commission of the EC. Weekly.

Bibliographical bulletin listing EC documents, legislation and publications by subject as well as journal articles and publications issued by commercial publishers. Also available online and on CD-ROM..

3. Electronic sources

CORDIS

The Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS) provides free information to registered users on EC research and technological development programmes and projects in all subject areas through a series of databases which currently include:

- RTD- programmes
- RTD- projects
- RTD- publications
- RTD- results

RTD- ComDocuments

RTD- acronyms

RTD- news

RTD- partners

These databases are available through the European Commission Host organisation (ECHO) (see below).

Other online services

Other databases available from the EC include CELEX (EC legislation), SCAD and ECLAS (bibliographical references), TED (calls for tenders) and RAPID (press releases). Information on these and other EC databases available through EC hosts may be obtained from:

ECHO Customer Services,
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HMSO Books,
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EC publications may also be consulted in the national offices of the Commission and in European Documentation Centres and Euro-Info Centres (see Appendix 2).

4. Obtaining EC publications

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