

london

euroscene

byte-size



No 1 June 2007

Welcome to the new byte-size Euroscene

Holding On , Moving On...

...from the Structural Funds

LVSTC Workshops

3 July 2007 - Mainstreaming Your Project

How can voluntary sector organisations get involved in mainstream funding opportunities for training and learning?

5 July 2007 - Building Partnerships & Consortiums

Whether you are maintaining current partnerships or considering a consortium or network approach to future funding opportunities, you will be able to explore the positive and negative characteristics of a range of models.

10 July 2007 - Measuring Soft Outcomes

This workshop will enable you to discover the practical implications of successfully integrating Soft Outcomes & Distance Travelled systems into your learning and training offer.

12 July 2007 - Preparing for Inspection

Are you ready for your inspection from the Adult Learning Inspectorate? Find out about the process and receive practical help and information.

19 July 2007 - Writing Better Bids

The 'Who, Why, What, How' questions you have to address in order to be successful. The workshop will provide practical exercises to help you recognise these questions whatever application you are making.

All events are FREE for VCS organisations, and are scheduled to run in the morning from 9.30am to 1.00pm: for more information and booking details go to www.lvstc.org.uk/events

Other sectors will need to contact LVSTC on 0845 262 2006/ 020 7538 4309 before booking places on workshops.

CEEP Workshops

4 July 2007 - Quality Finance

This is a one day intensive training workshop on how to raise finance for a not for profit organisation and is designed to provide participants with a broad based introduction to fundraising. The objective of the workshop is to equip participants with the knowledge of fundraising and budgeting techniques. The workshop is split into two sessions. The first session is to explore various types of fundraising techniques and how to prepare a sound funding proposal. The second session focuses on budgeting and forecasting of revenue and expenditure for a project proposal.

17 July 07 - Developing an ICT Policy

This is a half day training workshop aimed at managers and designated staff who are responsible for the development of an ICT Policy but have little or no previous experience. It will help participants to identify key elements and what to include when developing an ICT policy for their organisation. Participants will be able to learn about the importance of an ICT Policy and legal issues and how it protects your organisation and staff.

These events are specifically for BAMER groups. For more information, please contact Karin Podschun on karinp@lvstc.org.uk or 0845 262 2006.

ESF London Regional Framework 2007-2013 – Stakeholders Consultation Event

The consultation on the draft London European Social Fund (ESF) Regional Framework will begin 3 July 2007 and will end on 24 July 2007.

From the 3rd July, you will be able to download the ESF Regional Framework and accompanying consultation questionnaire from the London Development Agency website on www.lda.gov.uk along with the supporting background information.

The GLA and LDA on behalf of the London Skills Council, London Councils and Job Centre Plus will be holding a stakeholder consultation event on 18th July 2007 at 1pm. If you would like to pre-register to attend this consultation event please email esf@lda.gov.uk. More information will be provided at the website address www.lda.gov.uk/esfconsultation from next week. The deadline for confirming your attendance at the event is 10th July 2007.

This is a vitally important opportunity to have your valued opinion heard in how the ESF programme should look. If you have any comments or feedback and are unable to attend, then please send them to us at LVSTC at ianf@lvstc.org.uk. Your views will contribute to shaping the final version of the London ESF Regional Framework.

ERDF 2007-2013 Operational Programme

We understand that the London ERDF 2007-2013 Operational Programme, submitted by the Mayor to the Department for Communities and Local Government, with a view to eventual forwarding to the European Commission, will be available to the public by the end of June. Keep checking the LVSTC website, as it will appear on there as soon as it is released.

Tackling Child Poverty – a European challenge

Addressing child poverty has been central to the UK Government's anti poverty agenda for the last eight years. However recent figures show that progress towards the child poverty targets in the UK has not been as smooth as may have been hoped. Across the European Union Governments are considering how best to address the problem of child poverty. This summer, Governments across the EU will take part in a number of initiatives on tackling child poverty across Europe, leading up to the publication of the Joint Report on Social Inclusion and Social Protection by the European Commission in 2008. As part of this process the Social Protection Committee (SPC) of the EC is currently consulting Governments across Europe on their approach to tackling child poverty. This roundtable discussion seminar is an opportunity for all those with an interest in tackling poverty to discuss the UK Governments response to the consultation and to hear more about their current approach as out lined in the DWPs recently refreshed child poverty strategy *Working for Children*.

The seminar will be chaired by Catherine Stihler MEP and will hear contributions from Jonathan Portes, Director of the Family Poverty and Work Division of the DWP (invited), Professor Adrian Sinfield (University of Edinburgh) Sian Jones (EAPN Brussels) amongst others. The seminar will take place in Edinburgh on Friday 29 June between 10.30am-3.30pm. The format of the event is designed to allow maximum time for discussion. A report from the seminar will be submitted to the UK Government.

To register for this free event please contact Poe McHugh at poe.mchugh@povertyalliance.org If you require further details of the event or of the work of EAPN UK please contact Peter Kelly at peter.kelly@povertyalliance.org

New Social Inclusion Newsletter launched from the European Union

A newsletter focussing on social protection and inclusion in the EU has been launched. The newsletter, Exchange, will highlight examples of best practice, calls for proposals and upcoming events. The overall aim of the newsletter is to exchange ideas to combat poverty and social exclusion across Europe. Click here to download a copy:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_inclusion/docs/2007/spsi_newsletter_01_en.pdf

Commission launches debate on the future of cohesion policy

The European Commission published on 30 May its Fourth Report on Economic and Social Cohesion http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/cohesion4/index_en.htm illustrating for the first time ever the economic, social and territorial situation of the enlarged Union and its 268 regions.

The report contains a detailed analysis of the position of the regions in terms of GDP, productivity and employment, identifying a series of challenges with which Member States and regions will be confronted in the coming years.

The Fourth Cohesion Report also provides a first assessment of the impact of European cohesion policy during the 2000-2006 programming period and of preparations for the new 2007- 2013 period. The report includes 10 questions to kick off the debate inside and outside the European institutions on the future of this major policy area

European funds to help with housing?

On May 10th, the European Parliament adopted a recommendation in favour of allowing all EU countries to use structural funds to improve access to housing. It was suggested that the use of Structural Fund aid should form part of an integrated strategy for boosting access to housing, so as to ensure that quality of life and the attractiveness of the urban environment are simultaneously improved, with the ultimate objective being to give jobs and growth the biggest possible boost.

Read more at <http://urbact.eu/index.php?L=0&id=1150>

Sector News

London Education Partnership Awards Ceremony

The London Education Partnership Awards have been developed by the Institute for Education. They want to identify and reward voluntary organisations in London, along with other organisations too, who are building dynamic, groundbreaking programmes that are transforming the expectations and achievements of young people and adults. Winners will receive company internships and a piece of specially commissioned art. The ceremony will be taking place on 19th June at the Emirates Stadium

Labour hopefuls in spotlight over UK poverty

Through a questionnaire on UK Poverty, the UK Coalition Against Poverty (UKCAP) has asked Labour Hopefuls in the election for Deputy Leader to set out their ideas about how to cut child poverty, help people on low incomes get decent jobs, and where they stand on improving childcare and tax credits. The contenders have also been asked about how important they think it is to reduce poverty and inequality in the UK.... we await their response!

To view a copy of the questionnaire that was sent to MPs visit the UKCAP website at: <http://www.ukcap.org/latest.htm>

Smoking Ban guidance

Personnel professionals' body CIPD has updated its factsheet on smoking at work, giving an outline of the legal position in the light of the forthcoming smoking ban, and how employers should be preparing.

<http://www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/health/general/smokg.htm>.

Resources & Information

SKEIN (Skills for Economic Inclusion Network) Pilot Research

1. Employers of the Economically Excluded? - LVSC

A report on employment in small voluntary and community sector organisations working with London's economically excluded. It generates four specific recommendations relating to a) accreditation of skills from volunteering or Board roles, b) investment in Apprenticeships, c) Centre of Vocational Excellence in voluntary sector skills and d) beneficiaries employment agency.

If you would like a hard copy of this, or any of the other report which will be featured in following e-bulletins,

then please email ianf@lvstc.org.uk . Alternatively, pdfs can be downloaded from http://www.lvstc.org.uk/skein_pilots.php

URBAN II Toolkits

LVSTC has produced four toolkits for community and voluntary sector groups working within the Stockwell URBAN II Programme area. Each Toolkit is targeted at those organisations running ERDF projects funded through the URBAN II Programme, though all may find them of assistance. The four toolkits can be downloaded here.

[Implementing Equal Opportunities](#)
[Sustainable Development](#)
[Marketing & Publicity](#)
[Working in Partnership](#)

Structural Funds & Social Housing: a practical guide for housing providers

Considering the new opportunities given to social housing, this practical guide to housing projects http://www.cecodhas.org/images/stories/campaigns/conferencedossier_en.pdf within the regional policy of the EU for 2007-2013 gives social housing providers as much information and advice as possible to enable them to design, propose and implement efficient housing projects with the support of the European Structural Funds as well as encourage them to further involve in the design and implementation of integrated urban development policies.

Plain English guide to the Charities Act

The Office of the Third Sector and Charity Commission have jointly produced a plain english guide to the Charities Act 2006, aimed primarily at charities with an income below £500,000. It explains the main provisions of the Act, and where you can go for further information or guidance on specific provisions.

The web-version of the guide will be updated as various provisions of the Act are commenced, or new guidance published.

You can download a copy of guide by visiting [Charities Act 2006: what trustees need to know](#)

Events

DWP Conference - 'How can we reduce poverty and inequality?'

UKCAP is helping to organise the first UK conference which will bring together people who have experience of poverty with government ministers and civil servants to talk about how to reduce poverty and inequality in the UK. This conference will take place on the 5th and 6th July at Warwick University.

The conference is being organised by the Department of Work and Pensions and the Social Policy Task Force, which UKCAP supports. Other groups involved are ATD 4th World, Oxfam, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Northern Ireland Anti-Poverty Network, EAPN: England, Anti-Poverty Network Cymru, Age Concern, Poverty Alliance, and the British Black Anti-Poverty Network.

Eileen Devaney, UKCAP's co-ordinator, said, "This conference is a great opportunity to show the importance of getting people who have to live with the impact of anti-poverty policies to work together with the people who come up with the policies." For more information on this conference contact Dan Paskins, Development Worker on 0151 709 3040 or email: dan.paskins@ukcap.org

Refugee Week 2007

Refugee Week is a UK-wide programme of arts, cultural and educational events that celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK, and encourages a better understanding between communities. Refugee Week 2007 will take place from 18th to 24th June.

As in 2006, there will be no specific theme for Refugee Week 2007. Event organisers are encouraged to organise events around the idea that Refugee Week is a space of encounters between different communities and an opportunity to use more creative ways to bring refugee experiences closer to wider audiences.

Every year during Refugee Week hundreds of events are organised across the UK. In 2006, there were over 450 small and large events, ranging from big music festivals and art exhibitions to political debates, film screenings, conferences, school activities, sports and community events etc.

For further information about events and collaborations please visit: <http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk>

ChangeUp Open Space Event

Thursday, 21 June 2007, 10am to 4pm

The Lewis Suite, The Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London N7 6PA

Are frontline organisations struggling because they need specialist support? Have your say on: Which sub-sectors need infrastructure investment; Priorities for London for the next 3-6 years; Priorities for Olympic engagement; Priorities for equalities in London.

LVSC, on behalf of the ChangeUp London Regional Consortium, is holding this open space event. If you can't make it to the event but would still like to contribute, there is a questionnaire you can complete. Your input will influence Capacitybuilders investment in London up to 2014.

For more information, booking form and questionnaire go to www.lvsc.org.uk and follow the link on the home page.

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This e-bulletin is edited by Ian Foster. Views expressed herein are not necessarily those of LVSTC.

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