

Instruments Towards Social Inclusion

*~ some reflections on the NGO experience in the UK
of Technical Assistance and global (small) grants
under the EU Structural Funds*

*Thursday 20th June 2007
Porto*

Ray Phillips
Director

LVSTC

- ❑ Charitable company ~ *est. 1989*
- ❑ Financed from Technical Assistance (ESF & ERDF)
- ❑ Supports voluntary/community sector
- ❑ Targets training providers and community economic developers
- ❑ Focus on EU Structural Funds

Who are we?

- Members : voluntary/community (150)
- Board : voluntary/community (10)
- Staff : full-time paid (<30)
- Associates : institutional (100)
- Network : micro community groups (3000)
- Contacts : voluntary groups (5000)

Aims & Objectives

- ❑ Delivery
- ❑ Partnership
- ❑ Policy
- ❑ Governance

LVSTC Offer

- ❑ Helpline
- ❑ Group workshops
- ❑ One-to-one surgeries
- ❑ Project visits
- ❑ Briefings
- ❑ Publications
- ❑ Website & e-bulletins ~ www.lvstc.org.uk



- about us
- EU funds
- events
- membership
- mailing list
- publications
- search
- training directory
- other contacts
- AD

text only | support | contact us | search > go



**London
Voluntary
Sector
Training
Consortium**

Established 1989

London's voluntary and community sector in partnership with Europe to promote social inclusion

KEYIN >

Links for Economic Inclusion Network

NEWS >

Current EU funding opportunities
 ESF Pan-London, Connexions, URBAN II, ALG, and ESF Olympics Programme!

UK IN EUROPE >

LVSTC report
 How EU funds have assisted community projects in the area of skills development.

LVSTC is funded by the European Social Fund, European Regional Development Fund, Association of London Government, Learning and Skills Councils, and City Parochial Foundation.



Helpline

- ❑ telephone calls
- ❑ e-mails
- ❑ 10000+

Towards Social Inclusion



Workshops ~ 200+

Towards Social Inclusion



Workshops

- ❑ Theory
- ❑ Practice
- ❑ Interactive
- ❑ Practical
- ❑ Friendly



Surgeries

▣ 300+



Project Visits

▣ 1000+

Towards Social Inclusion



□ **Regional**

- London Skills Commission
- London Development Agency ~ Basic Skills Forum
- Greater London Assembly ~ European Forum
- London European Programmes Committee

□ **National**

- England National Monitoring Committee (ESF)
- EAPN (England, Wales, Scotland, N. Ireland & UK)
- Third Sector European Network
- UK Coalition Against Poverty

□ **European**

- European Anti-Poverty Network (Brussels)

Brussels Study Visits

- ❑ 3 days
- ❑ 30 delegates
- ❑ 8 sessions
- ❑ 3 themes
- ❑ 1 hour shopping!



Towards Social Inclusion



Study Visit

- ❑ London House
- ❑ Parliament
- ❑ Commission
- ❑ EAPN

Towards Social Inclusion

Brussels Study Visit ~ 2005



Beneficiary Report



I'm simply learning much more...

How European Union Funds have assisted Community Projects in the area of Skills Development



“local people are given expert advice and support”

“I feel I'm treated more equally here”

“...feeling much more confident about future prospects”

Beneficiary Report

“A free course has aided my skills and education. If it was not free I could not have afforded to take part”

“I am continuing on the course and feeling much more confident about the future”



UK Global (Small Community) Grants

- ❑ Voluntary & community organisations (NGOs)
- ❑ Annual turnover < €120k or <3 paid staff
- ❑ Furthest from labour market/hardest to reach
- ❑ Employment and poverty agenda
- ❑ Active inclusion ~ 'soft' indicators
- ❑ 100% finance ~ paid up-front
- ❑ Minimal paperwork ~ simple application form
- ❑ London *Fast Forward* Programme

London *Fast Forward* Programme

- ❑ Regional intermediary funding body (GLE)
- ❑ Stakeholder advisory group (including NGOs)
- ❑ 2002 – 2007
- ❑ Total ~ €15m
- ❑ Annual bidding rounds
- ❑ Peak: 2003-2004 ~ 310 projects @ €5m
- ❑ 2004-2005: 171 projects, 1943 individual beneficiaries

London *Fast Forward* Programme

Beneficiaries (2004-2005)

- *Black, Asian & minority ethnic groups* ~ 47%
- *Refugees & Asylum seekers* ~ 31%
- *Lone parents* ~ 19%
- *People with disabilities* ~ 2%
- *Ex-offenders* ~ 1%

London *Fast Forward* Programme

Progression Outcomes (2004-2005)

- *Further education or training* ~ 22%
- *Actively seeking employment* ~ 22%
- *Actively seeking further training* ~ 20%
- *Voluntary work* ~ 14%
- *Part-time employment* ~ 10%
- *Full-time employment* ~ 8%
- *Self-employment* ~ 4%

London *Fast Forward* Programme

Soft Outcomes (2004-2005)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| □ <i>Confidence</i> | ~ 30% |
| □ <i>Actively seeking work</i> | ~ 29% |
| □ <i>ICT skills</i> | ~ 13% |
| □ <i>Basic skills</i> | ~ 12% |
| □ <i>Work routine</i> | ~ 7% |
| □ <i>Teamwork</i> | ~ 5% |
| □ <i>Certificate of achievement</i> | ~ 2% |
| □ <i>Other skills</i> | ~ 2% |

London *Fast Forward* Programme

Project Issues (2004-2005)

- *Late payment of cheque* ~ 42%
- *Oversubscription of project* ~ 32%
- *Problems finding training premises* ~ 16%
- *Childcare costs inadequate* ~ 5%
- *Training began late* ~ 5%

Greater London Enterprise : www.gle.co.uk

UK National Strategic Reference Framework

EU Structural Funds Programmes 2007 -2013

“ The Government will continue to use its technical assistance budget to support partners in the non-governmental sector to participate in and deliver Programmes” (p.33)