

Community Relations Council



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EU Programme
for Peace and Reconciliation

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Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of E-Update! The EU Programme Team is delighted to announce the launch of our first in-house publication. Our aim is to produce this publication on a quarterly basis as a means of communicating up to date information to our Measure 2.1 funded organisations and to the sector as a whole. Given the amount of good peace building work that is going on we wanted to take this opportunity to showcase the projects that we fund.

In this first edition we have included short pen pictures on each of the members of staff within the European Programme. We have also included articles on the work of the Irish Football Association, Habitat for Humanity NI and Channel 4, as well as updates on the different areas of work covered under Measure 2.1, including Research and Peace II seminars.

As you will be aware the SEUPB invited tenders from Intermediary Funding Bodies and Local Strategy Partnerships to deliver the Peace II Programme extension. CRC submitted an application on 4th April 2005 to continue as an Intermediary Funding Body during the extension. For further details see page 4.

In the next edition we will provide you with an up to date listing of those organisations that are involved in delivering community relations training across Northern Ireland. We also hope to be able to provide groups with a further update on the Peace II extension.

In the meantime, should you wish to contribute information for the next edition or inform us of any future events, please contact Patricia Armstrong by phone on 028 90 227500, or by email at parmstrong@community-relations.org.uk.

Peace... Extended!

Launch of Measure 2.1 Funding Programme

CRC is pleased to announce that it has **retained its status as an Intermediary Funding Body and will continue to administer Measure 2.1 of the PEACE II Extension**. This formal appointment acts as confirmation that CRC will have a wholly additional £6M to support peace-building and reconciliation work until the end of June 2008.

The new programme will be good news for those groups/organisations interested in developing and delivering projects which will make practical and meaningful contributions to community life and relations. CRC will have an enhanced remit from its current role in that it will have responsibility (in partnership with the Community Relations Unit at OFMDFM) for capital build applications. There will also be an additional research allocation, and CRC will now have the opportunity to promote and disseminate international learning through its 'Outward and Forward Looking Region' budget. More information on all of the above will be contained in the next CRC News.

If you are interested in making a project funding or capital build application, please see the attached advertisement for further information on the Measure and forthcoming Briefing Sessions.

Application forms and guidance notes will be available from Monday, 27 June 2005 and the Measure will remain open until 22 August 2005 at 12 noon. The application process requires the completion of an online Part A which is available at www.eugrants.org. The Part B and accompanying Guidance Notes will be available in hard copy by contacting:

Eileen Deacon on 028 90 227500 or at edeacon@community-relations.org.uk.

Alternatively you can write to the European Programme, Community Relations Council, Glendinning House, 6 Murray Street, Belfast, BT1 6DN.

Peace II Extension Programme

Measure 2.1 - Reconciliation For Sustainable Peace (Project Funding and Capital Build Applications)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
"ENABLING A SOCIETY FREE FROM SECTARIANISM"

CRC wishes to invite grant aid applications from organisations interested in developing and delivering peace-building and reconciliation projects across Northern Ireland.

Applicants to this Measure will clearly have to demonstrate how proposed project activity and capital building works will:

- Address the legacy of the conflict (i.e. help to create a normal and peaceful society by addressing specific problems caused by 'the Troubles'); and/or
- Take opportunities arising from peace (i.e. focus on opportunities which are now possible as a result of peace).

This Measure will be opened on a tranche basis over the next 9 months for various elements of project activity. CRC is currently inviting applications for:

Activity	Budget	Open date	Closing Date
Project Funding	c£3.25M	27 June 2005	22 August 2005
Capital Build	c£750K	27 June 2005	22 August 2005

Applications for the following will be invited later:

Outward and Forward Looking Region	c£200K	Early Nov 2005*	Early Jan 2006*
Project Funding	c£1M	Early Jan 2006*	End Feb 2006*
Research	c£600K	Early Feb 2006*	End Mar 2006*
Outward and Forward Looking Region	c£200K	Early Feb 2006*	End Mar 2006*

*Specific dates to be agreed. All opening dates will be publicly advertised at the appropriate time.

Application forms and guidance notes will be available from Monday, 27 June 2005 and the Measure will remain open until 22 August 2005. The application process requires the completion of an online Part A which is available at www.eugrants.org. The Part B and accompanying Guidance Notes will be available in hard copy by contacting Eileen Deacon on 028 90 227500 or at edeacon@community-realtions.org.uk. Alternatively you can write to the European Programme, Community Relations Council, Glendinning House, 6 Murray Street, Belfast, BT1 6DN.

CRC staff will be holding a number of Briefing Sessions about this Measure across Northern Ireland. If you would like to attend any of the sessions below please contact Eileen Deacon at the number/address listed above:

Town/City	Date	Venue
Belfast	27 June	Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast
Ballymena	28 June	Seven Towers Leisure Centre, Trostan Ave, Ballymena
Dungannon	29 June	CRC, Linen Green Centre, Moygashel
Derry	30 June	The Junction, Bishop Street, Derry
Enniskillen	04 July	The Town Hall, Enniskillen
Craigavon	05 July	Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, Craigavon
Downpatrick	06 July	Down County Museum, English Street, Downpatrick

All sessions are from 7.00-8.30pm

Thematic/Sectorial Approaches to peace-building work

CRC welcomes projects with focussed engagements to peace-building and reconciliation work. In this current round of grant aid, we will give priority to the following types of projects:

- Church/faith based projects
- Employer initiatives
- Interface work
- Resource development
- Training
- CR work with women and/or young people
- Minority ethnic work
- Cultural diversity programmes
- Peace-building in Rural Communities

You should clearly indicate the theme of your project on the cover page of the Part B application form. If your project does not fit into any of these categories, you should mark 'other' on the front of the application form which asks you to identify 'Theme under which you are applying' and clearly explain in the application form the extent to which you feel your application will meet the project selection criteria.

CRC would particularly welcome applications from groups who have not previously applied, especially from those under-represented within the PEACE II Programme. In this context we note that in some funding Measures there is an under-representation of applications from Protestant working class areas, isolated rural communities and ethnic minority groups. All applications will be assessed on merit against standard criteria.

All applicants should note that given the limited budget available, CRC may not be able to fund all or part of applications received.

Closing date for receipt of project funding and capital build applications is 12 noon, Monday 22nd August 2005.

Sarah Moves On - Celebrates Success

CRC is delighted to announce that the Channel 4/Westway Films production *Sarah Moves On* has received an award at a recent ceremony held by the Special European Union Programmes Body. The event, entitled PEACE II Celebrating Success II - Showcasing Community Achievements, was held at Belfast City Hall on 7 March, marking the start of Community Relations Week.

Channel 4 and Westway Films were funded by the Community Relations Council under Measure 2.1 to develop and produce a film drama targeted at children between the ages of 8 and 11. The drama tells the story of Sarah, a young girl who is from a mixed marriage background and who is trying to come to terms with her own identity. The drama depicts the issues of identity and conflict as seen through the eyes of a child.

Sarah Moves On is a sequel to another successful programme produced by Westway Films and Channel 4 entitled *Sarah and the Whammi*. Sarah and the Whammi was funded by the Community Relations Council under the Peace 1 Programme, and was also critically acclaimed, receiving the Royal Television Society Award, the Celtic Film Festival Prize and a BAFTA nomination for best education programme. UTV will be broadcasting *Sarah and the Whammi* and *Sarah Moves On* as part of their Autumn season.



Channel 4 hopes to produce guidance notes to accompany the drama. It is hoped that the pack will be useful for teachers, youth leaders and parents.

For further information, contact Joe Mahon or Orlagh Bann of Westway Films at 028 71 308383.

Living Life Without Barriers - Community Relations Week 2005 and One Small Step

Following the success of Community Relations Week 2004, Community Relations Week 2005 featured over 160 events across Northern Ireland from 7-13 March. As there were over 80 events taking place across NI during Community Relations Week 2004, the high number of events taking place during Community Relations Week 2005 represented a twofold increase in participation. According to CRC's Chief Executive, Duncan Morrow, "Much of the work that is being put on display in Community Relations Week is carried out on a daily basis and is making a significant contribution to community stability and the push towards a better, stable Northern Ireland. We hope that this week will help further create awareness and understanding of the important role that community relations work plays in making Northern Ireland a more welcoming, shared place".

The theme of this year's Community Relations Week was *Living Life Without Barriers*, which was drawn from One Small Step, an anti-sectarian and anti-racism advertising campaign. Launched in early February, the campaign focuses on the practical steps people are taking to address the sectarian and racial issues that exist within Northern Ireland.

The One Small Step Campaign was established in 2003 by a number of individuals from the community, voluntary, private and statutory sectors, and is based on 4 key principles:

1. To work for the common good and towards a peaceful future that is based on equality and mutual respect;
2. To play an active role in daily life to ensure society is inclusive, peaceful, just and fair;
3. To personally work towards reconciliation, tolerance, mutual trust and the upholding of human rights for all;
4. To move people from the pain of the past towards a shared future.

According to the One Small Step website (www.onesmallstepcampaign.org)

"One Small Step calls on everyone to be prepared to do something for peace. We ask people to make the following commitments, based on the Executive's vision:
I commit to working for the common good and towards a peaceful future that is based on equality and mutual respect.

I will take an active role in my daily life to ensure the society I live in is inclusive, peaceful, just and fair.

I will personally work towards reconciliation, tolerance, mutual trust and the upholding of human rights for all."

Meet the EU Team

During the course of Peace II there have been some changes in personnel within the European Programme. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to introduce the members of our team and to update you on our current roles.

Jim Dennison - Director

Jim joined CRC in November 2001 as Assistant Director of Council's European Programme. His background is in the grant aiding and delivery of community relations and community development projects and has worked with, and for, statutory and community/voluntary organisations since 1996. Jim became Director in January 2003 after a spell of 6 months as Acting Director and has lead responsibility in the development and implementation of Programme. He has a keen interest in politics and current affairs and enjoys football (has supported Liverpool "ever since he can remember!"), cinema, traveling, pub quizzes, and socialising.

Patricia Armstrong - Development Officer

Patricia joined CRC in November 1999 as the Finance Officer under Peace I. She continued as Finance Officer for Peace II until July 2003, when she took up her current post as Development Officer. Her main duties include liaising with funded groups, other intermediary funding bodies (IFBs) and the SEUPB. She has responsibility for the development of Peace II publications and the organisation of meetings and seminars with funded workers. Patricia recently became an aunt for the first time, and dotes on her 'wee' nephew.

Claudine Walls - Development Support Officer

Claudine joined CRC as Administrative Officer for the European Programme in November 2001. As Administrative Officer she had responsibility for carrying out all the administrative tasks associated with the Programme. In February 2003 she took up the post of Development Support Officer for the European Programme. In her current role she is responsible for the monitoring and verification of funded projects to ensure contractual compliance across the Measure. She also provides developmental support and advice to all grant recipients on a range of issues. Claudine spent a year working and travelling in Australia, and is currently building her own home.

Libby Smit - Research Officer

Libby is originally from Chicago, USA, and moved to Northern Ireland in 2000. After moving to Northern Ireland Libby studied at the University of Ulster - Magee. She joined the staff of CRC as Research Officer for the European Programme in July 2003, and currently works with 14 funded research projects; assisting with research progress, evaluation, and the development of plans for the strategic dissemination of research results. Libby is an avid traveller, having studied abroad in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala. She most recently returned from a trip to Japan, where she drank lots of green tea.

Sean Pettis - Peace II Events Manager

Sean took up the post of Project Manager - EU Events and Seminars in September 2004. The primary role of this post is organising the 'Learning from Peace II seminars and events, which involves working with an advisory panel to identify key themes for events, developing a programme and producing a publication after each event. Sean has been heavily involved with the Corrymeela Community for the past 5 years, spending one full year at the residential centre as a volunteer. Sean has also represented both Corrymeela and Northern Ireland on a number of international exchanges, looking at issues such as racism, sectarianism, prejudice reduction and conflict resolution. Both Sean and Jim play for the mighty CRC Football Team.

Vanessa McCrory - Finance Officer

Vanessa took up the post of Project Officer (Finance) in October 2003. After completing a degree in Belfast, Vanessa moved to London to pursue a career in finance. After returning to Northern Ireland she began work with the EU Peace II Programme at the Rural Development Council in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone. In order to further develop the financial element of her career, she moved to CRC where she took up the post of Project Officer (Finance) for their European Programme, managing a budget of approximately £10m. Vanessa is part of the Vegetarian Club in the EU Team (along with Libby!), and likes to keep fit.

Eileen Deacon - Administrative Officer

Eileen joined CRC as Administrative Assistant for the Funding and Development Team in August 2003 after previously working as an Administrative Assistant in the Child Support Agency. In April of 2004 she was successful in her application to the post of Administrative Officer for the European Team, where she is responsible for carrying out all the administrative tasks relating to the European Team. Eileen's main hobby is Muay Thai, the original form of kickboxing, and she completed her first fight in Dublin at the end of May.



EU Team L-R are: Jim Dennison, Claudine Walls, Patricia Armstrong, Libby Smit, Vanessa McCrory, Eileen Deacon and Sean Pettis

Self-Evaluation - Learning From Our Practice

On 19 April the EU Team hosted a seminar for funded workers, which was held at Grosvenor House in Belfast. The seminar was entitled 'Learning From Our Practice - A Basis for Establishing Self-Evaluation' and was facilitated by Derick Wilson and Karin Eyben from Future Ways. The aim of the seminar was to explore issues around how peace and reconciliation work should be evaluated and to explore and develop new methods of applying evaluation to daily work.

EU Team members are currently working with Derek and Karin to "write up" a summary of the event, and within the next few weeks hope to issue this feedback to the groups that attended the seminar.

We would like to thank all those who took the time to complete and return evaluation forms for the event. These forms will be extremely useful to staff when organising the next Funded Workers Meeting. We will endeavour to hold the next Funded Workers Meeting before the end of summer, and information will be forwarded to groups as and when the date and venue for the meeting are finalised.

Habitat for Humanity

In December 2004 members of the EU Team spent a day volunteering at a Habitat for Humanity building site in Downpatrick where they obtained first hand experience of how peace money has been making a positive, practical contribution to the lives of people in Northern Ireland.



Members of EU Team giving Habitat for Humanity a hand in Downpatrick.

Habitat for Humanity Northern Ireland (HFHNI) is a cross community, Christian self-build housing organisation which helps low income families build and purchase their own homes at a price they can afford. The work is focused in areas that have experienced the effects of 30 years of conflict. Over the last 10 years HFHNI has built homes for 43 families, and expect to complete another four homes in 2005.

Along with providing much needed housing, Habitat building projects are offering people the opportunity to work with and build alongside people from different traditions. According to HFHNI Executive Director Peter Farquharson, "This is exactly what Habitat is all about, breaking down barriers and facilitating people coming together. It is so encouraging for us to see these families from different communities become friends and neighbours".

For anyone who would be interested in volunteering on the next build, HFHNI is recruiting volunteers on an ongoing basis. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided. Please contact Habitat for Humanity on 02890 243686 for further details.

In response to the Asian Tsunami disaster, Habitat for Humanity International, along with partner organisations, is now assessing the damage to homes in the affected areas in order to develop an integrated programme of shelter and protection for victims of the disaster. For further information log on to www.habitatni.co.uk.

"Everybody's Game"

The Irish Football Association and Football for All

In December 2004 the Irish Football Association held its first ever Northern Ireland Football Against Racism Training Day, following its successful Football for All Race Awareness Month in April 2004.

According to IFA Community Relations Officer Michael Boyd, "We want people to unite in respecting diversity and to support teams in a way that respects all the players and all the fans. If the game is to progress and prosper, it must be inclusive and we have to get everybody from every section of the entire community involved. That is our mission and we really appreciate the support of the CRC and EU in providing the funds to help us achieve that."



Members of the Refugee football team who took part in the first Northern Ireland Football Against Racism Training Day

Part of the work of the Community Relations Officer is to promote steps that could be taken to ensure greater equity and diversity and make the game more accessible to a range of minority groups, including women and the disabled as well as those from the entire spectrum of differing community backgrounds. This would include a series of "fair play" principles to ensure that soccer is what Michael Boyd describes as "everybody's game - football for all."



As part of their Football for All Project the IFA have produced a DVD which forms part of the Coach Education Training Programme. They are currently in the process of producing an accompanying guidebook to help groups and clubs to promote best practice when using sport to tackle racism and sectarianism. The IFA works in partnership with Concept 11 to provide anti-racism training support for football clubs and community groups, using football to celebrate diversity.

In April 2004 the Irish Football Association launched its Football for All Race Awareness Month. Northern Ireland Football Manager Laurie Sanchez gave his support to the campaign and stated that "racism needs to be challenged and should never be accepted".

As part of the month long series of events the IFA ran its first ever Unity Cup at Donegal Celtic's home pitch. Teams from the Community Relations Council, Sports Council, and Asylum Seekers groups took part in the event. Each player was asked to sign up to a declaration against racism prior to playing.

CRC's Chief Executive Duncan Morrow welcomed the IFA's Football for All campaign saying, "With an increasingly more diverse society in Northern Ireland it is important to address ethnic and racial issues".

For further information on future training programmes as part of the IFA's Football for All Campaign contact Michael Boyd, Community Relations Officer on 028 90 669458 or you can email him at mboyd@irishfa.com.



Young people give bigotry the red card at Windsor Park

Learning From Peace II

Over the next two years, CRC, in conjunction with the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), will be organising a series of seminars and events addressing critical issues within and beyond the current peace programme. Three events have taken place, the first of which took place at the Seagoe Hotel in Portadown and was entitled Beyond Sectarianism?: The Churches and Ten Years of the Peace Process. The second seminar, Shaping and Delivering Peace at Local Level?: Learning from the Experience of Peace II, took place at the Europa Hotel, Belfast. The third event in the series, Prosperity - A Part of Peace?: Learning From the Economic Experience of Peace II, took place on Friday, 13 May at the Canal Court Hotel in Newry.

The first seminar was very well attended and proved to be an interesting and challenging day for most of the participants involved. The programme included keynote speeches from Dr David Stevens and Fr Tim Bartlett, case study presentations from Diane Holt and Fr Sean Nolan and a presentation of research by David Porter of ECONI (which re-launched in April as the Centre for Contemporary Christianity in Ireland). What made this event particularly interesting was the opportunity that participants had to question the keynote speakers and to discuss in round table sessions many of the critical issues raised.

The second event also contained a broad audience base, including Peace II implementing bodies, funded groups across the entire Peace II Programme and some of the other EU grant aid implementers. Speakers included Jim Eastwood (Cookstown LSP), Deirdre Flanagan (Belfast LSP), Paddy McGinn (ADM/CPA) and Gordon McCullough (NICVA). The theme of working in partnership and the experiences and lessons have arisen from practice was a major discussion topic. Gordon McCullough presented a brief summary of research findings on the impact of Peace II in East Belfast, Strabane and Cavan, which stimulated debate.

The third event, entitled, 'Prosperity – A part of Peace?: Learning from the Economic Experience of Peace II', took place at the Canal Court Hotel, Newry on Friday 13 May. This event engaged with a range of topics around the role of the economic measures within the Peace II Programme, but primarily focussed on what role economic development could play in building Peace and Reconciliation. Present at this event was a mixture of local government representatives, funded projects, Peace II implementing bodies, SEUPB monitoring committee representatives and individuals from the private sector. The event began with Jonathan Greer and Philip McDonagh from PWC launching their recent research, entitled, 'Peace II Qualitative Assessment of the Economic Measures'. This was followed by case study presentations from Howard Keery of DETI and Tommy Maguire of Castleblayney Enterprise Centre. The afternoon session contained a panel debate, with speakers Sean Farren (former Minister of Finance), Kevin McGlennon (Greater Shankill Business Forum), Feargul McCormack (FPM Chartered Accountants) and chair, Mike Morrissey (Independent Consultant). The publication emanating from this event will be available in early autumn.

A publication will be produced after each event which will contain contributions from some of the speakers, critical reflections from a selection of the participants and the key issues emanating from the round table discussions. The first publication will be published in May 2005, and we hope to have the second publication available by late spring. For more information about the Learning from Peace II Project contact Sean Pettis, CRC's Project Manager - EU Events and Seminars on 02890 227500 or email spettis@community-relations.org.uk

Research for Sustainable Peace - The Contributions of Measure 2.1 Research

Under the PEACE II Programme's Measure 2.1, the Community Relations Council's EU Directorate supports more than 60 projects that are contributing to peace building in a variety of ways in a number of areas, sectors, and communities. One perception of the work of these projects is that they provide "on the ground" programmes with community groups or schools that offer practical benefits to those involved and to society as a whole.

Yet contributions to peace building in Northern Ireland are also being made by universities and research institutes and organisations through the work of academics and researchers who examine and address the difficult issues facing a society emerging from conflict. Research that addresses these issues has the potential to have wide-reaching practical implications as it has the capacity to impact public policy.

For these reasons a provision of approximately £1 million was made within the overall Measure 2.1 budget in order to support research projects that would explore changing attitudes to community relations issues and the effectiveness of different approaches to peace-building and reconciliation, drawing on the experiences of projects at home and abroad.

Each applicant for research funding had to undergo a rigorous application process in which the project's aims, objectives and methodology were evaluated in order to ensure their applicability to the overall aim of Measure 2.1. Specifically, this aim is to provide opportunities for civil society to promote reconciliation and peace-building efforts. Projects chosen were required to meet this objective, and evidence of a clear project methodology, value for money, and possible policy impact were essential as well.

By the end of 2004 Peace II research funding was completely committed, and a total of fourteen research projects had been selected for funding. The projects cover a variety of themes; some of which are specific to certain geographic areas, but may have an impact throughout Northern Ireland. Research themes include young people and community relations, community relations in the trade union movement, community reconciliation, churches and peace building, politicians and community relations, issues affecting interfaces, housing provision, sectarianism and employment, 'truth' recovery processes, citizenship education, ex-prisoners and post-conflict resolution, and the community and voluntary sectors and community relations.

As funded projects draw to a close there is also an opportunity for targeted dissemination of research results through a series of seminars and events that are currently being coordinated by the EU Directorate's Research Officer. These events will be targeted to groups with an interest in the research subject matter in order to ensure the maximum impact of research results, including the possibility to influence public policy. A meeting with all funded researchers was held on 27 April 2005 in order to discuss strategies on the most effective way that funded research could make a collective contribution to peace and reconciliation work and theory. Further details about research events will be made available as plans for these events progress. Further funding for research will be available under the Peace II Extension. This aspect of the Extension will be open for applications in February 2006.

For a full list of Measure 2.1 funded research projects please contact Libby Smit by phone on 028 90 227500, or by email at lsmit@community-relations.org.uk.