



# European Funding Support Service

Maximising European Commission Funding for Local Strategy Implementation.



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## What?

ECOTEC's European Funding Support and Advice Service brings together a wealth of knowledge and expertise in European funding, to offer a range of services to support public sector organisations on accessing and implementing EU funding opportunities. We can work with you to maximise the funding that supports the development and growth of your area, organisation or project.

## Who?

As part of Europe's largest independent research and consulting company, ECOTEC has forged close links with the European Commission across its various departments ('Directorate-Generals') and functions. ECOTEC's Brussels Office is strategically placed to nurture and develop our existing relationship with the European Commission. Our experience spans across policy advice and evaluation work set within regional and economic development, innovation and entrepreneurship, and education and culture.

## Why?

with public sector purse strings being pulled ever tighter and uncertainty about future UK public sector budgets ECOTEC can help you cast the net wider, identifying where you can take advantage of the significant funding opportunities emerging from the European Commission. The 2007-2013 programming period carries an expenditure budget of over **800 billion euros** and with the next round of funding currently being established, now is the chance to connect local priorities with European programmes.

## Our Offer?

As a first step we would review your strategic aims and objectives and based on your needs for development then use our intelligence in the area of European funding to identify key opportunities for attracting additional investment. Key to our approach is flexibility - responding to your specific need whether it be through offering a few days of consultancy advice or long term project support and management.

We can support you with a range of services through some or all stages of the bidding, delivery and review process.



**Scoping** - Using our funding programme and policy knowledge to identify appropriate EU funding opportunities to enable or sustain particular local projects and growth objectives.

**Bidding** - Advice and support throughout the application process, from bid preparation to the development of performance indicators.

**Match-Funding** - Assistance in sourcing the required complementary and match-funding, based on our understanding of funding regulations and national/regional funding sources.

**Project Management** - Our experience in project management and delivery can be applied in overseeing the implementation of the project on behalf of government partners, or alongside other delivery partners.

**Monitoring and Evaluation** - Assistance in navigating complex monitoring requirements and ensuring compliance so as to avoid clawback of funds.



## **Assisting you through applying our knowledge across the following areas:**

### **.....Urban Development.....**

ECOTEC has evaluated the URBAN II Initiative for DG Regio, a 0.75 billion euro programme aimed at addressing urban decline across 70 of the most important cities of Europe. This has put us at the forefront of European urban policy, both in terms of European good practice but also the debate about an urban dimension to European policy post-2013.

### **.....Enterprise and Education.....**

On behalf of DG Enterprise and DG Education and Culture, ECOTEC worked to set up a pilot action on Entrepreneurship Education. This involved the co-ordination and review of reflection panels for high level Ministry representatives from European Member States.

### **.....Innovation and Environment.....**

In the light of the prominence of 'Eco-Innovation' and the green economy at Commission level, ECOTEC has used its policy expertise to highlight opportunities for Member States, regions and localities. It is currently advising national and federal governmental bodies in Poland on the potential for growing the green sector.

### **.....Heritage.....**

Through its impact assessment and evaluation of the Commission's European Heritage Label programme, ECOTEC has worked closely with DG Education and Culture in considering the future development and implementation of the scheme across Europe.



### .....Citizenship .....

In undertaking an interim evaluation of the Europe for Citizens programme for DG Education and Culture, ECOTEC has become familiar with the funding opportunities which exist to promote and support citizenship and culture within Member States.



### .....Rural and Regional Development....

ECOTEC is currently working for DG Agriculture and Rural Development, undertaking research and policy development in relation to the future implementation of EU rural policy for the post 2013 period. We also have a long track record of evaluating regional development programmes such as INTERREG for DG Regio.







# Why are we well placed to help you?

- **Our position in Brussels:** Our Brussels office is active in maintaining and developing contacts and further working opportunities across the various functions of the European Commission.
- **Our international profile:** As part of ECORYS International, we have a network of offices in Holland, Turkey, Hungary, Poland, Russia and Bulgaria to name a few. This enables us to draw on cutting edge policy development and debate from across Europe and beyond.
- **Our research specialisms:** ECOTEC gathers together experts in the fields of economic competitiveness, regional development, urban and rural policy, learning and skills, employment and worklessness. Through drawing on expertise from across these disciplines, we can help identify areas in which the profile of your area or agency can attract and benefit from European Funding.
- **Policy cycle services:** With over 25 years of experience in providing services at all stages of the 'policy cycle', we can support you all the way from bid preparation, appraisal, consultation, programme development and delivery as well as review and evaluation.

# Who can I contact for more information?

If you would like to talk to us about how ECOTEC can help you identify, access and use European Funding, as part of its wider funding support service please contact Jenny Betts on:

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