



OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME	European Territorial Co-operation
	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland
	2007 - 2013
	CCI 2007 CB163 PO049
	PEACE III
ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT	2008
	Approved by the Monitoring Committee – INSERT DATE

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Details of the Report

This is the second annual report of the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (2007-2013) (PEACE III Programme). Article 67 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 requires the Managing Authority to submit an Annual Report on Implementation by 30 June each year. This report relates to the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008 and has been prepared by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

1.2 Background

The EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (2007-2013) is a distinctive European Union Structural Funds Programme aimed at reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting reconciliation. It has a total allocation of €332,891,807 of which €224,845,648 is contributed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The aims of this programme are set out in the Operational Programme, which was approved by the European Commission on 6 November 2007 (Commission Decision c (2007) 5378). A summary of the programme priorities is included below in section 2.1.

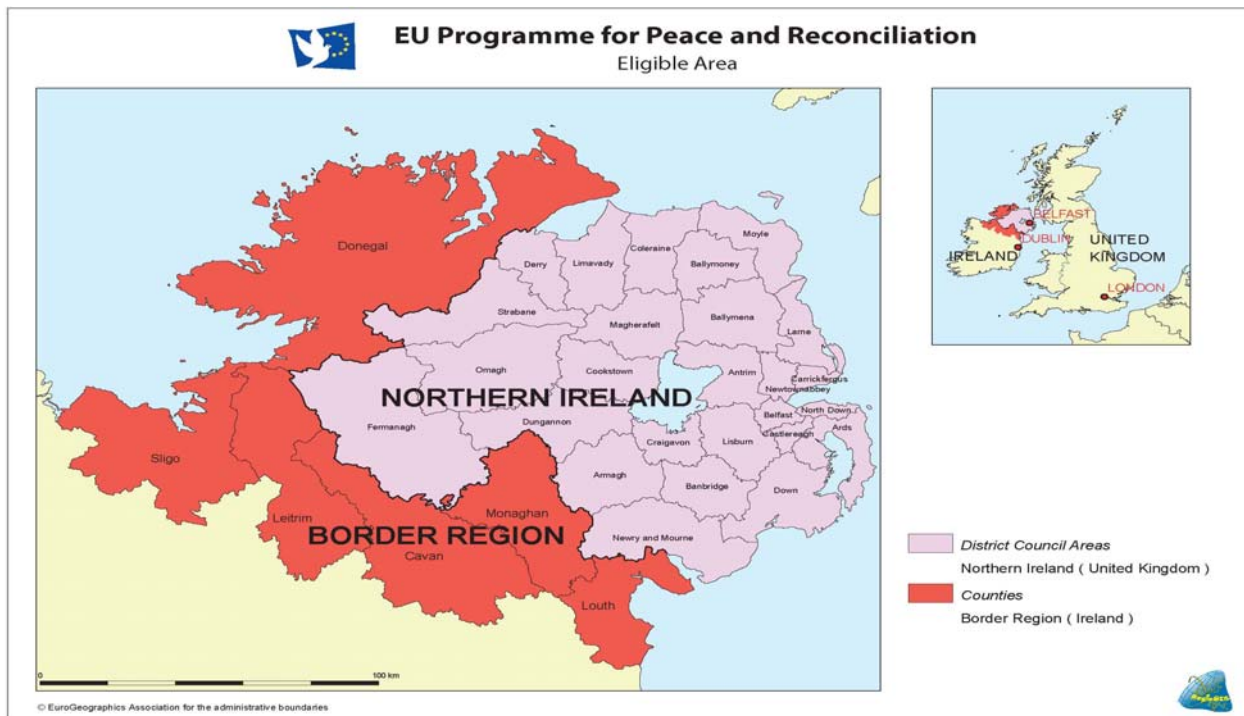
The programme is intended to promote social and economic stability in the region by supporting actions to promote cohesion between communities. It will assist Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland and specifically focus on reconciling communities and contributing towards a shared society.

1.3 Content of the 2008 Report

The 2008 Annual Report on Implementation for the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (2007-2013) will outline the general progress made in implementing the programme during 2008. This comprises an overview of the activities of the Managing Authority, particularly in meeting regulatory requirements for the submission of programme documents, the preparation of programme guidance and the operation of the Monitoring Committee and Steering Committees.

Financial information and a breakdown of the use of funds is provided. Consideration is given to changes in the context of the Operational Programme during the year. Information is provided on complementarity and demarcation, monitoring and evaluation, and information and publicity. The report concludes with an update on implementation by priority.

Figure 1.1 – Map of the Eligible Area of Northern Ireland and the Six Border Counties of Ireland



1.4 Monitoring Committee Approval

In accordance with Article 65 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 the PEACE III Programme Monitoring Committee approved this report at its meeting on 22 April 2008.

2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

2.1 Achievement and Analysis of Progress

Information on the physical progress of the Operational Programme

The main focus of SEUPB during 2008 has been the implementation of PEACE III and in particular project selection. Additionally the Managing Authority has focused on meeting regulatory requirements and in particular the preparation of documents, notably the Communications Plan and Description of Management and Control Systems, required by the European Commission. Where 2007 focused on the development of the programme, and ultimately the establishment of programme bodies such as the Monitoring Committee, Steering Committees and Working Groups, 2008 has seen these bodies progress to the effective implementation of the programme.

Monitoring Committee

The Monitoring Committee is constituted and operated in accordance with Articles 63, 64 and 65 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006. It is constituted on a partnership basis and comprises representatives from local and regional government, cross-cutting interests, and social and economic partners as well as an independent expert on peace and reconciliation. A representative from the European Commission attends in an advisory capacity. A full list of Monitoring Committee Members is included in Annex 1. The committee meets in accordance with the Rules of Procedure agreed at its first meeting on 6 November 2007.

The Managing Authority provides secretariat support to the Monitoring Committee and the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group.

The Monitoring Committee met on two occasions during 2008:

PMC 2	23 April 2008	Tullyarvan Mill, Buncrana (Ireland)
PMC 3	22 October 2008	Loughgiel Millennium Centre (Northern Ireland)

Attendance at the meetings remained good reflecting the high level of interest in the programme by members, advisors and observers. Twenty-two members attended the meeting in April along with 11 advisors and observers. There were also 22

members in attendance at the meeting in October as well as 14 advisors and observers.

Key decisions taken by the Monitoring Committee during 2008 are outlined below:

PMC 2 – 23 April 2008 – Tullyarvan Mill, Buncrana (Ireland)

The PEACE III Monitoring Committee was invited to:

- **Note** the progress to date on the implementation of the programme.
- **Note** the progress of the Monitoring and Evaluation, Equality and Environmental Working Groups.
- **Note** the content of the Draft Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.
- **Note** the contents of the Communication Plan.
- **Approve** the content of the Annual Implementation Report for 2007.

PMC 3 – 22 October 2008 – Loughgiel Millennium Centre (Northern Ireland)

The PEACE III Monitoring Committee was invited to:

- **Note** the progress of the programme.
- **Note** the progress of the Working Groups.
- **Note** the progress on Regulatory Requirements.
- **Note** the progress of Communications.

The Monitoring Committee has authorised the establishment of three Working Groups to consider specific areas of programme implementation:

- Monitoring and Evaluation;
- Equality; and
- Environment.

Further information on the work of these groups during 2008 is included below at section 2.7

Managing Authority Implementation

During 2008 the Managing Authority took a number of steps to ensure effective programme implementation in line with Regulations.

Compliance with Regulatory Deadlines for Submission of Documents

The Managing Authority ensured that documents required by Regulation were submitted to the European Commission in accordance with the appropriate timetable. This is illustrated in Figure 2.1 below.

Figure 2.1 – Submission of Documents Required by Regulation

Activity	Regulation	Required Date	Submission Date
Monitoring Committee set up (MS & MA)	1083/06, Art 63	6 Feb 2008	6 Nov 2007
Communications Plan sent to Commission	1828/06, Art 3	6 Mar 2008	6 Mar 2008
Payment forecasts sent to Commission (MS)	1083/06, Art 76 3	30 Apr 2008	29 April 2008
Project selection criteria approved by Monitoring Committee	1083/06, Art 65 a	6 May 2008	6 Nov 2007
Annual Implementation Reports sent to Commission	1083/06, Art 67 1	30 June 2008	25 June 2008
Audit Strategy sent to Commission (AA)	1083/06, Art 62 1 c	6 Aug 2008	6 Aug 2008
Management & Control Systems Report sent to Commission (MS)	1083/06, Art 71 1	6 Nov 2008	5 Nov 2008
Annual Control Report sent to Commission (AA)	1083/06, Art 62 1	31 Dec 2008	22 Dec 2008

Managing Authority Steps to Ensure Effective Implementation and Compliance with Regulations

Programme Guidance

The Managing Authority have issued a number of Guidance Notes to ensure the Operational Programme is implemented in line with Regulation and Member State Requirements. The following Guidance Notes were issued up to 31 December 2008 following Member State approval:

G1 Guidance on Project Selection	(issued December 2007)
G2 Guidance on Review Procedures	(issued January 2008)
G3 Guidance on Fraud	(issued October 2008)
G4 Guidance on Procurement and Tendering	(issued July 2008)

The Managing Authority also began work on further guidance in the following areas:

- Eligibility of Expenditure;
- Payments;
- Monitoring of Expenditure Outside the Eligible Area
- First Level of Control; and
- Pre Contract Checks.

This guidance was issued in early 2009.

Additionally, the Managing Authority has produced a Programme Manual for use both by staff and Lead Partners. The manual describes the structure of the programme and the authorities involved in its delivery. It summarises the procedures involved in delivery and refers the reader to sources of additional information at each stage.

Training

The Managing Authority has delivered training for Monitoring Committee members. This induction training was held on 24 January 2008 for members and advisors. It outlined their roles and responsibilities in line with the Monitoring Committee's Rules of Procedure, as well as providing an overview of the programme and the role of programme delivery bodies in the light of Regulatory requirements.

The Managing Authority also organised a training session for staff involved in programme implementation. This was delivered by INTERACT on 17 and 18 September 2008. The session focused on management and control systems, first level of control, eligibility and the audit trail, and the role of the Certifying Authority and Audit Authority.

Review Procedures

The Managing Authority has developed and implemented a procedure by which the Lead Partner in unsuccessful projects may seek a review of that decision. If the Lead Partner is dissatisfied with the reason for a decision provided by the Joint Technical Secretariat or Intermediate Body they may make a written request for a review. The Managing Authority will convene the Review Panel, which comprises the chair of the Monitoring Committee, two Members of the Monitoring Committee, who

were not involved in the original decision making process, and one independent member.

One review took place during 2008 at which the decision of the Steering Committee was upheld. The implementation of the review process is governed by Guidance Note G2.

Joint Technical Secretariat / Consortium Implementation

Three Steering Committees have been established for the programme. These are administered by the Joint Technical Secretariat and the Consortium of Border Action and the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council.

The JTS provide the secretariat function for two Steering Committees:

- **Priority 1, Theme 1 Building Positive Relations at a Local Level.** This committee considers both the Local Authority Action Plans and applications for regional projects.
- **Priority 2: Contributing to a Shared Society.** This committee considers applications in relation to 'creating shared public spaces' and 'key institutional capacities are developed for a shared society'.

The Steering Committees comprise representatives of the Member States, Accountable Departments and the various social partners including:

- Trade Union Representatives;
- Community/Voluntary Sector;
- Agriculture;
- Business;
- Equality Authorities; and
- Environment Organisations.

In 2008 the Steering Committees met on 16 occasions. Details of the schedule of meetings held during 2008 are provided below.

Figure 2.2 - Timetable for Steering Committee Meetings – PEACE III Priority 1, Theme 1

	Topic	Date
1	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	06 March 2008
2	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	15 April 2008
3	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	30 April 2008
4	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	12 May 2008
5	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	13 May 2008
6	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	23 June 2008
7	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	24 June 2008
8	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	07 August 2008
9	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	16 October 2008
10	1.1 Building Positive Relations at a local level	11 December 2008

Figure 2.3 - Timetable for Steering Committee Meetings – PEACE III Priority 2

	Topic	Date
1	2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	05 February 2008
2	2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	01 April 2008
3	2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	06 May 2008
4	2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	17 June 2008
5	2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	11 November 2008
6	2.2 Key Institutional Capacities are Developed for a Shared Society	12 November 2008

The Consortium of Border Action and the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council provide the secretariat function for one Steering Committee:

- **Priority 1, Theme 2: Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past.** This committee will consider applications under all three strands of Priority 1 Theme 2.

Priority 1, Theme 2, Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past is implemented by the Consortium of Border Action and the Community Relations Council. The Steering Committee consists of representatives from Pobal, the Combat Poverty Agency, Border Action and the Community Relations Council and Accountable Departments as well as representatives from SEUPB and Member States.

In 2008 the Steering Committee met on six occasions. Details of the schedule of meetings are provided below.

Figure 2.4 - Timetable for Steering Committee Meetings – PEACE III Priority 1, Theme 2

	Topic	Date
1	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	11 June 2008
2	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	24 July 2008
3	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	04 September 2008
4	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	02 October 2008
5	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	06 November 2008
6	1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	04 December 2008

Summary of Priorities

The result of the process described above has been the development of a distinctive programme reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society by building on the lessons learned in previous programming periods. The programme has incorporated key strands of reconciliation, as defined by Hamber and Kelly¹, into the objectives of the programme ensuring that the programme is focused on peace and reconciliation goals and clearly distinguished from other Structural Fund programmes.

In carrying forward the key objectives of the previous PEACE Programmes, the overall aim of PEACE III is ‘to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and to promote reconciliation’. Taking this overall aim forward, the PEACE III Programme comprises three priorities and five cross-cutting themes:

Priority Axis

- Priority 1 – Reconciling Communities
- Priority 2 – Contributing to a Shared Society
- Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

Cross-cutting Themes

- Cross-border co-operation;
- Equality;
- Sustainable Development;
- Impact on Poverty; and
- Partnership.

¹ Hamber, B. and Kelly, G. (2004) *A Working Definition of Reconciliation*. Occasional paper published by Democratic Dialogue, Belfast.

During the development of the Operational Programme indicators were developed at priority level so that they cannot be aggregated at programme level. Consequently, a breakdown of the specific indicators, including targets, baselines and achievements, may be found at section 3.1. Context indicators agreed for the programme are included in Annex 2.

Priority 1 - Reconciling Communities

Priority 1 will have a budget of €190,918,300 and will focus on two key themes:

- **Priority 1 Theme 1 - 'Building Positive Relations at the Local Level'**
The aim of this priority is to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism and to support conflict resolution and mediation at the local community level.
- **Priority 1 Theme 2 – 'Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past'**
The aim of this priority is to provide advice, counselling and support services for victims, their relatives and those who care for them. In addition, this area will also create opportunities to acknowledge and deal with the past.

Priority 2 - Contributing to a Shared Society

Priority 2 will have a budget of €122,000,000 and will focus on two key themes.

- **Priority 2 Theme 1 – 'Creating Shared Public Spaces'**
The aim of this priority is to regenerate urban, rural and border areas that appear derelict, segregated, underused, threatening and unwelcoming and transform them into shared spaces.
- **Priority 2 Theme 2 – 'Key Institutional Capacities are Developed for a Shared Society'**
The aim of this priority is to develop the capacity, knowledge, culture and mechanisms of key institutions, including those in the public sector, to deliver a shared society within Northern Ireland and on a cross-border basis.

Priority 3: Technical assistance

Priority 3 has a budget of €19,973,507 to be spent on two areas:

- **Programme information and publicity**

The aim of this element of the priority is to publicise the contribution of the programme in reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting reconciliation.

- **Management, monitoring and evaluation of the programme**

The aim of this element of the priority is to facilitate and support the management, monitoring and evaluation of the programme.

Context Indicators

In addition to the priority specific indicators a number of context indicators have been included in the Operational Programme to allow monitoring of the wider changes needed to build a peaceful, stable society. While much of these are outside the control of the programme, and as such are not designed to be a measure of the success of the PEACE III Programme interventions, they will provide information on the environment within which the programme is being implemented.

Since the programme is in the early stages of implementation, with approval on 6 November 2007 and the first Steering Committee meeting taking place in December 2007, no projects have yet reached the stage where monitoring information is available. The Managing Authority anticipates that data will start to become available in the latter part of 2008 or early 2009. This will be presented to the Monitoring Committee during 2009 and reported to the Commission as part of the Annual Implementation Report for 2009.

Progress Made in Implementing Financial Information

In addition to the initial advance of €4,496,913 (2% of ERDF) received on 3 December 2007, a further advance of €6,745,354 (3% of ERDF) was received from the Commission on 2 July 2008. During 2008 the programme has focused on project selection and early implementation. Consequently, only one claim has been submitted to the Commission for €59,994.89 (comprising €40,522.45 ERDF contribution and €19,472.45 match funding).

A summary of financial provisions for the PEACE III Programme is provided in the following table.

Figure 2.5: Summary of Financial Provisions for the PEACE III Programme

Priority	Fund	Total Eligible Cost	ERDF (€)	Regional (€)	Intervention Rate
1	ERDF	190,918,300.00	128,952,254.00	61,966,046.00	0.675431606
2	ERDF	122,000,000.00	82,402,656.00	39,597,344.00	0.675431607
3	ERDF	19,973,507.00	13,490,738.00	6,482,769.00	0.675431610
Total	ERDF	332,891,807.00	224,845,648.00	108,046,159.00	0.675431607

Figure 2.6 – Priority axes by source of funding (EUR)

	Expenditure paid out by the beneficiaries included in payment claims sent to the managing authority	Corresponding public contribution	Private expenditure	Expenditure paid by the body responsible for making payments to the beneficiaries	Total payments received from the Commission
Priority Axis 1 Reconciling Communities	0	0	0	0	0
Of which ESF type expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Of which ERDF type expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Priority Axis 2 Contributing to a Shared Society	0	0	0	0	0
Of which ESF type expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Of which ERDF type expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Priority Axis 3 Technical Assistance	€59,994.89	€59,994.89	0	0	0
Of which ESF type expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
Of which ERDF type expenditure	€59,994.89	€59,994.89	0	0	0
Grand Total	€59,994.89 ²	€59,994.89	0	0	11,242,267 ³
Total in transitional regions in the grand total	0	0	0	0	0
Total non- transitional regions in the grand total	0	0	0	0	0
ESF type expenditure in the grand total where the Operational Programme is co- financed by the ERDF	0	0	0	0	0

² Expenditure figures reported in the 2007 AIR were calculated at an indicative exchange rate of £/€ 1.45, the figure reported above relates to the actual claim rate of 1.196.

³ Advance payments have not been broken down by Priority and are therefore included as a grand total only.

ERDF type expenditure in the grand total where the Operational Programme is co-financed by the ESF	0	0	0	0	0
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Information about the breakdown of the use of funds

As only a small amount of project expenditure has occurred during 2008, claims submitted to the Commission have been limited. This has been exclusively in relation to Technical Assistance. A cumulative breakdown of allocations of the community contribution by category is included in Annex 3 in accordance with Article 67(2)(c) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

Assistance by Target Groups

No target groups, sectors or areas have been identified for specific financial assistance within the programme.

Assistance repaid or re-used

As no specific financial assistance has been allocated, no information will be available.

Qualitative Analysis

The focus of the programme during 2008 has been on project selection and approval. Consequently, there has been little reportable progress made towards the achievement of targets in relation to physical and financial indicators provided in the Operational Programme. However, it should be noted that significant regard has been given to the principles of partnership, equality, and, where appropriate, to the Lisbon Agenda at all stages throughout.

- **Partnership** - The principle of partnership, as defined by Article 11 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, was central to the programming process and the development of implementing structures.

The Programme Monitoring Committee is constructed on a partnership basis, with committee membership structured to ensure appropriate and balanced representation of the various partnership sectors. The structure of the Monitoring Committee, reflecting the principle of partnership, is indicated in Annex 1.

The principle of partnership was also reflected in the construction of the Steering Committees. Each committee is constructed as shown in Figure 2.7:

Figure 2.7 – The Membership Structure of PEACE III Steering Committees

Nominating Sector	Number of Seats
Chair (SEUPB)	1
Member States (DFP and DoF)	2
Accountable Departments	2
Local Representation	4
Social Partners	3
Cross-Cutting Themes	1
Total	13

Projects which apply for funding under the PEACE III Programme must provide, during the application process, evidence of full and effective involvement of partners at all stages of project delivery. Demonstration of this principle is scored along with the other cross-cutting themes of Sustainable Development, Equality and Impact on Poverty.

- **Equal Opportunities** – The programming process and the development of implementing structures were undertaken with regard to the principle of equal opportunities between men and women and the programme was subject to an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) which accompanied the Operational Programme. Further, equality interests from both Northern Ireland and Ireland are represented on the Programme Monitoring Committee (see Annex 1) and on both Steering Committees in the programme.

Projects which apply for funding under the PEACE III Programme must demonstrate due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity and adherence to the equality legislation in relevant jurisdictions.

- **Lisbon Agenda** – As a European Territorial Co-operation Objective Programme, PEACE III is not included within the guidelines for earmarking funding towards the Lisbon Agenda. However, by addressing problems of sectarianism, racism and segregation, thus indirectly facilitating greater social and economic engagement, the PEACE III Programme can complement the activities of Competitiveness and Employment Objective Programmes in furtherance of the Lisbon Agenda.

2.2 Information about compliance with Community law

No significant problems related to compliance with Community law were encountered during 2008 in relation to the development and implementation of the Operational Programme.

2.3 Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them

No significant problems were encountered in 2008 in implementing the Operational Programme; therefore no actions were required by the Managing Authority or Monitoring Committee.

2.4 Changes in the context of the Operational Programme implementation

Political Context

There were two main changes in the political environment for both the Northern Ireland Assembly and Dail Eireann in 2008. The Rt Hon Peter Robinson MP, MLA was appointed as the new First Minister in Northern Ireland on 5 June 2008 and Brian Cowen was appointed the new Taoiseach on 7 May 2008. These changes also resulted in a change of both Finance Ministers in the North and the South. Nigel Dodds MP, MLA became Minister for the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland and Brian Lenihan TD became Minister for the Department of Finance in Ireland.

Four Commissioners for Victims and Survivors were appointed on 28 January 2008 following the introduction of legislation in the Northern Ireland Assembly. The four Commissioners include Brendan McAllister, Patricia McBride, Bertha McDougal and Michael Nesbitt.

The Irish government decided to put the matter of the Treaty of Lisbon to a referendum. The result of the referendum, on 12 June 2008, was in opposition to the Treaty, with 53.4% against and 46.6% in favour.

Economic Context

The eligible area has been affected by the global economic downturn experienced in the second half of 2008. Although some 2008 data is not yet available, by the end of 2008 the UK and Ireland had officially entered a recession. For the UK this was the first recession experienced in 17 years and for Ireland, which was the first country in the Eurozone to enter recession, it was the first in 25 years. Suggestions have been made that Northern Ireland may be less impacted by the downturn than other UK regions due to its industrial structure. However, it is clear that Northern Ireland is experiencing the effects of economic recession.

It has been predicted that a recovery may be made by 2010, however the immediate effects in Northern Ireland and Ireland have been a decrease in the number of jobs and therefore decreased employment and increased unemployment; increased benefit claimants; a decline in the housing market; falling inflation and interest rates; and an overall contraction of the economy.

Although both regions have experienced increases in employment over the last number of years, changes between 2007 and 2008 are starting to show signs of the economic downturn with a decrease in employment rates. Similarly while unemployment had declined overall in Northern Ireland between 2000 and 2008, it began increasing in 2008. The Border Region of Ireland had a similar level of unemployment in 2007 as it had in 2000. However, this has risen markedly in 2008 from 5.5% to 8.7%.

2.5 Substantial modification under Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006

No substantial modifications have been identified at this stage of the programme.

2.6 Complementarity with other instruments

Significant consideration was given to the need for complementarity and demarcation between the relevant ESF, ERDF, EFF and EAFRD Programmes operating in the eligible area during the programming process.

**EU Programme for Cross-Border Territorial Co-operation (INTERREG IV)
Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland**

The INTERREG IVA Programme focuses on developing infrastructure and a dynamic economy and is therefore distinguished from the PEACE III Programme, which focuses on peace and reconciliation and community cohesion. Nonetheless, synergies between the programmes will be considered, where relevant, and particularly in relation to activities promoting sustainable communities.

Complementarity and demarcation between the PEACE III Programme and INTERREG IVA Programme will be ensured by the fact that they share the same Managing Authority, Joint Technical Secretariat, Certifying Authority and Audit Authority. There will also be complementarity between the membership of both Monitoring Committees.

The National Strategic Reference Framework in Northern Ireland, the Competitiveness Programme (ERDF) and Employment Programme (ESF)

By focusing on economic and social change the Competitiveness and Employment Programmes can provide a supportive environment for addressing peace and reconciliation. Similarly, by addressing sectarianism, racism and segregation the PEACE III Programme can complement NSRF activities by breaking down barriers to social and economic engagement. Additionally, both the Competitiveness and Employment Programmes include two cross-cutting themes, promoting sustainable development and creating sustainable communities, which generate strong complementarities with PEACE III by focusing on areas of disadvantage and multiple deprivation.

The Regional and Employment Programmes in Ireland

On a similar basis to the programmes in Northern Ireland, the programmes in Ireland will promote economic and social change in the border region and therefore provide a supportive environment for peace and reconciliation. The Border, Midland and Western Regional Operational Programme co-financed by the ERDF under the Competitiveness and Employment Objective will support innovation, ICT and the economy, renewable energy and environmental risk prevention and sustainable urban development and secondary transport links with a focus on the designated gateways and hubs under the National Spatial Strategy 2002-2020. By removing barriers within the labour market the Employment Programme will address marginalisation and exclusion. In turn, by addressing sectarianism, racism and segregation the PEACE III Programme will complement the Regional and European

Programmes activities by encouraging inclusion as well as social and economic engagement on a cross-border/cross-community basis.

Rural Development Programme (EAFRD)

The RDPs in Northern Ireland and Ireland will complement the PEACE III Programme by supporting economic and social development and providing a supportive environment for addressing peace and reconciliation. Additionally, by supporting community cohesion and addressing barriers to development such as exclusion and sectarianism, the PEACE III Programme can provide a supportive environment for economic, social and environmental development in rural areas.

European Fisheries Fund (EFF)

As with the RDP, EFF will complement the PEACE III Programme by promoting economic and social development and providing a supportive environment for addressing peace and reconciliation. In turn, the PEACE III Programme will support economic, social and environmental development in fishing communities by promoting community cohesion and addressing barriers to development.

Other European Territorial Co-operation Programmes

Under the European Territorial Co-operation objective, the commission also supports a range of other transnational programmes which aim to encourage joint projects that address the priorities for co-operation shared by the participating countries. There are four programmes for the 2007-2013 period which are relevant to Northern Ireland, Scotland and Ireland. These include:

- The Northern Periphery Programme;
- The Atlantic Area Programme;
- North-West Europe Programme; and
- The Inter-regional Programme.

Key synergies can be identified between the transnational co-operation programmes and PEACE III. For instance, by promoting transnational co-operation, the programmes will encourage the exchange of experience and transfer of know-how between stakeholders. Key lessons can be learned from this experience which could be transferred to the PEACE III Programme and assist in facilitating cross-border linkages and relationships.

In addition, the promotion of economic and social development by each of the programmes can promote economic and social change in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland and provide a supportive environment for addressing peace and reconciliation. On the other hand, the PEACE III Programme can also contribute towards transnational co-operation by establishing the foundation for economic, social and environmental development and also sharing lessons in promoting cross-border linkages and issues such as addressing sectarianism and racism.

During the development of the PEACE III Programme consideration was given to the avoidance of duplication of effort between programmes. All relevant departments from the jurisdictions and other Managing Authorities played an active role in contributing to the design of the programme. The programmes implemented in Northern Ireland have been planned to have complementarity and synergies, but also clear lines of demarcation between them. A number of administrative arrangements will ensure complementarity and demarcation between programmes:

- The SEUPB plays an active role in transnational and interregional programmes by acting as Regional Contact Point for Northern Ireland with the goal of maximising North/South participation in these programmes. The SEUPB also works closely with the two Regional Assemblies in Ireland to identify North/South co-operation opportunities. The SEUPB has participated in a range of activities including an INTERREG IVB & IVC seminar held in Armagh in February 2008. The SEUPB has also been active in fulfilling its obligations as the Regional Contact Point for the Northern Periphery Programme (NPP), and attended the official launch of the programme in Aviemore, Scotland in February 2008. Additionally, the SEUPB participate in the Regional Advisory Group meetings for the Northern Periphery Programme.
- The PEACE III Monitoring Committee includes representatives from other Monitoring Committees in order to ensure that the actions under each programme complement each other and avoid duplication. The presence of representatives from other Monitoring Committees will guarantee a mutual understanding of the implementation of the programmes.
- In Northern Ireland, a centralised database of EU Programmes will capture information across the programmes. Regular duplication reports will be circulated to all Managing Authorities for checking purposes.

- All Managing Authorities will meet regularly at the EU Steering Group (EUSG) co-ordinated by the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland. The Steering Group met approximately every six weeks during 2008.
- A joint Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group covering both PEACE III and INTERREG IVA met on five occasions during 2008. Additionally, representatives from both PEACE III and INTERREG IVA participate in Environment and Equality Working Groups with representatives from other EU Structural Funds Programmes in Northern Ireland.
- Representatives from SEUPB attended a number of other Programme Monitoring Committee meetings throughout 2008.

Monitoring Committee meetings attended and their locations are listed below in Figure 2.8:

Figure 2.8 - Monitoring Committee dates, locations and attendees.

Date of meeting	Meeting details	Attendee (SEUPB)
31 January 2008	Competitiveness & Employment Programme Monitoring Committee	Pat Colgan (CEO)
24 April 2008	Employment Human Resource Development Committee	Brian Liggett (HR Manager)
16 May 2008	National Development Plan Monitoring Committee	Pat Colgan
22 May 2008	Human Capital Investment Committee	Brian Liggett (HR Manager)
3 July 2008	International Fund for Ireland Monitoring Committee	Pat Colgan
14 October 2008	Competitiveness & Employment Programme Monitoring Committee	Lisa McMullan (Programme Manager – Managing Authority)
6 November 2008	Human Capital Resource Committee	Brian Liggett
27 November 2008	URBAN Programme Monitoring Committee	Adrian McNamee (Director – Managing Authority) (Chair)

By putting these processes in place the Managing Authority will ensure that a carefully managed co-ordination between funds will prevent overlap and duplication, promote complementarity and therefore optimise value for money.

Additionally, SEUPB representatives participate in a range of fora throughout Northern Ireland and Ireland. These include biannual meetings with the Border Midlands and Western secretariat to explore potential synergies and engagement with both BMW and Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly in relation to transnational programmes.

2.7 Monitoring Arrangements

The Managing Authority has taken a number of steps to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation. In line with the requirements outlined in Article 48 (3) of Council Regulation (EC) 1083/2006 to ensure continual monitoring and evaluation, the following measures have been put in place:

- Establishment of a Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group (MEWG) to provide specialist advice to the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA Monitoring Committees in terms of our obligations to monitor and evaluate the programme;
- Production of a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan by the MEWG in line with the strategy outlined in the Operational Programme;
- Construction and Implementation of a Structural Funds database (RMA) to enable meaningful analysis of programme data;
- Participation on joint EU Structural Funds Working Groups established to monitor the effects of programmes on the cross-cutting themes of Equality and the Environment;
- Allocation of Developmental Path Analysis (DPA) scoring to applications to identify the level of environmental sustainability across the programme; and
- Establishment of a Service Level Agreement with the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) to support and implement the monitoring and evaluation process.

Progress in each area is detailed below:

2.7.1 Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group and Plan in 2008

The Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group is a joint group covering the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA Programmes. The Group met five times throughout the year on 1 February 2008, 11 March 2008, 10 June 2008, 16 September 2008 and 16 December 2008. The meeting locations alternated between Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. The Members of the Working Group are listed in Annex 4.

Throughout the course of the year the Group considered a number of different elements to the Monitoring and Evaluation of the PEACE III Programme.

The main items for consideration were:

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:** this is not a regulatory requirement, however it is recommended by the Commission. The requirement for PEACE III was ongoing evaluation rather than a mid-term evaluation. Timing of evaluations are crucial to ensure that lessons can be learned for the remainder of the programme but also to allow sufficient data to be collected to provide meaningful results. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was agreed by the Programme Monitoring Committee at its meeting on Wednesday 23 April 2008. Implementation activity included meetings and workshops with the JTS, Consortium, NISRA and the Managing Authority; development, piloting, and training in the use of the central database; finalising definitions papers and; agreement for programme support/development officers to review and agree the terms of reference for project led evaluations.
- **Attitudinal Survey:** The 2007 survey was presented and is available in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. Four options were discussed about taking the new Attitudinal Survey forward, they were: to complete the survey in the same way as PEACE II; to complete an Attitudinal Survey of the population alongside a survey of the participants; to complete an Attitudinal Survey of the population alongside a longitudinal survey of the participants or; complete a longitudinal survey of both the population and the participants. The decision has yet to be made about the best way forward.
- **Programme Implementation:** The Managing Authority agreed to produce Monthly Progress Reports for Monitoring Committee members after their meeting on 22 October 2008. These reports have been collated and are presented to the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group at their quarterly meetings. Information

considered to date includes a breakdown of the number and value of applications received, and Steering Committee activity including application approvals. This is monitored against overall programme targets and enables the group to identify any issues that may emerge.

- **Aid for Peace:** This was the framework recommended by PriceWaterhouseCooper (PWC) as the best fit for Northern Ireland. The four key stages are peace-building needs analysis; peace-building relevance assessment; conflict risk assessment and; peace and conflicts effects assessment. NISRA have been holding discussions with the Lead Partners to develop and agree their own peace and reconciliation indicators. They will report again mid-way through programme implementation to ensure the indicators are still relevant and again at the end of the programme to demonstrate impacts on peace and reconciliation.
- **Other Information:** The Group considered examples of good practice and innovation in monitoring and evaluation. The Group has also considered the Good Relations Indicators Baseline Report.
- **Future Areas of Work:** Discussions centred on the possibility of taking the Northern Ireland Life & Times Survey into the border region; ways to take the Attitudinal Survey forward and; equality assessment or programme reach. It was agreed to commission a consultant to undertake an analysis of the implementation of the programme up to December 2008. This work was commissioned in early 2009 and will be reported in May 2009.

2.7.2 EU Structural Funds Database (RMA) in 2008

All operations funded under the PEACE III Programme are recorded on the EU Grants system. Alongside PEACE III the system fulfils an identical role for INTERREG IVA, the Rural Development Programme, and the Competitiveness and Employment Programmes. All stages of the application/project life-cycle and all transactions associated with approved projects are recorded. The database is capable of providing analysis of financial spend and non-financial performance indicators for the programme.

The system comprises a public website (www.eugrants.org) through which project applications are submitted and which is used by successful projects to submit claims and update performance. This public website is supported by a Management Information System used by programme administrators to maintain the database and

manage all aspects of the programme including project approval as well as management, monitoring and reporting at project and programme level.

2.7.3 Work of the Equality Working Group in 2008

The Equality Working Group is a joint group covering PEACE III and INTERREG IVA as well as Competitiveness and Employment Programmes. The Equality Working Group met three times throughout 2008 on 5 March 2008, 30 June 2008 and 15 September 2008. The Members of the Working Group are listed in Annex 5.

The secretariat of this Working Group is the European Division of the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland.

Throughout the year the main considerations of the Working Group were:

- **Work Plan:** This had been approved at the Group's meeting in June 2008 and consisted of six items, the examination of equality responses and scoring in applications to date; identifying any recommendations to be made to the Managing Authorities for the first item; identifying the best ways of continuing to influence the process; conduct an equality audit on membership of the monitoring committees, working and steering groups and selection panels; review and update the Mainstreaming Equality guide, including integrating procurement guidance and; identify the approach for monitoring the effectiveness of projects in meeting the equality objectives.
- **Equality Guidance Note:** The Review of the Equality Guidance Note was added to the workplan and finalised after the meeting in June 2008. The Equality Guidance Note was then forwarded to the EU Steering Group for approval. A revised copy was produced which was sent to the Departments for consultation and re-issued to the Managing Authorities to present to the Monitoring Committee at their meeting in October 2008.
- **Sub-Groups:** The Group agreed to set up two sub-groups, each to look at an item from the work plan. The first sub-group concentrated on the review of the Mainstreaming Equality guide. The second sub-group concentrated on the examination of the equality responses and scoring in applications.

- **Equality Questionnaire:** Discussion found that this was long and complicated which would deter people from completing it. This would be reviewed and confirmed by DFP.

2.7.4 Work of the Environment Working Group in 2008

The Environmental Working Group is a joint group covering PEACE III and INTERREG IVA as well as Competitiveness and Employment Programmes. Details of the Working Group membership can be found in Annex 6. The Working Group met three times during 2008 to oversee the following work:

- **Examination of indicators across all programmes:** The group carried out a comparative examination of indicators to ensure complementarities of effective measurement across the programmes where appropriate. An assessment of effective Greenhouse Gasses indicators is on going and will be further explored by the group in 2009.
- **Producing Guidelines on Environmental Policies:** A sub-group was set up to consider guidelines on the completion of environmental policies at the project level. A paper on writing an effective environmental policy, provided by one of the Managing Authorities was amended to fit with all programmes and has been adopted by the Member State for circulation.
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) compliance and indicators:** The Working Group received updates from each Managing Authority regarding their progress in implementing recommendations from their relevant SEAs. This work will continue in 2009.
- **Programme reports on the implementation of DPA:** DPA progress reports were presented to the Working Group by each of the Managing Authorities.
- **Other Information:** The Chair of the group, Lucinda Blakiston-Houston, attended the fourth Annual Environmental Ireland Conference 2008. DEL circulated a draft document, 'How to Write an Environmental Policy' produced to assist projects meet this Letter of Offer requirement to have an environmental policy.

2.7.5 Implementation of Developmental Path Analysis (DPA) in 2008

DPA is based on an assumption that certain patterns of development, or "development paths" are more environmentally sustainable than others and that

regions have choices about which path to pursue. The DPA tool recognises six development paths:

- Path A: Actions that promote regional development activities within the context of environmental regulations (“business as usual”).
- Path B: Actions that address the environmental damage arising from past regional development activities or that promote regeneration.
- Path C: Actions that put in place environmental infrastructure to allow regional development activities whilst reducing their negative environmental impacts.
- Path D: Actions that help existing organisations to meet increasing environmental standards.
- Path E: Actions that improve the resource efficiency (“eco-efficiency”) of existing regional development activity.
- Path F: Actions that encourage new types of activity/behaviour using fewer environmental resources or producing less pollution than existing activities in the area.

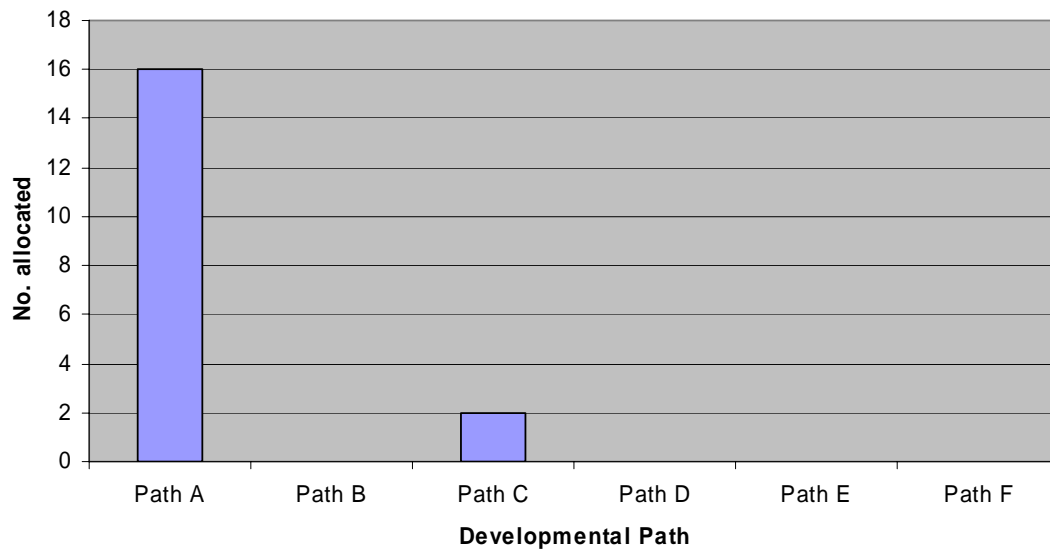
In line with SEUPBs Guidance Note on the implementation of Developmental Path Analysis for the new programmes, DPA has been allocated to applications during the assessment phase and presented to the appropriate Steering Committee for consideration. DPA scores have been broken down by priority and theme:

Priority 1 Reconciling Communities

Theme 1 Building positive relations at the local level

This theme aims to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism and to support conflict resolution and mediation at the local community level. It will support the implementation of strategic models of collaboration between the public, private and community sectors that focus on reconciliation, cultural diversity and equality. This theme incorporates both local and regional activities. Eighteen regional projects have been received to date.

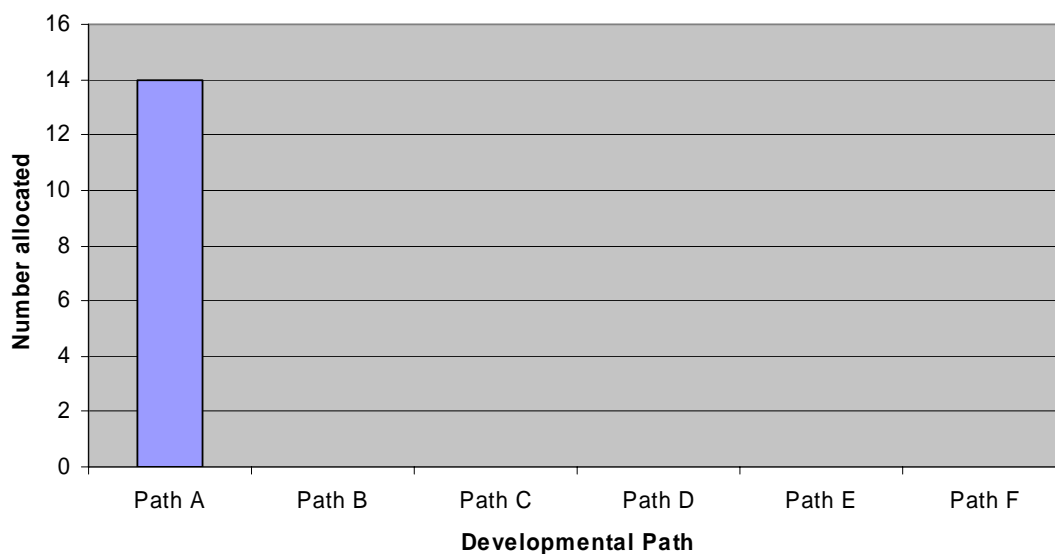
Figure 2.9: 1.1 Regional Projects



As outlined in the graph above, 16 Regional Plans have been allocated to Path A: Actions that promote regional development activities within the context of environmental regulations (“business as usual”). Two Plans have been allocated to Path C: Actions that put in place environmental infrastructure to allow regional development activities whilst reducing their negative environmental impacts.

To date, 14 Local Action Plans have been approved under Priority 1.1. DPA allocation is outlined in the graph below:

Figure 2.10: 1.1 Local Action Plans



As illustrated, to date, all 14 Local Action Plans have been allocated to Path A.

Theme 2 Acknowledging and dealing with the past

This theme seeks to provide advice, counselling and support services for victims, their relatives and those who care for them. In addition, this area will also create opportunities to acknowledge and deal with the past.

This theme is implemented in three strands as outlined below:

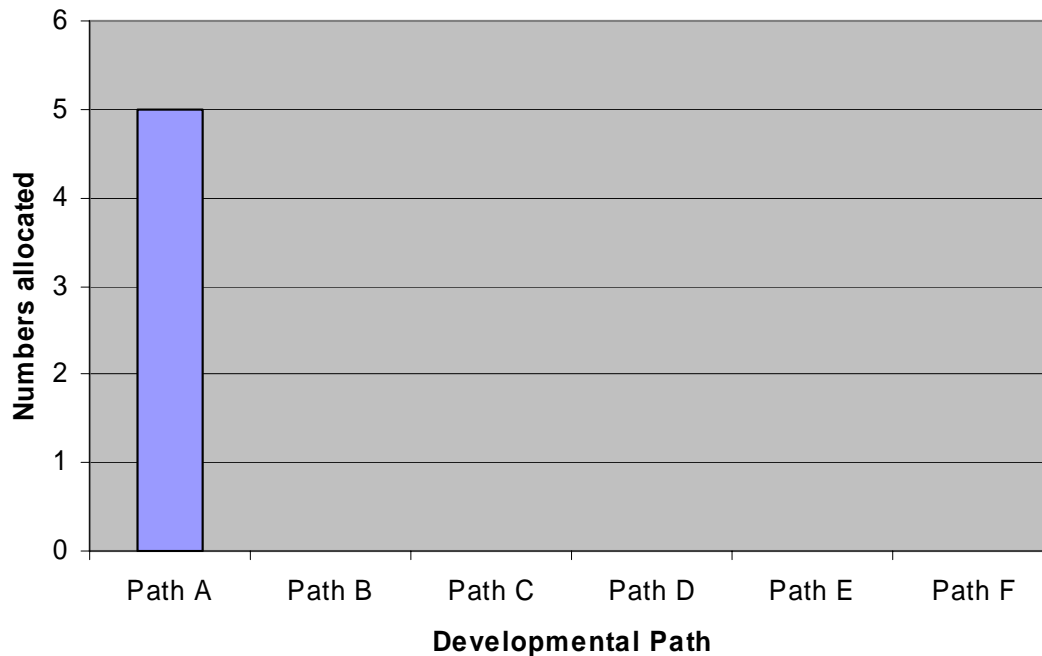
Strand 1 - Addressing the Past in Public Memory

The Consortium invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Strand 1 through public advertisement during the week ending 3 October 2008, with a submission deadline of 7 November 2008. 44 EOIs were received requesting a total value of €37m. A call for full applications is expected to be made in early 2009. No DPA scoring has therefore been applied to applications under this Strand to date.

Strand 2 – Support for Participation

Five applications at the Letter of Offer stage have been allocated DPA scores as outlined in the graph below:

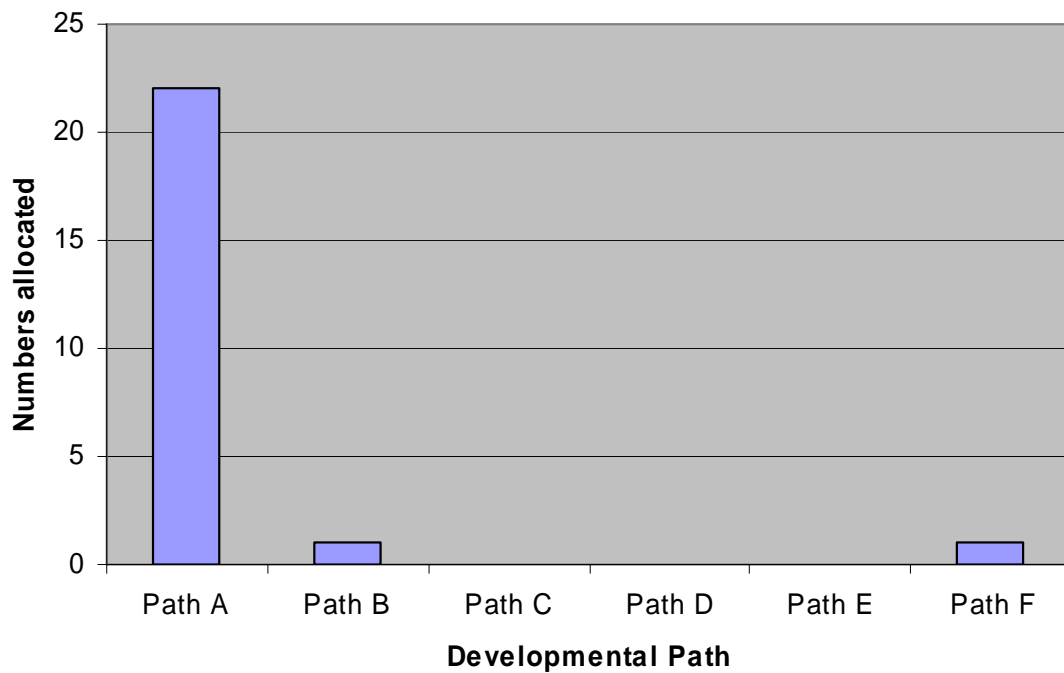
Figure 2.11: Theme 1.2 – Strand 2 – Support for Participation



Strand 3 – Securing the future

Twenty-four applications at the Letter of Offer stage have been allocated DPA scores as outlined in the graph below:

Figure 2.12: Theme 1.2 – Strand 3 – Securing the Future



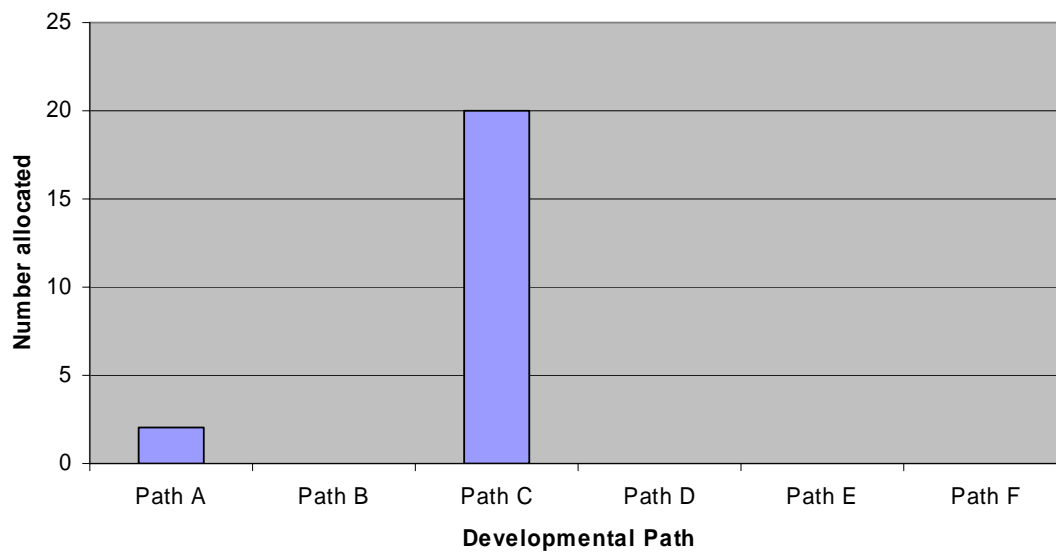
Priority 2 Contributing to a Shared Society

Theme 1 Creating Shared Public Spaces

This theme seeks to tackle the problems of separation of communities and address the underlying problems of sectarianism, racism and prejudice by encouraging the development of physical environments and regeneration of urban, rural and border areas that appear derelict, segregated, underused, threatening and/or unwelcome.

Twenty-two applications under Theme 2.1 have been assessed and considered by the Steering Committee. A further 17 applications have been received and are awaiting the assessment process. Path allocation for the 22 applications is outlined in the graph below:

Figure 2.13: 2.1 – Creating Shared Spaces



Theme 2 Key institutional capacities are developed for a shared society

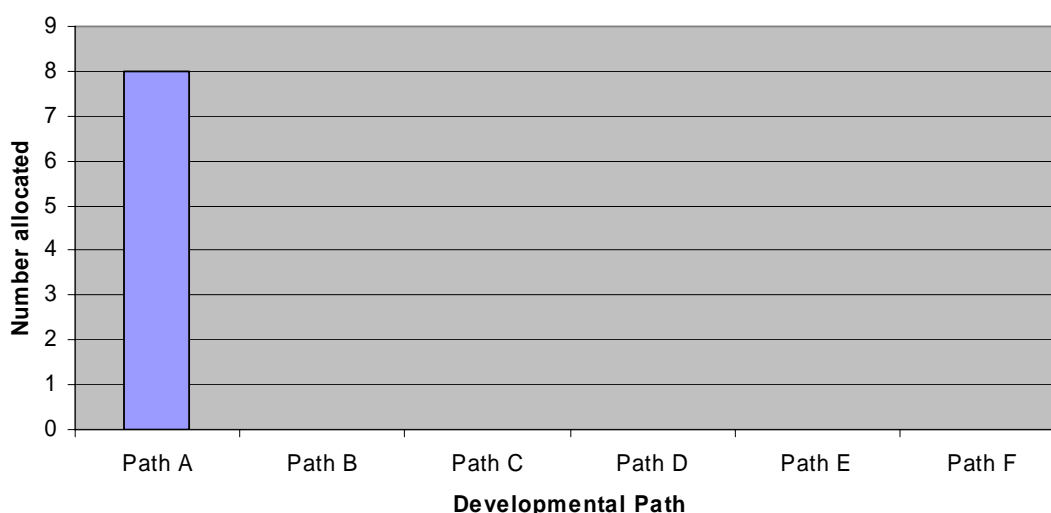
This theme aims to develop the capacity of key institutions to deliver services in a manner that contributes to a shared society across Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. Following consultation with the Accountable Departments a call for applications opened on Monday 31 March 2008, seeking applications under two main areas:

Area 1: Pilot innovative service delivery models with the potential for mainstreaming.

Area 2: European and international networking and exchange of best practice.

To date, eight applications have been received under Theme 2.2. Although none have been approved as yet, indicative DPA scores have been allocated which will be subject to change by the Steering Committee.

Figure 2.14: 2.2 Key Institutional capacities are developed for a shared society



As illustrated, all applications have been allocated Path A. These will be considered by the Steering Committee.

2.7.6 The role of NISRA in Programme Monitoring

NISRA provide a range of services for the Managing Authority under a Service Level Agreement. These services include:

- Responding to ad hoc requests for appropriate monitoring and evaluation information on both programmes and the preparation of statistical briefing for meetings and publicity events;
- Performance of data quality checks on the information held on the Central Database and subsequent investigation with lead partners;
- Supporting the preparation of Annual Implementation Reports;
- Provision of regular interpretative commentary on the monitoring data for presentation to Monitoring Committees;
- Provision of advice on the development of the central database and updating of indicator fields on the central database, as appropriate;
- Continued development of Monitoring and Evaluation Plans, including detailed definitions of the indicators for both programmes;
- Providing support for working groups including the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group, the Equality Working Group and the Environmental Working Group; and
- Advising PEACE III projects on the use of the Aid for Peace Approach to evaluation, and agreeing indicators to be used to assess the performance of each project through consultation with the Lead Partner, the Joint Technical Secretariat and the Intermediate Bodies.

3. IMPLEMENTATION BY PRIORITY

Implementation of Project Selection Procedures

During the course of 2008 SEUPB have focused on programme implementation. Projects are selected on the basis of established selection criteria developed in accordance with Article 65 (a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006. These criteria were agreed by the Programme Monitoring Committee on 6 November 2007.

Project selection follows two stages of assessment:

- **Stage one:** A basic eligibility check where the application is checked against a number of published criteria. If the application does not meet all the basic eligibility criteria it will not progress any further in the appraisal process.
- **Stage two:** A procedure for appraisal of applications has been established. Once appraisal and scoring is complete, applications are presented to the Steering Committee with a recommendation and a supporting rationale for that recommendation. The Steering Committee will scrutinise the scores and supporting arguments and make a final decision on the application.

In advance of the issue of a Letter of Offer, all projects undergo a pre-contracting check which verifies their capacity to deliver the project (s). Additionally, specific targets are set for each operation which are drawn from the Operational Programme and identified specifically for each project. Specific targets identified in the Operational Programme within each priority, as well as progress made in achieving those targets is detailed at section 3.1 below. Context indicators for the programme are included in Annex 2. Although 2008 has seen significant progress in project selection and commitment of programme funds, implementation is in its early stages and there is currently little progress to report in relation to indicators. The Managing Authority will report on performance against each target both in updates to the Programme Monitoring Committee and in the Annual Implementation Report as data becomes available.

The Aid for Peace Approach

The PEACE III Operational Programme recognised that monitoring and evaluating of the previous EU Programmes for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and Ireland had not been straightforward. The PEACE Programmes are unique amongst

EU Structural Fund Programmes in their aims and objectives, and as a result do not easily lend themselves to the type of measurement and quantification that can be applied to more conventional economic and social development programmes. This is particularly true when it comes to assessing the impacts of the interventions.

Building on research commissioned during the PEACE II Programme⁴, the Aid for Peace Approach will be employed in PEACE III to allow the programme to monitor and evaluate peace-building effects.

The Aid for Peace Approach⁵ is an evaluation methodology for examining peace-building interventions and it can be broken down into four key stages.

- *Peace-building needs analysis*: This analyses the conflict dynamics and peace-building process of a country or area by examining the parties to the conflict, the root causes of the conflict, the factors escalating the conflict and what peace-building potential exists. This involves a detailed analysis of the peace context by outlining the needs of a country or area.
- *Peace building relevance assessment*: This assesses if the overall direction of an intervention (policy, programme or project) is relevant to a country or area's peace-building needs.
- *Conflict risk assessment*: This assesses the effects of the conflict on an existing or planned intervention. The objective of this stage is to identify problems and risks with which the projects and interventions will be confronted in areas of conflict.
- *Peace and conflict effects assessment*: This examines the effects of an intervention on the conflict and peace situation and assesses what changes have occurred, or may occur, as a result of the intervention. Input, output, result and impact indicators can be used here. During the planning stage these indicators should be developed which are closely linked to the previously defined needs.

⁴ PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP (2007) *A monitoring and evaluation framework for peace building, Final Report*, June 2007

⁵ Paffenholz, T. (2005) *Third Generation PCIA: Introducing the Aid for Peace Approach*, <http://www.berghot-handbook.net>

The Aid for Peace Approach shaped the development of PEACE III at the programme level. It will also be applied at operation level. Prior to the issue of a Letter of Offer, each Lead Partner will be taken through the four key stages of Aid for Peace by a facilitator. Each of the 4 stages will be applied:

- The project partner will analyse the conflict in the project area to better understand the needs of the project will address.
- The Lead Partner will then outline how their operation is relevant to the needs identified and how it aims to promote change within their local area/region.
- Each Lead Partner will identify how risks related to the conflict could impact on their operation, and outline potential actions or contingency plans to alleviate those risks.
- Each Lead Partner will be required to propose indicators which would be used to monitor and evaluate the operation. These indicators will be drawn from the programme/priority indicators, alongside others more specific to the operation.

This approach provides a structure through which the anticipated and actual impacts of an operation on peace and reconciliation can be defined. It also assists with the development of operation-specific monitoring indicators which can be used throughout the operation to assess progress. The implementation of the Aid for Peace approach will be reported in future Annual Implementation Reports.

Summary of Programme Implementation

A total of 189 full applications were received for the PEACE III Programme up to the end of December 2008. A total of 22 Steering Committees considered 127 applications, resulting in the approval of 68 projects at a value of €146.5m. There have been 26 Letters of Offer issued with a combined value of €111m.

3.1 Priority 1 – Reconciling Communities

Theme 1 - Building Positive Relations at the Local Level – Local Projects

Eight local council clusters were agreed for Northern Ireland, including Belfast as a single entity, to administer Local Action Plans in Northern Ireland. In the Border Region of Ireland the plans are administered by the six County Councils. Annex 7 illustrates the PEACE III Local Action Plan boundaries.

The current clusters are relevant to the period 2008-10 only and were not intended to anticipate the outcome of Review of Public Administration (RPA) in Northern Ireland. From 2011 onwards, the clusters in Northern Ireland will be reconfigured to reflect the RPA arrangements with all clusters having the option to review in 2009-10.

The focus of the action plans is on sectarianism and racism and how local authorities, in partnership with the other sectors, aim to address these issues within the boundaries of the councils in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

The Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) liaised with local authorities on both sides of the border from early 2007 to put in place mechanisms to produce Local Action Plans. SEUPB issued guidelines on the preparation of plans in 2007. The guidelines recognise the need for the Local Action Plans to be based on, add value to and complement the work of the each local authority's Good Relations Programme.

The Consortium of the Community Relations Council and Border Action have been commissioned to provide technical support in the development and implementation of the Local Action Plans. They have worked closely with all clusters in Northern Ireland and structures in the Border Region of Ireland in the development of their plans.

Belfast and the seven clusters in Northern Ireland all submitted their action plans by the 31 March 2008 deadline. All eight plans were considered at a two-day Steering Committee on 12 and 13 May 2008. At this meeting three Local Peace and Reconciliation Action Plans were approved with conditions: The Belfast plan and the plans of the North East and North West Clusters. The plans of the five remaining Northern Ireland clusters were revised and approved with conditions by Steering Committee on 7 August 2008.

The border region plans were all received on the due date of 13 May 2008, considered and approved with conditions at a Steering Committee on 24 June 2008. All of the border region plans were approved at this meeting. Figure 3.1 below presents the approved applications under this theme.

Letters of Offer for all 14 Local Peace Action Plans were issued by September 2008. The total allocation for the Action Plans to date is €50,189,686. Figure 3.1 below presents the approved applications under this theme.

Figure 3.1: Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Local Projects) - Approvals

Lead Council	Cluster	Peace III Funding Approved/ Allocated (£)	Peace III Funding Approved/ Allocated (€)
Belfast	Belfast	£6,299,415	
Derry	North West (Omagh, Strabane, Derry)	£4,733,000	
North Down	North Down, Ards, Down	£2,688,849	
Lisburn	Lisburn, Castlereagh	£2,250,000	
Newry & Mourne	Southern (Armagh, Craigavon, Banbridge, Newry and Mourne)	£4,263,571	
Newtownabbey	Newtownabbey, Antrim Carrickfergus	£1,954,868	
Cookstown	Cookstown, Magherafelt, Dungannon, Fermanagh	£3,441,600	
Coleraine	North East (Ballymena, Ballymoney, Larne, Limavady, Coleraine, Moyle	£3,608,589	
Cavan			€2,880,000
Donegal			€4,737,600
Leitrim			€2,032,400
Louth			€2,815,200
Monaghan			€3,600,000
Sligo			€1,960,605
	Totals	£29,239,892	€18,025,805
	TOTAL IN EURO Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.1		€50,189,686

Theme 1 - Building Positive Relations at the Local Level – Regional Projects

A call for applications from regional projects which challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism throughout the eligible region and which add value to the activity in the Local Action Plans was issued in January 2008. This call for applications closed on 5 September 2008.

Twenty-eight full applications were received by the closing date. By December 2008 a total of nine applications were recommended by Steering Committee for approval with a value of €25,903,072.40. Six Letters of Offer were been issued. Figure 3.2 below presents the status of all projects recommended for approval by Steering Committee under this theme.

Figure 3.2: Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Regional Projects)

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding requested	Total € funding requested	Status
Intercomm Ireland	Police and Communities in Transition	£1,065,152		Recommended for Approval
The Community Foundation for	Conflict Transformation	£6,785,836		Recommended for Approval

Northern Ireland	from the Bottom Up			
Rural Community Network	Rural Enabler	£2,716,504		Recommended for Approval
TWN	Positive Relations Programme	£2,766,645		LOO Issued
YESIP	Children and Young People Building Positive Relations	£3,142,894		LOO Issued
Groundwork NI	Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration	£988,307		LOO Issued
Edgehill Theological College (of Queen's University Belfast)	Edgehill Theological College Reconciliation and Integration Partner Project	£282,998		LOO Issued
The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland	From Prison to Peace: Building on Experience	£3,073,458		LOO Issued
Co-operation Ireland	Irish Peace Centres		€2,999,099	LOO Issued
TOTALS		£20,821,794	€2,999,099	
TOTAL IN EURO				
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€25,903,072	

Figure 3.3: Indicators and targets for Priority 1.1

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Programmes developed and implemented	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	30
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Programmes will be Local Authority led	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	13
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Events that address sectarianism and racism or deal with conflict resolution	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	60
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Participants attending events addressing sectarianism/ racism or deal with conflict resolution	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3000
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male participants attending events addressing sectarianism/ racism or deal with conflict resolution	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female participants attending events addressing sectarianism/ racism or deal with conflict resolution	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Community balance	Achievement	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

of participation in events that address sectarianism and racism and deal with conflict resolution	Target	NP	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NP
Participants from ethnic minority groups	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NP	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NP
Participants that are young people (under 25 years of age)	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NP	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	40%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NP
Changes in attitudes towards cross-community and cross-border activities	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Increase in the proportion of beneficiaries who have contacts/ recognised friends in the other community	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Improved levels of trust and tolerance among programme beneficiaries, decreased levels of prejudice	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Increase in percentage of adults who think relations between protestants and Catholics are better than they were five years ago	Achievement	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	52%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52%

Theme 2 - Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past

This theme is implemented by the Consortium of the Community Relations Council and Border Action. By 31 December 2008, the Steering Committee for Theme 1.2 has considered a total of 91 applications on four occasions. Thirty-eight applications have been approved by the Steering Committee with a total value of £16.79m. No Letters of Offer were issued during 2008. These began to be issued during early 2009.

This theme is implemented in three strands:

1. **Addressing the past in Public Memory:** delivered by larger-scales projects and programmes through partnerships working across the entire eligible area.
2. **Support for Participation:** offering support to people dealing with the transition to peace and reconciliation and assisting victims and survivors of the conflict to address the complex and difficult impact of violence in the past on their own terms. It will build on the work of the PEACE II Programme and complement the

work of the Northern Ireland Victims Commissioner with the involvement of the appropriate public bodies.

3. **Securing the Future:** carried out through a series of innovative projects unlikely to receive funding under other strands of this priority.

Strand 1 - Addressing the Past in Public Memory

The Consortium invited Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Strand 1 through public advertisement during the week ending 3 October 2008, with a submission deadline of 7 November 2008. 44 EOIs were received requesting a total value of €37m. A call for full applications is expected to be made in early 2009.

Strand 2 – Support for Participation

26 applications have been received with 13 having been considered by Steering Committee. 10 applications with a combined value of €3.29m have been recommended for approval.

Figure 3.4: Acknowledging & Dealing with the Past, Strand 2 – Recommended for Approval

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding requested	Total € funding requested	Status
The Ely Centre	Project Elohim	£336,423		Recommended for Approval
Saver/Naver	Practical steps towards reconciliation	£440,352		Recommended for Approval
F.A.I.R.	Support and Active Care Respite for Excluded Dependents (SACRED)	£375,472		Recommended for Approval
Cavan Family Resource Centre	Buandóchas (B) Counselling	£310,501		Recommended for Approval
Ashton Community Trust	Bridge of Hope	£396,376		Recommended for Approval
Holy Trinity Centre	Out of Hours Counselling Service	£161,531		Recommended for Approval
The Messines Fellowship	Citizenship and Fellowship Education (CAFE)	£417,557		Recommended for Approval
Falls Women's Centre	Falls Women's Centre Training & Employment Project	£158,833		Recommended for Approval
Best Cellars Music Collective	Peace Radio	£134,455		Recommended for Approval
Survivors of Trauma	A Future Together	£260,291		Recommended for Approval
TOTALS		£2,991,790		
TOTAL IN EURO				
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€3,290,969	

Strand 3 – Securing the future

Twenty-eight applications have been approved with a value of €13.5m. Figure 3.5 below presents the approved applications under Strand 3. A significant number of those projects which listed as 'recommended for approval' in Figure 3.5 had Letters of Offer issued to them in early 2009.

Figure 3.5: Acknowledging & Dealing with the Past Strand 3 – Recommended for Approval

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding requested	Total € funding requested	Status
An Teach Ban Centre for Peace Building	Remember and Change		€569,072	Recommended for Approval
C.A.L.M.S. (Community Action for Locally Managing Stress)	Gateways to Health	£235,031		Recommended for Approval
Communities Connect – Dundalk Institute of Technology	Deepening the Peace – Widening the Web		€571,564	Recommended for Approval
Community Dialogue	Securing Our Future- 3 Steps into dialogue	£329,148		Recommended for Approval
Creggan Neighbourhood Partnership	The Goal Project	£376,082		Recommended for Approval
Curriculum Development Unit	Education for Reconciliation		€581,644	Recommended for Approval
Diversity Challenges	The Way We Were – Uncovering our Shared Past	£100,000		Recommended for Approval
Donegal Network Community Workers Co-operative	Harnessing Equality for Lasting Peace		€626,246	Recommended for Approval
Expac	Conflicts of Interest		€574,013	Recommended for Approval
Falls Community Council	Belfast Conflict Transformation Consortium	£977,859		Recommended for Approval
Forward Learning LTD	Knowing me, Knowing you! A Historical and Cultural Adventure	£310,498		Recommended for Approval
Healing Through Remembrance	Whatever you say, say something	£818,557		Recommended for Approval
Incore	Journeys Out	£477,787		Recommended for Approval
Innishowen Partnership Company Ltd.Unit	Youth 52 – Securing the Future		€642,357	Recommended for Approval
Irish Football Association	Football for all Project	£526,880		Recommended for Approval
Irish Trade Union Trust Ltd	Building Peace Through Solidarity	£317,212		Recommended for Approval

North West Play Resource Centre (The Playhouse)	Theatre of Witness	£327,670		Recommended for Approval
Peace and Reconciliation Group	Dealing with the Past, shaping the Future	£240,700		Recommended for Approval
South Armagh Rural Women's Network	Behind the Masks	£333,079		Recommended for Approval
Taughmonagh Community Forum	Sharing the Future	£334,366		Recommended for Approval
Teach Oscail – Tullacmongan Resource Centre	Tullacmongan / Cavanaleck Cross Border Youth Project		€440,000	Recommended for Approval
The Corrymeela Community	Corrymeela Facing the Future with NICRAS	£201,330		Recommended for Approval
Trademark	Consolidating the Peace	£247,499		Recommended for Approval
Ulster Peoples College	People History Initiative	£278,227		Recommended for Approval
Wave Trauma Centre	The Trauma Training Learning Pathway	£875,392		Recommended for Approval
Youth Action	Peace Dividend for Young People	£546,823		Recommended for Approval
Youth Initiatives	Crosslinks Culture Connections - (CROSSLINKS)	£330,865		Recommended for Approval
Youth Link: N.I.	Community Capacity Building Strategies		€540,824	Recommended for Approval
TOTALS		£8,185,005	€4,545,720	
TOTAL IN EURO				
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€13,549,225	

Figure 3.6: Indicators and targets for Priority 1.2

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
People in receipt of trauma counselling service	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1000
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Males in receipt of trauma counselling service	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Females in receipt of trauma counselling service	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Events assisting victims and survivors	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Participants at events assisting victims and survivors	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2000
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male participants at	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

events assisting victims and survivors	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female participants at events assisting victims and survivors	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conflict resolution workshops	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	20
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Participants attending conflict resolution workshops	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	200
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male participants attending conflict resolution workshops	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female participants attending conflict resolution workshops	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Recipients in trauma counselling feel they are better able to cope	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	75%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Participants at events believe they are more able to describe what it is like for the other community	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	75%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Change in perception amongst programme beneficiaries that violence is not a legitimate or effective means of resolving conflict	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Changes in awareness of the past and or roles in the conflict among programme beneficiaries	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

3.2 Priority 2 – Contributing to a Shared Society

Theme 1 - Creating Shared Public Spaces

This theme seeks to tackle the problems of separation of communities and address the underlying problems of sectarianism, racism and prejudice by encouraging the development of physical environments and regeneration of urban, rural and border areas that appear derelict, segregated, underused, threatening and/or unwelcome.

A call for expressions of interest under this theme generated significant interest. A call for applications was formally opened on 15 November 2007 and closed for applications on 5 September 2008.

A total of seven applications have been recommended for approval by Steering Committee with a value of €42,122,302. Six Letters of Offer (LoO) have been issued to date. The LoO to the Glen Community Complex, Department for Social Development is still to issue. Figure 3.7 below presents the approved applications under theme 2.1.

Figure 3.7: Creating Shared Public Spaces – Approvals / Recommended for Approval

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding requested	Total € funding requested	Status
Department for Social Development, Belfast Regeneration Office*	The Glen Community Complex (Bacon Factory) Redevelopment	£4,595,603		Recommended for Approval
Ilex	River Foyle Foot and Cycle Bridge	£13,343,476		LOO Issued
Monaghan County Council	Clones/Erne East Community Sports Partnership		€7,803,451	LOO Issued
Omagh District Council	OASIS	£3,989,500		LOO Issued
Belfast City Council (020)	Skatepark	£370,000		LOO Issued
Cavan County Council	Castlesanderson - All Ireland Scouting/Jamboree Centre		€3,052,000	LOO Issued
Skainos Ltd	The Skainos Project	£6,125,831		LOO Issued
TOTALS		£28,424,410	€10,855,451	
TOTAL IN EURO				
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€42,122,302	

Figure 3.8: Indicators and targets for Priority 2.1

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Shared environments created or improved through cross-community regeneration projects	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Increased usage of shared public environments	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Economic indicators developed following identification of projects	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Environments supported are being perceived as being useful shared spaces	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Increase in the percentage of people who think there are less loyalist murals and flags on display than five years ago	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	17%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17%
Increase in the percentage of people who think that there are less republican murals and flags on display than five years ago	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	2%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2%
Percentage of people who think the neighbourhood where they live is a neutral space	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	71%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	71% always

Theme 2 - Key Institutional Capacities

A call for applications under Priority 2.2 Area 2 (European and international networking; exchange of best practice) closed on 15 December 2008. Eleven full applications were received by the closing date, otherwise the position remains as:

Eight applications have been considered by Steering Committee. The Northern Ireland Prison Service's Challenging Hate Crime Project (£800,000) has been recommended for approval, subject to a positive economic appraisal. Four applications were rejected and three deferred pending further clarification and information. The deferred applications were submitted by NICVA (Vital Links), Sligo VEC (Shared Goals Through Sport) and Groundwork NI (Democratising Governance in Transition).

Figure 3.9: Indicators and targets for Priority 2.2

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Pilot projects of cross-border co-operation between public sector bodies	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0

Research Reports Disseminated	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Number of people benefiting from shared public services	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Number of males benefiting from shared services	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Number of females benefiting from shared services	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Number of public servants who can identify positive changes as a result of shared projects	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of male public servants who can identify positive changes as a result of shared projects	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of female public servants who can identify positive changes as a result of shared projects	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pilot projects that go on to be mainstreamed	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

3.3 Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance (TA) is used by the Managing Authority to finance programme preparation, monitoring, administrative/technical support, evaluation, audit and inspection. A total of €19,973,507 is allocated from the programme to fund TA (6% of total programme as authorised by Article 46 (1)(b) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.

Of this €19.9m budget, a total of €7,180,262 has been allocated to the Consortium of Border Action and Community Relations Council in Northern Ireland. This relates to two contracts:

Figure 3.10: Consortium Contracts

Contract	Value (€)
The provision of technical support in the development and implementation of the local element of Priority 1, Theme 1 Reconciling Communities	€2,852,846
Implementation of Priority 1, Theme 2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	€4,327,416

Total	€7,180,262
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The remaining €12,793,245 Technical Assistance will fund the core activities of SEUPB as Managing Authority for the programme as a whole. This has been subdivided across a number of budget headings and phased throughout the lifetime of the project. The budget allocations for the SEUPB TA budget are given in Figure 3.11 below.

Figure 3.11: SEUPB Technical Assistance Budget Headings

Budget Heading	Allocation 2007 – 2015 (€)
Corporate Expenditure	4,500,000
Joint Technical Secretariat	1,650,000
Managing Authority	793,245
Communications/PR	1,600,000
Audit Authority	1,000,000
Audit and Finance	750,000
Monitoring and Evaluation	2,000,000
PEACE Network	500,000
TOTAL	12,793,245

Technical Assistance has been employed in a number of ways during 2008. Most significantly, 2008 saw the establishment of a Peace Network following meetings with the two Member States, partner organisations in Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and partners across the EU, including the Basque Country, Cyprus, Belgium and a range of European NGO organisations.

The Peace Network has now been established with the aim of communicating the experience of managing, implementing and evaluating EU PEACE funding in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland to other participating regions across Europe. A number of themes have also been agreed and these will underpin the activities of the network. Three working groups have been established and will become fully operational during 2009. These working groups will focus on: use of EU funding for Peace-building; community based approaches to peace-building; and peace-building for Children and young people. The Peace Network partnership will hold a number of events during 2009 in participating regions which will aim to exchange best practice and share experiences in these three areas.

Also during 2008, the SEUPB also hosted a seminar on 'Building PEACE Across Borders' at the Open Days events in Brussels in October. The aims, objectives and activities of the network were presented and network partners from the Basque Country and Cyprus participated. There was significant interest and agreement on the value of learning and sharing experiences on peace-building.

Technical Assistance has also funded the Economic Appraisal of projects to assist the project selection process, and the associated Steering Committees. This priority has also funded staff salaries, communications activities and the implementation of programme structures such as the Monitoring Committee and its Working Groups.

Figure 3.12: Indicators and targets for Priority 3.

Indicator		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Public launches of the Operational Programme	Achievement	NI	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Dissemination activities supported	Achievement	NI	35	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	25
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Press releases	Achievement	NI	6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	100
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Average 60 hits per month on the website	Achievement	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5040
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Publicity and information enquiries	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	200
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Increased overall awareness of the Operational Programme	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Increased awareness of the role of the EU in the Operational Programme	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Technical Assistance projects funded	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	9
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Monitoring Reports Complete	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Evaluation Reports Complete	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	19
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Reports submitted to the EU Commission comply with regulations	Achievement	NI	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	100%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
Recommendations from evaluation	Achievement	NI	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

reports responded to by managing authority and implemented where appropriate	Target	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	100%
	Baseline	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0

4. MAJOR PROJECTS

No major projects were identified during 2008.

5. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

As authorised by Article 46 (1)(b) Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, the programme has allocated 6% of its total fund to technical assistance, or €19,973,507.

A more detailed discussion of the use of Technical Assistance by the programme may be found at section 3.3 above.

6. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

As the programme rolled out during 2008, information and publicity activity has focused on supporting calls for applications, providing resources to assist Lead Partners meet their information and publicity obligations, and providing advice and approval for Lead Partner publicity activities. A Clerical Assistant was appointed to the Communications Team in October 2008, to give further support in delivering this array of publicity and information measures.

Launch

Commissioner Danuta Hübner, Peter Robinson the former Northern Ireland Finance and Personnel Minister and the former Irish Minister for Finance and An Tánaiste Brian Cowen, launched the PEACE III Programme, along with all other Northern Ireland Programmes, on 14 April 2008.

Communication Plan

The communication plan required by the Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 within four months of the date of adoption of the Operational Programme (Article 3) was submitted to the Commission in March 2008. Following minor amendments at the request of the Commission the plan was accepted on 17 July 2008.

Your EU!

Following the approval of the Operational Programme, articles outlining the new programme were placed in leading business and opinion-formers magazines. Additionally, information about the new programme was included in *Your EU!*, the SEUPB magazine disseminating information on the programme and its projects.

Website

During 2007 SEUPB sought feedback from stakeholders on the functionality of the organisation's website in order to improve interactivity and web-based access to information. The process of redeveloping the website, taking account of the feedback, began in 2008.

Roadshows and Events

The SEUPB, in conjunction with the Department of Finance and Personnel, participated in Ireland's largest agricultural show, the Balmoral Show 2008 with a stand providing information leaflets and audio visual material on all the European

Union funded programmes in Northern Ireland. There was an approximate footfall of 30,000 over the course of the three days of the show.

This event served as a pilot for a wider series of events and roadshows planned for early 2009 to coincide with the rollout of PEACE Action Plans by County Council PEACE Partnerships in the Border Region and local council clusters in Northern Ireland.

In October 2008, SEUPB participated in the annual Opportunity Europe event held over two days in St Georges Market, Belfast. This event offered an opportunity to publicise PEACE III, INTERREG IVA and the INTERREG IVB and IVC Programmes.

Network Participation

Article 10 Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2006 requires participation in networks to exchange good practice and experience in implementing information and publicity measures. A workshop and initial network meeting for those in the eligible area with responsibility for information and publicity was held on 25 June 2008. Additionally, items on communications were included in the Lead Partner workshops organised by the Joint Technical Secretariat.

The Managing Authority has participated in the Information and Publicity Network established by the Department of Finance and Personnel for the EU programmes operating in Northern Ireland. Additionally, the UK Network for Structural Funds Managing Authority Communication Leads held its first meeting on 22 April 2008. The first meeting of the Commission's INFORM Network was held on 17 June 2008. The Managing Authority participated in both events.

Other Publicity Measures

Advertisements were also placed for calls for applications. This promotional activity was undertaken in compliance with EU Regulations. In late August 2008, a press release and images were released to local and regional press reiterating the closing date of 5 September 2008 of calls for applications for both PEACE III and INTERREG IVA. This was picked up by the three large daily newspapers in Northern Ireland (Belfast Telegraph, Irish News and Newsletter) and by a significant number of publications throughout the eligible region.

The key printed media throughout the eligible area have been monitored, with the Communications Team receiving relevant print media clippings. From September

2008, the Communications Team began receiving twice daily updates of media clippings in the eligible area. From September to December the PEACE III Programme generated 62 mentions of the PEACE III Programme in the press.

Other Information Measures

Information leaflets were published to provide a simple overview of the application process and to manage expectations about who is eligible to apply for PEACE III.

A 'Publicity Guide for Lead Partners and Projects' was published to explain how to meet the legal obligation to acknowledge the European Union's contribution from the European Regional Development Fund to operations.

Applicants for PEACE III funding are required to include a communications plan and budget in their application to demonstrate how they intend to comply with their obligations under EC Regulation 1828/2006. The communication plans are reviewed to ensure that they are aware of all they need to do and that they have included an appropriate budget to deliver these obligations.

Annex 1 - PEACE Monitoring Committee Members 2007-13

Category		Organisations	Nominating Body	Member	Deputy	
1	Chair	Special EU Programmes Body	SEUPB	Pat Colgan	Adrian McNamee	1
2	Member State Representatives	UK	Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP)	Bill Pauley	Martin Tyrrell	2
		Ireland	Department of Finance (DoF)	Pat Casey	Karl Ryan	
3	Regional/Sub-Regional/Local Government interests	Northern Ireland:	NILGA	Cllr Charlie Casey (Sinn Fein)	Cllr Brenda Chivers (Sinn Fein)	4
				Cllr Bob Stoker (UUP)	Cllr Roberta Dunlop (UUP)	
				Cllr Sammy Brush (DUP)	Cllr Jenny Palmer (DUP)	
				Cllr Tim Attwood (SDLP)	None nominated at this time	
		Ireland	Border Regional Authority	Cllr. Tony Ferguson	Cllr. Danny Brady	4
				Matt Donnelly	Terry Savage	
				Cllr. James Daly	Cllr. Terry Brennan	
				Gerry Finn	Kieran Moylan	
4	Cross Cutting Interests	Equality Organisations	The Equality Commission	Paul Noonan	None nominated as this time	2
			The Equality Authority	Carol Baxter	Cathal Kelly	
		Environmental Organisations	Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside	John Anderson	Dr Lucinda Blakiston-Houston	2
			Comhar	Noel Casserly	Lisa Ryan	
5	Social and Economic Partners	Voluntary and Community Sectors	NI Council for Voluntary Action	Frances McCandless	None nominated at this time	2
			Community Workers Co-operative	Angela Holohan	Sean Regan	
		Business	Joint Business Council	Denis Galway	None nominated at this time	2
			Joint Business Council	Brian Callanan	Reg McCabe	
		Trade Unions	ICTU	Frank Vaughan	Unable to nominate deputy	2
			ICTU	Pamela Dooley	Tom Gillen	
		Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries	Agriculture/ Rural Development	Michael Hughes	Teresa Canavan	2
			Irish Rural Link	Martin Smyth	Cora Horgan	
6	Independent Expert			Kenneth Bush		1
7	Certifying Authority		SEUPB	Gina McIntyre	Andrew Walker	1
			TOTAL			25

Annex 2 – PEACE III Programme Context Indicators.

Context Indicator	Baseline	Year	Source
Number of sectarian incidents	1,701	2005/06	PSNI
Number of racist incidents	936	2005/06	PSNI
Number of attacks on symbolic premises: churches/chapels, GAA/AOH property, Orange Halls, schools	Churches/chapels 83 GAA/AOH property 1 Orange Halls 35 Schools 132	2005	PSNI
Percentage of people who think NI is a place free from displays of sectarian aggression	5% scored this question more than 5 (where 1 = Definitely not achieved and 10 = Definitely achieved)	2005	NI Life and Times Survey
Percentage of people who are prejudiced against people from a minority ethnic community	Very prejudiced 1% A little prejudiced 24%	2005	NI Life and Times Survey
Percentage of parades that are contentious	7%	2004/05	Parades Commission
Reduction in the number of peace walls	37	2006	Northern Ireland Office

Annex 3 - Cumulative Breakdown of allocations of the Community contribution by category

Commission Reference No. - CCI 2007 CB 163 PO 047

Name of Programme – EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation 2007-2013
Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland

Date of the last Commission decision for the Operational Programme concerned: 6 November 2007

Combination of codes of dimension 1 to 5										
Dimension 1 Priority Theme		Dimension 2 Form of Finance		Dimension 3 Territory		Dimension 4 Economic Activity		Dimension 5 Location		Amount (€)
Code	Amount (€)	Code	Amount (€)	Code	Amount (€)		N/A		N/A	
85	53,287.46	01	53,287.46	08	53,287.46					53,287.46
86	6,707.43	01	6,707.43	08	6,707.43					6,707.43
									Total	59,994.89

*Figures for Technical Assistance expenditure are calculated using an indicative £/€ exchange rate of 1.45. This may vary from the actual rate used at drawdown.

Intervention Codes

Code	Dimension 1 Priority Theme (Description)
85	Preparation, implementation, monitoring and inspection
86	Evaluation and studies; information and Communications
Code	Dimension 2 Form of Finance (Description)
01	Non repayable aid
Code	Dimension 3 Territory (Description)
08	Cross Border Co-Operation area

Annex 4 – Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group Membership

Category	Name	Organisation	
Member State Representatives	Martin Tyrrell	DFP	4
	Steve Clements	DFP	
	Niall O'Sullivan	DoF	
	Melissa Mackin	Scottish Government	
Local Representatives	Gerry Finn	BMW Regional Assembly	3
	Cllr Hubert Nicholl	DUP	
	Cllr James Daly	BMW Regional Assembly	
Social Partners	Siobhan Fitzpatrick	NICVA EARLY Years	3
	Denis Galway	Joint Business Council	
	Carol Turnbull	Dumfries and Galloway College	
Accountable Departments	Bernard McClure	DoE	1
Managing Authority	Adrian McNamee	SEUPB	1
Deputy Members	Cahal Hynds	NICVA EARLY Years	2
	Kieran Moylan	BMW Regional Assembly	
Advisors	Celeste McCallion	NISRA	9
	Ruth Taillon	Border Action	
	Kyriacos Charalambous	European Commission REGIO D.1 - CSM2 2/127	
	Fernando-Jose Coelho-Moniz	European Commission REGIO D.1 - CSM2 1/97	
	Kenneth Bush	Independent	
	Pauline Donnan	OFMDFM	
	Lisa McMullan	SEUPB	
	Andrew Minnis	SEUPB	
	Sarah Reid	SEUPB	
Total			23

Annex 5 – Equality Working Group Membership

Category	Name	Organisation	
Local Representatives	Maeve McLaughlin	NILGA (Sinn Fein)	2
	Mealla Bratton	NILGA (SDLP)	
Social and Economic Partners	Pamela Dooley	UNISON	4
	Jim Deery	Ashton Community Trust	
	Siobhan O'Donoghue	Migrant Rights Centre Ireland	
	Lisa McElherron	NICVA	
Cross Cutting Interests	Michael Hughes	Rural Community	2
	Bob Collins (Chair)	Equality Commission NI	
Advisors	Jim Jewhurst	DEL	6
	Dale Heaney	OFMDFM	
	Carly Gordon	NISRA	
	Andrew Minnis	SEUPB	
	Damian Fitzpatrick	DETI	
	Peter Millen	DFP	
Total			14

Annex 6 – Environmental Working Group Membership

Category	Name	Organisation	
Business	John Doran	Belfast International Airport	1
Education	Malachy McAleer	South West College	1
Environmental Organisations	Brian Murphy	CNCC	7
	Dr. Lucinda Blakiston-Houston	CNCC	
	Mervyn Hill	CNCC	
	James Jackson	CNCC	
	Noel Casserly	Comhar (Director)	
	Dr David Erwin	CNCC	
	John Anderson	CNCC	
Local Representatives	Cllr. Domhnall O’Cobhthaig	Sinn Fein	4
	Padraig Maguire	Border Regional Authority	
	Cllr. Hubert Nicholl	DUP	
	Cllr. James Daly	BMW Regional Assembly	
Advisors	Colm Friel	DEL	11
	Dan Kennedy	DOE	
	Jim Sutherland	OFMDFM	
	Gerard Colgan	NISRA	
	Sarah Reid	SEUPB	
	Darren Colville	DFP	
	Bernard McClure	DOE	
	Aidan Kinch	DEHLG	
	Damian Fitzpatrick (Temp)	DETI	
	Danny Corr	DETI	
	Susie McMullan	DARD	
Deputy Advisors	Stephen Kerr	DOE	2
	John Bradley	OFMDFM	
Total			26

Annex 7

Map of PEACE III boundaries

Peace III Boundaries

