

PEACE III PROGRAMME (2007-2013) – PROGRESS REPORT

1.0 Introduction

Over the past six months, since the last Monitoring Committee meeting on 21 October 2009, programme implementation has continued across all four themes. Successful projects have been issued with Letters of Offer and implementation at the project level has continued, resulting in increased activity on the ground. By 31 March 2010, a total of 370 applications had been received by the PEACE III Programme. A total of 112 Letters of Offer have been issued to date with a combined value of €171.8m, 157 applications have been rejected; 59 are still being processed; and 42 have been withdrawn. N+2 targets were met for 2009 and the current level of expenditure in the programme is €22.9m. The N+2 target for 2010 is €65.5m.¹

This paper analyses the applications and approvals to date in the programme and then outlines the progress on implementation made to date by each theme of the Programme. The paper also outlines the progress made by the Managing Authority in relation to programme management issues.

2.0 Analysis of Applications and Approvals

2.1 Current levels of approvals

As of the end of March 2010 the PEACE III Programme has received 370 applications and 112 Letters of Offer have been issued and accepted. These applications and Letters of Offer are located in the following Priorities and Themes

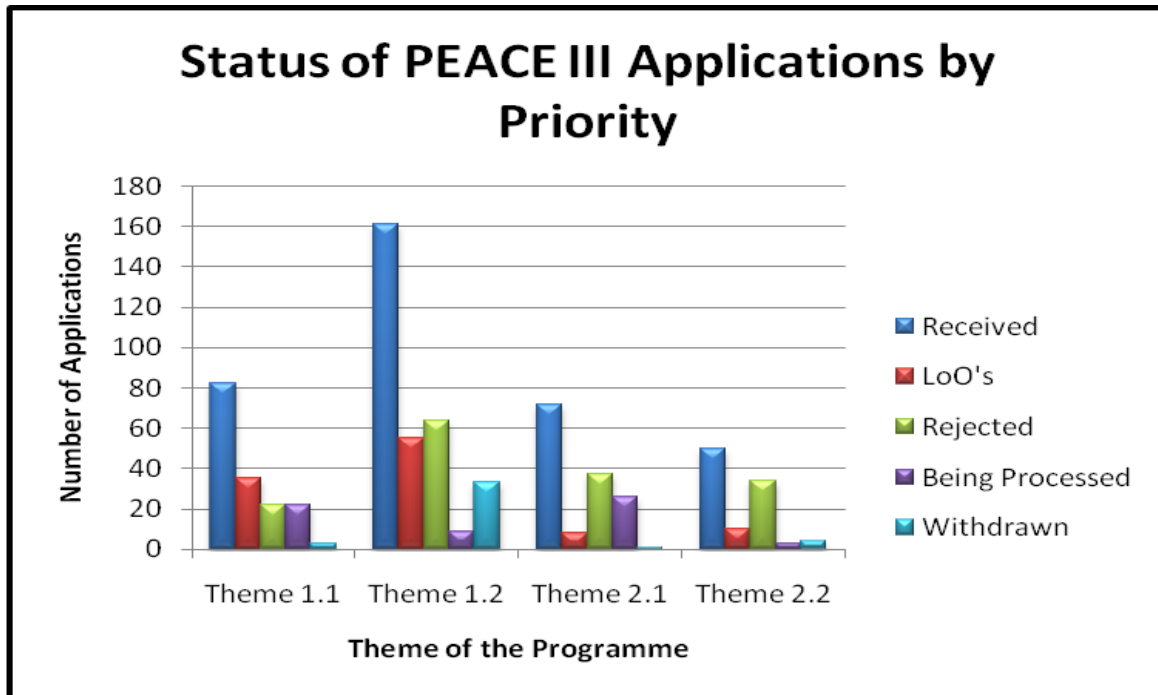
¹ All figures are reported at 100% funding level (67.54316% ERDF & 32.45684% National Match) . Sterling expenditure is converted to euro at an agreed planning rate of 1.1

Table 1: Current levels of PEACE III Applications and Approvals

PEACE III Priority/Theme	No of Applications Received	No of LOO's	No of Applications Rejected	No of Applications Being Processed	No of Applications Withdrawn
1.1 Building Positive Relations Local	82	35	22	22	3
1.1a Local	14	14	0	0	0
1.1b Regional	68	21	22	22	3
1.2 Acknowledge and Deal with the Past	161	55	64	9	33
Strand 1 Public Memory	27	0	11	7	9*
Strand 2 Support for Participation	65	28	18	2	17*
Strand 3 Securing the Future	69	27	35	0	7*
2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	72	8	37	26	1
2.2 Key Institutional Capacities	50	10	34	2	4
3.1 Technical Assistance	5	4	0	0	1
Total	370	112	157	59	42

*Please note that 1 project in Strand 1, 13 in Strand 2 and 4 in Strand 3 did not progress to full application and have therefore been withdrawn from the programme.

Figure 1: Status of Applications by Priority



Further analysis of the 370 applications reveal that almost 1 in every 3 applications to the Programme has been successful to date as reflected in Table 2 below:

Table 2 Status of Applications at end of March 2010

Application Status	No of Applications	% of Applications
LoO Issued and/or Accepted	112	30%
Being Processed	59	16%
Rejected	157	43%
Withdrawn	42	11%
Total	370	100%

Figure 2: Application Status

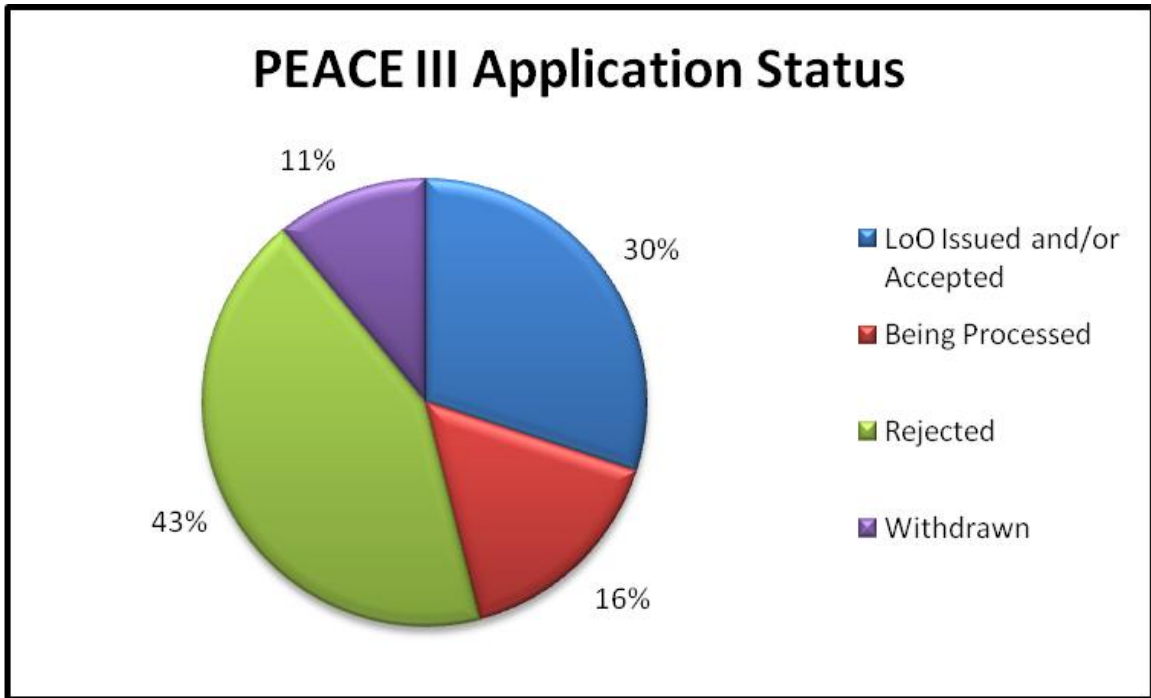


Table 3 below highlights that assessment processes are still currently underway in all the Themes across the Programme with significant numbers of applications being processed in Theme 1.1 Regional (22), Theme 1.2 in Strand 1 Addressing Legacy and Truth in Public Memory (9) and the largest number in Creating Shared Public Spaces (26).

Table 3: Status of Applications

PEACE III Priority/Theme	No of Applications	No currently being processed
1.1 Building Positive Relations Local	82	22
1.1a Local	14	0
1.1b Regional	68	22
1.2 Acknowledge and Deal with the Past	161	9
Strand 1 Public Memory	27	7
Strand 2 Support for Participation	65	2
Strand 3 Securing the Future	69	0
2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces	72	26
2.2 Key Institutional Capacities	50	2
3.1 Technical Assistance	5	0
Total	370	59

Analysis of approvals to date reveals that the average size of a Letter of Offer in the PEACE III Programme is just under €1.5m. This would reflect the aim of the Programme in moving to a more strategic focus of operations. Also, as expected, operations within Theme 2.1 Creating Shared Public Spaces reflect the largest size of grants, with the average operation being awarded €5.8m. This contrasts with Theme 1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past where there is a greater number of smaller projects reflecting the provision of services to victims and survivors focus of the theme. The average size of an award in this theme is just over €415,000. These findings are detailed in Table 4 below:

Table 4: PEACE III Average size of Grant

Theme	Total Awarded	Average size of Grant
1.1 Building Positive Relations	€76.5m	€2.2m
1.2 Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past	€22.8m	€0.4m
2.1 Creating Shared Public Space	€48.3m	€6.2m
2.2 Key Institutional Capacities	€6.7m	€0.7m
Total	€154.3m	€1.5m

The analysis above confirms that the Programme is still very active in terms of assessment and approval processes and that the activity of the JTS and the Consortium is focused in this area at the moment. The processing time for applications has varied across the themes and has been dependant on the value and size of each project. This process is closely monitored by the Managing Authority.

3.0 Programme Implementation: Theme Update and Analysis

3.1 Priority 1, 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 supports the implementation of strategic models of collaboration between the public, private and community sectors that focus on reconciliation, cultural diversity and equality. The value of this theme is €140m and including both Local and Regional activities.

3.2 Priority 1, Theme 1: Local

Local Councils in Northern Ireland have formed into eight clusters and play a much more strategic part of the delivery of the PEACE III Programme. The six County Councils in the Border Region of Ireland have the same role. Working in partnership with

communities, they have developed Local Peace and Reconciliation Plans. In 2008, Letters of Offer were issued to all 14 Local Action Plans for Phase I 2008-2010 with the total allocation for the Action Plans of €50,189,686. The Letters of Offer are listed in Annex 1 and a summary of implementation is provided in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 1.1 Local

	Number of projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of Theme %
Value of Theme		90.0	
Letters of Offer issued	14	50.2	55.8
Current Expenditure	14	3.3	3.7

Progress in the implementation of the plans has been slower than anticipated during Phase I; however, progress in 2009 was considerable across most of the partnerships with commitment levels reaching €39.2m or 78% currently. A total of €3,270,077 in expenditure has been recorded on the database as of 31 March 2010 and these figures are reflected in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Updated position in relation to each of the PEACE III Partnerships

Partnerships	PIII Award	Total Committed	% Committed	Expenditure** (€)
Derry , Strabane, Omagh	£4,733,000.00	£3,686,087*	77.9%	0.00
Magherafelt , Cookstown, Dungannon, Fermanagh,	£3,441,600.00	£2,398,064	69.7%	€60,440.52
Coleraine , Ballymoney, Moyle, Ballymena, Larne, Limavady,	£3,608,589.10	£3,498,102	96.9%	€608,424.31
Antrim, Newtownabbey , Carrickfergus	£1,954,868.18	£1,299,918	66.5%	€125,470.91
Belfast	£6,299,415.45	£5,399,736	85.7%	€436,155.27
Lisburn , Castlereagh	£2,250,000.00	£0.00	0%	0.00
North Down , Ards, Down	£2,688,849.10	£1,935,611	72.0%	€96,344.54
Armagh, Craigavon, Banbridge, Newry & Mourne	£4,263,570.10	£3,194,663	74.9%	€155,256.79
Louth	€2,815,300	€2,172,540	77.2%	€170,023.42
Monaghan	€3,600,000	€3,396,636	94.4%	€402,083.29
Cavan	€2,880,800	€2,559,683	88.9%	€85,000.27
Leitrim	€2,032,400	€1,937,667	95.3%	€374,859.91
Sligo	€1,960,605	€1,769,068	90.2%	€322,550.37
Donegal	€4,737,600	€3,781,515	79.8%	€433,467.51

* Figures reported as at 31 March 2010

** Expenditure figures are reported in euro at drawdown rate

The Managing Authority is content with the current commitment and expenditure levels within the Local Peace Action Plans, however, is aware of the issues surrounding those clusters that are showing poor levels of commitment and steps have been taken to address these issues. In particular, the Managing Authority held a bilateral meeting with the Chief Executives of Lisburn and Castlereagh Councils to discuss the delays in the implementation of Phase I. The partnership agreed to review their plan and budget to reflect the remaining timeframe.

The priorities for the Partnerships in 2010 are the continuing implementation of their plans, ongoing monitoring of their actions and meeting the N+2 targets for expenditure. As a consequence of the slower than anticipated implementation, Phase I will be extended by six months to June 2011. Achieving the expenditure profile will still be a

challenge for 1.1 Local over the next twelve months with the Managing Authority setting expenditure targets of €17m for 2010 and €28m for 2011.

As well as allocating and spending the remainder of the budget for Phase I, the Clusters are beginning to look ahead and plan for Phase II 2011-2014. . The delay in the Review of Public Administration (RPA) in Northern Ireland has resulted in the delay of issuing guidelines. In the absence of a decision on the RPA in Northern Ireland, the existing configurations of the PEACE III clusters will form the basis for the preparation of bids for Phase II. In the event that a decision on the proposed RPA configuration and timetable is taken at some time in the very near future, SEUPB may review this decision. The guidelines for Phase II were issued on 2 April 2010 with the proposed timeframe of submission of a Phase II Action Plan by 17 September 2010.

3.3 Priority 1, Theme 1: Regional

Table 6: Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 1.1 Regional

	Number of projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of Theme %
Value of Theme		50.0	
Letters of Offer issued	21	26.3	52.6
Current Expenditure	14	3.6	7.2

This element of the theme supports the implementation of strategic models of collaboration between the public, private and community sectors that focus on reconciliation, cultural diversity and equality. Projects funded must be strategic in focus and be implemented on a regional basis across the eligible region. They must complement activities at the local level being delivered under the Peace and Reconciliation Actions Plans, implemented by the 14 Clusters as outlined above.

Up to the 31 March 2010, a total of 68 applications have been received under this theme, 21 of these were received throughout a second call for applications which closed on 13 November 2009. These 21 applications are currently going through the

assessment processes. 12 Economic Appraisals have been commissioned to date and these are ongoing. A Steering Committee in February considered a further 7 applications of which 6 were rejected. The next Steering Committee will be held on 20 April 2010.

Twenty-one Letters of Offer have been issued to date (13 relating to Conflict Transformation from the Bottom Up application) to the value of €26.3m. Of the remaining applications 22 are still being processed; 22 have been rejected; and 3 have been withdrawn. A total of €3,582,506 has been recorded as expenditure on the database as of 31 March 2010. Letters of Offer issued are listed in Annex 1.

The successful projects in this theme have all started implementation of their projects and the majority have incurred expenditure. These projects take a strategic approach to addressing issues of sectarianism and racism across the region. They work with a wide range of stakeholders including the key target groups of the programme that involves local and rural communities, women, children and young people, the churches, ex-prisoners and peace centres. The Managing Authority recognises the progress towards the implementation of this Theme of the programme.

3.4 Priority 1, Theme 2: Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past

Table 7: Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 1.2

	Number of projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of Theme %
Value of Theme		50.0	
Letters of Offer issued	55	22.8	45.6
Current Expenditure	55	5.7	11.4

This theme is implemented by the Consortium of the Community Relations Council and Pobal. By the 31 March 2010, 161 applications have been received across the three strands, with 55 Letters of Offer issued at a value of €22.8m. Of the remaining applications received, 9 are still being processed; 64 have been rejected; and 33 have been withdrawn. A total of €5,720,005 has been recorded as expenditure on the database as

of 31 March 2010. To ensure that all the areas outlined in the Operational Programme in relation to this theme are implemented the Consortium have called for applications under three strands as outlined below:

Strand 1 - Addressing the Past in Public Memory

This Strand aims to support actions that explore the legacy and memory of the conflict through truth recovery, documentation, story telling and the recording of complex history and experience.

The Consortium is currently assessing applications to this Strand, which focuses on Storytelling, Archiving and Broadcasting as a means of recording experiences of the conflict in Northern Ireland and the Border Region. The Strand opened for full applications on 9th April 2009, closed on the 29th May 2009 and was oversubscribed with approximately €35m being requested against the €10m budget available. The Steering Committee agreed that project proposals that were not suited to the flagship style projects anticipated for the Strand could potentially be considered under future calls for Theme 1.2. Twenty-seven applications were received, to date nine have withdrawn, eleven have been rejected, and seven are currently being assessed by Economic Appraisers. A Steering Committee to assess these applications has been provisionally arranged for 6 May 2010.

Strand 2 – Support for Participation

Strand 2 aims to provide advice, counselling and support services for victims, their relatives and those who care for them. It also aims to build the capacity of individuals to deal with the transition to peace and reconciliation and ensure victims and survivors are able to deal with the past.

This strand opened on 20 June 2008 and had continuous assessments until December 2008 when the closing date of 30 January 2009 was set. The remaining applications were assessed following the closing date. Out of a total of 65 applications received, 30 projects were recommended for approval to the value of €11.4m. Letters of Offer have been issued to 28 of these to the value of €9.7m with Letters of Offer pending for the remaining two. Project work is underway with a focus on the provision of counselling and

training. Of the remaining applications received under this strand, 18 have been rejected and 17 have been withdrawn.

Strand 3 – Securing the future

This Strand aims to support innovative actions that will help prevent an outbreak of violence in the future by taking action to repair relationships and by engaging the wider community in peace-building and reconciliation work.

The Consortium opened a call for Strand 3, 'Securing the Future', between 14 April 2008 and 13 June 2008. Sixty-nine full applications were received requesting €32million. Twenty-eight Letters of Offer were issued under this strand, however, one application (The Irish Trade Unions Trust Ltd) has subsequently withdrawn from the programme. The total value of the 27 Letters of Offer is €13.1m. All projects with Letters of Offer issued are underway with their project work. Of the remaining applications received, 35 have been rejected; 7 have been withdrawn including the ITUT project.

Summary of Progress in Theme 1.2

A lot of activity has commenced at the project level in Theme 1.2. Most projects, at this stage, have submitted claims and incurred expenditure in their projects. In the current portfolio of projects, lead partners have identified a number of specific target groups from among the victims and survivors and have created programmes of work to address these specific needs. Identified groups include people from loyalist and republican communities, young people, women, ex-service personnel, paramilitaries, ex-prisoners, people who live in sectarian interfaces, people excluded or marginalised from society, BME minorities and people in need of education or training. Projects activities funded under this Theme are using a number of methodologies in their work with victims and survivors. These include alternative therapies, counselling services, befriending schemes, remembrance services, facilitation/workshops and training/education programmes. In addition to these, groups are also using methodologies like storytelling, advocacy, advice and support, artistic and creative approaches, mentoring and mediation to carry out their work. All have a peace-building and reconciliation focus as part of core programme activities. In addition, Strand 3 groups are using activities such as cultural events, confidence building and leadership training to support victims and survivors.

When the assessment process in Strand 1 comes to a completion, the Managing Authority and the Consortium will be considering the further implementation of Theme 1.2. In order to assist in this process, the Managing Authority, in line with the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group are currently in the process of commissioning a review of Theme 1.2 to identify any gaps that currently exist and make recommendations on how these will be addressed in the future roll out of the Theme. Table 8 below highlights the potential value of unallocated money available for the future roll-out of the theme. All Letters of Offer issued in Theme 1.2 are listed in Annex 1.

Table 8: Value of Unallocated Money Available

	Amount (€)
Budget for Theme	50,000,000
Amount Committed to date	22,818,658
Potential commitment	10,381,465
Balance	€16,799,877

3.5 Priority 2, Theme 1: Creating Shared Public Spaces

Table 9: Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 2.1

	Number of projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of Theme %
Value of Theme		82.0	
Letters of Offer issued	8	48.3	58.9
Current Expenditure	8	6.1	7.4

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.

Seventy-two full applications have been received under this theme. Assessments have been completed on 41 of these projects with 31, received through the second call which

closed on 13 November 2009, currently undergoing the assessment process. A Steering Committee took place on 30 March 2010 to assess the first 9 of these applications received through the second call.

Nine applications have been approved by Steering Committee to date with a value of €53.4m. Eight of these have been issued with Letters of Offer to the value of €48.3m with a Letter of Offer pending for the remaining application. The JTS continues to work closely with Accountable Departments to facilitate the process of moving from Steering Committee approval to the issue of the Letter of Offer. Of the remaining applications received, 27 are still being processed; 37 have been rejected and 1 has been withdrawn. A total of €6,059,112 has been recorded as expenditure on the database by 31 March 2010. All the Letters of Offer issued for this Theme are listed in Annex 1.

This Theme is focused on capital build projects that require substantial “lead in” time before the project actually commences. This requires putting in place all the statutory requirements prior to commencement, including planning permission. Projects to date have been concentrating on putting all these requirements in place prior to commencing and going on site. Contractors, however, have gone on site as work commenced on the ILEX Bridge project in December 2009. Expenditure has been recorded in another three of these projects, namely, Castlesanderson/Cavan County Council, Peace Exhibition Nomadic/DSD and the Skainos Project.

The Managing Authority is content with the progress in Theme 2.1 as it has attracted a large number of high quality projects. It is expected that full commitment will be reached in this theme over the coming months.

3.6 Priority 2, Theme 2: Key Institutional Capacities

Table 10: Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 2.2

	Number of projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of Theme %
Value of Theme		40.0	
Letters of Offer issued	10	6.7	16.8

Expenditure	10	0.08	0.2
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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.

The theme has been divided in two areas:

Area 1 – Piloting Innovative Service Delivery Models; and

Area 2 – European and International Networking and Exchange of Good Practice.

A total of 50 full applications have been received to 31 March 2010. All applications have been considered by Steering Committee with 11 being recommended for approval to the value of €10.6m and ten Letters of Offer issued to the value of €6.7m with a Letter of Offer pending for the remaining application. Of the remainder applications 3 are still being processed, 34 have been rejected and 4 withdrawn. A total of €83,469 has been recorded as expenditure on the database as of 31 March 2010.

Area 1: Piloting Innovative Service Delivery Models

Five of the applications with Letter of Offer issued are under Area 1. These include the Northern Ireland Prison Service, Groundwork NI; NICVA; Sligo VEC; and Belfast City Council as highlighted in Annex 1.

Area 2: European and International Networking/ Exchange of Good Practice

The other five applications with Letters of Offer issued are under Area 2. These include Mediation NI; Early Years; Forward Learning Ltd; North West Play Resource Centre; and FAIR as highlighted in Annex 1.

Progress in the commitment of funds in Theme 2.2 has been slower than expected due to a higher than expected number of rejected projects in the first call. The Managing Authority has reviewed the reasons for rejections which have included issues in relation to value for money and fit within the programme theme. The timing of the re-opening of is still under consideration.

3.7 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, however, in response to the challenges identified in relation to the public expenditure environment, the Managing Authority has identified efficiencies of €776,754 for the period up to 2010. Further efficiency savings of €1.4m are anticipated in the programming period. These monies will be re-profiled into the programme at a later stage.

Of the re-profiled €17.7m 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:

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

The remaining €10,595,211 Technical Assistance is overall funding for the Managing Authority, Joint Technical Secretariat, Audit Authority, Monitoring and Evaluation and Communications activities, for the period of nine years from 2007 – 2013 and until the programme is effectively closed in 2015. This has been subdivided across a number of budget headings and phased throughout the lifetime of the programme.

3.7.1 Use made of Technical Assistance - SEUPB

To ensure effective monitoring and efficient spend in Technical Assistance, the Managing Authority have divided the overall budget across 8 cost centres. Activity in each is summarized below:

Programme Staff: Approximately 34% of the Technical Assistance budget is allocated to the Staff cost budget heading. To date, this has been utilized to pay for salaries and related costs for staff in the JTS and Managing Authority. These staff are additional to the core staff of SEUPB which are paid by DoF/DFP.

Programme Resources: The Programme Resources budget has been utilized to date to pay for costs in relation to staff training. Travel, IT equipment/infrastructure, document management and the development and maintenance of the Systems 2007 database

Managing Authority: The Managing Authority is the secretariat to the Monitoring Committee and to date has held 5 meetings across the eligible regions. In addition to this, 10 Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group meetings and 12 project reviews have been conducted.

Joint Technical Secretariat: The Joint Technical Secretariat is responsible for managing the project approval process and thus provides secretariat services to the Steering Committees. 13 Steering Committees have taken place across the programme to date resulting in costs incurred in relation to the commissioning of Economic Appraisals.

Communications and PR: The Communications and PR budget has been utilized to ensure a high level of information and publicity activities across the programme. Activities to date have included the following;

- Production of the Your EU Magazine
- Website Support
- Room Hire and Hospitality
- Promotional items
- Advertisements
- Road-shows

- Audio-Visual Support
- Translations

Audit Authority: The Audit Authority budget is predominantly utilized to pay for the Service Level Agreement with the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) Internal Audit act as the programme's independent Audit Authority.

Audit / Finance: The Managing Authority may have the need to commission additional financial control work. All costs associated with such pieces of work will be allocated to this cost code. There has been no expenditure in this area to date.

Monitoring / Evaluation: To date, the Monitoring aspect of the budget has been used for the Service Level Agreement with NISRA, apportioned costs in relation to the Equality and Environmental Working Groups. In relation to Evaluation, the budget has been utilized to pay apportioned costs of the Analysis of Implementation of the Programmes, carried out by Fitzpatrick Associates.

3.7.2 Use of Technical Assistance – The Consortium

In line with the contracts with SEUPB, the Consortium utilise their technical assistance budget in Theme 1.1 in the provision of technical support to Local Authority Led Peace and Reconciliation Partnerships in the development of the Local Action Plans for Phase I and II. The Consortium are responsible for providing support over a three year period of delivery to ensure that the objectives of the theme are met to the maximum.

In relation to Theme 1.2, the Consortium utilise their technical assistance as an Intermediate Body responsible for the implementation of the theme, which includes ensuring that projects are selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the Programme.

To date, €4.2m expenditure has been incurred in Technical Assistance against the budget of €17.7m.

3.8 Summary

The overall progress made in implementing the PEACE III Programme is summarised in the table below.

Table 11 – Summary of all Themes

	Priority / Theme	Allocation (€m)	Letter of Offer Issued (No)	Letter of Offer Issued (Value) (€m)	Commitment (%)	Expenditure (€m)
1.1	Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Local)	90	14	50.2	55.8	3.3
1.1	Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Regional)	50	21	26.3	52.6	3.6
1.2	Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past.	50	55	22.8	45.6	5.7
2.1	Creating Shared Space	82	8	48.3	58.9	6.1
2.2	Key Institutional Capacities	40	10	6.7	16.8	0.08
	Sub – Total	312	108	154.3	49.5	18.7
3.1	Technical Assistance	20	4	17.5	87.5	4.2
	Grand Total	332	112	171.8	51.8	22.9

4.0 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Programme

4.1 Monitoring

In line with both the Operational Programme and the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the PEACE III Programme, the Managing Authority is committed to carrying out ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure the quality and effectiveness of implementation through assessment of progress towards the achievement of the financial, physical and impact indicators.

Following lessons learned through previous Peace programmes, the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group in PEACE II commissioned PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC) to develop a Monitoring and Evaluation framework for peace building. As a result of the recommendations from this report, the Aid for Peace approach was adopted as an evaluation tool for the Programme.

4.2 Update on Indicators

Projects which have been approved by the Steering Committee are required to apply the Aid for Peace Approach to their projects. The Aid for Peace Approach allows projects to focus on the peace and reconciliation impacts of their project and to develop appropriate indicators, in agreement with SEUPB/NISRA, which will be used to determine the success of the project throughout its lifetime. The indicators agreed will include the relevant indicators from the Operational Programme to which the project should contribute. Due to the nature of this methodology there is some delay between project approval and agreement of indicators.

The tables below present those OP indicators where reporting is directly from projects. There are a number of other OP indicators where information for them will be reported from other sources, such as the attitudinal survey, equality monitoring forms, etc. The information presented below is based only on those projects where indicators have been agreed. This is a total of 75 projects out of a total of 112 approved projects. The remaining projects are either currently working through the process or are due to commence the process over the next few weeks. Updated information to include these will be reported at the next Monitoring Committee meeting.

Priority 1 Theme 1

Indicator	Programme Target	Cumulative Project Targets*
Programmes developed and implemented	30	14
Of which local authority led	13	10
Events that address sectarianism and racism or deal with conflict resolution	60	1,734
Participants attending above events	3,000	45,300

* Based on 54.2% commitment

When the Operational Programme target indicators were set it was envisaged that there would be a smaller number of more strategic events. However, as the implementation of the Programme has gone ahead it is now clear that there will be a larger number of smaller events funded, particularly through the Peace Action Plans. This in turn has led to higher targets for numbers of participants.

Priority 1 Theme 2

Indicator	Programme Target	Cumulative Project Targets*
People in receipt of trauma counselling	1,000	6,508
Events assisting victims and survivors	50	1,491
Participants at events assisting victims and survivors	2,000	18,265
Conflict resolution workshops	20	1,159
Participants attending conflict resolution workshops	200	11,169

* Based on 45.6% commitment

As mentioned under Priority 1 Theme 1, when the targets for this Theme were set it was expected that there would be smaller numbers of more strategic events and workshops. However, now that projects have been developed it is clear that the expectation is for larger numbers of events with correspondingly higher numbers of participants.

Priority 2 Theme 1

Indicator	Programme Target	Cumulative Project Targets
Shared public environments created or improved through cross-community regeneration projects	10	4

At this stage only four of the shared space projects have agreed indicators. The remaining projects are currently working through the Aid for Peace Approach as a means to developing indicators which will highlight the impact of these projects on peace and reconciliation. As these are capital build projects it is important to remember that such impact is unlikely to be available until the capital element of the project is complete.

Priority 2 Theme 2

Indicator	Programme Target	Cumulative Project Targets
Outputs		
Pilot projects of cross-border co-operation between public sector bodies	10	
Research reports disseminated	5	
Results		
Number of people benefiting from shared services		
Number of public servants who can identify positive changes as a result of shared projects		

To date, 9 projects have been approved under this Theme and whilst all have commenced work on their indicators none have been finally agreed. These projects are currently working through the Aid for Peace Approach to assist with the development of these indicators.

In summary, to date 75 projects have agreed targets and it is expected that the position reported here will change as more projects complete the first stage of the application of the Aid for Peace Approach. It is already clear, however, that comparisons of some project and programme targets are showing some variations, particularly the events targets in Theme 1.1 and the indicators in Theme 1.2. When the OP targets were originally set they were based on actual performance in PEACE II as it stood in 2007, however, a large proportion of projects continued to record activity throughout 2008.

5.0 Programme Management

5.1 Regulatory Requirements

Since the last Monitoring Committee meeting, the following documents have been prepared and submitted in accordance with Regulations:

- **Annual Control Report:** In accordance with Article 62 910 (d) (i) of Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 and Article 18 (2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1828/2008, the Audit Authority must submit the Annual Control Report and Opinion for the programme by 31 December each year. This report was submitted by the Audit Authority via the SFC database on 30 December 2009 and was formally accepted by the Commission on 19 January 2010. However Commission Services raised an issue regarding the 100% verification of all expenditure by the JTS including that incurred by projects and verified by Lead Partners. These issues were clarified by the Audit Authority in a letter to the Commission dated 19 February 2010, when it was confirmed that project partner expenditure will be re-performed on a sample basis.
- **Commission Regulation (EC) No 846/2009:** The Managing Authority, in line with their responsibility to ensure that the programme is implemented in compliance with regulations issued a memo to all staff regarding the changes outlined in Commission Regulation (EC) No 846/2009 which was adopted by the Commission on 1 September 2009. This regulation which amends Regulation (EC) 1828/2006 aims to provide simplification to current processes which impact the Certifying Authority, Communications Team and Managing Authority.

5.2 The Review Process

In the case of an application to the programme being unsuccessful, the Lead Partner, on behalf of the Partnership, may seek a review of that decision. The applicant may request a de-briefing session where they will be afforded the opportunity to discuss, either over the telephone or in a meeting, the reasons for rejection with a member of staff from the JTS or Intermediate Body. During this discussion, the scoring and the basis for the decision taken will be communicated to the applicant.

On the basis of this feedback, the applicant may then make a written request for a review of the decision not to fund. Upon receipt of a written request for a review the Managing Authority will convene the Review Panel, which comprises Members of the Monitoring Committee, who were not involved in the original decision making process,

and an independent member. The Review Panel is chaired by the Chief Executive of SEUPB.

A total of twelve Review Panels have been held, four since the last Programme Monitoring Committee. Details of the four reviews carried out since the last Monitoring Committee meeting and the decisions taken are listed in the table below;

Table 12: Reviews by Programme and Decision

Date of Review Panel	Applicant Name	Project Title	Intermediate Body	Measure	Outcome
18/11/2009	South East Fermanagh Foundation	NECHAMA	The Consortium	1.2	Decision upheld
16/12/2009	Community Foundation for Northern Ireland	Developing a Peace-Building Infrastructure	JTS	2.2	Decision upheld
24/03/2010	North West Lifelong Learning Association	Defining Lives	The Consortium	1.2	Decision Upheld
24/03/2010	Irish Congress of Trade Unions	Trade Unions in the Northern Ireland Conflict	The Consortium	1.2	Decision Upheld

A further three Review requests have been received for the following projects:

- University of Ulster, Shared Memories – Theme 1.2

- WAVE, Continuum of WAVE Key Services to Support Participation – Theme 1.2
- International School for Peace Studies, Northern Ireland Regional Programme – Theme 1.1

Meetings for these three reviews have been scheduled for May 2010. The outcome of these and any further reviews will be reported at the next Monitoring Committee.

6.0 Conclusion

By 31 March 2010, the PEACE III Programme had received 370 applications of which 112 have been issued with Letters of Offer. These 112 applications are currently progressing through their work plans and are making claims for expenditure incurred through the Systems 2007 database. Of the remaining applications received 59 are still being processed, with 4 of these pending Letters of Offer; 157 have been rejected; and 42 have been withdrawn. The total expenditure by the 31 March 2010 for the PEACE III Programme is €22.9m against an N+2 target of €65.5m meaning that the programme is almost one third of the way forward in achieving target and will be on track to do so in 2010.

Overall the Managing Authority is content that the progress on implementation to date is in line with the overall aim of the PEACE III Programme which is to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promote reconciliation. However a number of key issues have been highlighted throughout this report that will require further discussion on how best to progress with the implementation of the Programme.

7.0 Recommendation

The Monitoring Committee is requested to:

- **Note** the progress to date on implementation of the programme

Annex 1 Status of approved applications

Theme 1.1 Local - Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Local Projects) – LOO Accepted

Lead Council	Cluster	Peace III Funding Allocated (£)	Peace III Funding 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 1.1 Regional - Building Positive Relations at the Local Level (Regional) – Loo Accepted

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding Allocated	Total € funding Allocated
Intercomm Ireland	Police and Communities in Transition	£1,065,152	
Rural Community Network	Rural Enabler	£2,716,504	
TWN	Positive Relations Programme	£2,766,645	
YESIP	Children and Young People Building Positive Relations	£3,142,894	
Groundwork NI	Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration	£988,307	

Edgehill Theological College (of Queen's University Belfast)	Edgehill Theological College Reconciliation and Integration Partner Project	£295,499	
Co-operation Ireland	Irish Peace Centres		€2,999,099
The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (CFNI)	From Prison to Peace: Building on Experience	£2,926,461	
The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (CFNI)	Conflict Transformation from the Bottom Up*	£328,203	
		£1,486,528	
		£455,422	
		£832,781	
			€907,057
		£269,188	
		£177,839	
		£381,254	
		£200,588	
			€749,962
			€475,302
			€466,510
	€909,477		
TOTALS		£18,033,165	€6,507,407
TOTAL IN EURO Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.1			€26,343,888

Theme 1.2 - Acknowledging & Dealing with the Past – Strand 2

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ Funding Allocated	Total € Funding Allocated
The Ely Centre	Project Elohim	£300,161.00	
Saver/Naver	Practical steps towards reconciliation	£469,686.00	
F.A.I.R.	Support and Active Care Respite for Excluded Dependents (SACRED)	£375,468.00	
Cavan Family Resource Centre	Buandóchas (B) Counselling		€369,046.27
Ashton Community Trust	Bridge of Hope	£403,746.00	
Holy Trinity Centre	Out of Hours Counselling	£171,607.00	

	Service		
Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre	Citizenship and Fellowship Education (CAFE)	£417,556.63	
Falls Women's Centre	Falls Women's Centre Training & Employment Project	£167,610.00	
Best Cellars Music Collective	Peace Radio	£155,986.00	
Survivors of Trauma	A Future Together	£280,516.00	
Tara Centre	TARA - ICADP	£459,961.00	
The Pat Finucane Centre	The Legacy Project	£395,744.00	
Relatives for Justice	Participative Transitional Support	£547,745.00	
RAFT	Transcending Trauma	£448,068.00	
The Bytes Project	Essential Learning for New Life (ELNL)	£105,927.00	
Cunamh	Peace in Mind/Suaimhneas Intinne	£285,375.00	
Trauma Recovery Network	The Trauma Recovery Network, Connecting Head and Heart	£243,759.00	
Towards Understanding and Healing	Dealing with the Past through storytelling and positive encounter dialogue	£248,839.00	
Victims and Survivors Trust	Pathways for Inclusion	£213,527.79	
Crossfire Trust	Restoring Hope	£292,157.46	
Gaslight	Epilogues: Facilitating Understanding of the Other	£236,245.62	
The Peace Factory	Peace Action Zone	£349,042.00	
Corpus Christi Services	Healing the Troubled Past	£225,392.48	
New Life Counselling	Victims and Survivors Counselling Project	£233,339.81	
Conflict Trauma Resource Centre	Beyond Conflict	£412,995.00	
FAIR	Capable – Conflict Archive Project and Border Land Experience	£400,725.00	
Institute for Counselling and Personal Development	RENEW – Community Challenge and Change for Peace and Reconciliation	£315,233.00	
WAVE	Back to the Future – Building the Peace Programme	£309,665.00	
TOTALS		£8,466,077.79	€369,046.27
TOTAL IN EURO			
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€9,681,731

Theme 1.2 - Acknowledging and Dealing with the Past – Strand 3

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding Allocated	Total € funding Allocated
An Teach Ban Centre for Peace Building	Remember and Change		€559,472.00
C.A.L.M.S. (Community Action for Locally Managing Stress)	Gateways to Health	£257,395.00	
Communities Connect – Dundalk Institute of Technology	Deepening the Peace – Widening the Web		€571,564.00
Community Dialogue	Securing Our Future- 3 Steps into dialogue	£322,933.00	
Creggan Neighbourhood Partnership	The Goal Project	£365,107.77	
Curriculum Development Unit	Education for Reconciliation		€581,644.00
Diversity Challenges	The Way We Were – Uncovering our Shared Past	£99,988.00	
Donegal Network Community Workers Co-operative	Harnessing Equality for Lasting Peace		€626,246.40
Expac	Conflicts of Interest		€551,501.00
Falls Community Council	Belfast Conflict Transformation Consortium	£954,351.00	
Forward Learning LTD	Knowing me, Knowing you! A Historical and Cultural Adventure	£310,498.47	
Healing Through Remembrance	Whatever you say, say something	£818,557.00	
Incore	Journeys Out	£474,367.80	
Innishowen Partnership Company Ltd.Unit	Youth 52 – Securing the Future		€642,357.00
Irish Football Association	Football for all Project	£526,880.00	
North West Play Resource Centre (The Playhouse)	Theatre of Witness	£327,670.00	
Peace and Reconciliation Group	Dealing with the Past, shaping the Future	£240,196.00	
South Armagh Rural Women's Network	Behind the Masks	£333,079.00	
Taughmonagh Community Forum	Sharing the Future		€407,585.93
Teach Oscail – Tullacmongan Resource Centre	Tullacmongan / Cavanaleck Cross Border Youth Project		€436,722.50
The Corrymeela Community	Corrymeela Facing the Future with NICRAS	£201,330.00	
Trademark	Consolidating the Peace	£269,982.00	
Ulster Peoples College	People History Initiative	£279,226.50	

Wave Trauma Centre	The Trauma Training Learning Pathway	£875,118.00	
Youth Action	Peace Dividend for Young People	£543,323.00	
Youth Initiatives	Crosslinks Culture Connections - (CROSSLINKS)	£330,865.00	
Youth Link: N.I.	Community Capacity Building Strategies	£432,659.00	
TOTALS		£7,963,526.54	€4,377,092.83
TOTAL IN EURO			
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.1			€13,136,927

Theme 2.1 - Creating Shared Public Spaces

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding allocated	Total € funding allocated
Ilex	The Peace Bridge	£13,343,476	
Monaghan County Council	Clones/Erne East Community Sports Partnership		€ 7,803,451
Omagh District Council	OASIS	£4,345,000	
Belfast City Council (020)	'The Bridges' Urban Sports Park	£370,000	
Cavan County Council	Castlesanderson - All Ireland Scouting/Jamboree Centre		€ 3,052,000
Skainos Ltd	The Skainos Project	£6,125,831	
Donegal County Council	Pettigo/Tullyhommon - The Termon Project		€8,325,728
Department for Social Development	The Peace Museum and Exhibition Area (SS Nomadic)	£2,274,780	
TOTALS		£26,459,087	€19,181,179
TOTAL IN EURO			
Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.1			€48,286,174

Theme 2.2 - Key institutional Capacities – Area 1

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding allocated	Total € funding allocated
Northern Ireland Prison Service	Addressing Hate Crime	£862,493	
Groundwork NI	Democratising Governance in Transition	£439,875	
NICVA	Vital Links	£481,693	
Sligo Vocational Education Committee (Sligo VEC)	Developing a Shared Society through Youth Sport		€693,000
Belfast City Council	Growing a Shared City	£305,498	
TOTALS		£2,089,559.00	€693,000
TOTAL IN EURO Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€2,991,514

Theme 2.2 - Key Institutional Capacities – Area 2

Lead Partner	Project Title	Total £ funding allocated	Total € funding allocated
Mediation NI	The Most Project	£686,004	
Early Years	International Early Childhood Network on Peace Building and Reconciliation	£610,026	
Forward Learning Ltd	The Thin End of the Wedge	£1,497,753	
North West Play Resource Centre	International Cultural Arts Centre	£434,000	
FAIR	EINSTEIN (European International Networking Servicing Trauma and Exchange to Implement New Concepts)	£155,031	
TOTALS		£3,382,814	€0
TOTAL IN EURO Based on an exchange rate of £1 = €1.10			€3,721,095