



Region: Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

**ENGLAND AND GIBRALTAR EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND
CONVERGENCE, COMPETITIVENESS AND EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAMME 2007-2013**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR INNOVATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL
PROJECTS**

31 OCTOBER 2008

CORNWALL AND THE ISLES OF SCILLY – THEMES AND REGIONAL CONTEXT	
Up to three projects will be supported in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	
PRIORITY 4 – TACKLING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT ESF funding available in Priority 4 = £645,583	
Theme Selected	Regional Context
Demographic Change (Older Workers & Migration)	<p>Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (IoS) has 30.5% of its workforce over the age of 50. This is higher than both the South West average (26.8%) and the England average (24%). The number of older people in Cornwall and the IoS is projected to increase by a quarter between 2007 and 2017; this will raise the share of the labour force over 50 to 34.4%.</p> <p>The unemployment rate for older people (2.8%) is lower than for residents of all ages (5.4), but is higher than the regional average for older people (2.4%). Levels of economic inactivity for older workers are higher in Cornwall and the IoS than the rest of the SW; 30.4% compared to 23.3%.</p> <p>Longer term economic inactivity among older workers may reflect an increasing mismatch between the skills held and the skills demanded by the marketplace. While many older workers have the competence, they do not always have the qualifications which reflect their skills, making it difficult to access other employment opportunities.</p> <p>The subject of care for older people in Cornwall and the IoS has been identified as being one of the most important issues in planning health and social care services now, and in the future.</p> <p>Numbers of very elderly people (85+) are predicted to grow by 88% between 1996 and 2031. This will result in an</p>

	<p>increased demand for both residential places and care within the home. The number of dependant older people is expected to rise by 62% over the same period.</p> <p>Projects are asked to consider the following points when developing applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the working lives of older people can be prolonged by either retaining older workers in the labour market or re-engaging inactive individuals. • How can older people who have caring responsibilities overcome this barrier to entering the labour market. • How employers can be encouraged to take on older workers; in particular, how behavioural competencies can be used by both individuals and employers to demonstrate appropriate skills levels.
<p>PRIORITY 5 – IMPROVING THE SKILLS OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE ESF funding available in Priority 5 = £1,019,342</p>	
<p>Themes Selected</p>	<p>Regional Context</p>
<p>Demographic Change (Older Workers & Migration)</p>	<p>Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (IoS) has 30.5% of it workforce over the age of 50. This is higher than both the South West average (26.8%) and the England average (24%). The number of older people in Cornwall and the IoS is projected to increase by a quarter between 2007 and 2017; this will raise the share of the labour force over 50 to 34.4%.</p> <p>The unemployment rate for older people (2.8%) is lower than for residents of all ages (5.4), but is higher than the regional average for older people (2.4%). Levels of economic inactivity for older workers are higher in Cornwall and the IoS than the rest of the SW; 30.4% compared to 23.3%.</p> <p>The subject of care for older people in Cornwall and the IoS has been identified as being one of the most important issues in planning health and social care services now, and in the future.</p> <p>Numbers of very elderly people (85+) are predicted to grow by 88% between 1996 and 2031. This will result in an increased demand for both residential places and care within the home. The number of dependant older people is expected to rise by 62% over the same period.</p>

	<p>The number of people likely to need care services such as nursing home care is predicted to double over the next quarter of a century and it is predicted that from 2006 to 2020 the number of staff working with older people will need to rise by over 25%, in order to meet this demographic pressure</p> <p>Projects are asked to consider the following points when developing applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term care needs of an aging population. • Changes in workplace culture to help employers provide flexibility to meet older workers needs including encouraging businesses to recognise and value behavioural competencies • How the challenge of social cohesion between the old and young can be addressed • How the breadth of experience of those older people outside of the workforce can be used to help grow existing businesses, develop entrepreneurship opportunities etc.
<p>Skills for Climate Change</p>	<p>The quality of the environment is one of the distinctive assets of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.</p> <p>Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly is at the forefront of climate change, with evidence of rising sea levels and coastal erosion posing threats to the coastal communities. In addition to conserving assets and addressing environmental problems, climate change, resource depletion and waste management present significant challenges and potential opportunities.</p> <p>In 2005 Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly had the capacity to produce almost 50mw of renewable energy, enough to supply 43,747 homes, and amounting to 41% of the South West's total capacity.</p> <p>Environmental considerations have the potential to generate significant benefits to the sub-regional economy. Most notably, the Environmental Technologies sector is identified as a new and emerging sector which has the potential to support significant employment. The development of a low carbon economy is a core objective of Cornwall's economic strategy and is integral to the Convergence ESF framework and the Convergence ERDF Operational Programme.</p>

	<p>Projects are encouraged to consider the following issues when drafting their applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whilst acknowledging the importance of developing a growing and strong environmental technologies sector consideration must be given to how all businesses sectors, communities and individuals can develop the skills necessary to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change.• What types of skills will be required to adapt to climate change and what types of skills will be required to mitigate climate change?• What barriers there may be in place that could impact upon partners ability to implement a change in processes and/or businesses planning (or practices) which could impede the delivery of a low carbon economy.• How Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly can move beyond de-resourcing to the development of a truly sustainable, robust economy.• When considering transnational partners applicants must give a clear rationale of why the partner(s) have been selected and the added value of knowledge transfer.• How engagement will go beyond partners that are already pre-disposed to the impacts of climate change.
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