



26 April 2006

Dear Colleague,

## COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF CIVIL PROTECTION

The purpose of this letter is to draw your attention to a European Union funding opportunity for civil protection projects. The Community Action Programme supports, through the awarding of grants, initiatives by Member States in the area of civil protection at national, regional, and local level. The Programme was established in 1999, and is currently gearing up for the 2006 process, which will be its last. All the main elements of emergency planning activity – prevention, preparedness, public information, and response – are covered, with particular themes being set each year.

A rolling plan including a provisional list of priority themes for 2006 has recently been published on the European Commission website. The themes are:

1. Public information;
2. Maximisation at EU-level of lessons learned from emergencies in areas involving confidential information (e.g. terrorism);
3. Psycho-social aftercare;
4. Risk assessment / Risk management;
5. Safety of specific vulnerable groups;
6. Assessment methodologies (in relation to the operational level);
7. Follow-up of completed projects from previous years;
8. Fire prevention and safety measures.

The list of themes awaits formal approval by the Commission. Once this has been given, a Grant application guide and Grant application forms will be made available. This is expected to happen in the next few weeks.

Major projects accepted under the Plan enjoy an EU contribution of up to 75% of the total budget, however this has been a largely untapped resource for UK organisations who have been under-represented in past applications. I hope this year you will consider



developing a bid within your own organisation, or with partners, so that we can change that.

Further information on the general aims and requirements of the Community Action Programme can be found on <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/civil/index.htm> Final details of the 2006 process will be published on this site when available. Your contact point within Government for any queries you may have about the scheme is the International Team at the Civil Contingencies Secretariat (email: [pnc-ccs@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:pnc-ccs@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk) ).

If you would like to discuss the application process with colleagues who have made applications and received grants in previous years, then Moya Wood-Heath and Martin Annis at the Red Cross ( [MWoodhea@redcross.org.uk](mailto:MWoodhea@redcross.org.uk) and [Mannis@redcross.org.uk](mailto:Mannis@redcross.org.uk) ) or Rosanna Briggs, Deputy County Emergency Planning Officer for Essex County Council ( [rosanna.briggs@essexcc.gov](mailto:rosanna.briggs@essexcc.gov) ) would be happy to offer any advice they can.

## **DAN GREAVES**

Head of Civil Contingencies Act Team

