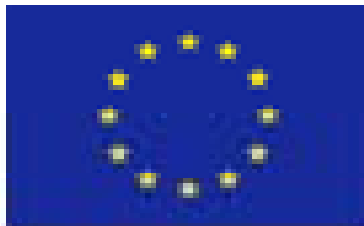


DWP

Department for Work and Pensions

European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion



Background to Lisbon

- 2000 – EU15 – aimed to make Europe “the most dynamic, knowledge based economy in the world”
- Approach included a commitment to make a “decisive impact on poverty by 2010”
- Strategy to tackle poverty through the Open Method of Coordination (OMC)
- DWP lead in the UK

The UK challenges

- Child Poverty – 2.9 million children living in relative poverty in the UK
- Working Age – Active intervention is key to the UK employment strategy
- Socially excluded adults – Social Exclusion Task Force focussing on problems of severe deprivation
- Older people – The population of the UK is ageing

The UK objectives for EY 2010

- Raise awareness of the causes prevalence and consequences of poverty
- Promote and facilitate the engagement and participation of a broad range of stakeholders
- Ensure a lasting legacy

Budget

- EU - €17m includes €6m for communications strategy
- UK potential total spend £1.2m

UK National Programme

We have invited bids for the following:

- Regional Activity – in the nine England Regions and Devolved Administrations.
- Thematic programmes to address the four key aspects of social exclusion identified in the NAP
- Technical Support

How the Year is being managed

- EU Social Inclusion Team provides the project team
- A National Implementing Body (NIB) is managing the Year.
- The NIB is supported by a Stakeholder Group

Communications

- Launch events across the UK
- Media Campaign
- High profile closing event
- Website

Bids

- Calls for proposals now closed. We have received 55 in total:
 - 35 Regional Activities
 - 18 Thematic Programmes and
 - 2 Technical Assistance
- Selection of projects ongoing until end November 2009

Timeline

UK proposals to Commission before Christmas

Commission sign-off January 2010

EU opening event – Madrid 21 January

UK launch events – March

Activities commence – March/April

UK/EU close conferences Nov/Dec

Further information

- European Commission's website at:
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=637>
- The UK European Year website at:
<http://dev.dwp.gov.uk/european-year-2010>