

## EU Announces Next Life+ Funding Round (UK)

The European Commission has announced that the 2010 funding round under its Life+ Programme will open for applications on the 5th May 2010. LIFE + programme is the EU's main fund for supporting environmental projects. With a budget of €2.143 billion, Life + (2007 -13) will address all four priority areas of the Sixth Environment Action Programme.

These are;

- Climate change;
- Nature and biodiversity;
- Health and quality of life;
- Natural resources and waste.

LIFE+ funding is available to both public and private bodies registered in the EU. It is suggested by the Commission that potential applicants start preparing their 2010 proposals already on the basis of the 2009 application package. It is however very important that the final version submitted in 2010 uses only the 2010 application forms and follows all the instructions in the 2010 application guide (these will be made available on 5 May 2010 on the Life+ web site).

Previously supported projects include:

Groundwork Sheffield which received funding to address climate change by increasing the quality of green roofs. Measures foreseen include the establishment of a UK green roof code of best practice and the encouragement of its adoption through a Green Roof Innovation Awards scheme

Business Solutions Europa Limited which received funding to produce and promote animated cartoons to help European children learn more about the environment, sustainability and climate change.

The provisional closing date for applications will be the 1st September 2010.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

## **Legacy Trust UK's Community Celebrations (UK)**

Legacy Trust UK has announced that it is making up to £4 million available to provide opportunities for communities across the UK, to link with other cities, regions and festivals to host large scale outdoor celebrations building up to 2012, the year of the UK celebrating London staging the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Trust is looking to give five grants of £750,000 that will allow communities to come together to host 'large scale' outdoor celebrations at moments of real local significance. This could mean celebrating moments of national importance, media relevance, Olympic inspired or of sporting or cultural significance. They should also relate to celebrations/festivals around regional, local or community interest. The intention is that these five projects, after premiering in their home cities, will be given the opportunity to make their way, along with their many participants, to the five London Host Boroughs in July 2012 to create a spectacular event which will involve thousands of people from the five Host Borough communities and from around the UK. There is a two stage process for this programme. The deadline for expression of interest is the 5th March 2010. Organisations that are then shortlisted will require to complete stage two proposals. The deadline for the second stage is the 28th May 2010.

<http://www.legacytrustuk.org/national-programmes/community-celebrations/>

## **One Planet Living Grant Scheme (UK)**

Through the One Planet Living (OPL) Grant scheme, schools, community groups and charitable organisations can apply to their local B&Q store for funding to support a local community project. Projects must support at least one of the following themes; conserve nature; save energy; grow your own; and local culture and heritage. The scheme provides £50 to £250 (at retail cost) of B&Q materials, for example, pond liners, plants, peat-free compost for projects such as a pond/wildlife garden or paints labelled low or minimal VOC for redecoration projects. It is important that the project is sustainable. Thus, the materials and methods used should not cause environmental damage in the short or long-term. The final result should have a long-lasting benefit to the community. OPL Grants do not cover maintenance, so the project should be designed for easy care. Projects must be local to a store and pupils must be involved in school projects. To apply for a grant, applicants will need to contact the environmental champion or store manager at their local B&Q store to discuss project details. Projects can apply for funding between 1

February 2010 and 30 September 2010 and successful projects must collect their materials no later than 31 October 2010.

[http://www.diy.com/diy/jsp/corporate/content/environment\\_ethics/ethics/community/grants.jsp](http://www.diy.com/diy/jsp/corporate/content/environment_ethics/ethics/community/grants.jsp)

### **The Energy Efficiency Design Awards (Scotland)**

The Energy Efficiency Design Awards (EEDA), worth £1 million annually, are aimed at encouraging communities, designers, the construction industry and housing providers, to develop innovative approaches to significantly raise the energy performance of existing housing. A large proportion of housing in Scotland is not suitable for basic insulation measures such as cavity wall and loft insulation and therefore requires more expensive measures. These buildings include Victorian tenements; solid walled and timber framed properties; historic buildings; poorly insulated tower blocks; exposed rural properties; homes with flat roof or rooms in the roof; and properties beyond the range of the gas grid. Grants of up to a maximum of £250,000 are available to; local and/or national voluntary, not for profit and charitable organisations; local authorities; housing associations; local enterprise companies; public bodies with residential properties such as hospitals, universities and schools; companies ltd by guarantee; local rural partnerships; consortia of non-profit distributing organisations. The deadline for applications is the 19th April 2010.

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/Scotland-Welcome-page/Business-and-Public-Sector-in-Scotland/Grants/Energy-Efficiency-Design-Awards>

### **Museums Galleries Scotland Small Grants Programme (Scotland)**

Museums Galleries Scotland, a membership organisation which represents over 340 museums and galleries throughout Scotland has announced that its small grants programme will re-open for applications shortly. Through the Museums Galleries Scotland small grants programme, funding of up to £5,000 (previously £2,000) will be available to assist membership organisations to develop museums service provision. Full members will be able to submit applications to any of the four rounds, spread out through the year, for projects which will improve the quality and/or capacity of the service. The closing dates for 2010 are the 2nd April, 28th May, 27th August and the 29th October.

<http://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/how-we-help-members/grants/small-grants/>