



European Union

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Development Fund

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PEACE III - European Territorial Co-operation 2007 -2013 Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland

INTERREG IVA – Cross-border Programme for Territorial Co- operation 2007-2013

Progress Report

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Progress Report template may be subject to change over the life of PEACE III.

The report is to be completed WITH EVERY FINANCIAL CLAIM and is used by the JTS to assess the progress of your project against the agreed actions outlined in your Letter of Offer. Failure to submit a progress report with an expenditure claim will mean that the expenditure claim cannot be paid until the report has been submitted and reviewed by the JTS. Failure to achieve satisfactory progress may affect the payment of grant aid.

The report, once completed, should be signed and dated by the Project Worker and then countersigned by the Project Director/Manager (who should not be a cash beneficiary of the Project).

In completing this Progress Report, please pay particular attention to the Outputs, Impacts, Results and Conditions of your project as outlined below and as stated in your Letter of Offer for funding.

Should you have any difficulties in completing this report, please do not hesitate to contact your Case Officer.

Project Partners:-

1. Mater Dei Institute of Education
2. Society of Missions to Africa
3. Hydebank Young Offenders Prison
4. The All-Ireland Churches' Consultative Meeting on Racism
5. Embrace NI

Estimated Job Creation

	Permanent	Temporary
Full Time		2

Progress to date

We are delighted to report that on the last day of this reporting period we completed the tender process to find evaluators for the Project and sign the contract to begin the process. We received 11 tender applications, shortlisted 4 candidates and selected the evaluators out of a strong field. We were impressed by the range and depth of the proposals.

The office has now been equipped with 2 new computers and an additional phone line which has increased the efficiency of the Project. Prior to this the Administrative Assistant and Project Officer were sharing one phone and one computer between them.

In August 2009, the Reconciliation Officer took part in the eleventh Renewing Our Minds, or ROM gathering in Fuzine, Croatia serving as a speaker, mentor, facilitator and participant. The ROM Gathering is a journey focusing on Reconciliation and Leadership Development. Inspired by the ROM programme, planning has been ongoing to develop 'leadership through mentoring' along the lines of the approaches that were learned at ROM.

Progress will be reported separately in each of the six strands of the Project.

A. On 14th September 2009, the 3 year Catholic/Protestant Undergraduate Certificate Course in Theology was re-launched by Bishop Donal McKeown. An EU representative made a presentation and it was a very successful opening of the course for this academic year. We have retained the 50 students as well as those who are auditing the course. We have continued to meet our Aid For Peace assessment indicators, and the partnership with Mater Dei and the SMA's remains strong.

Status: Ongoing

B. For our Inter-Church training placements for Protestant ministerial and Catholic students, we have had some positive breakthroughs. As reported previously there had been a slow uptake by Methodist ministerial students; however, in September, four students have confirmed their training placement and others have expressed interest for 2010. Preparation for the 1 day placement for Catholic students in Mater Dei has been ongoing. Approximately 60 students are due to participate in training on 1st October.

Status: Ongoing

C. The Young Offenders' Identity Project has continued to experience delay. A number of meetings have been conducted to finalise a creative programme; however, 1 person is still awaiting security

clearance (now over 3 months from when this should have come through). In addition, the Head of Education has retired as of 30th September 09. She was the representative for the Hydebank partnership and therefore it will take some time in the next reporting period to meet with and set things in motion with her successor. Nevertheless, to date we have involved 37 participants of the total target of 60.

Status: Ongoing

D. Work has continued in the Exploring Identity and Oppression within and between Loyalist and Republican communities. Further meetings have been held with Republican and Loyalist leaders, some of whom have presented their experiences and perspectives to students. Planning has been ongoing to enhance this initiative by developing leadership through mentoring along the lines of the approaches that were learned at the Renewing Our Minds programme in Croatia. Furthermore, an event to bring together these groups focused around the needs of young people is being considered and discussed.

Status: Ongoing

E. The assessment indicator for the Creative Exploration and Engagement in Inter-Culturalism is 200 participants. A range of events was organised, bringing together people from “indigenous” churches/communities and people from minority ethnic communities. These involved speaking at St Jude’s Church of Ireland (20 people), Ballynaveigh Methodist Unity Service with Cooke Centenary Presbyterian Church (60 people), a daylong workshop with Methodist ministers (15 people) and a full day at the NIHCA Chaplains Conference (40 people).

Status: Ongoing

F. There has been an increased focus on developing some resources and training. During this reporting period, this has happened at one off events (i.e. Continuing Professional Development for Methodist Ministers, the Chaplains’ training day on ‘Working with People From Other Cultures/Faiths’, the training workshop with the ministerial students at their induction weekend, ‘Exploring Forgiveness through Art’ with the Olive Branch and workshops with students from Perkins University and the International Study Programme, Belfast).

A range of resources has been distributed to key stakeholders as well as to international colleagues (ROM participants, Australian visitor, US students). In addition, the website has been updated and an article was written for the Methodist Newsletter.

Status: Ongoing

2. Outputs/Results/Impacts

Outputs

- A. Fifty people trained (most likely from Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Down, Louth and Monaghan but open to participants from the other counties in the eligible area) in an inter-denominational, undergraduate certificate in theology (Catholic and Protestant) awarded by Dublin City University over a three year period.
- B. Ten Methodist ministerial students placed in Catholic institutions/parishes (Donegal, Louth, Sligo) as part of their formation programme and to place ten Catholic students in Protestant institutions/congregations (Antrim, Down, Tyrone) as part of their degree programme (over a three year period). Placements may include Fermanagh, Derry and/or Leitrim but it is likely that they will be undertaken in the counties mentioned above.

- C. At least 60 young offenders in Northern Ireland provided with the tools to explore and appreciate their own identity and to address issues of difference in regard to sectarianism and racism.
- D. Forty to 50 loyalists and republicans (from Louth, Armagh, Monaghan and Down) enabled to engage in dialogue (in a structured and creative way) centred around their identity and issues of oppression and injustice and to generate opportunities for sustainable relationships.
- E. Indigenous churches/communities and people from minority ethnic communities equipped with the skills to appreciate difference, forge relationships with 'the other' and experience the values of diversity and integration.
- F. Documentary evidence of the lessons learned from the Project programmes in order to develop practical resources on the methodologies which have been proven to develop the capacities of participants and make positive attitudinal changes across the whole of the Project. These will be disseminated to the key stakeholders in each area.

Results

- A. Course participants given the skills, experience and confidence necessary to undertake practical work over the long-term within their communities and ministries towards reconciliation, integration and a shared society.
- B. A legacy ensured of significant inter-church and cross-community relationships by equipping young leaders in reconciliation and integration work with the attitudes, skills and motivation to promote and extend this work into their communities and churches.
- C. Sustainable relationships generated while providing the tools and confidence that will foster greater understanding, reconciliation and integration across the Region amongst marginalised groups.
- D. Models of good practice and practical resources produced that can be used across the Region and beyond (by theological colleges, Christian churches and a range of voluntary and community groups) that will contribute to the building of positive relationships at the local level, improving trust and tolerance.

Impacts

- A. An overall normalising of inter-church, cross-community and inter-cultural relationships through the implementation of strategic models of collaboration focused on creating the framework conditions for building peace, fostering reconciliation, facilitating integration and contributing meaningfully to a shared society.
- B. The ultimate impact of the Project should be as a significant contributor to reconciliation and integration between and within communities. By fostering relationships amongst local church and community leaders and equipping them with the skills to facilitate and advance reconciliation, the Project should leave a sustainable legacy of trained leaders who will broaden and deepen the work of building peace. The work with young offenders and marginalised groups should inspire people often excluded from peace building processes to incorporate the values of reconciliation and integration and encourage them to address pressing issues within their sphere of influence. Overall, the work should equip people practically to see difference and conflict as opportunities for modelling and creating healthy relationships and will give leaders confidence in addressing difficult issues and inspiring sound cross-community, inter-cultural relations.
- C. The emphasis on relationships should ultimately create the framework conditions for a healthy, stable and connected society in which people come to appreciate difference and embrace the diversity of traditions, cultures and views within the Region and beyond.

The Indicators are subject to amendment to incorporate “Aid for Peace” Indicators

Progress to Date

- A. The three year Catholic/Protestant Undergraduate Certificate Course in Theology has continued to meet its time and participant targets. 50 students have continued in the course this year and are engaged in their first module. Students are drawn from the following counties: Antrim, Armagh, Down, Louth, Monahan, L'Derry – all within the eligible region. The students for audit (33) all come from the eligible region with one exception. Ken Newell's talk on reconciliation from the 31st May 09 event was placed on the website.
- B. The Inter-Church Training Placements for Protestant ministerial and Catholic students have been in preparation during this reporting period. We anticipate that at least 60 Catholic students will participate in the 1 day training event on the 1st October. Several meetings were held with Methodist ministerial students and their supervisors to encourage participation and to address any concerns or fears. As a consequence, 4 students will be undertaking their placements this term and others are being recruited for the next term.
- C. As stated above, the Young Offenders' Identity Project has continued to face a number of obstacles during this reporting period owing to circumstances beyond the Project's control. Draft programmes and sessions have been devised and it is simply a matter of waiting for security clearance, then time-tabling the sessions. The Project is still on schedule to meet its outcome and output targets (out of the target of 60, 37 young people have participated to date).
- D. Exploring Identity and Oppression within and between Loyalist and Republican Communities has continued to develop. Discussions have been ongoing with Loyalist and Republican leaders (6 Loyalist and 3 Republican) on organising an event (50 people) around common concerns (i.e. the needs of young people) as well as on initiating a leadership mentoring initiative (8 to 12 people).
- E. Work on Creative Exploration and Engagement in Inter-Culturalism involved 135 people from 20 organisations. The Project delivered talks and workshops with groups on appreciating difference, conflict transformation, forging relationships with 'the other' and experiencing the values of diversity and immigration. These included 'Embracing the Other,' St Jude's Church of Ireland (August - 20 people), Ballynafeigh Methodist Unity Service with Cooke Centenary Presbyterian Church (August - 60 people), a daylong workshop with Methodist Ministers 'Appreciating Conflict and Dancing with Difference' (September - 15 people), a full day at the NIHCA Chaplains Conference, 'Working with People from other Faiths/Cultures' (September - 40 people).
- F. For Resource Development and Dissemination, the Project is delighted that we have secured the services of 2 professional evaluators. This will assist the project greatly in monitoring progress, identifying models of good practice and sharing some of the lessons and successful approaches that have been learned.

There have been a number of training opportunities within this reporting period involving 117 people. These have included the Continuing Professional Development for Methodist Ministers (September – 15 people), the Chaplains' training day on 'Working with People From Other Cultures/Faiths' (September – 40 people), the training workshop with the ministerial students at their induction weekend (September - 4 people) 'Exploring Forgiveness through Art' with the Olive Branch (September – 10 people) and workshops with students from Perkins University (July – 18 people) and the International Study Programme, Belfast (July – 30 people).

Building relationships between and amongst people who would not otherwise ordinarily meet remains

a key focus for the Project. The underlying logic behind this is that reconciliation and integration are only possible when people are connected with each other in a positive way. Moreover, it seems vital that the encounters that are organised to create relationships always allow the 'other' to be humanised in the interaction process. In practice, we want to ensure that people see each other first as a person (e.g. Charlie or Claire) rather than first as a 'label' (e.g. Loyalist, Methodist, Prisoner, Eastern European, Priest, etc). Of course the labels form part of one's identity, but often when another relates to someone on the basis of the label (and the perceptions that go with it) barriers are created that can prevent making healthy connections.

The Reconciliation Project seeks to provide encounters where the framework and the context for mutual understanding and respect can emerge. The Project provides a common interest or concern upon which people from different communities/traditions can focus. It has been found that by using creative approaches people engage with each other more easily and are less self conscious of covering over potentially contentious views and opinions.

Cultural and attitudinal change is inextricably linked to the objectives and targets of the Project. The Project has addressed and explored perceptions of difference at many levels and in various areas. This is happening at institutional and community levels as well as on a personal basis. The Project contributes to positive change by equipping and resourcing people to address sectarianism and racism in personal and practical ways.

3. Summary Update and Looking Forward...

Please provide an overall summary update on the project progress against the planned schedule, highlighting key achievements and challenges in the past period.

Having completed its first year, the Project is confident that many of the participants have acquired and put to use practical skills for working on Reconciliation and Integration. We have been encouraged by verbal and email feedback as well as by some reflections and written monitoring forms. We look forward to the insights that the Evaluators will bring in assessing progress and results.

The 50 students who have been engaged in the Exploring Theology course as well as those who are auditing it have built up their relationships and have collectively created a healthy and vibrant atmosphere for listening and dialogue. The re-launch of the course was especially encouraging and indicated the benefit when a diverse range of people are brought together around a common interest.

Having learned in the first reporting period that more ground work was needed for the training placements for Protestant ministerial students, the meetings and efforts to engage with them have been fruitful. We were delighted to receive the uptake for this academic year and sense that this has paved the way for greater engagement and involvement. It seems that there will be significant attendance of Catholic students at the training day in October.

Notwithstanding the restrictions on the work of the Young Offenders' Identity Project, the delays have enabled a great deal more planning and consideration to be given to the proposed sessions. The delays also reflect the difficult nature of working in a prison environment, but we expect the work to be underway again towards the end of the next reporting period.

The Project has learned that within the Loyalist and Republican communities there is a shared challenge to connect with younger people. This challenge is an opportunity for the communities to appreciate their shared concerns and needs and to see the benefit of meeting together to explore ways to address them. Relationships and foundations have been built to conduct the work and to create wider understanding of one another and a willingness to continue to engage.

Significant inter-church and cross community relationships are continuing to be developed through

personal encounters. Connections between the Project partners and minority ethnic communities across the region are strong. The range of talks and workshops delivered over this reporting period has contributed to participants being guided and equipped to engage in integration activities.

Resources have continued to be disseminated to key stakeholders and international colleagues. The website has emerged as a useful tool and resource in reaching the wider community. The external evaluation of the Project will no doubt contribute significantly to the progress of the Project.

More training sessions have been planned for the next reporting period.

Please provide a list of all the planned activities and outputs of the project over the coming period.

1. .
2. .
3. .
- 4.

Section 2: LETTER OF OFFER CONDITIONS

	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	
CONDITIONS AS PER LETTER OF OFFER	COMPLETE D? Yes /No	Relevant Supporting Doc Attached? Yes/No
Pre payment & Post Payment		
PRE-COMPLETE - pre-funding conditions followed by post-funding. NOTE: ONLY INCLUDE THOSE NOT YET MET, AS INDICATED BY FIELD IN DBASE - IF MET, EXCLUDE FROM THIS REPORT.		
<i>No additional conditions set for this project</i>		

<p>Please provide an update on how the Letter of Offer Conditions outlined above are being met or how you are working towards meeting these? (Please attach relevant supporting documentation)</p>

Cumulative planned expenditure	13,627.00	28,041.00	81,174.00	99,325.00	147,359.00
Date Claim Expected			30th Oct 09	31 st Jan '09	31st April'10
Amount of Claim Expected			54,676.22	£18,151	£40,145
Advance Payback to be built in	-	-	-	4,000.00	4,000.00

The difference between what was budgeted and what was claimed is simply a matter of some documentation which was outstanding that has since been recovered and will be submitted in a subsequent claim.

NOTE: ANY ANTICIPATED SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO YOUR AGREED BUDGET MUST BE SUBMITTED SEPARATELY IN WRITING and IN ADVANCE TO THE JTS FOR CONSIDERATION

Signed: *Dr Scott Boldt* _____
 Dr Scott Boldt, Programme Manager

Date:27/10/09

Approved By: _____
 SEUPB Personnel

Date:27/10/09

JTS OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Is the project progressing satisfactorily ?

Are there any significant changes/issues which need to be addressed?

Are you content to authorise release of payment subject to verification?

Name: _____

Signed: _____
(Case Officer)

Dated: _____



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**PEACE III - European Territorial Co-operation 2007 -2013
Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland
INTERREG IVA – Cross-border Programme for Territorial Co-operation 2007-2013
Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland**

Quarterly Communications Report

**Please complete on a quarterly basis and return to the
SEUPB's Communications Team:**

Programme (PEACE III or INTERREG IVA):

Project Title: Edgehill Theological College Reconciliation and Integration Partnership

Report Submitted by: Dr Scott Boldt

Date sent: 4/11/09

Period covered: 1 July 2009 to 30 September 2009

Communications Team

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Special EU Programmes Body
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The report is to be completed on a QUARTERLY BASIS.

By completing the report on a quarterly basis you will be better able to track all of your communication activities and create a more comprehensive evaluation of their effectiveness. It will also be used by the Communications Team to assess the implementation of your Communications Plan.

Submitting this report is a requirement of all Lead Partners as part of their adherence to publicity and information guidelines.

The report, once completed, should be signed and dated by the designated Communications Lead and then countersigned by the Project Director/Manager (who should not be a cash beneficiary of the Project).

Please ensure that examples are provided where applicable. Evidence of evaluation undertaken should also be clearly demonstrated. A number of suggested evaluation techniques have been provided for each communication activity as outlined in the following tables. Please note however that these are not exhaustive and individual projects may wish to use additional, or even alternative, evaluation measures.

In each instance however it is advised that samples be provided to verify that evaluation has taken place.

Please note that it is not necessary to undertake all of the activities detailed under the information and publicity measure tables. Only report on what communication activity has been undertaken at the time of the project review and can therefore be claimed against.

Should you have any difficulties in completing this report, please do not hesitate to contact the SEUPB's Communications Team: communications@seupb.eu.

INFORMATION MEASURE TABLE - Please Complete the table below and refer to appendices as applicable

Information Measure	Date(s) (from and to if ran over period of time)	Description	How was the EU and the ERDF referenced in this measure?	How was this measure evaluated? (examples should be included as an appendix)	Cost £ /€
Website page	July 09 to September 09	Pages devoted to publicising the Project and providing info and resources.	ERDF logo placed on website pages. Textual reference to EU contribution on homepage http://www.edgehillcollege.org/Reconciliation%20Programme Link to SEUPB.	Verbal feedback from visitors. Google Analytics account has been set up to measure amount of website hits.	n/a
Information Roadshow	n/a				n/a
Conference/ Annual major info. activity	September 09	Re-launch of Exploring Theology course at Dromantine.	ERDF plaque erected at event. Textual reference in press release for the event. Verbal reference from SEUPB speaker at event.	83 students attended the course, as well as an EU spokesperson and representatives from a range of Christian denominations, including Bishop Donal McKeown. Verbal feedback at the event, as well as post-event feedback through email and telephone was very good.	n/a
Journalist Visit	n/a				n/a
Site visit	July 09	Lectures/Talks to Perkins University students at Edgehill Theological College.	Verbal reference to EU contribution as well as overall summary of Project from Reconciliation Officer. Resources given out with ERDF logo on them.	18 Methodist students from Perkins University, Texas attended the lectures/talks and verbally expressed their interest in the work of the Project.	n/a
Intranet	n/a				n/a
Publication	August/ September 09	Insert about Project in Methodist Newsletter (article subsequently placed on website)	Textual reference to EU in article.	Methodist Newsletter distributed to all Methodist congregations in Northern Ireland, as well as other denominations. Also available internally in No 9 Resource Centre in Edgehill College.	n/a
E-Zine	July 09 to September 09	Regular contact with Project partners, key stakeholders and the Advisory group on various programmes.	Project partners and stakeholders alerted to events by group emails. Press releases with textual reference to EU contribution attached. Progress Reports with ERDF logos distributed to Advisory group.	The Project has 5 project partners: Mater Dei Institute of Education, Society of Missions to Africa, Hydebank Young Offenders Prison, The All-Ireland Churches' Consultative Meeting on Racism and Embrace NI. Email correspondence on a regular basis with partners explaining Project progress.	n/a

2. PUBLICITY MEASURE TABLE - Please Complete the table below and refer to appendices as applicable

Publicity Measure	Date(s) (from and to if ran over period of time)	Description	How was the EU and the ERDF referenced in this measure?	How was this measure evaluated? (examples should be included as an appendix)	Cost £ / €
Project launch	n/a				n/a
Press release	September 09	Re-launch of Exploring Theology course at Dromantine	ERDF logo and textual reference to EU contribution placed in press release which was alerted to press agencies, sent by email to partner organisations and placed on www.edgehillcollege.org	Emails and phone calls received from the general public interested in the course, as well as partner organisations interested in attending the event.	n/a
On-line marketing	July 09 to September 09	Website used to advertise events related to the Project and tender for evaluation of the Project.	ERDF logo and textual reference to EU contribution placed in tender for evaluation advertisement in latest news section on www.edgehillcollege.org	Email correspondence from applicants stated they first noticed tender advertisement on website. Tender documents downloaded.	n/a
Radio / TV features	n/a				n/a
Print Media	July 09 to September 09	Tender Advertisement placed in national newspapers	ERDF logo and textual reference to EU contribution placed in advertisement for tender for evaluation of the Project. Advert printed in the Irish News and the Belfast Telegraph.	8 telephone enquiries, 5 telephone requests for tender documents, 15 email requests for further information. 11 applications received as a result of the tender advertisement.	£515.44
Public Notice	July 09 to September 09	Notice board in Edgehill College Reception used to publicise the Project and provide information and resources, including <i>Your EU</i> .	ERDF plaque erected above notice board in Reception area. ERDF logo placed on resources provided, as well as promotional material on notice board	Interest in the Project gained from students and visitors attending the College	n/a
Advertorial	n/a				n/a
Publicity/ Promotional material	July 09 to September 09	Posters created relating to events and resources relating to the Project.	ERDF logo prominently placed on the <i>Directory of Migrant-Led Churches and Chaplancies</i> poster	Directories requested as a result of the promotional poster. ERDF logo also on Directory itself.	£55.47 for dissemination of resources
Representation at other events	September 09	EU representative at re-launch of Exploring Theology course at Dromantine	ERDF plaque erected at event Verbal reference to EU contribution from representative EU monitoring forms distributed	Event was attended by EU representative, both staff members of the Project, representatives from a range of Christian denominations, including Bishop Donal McKeown, as well as the 83 students of the course.	n/a
Project closure event	n/a				n/a

3. APPENDICES - Please include supporting documents and examples