



1 March 2007

Dear Colleague,

## **EUROPEAN PROGRAMME FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION**

I am writing to draw your attention to the recent publication of the Call for Proposals under the 2007 European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection.

The Programme has a total proposed budget of 3 million euros to be used towards the funding of projects concerned with the identification and development of measures to protect critical infrastructure. The deadline for the submission of applications is 29 March 2007.

There are six specific themes for projects to cover. These are:

1. Enhancement of protection measures for critical infrastructure;
2. Vulnerabilities and resilience of critical infrastructure, including developing methodologies;
3. Risk mitigation strategies and threat assessments for critical infrastructure;
4. Development of contingency plans;
5. Development of common security standards and innovative technologies for protection of critical infrastructure; and
6. Trans-national projects, which must involve partners in at least two Member States, or at least one Member State and an applicant country.

Eligible applicant organisations from Member States include owners and operators of critical infrastructure, professional bodies and business/industry associations, standardisation bodies, and those responsible for critical infrastructures.



The full text of the Call for Proposals and other documents for applicants are available on the EU website at [http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/funding/epcip/funding\\_epcip\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/funding/epcip/funding_epcip_en.htm)

While all relevant information about the Programme can be found on the EU website, the International Team at the Civil Contingencies Secretariat are able to answer general queries that you may have. These should be emailed to:

[pnc-ccs@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:pnc-ccs@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk)

I hope you will give full consideration to this new funding source. Civil protection in the United Kingdom is world class and it would be good to see an increase in the number of applications for EU awards being made from here.

As some of you may know Dan Greaves has been appointed recently as Deputy Head of Preventing Extremism Unit at the Department of Communities and Local Government and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new head of the Civil Contingencies Act & Local Response Capability Team. I have moved to Cabinet Office from Defra, where - most recently - I was managing a partnership initiative to streamline pollution control regimes, which included a review of local authority duties in the associated planning process. In previous roles, I have worked on climate change policy and reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

In terms of the work ahead, my immediate priorities will be to finalise current work to identify and disseminate good practice in relation to the newer duties in the Civil Contingencies Act, before turning my attention to updating *Emergency Response and Recovery* to reflect lessons emerging from recent emergencies and exercises. Looking further ahead, the team is looking to work with emergency planning organisations to review the implementation of the Civil Contingencies Act two years on and assess what more could be done to maintain and enhance local resilience.

I look forward to meeting and working with colleagues across the emergency planning community.

**Andy Fraser**

Head of Civil Contingencies Act and Local Response Capability Team

***Local response gateway: preparing together***



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