

## Funding Opportunities 2009

### Action Earth 2009

Action Earth provides grants of up to £50 to assist groups in England, Scotland and Wales in carrying out environmental projects.

There are also a limited number of £250 grants, only available in Scotland, specifically intended for biodiversity projects.

Action Earth 2009 will run from 1st March 2009 through to 31st July 2009.

The purpose of the Action Earth campaign is to enable people to take part in practical conservation projects and empower them to improve quality of life for themselves, their communities and future generations.

<http://www.actionearth.org.uk/>

### ACT Foundation

ACT provides grants to individuals and other charities, principally in the UK, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life for people in need, (specifically the mentally and physically disabled).

Their grants generally fall into the following areas:

- building - funding modifications to homes, schools, hospices, etc.;
- equipment - provision of specialised wheelchairs, other mobility aids and equipment including medical equipment to assist independent living;
- financial assistance - towards the cost of short-term respite breaks at a registered respite centre.

ACT's income is derived almost entirely from its investment portfolio and in any year it receives many more applications than it can fund. As their funds are limited they have to prioritise, so not all applications for grants will be successful and some may be met only in part.

<http://www.theactfoundation.co.uk/>

### Allen Lane Foundation

The Allen Lane Foundation is a grant-making trust set up in 1966 by the late Sir Allen Lane, founder of Penguin Books, to support general charitable causes. It makes grants to voluntary not-for-profit organisations which are small (as its grants are small) and where the work benefits groups of people who are unpopular in UK society today. The Foundation wishes to fund work which:

- will make a lasting difference to people's lives rather than simply alleviating the symptoms or current problems;
- is aimed at reducing isolation, stigma and discrimination;
- encourages or enables unpopular groups to share in the life of the whole community.

The Foundation is interested in funding work which benefits people in the following groups, or generalist work which includes significant numbers

from more than one such group: asylum-seekers and refugees; gay, lesbian, bi-sexual or transgender people; gypsies and travellers; offenders and ex-offenders; older people; people from black and minority ethnic communities and migrant workers; people experiencing mental health problems; people experiencing violence or abuse. If the beneficiaries of your work do not include a significant proportion of people from one or more of these groups it is very unlikely that your application will be successful.

The grants are relatively modest. Single, one-off grants range from as little as £500 up to £15,000.

<http://www.allenlane.org.uk/index.html>

### **Architectural Heritage Fund**

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) is a registered charity founded in 1976 to promote the conservation of historic buildings in the UK. It does this by providing advice, information and financial assistance in the form of grants and low interest working capital loans for projects undertaken by building preservation trusts and other charities throughout the UK.

Only organisations with charitable status are eligible for financial assistance from the AHF. Any charity with a qualifying project is entitled to apply for an options appraisal grant, or a loan, but the AHF's other grants are reserved for building preservation trusts.

Financial assistance is available only for buildings that are listed, scheduled or in a conservation area and of acknowledged historic merit. Projects must involve a change either in the ownership of a property or in its use.

<http://www.ahfund.org.uk/index.html>

### **Ashden Trust**

The Ashden Trust is a grant making charity focusing on climate change, sustainable development and improving the quality of life in poorer communities.

In order to make lasting changes in the UK and internationally it makes small grants (typically between £1,000 - £20,000) to organisations with a track record of delivering innovative and effective projects.

The Trust's long-term focus on climate change, sustainable development and improving the quality of life in poorer communities allows them to explore a range of ways to tackle these enormous challenges under six category headings:

Environmental Projects Overseas; Environmental Projects UK; Sustainable Regeneration; People at Risk; Community Arts; Social Investment Fund.

<http://www.ashdentrust.org.uk/index.html>

### **Biffaward**

Biffaward is a multi-million pound fund which awards grants to community and environmental projects across the UK. The fund's money comes

from landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services.

Biffaward offers four levels of funding:

- Main Grants – Community (£5,000 to £50,000): for projects that provide and improve community facilities.
- Main Grants – Biodiversity (£5,000 to £50,000): for projects that conserve wildlife species and habitats.
- Small Grants - £250 to £5,000: for projects that enable communities to improve local amenities and to conserve wildlife.
- Flagship Grants - £150,000 to £500,000: for regionally or nationally significant project which improve biodiversity or cultural facilities.

<http://www.biffaward.org/home>

### **Bridges Ventures**

Bridges Ventures is an investment company whose commercial expertise is used to deliver both financial returns and social and environmental benefits. It believes that market forces and entrepreneurship can be harnessed to do well by doing good. Their venture funds invest in businesses based in regeneration areas and in sustainable business sectors such as the environment, education and healthcare. They also recently launched a new quasi-equity fund for social enterprises. All funds raised by Bridges Ventures have specific strategies to achieve a positive social and/or environmental impact.

The Venture Funds invest equity in ambitious businesses with the potential to make strong financial returns and to have a positive social impact in at least one of two ways: regeneration and sustainable business.

The Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund is an initiative to address the funding gap often faced by fast growing social enterprises looking to scale. They currently have £4.25m for investment in scalable social enterprises delivering high social impacts and operating sustainable business models. The fund is currently open for investment.

<http://www.bridgesventures.com/>

### **BT Community Connections**

BT Community Connections is an award scheme which enables community and charitable organisations to get online and make use of information and communications technology (ICT).

Organisations, working in any field of community benefit, located throughout the UK or ROI can apply for a laptop and a year's free broadband connection. There are more than 1,000 award packages available to groups who can demonstrate how an award will benefit their work and the local community.

In the past silver-surfers, cultural dance groups, conservation organisations, mountain rescue teams, family support groups, healthy living clubs, arts and music groups, sports teams and youth groups have all been award winners.

<http://www.btcommunityconnections.com/index.php>

### **Charity Bank**

Charity Bank is the UK's only regulated bank that is also a registered general charity and is the only bank that uses 100% of its depositors' savings to support charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises that address society's needs. It supports and helps to strengthen organisations that serve society or communities, through finance, in order that they can maximise their social impact. It also provides a way for savers and investors who care about the communities in which they live and work, to invest in social profit organisations working for positive change.

Charity Bank offers savings accounts and funding in terms of loans (up to £1m) and leasing and assets finance.

<http://www.charitybank.org/>

### **Comic Relief**

Comic Relief has selected a number of focus areas for 2009-2012 which build on their previous knowledge and experience.

UK Grants Programmes

Mental Health; Domestic and Sexual Abuse; Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women; Sport for Change; Young People Facing Sexual Exploitation or Trafficking; Young People with Alcohol Problems; Young People with Mental Health Problems; Local Communities.

<http://www.comicrelief.com/>

### **Community Enterprise Loan Fund**

Highland Opportunity Limited (HOL) operates a Community Enterprise Loan Fund (CELF). Its loans are intended to support "non profit distributing" community-based enterprises in the Highlands. A typical client will be an entity with a constitution, such as a society, club, trust or company which does not pay any dividend or surplus to its owners, but re-invests in the business.

Loans up to £50,000 will be available, at interest rates from 5% to 9% depending on risk and whether security can be provided. Maximum duration of a loan is 7 years. Loans above £50,000 may be considered directly or syndicated with Social Investment Scotland. Decisions will be made by the Directors of Highland Opportunity Limited.

<http://www.highland-opportunity.com/CELF.html>

### **Co-operative Bank**

The Co-operative Bank's community accounts are designed to combine sound business practice with ethical values. Their community accounts offer free banking and pay credit interest.

Community Directplus gives charities, community groups, voluntary organisations and social enterprises an ethical way to bank for free. With Community Directplus organisations will:

- benefit from free banking;
- receive interest on credit balances of £2,000 or more;
- have the freedom to manage your account online, over the telephone, at the Post Office or by post;
- have the opportunity to apply for project funding from the Customer Donation Fund.

All Community Directplus account holders can apply for up to £1,000 from the Customer Donation Fund to support special projects and fundraising activities. The fund grows in relation to the deposits made; for every £100 increase in collective deposits across Community Directplus accounts the Co-operative Bank adds 20p to the fund and promises to distribute a minimum of £5,000 twice a year. Donations range from £500 to £1,000 and applications are judged twice a year in April and October.

<http://www.co-operativebank.co.uk/servlet/Satellite/1195199888588,CFSweb/Page/Business-CommunityBanking?WT.svl=nav3>

### **Esmée Fairbairn Foundation**

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation's aim is to improve the quality of life for people and communities in the UK both now and in the future. They fund the charitable activities of organisations that have the ideas and ability to achieve change for the better. They like to consider work which others may find hard to fund, perhaps because it breaks new ground, appears too risky, requires core funding, or needs a more unusual form of financial help such as a loan.

Their Main Fund is responsive to requests for support across a broad range of interests: the cultural life of the UK; education and learning; the natural environment; enabling disadvantaged people to participate more fully in society.

They have also identified four topics for more detailed attention: biodiversity; food; museum and heritage collections; new approaches to learning.

<http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/index.html>

### **Fairer Scotland Fund**

The Fairer Scotland Fund is allocated to Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to help them achieve sustainable economic growth by:

- regenerating disadvantaged communities;
- tackling poverty by helping vulnerable people and groups;
- overcoming barriers to employment.

The fund totals £435m over three years. This highlights the importance the Scottish Government places on increasing economic participation for all, improving social cohesion and creating stronger communities.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/regeneration/fairer-scotland-fund>

### **Forward Scotland**

Forward Scotland is delighted that the Big Lottery Fund is investing in the delivery of its **Sus it Out Plus** community empowerment programme. An award of over £400,000 will enable it to work with 150 groups, increasing awareness of sustainable development principles, developing group action plans and importantly providing funding to enable the building of vital skills and experiences.

The programme will run for two years and is open to community groups, new and existing, where they wish to develop themselves in a more sustainable manner.

Interested organisations should contact Forward Scotland directly at [christine.benvie@forward-scotland.org.uk](mailto:christine.benvie@forward-scotland.org.uk) or view their website (<http://www.forward-scotland.org.uk/Latest-news/community-sustainable-development-scotland.html>).

### **Future Jobs Fund**

The Government has created a £1 billion Future Jobs Fund to which local authorities and other organisations (including social enterprises) can bid to create around 150,000 new jobs. This is a new approach to create jobs and provide hope for young people and jobseekers in deprived communities.

This is an opportunity to create innovative, rewarding jobs for young people and others who face significant barriers in the labour market. Jobs must be additional and benefit the local community.

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/campaigns/futurejobsfund/>

### **Garfield Weston Foundation**

The Garfield Weston Foundation is a grant-giving charity for UK registered charities. The Foundation will also consider applications from a limited number of exempt organisations - churches, educational establishments, hospitals and housing corporations.

Over the past fifty years the Garfield Weston Foundation has supported a wide range of organisations with grants of varying sizes. Recent funding has supported projects in the following categories: arts; community; education; welfare; medical; religion; youth; environment.

With the exception of animal welfare charities, the Foundation supports a wide range of organisations across the UK and the Trustees do not consider one area to be of higher priority than another. The Foundation does not fund individual salaries and positions but will consider making grants towards general/core running costs. The Trustees aim to be as responsive as possible and therefore the decision on what to apply for should depend on the priorities of your organisation.

<http://www.garfieldweston.org/>

### **Google Grants**

In-Kind Advertising for Non-Profit Organisations - Google Grants is a unique in-kind donation programme that awards free AdWords advertising to selected charitable organisations. They support organisations that share their philosophy of community service to help the world in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy and the arts.

The Google Grants programme empowers non-profit organisations to achieve their goals by helping them promote their websites via advertising on Google. Google AdWords ads appear when users search on Google. When you click one of the ads, you are brought to the website being advertised.

<http://www.google.co.uk/grants/>

### **Heritage Lottery Fund – Scotland**

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is the UK's leading funder of diverse heritage including buildings, museums, natural heritage and the heritage of cultural traditions and language.

HLF will help groups and organisations of all sizes with projects that:

- conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy;
- help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about their heritage;
- help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage.

Heritage projects might include:

people's memories and experiences; histories of people, communities, places and events; cultural traditions; historic buildings and townscapes; archaeological sites; collections of items, archives or other materials; natural and designed landscapes; habitats and species; sites and collections links to our industrial, maritime and transport history.

At HLF – Scotland the aim is simple: to help people preserve and enjoy the shared heritage that has given Scotland its identity.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/english/InYourArea/Scotland/>

### **INCREASE III Programme**

The INCREASE III Programme is a £7.5m Scottish Government investment programme being delivered through a partnership between the Waste & Resources Action Programme Scotland (WRAP Scotland) and the Community Recycling Network for Scotland (CRNS) over a three year funding period 2008-11.

The aim of the INCREASE Programme is to help not-for-profit, community based organisations develop projects that will increase the reduction, reuse, recycling and composting of waste in line with the move towards a Zero Waste Scotland. Additional aims include:

- move sector away from a reliance on grant funding; develop financially sustainable community recycling models; Increase capacity of individual organisations to develop their ideas; allow for the implementation of new and innovative recycling services; consistent with the delivery of a Zero Waste Scotland; move towards sustainable waste management activities.

INCREASE III comprises four funding strands:

**INCREASE Capacity** - designed to increase the internal capacity of an organisation to deliver services either existing or new including training, market research, development of a business case/plan for a new project, financial system review, partnership building, project development, etc.

**INCREASE Small** - designed to provide quick intervention to organisations that will increase the level of materials they divert from landfill through waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and composting operations. Examples include:

- purchasing vital pieces of plant and machinery and H&S equipment;
- covering the provision of licenses and permits;
- accessing training programmes.

**INCREASE Prevention** - currently closed to applications, please check back later.

**INCREASE Enterprise** - currently closed to applications, please check back later.

<http://cms.org.uk/increase/>

### **LankellyChase Foundation**

The LankellyChase Foundation concentrates its work within the United Kingdom, seeking to promote social justice, highlighting unpopular causes and working with others to tackle them. The Trustees' policy is to encourage applications from organisations making a difference in areas which do not easily attract charitable funds and in which the Foundation's programme directors have developed particular skill and understanding. It offers grants, loans and support and advice.

The Foundation is committed to helping local organisations to find long term solutions to local issues and engaging the skills and talents of individuals to transform communities for the benefit of all. The Foundation wants to engage with organisations by providing strategic support which may involve the funding of key posts or underpinning core costs and therefore invite applications from organisations that are:

- community controlled and managed;
- responsive to the needs of all sections of their community;
- developing funding strategies which move towards greater sustainability.

<http://www.lankellychase.org.uk/index.htm>

### **Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland**

Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland is a grant making trust distributing in excess of £6m each year to recognised charities throughout Scotland. Its aim is to support and work in partnership with charities which help people, especially those who are disadvantaged or disabled to play a fuller role

in communities throughout Scotland.

It makes the majority of its awards through their standard grant scheme, funding a huge variety of organisations to carry out an even wider range of work. Many of the organisations it funds are small grassroots charities working in their own local communities. Recognised charities can apply to it for revenue and capital costs.

As well as providing funding for people and projects, it is also interested in helping charities themselves develop. Its capacity building grants are designed to help organisations run as effectively as they can by working with them to identify strengths and set out opportunities for development. Help is available for:

governance; financial management; fundraising; resource and financial planning; information technology; communications; strategic development; staff development.

<http://www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk/index.asp?cat=Our%20Grants>

### **National Lottery Funding in Scotland**

For every £1 that the public spends on Lottery tickets 28p goes to the Lottery good causes. These are the arts, charities and voluntary groups, heritage, health, education, the environment and sports. Lottery funders are the organisations that distribute the good causes money to local communities and national projects. The distributors of lottery funding in Scotland are listed below:

#### **2014 Communities**

Glasgow is hosting the 2014 Commonwealth Games and the Big Lottery Fund Scotland wants to ensure that it provides support to groups who want to benefit from this opportunity for people and communities across Scotland.

2014 Communities is a new micro grants programme, offering local sports clubs, voluntary and community organisations, community councils and schools grants of £300 to £1,000 to support and stimulate grass roots involvement in sport and physical activity. It is about building a legacy of well-being before and beyond the Commonwealth Games. The programme aims to encourage more people to take part or volunteer in sport or physical activity as well as encourage greater community cohesion in the run up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_2014\\_communities.htm?regioncode=-sco&status=theProg](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_2014_communities.htm?regioncode=-sco&status=theProg)

### **Awards for All – Scotland**

Awards for All gives grants of between £500 and £10,000 for people to take part in art, sport and community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

Awards for All is prioritising areas that have received less Awards for All funding than others, including the Shetland Islands. Some examples of what a grant can pay for:

equipment hire or purchase; feasibility studies for community building projects; improvements or additions to playing facilities; information technology equipment; building, refurbishment, landscaping or property projects (including playgrounds and temporary buildings) costing £75,000 or less (including VAT); materials for use in your project; publicity materials for use in your project; sessional workers (those who work only as and when required); start up costs; team clothing or kit; training; transport costs; updating equipment for health and safety reasons; venue hire; volunteer expenses; VAT that you cannot recover.

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/scotland/index.html>

### **Big Lottery Fund**

The Big Lottery Fund is committed to improving communities and the lives of people most in need.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/big-lottery-fund>

### **Investing in Ideas**

Do you have an idea that could help benefit your local community but do not know if it would work? The Big Lottery Fund has money to invest and they want to use it to turn your ideas into reality.

BIG has an additional £1.3 million to invest in the development of project ideas. Investing in Ideas can award grants of £500 to £10,000 to test and develop ideas that could eventually become fully-fledged projects. Investing in Ideas could pay for the things that can turn your basic idea into a well-planned project including:

- market research;
- feasibility studies;
- business planning;
- training for your committee;
- exchange visits in the UK to see how other projects work;
- community consultation;
- professional advice;
- technical reports and scheme design studies.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_investing\\_ideas?regioncode=-sco](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_investing_ideas?regioncode=-sco)

### **NESTA**

NESTA (the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts) is a non-departmental public body (NDPB) investing in innovators and working to improve the climate for creativity in the UK.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/nesta>

### **Olympic Lottery Distributor**

The Olympic Lottery Distributor's remit is to support the delivery of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

[http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/olympic\\_lottery\\_distributor-2\\_Distributor](http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/olympic_lottery_distributor-2_Distributor)

### **Scottish Screen**

Scottish Screen develops, encourages and promotes film, television and new media in Scotland.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/scottish-screen>

### **Scottish Arts**

The Scottish Arts Council champions the arts for Scotland.

[http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/scottish\\_arts](http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/scottish_arts)

### **Sportscotland**

sportscotland is the national sport agency for Scotland.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/sport-scotland>

### **UK Film Council**

As the lead agency for film, the UK Film Council aims to stimulate a competitive, successful and vibrant UK film industry and culture, both now and for the future.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/uk-film-council>

### **UK Sport**

Working in partnership to lead sport in the UK to world-class success.

<http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk/scotland/uk-sport>

### **Village SOS**

Village SOS is an exciting new initiative from the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and the BBC. It is searching for six UK villages with a great business idea and six enterprising individuals to act as Village Champions and help them achieve their ambitions. Together they will create a brand new venture that will bring new life and energy to the village with funding of between £100,000 and £400,000 from BIG.

The journey of the six successful villages and their Village Champions will be filmed for a major prime time BBC One series in winter 2010.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_village\\_sos?regioncode=-sco](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_village_sos?regioncode=-sco)

### **North Highland Regeneration Fund**

Small businesses and young companies often find it difficult to raise money to fund growth. The North Highland Regeneration Fund (NHRF) has been established by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to provide loan funding complementing other existing sources of funding for small businesses. This initiative is designed to pump-prime both the start-up of new ventures and the growth of existing businesses as part of the drive to replace the jobs which will be lost in the Caithness & Sutherland area as the Dounreay nuclear plant is decommissioned.

<http://www.nhrf.co.uk/context.html>

### **Public Contracts Scotland**

A web-based portal giving free access to contract opportunities in Scotland. Find details of contracts with Scottish Local Authorities, NHS Scotland, the Scottish Government, Agencies and NDPBs, Higher and Further Education and Emergency Services by browsing the available contracts. You can also register to receive free e-mail alerts.

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/default.aspx>

### **Rank Foundation**

The Rank Foundation is a grant giving charitable trust, restricted to causes within the UK approved by the Charity Commission. It concentrates exclusively on:

- encouraging and developing leadership amongst young people;
- supporting disadvantaged young people and those frail or lonely through old age or disability;
- the promotion of Christian principles through film and other media.

The Directors of the Rank Foundation see many examples of imaginative work at local level, some of which can be greatly encouraged by modest financial help from sources outside the local community. The Directors take into account the level of local support that can realistically be expected and whether a small grant from the Foundation will bring an initiative to a successful conclusion.

In considering unsolicited appeals, the Rank Foundation will tend towards projects where there are relatively small, attainable targets and they place great importance on clear evidence of local support. The Directors also take into account whether it is likely that any grant that they make will be put to immediate use.

Their small appeals programme is limited to one-off grants not exceeding £7,500. For grants above £7,500, please see the guidance on their website.

<http://www.rankfoundation.com>

### **Robertson Trust**

The Robertson Trust aims to be a flexible and helpful funder that builds relationships with the organisations it funds. It has a small staff team who

work hard to provide the support required by charities that wish to make applications. It wants to fund effective people and organisations that can make a difference and is willing to take risks and support new ideas; however, it will also fund ongoing work which can show it makes a difference. Grants can take the form of core funding including salaries and general running costs, project grants or capital grants for building or equipment.

The Trust has four priority areas which are:

- **Health** - activities which promote health, as well as those which seek to prevent or treat sickness and disease;
- **Care** - examples include palliative care, care for older people, people with disabilities, people with mental health issues, people who are homeless and offenders and their families;
- **Education & Training** - support for community-based education activities, capital projects at educational establishments and provision for people with special educational needs;
- **Community Arts & Sport** - aimed at encouraging young people to participate in artistic and sporting activities within their local community.

Applications will be considered from most other areas of charitable activity, including: work with children, young people and families; preservation of the environment; the strengthening of local communities; the development of culture, heritage and science; animal welfare and the saving of lives.

There are no minimum or maximum grants, but the following information should be noted:

- small grants - revenue grants of up to £5,000 and capital grants of up to £10,000.
- main grants - revenue donations in excess of £5,000 and capital donations of between £10,000 and £100,000. Revenue grants rarely exceed £15,000 a year and may be for core or project funding for a maximum initial period of 3 years. Capital donations will be for a maximum of 10% of the total project cost.
- major capital grants - capital donations in excess of £100,000, for which the overall project costs will normally be in excess of £1 million.

<http://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/>

### **Scotland Rural Development Programme**

The Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) is a £1.6 billion programme of economic, environmental and social measures designed to develop rural Scotland over the next seven years. Measures will be delivered through:

- Crofting Counties Agricultural Grant Scheme
- Food Processing, Marketing and Co-operation Grant Scheme
- Forestry Commission Challenge Funds
- LEADER initiative
- Less Favoured Area Support Scheme
- Rural Development Contracts

- Skills Development Scheme

Individuals and groups may seek support to help deliver the Government's strategic objectives in rural Scotland. The SRDP 2007-13 is very different from its predecessor. It brings together a wide range of formerly separate support schemes including those covering the farming, forestry and primary processing sectors, rural enterprise and business development, diversification and rural tourism. It includes measures to support and encourage rural communities and delivers the LEADER initiative for local innovation in rural areas.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Rural/SRDP>

### **Scottish Community Foundation**

The aim of the Scottish Community Foundation is to help Scotland's communities become stronger, believing that stronger communities will be more successful communities, with a better quality of life for everyone. It pursues this aim mainly through grant making, providing funding to community groups and charities, those that build and sustain communities at a local level.

Its Scotland-wide programmes provide awards - usually between £250-£5,000 - for a wide range of projects. Subject to eligibility, not-for-profit groups working to benefit people in Scotland can apply to these programmes at any time, although some programmes have annual deadlines.

It also has a variety of local grants programmes which benefit people in specific areas of Scotland. Details of these vary, including how much you can apply for, deadline dates, and how decisions are made.

<http://www.scottishcf.org/strengthening-communities/>

### **Scottish Investment Fund**

The Scottish Investment Fund (SIF) is a £30 million fund provided by the Scottish Government to be delivered in the current spending review period (2008-2011). It aims to build capacity, capability and financial sustainability in the third sector, ensuring a strong and active third sector reaches its potential and makes a key contribution to the national outcomes of the Scottish Government. In order to achieve this, the fund will support enterprise in the third sector through investment in individual organisations supported by integral business support and management development. It will offer significant investment packages to organisations in order to make a step-change in their capacity, capability and sustainability. It is anticipated that investments will be made in around 60-80 organisations over the period 2008-2011.

SIF will assist established third sector organisations located and trading in Scotland that have been trading successfully, partly through income generation, for at least three years. It will provide a blend of funding options with loan finance a key element of all investments.

<http://www.scottishinvestmentfund.co.uk/>

### **Scottish Natural Heritage**

Scottish Natural Heritage works with others to protect and improve Scotland's natural heritage and to help people understand, enjoy and care for it. SNH has eight grant schemes:

Special Places - managing special places to protect and improve their natural, wildlife and scenic qualities.

Supporting biodiversity - promoting, protecting and improving biodiversity.

Enjoying Scotland's Outdoors - activities to raise awareness and understanding of the new access rights and responsibilities, and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Paths and Routes - developing paths and routes which help more people to get out and enjoy the natural heritage.

Attractive Places to Live - activities to improve the quantity, quality and accessibility of green space in and around our towns and cities, and to involve communities in planning and managing them.

Involving People - activities to raise awareness and understanding of the natural heritage and to encourage more people to be involved with the natural heritage.

Rural Land Use - promoting sustainable approaches to land management in farming, forestry and moorland, and developing new techniques and approaches to tackle issues affecting their use and management.

Waters for Life - promoting sustainable approaches to managing freshwaters, coasts and seas, and developing new techniques and approaches to tackle issues affecting their use and management.

<http://www.snh.org.uk/about/ab-grants.asp>

### **Skye & Lochalsh Community Toolkit**

This resource has been developed for and with the help of community groups to help improve skills and knowledge and bring benefits to local communities. There are guidelines on a range of topics, including setting up and running a community group, legal requirements and good practice, planning and fundraising for a particular project and where to obtain useful statistical data on the local area.

Each topic page has internal links to related pages, including project case studies, and signposts to other websites, phone or e-mail contacts. Some pages also contain downloadable sample documents. The Print Site facility enables you to select and print topic pages of interest to your group. As topic pages are self-contained they can be kept in a binder and simply replaced as the web pages are updated with new information.

The 'Fundraising' page offers links to funders' web pages under the following sectors: community regeneration; social inclusion; welfare and disability; capacity building; small purpose grants; culture and leisure; children and youth; local environment.

<http://toolkit.slcvo.org.uk/ctoolkit?PageName=toolkit-home.htm>

### **Social Entrepreneurs Fund**

The £1 million Social Entrepreneurs Fund, launched in November 2008, is aimed at individuals who want to set up and run a business with a social or environmental purpose. The fund will provide financial and business support to help get new enterprises off the ground. It opened for applications on 2 March 2009 and will run for two years.

The fund will be managed by Firstport (<http://www.firstport.org.uk>) on behalf of the Scottish Government.

### **Social Investment Scotland**

Social Investment Scotland (SIS) invests in social businesses and community enterprises and its sole focus is on helping grow the size of the social business marketplace in Scotland. Through loan and other forms of finance it invests in organisations that have robust plans and can make a long term sustainable impact in our communities.

Through loan finance it invests in social businesses that have the capability to make sustainable social impacts.

Loan finance via SIS is available from £10,000 to £1m and is aimed at community enterprises and social businesses that might find access to finance from mainstream providers difficult. This might be due to the affordability of the finance, the structure required, security requirements or simply getting the right level of help and advice to turn your plans into reality.

<http://www.socialinvestmentscotland.com/index.html>

### **Third Sector Enterprise Fund and Third Sector Credit Union Fund**

The Scottish Government's Purpose is to create a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increasing sustainable economic growth. An enterprising third sector has a key role to play in achieving this goal.

The Scottish Government has invested £12 million in the Third Sector Enterprise Fund to help the third sector to contribute towards Scotland's success. The Fund aims to help established third sector organisations to become more sustainable and increase their capacity and capability.

It is expected that organisations who apply to the Third Sector Enterprise Fund are at an earlier stage of enterprise development than applicants to the Scottish Investment Fund. The fund offers awards of between £25,000 to £100,000 to third sector organisations who can demonstrate how they intend to make transformational step changes to their capacity, capability and sustainability.

£250,000 of the £12 million has been set aside specifically for Credit Unions. The Credit Union Fund will offer established Scottish Credit Unions between £2,500 and £25,000 to build their capacity, capability and financial sustainability. Credit Unions can also apply to the Enterprise Fund where the level of funding being asked for is more than £25,000.

It is expected that the majority of awards from both funds will be made throughout 2009.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/15300/funding/enterprising-skills-fund>

**Triodos Bank**

Triodos Bank finances companies, institutions and projects that add cultural value and benefit people and the environment, with the support of depositors and investors who want to encourage corporate social responsibility and a sustainable society. Its mission is:

- to help create a society that promotes people's quality of life and that has human dignity at its core;
- to enable individuals, institutions and businesses to use money more consciously in ways that benefit people and the environment, and promote sustainable development.;
- to offer its customers sustainable financial products and high quality service.

Triodos Bank offers a wide range of current accounts, deposit accounts and loan finance.

<http://www.triodos.co.uk/uk/>

**Tudor Trust**

The Tudor Trust is an independent grant making charitable trust which supports organisations working across the UK. It does not focus its funding on specific themes or programmes; instead it wants to fund a wide range of people and organisations working to achieve lasting change in their communities. Its role is to support and enable their visions, trusting the groups it funds to do the work that is needed.

Tudor aims to support work which addresses the social, emotional and financial needs of people at the margins of our society. It is interested in how organisations tackle these needs, and their root causes. It wants to encourage growth, progression and development, not just keep things as they are.

Although it still makes grants across its established funding areas (youth, older people, community, relationships, housing, mental health, substance misuse, learning, financial security and criminal justice) it is also open to hearing about work in areas it has not funded before.

There is no maximum or minimum grant amount. Grants can take the form of core funding (including salaries and running costs), development funding, project grants or capital grants for buildings or equipment.

<http://www.tudortrust.org.uk/>

**Unity Trust Bank**

Established in 1984 as a specialist bank for social enterprises, charities and trade unions, Unity Bank Trust are constantly working to deliver the right banking solutions for their customers.

Unity Bank Trust offers a wide range of current accounts, deposit accounts and loan finance.

<http://www.unity.uk.com/homepage/100018/homepage/>

**UnLtd**

UnLtd's mission is to reach out and unleash the energies of people who can transform the way in which they live.

UnLtd is a charity which supports social entrepreneurs - people with vision, drive, commitment and passion who want to change the world for the better. UnLtd do this by providing a complete package of funding and support, to help these individuals make their ideas a reality.

<http://www.unltd.org.uk/index.php>

### **Voluntary Action Fund**

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is an independent grant-making body which invests in voluntary and community based organisations across Scotland. The funding and support it provides enables them to undertake projects that challenge inequalities and overcome barriers to being involved in community life.

The VAF receives funding from the Scottish Government to enable it to support voluntary and community organisations in taking forward social change. The grant programmes are linked by the common threads of social inclusion and support for organisations to become stronger. The projects they fund are all focused on providing real solutions to identified community need. Each grant programme has its individual criteria and priorities as well as a direct link to government policy.

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/>

### **Western Isles Credit Union**

The Mission of the Credit Union is to promote the financial well being of its members. To achieve this purpose the Credit Union is committed to providing a broad range of innovative financial products supported by the excellent service of a dedicated, well-trained staff.

Western Isles Credit Union Ltd. is a community based financial co-operative owned, run and controlled by its own members. All Credit Union members have something in common (the common bond) and every member has an equal vote in the running of the Credit Union. Western Isles Credit Union Ltd. is a non-profit making financial co-operative run entirely by the people for the people.

Credit Unions encourage people to save, and members have financial security through low cost loans.

The Credit Union will consider loan applications from members for any worthwhile purpose. Each application is treated in the utmost confidence and will be considered on its own merits. It is credit union policy to meet the borrowing requirements of as many members as possible, depending on the available funds.

You must be a member of Western Isles Credit Union to apply for a loan with them and the maximum loan limit is £7,000, depending on individual circumstances.

<http://www.wicreditunion.co.uk/index.asp>

### **YouthBank Inverness**

YouthBank is a grant making scheme run by young people, for young people. It will provide funding for projects led by young people which benefit other young people and their communities. It covers urban Inverness and all the outlying areas, including Ardersier, Balloch, Beauly, Cannich, Croy, Daviot, Drumnadrochit, Farr, Fort Augustus, Strathdearn, Tomatin, and all the places in between.

Inverness YouthBank has no minimum or maximum amount that you can apply for (but they won't automatically give you everything you ask for!).

<http://www.youthbank.org.uk/content/page.asp?s=101&loc=home>