



# EU Connects :

Simplifying your route  
to European funding



**Dr. Julia Buckley**  
Europe 2020 Coventry  
16 Feb 2009

# What is EU Connects?



- EU funded project offering free public service to any WM org
- Funding Advice, support and co-ordination
- Complement existing services: networks, contacts, partners
- Partnership: match funded by 3 sources

Aims to increase the number and value of successful, EU-funded trans-national projects aligned to key regional priorities

To co-ordinate bids across different partners, and to simplify information from other EU sources

# Introducing our team



- Dr. Julia Buckley, *Manager*
- Jo Sartori, *PR & Marketing*
  
- Dr. Mohammed Yasin, *INTERREG & Marie Curie*
- Abdul Qadir, *Life long learning*
- Tatiana Panteli, *LIFE+*
  
- Katherine Shepherd, *Intelligent Energy Europe*
- Ewa Bloch, *Competitiveness & Innovation*
- Stephen Fox, *Rural Bidding Champion*



# Trans-national Funds



- Exchange of best practice with partners
  - > Knowledge transfer
  - > Innovative approaches
  - > Improve services
  - > Globally competitive
  
- Everyone is eligible
  - > No maps / geographic or sectoral requirements
  - > First timers welcome
  - > capacity building
  
- We do not take up our share of €
  - > Not very competitive

# Which funds?



## Life Long Learning

Vocational training  
skills  
Employability  
Innovative learning  
Policy or delivery

## INTERREG

Regional level  
Strategy  
Policy  
Exchange of  
best practice

## Competitiveness & Innovation

SMEs  
ICT  
Innovative research  
Energy efficiency  
Strategy or market devt.

## Marie Curie

Research staff  
SMEs / Unis  
Placements  
Fellowships  
networks

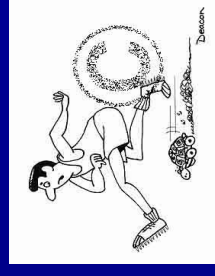
## LIFE+

Environment  
Protecting natural  
Assets / species  
Strategic / policy

# 3 Steps to Success



1. Promote partnership building
2. Link project ideas to local problems
3. Improve performance



# Why Bother?



- If you don't someone else will: success rate 87% - get the competitive edge!
- External funding for your core priorities (day job)
- Europeanise your work – International recognition
- Boost capacity, skills, profile, resources, confidence, languages, motivation
- Improve what you do
- Simple application, simple management process
- Connect with experts in other countries – network

**Because it's fun!**

# Get the most out of today



Up-to-date  
briefings  
from policy  
experts

Take away a  
free memory  
stick with all  
the relevant  
information

Understand  
the different  
types of  
European  
funding  
available

Best Practice  
Speakers  
explain  
benefit of EU  
projects

Meet some  
EU partners  
looking to  
involve you  
in their  
projects

Develop some  
potential ideas  
with the help of  
our team to start  
your project work  
today

Register to join  
our database to  
receive email  
updates, invites  
and opportunities

See how your  
existing work  
fits the  
funding  
programmes