

ANNEX A – REFLECTION EXERCISE QUESTIONS

Please keep your response as brief as possible and refer to supporting evidence if available. Feel free to answer some or all of the questions. Please stipulate whether your response refers to a specific programme or fund.

Please post or email your responses to the following:

Future Funding Team,
European Division,
Department of Finance and Personnel
Longbridge House,
20-24 Waring Street,
BELFAST, BT1 2EB

or

futurefunding@dfpni.gov.uk

If you have any questions regarding this exercise please contact DFP using the details above or telephone Peter Millen on 02890 347411.

The responses received will help the Executive to plan for any new programmes. A brief summary report of the responses received to date will be published in June 2012.

Name of organisation or group (if applicable):

The Commission for Victims and Survivors Northern Ireland

Responder Name:

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Details of any EU Programmes with which your organisation has been or is involved:

The Commission for Victims and Survivors currently have a scrutiny role in relation to the PEACE III Programme in terms of service delivery for Victims and Survivors.

Q1. What should be our investment support priorities for any future programmes, considered against the 11 thematic objectives outlined in the draft regulations? Please rank them in order 1 to 11 below?

Thematic Objective	Priority Order
Strengthening research, technological development and innovation	7
Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, information and communication technologies	8
Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises, the agricultural sector and the rural economy (for the EAFRD) and the fisheries and aquaculture sector (for the EMFF)	9
Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors	10
Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management	11
Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	4
Promoting sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures	5
Promoting employment and supporting labour mobility	1
Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty	2
Investing in education, skills and lifelong learning	3
Enhancing institutional capacity and an efficient public administration	6

E. EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION (ETC)

Territorial Co-operation covers cross-border cooperation, interregional cooperation and transnational cooperation. These programmes too must support the integrated territorial strategy for growth and jobs. Cross-border areas that share major geographical features should support the joint management, promotion and protection of natural resources. Cooperation in research and ICT can achieve critical mass, and economies of scale can be achieved in common services. ETC could support the coherent planning of transport and energy infrastructures, and strengthen cross-border labour market services to foster the mobility of workers across borders.

In addition to supporting the Europe 2020 thematic objectives, a PEACE programme between Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland shall also contribute to promoting social and economic stability in these regions by actions to promote cohesion between communities.

Q1(j) What should Northern Ireland's priorities be for engaging in the cross border ETC programmes such as PEACE, INTERREG,

The Commission for Victims and Survivors firmly believe that any future Peace Programme has a significant role and contribution to make in addressing the needs of Victims and Survivors. It also can make a contribution to helping to build a society that addresses dealing with the past and building for the future in terms of peace and reconciliation. The Commission would recommend a similar role and investment in PEACE IV to that outlined for Theme 1.2 in the current programme. The Commission would also strongly recommend that the needs of victims and survivors continue to be an eligible activity and integral part of any future PEACE programme.

Q1 (k) What should Northern Ireland's priorities be for engaging in the transnational and interregional co-operation programmes?

Q1(l) How best can ETC priorities (cross border) be aligned to those for regional programmes in Northern Ireland?

Q1(m) What steps, if any, can be taken to strengthen the contribution of those ETC programmes (transnational and interregional) in which Northern Ireland engages to broader economic objectives in Northern Ireland?

Q1(n) How can we build upon the successes of Northern Irish organisations in ETC (transnational and interregional) programmes and benefit from their experience and expertise to take Northern Irish engagement and influence to another level?