



### Changes to the Principles Relating to EU Funds Applications

There are new regulations coming into force on 1 January 2009 which will change the application procedure for EU structural funds.

#### The most important changes are:

1. Support levels: there will be changes in the focus of funding available.
2. Principles for obtaining funds: the applicant will have to show that the project could not be achieved without EU funding or could be achieved in a limited frame.
3. The individual notification thresholds per undertaking per project will change to (a) training and consultancy aid Euros 2 million (b) investment and employment aid Euros 7.5 million.

New tenders for training and investments projects are planned for the first quarter of 2009. In our experience, we have found that applications submitted early are more likely to be successful. We strongly recommend that you start preparing your application as soon as possible. We can provide you with practical advice on all issues relating to the application procedure.

#### Next Steps

If you are:

- (a) Interested in receiving a more detailed description of the changes to the principles for training and investment projects ; or
- (b) Considering applying for EU funds in 2009; or
- (c) Have questions about the application process; or
- (d) Need any assistance with the preparation of project documentation;

then please contact us to discuss this further.

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