Brussels, Berlin and Düsseldorf promote Bonn

To finance future-oriented municipal measures and the pursuit of urban development goals, cities are increasingly dependent on subsidies. In the City administration of Bonn, 91 employees are currently working on 96 co-funded projects. The total volume of funding from current projects in progress, amounts to around €101 million. A funding database developed within the municipal geodata platform, provides detailed information about projects from A “Ausbau der E-Fahrzeugflotte” (“Expansion of the e-vehicle fleet”) to Z „Zukunftsstadt Bonn” (“Citizen Participation: City of the Future - Bonn”). The highest financial volume has the “urban funding guideline for road building”, from which most funds are being used for construction of the Viktoria bridge. The state of North Rhine-Westphalia supports this bridge with around 15 million euros. Also seen overall - with a total funding of over 66 million euros - most financial support is collected from the federal state, then by federal government and the EU. Financial resource from foundations and sponsoring, have not played a significant role until now. A search request to the Fundraising Department can open up new sources of funding. The Department has access to more than 26,000 foundations, which primarily promote projects in the fields of culture, sport and of social institutions throughout Germany. Regarding sponsoring, company contacts, a network of Departmental promotion, is being used.

The Fundraising Department is trying to shed some light onto the jungle of funding opportunities through the funding database. Brussels alone has more than 500 funding programmes, some of them are described in detail in the European funding guideline*: an interesting read for people who are looking for ways to finance projects. The latest news from the funding landscape is revealed in the newsletter for funding opportunities*, which is published monthly in cooperation with the “municipal working group for funds”. It provides information about calls, competitions, events and deadlines.

Funding bodies

Federal state National level European Union Foundations Sponsoring

*Can be requested by e-mail at europa@bonn.de.
Dear Sir or Madam,

Dear colleagues,

Solutions for future challenges, can be supported or made possible through funding via different sources. Please make use of the consultancy service of the Fundraising Department in order to find a path through the “jungle of funding opportunities”. Our team is looking forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions regarding future projects.

In Brussels, preparations for the new funding period from 2020 until 2025 are operating at full stretch. It is already certain that the budget for the educational programme Erasmus+ is going to be doubled. Being one of the first City administrations which raised funds from Erasmus+, in order to offer a European internship, Bonn has obviously backed the right horse. As part of our internationalisation campaign for human resources development and vocational training, we are going to improve the capability of our employees to handle international and European challenges continuously. This could not be achieved without external funds.

With compliments

Wolfgang Fuchs
City Manager

European project partner cities open their town halls

Reykjavik, Gibraltar and Turku are 3 of over 30 cities in 24 European countries with whom the Federal City of Bonn has agreed a European project partnership. From 2,725 km distant Cypriot capital Nicosia to 203 km, near the Dutch city Utrecht, trainees and trainers from our City administration are welcomed in European town halls, fire stations, libraries, theatres and kindergartens. Since 2013, these stays abroad are being financed by the vocational training programme Erasmus+ of the European Union.

The City administration also offers group-oriented study visits. For example, the project “EurOpen”, funded by Erasmus+, stands for an open and tolerant Europe. Among others, groups of the City of Bonn learned about the following topics: inclusion (Vicenza/Italy); digitalization (Tallinn/Estonia); urban cycling infrastructure (Copenhagen/Denmark); and vocational training (Graz/Austria).

The future has already begun

Sustainable urban design for high quality living and the associated funding for landscaping, represent an ever-increasing challenge to innovative solutions. This means that City administrations have to cooperate closely with science and research institutions in order to successfully compete for European funding from the Horizon 2020 programme. Innovative projects and research, adapted to the needs of people and the economy, will decide which municipalities, despite tight budgets, will be able to maintain or even improve quality of living in their city. Science projects can be exciting and realistic, as the collaboration with the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Information Technology (FIT) demonstrates. By transforming a public stairway into an individual music creating experience, people chose not to use the electric moving stairway but rather, walk the stairs. This saved electricity and improved healthy behavior. The Project “Monica”, another cooperation with Fraunhofer FIT, has a more serious background. Cities such as Hamburg, Copenhagen, Leeds, Turin and Lyon are jointly testing the latest developments in security and sound technology for large events with support from Brussels.

Central consulting for funds

The Fundraising Department offers the following services:

- Advice for funding from the EU, the national level, the Federal state and foundations
- Consulting and support for sponsoring activities
- Initiation and implementation of funding projects
- Participation in funded projects
- Support regarding the writing of proposals/ the application procedure
- Stakeholder involvement
- VET and further education
- Implementation of EU funded study visits in the framework of the project “EurOpen”
- Facilitation of European internships in the framework of the EU project “Nice to work with you!”
- Project-related public relations (preparation of information documents, organization of subject-specific lectures and events)
- Organization and support of specialist delegation visits from the EU project partner cities in Bonn

The Fundraising Department is the central coordinating body for funding within the City administration. It also offers consultancy services for citizens of Bonn as well as companies, associations and other institutions. In order to accomplish these tasks, the Department cultivates a national and international network. In Germany, colleagues of the "municipal working group for funds" are at hand. In Brussels, the working contacts to the EU Commission and the city network EUROCITIES continue to assist.

Wolfgang Fuchs
City Manager