



Improving support
for a stronger third sector

Capacitybuilders' Newsletter 27 February 2009



We want every
organisation to be
able to find high
quality support that
meets their needs
when they need it

Welcome to the Capacitybuilders' Update

Capacitybuilders to work in partnership with Futurebuilders to deliver £16.5m Modernisation Fund



Capacitybuilders and Futurebuilders will work together in partnership to deliver the £16.5m Modernisation Fund element of the Government's £42.5m initiative to help the third sector through the recession. The Modernisation Fund - launched as a key part of the **Government's action plan** for the third sector - will help organisations become stronger and more resilient to the impact of the recession.

Capacitybuilders will launch its part of the programme in early summer 2009 - offering smaller grants to third sector organisations to assist them with the purchase of business support to help explore the benefits of collaboration, merger, restructuring. From April 2009, **Futurebuilders** will invite loan applications from larger third sector organisations with a primary focus on mergers, and activities related to the financial and capacity issues associated with these.

Funding across the Modernisation Fund will be targeted at organisations working in areas at most risk of being affected by the economic downturn and specialise in providing services of particular importance to communities during a recession, including family support, debt advice and counselling and tackling homelessness. To read more on this, please visit **our website**. A further update will follow at the end of March.

Capacitybuilders' recession response for consortia and national programmes



Capacitybuilders is committed to ensuring its programmes are of maximum benefit to third sector organisations during the recession, enabling the sector to deliver real help to local people in need.

We have asked all grant holders to consider how their current plans might be adapted to reflect specific and changing needs at the frontline, and offered extra resources to local and regional consortia and national support workstreams for immediate work to help the sector respond in these challenging times.

Working with OTS, Capacitybuilders is also gearing up to contribute to delivery of the third sector action plan, 'Real Help for Communities: Volunteers, Charities and Social Enterprises' launched on 9 February 2009. But unfortunately, we are not currently taking applications for any new funds. To find out more about this, please visit [our website](#).

Capacitybuilders' show of support for equalities organisations at Working for Equality 2009



On 12 February 2009, equalities organisations from across the voluntary and community sector gathered at the Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre in London for the 2009 Working for Equality event hosted in partnership by Capacitybuilders and [HEAR](#).

Now in its second year, this popular (London-focused) event - chaired by Chief Executive of the Women's Resource Centre and Chair of HEAR, Vivienne Hayes - generated a buzz of lively discussion and encouraged shared learning on the range of issues currently impacting the work of numerous agencies supporting frontline equality organisations.

In his first official speaking engagement since joining Capacitybuilders, Chief Executive, Matt Leach was pleased to show his support for the event which builds on a particularly strong strand of work in London to put equalities on the third sector agenda. To read more about this, please visit [our website](#).

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