

Between 2000 and 2007, East Midlands voluntary and community groups “won” £53 million of European Social Funds for projects to help thousands of vulnerable people gain confidence and skills and move into jobs.

£28.5m of this funding was thanks to CEFET's work

- Representing the sector's interests on the European Social Fund regional committee
- Feeding in the views and ideas of people who experience exclusion
- Championing a grassroots designed Community Empowerment Strategy
- Helping groups to get the funding and run the projects

CEFET brings the voice of excluded communities to regional strategic level – working to shape funding that will let communities take action.

Join CEFET's consultation and information network
Email register@cefet.org.uk
to receive email alerts and information.



For more information about CEFET, and Catalyst and Tiger projects, visit

www.cefet.org.uk

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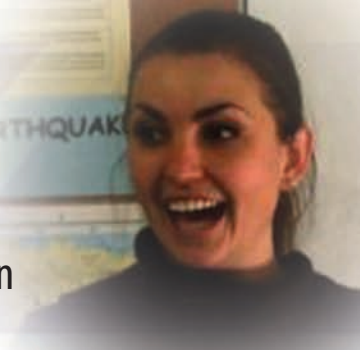


£53 million of European funding

to voluntary and community groups in the East Midlands.

Community Empowerment achieved by local people through Community Action and local solutions to problems of exclusion.

100s of small but **smart community projects run by people** living in the region's poorest areas – making **great changes** in their local area and their own lives.



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CEFET –
Coordinating European Funding
for the East Midlands Third Sector

East Midlands communities use European Social Funds to fight back against poverty and exclusion

Community Empowerment Strategy is a winner!!

The European Social Fund provides funding to help people in the East Midlands improve their skills and confidence and get back into work. Those who are the most in need often feel the most excluded from these opportunities to progress.

Learning from the experience of people in excluded communities, **CEFET** led on developing the first Community Empowerment Strategy resulting in £28m of ESF going to community led projects to promote inclusion between 2000 and 2007.

These projects, made up of and run by people from excluded communities have had remarkable success, where mainstream activity often fails. They have brought activity, energy, renewed hope and confidence, as well as skills and new initiatives to communities that have felt left out and let down for years.

This Community Empowerment Strategy and the internationally acclaimed Catalyst local social capital programme were praised in the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion.

Grassroots networking – building a strong voice to speak to policy makers – get heard!

CEFET is working to bring the voices of people in excluded communities to the table, so that their grassroots expertise can influence regional policy and programmes.

If you are a community group working on combating problems of poverty and exclusion, you are welcome to become part of the new focus group.

CEFET is the East Midlands arm of the European Anti Poverty Network, England, putting groups in touch with regional, national and European policy to combat exclusion.

We are also working with One East Midlands, to develop a social inclusion policy forum in the region. Be sure and register for our email alerts if you are interested in these issues

Catalyst and Tiger - Grants that empower people and their communities

CEFET has run the successful Catalyst and Tiger small grants programmes using European Social Funds.



Hundreds of small groups and individuals in deprived communities have used these grants to run small projects with big ideas. The experience has moved them from isolation to working together, from feeling powerless or unemployable to being active and engaged with changing their lives and helping their community.

Social enterprises, new businesses, new community facilities and support networks have been developed by all sorts of people, including disabled people, people from ethnic minorities and new communities, and those who have lost their skills and confidence from being out of work for a long time.

Projects in Action

St Ann's Flower Girls – mums got together to be trained, open a florists and help others progress.

Inspire Shop – people with learning disabilities open a charity shop, gain work experience and connect with the local community.

Vision Media – young people challenging stereotypes, using street billboards to promote their positive images and local businesses.

