



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Supporting Local Growth 2016



England European Regional Development Fund Programme 2014 - 2020



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

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Since March 2015 the current European Regional Development Fund Programme in England has been developing and supporting projects across the country which boost business and innovation and support local growth. Working closely with a broad range of partners, including Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Authorities, Universities, other Government departments and the private sector, hundreds of projects have been awarded funding.

Within this booklet we have highlighted a handful of these projects, including details on their impacts and benefits, in order to offer a snapshot of the wide ranging business support activity the programme funds. We have also translated a number of these projects into French and these can be found towards the back of the booklet. A full list of projects funded can be found on the 'useful resources' page of the programme website - www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding

By the end of November 2016 £1.04 billion of the fund had been allocated to a total of 365 projects. A further £456 million worth of funding was either about to be allocated or under consideration at that point. These projects will:

- create and safeguard local jobs
- support and improve the performance of small and medium sized businesses
- create new businesses
- support a shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors
- support local economic growth

Calls for projects can be found on the above website within the interactive and fully searchable 'Funding Finder' tool.

The European Regional Development Fund, or ERDF as it is commonly known, is used alongside complementary domestic growth programmes such as the Local Growth Fund, Enterprise Zones and wider growth development such as devolution deals. Given the requirement for ERDF monies to be match funded, it is able to lever local and national investment from both the public and private sectors. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for the England 2014 - 2020 ERDF Programme.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support — Growth Hubs

Growth hubs work across the country with local and national, public and private sector partners - such as Chambers of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses, universities, Enterprise Zones and banks - co-ordinating local business support and connecting businesses to the right help for their needs. They are locally driven, locally owned and at the heart of the government's plan to ensure business support is simpler, more joined up and easier to access. There is a live hub in each of the 39 Local Enterprise Partnership areas, covering 100% of the business population in England

The European Regional Development Fund is a significant contributor to Growth Hub funding in England, helping to ensure that the network provides good levels of coverage across the whole country.

The £12.7 million New Anglia Business Growth Programme (£6.35 million ERDF) will generate long term sustainable job creation, business start-ups and economic growth. Led by the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (covering Norfolk and Suffolk), it will deliver a proactive, targeted 'wrap-around' support service to both existing and start-up businesses with growth potential through three strands:

- Providing in-depth support and advice on issues such as supply chains, routes to markets and knowledge transfer, while assisting access to appropriate support;

- Offering a discretionary micro grant scheme which realises quantifiable efficiency savings, increased competitiveness, growth and resilience;

- Delivering a start-up programme supporting individuals and new businesses during the first two years of operation through tailored advice.

The **Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Growth Hub** provides a simplified, single access point to business support for businesses aiming for growth and businesses with growth potential.

Led by Cornwall Development Company Limited, it encourages and supports businesses to grow, innovate and invest through a one-stop business support, information and guidance service. It does this through an online web portal and social media activity backed by a telephone and face-to-face service delivered through a team of Business Connectors.

Aimed at eligible start-ups, micro businesses and small and medium sized enterprises, including social enterprises, the project is receiving £2.4m from the European Regional Development Fund and will support 1,856 businesses.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support — Financial Instruments

Financial instruments, co-funded by the European Structural Investment Funds, are a sustainable and efficient way to invest in growth and development in regions and cities. They support a broad range of development objectives which benefit a wide range of final recipients. They also have the potential to lever in additional public and private contributions and to be reused for further investments. Financial Instruments supported to date under the current England ERDF programme build on our experience of similar funds developed under previous ERDF programmes but on a larger scale. They combine new ERDF funding with additional loans from the European Investment Bank and the British Business Bank. This provides greater economies of scale and simplified administration to ensure that more money is available to invest in smaller businesses.

The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund will provide over £400 million of lending and investment directly to small and medium sized enterprises to boost economic growth and productivity in the Northern Powerhouse. The fund will also attract additional private sector funding and create a sustainable ecosystem of high growth companies alongside the support network of funders and advisors that they need.

The British Business Bank will work with 10 Local Enterprise Partnerships in the North West, Yorkshire and the Humber and Tees Valley in managing the fund, which will operate on a fund of funds basis. This approach allocates resources to fund managers, which will in turn lend to and invest in SMEs, offering micro-finance, debt and equity funding.

The North East Fund will provide over £145 million of lending and investment to SMEs located in the North East of England to accelerate local growth, investment and job creation.

This fund and The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund will work together to maximise their combined impact on the Northern Powerhouse economy.

Greater Manchester Fund of Funds will provide £60 million of investment in capital projects supporting urban development and low carbon initiatives in the Greater Manchester area.

The funds will make investments into projects which support research, innovation and development priorities and other commercial developments which provide energy efficient buildings for SMEs and capital investment in energy efficiency and generation projects.

Midlands Engine Investment Fund will provide over £260 million of lending and investment to SMEs. The fund is a joint agreement between the British Business Bank and eleven Local Enterprise Partnerships in the East & South East Midlands and West Midlands.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support

The **Ad: Venture** programme brings together a consortium of partners to deliver a comprehensive and substantial business start-up programme. Operating across the Leeds City Region it will address deficiencies in private sector job growth and raise entrepreneurship, enterprise and business start-ups.

The £12.3 million programme (£6.16 million ERDF) aims to harness entrepreneurial talent in order to create new enterprises and support the growth of companies during their formative years when they are most at risk of failure.

The programme supports the central government focus on private sector job growth and the rebalancing of the economy towards higher value jobs, particularly in support of the Northern Powerhouse objectives. It is also aligned with the local Growth Hub.

Ad: Venture aims to support over 1,200 enterprises, support the creation of 2,400 jobs (within supported enterprises) and provide 550 start-up grants.

The British Fashion Council's **Commercialising Fashion Creative Businesses** project in London (£5.5 million ERDF) supports fashion design businesses to grow and become more competitive. Businesses benefit from a development programme which includes mentoring and support that is specialist to the fashion industry. The project provides opportunities to promote designers' products at seasonal selling events including London Fashion Week and London Collections Men, as well as trade missions to showcase designers' collections to domestic and international buyers. The aim is to support businesses to grow, become sustainable, and boost the fashion sector in London.



Credit: Darren Gerrish, British Fashion Council

(TRAN-SIP) Transforming SMEs to improve their revenues through the adoption of advanced services: this £1.7 million project (£584,000 ERDF) will deliver the sustainable growth of technology focused small and medium sized enterprises in Greater Birmingham and Solihull, capturing significant untapped value from their customers through advanced services (servitization).

In phase 1 it will review the competitiveness of 80 SMEs and equip them to redesign their business model. Phase 2 will lead the 50 most promising through an in depth longitudinal engagement delivering business model innovation, organisational transformation and new technology adoption. These SMEs will be supported throughout by a community of practice and a package of specialised financial and legal expertise. The project will enhance local economic performance and create at least 70 jobs.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support

Coaching for Growth, £8.8 million ERDF
Providing support to small and medium sized enterprises



The project is providing focused support to eligible businesses with high growth potential, aligning closely to the Growth Hub to ensure joined up consistent support. It will drive economic growth by enhancing productivity, competitiveness, innovation and where appropriate investment readiness.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support

Growing Enterprise, £2.5 million ERDF
Business creation and growth programme



Led by NBV Enterprise Solutions Limited, this £5million co-financed investment fund will support 1,050 individual entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready, support 710 sustainable new businesses and support 912 growing small and medium enterprises.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Support

Made in North Tyneside, £900,000 ERDF
Improving the competitiveness of smaller businesses



Led by North Tyneside Council this project builds on the success of The Business Factory. MINT will support and encourage business start-ups and provide a package of support for local small and medium sized enterprises, creating 240 new jobs over three years.

Research and Innovation

The British Library's **Innovating for Growth – Start-ups to Scale-ups** project in London (£1.3 million ERDF) helps new and existing entrepreneurs and innovators on their personal journey from the first spark of inspiration to successfully launching and developing their businesses. The British Library Business & Intellectual Property Centre does this by providing access to the largest collection of business and intellectual property information in the UK, and facilitating this access through workshops, one-to-one advice and networking events. Entrepreneurs are supported to develop their business strategies, branding and marketing, to nurture their products & services. The aim is to achieve increased growth and competitiveness for each business.

The **Collaborate to Innovate** project is led by King's College London (£1.04 million ERDF). London has one of the strongest and most productive life science sectors in the world. The project supports businesses in this sector with research/product development/innovation needs that wish to collaborate with academics and researchers to develop their ideas further. Businesses are matched with experts from MedCity, University College London, Imperial College London and Queen Mary University of London. They are supported to commercialise their Ideas, products and services as a result of the collaborative support provided.



The Sir Henry Royce Translational Centre in Metal Alloy Powder-to-Part Manufacture will form the Sheffield City Region wing to the national Sir Henry Royce Institute Hub aimed at establishing a national centre for advanced materials and manufacturing research and is a key component of the Northern Powerhouse Initiative.

The Royce Translational Centre, an £8 million project (£4 million ERDF), will act as a translational research centre, translating scientific principles and techniques in powder manufacturing and processing, gained in collaboration with sectors including aerospace and Formula 1, and transfer this knowledge to SMEs in the automotive, medical, energy and construction supply chains.

The project will see the development of a 1,000m² facility based in Sheffield as part of the Advanced Manufacturing innovation District adjacent to the Enterprise Zone, and will create a centre of excellence to deliver state of the art powder manufacture and processing facilities.

Unique to the UK, the centre builds on existing expertise in advanced manufacturing in the Sheffield City Region and seeks to commercialise innovative technologies creating higher value jobs and businesses.

Research and Innovation

Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre, £5 million ERDF
For the purchase of equipment to support research



The equipment will allow the acceleration of application research and development, including new products, in partnership with industry and other research organisations.

Sensor City, £5 million ERDF

A Liverpool based sensor technical innovation centre



Sensor City will foster the creation, development, production and promotion of cutting edge sensor technologies for use in a wide range of sectors.

Information and Communications Technology

Digital Futures, £867,000 ERDF

Aimed at businesses in the creative and digital industry

North East Local Enterprise
Partnership area



**Help over 100
entrepreneurs**

**Create 75
jobs**

Led by Generator North East the project will deliver business support to potential entrepreneurs and new and existing small and medium sized enterprises, so they can harness growth opportunities, open up routes to market and gain access to national industry networks and specialist expertise.

Information and Communications Technology

Gameslab, £500,000 ERDF

Help companies thrive in the games industry



**Funding £5,000
to £30,000 to
help businesses**

**Create 12
jobs**

**creative
england**

**Leeds City Region
Local Enterprise
Partnership area**

This project, led by Creative England, will support small and medium sized enterprises producing games-related products and services to continue building upon Leeds' reputation as an incubator for the games industry and a leader in emerging game technology, innovation and industry leading intellectual property.

Inward Investment

Investing in Greater Birmingham, £1.99 million ERDF
Attract foreign direct investment



A strategic project tackling underperformance within businesses by attracting foreign direct investment through a programme of focussed services, promoting the area as a great place to live, work and visit and a positive environment for business to thrive.

Capital Build

The **Carludon Technology Park** project in Cornwall involves site servicing to provide development plots extending to 2.8 hectares and the construction of 2,289 square metres of speculative employment space for advanced manufacturing. The £8.25 million project (£6.24 million ERDF) will provide high quality workspaces for advanced manufacturing of components for the low carbon sector. It is intended to promote the growth of existing micro businesses, and support the creation of new enterprises and collaborative ventures within this sector.



Porton Science Park is a £6.86 million (£3 million ERDF) capital project comprising the first phase of development of a health and life sciences incubation and innovation centre on a 10 hectare site at Porton Down in Wiltshire.

Digital Office Park:

Chorley Council has been granted £4.1 million in ERDF funding to support the £8.4 million office park in Euxton Lane, Chorley, part of Lancashire's digital sector. Work is expected to start early 2017 on the park which will comprise 54,000 square feet of space and help to create hundreds of jobs.



The development will drive forward local economic growth and put Chorley at the centre of digital technology in Lancashire. It has been estimated by independent experts that it could generate an additional £18.5 million for the Chorley economy.

The project, which will create 200 full time equivalent jobs locally, will deliver 3870 square metres of flexible laboratory and office facilities for new and growing science and research based enterprises in Wiltshire. The centre, which will be open for occupation by small and medium sized enterprises in May 2017, will provide easy-in easy-out flexible offices and laboratories within a fully serviced and supported environment. The flexible design of the centre will make it suitable for both office accommodation and laboratory space, enabling a variety of science/tech enterprises and businesses to co-locate and collaborate.

Low Carbon / Sustainability

Low Carbon Across the South East is an £18.5 million (£8.85 million ERDF) accessible business support programme that is helping businesses improve energy efficiency by adopting eco-innovative and low carbon solutions. The approach will improve business performance in terms of resilience, profitability and competitiveness, while contributing to the protection and preservation of the environment.

The project is being led by Kent County Council and is supporting businesses to improve their energy efficiency through three primary work packages: stimulating demand, supporting supply and transferring knowledge.

These work packages will promote innovation and smart specialisation, accelerate business starts and growth, improve access to finance, increase trade and attract investment contributing to local growth. The project will:

- support 1,050 small and medium enterprises
- cut emissions by 6,510 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
- support 67 new business
- introduce 80 new products
- ensure knowledge transfer between 33 businesses
- create 270 new jobs

The **Cornwall Local Energy Market** project will address the problems of a heavily constrained electricity grid. It will design and build a local energy marketplace platform for the network to request, and the market to provide, flexible demand, generation and storage to help optimise capacity on the local grid.

Managed by Centrica, the £18.74 million project (£13 million ERDF) will aim to better match supply of and demand for energy by harnessing information technology and enabling flexibility in generation and consumption, with a view to reducing energy costs, enhancing grid resilience and increasing the proportion of renewables. It will promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources and promote research and Innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies, releasing up to 12 megawatts of additional network capacity within the region and saving an estimated 350,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

BEE Anglia (Business Energy Efficiency Anglia) is a £6.5 million (£3.25 million ERDF) programme aimed at driving growth in the low carbon economy by supporting small and medium enterprises across Norfolk and Suffolk to use business energy efficient initiatives.

Led by Suffolk County Council, the project will act as a catalyst for the implementation of business energy efficiency initiatives helping the move towards a low carbon economy in the area.

As a direct result of the project, businesses will receive support to reduce their operating costs through a more efficient use of energy, improving their competitiveness and consequently seeing growth and resilience.

Low Carbon / Sustainability

Supply Chain in Offshore Renewable Energy (SCORE),
£3 million ERDF. Supporting businesses



This grant fund will support smaller businesses to develop new and innovative technologies in the offshore renewable energy sector, addressing supply chain needs and promoting research and innovation to enhance capability to compete in a global market.

Une sélection d'études de cas en français

L'Avenir Numérique, 867.000 £ ERDF Visé aux sociétés créatives et numériques

Nord-est d'Angleterre



Géré par Generator North East, ce projet fournira des services d'assistance commerciale aux entrepreneurs et aux petites et moyennes entreprises (PMEs) nouvelles et existantes. Ce projet donne l'occasion pour ces PME de tirer parti des opportunités de développement, d'ouvrir les routes au marché, et d'accéder aux réseaux de l'industrie nationale et l'expertise spécialisée.

Soutien Commercial aux Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (PME): Le projet de British Fashion Council, **Commercialising Fashion Creative Businesses à Londres** (5.5m £ ERDF) soutient les entreprises de création de mode au but qu'elles croissent et deviennent plus concurrentielles. Grâce au projet, les entreprises ont accès au programme de développement, qui comprend le mentorat et l'appui spécialisé à l'industrie de création de mode. Ce projet donne aux créateurs de mode l'occasion de promouvoir leurs produits aux événements saisonnière de vente. Ceux-ci comprennent London Fashion Week et London Collections Men, ainsi que les missions commerciales, assistées par des acheteurs nationaux et internationaux, qui donnent une vitrine pour les créations de mode des jeunes talents. Le but est de soutenir la croissance de ces entreprises, de promouvoir leur viabilité et de stimuler le secteur à Londres.

Projets d'immobilisation: Le projet, Carludon Technology Park à Cornwall fournira des parcelles de 2.8 hectares prêt pour développement, et construira 2289 mètres carrés d'espaces de bureaux spéculatif pour l'industrie de la fabrication avancée.

Le projet recevra 8.25 millions £ (6.24 millions £ ERDF) et fournira des espaces de bureaux de haute qualité, pour la fabrication avancée des composants à utiliser dans le secteur de l'énergie à faible Carbone. Le but est de promouvoir la croissance des micro-entreprises existantes et de soutenir la création de nouvelles entreprises et des projets de collaboration dans ce secteur.

Investing in Greater Birmingham - 1.99m £ FEDER. Attirer des investissements étrangers directs

Dans la région de Greater Birmingham et Solihull



Un projet stratégique pour lutter contre les résultats insuffisantes des entreprises, en attirant des investissements étrangers directs dans un programme de services spécialisés, l'objectif étant de promouvoir qu'il fait bon vivre, travailler et visiter la région et que c'est une ville où les entreprises peuvent prospérer.

Une sélection d'études de cas en français

Un instrument financier est un moyen durable et efficace d'investir dans le développement des villes et des régions. Ces instruments financiers soutiennent un vaste éventail d'objectifs de développement et ceux-ci bénéficieront à nombreux destinataires finaux. Également ces instruments peuvent mobiliser des fonds publics et privés et être réutilisés pour d'autres placements.

Greater Manchester Fund of Funds fournira 60 millions £ pour des projets d'immobilisations qui soutiennent le développement urbain et les initiatives d'énergie à faible Carbone dans la ville et la région de Manchester. Le fonds va investir dans des projets qui soutiennent les priorités du développement et d'autres développements commerciaux qui fournissent des bâtiments économes en énergie pour les PME, et l'investissement immobilier dans l'efficacité énergétique et la production d'énergie.

Supply Chain in Offshore Renewable Energy – 3 m £ FEDER soutenir les petites et moyennes entreprises



Un fond de subvention délégué soutiendra les PME dans le développement de nouvelles technologies innovantes dans le secteur d'énergies renouvelables en mer, afin de répondre aux besoins de la chaîne d'approvisionnement et pour améliorer leur capacité de faire concurrence dans un marché global.

Porton Science Park est un projet immobilier qui recevra 6.86 millions £ (3 millions £ FEDER) pour le premier étage du développement d'un centre d'incubation et d'innovation en matière de la santé et des sciences de la vie sur un terrain de 10 hectares à Porton Down, Wiltshire.



Le projet, qui va créer 200 emplois (équivalent plein temps), fournira 3870 mètres carrés d'espaces de bureaux et de laboratoires, pour les nouvelles entreprises et les entreprises en croissance, en matière de sciences et de recherche.

Le centre, fournira des espaces de laboratoire et de bureaux équipés et flexibles. Le design flexible du centre permet l'usage de l'espace comme laboratoire ou bureau et par conséquent une variété d'entreprises peut s'y installer et travailler en collaboration.

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