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| European Union Logo | Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014-2020  Citizens Summary 2019 |
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| **In This Issue**   * What is ERDF? * Objectives * Press Releases * Case Studies   **Useful links**   * NI [IGJ website](http://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/) * [Invest NI website](http://www.investni.com/)   **Contact Us:**  [igjni@economyni.gov.uk](mailto:igjni@economyni.gov.uk) | Programme Overview  ERDF is one of a number of European Union Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds.  The ESI funds have been specifically designed to reduce structural imbalances in economic performance within and between EU member countries. In the UK funds are administered at a regional level to address regional issues. Part of the ERDF funding that Northern Ireland receives is delivered through the Investment for Growth and Jobs (IGJ) Programme.    The Programme value is **€522m.**  Objectives  The strategic objective of the Programme is to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the achievement of economic, social and territorial cohesion, and high levels of employment and productivity.  The Programme aims to:   * stimulate innovation, R&D and creativity * encourage business growth * compete in the global economy   The programme has three key priorities:  **Priority 1 – Research Technological Development and Innovation**  €128.6m ERDF has been delivered through Invest NI – Provision of grants for R&D and support for Design. 228 unique businesses have benefited from this assistance.  **Priority 2 – SME Competitiveness (Invest NI)**  €92.7m ERDF has been delivered though Invest NI – Financial Instruments, Selective Financial Assistance and Local Economic Development. Providing a suite of Access to Finance and SME Growth initiatives. 311 investments have been made from Financial Instruments.  **Priority 3 – Energy from Renewable Sources (DfI and DfC)**  €36.1m ERDF Rapid Transit and Energy Efficiency in Social Housing has been delivered through Department for Infrastructure (Belfast Rapid Transit Scheme, support for new depot and ticketing machines), and Department for Communities (improvement of energy efficiency in social housing). |

|  | Press Releases  Invest NI publishes press releases to promote ERDF funded activity, a selection of which can be accessed through the following links:   * Invest NI announces two new Equity Funds for investments in Innovative SMEs * [Raylo set to innovate smartphone industry with Northern Ireland centre](https://www.investni.com/media-centre/news/raylo-set-innovate-smartphone-industry-northern-ireland-centre) * [UAE and Qatar export success export success leads to new jobs at Derry-based Joule](https://www.investni.com/media-centre/news/uae-and-qatar-export-success-leads-new-jobs-derry-based-joule)   Case Studies  **Neurovalens** is a Belfast based health a tech company and a global leader of neuro-technology products, is embarking on the development of a ground-breaking medical device for the treatment of obesity.  [Dr. Jason McKeown on how to Access to Finance has helped **Neurovalens** grow](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lm27tPjD5bQ)  **Creative Composites Ltd** is investing £11million in new machinery and expansion of its facilities to capitalise on growth opportunities for composite components. 132 new jobs are also being created as part of the expansion, half of which are already in place. The new jobs being recruited include production operatives, engineering and managerial positions. Once all the jobs are in place they will generate over £2.7million annually in additional salaries to the local economy.  **Neurovalens** embarks on second ground-breaking R&D project and creates 22 new jobs. The company specialises in combining neuroscience and technology to tackle global health challenges such as obesity, diabetes and sleep disorders. The investment in research and development will be accompanied by the creation of 22 jobs to support business-wide growth.  The Managing Authority regularly updates the dedicated [**Programme Website**](http://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/case-studies/) highlighting the benefit that ERDF funding makes in Northern Ireland  Further Reading  [Annual Implementation Report 2019](http://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/downloads/Implementation_report_2014UK16RFOP003_2018_0_en.pdf)  Read the full version of the Annual Implementation Report for 2019  [The Northern Ireland ERDF IGJ Programme Citizens Summary 2014-2020](http://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/downloads/Master_Citizens_Document_-_Draft_5.pdf)  Read a summary of the Programme and its role within Northern Ireland |
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