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| European Union Logo | Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014-2020Citizens Summary 2022 |
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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 | What is the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)?The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is the main EU Structural and Investment (ESI) Fund used to support economic development in countries and regions across Europe.The ESI funds have been specifically designed to reduce structural imbalances in economic performance within and between EU member countries.In the UK funds administered regionally level to address regional issues.ObjectivesThe strategic objective 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 a total value of €522m, over €313m of which comes directly from the ERDF.The programme has three key priorities:**Priority 1 – Research Technological Development and Innovation**€136.06*m* ERDF is allocated to Invest NI for administration of grants to support R&D and to provide consultancy support for business through the Design Service. 1,418 enterprises have benefitted from this assistance and the number of Companies engaged in R&D since 2014, has doubled, 495 in 2014: 1,234 in 2022.**Priority 2 – SME Competitiveness (Invest NI)**€122.25*m* ERDF is allocated to Invest NI to implement Financial Instruments (equity and loan funds) and provide support for entrepreneurship and development of Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs). 566 SMEs have been supported and employment within micro and small business is now at 333,000 against a baseline of 297,000. The number of SME high growth companies has increased from a baseline of 695 in 2013 to 900 in 2022. **Priority 3 – Energy from Renewable Sources (DfI and DfC)**€45.1m ERDF assigned in total. €22.15*m* support for the Belfast Rapid Transit System was delivered through Department for Infrastructure. A further c€23m is allocated for improved energy efficiency in NI Housing Executive’s social housing stock. |

|  | Press Releases Invest NI publishes press releases to promote ERDF funded activity, one of which can be accessed through the following links:* <https://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/case-studies/en/Shnuggle>

[[Neil Simms | Clarendon Fund Managers | Access to Finance - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWQWwvdP8UU)| ClaFund Managers | Access to Finance - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWQWwvdP8UU)Case Studies **CV6 Theraputics** * Invest NI ERDF R&D support is helping this company to invest in first-stage clinical trials and further scientific development on its anti-cancer drug “CV-168”
* CV6 will be carrying out further scientific research with Queen’s and initiating the clinical trial with sites including the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

**Belfast Distillery Company*** ERDF support from Invest NI via Selective Financial Assistance has enabled the Belfast Distillery Company (J&J McConnell’s Distillery) to regenerate Wing A of the Crumlin Road Gaol into a world-class visitor experience boosting the economy as both an export business, and a tourism offering.
* 49 new jobs will also be created as a result of this investment.

**TruCorp*** TruCorp has received ERDF Grant for Research and Development funding and support from Invest NI to develop its new Difficult Airway Manikin called ‘Airsim Difficult Airway’.
* TruCorp specialises in the design and production of medical training products for improving medical best practice, with emphasis on Trauma and Clinical skills.
* The new manikin will enable health professionals to practice complex airway management and intubation processes for effective patient treatment.

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 IrelandFurther Reading[Annual Implementation Report 2022](http://www.jobsandgrowthni.gov.uk/publications/annual-implementation-report/)Read the full version of the Annual Implementation Report for 2022[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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