

**European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
Investment for Growth and Jobs (IGJ) Programme
2014-2020**

SELECTION CRITERIA



Introduction

1. As Managing Authority it is the responsibility of DETI to ensure that projects are selected for funding which will help achieve the objectives of the Programme.
2. As a Government Body we are also required to ensure that NI Managing Public Money requirements are addressed in the assessment process.
3. The Programme Monitoring Committee is required to approve the selection criteria to be used in the selection of operations to be funded.
4. As such, DETI has developed selection criteria which aim to address all regulatory and mandatory requirements.
5. The selection criteria (Annex A) will apply to the projects being considered under:
 - Priority 1 – Research, technological development and innovation;
 - Priority 2 – Competitiveness of SMEs
6. As indicated in the approved Operational Programme, Priority 3 (Low Carbon) contains only one operation which is defined as a Major Project (MP). In accordance with the EC Regulations, the project application will be submitted to the EC for consideration against the stipulated criteria.
7. Priority 4 provides a Technical Assistance budget which is used to meet the cost of Programme development, implementation and delivery. Applications for TA will be submitted by the Programme delivery bodies and will be considered against the eligibility rules for Technical Assistance as set out in the Common Provisions Regulation (EC Regulation 1303/2013). If the activity is compliant and the expenditure also meets Government value for money criteria which are assessed through internal approval processes, it will be approved.

May 2015

INVESTMENT FOR GROWTH AND JOBS PROGRAMME 2014-2020 - PRIORITY 1 & 2 SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria	Assessment/Comment	Score
Strategic Fit PRIORITY 1 (Potential to promote and strengthen research, technological development and innovation) OR PRIORITY 2 (Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Describe how the proposed activity will contribute to promoting and strengthening research, technological development and/or enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, including how the project will contribute to the indicators and targets relevant for the Priority (attached Annex A) ▪ How does the project fit with the customers' business strategy? ▪ How does the project fit with the Programme for Government and Invest NIs Corporate Plan ▪ Has a study been carried out in relation to the activity? If so, please summarise the findings and attach copies if possible. 	/40
Viability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What is the financial position of the business? ▪ Will the project be successful? ▪ Will it be self-sustaining after the ERDF is no longer available? ▪ What are the projected outcomes? 	/10
Project Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Background to the company ▪ Has the company delivered a similar activity previously? 	/10
Economic Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How does the project satisfy the economic efficiency criterion? ▪ Will the investment have an adequate prospect of a return? ▪ Will the project deliver a net benefit to the NI economy? 	/10

Value for Money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Describe how the proposed activity will provide value for money for the investment –quantified if possible. ▪ Conclude on the assessment detailed in previous areas of the casework in terms of the value for money that the project presents. 	/10
Additionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Outline the rationale for Invest NI/EU funding ▪ Will the project proceed without Invest NI/EU funding support? 	/10
Promoting sustainable development and the creation of sustainable communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Record the project’s Developmental Path analysis assessment <p><i>DPA Assessment: A=5 marks; B=6 marks; C=7 marks; D=8 marks; E= 9 marks; F= 10 marks (A minimum of 5 needs to be received in the DPA. If a DPA cannot be assigned the project should not be supported)</i></p>	/10
TOTAL	<p>Each individual criteria must score a minimum of 50% Minimum 65 out of 100 required for ERDF support to be approved</p>	/100

Developmental Path Analysis Categorisation Form

Project Applicant:

Project Name:

Using the project details supplied during the application process, please assess the likely impact of the project on the environment and assign the project to the development path to which it most closely corresponds.

- | | | |
|----|----|----|
| A. | B. | C. |
| D. | E. | F. |

Signed and dated _____ Client Executive _____