

Citizens Summary 2022

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.

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 regionally to address regional issues.

Objectives

The strategic objective is to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, 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.

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Useful Links

[NI IGJ website](#)

[Invest NI website](#)

Programme Achievements

Programme in Numbers



Priority 1:

€136.06m ERDF is allocated to Invest NI for administration of grants to support R&D and to provide consultancy support to 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 more than doubled, 495 in 2014; 1,234 in 2022

Priority 2:

€122.25m 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 businesses 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.

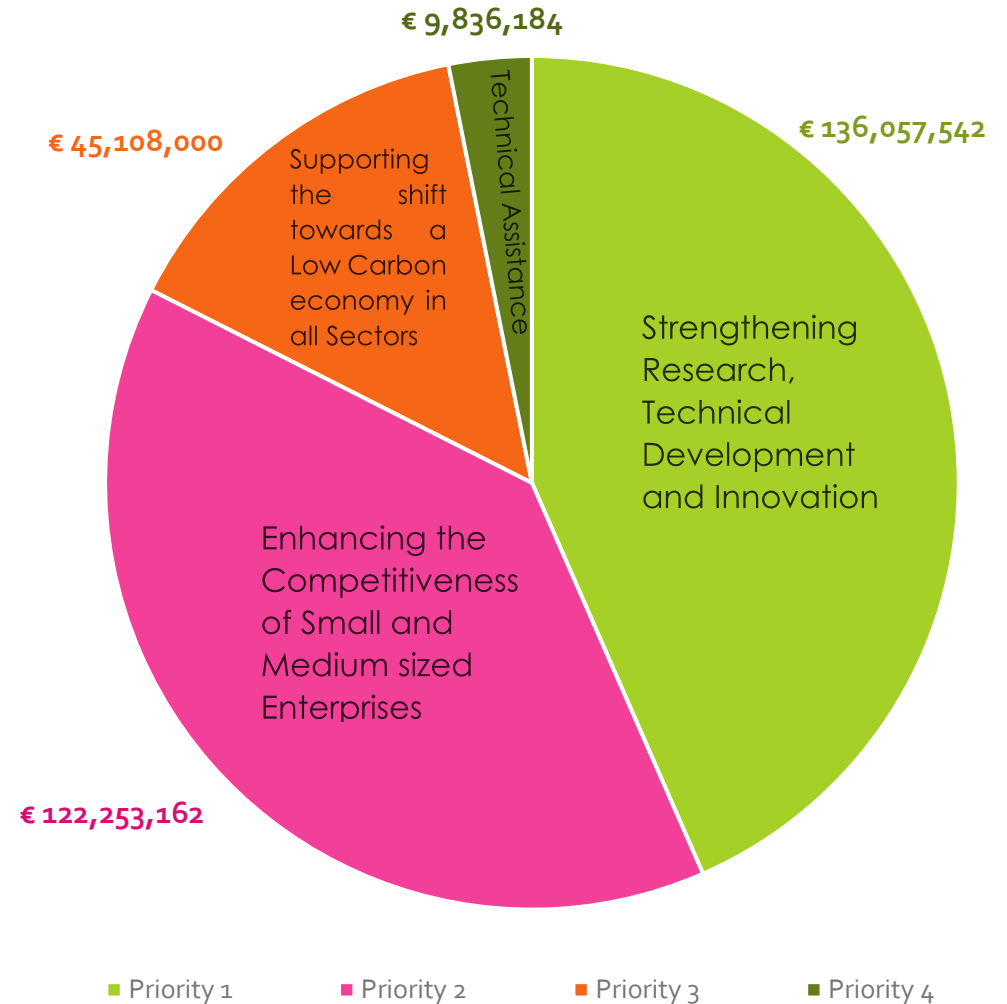


Priority 3:

€45.1m ERDF assigned in total. **€22.15m** support for the Belfast Rapid Transit System was delivered through the Department for Infrastructure. A further **€23m** is allocated for improved energy efficiency in NI Housing Executive's social housing stock



Financial allocations from the European Regional Development Fund



Programme Case Studies



CV6 Therapeutics

- 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 "CV6-168".
- 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.

Invest NI publishes press releases to promote ERDF funded activity, one of which can be accessed through the following link:

[Sinead Murphy | Shnuggle | Access to Finance - YouTube](#)

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Annual Implementation Report 2022

Read the full version of the Annual Implementation Report for 2022

The NI ERDF IGJ Programme Citizens Summary 2014-2020

Read a summary of the Programme and its role within Northern Ireland