



North East England ERDF Competitiveness Programme 2007-13

Summary of Projects

November 2007 - July 2012

Delivering Energy Efficient Low Carbon Sustainable Industry (DEELOCSI)

What is the project about?

A range of support measures will help SMEs across the North East improve their environmental management. It is aimed at SMEs within the process industries ie manufacturing, engineering, logistics, measurement service, financial and training and will be delivered by a core team employed by the North East of England Process Industry Cluster Limited (NEPIC). The project is aimed at ensuring manufacturing organisations and supply chain companies become more proficient in managing key issues such as resources efficiency, energy efficiency and de-carbonisation in order to remain competitive in process sector markets where purchasers and raw material buyers are requesting suppliers to demonstrate that they are resource efficient, lowering their carbon footprint and green credentials.

What will the project achieve?

A series of workshops will be delivered which will result in over 100 SMEs being assisted with improved performance and/or environmental management and/or energy efficiency. As a result 25 jobs will be created and 150 safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

The North East of England Process Industry Cluster Limited (NEPIC)

How much ERDF investment?

£746,025

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,496,080

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dr Stan Higgins, CEO NEPIC on 01642 442560, email stan.higgins@nepic.co.uk or visit www.nepic.co.uk

Tees Valley Unlimited ERDF Support 2012-2014

What is the project about?

It is continuation funding to allow Tees Valley Unlimited to continue to provide a technical assistance role throughout the Tees Valley to help deliver the current 2007-13 Programme but also to assist in the preparation and delivery of the new 2014-2020 Programme. A key focus will be the co-ordination and development of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Strategy to prioritise the remaining ERDF and other match funding – Regional Growth Fund (RGF) and Growing Places Fund (GPL) – within the Tees Valley area.

What will the project achieve?

This project will enable TVU to continue to support DCLG and the Tees Valley Local Authorities in contributing towards achieving the region's targets. It will support the Tees Valley LEP to maximise the synergy and coordination between ERDF, RGF, GPF etc where eligible, thus supporting efforts to ensure ERDF N+2 targets are met.

Who is leading the project?

Stockton Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£179,414

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment?

£359,467

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sue Donnelly Investment Planning Manager at Tees Valley Unlimited on 01642 524422, email sue.donnelly@teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk or visit www.teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk

Business Generator

What is the project about?

The project involves the delivery of a programme comprising four linked activities incorporating a variety of workshops engaging with eligible businesses over a two-year period. Workshops/events include mentoring and facilitated introductions to buyers will help support North East businesses. It will deliver a regional supplier development project that will increase the capability and capacity of SMEs in the North East to identify and win publicly and privately procured business opportunities. The project will be open to companies and third sector organisations.

What will the project achieve?

It will assist 270 eligible SMEs in their ability to identify opportunities, write and win new contracts and sales orders over a 24 month period. This will in turn create 30 jobs and safeguard 87 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business and Enterprise Commercial Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£377,250

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£754,500

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Tracey Watson at Business and Enterprise Commercial Ltd on 0191 426 6100, email Tracey.watson@business-enterprise.net or visit www.business-enterprise.net

Redcar Business Space

What is the project about?

The project is located within the town centre of Redcar, Cleveland and forms part of the Redcar Regeneration Masterplan - a 15-year framework which sets out the council's strategy for the future to create a sustainable economic future for the borough. The overall aim is to create 2,062m² of managed workspace space of which 1,649m² (80%) is for use by ERDF eligible SMEs. The facility comprises two floors within the new Civic building which is being developed as part of the wider Redcar Leisure Community Heart scheme.

What will the project achieve?

The objective is to provide a long term facility to new SMEs requiring high quality managed workspace accommodation and to help deliver transformational change and regeneration within the borough of Redcar and Cleveland. In doing so it will create 24 new jobs, develop 0.2 hectares of brownfield land, construct 2,062m² managed workspace providing office accommodation, meeting rooms and break out areas for eligible SMEs. It will also achieve a BREEAM rating of *very good*, but will strive to achieve *excellent* rating through the integration of energy efficiency systems and use of environmentally friendly materials during construction.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,742,546

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3,485,093

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Lydia Scarth at Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council on (01642) 444 359 or email Lydia.scarth@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Washington Managed Workspace

What is the project about?

It will attract, start, and grow a range of businesses in Sunderland by providing a mix of high quality flexible hybrid workspace/office space and an appropriate technical and communications infrastructure. The project will support both new start up businesses and existing businesses that are currently home-based and businesses that are looking to move to more appropriate premises. Of the total businesses supported 20 will be new, three will be existing businesses attracted to the region and 11 will be existing businesses. The businesses will include those working in the area of electric vehicles (or other low carbon enterprises) that would like to be part of a hub of low carbon businesses and those who need slightly larger or more convenient premises.

What will the project achieve?

It will create up to 5,200m² of net lettable floor space and aims to create up to 155 gross jobs, and safeguard 62 jobs. There will be 25 offices and nine workshop units developed which will support 34 businesses during the first three years of the project life.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£3,340,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£6,680,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sunderland City Council's Lynsey Barnes on 0191 561 1661 or lynsey.barnes@sunderland.gov.uk or Berni Whitaker on 0191 305 1205 or berni.whitaker@sunderland.gov.uk. Alternatively visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

DigitalCity Innovation and Growth

What is the project about?

The project supports the DigitalCity initiative to nurture and grow digital and creative industries and retain graduate talent to develop digital skills. The project involves five key strands of activity: Innovation Lab and Fellowships, which will award 66 fellowships to aspiring entrepreneurs; Digital Industry Placement Programme, which will provide six-month postgraduate placements within SMEs

operating in the digital and creative sectors; Community Engagement to help SMEs improve their performance; Digital Industry Specialists Workshop Programme as well as Foresighting and Networking Events. The project will be delivered by a team employed by the University, specifically for the project.

What will the project achieve?

- 257 new and existing SMEs to be assisted;
- 182 SMEs assisted with improved performance;
- 162 gross new jobs created;
- 66 new Collaborations with the knowledge base;
- 207 people in the workforce of SMEs working in collaboration with Innovation Connectors and/or Centres of Excellence, or those in organisations, assisted with skills development; and
- one integrated package of activity to embed the benefits of investments in innovation in disadvantaged communities.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£1,852,174

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£3,704,348

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Newcastle Science City Business Support Partnerships

What is the project about?

Business development interventions of up to 900 hours or 24 weeks will be funded for 110 North East businesses. Support will focus on business development and research projects in the fields of energy and environment, process industries, and healthcare and life sciences, with a particular emphasis on ageing and health, stem cells and regenerative medicine and sustainability. The support will be provided by students in the later stages of Masters and Doctoral studies, supported by Academic Supervisors. The students will be employed by the SMEs for the duration of the business support project with funding from the SME, ERDF and Newcastle University.

What will the project achieve?

The primary aim is to improve the innovation capacity of North East SMEs, through exposure to new techniques and learning, resulting in the development of new products or processes, and improved business performance. The secondary aim includes building the capacity of SMEs to specify their own business support needs, raising awareness of the expertise that higher education institutes can offer, and the value of employing highly qualified employees. It will create 39 new jobs and ensure

100 businesses see an improvement in their performance and 110 businesses will engage in new collaborations with the knowledge base.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment?

£451,691

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£903,383

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Pederson at Newcastle University on 0191 222 3411 or email sarah.pederson@ncl.ac.uk or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Novus 2 Business Centre

What is the project about?

East Durham Business Service Limited is an enterprise agency serving the eastern area of County Durham, and are taking a 20-year lease of the ground floor at Spectrum 7, Spectrum Business Park, County Durham in order to have the premises divided up into 26 office units, a conference room and three meeting rooms among other facilities. The accommodation will be offered with flexible terms to new and recently established businesses. Tenants will be provided with access to all facilities, broadband, telephony service and a shared receptionist. The project aims to meet unmet demand for office space in East Durham and capitalise on the success of Novus 1 in Peterlee. The project will also provide a base to deliver the business support services of EDBS to start up and young businesses in this part of East Durham and consequently improve the survival chances of these enterprises.

What will the project achieve?

The project will bring back into use one floor of a currently vacant building – some 15,508 sq ft and so create 26 business units available to local new and young businesses. It is estimated that 12 businesses will be created by the end of year two creating 30 jobs and that 120 jobs will be created over the first 10 years of operation.

Who is leading the project?

East Durham Business Service Limited

How much ERDF investment?

£299,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£598,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Peter Chapman, Chief Executive at East Durham Business Service Limited on 0191 586 3366 or email peter.chapman@edbs.co.uk or visit www.edbs.co.uk

Teesside University Graduate Enterprise (TUGE)

What is the project about?

The project will encourage enterprise start-ups among graduates and deliver specialised support to entrepreneurs and new and existing businesses. Increasing business survival is the key aim which will be achieved by business support from pre-start up to post-start up mentoring, continued business development training and membership of an enterprise alumni network.

What will the project achieve?

Four key strands of activity will help ensure that 71 new start-up businesses and 18 existing businesses receive support and help to grow and consequently increase turnover, profitability, and sales levels as well as see a reduction in production costs and a new IT system. The existing businesses will also benefit from staff development opportunities. In addition to this, 133 jobs will be created and 255 people will benefit from enterprise, business and personal development opportunities.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£635,222

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,270,444

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

DigitalCity Stockton

What is the project about?

A Grade II listed building will be refurbished to provide 579m² of R&D space for use by SMEs within the digital and creative sectors. It will be available for micro and small enterprises via a range of licenses including direct tenancy, fold down desks and hot desks. As part of the DigitalCity Innovation Connector, occupants will have easy and direct access to business support measures currently offered via the Connector – specifically DigitalCity Business and those delivered by Teesside University.

What will the project achieve?

There will be 33 jobs created and 15 people in SMEs will receive help with their skills development. The project will also increase Stockton's contribution to the Creative Industries, boosting links between the established sector across the Tees Valley.

Who is leading the project?

Stockton Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£519,528

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1,039, 056

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Ashley Briggs at Stockton Borough Council on (01642) 528198, email ashley.briggs@stockton.gov.uk or visit www.stockton.gov.uk

NSC Business to Enterprise Hub E2B

What is the project about?

The project will target potential high-growth new businesses and entrepreneurs setting up businesses aligned with Newcastle Science City's themes of ageing and health, sustainability and stem cell/regenerative medicine. Business support will be provided to help new and emerging businesses to develop and grow quickly and unlock student/graduate entrepreneurial potential. The project will provide in-depth one-to-one business support to potential high-growth businesses being created in technology-based sectors by students and graduates of Newcastle University. Specialist tools including insight development (linking unmet needs to people wishing to establish businesses) will be used to assist with business development and growth. The service will also provide peer to peer support such as mentoring and coaching and facilitated networking to accelerate collaboration.

What will the project achieve?

As a result of the business support 55 new jobs will be created and 18 safeguarded, with 73 businesses, new and existing, to receive help with improved performance and/or environmental management and engagement in new collaborations with knowledge base.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle Science Company Limited (NSCL)

How much ERDF investment?

£465,000

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£930,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Estelle Chatard at NSCL on (0191) 231 2200, email estelle.chatard@newcastlesciencecity.com or visit www.newcastlesciencecity.com

Developing Creative Industries in County Durham

What is the project about?

The project will support the start up of new creative industries in County Durham by delivering a series of pre-start workshops, coaching and mentoring to help people be enterprise ready. Eight programmes over a two-and-a-half year period will be delivered with 15 creative individuals receiving help in each programme to become enterprise ready and set up new creative businesses. It is based on a successful pilot project undertaken in 2010 and will be delivered by an external delivery organisation. The project will also act as a bridge between creative industries in County Durham and other business support services available in the North East, including North East Enterprise Agencies Ltd (NEEAL), Business and Enterprise Group's Investment for Growth, Digital City, Sunderland Software City, Generator and Northern Film and Media.

What will the project achieve?

The project will help 120 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready, while creating 60 jobs and the same number of businesses and also help 24 businesses improve their performance. As well as improving the number of enquiries that then go on to start their own business, the project aims to increase the overall number of creative businesses in County Durham and increase the proportion of businesses that are within the creative industries to be nearer the regional average – with County Durham at 14% and the region at 19%.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£165,000

Priority 2 - Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£330,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Slaven at Durham County Council at sarah.slaven@durham.gov.uk, call 03000 261 258 or visit www.durham.gov.uk

Improving SME Performance through Graduate Enterprise

What is the project about?

Improving the performance of regional SMEs by recruiting and funding the placement of recent graduates for a minimum period of three months is the aim of the project. Graduates will be employed by SMEs to undertake specific practical business projects including: business and product development; human resources; marketing; web development; research and streamlining IT systems. SMEs will be offered a subsidy of 50% per graduate towards their salary. The project will support the SME by: offering a recruitment service where businesses have no experience of employing graduates, reducing the cost to the SME; offering ongoing support to the SME and the graduate to enhance the opportunities for business growth and sustainability; and provision of bespoke business projects to suit the individual needs of the SME.

What will the project achieve?

The graduate support will help the business to grow and develop and help SMEs who would not normally be able to afford to employ graduate level individuals to do so. The project will recruit and select 160 graduates matched with the most appropriate business between January 2012 and September 2014. It is predicted that 79 jobs will be created and 144 SMEs assisted with improved performance and access to the range of services available through association with the University.

Who is leading the project?

University of Newcastle

How much ERDF investment?

£661,111

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,435,340

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Pederson at the University of Newcastle on (0191) 222 3411, email sarah.pederson@newcastle.ac.uk or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Berwick Workspace Incubator

What is the project about?

The aim is to help new and existing SMEs based within the Berwick incubator workspace to increase their opportunities to grow and survive through the provision of intensive business support. It builds on previous ERDF investment in the capital facilities (£840,000 from 2000-2006 Objective 2 Programme) and £134,000 of revenue ERDF investment from the current programme to support the provision of mentoring and advice service. A more intensive level of incubation service was integral to the original concept of the Berwick incubator facility and was independently evidenced through an evaluation of the service conducted in 2011. Support provided through the project will be tailored to company's specific needs covering every aspect of running a business including: specialist support for the acquisition of new business processes and technology to increase efficiency/effectiveness and facilitating tenants networking to encourage inter-trading.

What will the project achieve?

The project is a key part of Northumberland County Council's overall Regeneration Strategy, 'Berwick's Future' to tackle a number of structural weaknesses in Berwick's economy. As a flagship project it seeks to raise local enterprise aspirations by providing a focus for SMEs. It will also provide an enhanced presence for business support, thereby improving the profile of, and access to, the business support network for the business community. This latest funding will ensure the creation of 30 jobs and help 21 businesses improve their performance.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£192,428

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£384,856

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Carol Johns-Mcleod at Northumberland County Council at carol.johns-mcleod@northumberland.gov.uk or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Design Led Enterprise Programme

What is the project about?

The Programme will deliver a unique, integrated service to SMEs in the North East focusing on exploration, identification and development of new, commercially sustainable products and services based on existing knowledge, resources, infrastructure and networks in the business. The focus will be proactive rather than reactive by providing access to a collection of leading edge product and design service design skills, experience and upfront consultancy in order to identify, create and prioritise new business opportunities in the first instance. SMEs previously were required to have developed the concept for a new design or service in order to gain support. The Programme will take business and innovation support to the SMEs, providing the tools and assistance to create new, sustainable commercial opportunities.

What will the project achieve?

The aim of the Programme is to help support 55 North East SMEs to identify product and service opportunities which align with their existing skill sets, enabling achievable and sustainable growth opportunities. This will lead to greater business stability and job retention as well as creating new job opportunities through expansion therefore contributing to the economic prosperity of the North East. It is predicted that 28 jobs will be created and 40 jobs will be safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

University of Northumbria at Newcastle

How much ERDF investment?

£480,000

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£960,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Teresa Kirby at the University on (0191) 227 4114 or email teresa.kirby@northumbria.ac.uk or visit www.northumbria.ac.uk

Environmental Management Support Initiative

What is the project about?

The Environmental Academy will provide on average 10 days worth of experienced consultancy support with particular emphasis on Environmental Management and Carbon Reduction to regional SMEs. An assessment of the SMEs environmental performance will be carried out which will follow an established framework and result in an action plan for the business. SMEs will be provided with a 'Green Apprentice' – the needs of the SME will be matched to the skills, aspirations and on-the-job training needs of the Apprentices. The 'Green Apprentices' will be placed within the SME for a 12 month period who will be required to attend a number of workshops delivered by the Academy. With combined support from the Environmental Academy and the 'Green Apprentice' the SME will seek to establish an ISO9001 compliant environmental management system and control framework to manage and monitor their environmental performance.

What will the project achieve?

120 SMEs will benefit from help given to improve their performance and improve their environmental management. The SMEs will directly contribute to achieving the Climate Change Act 2008's objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 34% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050. With ongoing support from the Environmental Academy, the 'Green Apprentice' will help the SME to implement systems and processes to measure, monitor and reduce their carbon footprint.

Who is leading the project?

The Environmental Academy

How much ERDF investment?

£511,220

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,160,180

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Rita Callender at The Environmental Academy on (0191) 495 6248, email rita@environmentalacademy.co.uk or visit www.environmental-academy.co.uk

The Innovation Pathway North East

What is the project about?

It has been developed to reflect the needs of SMEs and help identify business opportunities in the healthcare sector in response to NHS reforms. It is aiming to provide SMEs with the required support needed to engage with the NHS and associated organisations to help take ideas through the innovation process and allow SMEs to position themselves to exploit newly merging technologies and product concepts. The project will be delivered by an eight-strong team of people employed by NHS Innovations North.

What will the project achieve?

All of the activity is geared towards helping SMEs to tap into markets presented by the healthcare sector and exploit opportunities where they would not have the required resource, skills or knowledge. It is projected that 65 new and existing businesses will receive help with innovation and 25 jobs will be created as a result.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£559,017

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1,118,034

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dr Nicola Wesley, head of NHS Innovations North on (0191) 516 4400 or email nicola.wesley@nhsinnovationsnorth.org.uk or visit www.theinnovationpathwayne.org.uk or www.rtcnorth.co.uk

NeST2

What is the project about?

The project will provide move-on space for businesses currently based at NeST in Barnard Castle – a DigitalCity rural satellite which opened in August 2010 consisting of studios, hot-desking space, gallery and a café providing enterprise coaching for digital and creative business users. The NeST premises are full with a waiting list so NeST2 will help ease the problem providing studios for 11 artists which can't be accommodated at NeST. NeST2 will be located in the Witham Hall, in the centre of Barnard Castle, providing a digital hub in refurbished space including an event hall and new build workspace that will accommodate up to 170 people with digital projection, video conferencing and translation facilities for microenterprises, small businesses and social enterprises to enable businesses to compete in a global market place from their rural location.

What will the project achieve?

The project will directly create or safeguard 15 jobs based in the refurbished premises and 32 businesses will be assisted – new and existing - as well as a further two social enterprises. By providing appropriate move-on space for the beneficiaries of NeST this initiative will continue to allow businesses based in Barnard Castle to grow and flourish sustaining and enhancing the entrepreneurial culture in the local area.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£773,879

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,547,758

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dr Anne Allen at anne@bowmansolutions.biz or visit www.barnardcastlevision.co.uk

Live Theatre – The Schoolhouse

What is the project about?

Funding will allow the redevelopment of a historic building next to Live Theatre's complex of buildings on the Newcastle Quayside. The Grade II listed Schoolhouse will provide ideal premises for small or start-up businesses seeking good quality, quirky facilities boasting essential cabling for media communications. Located in the lower Ouseburn area tenants would be at the heart of a creative hub amidst other like minded businesses.

What will the project achieve?

The Schoolhouse project will transform 367 sq metres of specialist business premises opening to tenants in October 2012, providing rental accommodation for a minimum of five SMEs, ensuring nine new or safeguarded jobs in the first two years of opening. The project will also assist Live Theatre's future sustainability through the new capital asset.

Who is leading the project?

Live Theatre

How much ERDF investment?

£460,479

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£920,858

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Gillian Firth, Marketing Manager at Live Theatre on (0191) 269 3498 or email gillian@live.org.uk or visit www.live.org.uk

Newcastle Enterprise Package Phase 2

What is the project about?

The project is a continuation of successful project activity delivered through Newcastle Enterprise Package Phase 1. Phase 2 will deliver similar intensive enterprise readiness and business support to individuals and businesses through three key themes: Helping develop the business acumen and ideas of entrepreneurial young people through a small package of support led by an Enterprise in Learning Co-ordinator; Business pre start/start up support through one-to-one support to individuals and VCS; and growing businesses through local business support officers, forums, procurement workshops and one-to-one support. It will focus delivery in disadvantaged areas in Newcastle – the areas of the city lying within the 30% most deprived areas in England. The project includes outreach workers located in three key disadvantaged areas – East End, West End and North of the City.

What will the project achieve?

The project aims to raise awareness and understanding of enterprise in disadvantaged areas of Newcastle, and will as a result by December 2013:

- assist 520 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready
- by raising young people's aspirations help an additional 10 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready from the young people group
- create ten school businesses
- create 130 businesses by encouraging more start-ups locate in the disadvantaged areas and businesses set up in other parts of the city by individuals from the disadvantages areas
- support 140 local businesses to be more sustainable and grow, particularly within disadvantaged communities leading to 90% of them showing improved performance by June 2014.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£817,072

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,163,144

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Claire Prospert at Newcastle City Council at claire.prospert@newcastle.gov.uk or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

Graduate SME Internships

What is the project about?

The project aims to improve the performance of SMEs by sourcing and part-funding the provision of a suitable graduate at a business for three to nine months to carry out a specific business related piece of work which could include: finance management; implementation of advanced IT applications; business planning; product development; human resources and marketing. The project will be delivered by a team within the University and each intervention will deliver a measurable improvement in the performance of the business with applicants being tested for ERDF and state aid eligibility.

What will the project achieve?

The project will help improve the performance of 150 SMEs in the North East between 2011 and 2014 and will support 150 graduate interns over the same time. It will also help create 112 jobs as around 75% of these internship placements will result in a newly created job as a direct outcome of the work they have undertaken during their Internship.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland University

How much ERDF investment?

£897,055

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,794,111

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Martin Finlayson at University of Sunderland at martin.finlayson@sunderland.ac.uk or call (0191) 515 3065 or visit www.sunderland.ac.uk

Investment for Growth

What is the project about?

Providing support to SMEs across the North East and ultimately creating or safeguarding around 1,500 jobs to help North East businesses grow and increase prosperity. It also aims to reduce the Gross Value Added gap between the North East and the rest of England by £23,394,144 by December 2013, increasing to £49,992,940 by December 2014. The project will provide two types of support: up to six hours of advice to all eligible SMEs – including social enterprises – to help identify opportunities for businesses to sustain performance, develop and grow and up to 40% financial contribution towards external advice or consultancy, leading to improved business performance, job creation, job safeguarding and Gross Value Added growth. Successful SMEs will be identified on the basis of a selection process balancing developmental needs, capacity for growth and ability to support investment. Supported activity, which contribute to the successful early and continued

growth of businesses in the North East will include: Business and financial planning; Strategic marketing consultancy; Design consultancy; HR consultancy and Product development consultancy.

What will the project achieve?

Key aims by December 2014 include:

- Assisting 254 new small and medium enterprises, including integrated development of workforce skills where appropriate;
- Assisting 525 small and medium enterprises, including integrated development of workforce skills;
- Creating 593 jobs and safeguarding 903 jobs;
- Assisting 720 businesses with improved performance; and
- Assisting 195 businesses with improved environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

Business and Enterprise Commercial

How much ERDF investment?

£4,992,658

Priority 2 - Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£9,985,354

Where can I go for more information?

To access this service or find out more information, please call the Business & Enterprise Group on 0191 426 6408 or email enquiries@business-enterprise.net

Raising Enterprise North Tyneside Extension

What is the project about?

The project is a continuation of a previously-funded ERDF project that closed in December 2011. This extension provides a further three-year support. A package of activities will be delivered aimed at stimulating enterprise across the borough of North Tyneside, in particular the disadvantaged areas. It is aiming to help people in employment but at risk of redundancy, people who have been made redundant or are out of work, under-represented groups including women entrepreneurs and school leavers as well as people living in disadvantaged areas. A package of support will target individuals to consider self-employment as a viable option and help those at pre-start up stage to progress further along the enterprise pipeline.

What will the project achieve?

The initial project helped around 1,400 people receive enterprise support in the borough between August 2009 and March 2011. The aim is to help a further 1,400 people become enterprise ready by November 2014, half of which will come from North Tyneside's deprived wards. The project will also help create 350 new Small and Medium Enterprises of which 45 will be based in disadvantaged areas and create 350 jobs of which 60 will be from disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment?

£898, 140

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,796,280

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sean Collier at North Tyneside Council at sean.collier@northtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.northtyneside.gov.uk

North East SME Innovation Programme

What is the project about?

It focuses on helping businesses to understand and undertake the innovation process and create growth in North East's businesses. The project will deliver a programme of activity to help businesses identify and implement a 'project' designed to bring about an innovative step change resulting in an improvement in performance. It will be delivered and managed by the applicant organisation and will follow a structured format. The project will help businesses in a number of areas including: Broadening product base; Introducing new service(s); Diversification into new markets; Improving/changing operating methods; Developing new financial tools; Improving the use of technology and Increasing viability and sustainability.

What will the project achieve?

The programme will make 60 SMEs aware that innovation is something that once learned, can be undertaken at any time in the future helping to raise capacity, produce new products and processes and create new jobs. As a result of this project 60 jobs will be created and 60 safeguarded with 54 businesses receiving help to improve their performance and a further two receiving help to improve environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

North East Business and Innovation Centre Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£724, 102

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1,448,205

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Oliver at the North East Business and Innovation Centre Ltd, Sunderland, at david.oliver@ne-bic.co.uk or visit www.ne-bic.co.uk

Sustainable Lifecycle Design

What is the project about?

The Sustainable Lifecycle Design project will allow businesses dealing with product development to assess their current and future product designs in terms of overall environmental impact. Experienced, qualified engineers will assess each product/product family and, with the aid of specialised software, offer an indication of the overall carbon footprint and recommendations for improvement. Potential cost savings would also be expected and other consumer benefits (e.g. greater longevity, reduced repair cost, “greener” credentials etc) to enhance the profitability of the organisation.

What will the project achieve?

As a direct result of the project, 17 jobs will be created, 17 safeguarded, 56 businesses will receive help to improve their performance and 50 businesses will receive help to ensure improved environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

University of Newcastle

How much ERDF investment?

£337,518

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£675,036

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Lorna McQueen at University of Newcastle at Lorna.mcqueen@ncl.ac.uk, telephone 0191 222 5452 or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Business Support in the North East

What is the project about?

North East Enterprise Agencies (NEEAL) was established in 2007 as a consortium comprising the Enterprise and Development Agencies of the North East, all of whom are non-profit organisations providing enterprise support throughout the region. Based at over 20 different locations in the North East, NEEAL will work to deliver various offers of help including Enterprise Coaching, Starting a High Growth Business and Understanding Finance for Business, together ensuring businesses are fully equipped for success. Support through Enterprise Coaching will focus on intensive awareness raising activities followed by intensive hands on support from an experienced and qualified Enterprise

Coach, targeting people in employment who possess the skills and resources to start a business and/or those who may be at threat of redundancy, as well as underrepresented groups and disadvantaged areas. Starting a High Growth Business package of support will provide an intensive two day 'Boot Camp' comprising workshops and one-to-one mentoring to develop the business plan and idea. Understanding Finance for Business incorporates support from pre-start stage through to full business establishment ensuring businesses are equipped with knowledge regarding accessing loan funds and when to engage with others for financial help.

What will the project achieve?

It will help over 1,700 people gain vital business skills and create 431 new businesses. Support will also be given to 164 existing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) over the next two years.

Who is leading the project?

North East Enterprise Agencies Ltd (NEEAL)

How much ERDF investment?

£1.06m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2.12m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact will.nash@neeal.co.uk or sue.parkinson@neeal.co.uk

Increasing Private Sector Growth

What is the project about?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL), based in Wansbeck Business Centre, is managing the project which is offering targeted coaching and mentoring support to senior executives in any private sector business with no more than 249 employees.

Impartial Specialist Business Advisers will work to help small businesses realise the benefits of the support available and enable them to access it in order to achieve maximum results. NBSL will provide:

- an assessment of the business development needs of key senior executives (which will enable them to effect the growth of their business);
- help to produce an action plan;
- funding towards the costs of implementing the action plan; and
- subsequent post development review.

A review mechanism will monitor and report whether the identified business needs and development requirements have delivered the projected business improvement results as a direct outcome of the intervention. Businesses will be selected onto the programme through NBSL's eligibility process following promotion of the programme across the whole of the North East.

What will the project achieve?

The aim is to increase the North East's competitiveness and productivity by helping small businesses that would not normally seek support, but would benefit from it. Private sector businesses will benefit from the project that aims to improve the performance of over 2,300 businesses, creating over 1,100 jobs. The project will allow NBSL to offer a holistic programme designed to deliver additional business support activity helping nearly 1,900 SMEs see an improved performance in their business, increasing the economic prosperity of the programme area.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL)

How much ERDF investment?

£2.38m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£4.94m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Phil Langton, Chief Executive at Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL) on (01670) 813 322 or email: phil.langton@nbsl.org.uk or visit www.nbsl.org.uk

Graduate Recruitment and Placements

What is the project about?

The project is run by Teesside University and is open to SMEs in the North East and to graduates finding it difficult to take the first step on their preferred career ladder. There are three strands to the project, the first being the 'Graduates for Business' initiative, which will see 375 graduates taking up salaried internships with SMEs throughout the region over the next three years – 125 per year. The second is the Knowledge Exchange Internships (KEIs) programme, which puts graduates into SMEs for six to 12 months to tackle specific business change projects. Thirdly the project will provide information, advice and guidance to help graduates find routes into work or help in setting up their own businesses in the region.

What will the project achieve?

Over 420 graduate jobs will be created over the next three years by Teesside University. The grant is for a scheme matching graduate skills to business needs, which will also support 465 small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in the North East.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£2.3m

Priority 2– Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£4.61m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dave Pratt, Head of Regional Office on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

R&D Globalisation

What is the project about?

Businesses in the North East will receive help to exploit their innovation and new technologies and internationalise their businesses through European investment.

Companies assisted will be able to gain profit from new trade and from worldwide markets that will be brought back for reinvestment into their businesses and ultimately the North East economy. The aim is to encourage small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to invest in their Research and Development (R&D) activities within the region and help create skilled R&D based jobs to support the expansion.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF funding will support five members of staff at RTC North who will work with successful projects to comprise sound planning and expert implementation. The project process involves working with 30 R&D based businesses each year, providing assistance and reviewing their potential and capacity to implement an international commercial strategy. Each of the companies will undergo a two-day assessment with 20 selected companies going forward to have their plans developed.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North

How much ERDF investment?

£0.39m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.78m

Where can I go for more information?

Ray Jones, Head of Business Consulting at RTC North on (0191) 516 4400 or email ray.jones@rtcnorth.co.uk

National Blade Test Facility 2

What is the project about?

European investment of £2.5m will enable a major testing hub for large wind turbine developers to be used by up to 80 regional businesses. Narec's new independent facility will test turbine blades up to 100m long and will be used by blade developers to test and prove designs and components onshore, improving their efficiency and reliability, before committing to costly and high risk testing and demonstration offshore. The project is viewed as a key component of the offshore and innovation

connector and is recognised as important for developing expertise in order for the UK to become a market leader. As well as the £2.5m investment from ERDF, further funding for the new 100m blade test facility includes £2m provided through One North East's Single Programme and £11.5m through the Strategic Investment Fund.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF funding will help North East small and medium enterprises (SME's) to diversify into operations and maintenance activities in the growing offshore wind sector. A new facility capable of testing blades up to 100m long is currently under construction in Blyth and companies will work with Narec to learn from the blade testing capabilities and expertise being developed in the region. Up to 80 regional businesses could benefit from the knowledge transfer and training opportunities enabled by Non Destructive Testing (NDT) at the facility.

Who is leading the project?

National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec)

How much ERDF investment?

£2.5m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£16.67m

Where can I go for more information?

Trevor Hardcastle, Lead Programme Manager at Narec on (01670) 359 555, email trevor.hardcastle@narec.co.uk or visit www.narec.co.uk

Redcar and Cleveland Creative Industries

What is the project about?

An innovative business centre - The Hub – will provide an exciting new base for up-and-coming firms to flourish on the site of the former Palace Theatre, providing businesses with an array of support and opportunities to thrive in the 21st century. The project was developed in the wake of extensive consultation with the business community and Redcar residents. The area's existing creative industries sector currently boasts around 300 companies, generating a combined turnover of £31m, which is expected to be significantly boosted by having a flagship focal point. The creative and digital industries identified for this building are among the sectors that regional partners have identified as having a major part to play in the future of the Tees Valley economy.

What will the project achieve?

The Hub will provide 35,712 sq ft of business space, including 32 managed space, along with workshops, studios and communal spaces, sparking the creation of 150 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£4.65m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£10.95m

Where can I go for more information?

Adrian Watson, Regeneration Manager at Redcar and Cleveland Council on (01642) 444203 or adrian-watson@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Renew – Energy and Environment Business Network

What is the project about?

Further funding will allow the work of a small specialist team to continue providing a range of business development support to enable the growth of the low carbon and environmental goods and services (LCEGS) sector in the North East. In the first phase of the Renew project (June 2008 – March 2010) significant work was done with companies in the form of market and technical studies across a broad spectrum of waste and recycling areas. This continuation phase will use the evidence and analysis from these studies and business engagement to focus its activities in engaging directly with SMEs to develop the LCEGS sector and supply chain capability.

What will the project achieve?

Regional businesses involved in the LCEGS sector will be the primary beneficiaries with the project focusing on supporting SMEs enabling them to take advantage of the developing market opportunities. Renew will create 13 new businesses, 51 jobs and provide support for 234 businesses in the LCEGS sector by March 2011. A regional LCEGS network is to be established of which membership should grow by 20% by March 2011 and by December 2011 the regional LCEGS sector turnover should be determined. An annual network event should take place by March 2011, with three network events during 2010/11 focusing on industry or technology specific topics and three 'Low Carbon meet the Buyer' events should be held by March 2011.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.99m

Priority 1 – Field 2

How much total investment?

£2.94m

Where can I go for more information?

Chris Hayward, Project Director at CPI on (01642) 442494, email chris.hayward@uk-cpi.com or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Green Incubator

What is the project about?

Part of a brownfield site at Eldon Street in South Shields will be transformed into a state-of-the-art incubator providing managed workspace and business support for new and growing attracting start-up businesses. It is aimed at those within the low carbon and environmental industries sectors as well as other SMEs in strategic knowledge economy sectors such as Science and Technology, Automotive, E-business, Product Design and Marine Engineering linked to low carbon applications. The former Circatex site will boast a building which will be low carbon in construction and operation, targeting a BREEAM Excellent rating. The Green Incubator will have strong working links to the region's universities and NaREC to provide the best possible assistance to the service users providing high quality premises on a flexible easy-in easy-out basis.

What will the project achieve?

The Green Incubator is due to open in June 2012 with 95 construction jobs expected to be created to develop the 0.4ha site which will create 30,000sq ft of business premises. By making the space available, 44 jobs are to be safeguarded and a further 44 created while 35 SMEs will be assisted and have their performance improved. All of the outputs are aimed at those who are disadvantaged.

Who is leading the project?

South Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment?

£2.46m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment?

£5.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Claire Cardinal, Economic Regeneration Project Manager at South Tyneside Council on (0191) 424 7679, email claire.cardinal@southtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.southtyneside.info

Toffee Factory Refurbishment

What is the project about?

The project comprises the refurbishment of the former Maynard's Toffee Factory and delivery of associated infrastructure works to provide semi-managed move on accommodation for SME's, targeting the creative industries sector within the Lower Ouseburn Valley of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The refurbishment of the historic building will be supported through the procurement of an operator that will encourage links with existing educational and business facilities in NewcastleGateshead and promote the project at a regional, national and international level. The regeneration of the area will represent the next stage of place-making activity along Newcastle's Quayside providing the local and regional community with an area to live, work and visit. The project will provide an office product which is currently in demand given the lack of available capacity within the Quayside Business

Development Centre. It will also complement larger accommodation being provided, in the previously supported Hoults Yard and the Priority Sites scheme, known as the Media Exchange.

What will the project achieve?

The project has the potential to create 12 new businesses and 47 new jobs, as well as safeguarding 111 jobs. It will also ensure the remediation of a major brownfield site in a key strategic location. Wider objectives include supporting the sustainability and growth of existing local businesses by providing semi-managed move on accommodation, attracting new businesses to the region through the provision of a well-connected, high profile facility and strengthen the offer of NewcastleGateshead in the Creative Industries sector to become a nationally recognised cluster.

Who is leading the project?

The project will be delivered by 1NG on behalf of Newcastle City Council.

How much ERDF investment?

£3m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£6m

Where can I go for more information?

Peter McIntyre, Director of Planning and Programme Management at 1NG on (0191) 243 5805, email petermcintyre@1ng.org.uk or visit www.1ng.org.uk

Finance for Business – North East Creative Content Fund

What is the project about?

It is a two-year transitional project starting in January 2010 which intends to address a gap in the market place by providing targeted investment finance into the commercial creative sector. It will then test and evaluate approaches to investment. The aim is to use ERDF to lever private sector investment to support, build and sustain economically successful creative and digital media businesses and the commercial creative sector in the North East.

What will the project achieve?

Fund Manager Northstar Ventures aims to invest £4.8m in a minimum of 18 projects across TV, film, digital media and music, working closely with Fund Holder Northern Film & Media. It will also help ensure creative SMEs including sole traders are: more commercially focussed and successfully converting business opportunities; accessing new markets and associated networks; developing their own exploitable intellectual property and carrying out the testing and evaluation of regional co-investment finance and delivered into a growth/priority sector.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Film & Media (HoldCo) Limited (Fund Holder) and Northstar Ventures (Fund Manager).

How much ERDF investment?

£2.4m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£4.8m

Where can I go for more information?

John Tulip, Director of Finance and Administration at Northern Film & Media (HoldCo) Limited on (0191) 275 5954, email john@northernmedia.org or visit www.northernmedia.org

Putting Enterprise Into Place (Northumberland)

What is the project about?

Putting Enterprise Into Place will contribute to creating an 'enterprise surge' in the North East by encouraging more people to develop enterprising skills and attitudes, particularly those in disadvantaged areas. This will be achieved through a holistic enterprise coaching service, providing additional enterprise coaches to cover the whole of Northumberland.

What will the project achieve?

Increase number of residents in Northumberland wishing to explore 'enterprise potential', be enterprise ready and become self employed or start own business as well as assist SMEs by increasing numbers of local businesses winning contracts through public procurement.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1.92m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3.85m

Where can I go for more information?

Steve Revell at Northumberland County Council on (01670) 534756 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Brighton Road Studios

What is the project about?

Mushroom Works (CIC) has secured the ERDF investment to convert a grade 2 listed church in Bensham, Gateshead, into affordable workspace for arts-based creative practitioners who are at start-up or second stage development. Brighton Road Studios will create a valuable link to the creative cluster development with Northern Design Centre at Gateshead's Baltic Business Centre and Toffee Factory in Newcastle, offering continued support for the North East's flourishing creative economy.

What will the project achieve?

A £0.45m package of support will establish 12 affordable workspaces, creating 18 jobs by 2015 and addressing the demand for such space.

Who is leading the project?

Mushroom Works Community Interest Company (CIC)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.225m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.45m

Where can I go for more information?

Nick James, Director, Mushroom Works CIC at nick@mushroomworks.com or visit www.brightonroadstudios.com

The West Gate Enterprise Centre

What is the project about?

To build an Enterprise Hub for offering new business start up space in the West End of Newcastle by 2011 that currently doesn't exist to address the social and economic needs of the area. To provide a range of SME accommodation totalling 862 m2 eligible office/workshop space on easy-in and easy-out terms to business start-ups with back-office support in order to minimise business risks. A range of support facilities – such as training, education and meeting rooms and hot-desk facilities and support agencies will also be on hand. The aim is to support people on a journey of their choice from social groups and activities through education, training and enterprise development by acting as the facility and facilitator to enable all of their needs to be 'met under one roof'.

What will the project achieve?

The former fire station site will be transformed into 12 artisan units, an enterprise centre, enterprise SME space and 18 office rooms all creating a flagship eco-friendly low carbon facility in a recognised area of significant deprivation which will be a sustainable centre by 2014.

Who is leading the project?

Centre West and Groundwork STAN

How much ERDF investment?

£2.4m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment?

£6.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Sandra English, Project Manager at Centre West at sandra.english@centre-west.com or visit: www.centre-west.com

DigitalCity Business

What is the project about?

DigitalCity Business forms part of DigitalCity, concentrating on taking digital businesses and developing them as quickly and as effectively as possible, benefiting SMEs in the digital media, digital technology and creative sectors in the Tees Valley and the North East. The project is aiming to develop the business cluster to include new businesses in the digital media, digital technology and creative sectors, together contributing to DigitalCity Business becoming a self-sustaining, successful digital cluster.

What will the project achieve?

By March 2012 it aims to create 20 businesses, developing 20 into high growth potential businesses and developing a further two into businesses achieving high growth. By 2015, the aim is to increase the turnover of DigitalCity Business by 20% and increase the international trade by 75%, together creating 160 jobs. DigitalCity Business also aims to attract six new businesses to the region, support 424 businesses and help 80 people further their skills development.

Who is leading the project?

Middlesbrough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£0.82m

Priority 1: Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

What is the total investment?

£1.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Mark Elliott, Director DigitalCity on (01642) 248692 or email mark.elliott@dcbusiness.eu or visit www.dcbusiness.eu

Enterprise Coaching for People with a Disability

What is the project about?

The project will deliver pro-active as well as reactive enterprise coaching to stimulate awareness and interest in enterprise, specifically aimed at those who have a physical, mental, sensory, learning or hidden disability or who are members of specific communities where individuals are disadvantaged. Coaching will help lead participants closer or into engagement with mainstream business support and is aimed at those who are considering establishing a business within the North East.

What will the project achieve?

The funding will support a number of enterprise coaching activities for 1,333 beneficiaries. A mixture of around 15 full time and part time coaches will be employed through the project providing Enterprise Coaching. The project aims to reach 1,000 potential entrepreneurs who will be assisted to be enterprise ready with 200 potential entrepreneurs going on to access Business Link services.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Pinetree Trust

How much ERDF investment?

£0.46m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment?

£0.91m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Michael Leithrow, Chief Executive of Northern Pinetree Trust on (0191) 492 8219, email manager@pinetree-centre.co.uk or visit www.northernpinetree.co.uk

Enterprise Coaching – The Princes' Trust

What is the project about?

The project aims to create an entrepreneurial culture among disadvantaged groups in the North East, particularly those in deprived communities who would otherwise not engage with established forms of enterprise support. It is structured to develop entrepreneurial talents and ideas in an informal atmosphere at accessible locations acting as a platform for further mainstream enterprise support. It will comprise a four-stage enterprise coaching journey: Engagement; Explore Enterprise Experience; One-to-One Sessions and finally Progression and Referral.

What will the project achieve?

By 2013 The Princes' Trust aims to help 855 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready – comprising 555 men and 300 women, of which 599 are from disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

The Prince's Trust

How much ERDF investment?

£0.7m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment?

£1.4m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact David Laverick at The Prince's Trust on 07808 283 417, email david.laverick@princes-trust.org.uk or visit www.princes-trust.org.uk

Health Sciences Complex

What is the project about?

The project will see the refurbishment of the University of Sunderland's Applied Sciences facility to create a world class environment to support regional businesses and overcome a critical barrier to growth for pharmaceutical and health care businesses. The new facility will allow the Business Development Team to develop a new 'programme' offer to SMEs in the pharmaceutical and health care sectors and effectively target those businesses to benefit from the outcomes of ERDF investment.

What will the project achieve?

The project will significantly strengthen the regional science base in unique areas of pharmaceuticals and biomedical sciences aligned to drug discovery and therapies. Nearly 3,700m² purpose built space will be created which will include a Continual Professional Development (CPD) suite and laboratories, housing specialist pharmaceutical and proteomic analytical equipment

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland

How much ERDF investment?

£0.98m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£6.76m

Where can I go for more information?

Martin Finlayson, Assistant Director at SRBP at University of Sunderland on (0191) 515 3065 or email martin.finlayson@sunderland.ac.uk

Sunderland Software City

What is the project about?

The aim of Sunderland Software City (SSC) Innovation Connector is to increase the number of software companies in North East England. It has two primary objectives: to provide a location for regional software companies to grow, innovate and collaborate and also provide a focal point for community engagement, specifically to increase the pool of software sector workers in the region. A key part of this project is a collaborative environment in order to meet the demand of software companies who wish to undertake joint innovation.

What will the project achieve?

The objectives will be achieved through the development of a 53,000 sq ft facility in Tavistock Place, Sunderland, which is owned and managed by Sunderland City Council boasting lettable space for up to 63 businesses. The lettable space will be used by a mix of existing and new companies. As a result of the project 140 jobs will be created.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects
Last updated August 2012

£4.75m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£10.3m

Where can I go for more information?

James Garland or Alexandra Fall at Sunderland City Council on (0191) 5612481 or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

Tees Valley Investment Fund

What is the project about?

This project was designed to support new and existing enterprises within the Tees Valley following the mothballing of Corus steelworks and the consequent economic shock in the area. ERDF funding provided support to existing and start-up businesses, enabling them to access new markets, develop new products and access finance and public investment to develop their businesses. It targeted those in the Tees Valley many of whom in disadvantaged and deprived areas. Key objectives were to stimulate the Tees Valley, remove or reduce specific and localised barriers to business start up and help Tees Valley companies to diversify into new markets.

What will the project achieve?

The Tees Valley Investment Fund will provide access to funding to help 33 people set up business within the Tees Valley by 2012, support 150 existing Tees Valley businesses through the fall out of the closure by 2012, safeguard 200 jobs within Tees Valley businesses by 2013 and create 100 jobs within the Tees Valley by 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East and support is accessed through the Business Link service.

How much ERDF investment?

£0.9m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.9m

Where can I go for more information?

Please note that support is no longer available. For further information contact Business Link on 0845 600 9 006.

National Renewable Energy Centre

What is the project about?

A Narec Marine Testing Facility will be developed to build on and utilise existing infrastructure at the centre. The Facility will allow marine energy developers to test and prove designs and components

onshore, improving their efficiency and reliability, before committing to costly and high risk testing and demonstration at sea. When built it will be the most advanced of its kind in the world and will enhance the existing offering at Narec, as well as placing the North East at the centre of the marine energy device development industry.

What will the project achieve?

By September 2011 a test stand for the testing of marine renewable energy device components will be completed as will a building to house the test stand which will allow testing of marine devices in Dock 3. A marine environment measurement system to allow industry designers to understand the resource characteristics and the environment is also being installed, as well as a marine environment modelling system which will assist in the R&D phase of marine renewable energy device components by industry designers. The facility will support SME growth in the marine renewables sector.

Who is leading the project?

Narec

How much ERDF investment?

£4.47m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£14.47m

Where can I go for more information?

Tony Quinn, Director of Major Assets and Projects at Narec on (01670) 357323, email tony.quinn@narec.co.uk or visit www.narec.co.uk

Northern Design Centre and Gateshead Creative Business Centre (NDC)

What is the project about?

NDC will provide a flagship design and networking facility aimed at increasing the tendency of local businesses to incorporate design into their daily activities, as well as providing move-on office accommodation and starter units. NDC is being developed for Gateshead Council by Terrace Hill on Baltic Business Quarter in Gateshead. Funding is being provided to help develop a striking office building comprising two wings with a central atrium.

What will the project achieve?

The east wing of the building will provide a much needed range of high quality office suites for existing businesses that are looking to expand or have outgrown their current accommodation, with a focus where possible on attracting companies working in the creative industries. It will create around 24 office units of between 40 and 110 sq m. One key objective is to provide suitable long-term accommodation for businesses currently based at the International Business Centre which are outgrowing their accommodation, securing their future in Gateshead and the North East. The west wing will provide a mix of starter units for design-based businesses and accommodation for the design networking facility comprising showcasing and collaborative working areas, a conference facility and a range of creativity spaces.

Who is leading the project?

Gateshead Council

How much ERDF investment?

£4.95m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£9.9m

Where can I go for more information?

Andrew Tate, Economic Development Manager at Gateshead Council, on (0191) 433 3000, email andrewtate@gateshead.gov.uk or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk

Enterprise Coaching – Redcar & Darlington

What is the project about?

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council has secured the ERDF investment to extend enterprise coaching services across 32 deprived wards, 22 in Redcar & Cleveland and 10 in Darlington, until 2013. The initiative aims to help increase numbers of new start up businesses in local areas by 300 per annum and ensure that more than 80% of these new start up businesses survive more than 12 months. It will target people who would not normally consider self employment as a career option and those who need intensive support to fulfil their aims of starting their own business. These include people made redundant, long term unemployed, young mothers and those on incapacity benefit, many of whom have health issues.

What will the project achieve?

A £1.5m package of enterprise coaching services for budding entrepreneurs and business start ups in the Tees Valley, to assist 1,800 more people with start up ideas and generate hundreds of new business referrals to the Business Link service in the two boroughs over the next three years.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1.5m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£3m

Where can I go for more information?

Corinne Templeman, Enterprise Team at Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council on 01642 495741, email Corinne_templeman@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Enterprise Coaching in Sunderland

What is the project about?

Sunderland City Council's package of enterprise support aims to ensure that 200 potential entrepreneurs establish themselves by progressing into mainstream services such as Business Link. £890,000 ERDF is being match funded from the council from the Working Neighbourhoods Fund, which is branded locally as 'Just the Job'. Led by the North East Business & Innovation Centre, a team of neighbourhood based enterprise coaches and talent scouts will identify individuals in deprived communities with the potential and ambition to start up their own business. They will offer an intensive, seamless pre-mainstream support service to convert interest in enterprise into tangible business propositions.

What will the project achieve?

It will give a £1.78m package of pre start up support to develop enterprise, engaging with 800 clients and helping at least 300 people with business ideas.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council,

How much ERDF investment?

£0.89m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.78m

Where can I go for more information?

James Garland, senior programmes and projects officer at Sunderland City Council on 0191 561 1112 or visit www.justthejob.org

Building the Business of Music

What is the project about?

Leading UK music development agency Generator, has launched the 'Building the Business of Music' programme to bring more focused and specialised business support and development to the sector. It will work with emerging talent and provide a range of development opportunities for new SMEs and existing companies. This will include special clinics to provide support and advice to groups of music industry SMEs and bespoke business to business mentoring and networking. The project is being part financed by ERDF investment matched by a range of funders including Arts Council England, Big Lottery, the Working Neighbourhood Fund, the Northern Rock Foundation and Generation 2012. Generator will work with SMEs which have the greatest potential for change, growth and expansion, and collaboration, improving their knowledge of the wider music industry, changing trends, the market place and the supply chain. With the addition of ERDF funding, it can offer businesses the opportunity to engage with the UK's leading specialists in digital strategy, music marketing and legal expertise. Access to wider music industry experts and specialists can strengthen commercial output and increase productivity.

What will the project achieve?

A £1.64m business support initiative for the music industry to help 240 small and medium sized enterprises and create up to 100 new jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Generator

How much ERDF investment?

£0.82m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.64m

Where can I go for more information?

Jim Mawdsley, Chief executive of Generator on 0191 231 4016 or email jim@generator.org.uk or visit www.generator.org.uk

NETPark Net

What is the project about?

County Durham Development Company (CDDC) has secured additional funding from the European Union, One North East, Durham County Council and the private sector to develop 'NETPark Net', a total business support environment providing physical and on-line services. NETPark Net will enable companies to access the benefits of NETPark, particularly those in the field of science, electronics and engineering. Building on the 'Virtual NETPark' pilot project run by CDDC over the past two years, the primary beneficiaries will be both existing and new SMEs based in the region.

What will the project achieve?

It will bring new investment to help accelerate the growth of over 70 companies through online services.

Who is leading the project?

County Durham Development Company

How much ERDF investment?

£0.22m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.71m

Where can I go for more information?

Visit www.uknetpark.net

Northern Film & Media Continuation

What is the project about?

Northern Film & Media (NFM) has secured this investment as part of an overall £3m initiative currently focusing on five core sector themes: sector capacity building, innovation and business growth, social media, market development and NFM's North East Production Service. Using a mixture of funding streams, Northern Film & Media will take a lead role in the building of successful commercial creative industries in the North East, investing in talent, in people and in their ideas. The project will offer support for SMEs to engage in new markets by opening up more digital distribution across the web, mobile, games and interactive media industries. It will also enable them to take advantage of associated national funding streams such as Channel 4's 4IP fund.

What will the project achieve?

It will boost a three year project to create over 200 jobs and 18 new businesses in the creative media sector.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Film & Media Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£1.22m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£3.06m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Northern Film and Media on 0191 275 5940 or visit www.northernmedia.org

Angel Facility Refurbishment

What is the project about?

The former Angel Biotechnology Ltd facility at Cramlington in Northumberland is undergoing a state-of-the-art refurbishment to accommodate knowledge based businesses in specialised incubator units. The current facility is being redesigned and converted into multiple occupancy life science incubators with wet lab provision.

It will open up opportunities for SME tenants to exploit specialist equipment for molecular biology, bio-process development and cell culture without the associated capital outlay. It will be used for production and downstream processing of biopharmaceutical and clinical products presenting an opportunity for the region to offer a low cost entry point into clinical manufacturing for SMEs.

What will the project achieve?

A refurbished facility to provide a total of 815 square metres of high quality laboratory and incubator space, 283 square metres of which will meet clinical Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) standards

Who is leading the project?

One North East

How much ERDF investment?

£1.1m

Priority 1 – Enhancing & exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£2.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Teresa Fortune at One North East on 0191 229 6544 or visit www.onenortheast.co.uk

JEREMIE Investment Fund/Finance for Business North East Fund

What is the project about?

The Finance for Business North East Fund - formerly called JEREMIE - will underpin the growth of business start-ups, technology-based companies and growing smaller businesses, helping to create jobs and prosperity for the region through targeted loans and equity investments. Finance for Business North East comprises six separate funds and businesses. The fund management firms leading the six funds that will comprise JEREMIE are:

- NorthStar Equity Investors, an active early stage fund management company established in Newcastle since 2004, who will manage the £15m Technology Proof of Concept Fund and the £20m Seed Fund.
- IP Group, which operates on a nationwide basis, who will run the £25m Technology Fund from offices in Newcastle.
- Rivers Capital Partners – a new joint venture between leading technology investment firm E-Synergy and local business advisors Finance Tree of Newcastle - who will manage the £7.5m Angel Match Fund.
- FW Capital, a specialist in regional investment, who will manage the £20m Growth Plus Fund through their new North East office.
- NEL Fund Managers, of Newcastle, who will run the £20m Growth Fund.

What will the project achieve?

A new £125m 'super fund' to support up to 850 small and medium-sized North East companies, with the aim of creating more than 5,000 jobs over the next five years.

Who is leading the project?

North East Finance (Holdco) Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£44.25m

Priority 1 – Enhancing & exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£125m

Where can I go for more information?

Companies interested in accessing fund finance can register their details at www.onenortheast.co.uk/financeforbusinessnortheast and they will be contacted by a fund manager or go to www.northeastfinance.org

Social & Traditional Enterprise

What is the project about?

SES (Sustainable Enterprise Strategies) is creating two business support hubs in Sunderland and North Shields. With over 800m² of incubator and managed workspace facilities, the hubs will provide accommodation and start up support for small and medium sized enterprises across Tyne and Wear. The project is also the launchpad for the delivery of enterprise coaching for individuals and groups in deprived communities. Support will be targeted at those wishing to establish social and traditional enterprises and shared facilities will enable them to develop, collaborate and grow in a supported environment. Located on brownfield land in Hendon, the Sunderland hub will be a purpose-built development of 660m² providing an environmentally sustainable and versatile facility constructed of reconditioned shipping containers. The North Shields hub will be housed in the former Town Mission building, with 190m² of space providing accommodation of varying sizes to suit different social and community start ups with shared meeting rooms, conference facilities, office equipment and amenities.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 192 social and traditional enterprises and create over 200 jobs in disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

Sustainable Enterprise Strategies

How much ERDF investment?

£0.9m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.8m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Sustainable Enterprise Strategies on 0191 565 0476 or visit www.ses.coop/

Enterprise coaching in South Tyneside

What is the project about?

The 'Enterprise Coaching' initiative delivers dedicated enterprise activity to disadvantaged communities in South Tyneside. It will support the development of an entrepreneurial culture with enterprise as an alternative career path, with training and mentoring provision and opportunities to research and test out ideas. Delivered by the Tyneside Economic Development Company Ltd (TEDCO), the project will provide community based enterprise coaches throughout the borough to promote self-employment, social enterprise and increase business creation and survival.

What will the project achieve?

Intensive one-to-one pre business start up enterprise coaching activity to assist 1,500 people with commercial ideas and ensure that at least 560 of these progress to mainstream North East Business Link support services.

Who is leading the project?

South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council (0845 460 3333)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.81m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.62m

Where can I go for more information?

John Scott of Business Matters at South Tyneside Council on 0191 424 6250 or email john.scott@southtyneside.gov.uk

Business Support in Micro-renewables

What is the project about?

Micro-renewable technologies generate energy at a small scale, such as electricity capacity of up to 50kW or heat capacity up to 45kW. The project will cover a wide range of micro-generation such as solar thermal, photovoltaic, heat pumps, combined heat and power systems, wind turbines and biomass. SME support will focus on Innovation Advice and Guidance to develop new and emerging micro-renewable technologies as well as providing support to encourage micro-renewable uptake.

What will the project achieve?

Help 100 SMEs exploit micro-renewable technologies and opportunities to improve environmental performance.

Who is leading the project?

New and Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£0.49m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.9m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Narec on 01670 359 555 or visit www.Narec.co.uk

Regional Start up Finance

What is the project about?

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects
Last updated August 2012

It will increase the number of fledgling businesses within the region, helping them achieve stability and growth more quickly by offering direct financial support to meet their needs. Eligible small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) can access resources to obtain vital capital equipment to remove one of the main barriers faced by entrepreneurs who are looking to develop the potential of a high growth business.

What will the project achieve?

It will support over 700 new enterprises, create 100 new jobs, safeguard 330 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East

How much ERDF investment?

£2m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£4.63m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Business & Enterprise North East on 0845 600 9006.

Translational Research Building

What is the project about?

Newcastle University is investing £13m in its evolving Campus for Ageing and Vitality to co-locate clinicians, academics and commercial companies jointly engaged in clinical research, healthcare delivery and basic biomedical research. The Translational Research Building (TRB) will be situated at the northern end of the Newcastle General Hospital site, linking the Henry Wellcome Biogerontology Building and the Clinical Ageing Research Unit, and will provide much needed space to bring together industry projects and academic research.

What will the project achieve?

Construction of a four storey building to transform nearly 1,000m² of land.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment?

£2.55m

Priority 1 – Enhancing & exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£13m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Suzanne Robson at s.m.robson@ncl.ac.uk or call 0191 222 3537.

Digital Evaluation Vehicle

What is the project about?

A new cost-effective service to open up commercial opportunities and product development in digital innovation, increase economic growth and create new businesses and jobs. The initiative focuses on technical analysis and development requirements for software enterprises. It aims to lower a significant barrier to innovation by adding a low risk, tangible demonstration facility for initial ideas, essential in attracting and securing finance for software product development.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 20 software prototypes worth around £30,000 each

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks

How much ERDF investment?

£0.8m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.9m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or email DEVenquiries@Codeworks.net

Coaching for High Growth SMEs

What is the project about?

Working with other business support organisations such as Business Link, MAS North East, regional universities and Centres of Excellence, Entrust will identify high growth businesses and move them rapidly on to the next stage of their development. Potential candidates will be recommended by these organisations and assigned to client managers and coaches who will work with them to develop specific growth plans with key milestones and targets. The average value of coaching support per beneficiary SME is expected to be over £20,000.

What will the project achieve?

An innovative business support project with intensive, specialised coaching assistance to fast track the performance and growth of over 150 local enterprises

Who is leading the project?

One North East/Entrust

How much ERDF investment?

£1.18m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£2.96m

Where can I go for more information?

Call Entrust on (0191) 244 4000 or email coaching@entrust.co.uk

Incubation & Inward Investment

What is the project about?

To provide support leading to the generation of new energy and technology based businesses and their products. With specialist energy technology business support provided through an incubator unit and associated professional and technical services, the project also supports business networking and inward investment.

What will the project achieve?

Provide 150m2 of R&D premises and incubation space for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to test ideas and accelerate product development, create 40 jobs and assist over 100 companies with innovation.

Who is leading the project?

New & Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£2.4m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Alan Walker at Narec on 01670 357 626 or email alan.walker@narec.co.uk

Business & Enterprise North East IDB Project 2

What is the project about?

This adds to the £9m ERDF granted in 2008 to open up more business support solutions and funding opportunities and enhance Solutions for Business, the Government's package of publicly funded business support designed to help companies start and grow. The financial boost also allows the Business Link service to field additional staff and offer more Solutions for Business support, including an 'Understanding Finance for Business' programme to help businesses enhance their financial capacity.

What will the project achieve?

Create another 140 new businesses to add to the 500 targeted by the original project, and create and safeguard an extra 95 jobs on top of the original figure of 1,300.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East

How much ERDF investment?

£1.48m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£18.1m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Business and Enterprise North East on 0845 600 9006.

Logistics 2

What is the project about?

A package of support to over 250 mainly small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) across the region. It will improve business operations, such as the acquisition, storage, transportation and delivery of goods, and bring cost savings in excess of £10m. Local consultants NAC, based in Sunderland, have been appointed to deliver the project and will be holding awareness raising events to take the scheme forward.

What will the project achieve?

Business support for 250 SMEs.

Who is leading the project?

One North East/NAC

How much ERDF investment?

£0.55m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.27m

Where can I go for more information?

Peter Shields at One North East on 0191 229 6376 or visit www.onenortheast.co.uk

Northern Design Centre On-line Business District

What is the project about?

To exploit digital and 3D technology and create a web based environment to bring business opportunities, productivity and growth to the North East design and business sectors. It supports the

development of the region's design and business sectors by allowing SMEs to populate a thriving virtual city creative district. NDC District will provide virtual incubation space, operational services, facilities and business accommodation for live online occupancy by regional enterprises.

What will the project achieve?

Establish the new 3D online virtual Northern Design Centre, assist 76 design companies and create and safeguard over 100 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact DLab at the Institute of Digital Innovation at Teesside University on 01642 738 100.

Renewable Energy Manufacturing Technology

What is the project about?

A large open access innovation and technical support facility for the low carbon energy manufacturing sector. The project is improving the technical capabilities and business competitiveness of North East engineering and manufacturing companies. The focus is on using innovative materials and joining technologies for the production of new products and processes. It will improve manufacturing competitiveness and the ability to successfully engage in regional, national and international supply chains.

What will the project achieve?

Create 90 new jobs and safeguard 246, also generating £6.24m in new turnover and protecting existing sector turnover up to £16.4m.

Who is leading the project?

TWI Technology Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£1m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£2m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the TWI Technology Centre on 01642 216 320.

CHP Trigeneration & Energy storage

What is the project about?

These three main areas of technology have the potential to improve energy systems efficiency and performance, utilise alternative fuel supplies, and reduce CO₂ and other emissions in electrical power generation and in heating and cooling. A range of new equipment will be installed at the SWAN Thermal Energy Laboratory in the University's Stephenson Building and the SWAN Trigeneration Facility at NaREC, Blyth. The facilities will be used to demonstrate to regional SMEs a range of different energy technologies, both individually and also integrated with each other. There will also be scope for testing systems, components and fuel types at different scales and under a variety of conditions.

What will the project achieve?

A dedicated, state of the art facility integrating a range of technologies in Combined Heat and Power (CHP), Trigeneration (CHP plus refrigeration/cooling) and Energy Storage to support innovation and business development.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment?

£0.8m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Newcastle University's Sir Joseph Swan Energy Institute on 0191 246 4867.

PETEC Displays and Photonics Technology Centre

What is the project about?

The Printable Electronics Technology Centre (PETEC) at NETPark in Sedgefield is the UK's leading development and prototyping facility in plastic/printable electronics. This investment for its expansion is significantly extending the scope and scale of PETEC's operation, with highly-specialised facilities and equipment tailored to the development and pre-production of wide area printable electronics for displays, photovoltaics and low-energy lighting.

What will the project achieve?

Create 26 new jobs at PETEC, stimulate 250 jobs regionally and 1,500 jobs nationally to 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)

How much ERDF investment?

£8.5m

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects

Last updated August 2012

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£20.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Call the CPI on (01642) 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Enhancing International Trade

What is the project about?

It will radically improve the prospects for hundreds of North East businesses to compete successfully in overseas markets and achieve rapid export growth. The funding is being used for the provision of direct international trade services to businesses to address current market failures and grant support for eligible activity under four main initiatives. Each business engaged with the project is assigned a dedicated international trade advisor to help them develop and implement a strategy to internationalise their commercial activities.

What will the project achieve?

Match export potential of 450 businesses with relevant distribution networks in target markets. Support an additional 810 SMEs new to exporting with an 'Investment Service' to provide flexible financial assistance and an agreed export action plan. 60 more SMEs benefit from a 'Virtual Export Manager' initiative placing export professionals into businesses to provide 'hands-on' support to develop international trading.

Who is leading the project?

NE Regional International Trade Office

How much ERDF investment?

£6m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£12m

Where can I go for more information?

Call the NE Regional International Trade Office on 0845 05 05 054, email enquiries@ukti.rito.co.uk or visit www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk/ukti/north_east

Berwick Workspace

What is the project about?

A business start up initiative to bring new jobs and commercial opportunities to Berwick. A key aim of this phase of the project is to stimulate the growth of knowledge-based businesses. The additional funding will also help with the marketing of the centre, encourage inter-trading and mutual support between SMEs, and increase participation in services and training programmes. The incubator project is developing effective links to external business services in the public and private sector for

tenant businesses that have the ability and ambition to grow. TEDCO will also deliver specialist support for the acquisition of new business processes and technologies to increase productivity and encourage efficient use of energy and low carbon solutions.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 37 small businesses and create 35 new jobs from incubator units.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council/TEDCO

How much ERDF investment?

£0.13m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.27m

Where can I go for more information?

For further information please call 0845 602 2466, email berwick@tedco.org or visit www.berwickworkspace.co.uk

Resource Efficiency

What is the project about?

Boosting environmental focus and helping companies save money by cutting down on waste and increasing renewable energy generation. The new service is focusing on resource efficiency, waste water and green energy, helping regional manufacturers make considerable savings by becoming more environmentally aware. MAS NE specialists enter a company and help the firm identify efficiency savings. The focus primarily falls on water and waste management and reduction techniques, awareness of environmental legislation that impacts on businesses and the long-term possibilities of green power and heat.

What will the project achieve?

Assist over 200 businesses with improved environmental management, energy efficiency, and workforce skills.

Who is leading the project?

MAS North East

How much ERDF investment?

£0.64m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact MAS North East on 0191 501 8609, email enquiries@mas-northeast.co.uk or visit <http://www.mas.bis.gov.uk/north-east>

NETPark Grow on Space

What is the project about?

The new buildings will provide outstanding facilities for companies that have outgrown their premises in NETPark's incubator, as well as for more established companies looking to re-locate to NETPark. The funding will develop facilities capable of housing global headquarters, cementing NETPark's reputation as an international hub. It will result in the creation of a broad range of indirect jobs ranging from construction to administrative staff to lab technicians and other skilled or semi-skilled roles.

What will the project achieve?

The construction of three new facilities with a total floor space of up to 5,000 square metres, housing up to 600 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£5m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£10m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

Digital Factory

What is the project about?

This is an extension of the Digital Factory project, the training and technology transfer project delivered by the Institute for Automotive and Manufacturing Advanced Practice (AMAP). The project is assisting a range of design, engineering and manufacturing firms with innovative processes and state-of-the-art facilities and equipment to increase productivity and win new business. It brings to the table technologies that would otherwise be out of the reach of SMEs, including 3D scanning, rapid prototyping, specialist CNC machining and access to software technologies used in concept product design through to factory simulation, indeed the whole product lifecycle. This access to expensive software technologies used by larger firms is needed by SMEs to break into new markets, gain customers and move up into more lucrative areas of the supply chain.

What will the project achieve?

Help 65 design and manufacturing firms to generate new business through innovative digital engineering technologies. Create and safeguard 20 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland/AMAP

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£6m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact AMAP on 0191 515 3888.

NETPark Servicing of Additional Land

What is the project about?

The Northward expansion of NETPark's facilities aims to generate more employment for disadvantaged people in neighbouring communities and create additional opportunities for local businesses to provide services to companies on the site. The latest investment has been an essential and integral element of the redevelopment of the park, with the construction of road and drainage works, together with landscaping and provision for the extension of public utility services into the site. In line with the NETPark master plan, approximately 120 metres of access road leads from the existing roundabout junction near the entrance to the park to the far boundary of the site of the former hospital buildings. The road provides an access to serve the redevelopment of this site and also to open up the adjacent land for future development.

What will the project achieve?

Servicing and preparation of 2.75 hectares of land for the development of up to 6,000 square metres of buildings suitable for high technology companies.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£0.24m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£0.48m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

Be Enterprising

What is the project about?

An enterprise initiative to revitalise business and employment prospects in deprived former coalfield and rural communities of County Durham. The target population numbers some 263,000 people of working age whose needs are currently not as well met by mainstream service provision. Young people and other priority groups will be offered more one-to-one, client centred support and more information on what's available so that they become enterprise ready before they are referred to Business Link. The two year project will target prospective entrepreneurs, new and existing SMEs and those seeking to locate in County Durham's target areas. It will also offer more focused franchising support and more intensive and specialised business mentoring for potential high growth start ups and new businesses.

What will the project achieve?

To create 370 jobs, safeguard 190 and assist the creation of over 500 small local businesses

Who is leading the project?

County Durham LEGI

How much ERDF investment?

£4.1m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£8.5m

Where can I go for more information?

For further details please call 0800 030 4134 or visit www.be-enterprising.biz

North East Industrial Symbiosis Network

What is the project about?

A two year sustainability initiative to deliver eco-innovative solutions and best practice to small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) and provide practical solutions to difficult waste problems. The network will help businesses make environmental savings as well as improving business profitability. It will assist 40 businesses each year, with direct research & development support and consultancy generating additional sales and cost savings of over £300,000. There will also be a 10,000 tonne reduction in the use of treated water. The North East Industrial Symbiosis Network project will be delivered across the region from its base, the Clean Environment Management Centre (CLEMANCE) at Teesside University.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 40 businesses each year. Reduce CO₂ by over 250,000 tonnes and prevent 250,000 tonnes of waste going to landfill.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment?

£0.62m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.24m

Where can I go for more information?

David Pratt at University of Teesside on 01642 384413, email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Newcastle Science City Community Engagement

What is the project about?

This three year programme will give both adults and youngsters opportunities to be involved in science activities and turn their ideas into projects that can improve their neighbourhoods and encourage them to study science, train in scientific skills and find jobs. As part of the project there will be an information bank so that Newcastle Science City's team can get an accurate, current picture of the status of science within the local community. The data will enable them to see what barriers there are to people deciding to study, train or work in a scientific field and what can be done to improve any perception problems. Engagement with the third sector and outreach work will be delivered by Newcastle City Council for Voluntary service and Newcastle New Deal for Communities. This will lead to the launch of a £530,000 grant scheme in 2010 which will be open to community groups and will aim to support community ideas and projects using science to address local issues such as health, ageing, the environment and energy efficiency.

What will the project achieve?

Help over a 1,000 local people from all age groups, abilities and ethnic backgrounds, those recently out of work and particularly young people who are not in education, employment or training.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£0.88m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.77m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.newcastlesciencecity.com or contact 0191 231 2200.

NETPark Embedding Benefits/Community Engagement

What is the project about?

The community engagement drive by the NETPark innovation connector will engage disadvantaged local communities and schools in science and innovation activities, entrepreneurship, raising aspirations, providing career pathways and interacting with over 1,000 people up to 2011. A feature of the programme will be a dedicated community exhibition and meeting space within the NETPark Incubator building which will link science, enterprise, and sustainability and allow the local community on site for visits. Using NETPark as a hub, the initiative will provide community science activities, facilitate links between schools and science based businesses, and provide support for careers advisors to highlight the range of local opportunities in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)..

What will the project achieve?

A community engagement drive to interact with over 1,000 people over two years.

Who is leading the project?

Durham University

How much ERDF investment?

£0.49m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

The Newcastle Innovation Machine

What is the project about?

It will create new science businesses by identifying solutions to everyday problems. The funding will be awarded on a phased basis, depending on job and business creation results spinning out of the 'machine'. The innovation machine's database of 'unmet needs' covers a huge array of opportunities from products and services to help nurses and GPs to new specialist areas for training companies. These potential business ideas are carefully assessed to identify products and services that will address these needs, and financial viability, with the best solutions becoming new businesses to create jobs.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 250 businesses, create 27 science industry start-up companies and bring a range of new specialised jobs to the region.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle Science City

How much ERDF investment?

£3m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£6.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.newcastle-science-city.com or contact 0191 231 2200

Process Industries New Business Opportunity Hub

What is the project about?

With 1,000 m² of modular units, office space and laboratory areas equipped with leading edge testing facilities, the hub will enable SMEs to nurture embryonic commercial ideas. It will also provide process industry market sector experts to assist local businesses with market analysis, entrepreneurial skills and access to finance. This state-of-the-art facility will bring a fully equipped physical environment in which to nurture new businesses. The hub will draw from a variety of sources for new business opportunities, including existing regional companies, North East universities and the CPI's Advanced Processing, Low Carbon Energy and Functional Materials platforms.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 150 small companies with growth plans, attract 50 new businesses to the region, create 90 new jobs and safeguard 75 others.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation

How much ERDF investment?

£1.73m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£4.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the CPI on 01642 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Sunderland Software City – Education & Innovation

What is the project about?

The University of Sunderland has secured this funding to finance its contribution to the Sunderland Software City (SSC) initiative, which is developing the region's knowledge assets and infrastructure to create and grow software enterprises and attract inward investment. The project focuses on stimulating graduate enterprise, knowledge transfer, product development and innovation R&D. It is to stimulate graduate enterprise by creating a 'Software Hatchery' to provide a dedicated support environment for small businesses to develop ideas. The hatchery will be fully equipped to support fledgling software businesses with access to a broad range of software platforms.

What will the project achieve?

Create 40 new businesses, 47 new jobs and assist 120 businesses in all.

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland

How much ERDF investment?

£0.95m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£2.9m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the University of Sunderland on 0191 515 3555 or email Mark.donnelly@sunderland.ac.uk

Inspire Gateshead

What is the project about?

A four pronged initiative to develop the borough's business community and encourage entrepreneurs by supporting social enterprises, new start ups and existing businesses. The project will accelerate the development of start up and fledgling companies by providing access to a range of services and targeted resources for entrepreneurs. It will also seek to engage families and local communities in a variety of enterprise development and business networking activity within disadvantaged areas of the borough.

The whole package consists of four projects: Animating Enterprise, Innovation in Social Enterprise, Business Incubation Gateshead, and Gateshead Business Community.

What will the project achieve?

The creation of new jobs and local businesses on the South side of the Tyne.

Who is leading the project?

Gateshead Council

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Rachel Mason at Gateshead Council on 0191 4333221 or email rachelmason@gateshead.gov.uk

PETEC LACE Electronics Technology Support

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects

Last updated August 2012

What is the project about?

To help small technology businesses exploit new market opportunities with installation of advanced, hi-tech equipment in a newly opened cleanroom at the Printable Electronic Technology Centre (PETEC) at NETPark. The PETEC Large Area Coating Equipment (LACE) project is enhancing the region's growing technology capabilities, enabling development and prototyping for plastic electronic applications in printable photovoltaics (PPV) and solid state lighting (SSL). Its technology brings innovative functions for electronic systems such as flexible computer displays used for electronic newspapers, mobile communications devices, televisions, sensors, and smart cards. These manufacturing processes typically require much lower levels of capital investment than current electronics technology, enabling small, customised devices with high design content.

What will the project achieve?

A state-of-the-art printable electronics facility to create 40 new jobs, assist 20 specialist businesses, and provide university training courses in PPV and SSL techniques.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation

How much ERDF investment?

£2m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£4m

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the CPI on 01642 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Tarka (ERDF) Childcare Sector Business Support

What is the project about?

Tailored business support resources and expertise to community enterprise organisations in disadvantaged areas of County Durham. Tarka Limited is extending a specialised programme to include development for staff and volunteers, access to finance and tailored business support for not for profit enterprises. ERDF funding will sustain new or recently opened childcare businesses in the county, providing essential community enterprise support activity to maintain jobs and services during the economic downturn. Assistance will include marketing, sharing best practice, business analysis, financial management and legal support. Dovetailing with the ongoing work of SureStart and Business Link, the project will provide support for businesses, including specific advice and guidance with payroll, wage preparation and tax returns.

What will the project achieve?

Help 120 employees with specific development needs and supply 20 community enterprises with at least £1,000 of direct financial assistance.

Who is leading the project?

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects
Last updated August 2012

Tarka Limited

How much ERDF investment?

£0.28m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£0.56m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Tarka Limited on 0191 377 2544

Innovation Vouchers – Solutions for Business

What is the project about?

Help North East firms boost competitiveness by encouraging collaboration between SMEs and academic institutions, allowing businesses to use the vouchers to purchase support services and improve their competitiveness and efficiency. It will encourage small and medium sized companies to engage with Higher Education institutions such as the region's five universities, Innovation Connector projects, Centres of Excellence and other Knowledge Base providers. Businesses most likely to attract support will be in the process of developing or testing a technology, product or service.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 350 businesses and safeguard 90 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment?

£1.2m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2.4m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

Developing SME Expertise

What is the project about?

The project is putting in place a matching service and public subsidy to give SMEs and social enterprises access to expert advisors to help develop new products, processes and services. It will also help regional companies retain their skilled staff with a view to driving forward a new phase of economic growth once the recession is over.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF 2007-13 summary of projects

Last updated August 2012

Help over 90 SMEs weather the economic downturn and prepare for recovery.

Who is leading the project?

One NorthEast/Wear Valley & Teesdale Enterprise Agency

How much ERDF investment?

£0.6m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.2m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the Teesdale Enterprise Agency on 01388 776 688.

Horizons – Export Business Support

What is the project about?

Horizons is open to companies who wish to target high-growth overseas markets and will provide them with support to develop and implement a market entry plan. Working with a dedicated UKTI International Trade Adviser, firms can apply for a Horizons grant to assist with a range of activities, such as participating in exhibitions and trade fairs; help with translation and language services; export skills development training; and, in some cases, assistance to help ensure a product complies with the standards required by a particular market. To take advantage of the scheme, companies must be targeting one of the high growth markets selected by UKTI and One North East, namely China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Qatar, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, North America, Japan and the Nordic countries. They must also have more than 10 employees and an annual turnover exceeding £250,000.

What will the project achieve?

Help at least 30 North East businesses to accelerate growth and increase turnover by opening up more global business opportunities. Boost the regional economy and business productivity by generating at least £10m additional turnover per annum by 2011.

Who is leading the project?

One North East/UKTI

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the NE International Trade Hotline on 0845 05 05 054, email enquiries@ukti.rito.co.uk or visit www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk/ukti/north_east

Grant for Business Investment (GBI)

What is the project about?

The project is providing small and medium sized businesses in disadvantaged areas with support in response to the economic downturn. It will increase the level of existing grant provision currently available to SMEs in the region and the ERDF injection of funding will encourage capital investment and enable businesses to take the next step forward from development to production, as well as increasing productivity, skills and employment.

What will the project achieve?

Support 40 high growth businesses with grants valued between £10,000 and £250,000, create a minimum of 60 new jobs and safeguard 60 others.

Who is leading the project?

One North East

How much ERDF investment?

£1m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Business and Enterprise North East on 0845 600 9006.

Sunderland Software City - Enterprise

What is the project about?

The Sunderland Software City initiative is developing the region's knowledge assets and physical infrastructure to create and grow software enterprises and attract inward investment. The BIC's contribution to the initiative is focusing on enterprise, business incubation and growth for the development of new software products and processes. Its latest investment will be used for the provision of bespoke pre-start support for software entrepreneurs, mentoring, finance, facilities and services. It will provide dedicated premises for new and growing software companies to co-ordinate start up activity and bring together a mix of managers, graduates and investors for software ventures.

What will the project achieve?

Increase the creation and growth of small businesses in the North East's software sector and create over 70 new businesses in the area.

Who is leading the project?

North East Business & Innovation Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£0.85m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£2.1m

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the North East Business and Innovation Centre on 0191 516 6087.

Graduates for Business

What is the project about?

Managed by Entrust and delivered in partnership with the University of Teesside, the project helps diagnose the needs of individual businesses and offers a solution by sourcing the right graduate with appropriate professional capability. The SME is provided with leading edge knowledge, technical advice and a subsidy for the graduate's employment cost, thus removing one of the biggest barriers to workforce growth.

What will the project achieve?

A business support initiative to assist over 200 small North East businesses and create up to 200 new jobs for university graduates.

Who is leading the project?

Entrust

How much ERDF investment?

£0.72m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3.1m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Entrust on 0191 244 4000 or visit www.graduatesforbusiness.co.uk

Design Network North

What is the project about?

One North East has appointed RTC North Limited as contractor to deliver the Design Network North initiative, which will support innovative companies in the development of high value world class products and services. The focus will be on new products and services originating from North East SMEs through the engagement of highly skilled teams of experts from the design and creative service sector, universities, industry, business support organisations, research institutes and centres of excellence.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 125 companies, create 72 new jobs and safeguard a further 150.

Who is leading the project?

One North East/RTC North Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£0.86m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£2.26m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact RTC North on 0191 516 4400 or visit www.designnetworknorth.org

NHS Innovations North (ERDF)

What is the project about?

The initiative is to enable SMEs in the industry to exploit commercial ideas and create a sustainable healthcare business sector. It will help them participate in the commercialisation of NHS generated IP through the design, development and testing of new devices, and by manufacturing and marketing products under licence. Support will include market research to assess commercial potential, and assistance with clinical trials, business model development and NHS purchasing processes. The project will also allow North East businesses to tap into the NHS market with their own products and services.

What will the project achieve?

Help NHS Innovations North provide over 100 regional businesses with specialist support and access to intellectual property (IP), as well as creating 58 specialist jobs.

Who is leading the project?

NHS Innovations North

How much ERDF investment?

£0.8m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.8m

Where can I go for more information?

Please call NHS Innovations North on 0191 516 4400.

Enterprising Young People

What is the project about?

The project allows the continuation of the £1.3m Enterprising Young People initiative which commenced in 2006, and the new funding will encourage young people, particularly those from disadvantaged areas, to consider self employment or starting up their own business. The overall

project is being delivered through The Prince's Trust North East offices covering Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham and Tees Valley. A regional network of experienced staff works on an outreach basis to take business advice and guidance into local, disadvantaged areas of greatest need.

What will the project achieve?

Encourage over 300 young entrepreneurs to create their own start up companies in North East England.

Who is leading the project?

The Prince's Trust

How much ERDF investment?

£0.38m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.3m

Where can I go for more information?

The Prince's Trust can be contacted on 0191 497 3210) or email offnero@princes-trust.org.uk

Science to Business Hub

What is the project about?

A new science collaboration for the chemical industry and academia to nurture innovation and bridge the development gap between research and the prototyping of products and services. With a focus on the speciality chemicals sector, the Science to business hub links with two similar projects run by CPI and NEPIC, building on existing links and a range of support organisations and representative bodies operating in the process and specialist chemicals sector. It will bring a series of supply chain events engaging with industrial experts from across the world and identifying future issues and opportunities for collaboration.

What will the project achieve?

Help over 100 small local businesses to gain a competitive edge in product development by opening up innovative relationships with academic institutions and research establishments. Support 40 sector specialists to develop and widen their expertise.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment?

£1.17m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£3.44m

Where can I go for more information?

David Pratt at University of Teesside on 01642 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Healthcare Technology Development Programme

What is the project about?

An integrated service for businesses to develop healthcare concepts and exploit the North East's strengths in health sciences and bring successful new products to market. It provides a clear and practical route for SMEs to transfer state-of-the-art research into commercial products such as medical devices and technological services. It offers targeted businesses fast track support and multidisciplinary expertise to include every stage of product development, from research and concept design through to feasibility, prototyping, design for manufacture and clinical testing.

What will the project achieve?

Help over 50 businesses to develop start up ideas or new products.

Who is leading the project?

Northumbria University

How much ERDF investment?

£0.75m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Teresa Kirby at Northumbria University at teresa.kirby@northumbria.ac.uk or visit www.northumbria.ac.uk

Newcastle Enterprise Package

What is the project about?

Managed by the City Council, enterprise development and growth activity concentrates on identified disadvantaged areas, including neighbourhoods in the West End such as Benwell, Scotswood, Elswick, and Arthur's Hill, Byker and Walker in the East End, and Cowgate, Blakelaw, and Newbiggin Hall to the North. It works with young people to increase levels of entrepreneurship, help those needing assistance to start up their business or social enterprise, and provide support networks for existing companies. Those aspiring to set up in business or become self employed have access to a range of advice and guidance to help them from ideas generation through to business planning, procurement and financial assistance.

What will the project achieve?

Assist over 280 new and existing companies, create 150 jobs, and provide financial assistance to 120 SMEs. The key aim is to increase self employment in disadvantaged areas from 3% to the city average of 5% by 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1.56m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Newcastle City Council on 0191 278 1855.

Codeworks Connect/GameHorizon

What is the project about?

Codeworks Connect, the trade association for digital companies based in North East England, and Codeworks GameHorizon, a collaborative network of video games companies, are two business initiatives that support the growth of the North East's digital cluster. The investment allows Codeworks to continue to expand its membership and provide a larger forum for businesses to network, share software knowledge and collaborate with other SMEs within the industry.

What will the project achieve?

Increase Codeworks' network to 450 regional digital members and seek to include a greater number of software companies, IT managers and buyers in the community. Sponsor 15 Proof of Concept, software design and creative fund applications, raising £1m of funding for SMEs and sourcing £6m of business leads. Support over 500 businesses by 2011.

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks (0191 556 1122)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.98m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.97m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or visit www.codeworks.net

Raising Enterprise North Tyneside

What is the project about?

A package of business support funding for self employment to energize and stimulate enterprise in local disadvantaged wards in North Tyneside. It works in the heart of disadvantaged neighbourhoods, holding drop-in sessions and workshops in community centres around the borough to help people overcome barriers to enterprise. Mentoring and business diagnostic advice help them develop their plans before they take the next step into the mainstream Business Link service. It is specifically targeting activity at the four most deprived wards in the borough, Riverside, Wallsend, Chirton and Howdon, to create, promote and support a new culture of enterprise in these communities and their surrounding areas. Business generation workshops assist participants to assess their suitability for self-employment and provide information on potential franchise opportunities. Advisors work with individuals on a one-to-one basis to help them develop ideas by considering their existing skills, experience and interests to explore opportunities.

What will the project achieve?

North Tyneside Council is creating a Neighbourhood Enterprise Team which will target 1,500 potential entrepreneurs with pre start up ideas.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment?

£0.75m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.5m

Where can I go for more information?

Sean Collier, Manager Business and Employment on 0191 643 6409 or email

sean.collier@northtyneside.gov.uk

R&D Globalisation Programme

What is the project about?

The project assists regional businesses in joint ventures, licensing, R&D, product development collaboration, technology transfer and setting up overseas subsidiaries. The outward facing service builds on the success of a proven pilot scheme and complements existing export and trade support provided by UKTI. It is working with 50 R&D based businesses each year to review their capacity to implement an international strategy and take that forward to exploit commercial opportunities. It provides intensive support to develop this capacity to cover issues such as intellectual property rights, legal and regulatory environments, due diligence and negotiations in international fields.

What will the project achieve?

Help RTC North Ltd boost the impact of UKTI's R&D programme, assisting 150 innovative SMEs to break into international commercial sectors. Create 45 jobs, particularly in R&D, and safeguard a further 70.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Limited

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact RTC North Limited on 0191 516 4400.

Energy & Environmental Technology Sector Support(Renew)

What is the project about?

Renew is focusing on helping SMEs get new technologies to market and fast tracking commercially viable ideas which use sustainable energy and environmental technology. This investment in the growth of the low carbon technologies sector has the potential for new jobs and additional start up companies and to help local businesses develop commercial projects. Strategic markets under consideration for early focus include a range of recycling technologies, sustainable waste treatment and waste to energy projects. Carbon capture and storage and related low carbon energy technologies are also high on the agenda.

What will the project achieve?

Help bring support expertise and growth to over 100 existing businesses in the low carbon technologies sector.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Industries (CPI)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.7m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.4

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.renew-cpi.com

Tees Valley Integrated Business Support Activity

What is the project about?

The investment package is for a series of localised projects encompassing disadvantaged areas across Stockton, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough. The cornerstone of the programme is 7

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'Neighbourhood Enterprise Gateways' in Middlesbrough and Stockton, offering an intensive start up advice and support service from local, accessible hubs. The aim is to directly engage with people to raise awareness of enterprise and self-employment and help them set up in business. In addition, Stockton 'Routes into Enterprise' works with young people to increase involvement in enterprise and business creation, focusing on the 16-19 age group and those not in education, employment or training (NEETs). It enables them to practically learn more about setting up a business and also includes stronger engagement with schools, colleges and youth programmes to motivate more youngsters to consider self-employment.

What will the project achieve?

Specialist business start up support activity to create over 500 new businesses and 600 new jobs in the Tees Valley.

Who is leading the project?

Tees Valley Unlimited

How much ERDF investment?

£3.6m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£8.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Sue Donnelly, Project co-ordinator at Stockton Borough Council on 01642 264 851 or email sue.donnelly@teesvalley-jsu.gov.uk

Northumberland Enterprise Bridge

What is the project about?

Delivered by NBSL (Northumberland Business Service Ltd) from its six existing Business Advice Centres in Alnwick, Berwick, Blyth, Hexham, Morpeth and Ashington, an intensive one to one support service is available for people to test, research and formulate business ideas and opportunities. It will increase self-employment and business formation rates and help produce an enterprise surge in the local economy. Guided by an experienced business coach, potential entrepreneurs can explore market opportunities, tap into sources of funding, and build up an understanding of a business plan and all the ingredients required for successful trading.

What will the project achieve?

Continuation of enterprise initiative to create 200 SMEs and 300 new jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£0.71m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1.43m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.nbsl.org.uk

Institute of Digital Innovation (IDI) Phase 2

What is the project about?

This ERDF investment is being used to launch the second key phase of the IDI project, which began in 2005 with the provision of business accommodation and concept testing facilities. This stage is focusing on several region wide strands of business support activity delivered by the university, including DigitalCity fellowships, technology transfer, and digital inclusion and skills. It will maintain business growth in the digital sector during the current challenging economic climate. The initiative generates enterprise activity and employment opportunities for regional graduates, with financial support and expertise to enable them to develop and take ideas to business start up stage.

What will the project achieve?

Investment in digital technology facilities and financial support for SMEs to develop commercial ideas is to create 90 more new businesses.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment?

£1.9m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£5.3m

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.idi-uk.org

Digital Placements & Knowledge Transfer

What is the project about?

Codeworks, the region's centre for digital innovation, secured this funding to continue with a highly successful programme that brings together SMEs with the latest digital knowledge and creativity from local universities. It allows Codeworks to tap into graduate knowledge and cutting edge research to help SMEs collaborate with the region's five universities and further develop the region's thriving digital industry cluster. The project brings industry and the universities closer together to address specific technology needs of SMEs and provide technical solutions by finding graduates with the appropriate digital know-how to undertake specific projects designed and developed by individual businesses. The upsurge of interaction and knowledge transfer between universities and SMEs

focuses on improving product development, processes and the environment, particularly for businesses involved in healthcare and health sciences.

What will the project achieve?

Create and safeguard 80 jobs and assist 120 businesses in the digital sector.

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks (0191 556 1122)

How much ERDF investment?

£0.7m

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1.4m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or visit www.codeworks.net

Supporting Business Resilience

What is the project about?

An initiative to provide additional support for the region's businesses during the economic downturn and active targeting of businesses to provide practical information to help businesses meet economic challenges. The package incorporates a range of assistance, including free business health checks and the roll out of a series of workshops designed to help firms take practical steps to deal with some of the issues they are facing in the current climate. Business Link experts deliver advice specifically related to the immediate economic challenges. The support package is designed to help firms affected by the downturn, with extra financial support to provide assistance towards debt management, financial structuring, expanding new markets, re-structuring and developing new products. Following visits and business health checks, Business Link advisors refer firms to the North East England Investment Centre (NEEIC).

What will the project achieve?

Assist 2,000 businesses with business healthchecks, workshops and mentoring.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment?

£1.1m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2.49m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

The Flexible Families Project

What is the project about?

The project helps parents and carers explore the benefits of running their own enterprise when it comes to managing childcare, getting back into employment or supplementing their income. It runs workshops and one-to-one mentoring through Sure Start and community centres, baby and toddler groups, nurseries, and health and leisure services. These support parents and carers in looking at how enterprise could work for their needs - helping them to develop their ideas and reach sources of support, as well as linking them with other people who are thinking about launching a business around caring responsibilities.

What will the project achieve?

Support new parents and carers in North East England to start their own businesses for more flexibility in family life.

Who is leading the project?

One North East

How much ERDF investment?

£0.5m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Tim Pain at One North East on 0191 229 6400 or email tim.pain@onenortheast.co.uk

Business & Enterprise North East IDB Project

What is the project about?

To open up more business support solutions and funding opportunities, enhancing the existing Business Support Simplification Programme to improve customer service. The project offers more account managed, tailored support to start up businesses and individuals via the Business Link branded information, diagnostic and brokerage (IDB) service. It also increases business support delivery in hard to reach areas and in communities with lower business densities. It enables approximately £4m per annum to be added to the value of solutions funding available to businesses and start ups using the service.

What will the project achieve?

Help double the number of relationship and account managers for the Business Link service, allowing more businesses and individuals to access support, to create 700 new businesses and 750 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

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Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment?

£9.05m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£18.1m

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

The MAS-NEPA Service

What is the project about?

To help MAS North East deliver a groundbreaking manufacturing support service to increase business productivity, boost start up and survival rates and improve environmental performance. The new ERDF programme is making a major contribution to a £30m contract to provide the combined Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) and the North East Productivity Alliance (NEPA). The MAS-NEPA project will make a major contribution to the ambition of the ERDF Competitiveness programme 2007-13 and the Regional Economic Strategy by increasing the numbers and survival of business start ups in the region, boosting business productivity and improving environmental performance.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 720 SMEs with improved performance and energy efficiency, create 46 jobs and safeguard 690

Who is leading the project?

MAS-NEPA/MAS North East

How much ERDF investment?

£4.2m

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£33.6m

Where can I go for more information?

Contact MAS North East on 0191 501 8609, email enquiries@mas-northeast.co.uk or visit <http://www.mas.bis.gov.uk/north-east>