

Project Name	Applicant Organisation	Priority Axis	IDG Date	Total ERDF Funds £	Total Project Value	Project Soundbite
Fibre Optics and Laser Sensing Technologies 2	Aston University	1	10-Aug-12	£295,942	£591,884	The project will deliver technical support to West Midlands manufacturing SMEs in order to transfer knowledge relating to a range of photonics technologies. The SMEs supported will have been identified as having significant business opportunities. . The project is a continuation from the phase 1 ERDF supported project (ref XBG/IN9044).
Sustainable Retrofit and Smart Grids	The Accord Group	1	10-Aug-12	£1,497,359	£2,994,718	This project will see planning large scale retrofitting improvements to the social housing stock of The Accord Group. The project will seek to help SMEs in the region to take advantage of these opportunities in this field.
Built Environment Climate Change Innovation (BECCI)	University of Wolverhampton	1	20-Jul-12	£584,550	£1,169,100	BECCI will support the development of Climate Change mitigation and adaptation innovations in the West Midlands, focussing on housing retrofit and exploiting economic opportunities. The project will focus on specific product areas, developing 3 product groups. Each product group will focus on a built environment technology area and will work with businesses in each of these areas, with input from sector experts, HEI's and national and regional research organisations.
BSEEN	Aston University	1	28-Jun-12	£662,740	£1,325,480	BSEEN is one of two West Midlands graduate/undergraduate entrepreneurship projects being considered by IDG on 28 June. Care has been taken to ensure that these projects are complementary, having different geographical/audience foci. BSEEN is an innovative university and private sector initiative designed to stimulate the development and growth of graduate and undergraduate entrepreneurship within the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP area. The project will provide intensive business support to undergraduate and graduate entrepreneurs from the three partner universities: Aston University, the University of Birmingham and Birmingham City University (BCU).
SPEED PLUS	University of Wolverhampton	1	28-Jun-12	£2,006,261	£4,012,522	SPEED Plus is one of two West Midlands graduate/undergraduate entrepreneurship projects being considered by IDG on 28 June. Care has been taken to ensure that these projects are complementary, having different geographical/audience foci. SPEED Plus will extend the existing SPEED WM ERDF project to enable West Midlands Higher Education Institutions to continue to work together to deliver an enterprise creation programme for students and graduates.
Human Interface Technologies Applied Research Centres (HIT Labs)	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd	1	31-May-12	£2,909,675	£5,819,350	Human interface technologies' (HIT) refers to the natural and humanistic ways that humans interface with digital devices as well as with other people remotely over large distances using the full range of human senses and gestures. The project is based upon the successful model developed originally at the University of Washington, and subsequently adopted by Christchurch University in New Zealand and The University of Tasmania in Australia. This project offers a unique opportunity for SMEs, students and graduates with HIT product innovations to receive structured R&D support, not available anywhere else in the region.
CASIM2	Birmingham University	1	13-Apr-12	£2,582,474	£5,276,949	CASIM2 will provide demonstration activities and support to SMEs in computational science and engineering. This is a relatively new discipline of engineering which deals with the development and application of computational models and simulations coupled with high-performance computing to solve complex physical problems arising in engineering analysis and design.
Growing the Social Enterprise Sector in the West Midlands Phase 2	Coventry and Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency Limited	2	26-Jul-12	£583,072	£1,166,144	Coventry and Warwickshire CDA secured £647,000 of ERDF in 2009 to launch the Growing Social Enterprise Sector in the West Midlands project which was focussed on encouraging the growth of social enterprises across the region. The applicant is looking to secure ERDF funds to continue the delivery of this support service until 2015. They will work with a number of delivery partners who will employ business coaches. Activities of the project will include generating initial engagement with beneficiaries, intensive support to pre start social enterprises and support to new start and existing social enterprises.
The Black Country: An Entrepreneurial Spirit	Black Country Chamber of Commerce	2	13-Jul-12	£330,000	£660,000	Following the closure of Business Link in November 2011 (Business Link now only provides a generic online service for business start ups), there is now no face to face provision of advice, information and mentoring services in locality, other than that provided than the New Enterprise Allowance programme funded by Department of Work and Pensions and the services offered to disadvantaged young people between the ages of 18 and 30 delivered by The Princes Trust. Black Country Chamber of Commerce are looking to fill this gap to deliver a comprehensive package of start up service support.

Marches Business Support Project	Telford and Wrekin Council	2	28-Jun-12	£186,892	££373,784	The closure of Business Link WM local support services on 25th November 2011 and the subsequent announcement that this would be replaced by online support services is likely to put individuals and SMEs in the Marches area at a distinct disadvantage. The Marches (in particular the rural areas) are inhibited by poor quality and capacity of its telecommunications infrastructure which makes it difficult for SMEs to access any on-line support and take advantage of broadband based technologies, which will increasingly restrict the competitiveness of businesses. This is exacerbating an existing imperfect information market failure as individuals and SMEs will find it more difficult to access business support and advice services that can be accessed in other parts of the West Midlands. This project seeks to assist SMEs and individuals with this transition period by continuing to provide some local support but also helping businesses to respond to the new wave of support mechanisms.
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP Business Support Programme	Birmingham City Council	2	28-Jun-12	£3,934,158	£8,038,316	The project will provide a package of support to existing businesses to stimulate private sector investment for business consolidation and growth with new job creation, safeguarding existing jobs and increased economic prosperity. BDP will be accessible to all existing SMEs in identified SIC codes that have been trading for 6 months and are ready to implement plans to grow.
The Black Country: An Entrepreneurial Spirit	Black Country Chamber of Commerce	2	15-Jun-12	£330,000	£660,000	Following the closure of Business Link in November 2011 (Business Link now only provides a generic online service for business start ups), there is now no face to face provision of advice, information and mentoring services in locality, other than that provided than the New Enterprise Allowance programme funded by Department of Work and Pensions and the services offered to disadvantaged young people between the ages of 18 and 30 delivered by The Princes Trust. Black Country Chamber of Commerce are looking to fill this gap to deliver a comprehensive package of start up service support.
Rail Supply Programme	MAS	2	27-Apr-12	£615,750	£1,231,500	The project will deliver a programme of business assistance, market focussed supply chain groupings and business development/validation support in support based upon the priorities identified in the former RDA Rail Cluster 3-year plan. It will be delivered in close contractual relationship with WMMC. The brief is to go out to the rail industry and work with business in known areas of opportunity. This programme will operate seamlessly with the UKTI international trade programme and technology exploitation programme to provide a holistic support for regional companies well placed to take advantage of new market opportunities.
Black Country Business Property Investment Programme (BCBPIP)	Walsall MBC	3	25-May-12	£6,712,477	£26,264,912	The project will make available up to 25% (additional funding up to 10% for small companies) of total eligible project costs to enable SME property owners and developers for commercial development, to improve existing premises and bring forward employment sites, making available new, business accommodation to support the growth of the local economy.
Stoke-on-Trent City Centre Public Realm	Stoke on Trent City Council	3	11-May-12	£2,128,780	£4,257,560	This project will provide a programme of high quality public realm improvements in Stoke-on-Trent that complement and help open up areas adjacent to key strategic physical investments, most notably the Central Business District, East West, and the Mitchell Memorial Theatre. This will improve the physical environment stimulating increased inward investment and economic activity.
Marches and Worcestershire LEPs Technical Assistance	Shropshire Council	5	28-Jun-12	£167,186	£334,372	This project is to provide revenue support to Local Authorities in the Marches area to co-ordinate, manage and increase capacity and expertise across ERDF activity and undertake preparatory work for the future programme.
Coventry and Warwickshire Technical Assistance	Coventry City Council	5	28-Jun-12	£111,546	£223,092	This project is to provide revenue support to Coventry City Council (CCC) and Warwickshire County Council (WCC) to co-ordinate, manage and increase capacity and expertise across ERDF activity.
West Midlands European Service	West Midlands Councils	5	15-Jun-12	£161,141	£322,282	In delivering the West Midlands European Service (WMES) project, West Midlands Councils will work closely with West Midlands Local Authorities, the 6 WM LEPs, other appropriate WM partners (Universities, Chambers of Commerce, the business community etc) as well those organisations (Marches LEP, Staffordshire County Council and Stoke on Trent City Council, Black Country Consortium, Worcestershire County Council, Birmingham City Council and Birmingham Science City) that have received Priority 5 ERDF funding to consider future ERDF funding with the aim of developing a credible socio-economic framework to help WM organisations receive the maximum benefit from future ERDF funding.

ERDF 2007 - 13 Programme: Technical Assistance 2011 - 2015	Department for Communities and Local Government	5	11-May-12	£3,757,500	£7,515,000	The transfer of the ERDF Programme for the West Midlands from Advantage West Midlands (AWM) to DCLG has made it necessary to review the management and implementation of Priority Axis 5 for Technical Assistance (TA). The successful implementation and delivery of the ERDF 2007-2013 Programme relies on the effectiveness of its management and control. Failure will lead to de-commitment of funds, irregularity and clawback. To avoid this, the Managing Authority (MA) is obliged to ensure there is sufficient capacity and capability to develop, implement, manage and close the West Midlands ERDF Programme. The purpose of this application is to secure sufficient funds for continuing effective management of the Programme. This application has been requested by the MA to ensure that the funding is spent in accordance with the Operational Programme (OP) and TA strategy; European Commission (EC) regulations and National rules; and to establish an appropriate level of accountability.
Birmingham Science City - Supporting Innovation Across WM	Birmingham City Council	5	11-May-12	£39,000	£78,000	Through this project Birmingham Science City will support and develop a cross-sectoral community of interest in science and technology based innovation from across the West Midlands to (i) stimulate new collaborative ERDF innovation projects and (ii) contribute to developing the innovation component of the next ERDF programme.
TOTAL				£29,596,503	£71,941,181	