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Eóin Murphy

EU Research, Innovation and Training Funding

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This paper provides details on the research, development, innovation, training and learning funding received by Northern Ireland from the European Union.

Key Points

- The EU currently has 18 funding programmes, 8 of which are relevant to this paper;
- The Northern Ireland Competitiveness and Employment Programme has two funding strands which impact on NI;
- The first, the Sustainable Competitiveness programme has an EU contribution of €306,833,439 for the 2007-13 period. To date there have been 1,387 successful applications with grants of €224,026,074 approved and €95,855,982 having been paid;
- The second, the European Social Fund, has earmarked €165.7 million for NI between 2007-2013. There have been 71 successful applications with €49,190,417 of ESF funding having been drawn down;
- The INTERREG IVA programme involved NI, the six border counties of the ROI and Western Scotland. The EU contribution to the programme is €192,022,366 with 78 NI organisations receiving funding between 2008 and 2010. NI organisations have received €30,619,081 and £9,945,218 in this period;
- Framework Programme 7 has had 121 projects with involvement from NI organisations (out of 12,000 proposed projects with 69,000 participants to 2011). Of these 84 involved NI's Universities. £29,668,388 in FP7 funding has been received by NI organisations, 1.1% of the funding received in total by the UK;
- The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme has a budget of €3,621 million with NI receiving €1,552,848 between 2008 - 2010. The UK as a whole received €59,580,123;
- The Lifelong Learning Programme involves four main programmes: Comenius, Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci and Grundtvig. 712 NI organisations have received awards under Comenius, with €1,005,287 in funding received under Erasmus. 8 Northern Ireland projects have received funding under Leonardo da Vinci and 10 NI organisations were involved in Grundtvig; and
- There have been 141 successful applications for funding by NI organisations under Youth in Action since 2008.

Executive Summary

Introduction

The following paper provides details on the research, development and innovation funding received from the European Union (EU) by Northern Ireland (NI) organisations. The paper also includes information on the training and learning programmes funded by the EU in NI and comparisons to the other UK regions and the Republic of Ireland where data was available.

Relevant EU Funding Programmes

The EU currently has 18 funding programmes of which 8 are relevant to this paper:

- Northern Ireland Competiveness and Employment Programme;
- European Social Fund Programme;
- Sustainable Competiveness Programme;
- INTERREG IVA Cross-Border Programme;
- Seventh Framework Research Programme;
- Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme;
- Lifelong Learning Programme; and
- Youth in Action.

In 2009 NI received £76,386,152 in EU funding.

Northern Ireland Competiveness and Employment Programme (NICEP)

There are two programmes funded under the NICEP – the NI Sustainable Competiveness Programme and the NI European Social Fund Programme.

The Sustainable Competiveness Programme has had 1,387 successful applications from NI organisations between 2007 and 2011, with grants of £224,026,074 approved and £95,855,982 having been paid to date.

The European Social Fund Programme has had 71 successful applications from NI organisations since 2007 with £49,190,417 in ESF funds, match funding of £49,809,012 from DEL and £26,679,178 from participant organisations. In the Republic of Ireland ESF funding of €122 million has been received for projects.

INTERREG IVA Cross-Border Programme

The INTERREG IVA programme seeks to address economic and social problems along border regions and assists North/South projects and Tripartite projects involving all three target regions.

78 NI organisations have received funding under INTERREG IVA since 2008 and up to 2010, with €30,619,080.65 and £9,945,217.50 having been paid. Groups in receipt of

funding include NI Water, both Universities and a number of the local Councils and Regional Colleges.

Framework Programme Seven (FP7)

FP7 bundles all research related EU initiatives together under a common roof, playing a crucial role in reaching the EU's goals of growth, competitiveness and employment.

Review of the FP7 Project Database identified 121 projects with involvement from NI organisations. The majority of these projects involved the universities, with Queen's University, Belfast involved in 63 projects, and the University of Ulster involved in 21. The remaining 37 projects involved both private sector and public sector organisations.

Since FP7 began in 2007, NI has received £29,668,388.68 in funding, only 1.1% of total UK funding, although it should be noted that England received 87% of UK funding.

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)

The CIP provides funding for three different work programmes – Entrepreneurship and Innovation; ICT Policy Support; and Intelligent Energy Europe Programme.

Between 2008 and 2010 (the most recent figures available) Northern Ireland received funding for 4 projects with a total value of €1,552,847.55. In comparison, the UK had 165 programmes receiving funding of €59,580,122.67 and the ROI 29 projects with €10,124,834.84 of funding.

Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

There are four separate programmes running in the LLP: Comenius; Erasmus; Leonardo da Vinci; and Grundtvig.

The Comenius programme provides opportunities for schools and colleges to introduce or strengthen the European dimension in their curriculum. In 2010, NI has had 97 awards valued between €1,510 to €45,000.

Total Erasmus funding received by NI Higher Education Institutions amounts to €1,005,288, with 8 Leonardo Da Vinci projects operating in Northern Ireland since 2007.

Finally, there were 10 Grundtvig projects including project planning and “helping lone parents build confidence and access learning.”

Youth in Action

Youth in Action is designed specifically to target young people. It promotes mobility within and beyond EU borders, non-formal learning and intercultural dialogue. Since 2008 there have been 215 applications of which 151 have been successful (70% success rate).

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1 Introduction

The following paper provides details on the research, development and innovation funding received from the European Union (EU) by Northern Ireland (NI) organisations. The paper also includes information on the training and learning programmes funded by the EU in NI.

The Committee also requested that this data be compared to similar figures for the Republic of Ireland (ROI). It should be noted that a large number of organisations access EU funding both in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (for example, 1,387 were identified as having accessed funding from the Sustainable Competitiveness Programme from NI alone).

As a result it is not possible to provide a definitive list of every organisation in NI and the ROI in receipt of R and D or learning and training funding. Where available, headline figures have been applied in order to inform the briefing. Also, where information is available the paper discusses the draw down success rate for NI.

The majority of the statistical data for this paper has been supplied through the European Union website EU grants success and EU Beneficiaries¹.

The paper begins by briefly discussing the programmes under which funding is made available.

2 Relevant Europe Union Funding Programmes

The EU currently has 18 funding programmes running from 2007 – 2013. Those that are relevant to this paper are²:

- **Northern Ireland Competitiveness and Employment Programme:** The programme aims to promote investment in the development of a knowledge-based innovative and business-friendly region with a highly skilled workforce supporting a high quality of life. The total budget is €614 million, with €307 million of investment from the EU. It includes setting up six new centres of excellence in research and development and contributing to starting up 250 new businesses. The managing authority is the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment. The Competitiveness and Employment Programme oversees two individual programmes:
 - **European Social Fund Programme:** The European Social Fund Programme will contribute to reducing the productivity gap in Northern Ireland by helping to reduce the level of economic inactivity and increasing workforce skills.

¹ Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/beneficiaries_en.htm and <http://successes.eugrants.org/Default.aspx?a=as>

² European Union, EU Funding Programmes 2007 – 2013, http://ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/about_us/office_in_northern_ireland/funding/eu_funding_programmes_2007-2013.pdf

Northern Ireland is to receive €165.7 million from the Fund from 2007-2013. The managing authority is the Department for Employment and Learning;

- **Sustainable Competitiveness Programme:** The European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The programme supports regional strategy by promoting investment in research and technological development and by encouraging enterprise and entrepreneurship in an overall context of sustainable development. Approximately £211m of ERDF funding has been allocated to the Programme. The Managing Authority for the Programme is the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI).
- **INTERREG IVA Cross-Border Programme:** Northern Ireland, the border counties of the Republic of Ireland and parts of western Scotland will benefit from a seven-year cross-border INTERREG programme, with a total budget of €256 million, including €192 million of investment from the EU. The programme will focus on developing a dynamic economy, supporting infrastructure and promoting innovative ways of addressing specific cross-border problems. The managing authority for the programme is the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB);
- **Seventh Framework Research Programme:** The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development is the EU's main instrument for funding research in Europe and is designed to respond to Europe's employment needs, competitiveness and quality of life;
- **Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP):** The CIP aims to encourage the competitiveness of European enterprises. With small and medium sized enterprises as its main target, the programme will support innovation activities, provide better access to finance and deliver business support services in the regions. It will encourage a better take-up and use of information and communications technologies and help to develop the information society;
- **Lifelong Learning Programme:** The Lifelong Learning Programme offers funding for organisations involved in education and training and provides opportunities to get involved in European links. It includes the Comenius programme for schools, Erasmus for higher education, Leonardo di Vinci for vocational educational and training and Grundtvig for adult education; and
- **Youth in Action:** Youth in Action is the new EU programme in the field of youth and is a key instrument in providing young people with opportunities for non-formal and informal learning with a European dimension.

Each of these programmes will be dealt with in turn in the following sections.

Table 1 following provides details of the funding received under all European programmes by Northern Ireland³.

³ Northern Ireland Assembly, Assembly Questions, AQW 1476/10

Table 1: EU funding for NI projects and North-South Projects

Year	Northern Ireland Projects	North-South Projects
1998	£172,913,145.29	£10,785,917.00
1999	£407,565,455.57	£39,052,817.71
2000	0	0
2001	£157,845,950.71	£1,446,131.35
2002	£223,817,897.96	£23,009,670.92
2003	£258,761,572.65	£26,501,389.09
2004	£186,871,695.27	£62,774,522.74
2005	£86,051,407.11	£12,104,560.69
2006	£166,341,895.76	£26,318,804.78
2007	£35,604,475.38	£4,803,426.44
2008	£138,941,124.37	£50,678,937.04
2009	£76,386,152.00	£37,711,378.61

Please note, there is no figure provided for 2000 as the Commission Decisions approving the 2000-2006 programmes were not signed until 2001.

3 Northern Ireland Competitiveness and Employment Programme (NICEP)

There are two programmes under the NICEP – The NI sustainable competitiveness programme and the NI European Social Fund programme.

3.1 The European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme 2007-2013

The programme is part funded by EU structural funds and by the European Regional Development Fund. It supports regional strategy by promoting investment in research and technological development and by encouraging enterprise and entrepreneurship in an overall context of sustainable development.

Table 2: European Sustainable Competitiveness Programme⁴ funding for NI

Priority Axis	EU Contribution	National Public Contribution	Total Contribution
Sustainable Competitiveness and Innovation	€ 160,000,000	€ 160,000,000	€ 320,000,000
Sustainable Enterprise and Entrepreneurship	€ 105,000,000	€ 105,000,000	€ 210,000,000
Improving Accessibility and Protecting and Enhancing the Environment	€ 38,000,000	€ 38,000,000	€ 76,000,000
Technical assistance	€ 3,833,439	€ 3,833,439	€ 7,666,878
Total	€ 306,833,439	€ 306,833,439	€ 613,666,878

Review of the “EU Programmes – Successful Applicants” database found that between 2007 and 2011 there have been 1,387 successful applications from NI organisations. Approved grants range from £1,550 to £16,500,000 (for a next generation broadband project).

In total, grants of £224,026,073.77 have been approved, with £95,855,981.97 having been paid to date.

The table below shows the number of funded projects and the total grant level received by NI’s Universities.

Table 3: ESCP funding received by NI Universities

	Number of Projects	Approved (£)	Paid (£)
Queen’s University Belfast	46	4,315,986.00	2,033,179.77
University of Ulster	24	3,550,039.25	877,092.23
Total	70	7,866,025.25	2,910,272.00

Table 4 lists the local councils who have received funding from the EU under the ESCP and the number of projects under taken.

⁴ Information available from

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/country/prordn/details_new.cfm?gv_PAY=UK&gv_req=ALL&gv_PGM=1006&gv_defL=7&LAN=7 (accessed 17 August 2010)

Table 4: Local Councils receiving grant funding from the Sustainable Competitiveness Programme

	Number of Projects	Approved (£)	Paid (£)
Ards Borough Council	2	126,000.00	118,834.25
Ballymena Borough Council	1	101,250.00	0.00
Banbridge District Council	1	32,845.00	0.00
Belfast City Council	14	1,410,510.50	398,492.58
Castlereagh Borough Council	1	44,375.00	0.00
Coleraine Borough Council	1	171,548.00	0.00
Cookstown District Council	2	104,596.00	24,609.59
Craigavon Borough Council	2	190,800.00	16,050.00
Derry City Council	4	324,190.00	7,997.92
Down District Council	1	167,789.00	0.00
Dungannon and South Tyrone District Council	4	289,205.00	51,200.48
Fermanagh District Council	2	183,250.00	25,517.49
Larne Borough Council	1	125,000.00	0.00
Magherafelt District Council	2	64,600.00	0.00
Newry and Mourne District Council	1	30,283.00	0.00
Newtownabbey Borough Council	4	195,385.94	57,448.93
North Down Borough Council	2	150,492.00	55,284.34
Total	45	3,712,119.44	755,435.58

Two government departments were also identified as having received funding, the Department for Finance and Personnel (2 projects totaling grants of £652,412) and the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment (10 projects totaling grants of £408,170.10).

Due to the size of the database for this funding programme, a copy of the recipients list is available upon request.

3.2 European Social Fund Programme

The Department for Employment and Learning is the Managing Authority of the ESF programme in Northern Ireland. The table below details the proposed funding for the programme for all the UK regions and the Republic of Ireland for 2007 - 2013⁵.

⁵ European Social Fund, ESF country profiles, <http://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=385&langId=en> and <http://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=381&langId=en>

Table 5: ESF funding for UK Countries and the Republic of Ireland

Country	EU Funding (€)	National/Regional Counterpart (€)	Total (€)
Northern Ireland	165,777,300.00	248,665,950.00	414,443,250.00
Wales	897,182,912.00	556,252,254.00	1,453,435,166.00
Scotland	322,071,137.00	380,613,989.00	702,685,126.00
England and Gibraltar	3,089,886,379.00	2,958,930,420.00	6,048,816,799.00
Republic of Ireland	375,362,370.00	531,333,180.00	906,695,550.00

Due to the differences between each one of the Countries on the table, it is difficult to accurately compare the funding received. However, when the EU funding per head of population is taken into consideration, the following is found:

Table 6: ESF funding per person

Country	EU Funding (€)	Population ⁶	Funding per person (€)
Northern Ireland	165,777,300.00	1,799,000	92.15
Wales	897,182,912.00	3,006,400	298.42
Scotland	322,071,137.00	5,222,100	61.67
England and Gibraltar	3,089,886,379.00	52,234,000	59.15
Republic of Ireland	375,362,370.00	4,470,700	83.96

As can be seen, Northern Ireland receives the second highest rate of funding per person of the five countries discussed.

Table 7 details the individual priorities for Northern Ireland which are funded under the ESF.

Table 7: European Social Fund Programme (ESF) for Northern Ireland⁷

Priority Axis	EU Funding	National Public Funding	Total Funding
Helping people into sustainable employment	€ 95,597,174	€ 143,395,761	€ 238,992,935
Improving workforce skills	€ 67,280,121	€ 100,920,182	€ 168,200,303
Technical assistance	€ 2,900,005	€ 4,350,007	€ 7,250,012
Total	€ 165,777,300	€ 248,665,950	€ 414,443,250

⁶ Office for National Statistics, Mid-year Population Estimates, June 2010 for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and Central Statistics Office, Population and Migration Estimates, April 2010

⁷ Department for Employment and Learning (2007) 'Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2007-2013' available online at: http://www.dfpni.gov.uk/northern_ireland_esf_operational_programme_-_17_sept_07_version.pdf (accessed 17 August 2010) (see page 105)

In NI there have been 71 successful applications for ESF funding since the programme began in 2007. These organisations have received a total of £49,190,417 in ESF funds, with DEL providing funding of £46,809,012 and a further £26,679,178 of match funding provided by the participant organisations⁸.

Table 8 below shows the funding received by the identified NI public sector bodies.

Table 8: ESF funding received by NI public sector bodies⁹ to April 2010

	Cost (£)	ESF Funding (£)	DEL Funding (£)	Match Funding (£)
Belfast City Council	495,000	190,308	118,942	185,750
Belfast Metropolitan College	934,459	360,223	228,359	372,851
Department for Employment and Learning	45,900,000	18,360,000	27,540,000	0
Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council	480,196	192,074	120,047	168,075
Omagh District Council	1,134,421	453,767	283,604	397,050
Southern Regional College	707,807	283,122	176,951	247,734
University of Ulster	489,487	195,794	122,371	171,322

In the Republic of Ireland, a total of almost €122 million of ESF funding had been received by the Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment in March 2010¹⁰. €106.7 million of this was allocated to project activity and the remaining €15.3 million relates to payments on account that were received from the European Commission.

4 INTERREG IVA Cross-Border Programme

The INTERREG IVA Programme for Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland is supported through the Cross-Border Territorial Co-operation Programme which seeks to address the economic and social problems which result from the existence of borders. It assists two categories of projects:

⁸ Department for Employment and Learning, ESF successful projects <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/publications/pubs-euro-funding/esf-successful-projects.htm>

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ House of the Oireachtas, Written Answers – EU funding 9 March 2010, Dáil Eireann Debate

1. North/south projects; and
2. Tripartite projects involving all three regions.¹¹

Table 9 below details the funding for the programme.

Table 9: Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland Cross-border Cooperation Programme (INTERREG IVA)¹²

Priority Axis	EU Contribution	National Public Contribution	Total Contribution
Cooperation for a more prosperous cross-border region	€ 75,502,500	€ 25,167,500	€ 100,670,000
Cooperation for a sustainable cross-border region	€ 104,999,866	€ 34,999,956	€ 139,999,822
Technical assistance	€ 11,520,000	€ 3,840,000	€ 15,360,000
Total	€ 192,022,366	€ 64,007,456	€ 256,029,822

In all 118 projects received funding under INTERREG IVA. The total amount approved and number of projects for each area to date is:

Table 10: Number of projects funded under INTERREG IVA

Country	Number of Projects	€	£
Northern Ireland	78	43,769,169.67	55,476,048.27
Scotland	8	8,536,278.12	4,521,024.92
Republic of Ireland	32	23,370,374.69	2,008,345.74
Total	118	75,675,822.48	62,005,418.93

78 NI organisations were identified as having received funding under INTERREG IVA since 2008 and up to 2010. The table below details the funding approved and paid to applicants in each year.

Table 11: INTERREG IVA funding in NI 2008 - 10¹³

	€ amount		£ amount	
	Approved	Paid	Approved	Paid
2008	33,016,845.67	29,976,887.31	14,410,998.00	746,785.85
2009	8,244,288.00	540,193.34	20,110,603.00	6,317,256.68
2010	2,508,036.00	102,000.00	33,900,996.27	2,881,174.97
Total	43,769,169.67	30,619,080.65	55,476,048.27	9,945,217.50

¹¹ Source: Special EU Programmes Body Annual Report 2009

¹² INTERREG IVA information available from

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/country/prordn/details_new.cfm?gv_PAY=UK&gv_req=ALL&gv_PGM=1285&LAN=7&gv_per=2&gv_defL=7 (accessed 17 August 2010)

¹³ European Union, EU grant successes <http://successes.eugrants.org/Default.aspx?a=as>

Organisations receiving INTERREG IVA funding include NI Water, the Northern Regional College and seven of Northern Ireland's local councils.

Table 12: Public Sector recipients of INTERREG IVA funding 2008 - 10

	Grant Approved	Currency
University of Ulster	453,066.33	€
Strabane District Council	411,767	€
North West Regional College	237,577	£
Belfast Metropolitan College	24,251	£
South West Regional College	24,251	£
Northern Regional College	24,251	£
Cookstown District Council	27,273	£
Newry and Mourne District Council	586,461	£
Craigavon Borough Council	103,570	£
Queen's University, Belfast	870,715.72	£
NI Water	219,700	£
AFBI	705,144	£

5 Framework Programme Seven

The Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) bundles all research-related EU initiatives together under a common roof playing a crucial role in reaching the goals of growth, competitiveness and employment¹⁴.

The broad objectives of FP7 have been grouped into four categories: Cooperation, Ideas, People and Capacities. For each type of objective, there is a specific programme corresponding to the main areas of EU research policy.

¹⁴ European Commission CORDIS Framework Programme Seven http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html

5.1 Country Participation in FP7

The size of the FP7 project is illustrated by the number of applications received. In the first four years there were 245 concluded calls for proposals receiving 77,000 proposals, out of which 12,000 – involving 69,000 participants – were retained for negotiation. The level of participation has corresponded to an EU funding request of €20.4bn.

Figures 1 and 2 provide two different measures of the comparative performance of countries participating in FP7. In both figures the data for each country is shown by type of participant as follows: higher or secondary education (HES); private for profit (excluding education) (PRC); public body (excluding research and education) (PUB); research organisation (REC); and other (OTH).

Figure 1 ranks the 27 EU Member States by the number of FP7 participants; whereas Figure 2 ranks them by the financial contribution they have received through the programme. In both cases, Germany, England and France have the greatest involvement in FP7. In the case Germany of there has been a relatively even in participant and financial split between the higher or secondary education sector, the private sector and research sector.

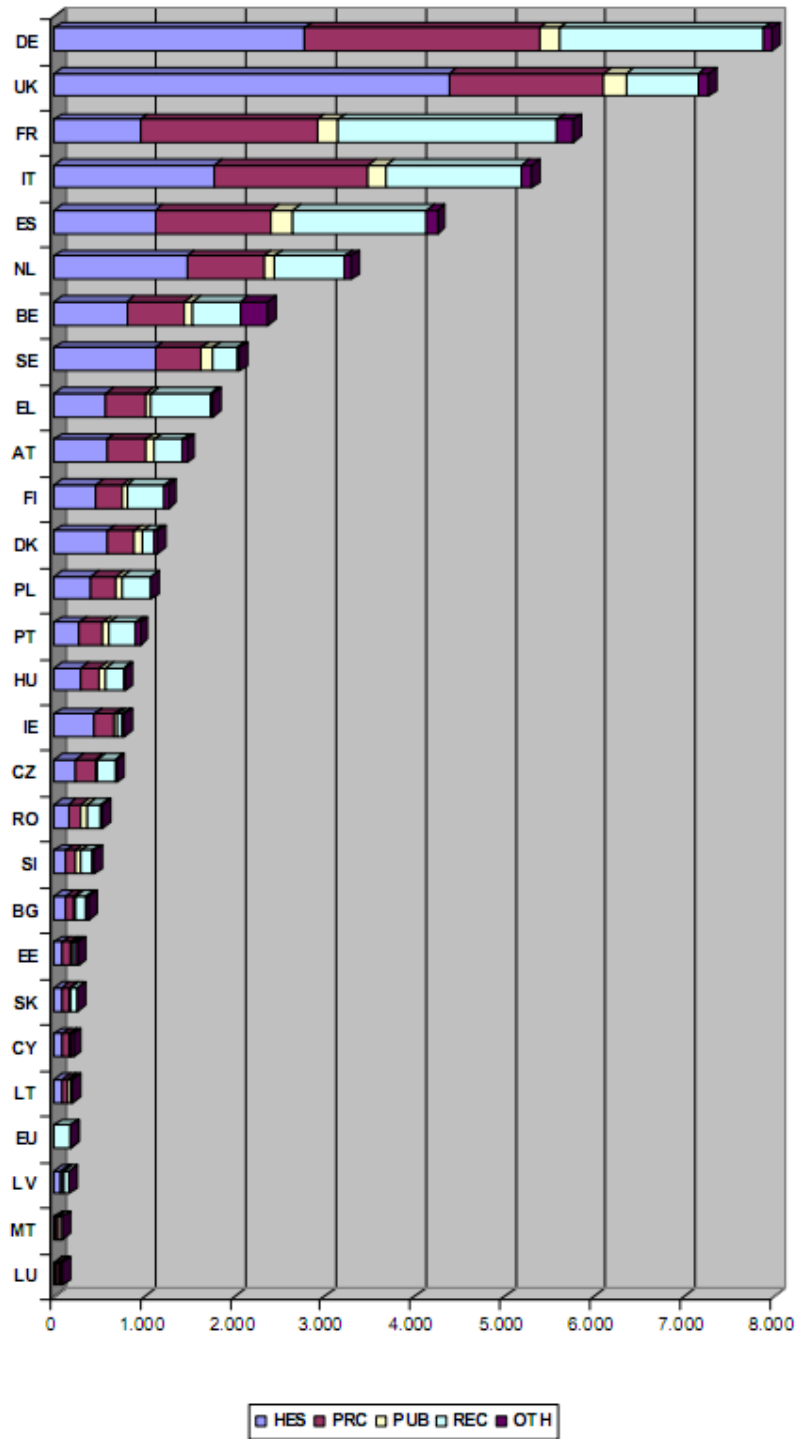


Figure 1: EU27 Member State participants 2007-2010 by type of participant organisation

In the UK, the higher or secondary education sector has been the largest source of participants and received the largest financial contribution. In France’s case the number of participants and overall funding received is weighted towards the research sector. Throughout the 27 Member States the public sector tends to supply the smallest proportion of participants and receive the smallest proportion of finance. The

Republic of Ireland has 16th highest number of participants and received the 13th highest amount of funding.

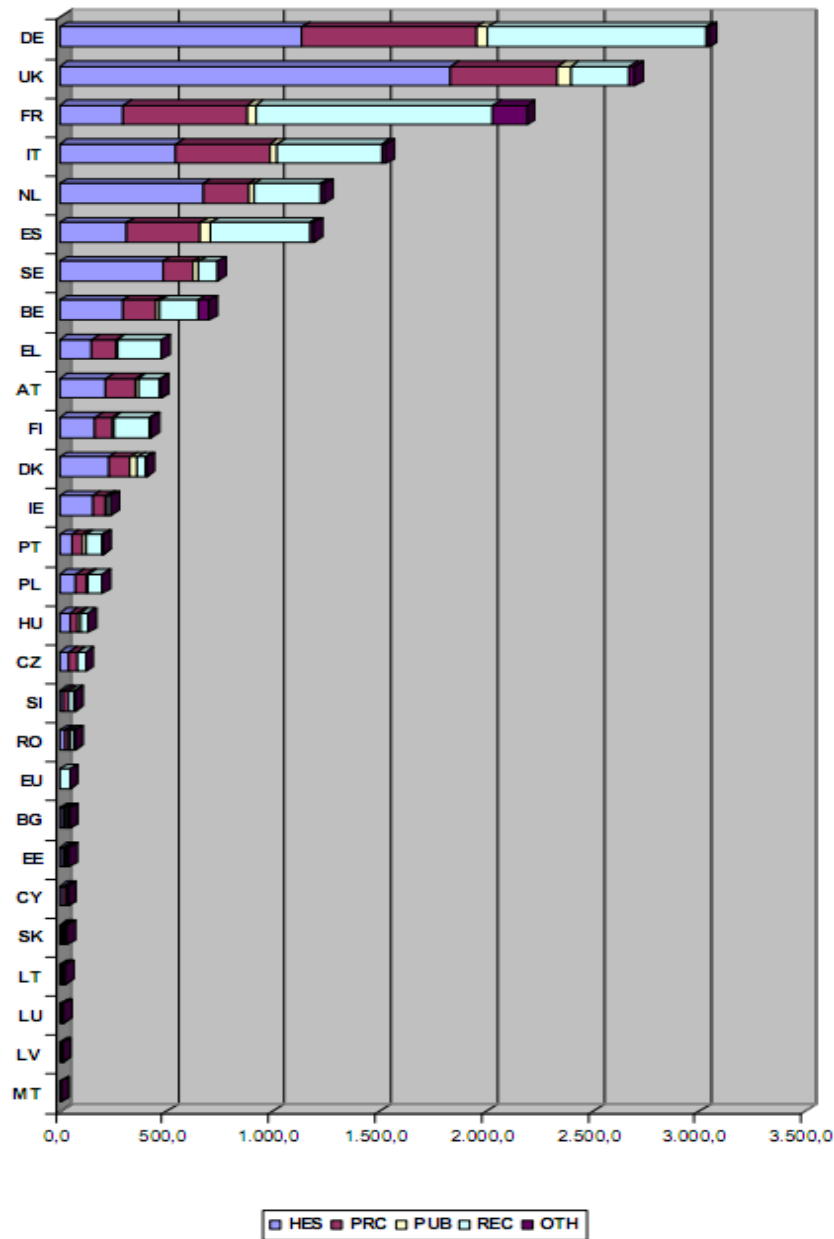


Figure 2: EU27 Member State financial contribution in FP7 signed grant agreements 2007-2010 by type of participant organisation

5.2 UK Regional Participation in FP7

In terms of regional distribution¹⁵ Northern Ireland has between 51 – 100 contracts and is in a comparable positions to a number of UK regions, including: Derbyshire and

¹⁵ For a labelled map of NUTs 2 regions see <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/GISCO/yearbook2009/RVB-Full-NUTS2-2009-EN.pdf> A decoding table is available here http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=ACT_OTL_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NUTS_33&StrFormat=HTML&StrLanguageCode=EN

Nottinghamshire; Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire; Greater Manchester; West Yorkshire; Devon; West Wales and The Valleys; and East Wales.

In comparison with the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland entities signed a similar number of categories as those in the Border, Midland and Western NUTs II region. The Southern Eastern NUTs II region was home to 401-500 signed contracts, outperforming any area in the neighbouring regions (Northern Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales). The regions with the greatest number of contract signed as of 1 April 2011 were:

- Île de France – 2675 contracts signed;
- Oberbayern, Germany – 1200 contracts signed; and
- Comunidad de Madrid – 901-1000 contracts signed.

5.3 Northern Ireland Projects

Review of the FP7 database found 121 projects with involvement from NI organisations¹⁶. For 2008 – 2011 it was found that QUB was involved with 63 projects and the University of Ulster with 21. The remaining 37 projects involved a variety of organisations including private sector companies and public sector bodies. Please see Table 13 below for a breakdown of the NI organisations receiving funding for multiple FP7 projects.

Table 13: NI organisations receiving FP7 funding 2008 - 2011

Organisation	Number of Projects
Queen's University	63
University of Ulster	21
Shorts	5
PSNI	3
Almac	3
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	2
Seagate	2
AFBI	2
Armagh Observatory and Planetarium	2

There are a further 17 organisations involved in single FP7 funded projects, including Invest NI and the DHSSPSNI. A search of the FP7 project database found that no funding had been applied for by the Local Councils in Northern Ireland.

¹⁶ European Commission, CORDIS, FP7 Project database, http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/projects_en.html

Table 14: Funding received under FP7 by UK country¹⁷

	Northern Ireland	% of UK Funding	Wales	% of UK Funding	Scotland	% of UK Funding	England	% of UK Funding	UK Total
Total Funding	£29,668,388.68	1.1	£59,829,125.71	2.2	£259,386,962.61	9.6	£2,350,333,433	87.1	£2,699,348,647.33

As can be seen above, Northern Ireland receives the smallest amount of funding of the UK Countries. Funding received per person in each region is¹⁸:

- Northern Ireland: £16.50 per person;
- Wales: £19.90 per person;
- Scotland: £49.70 per person;
- England: £45.00 per person; and
- UK: £43.40 per person.

As can be seen Northern Ireland has the lowest level of FP7 funding received per head of population. Table 15 following provides a breakdown of the sectors within each UK country and the funding received by them under FP7.

Table 15: Funding Received by Country and Sector¹⁹

Requested Financial Contribution	Northern Ireland (€)	Wales (€)	Scotland (€)	England (€)	UK Total (€)
Higher or Secondary Education	21,468,906.36	51,487,865.15	218,116,432.43	1,547,377,706.56	1,838,450,910.50
Private Commercial	6,656,401.44	7,781,114.35	19,661,130.57	463,842,576.48	497,941,222.84
Research Organisations	453,337.88	149,658.00	14,575,873.93	261,902,781.58	277,081,651.39
Public Bodies	1,089,743.00	170,106.00	3,064,399.33	59,171,558.26	63,495,806.59
Other	-	240,382.21	3,969,126.35	18,169,547.41	22,379,055.97
Total	29,668,388.68	59,829,125.71	259,386,962.61	2,350,464,170.29	2,699,348,647.29

The table shows that Higher or Secondary Education in all of the UK regions accounts for the majority of requested finance. In NI it makes up over 72% of the requested financial contribution, whilst in Wales and Scotland HE contributions are 86% and 84% respectively. English HE and Secondary Education bodies received 66% of the total contribution, with a larger percentage share going to private commercial (19.7%) and research organisations (11%).

¹⁷ Information request from Invest NI - Please note, UK total also includes £130,737 under "no region" category

¹⁸ Office for National Statistics, Mid-year Population Estimates, June 2010 for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

¹⁹ Information provided by Invest NI

In terms of FP7 funding in the Republic of Ireland, individual participant funding was not available - as stated by the ROI's Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Micheál Martin in 2008:

As regards details on successful applications, the Commission rules prevent the release of data on the funding secured by individual participants²⁰.

However, review of the FP7 funding database identified 664 FP7 funded projects in the ROI since 2007 with over €300 million received²¹. A 2009 report Summit by Enterprise Ireland identified a 23% success rate for ROI FP7 applications²².

6 Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP)

The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) is intended as a single, coherent legal basis for all Community action relating to competitiveness and innovation within the framework of the Lisbon Strategy. It covers entrepreneurship, SME policy, industrial competitiveness, innovation, ICT development and use, environmental technologies and intelligent energy. The CIP is expected to result in greater coherence and more synergies between different Community support measures²³.

With a total proposed budget of €3,621 million, the CIP will fund actions in three different work programmes:

- The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme, with a special focus on SMEs;
- The ICT Policy Support Programme, supporting the use of ICT in businesses; and
- The Intelligent Energy Europe Programme.

Table 16: CIP indicative budget overview for 2007 - 2013 (€ m)²⁴

Work Programme	Funding (€ m)
Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)	2,166
ICT Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)	728
Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)	727
Total	3,621

Review of the EU Beneficiaries website identified the following²⁵:

²⁰ House of the Oireachtas, Written Answers – Research Funding No 612, Wednesday 30 June 2008
<http://debates.oireachtas.ie/dail/2008/01/30/00407.asp#N10>

²¹ Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, June 2011 €18 billion EU fund available for Irish researchers, businesses and education bodies, <http://www.djei.ie/press/2011/20110624.htm>

²² Enterprise Ireland, SFI Summit, November 2009 FP7 Dispelling the Myths
http://www.fp7ireland.com/cms/Documents/1%20Lambkin%20&%20%20Brown_FP7_SFI%20Summit_09&10_11_09_11_22.pdf

²³ European Commission Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/cip_en.html

²⁴ European Commission Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme http://ec.europa.eu/cip/faq/index_en.htm

Table 17: Number and funding for projects under CIP 2008 - 2010

Year	United Kingdom	Total Funding €	Northern Ireland	Total Funding €	Republic of Ireland	Total Funding €
2010	67	€24,149,495.01	2	€661,522	14	€5,756,884.16
2009	59	€16,860,050.79	1	€298,549.55	10	€2,187,697.15
2008	39	€18,570,576.87	1	€592,776.00	5	€2,180,253.53

7 Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

There are four main programmes funded under the LLP – Comenius, Erasmus, Leonardo Da Vinci and Grundtvig with funding allocated to each one.

Comenius: The Comenius programme provides opportunities for schools and colleges to introduce or strengthen the European dimension in their curriculum. There are a number of different strands:

- **School Partnerships** which enables pupils, teachers and other staff to collaborate with partner schools and colleges;
- **In-service training** which provides for professional development in another EU country;
- **Regio Partnerships** which allow collaborative working at local authority level;
- **Preparatory visits and seminars** for the purposes of project planning or attending partner-finding events; and,
- **Centralised Projects** enabling large-scale projects and networks.

Table 18: Comenius programme awards to the UK 2007 - 2010²⁶

Programme Strand	UK		Northern Ireland		Wales		Scotland		England		Republic of Ireland	
	Applied	Awarded	Applied	Awarded	Applied	Awarded	Applied	Awarded	Applied	Awarded	Applied	Awarded
School Partnerships	3,208	2,053	234	158	299	187	208	139	2,467	1,569	-	270
Regio Partnerships	85	64	6	3	5	5	11	8	63	48	-	-
In-service training	5,116	4,240	447	381	214	187	401	331	4,054	3,341	-	265
Assistants	778	432	21	15	25	18	193	105	539	294	-	55
Assistant Host Schools	709	476	96	49	31	24	55	38	527	365	-	-
Preparatory Visits	1,397	1,171	136	106	116	98	92	73	1,053	894	-	197
Total	11,293	8,436	940	712	690	519	960	694	8,703	6,511	-	788

When considering the success rate for Comenius Applications in all programme strands for the 2007-2010 period for the UK, the following is found:

- Northern Ireland: 76%;

²⁵ European Commission Financial Transparency System, Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme http://ec.europa.eu/beneficiaries/fts/index_en.htm

²⁶ British Council, Comenius Results <http://www.britishcouncil.org/comenius-results.htm> (accessed 17 August 2010, updated 12 August 2011)

- Wales: 75%;
- Scotland: 72%
- England: 75%; and
- United Kingdom: 75%

Erasmus: The Erasmus programme was designed to encourage student and staff mobility for work and study, and promotes trans-national co-operation projects among universities across Europe. Higher Education Institutions received mobility grants for students for 2009/10 of:

Table 19: Erasmus mobility grant funding 2009/10

	Number of Colleges	Grant (€)
UK	165	33,748,666
Northern Ireland	4	1,005,287
Wales	9	1,602,323
Scotland	20	3,655,445
England	131	27,435,044

Table 20: Erasmus mobility grant funding for NI HEI's 2009/10

Higher Education Institute	Grant (€)
Queen's University Belfast	641,615
University of Ulster	317,516
Stranmillis University College	40,316
St. Mary's University College	5,841

In 2010/11 QUB received €67,752.26 for a programme titled "Borders of Europe", and St. Mary's University College received €50,900 for "Special Needs Education: Participation in Society"²⁷.

Leonardo da Vinci: The Leonardo da Vinci programme funds opportunities for UK vocational education & training organisations, staff and learners including mobility across Europe, and large and small scale co-operation projects to share skills and knowledge in vocational education. Funding is for any UK organisation involved in vocational education & training.

²⁷ British Council, Erasmus <http://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus-facts-and-figures.htm>

Review of the Leonardo da Vinci website for the UK identified 8 projects operating in Northern Ireland since 2007, including training placements in Spain, Cooperation in Vocational Training and Learning Language for Work²⁸. Details on project funding were not available for Northern Ireland.

Grundtvig: Grundtvig funds training opportunities for UK adult education organisations, staff & learners. Funding is for any UK organisation involved in non-vocational adult education²⁹.

Organisations and individuals from Northern Ireland were involved in ten Grundtvig projects, including Project Planning and “Helping lone parents build confidence and access learning.” Details on project funding were not available for Northern Ireland.

8 Youth in Action

Youth in Action (2007-2013) is the programme the European Union has set up for young people. It aims to inspire a sense of active European citizenship, solidarity and tolerance among young Europeans and to involve them in shaping the Union's future³⁰.

It promotes mobility within and beyond the EU's border, non-formal learning and intercultural dialogue, and encourages the inclusion of all young people regardless of their educational, social and cultural backgrounds.

It also helps people working in the youth sector develop skills and establish contacts necessary to enhance their work. Please note, a breakdown of funding for each of the UK regions was not available.

Table 21: Youth in Action applications since 2008

TOTAL UK	2008		2009		2010 to date	
	Received	Awarded	Received	Awarded	Received	Awarded
England	355	205	369	252	409	277
Scotland	77	39	43	32	49	34
Wales	26	23	45	32	43	34
Northern Ireland	77	50	79	58	59	43
Republic of Ireland ³¹	Not available	92	Not available	108	Not available	105

²⁸ Leonardo, Projects around the UK <http://www.leonardo.org.uk/casestudy.asp?section=000100010038§ionTitle=Projects+Around+the+UK> (first accessed 12 August 2011)

²⁹ Grundtvig UK, <http://www.grundtvig.org.uk/casestudy.asp?section=000100010039§ionTitle=Projects+Around+the+UK>

³⁰ British Council, Youth in Action, <http://www.britishcouncil.org/youthinaction-about-youth-in-action.htm>

³¹ Léargas, Youth in Action funding allocations http://www.leargas.ie/programme_extra.php?prog_code=7777&content=9094