

INTERREG IVA

Monthly Progress Report to Programme Monitoring Committee 30 November 2009

1.0 Introduction

It was agreed at the meeting of the INTERREG IVA Programme Monitoring Committee, 22 October 2008, that monthly progress reports would be provided to members. This is the ninth of these reports and is for the period up to 30 November 2009.

2.0 Overview of Progress

A total of 73 applications have been received for the INTERREG IVA Programme. To date, a total of twelve Steering Committees have taken place, recommending a total of 34 projects for approval to the value of €152.3million. As a result of this activity, a total of 12 projects are operational to the value of €82.4m.

3.0 Progress on Implementation

Note: Variations in amounts previously reported reflect negotiations that have occurred between the time of Steering Committee recommendation and issuing of the Letters of Offer; and the project values agreed by Steering Committee, comprising ERDF plus total eligible match.

3.1 Priority 1 Theme 1 – Enterprise

A total of 11 projects with a value of €32,815,086 have been recommended for approval by Steering Committee against a budget of €70,000,000. Five projects are operational to the value of 12.4m. One project is awaiting a Letter of Offer and is currently going through the approval process.

Table 1 below outlines operational projects in Priority 1, Theme 1 by 30 November 2009.

Table 1 – Operational projects – Priority 1, Theme 1 – Enterprise

Applicant Name	Project Name	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer Issued		Status
		Euro	Stg	
IBEC/CBI Joint Business Council (JBC)	IBEC/CBI JBC Programme 2007 – 2013	€1,745,462		Operational
Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT)	ICE	€2,479,370		Operational
Enterprise Northern Ireland	Tradelinks II		£2,983,950	Operational
University of Ulster, Jordanstown	Success through Succession	€1,707,434		Operational
Northern Regional College	KITE	€3,198,076		Operational
Total Value Approved		€9,130,342	£2,983,950	
Total Value of operational projects in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)		€12,412,687		

3.2 Priority 1 Theme 2 - Tourism

A total of seven projects with a value of €29,943,220 have been recommended for approval by Steering Committee against a budget of €30,000,000. One project, Marine Tourism and Angling Development is operational to the value of €4m.

Table 2 below outlines operational projects in Priority 1, Theme 1 by 30 November 2009;

Table 2 – Operational projects – Priority 1, Theme 2 - Tourism

Applicant Name	Project Name	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer issued		Status
		Euro	Stg	
Loughs Agency	Marine Tourism & Angling Development	€4,000,000		Operational
Total Value of Operational projects (but subject to change as highlighted)		€4,000,000		

3.3 Priority 2 Theme 1 – Collaboration

A total of twelve projects with a value of €49,290,373 have been recommended for approval by Steering Committee against a budget of €65,000,000. Three Letters of Offer (Putting Patients First, the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) (NI) and Ireland / Northern Ireland Cross Border Co-operation Observatory, Centre for Cross Border Studies and Small Ferries Strategic Plan, (CMAL Scotland) have been issued and all three projects are now operational.

Table 3 below outlines the operational projects in Priority 2, Theme 1 by 30 November 2009.

Table 3 – Operational Projects – Priority 2, Theme 1 – Collaboration

Applicant Name	Project Name	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer issued		Status
		Euro	Stg	
DHSSPS	Putting Patients First		£24,000,000	Operational
Centre for Cross Border Studies	Ireland/Northern Ireland Cross Border Co-operation Observatory		£1,441,098	Operational
CMAL Scotland	Small Ferries Strategic Plan		£255,000	Operational
Total Value Approved			£25,696,098	
Total Value of operational projects in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)		€28,265,708		

3.4 Priority 2 Theme 2 – Infrastructure (€75 million)

A total of four projects have been recommended for approval and three Letters of Offer issued in the Energy and Telecommunications sub-themes. All three projects are operational.

Energy

Three projects have been recommended for approval by Steering Committee under this theme and two Letters of Offer have been issued to SAMS and the Scottish Government, both projects are operational.

Table 4 below outlines the operational projects as at 30 November 2009.

Table 4 – Operational Projects – Priority 2, Theme 2 – Infrastructure - Energy

Lead Partner	Project Name	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer issued		Status
		Euro	Stg	
Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)	BioMara	€5,996,080		Operational
Scottish Government	Irish Scottish Links on Energy Study (ISLES)		£1,600,000	Operational
Total Value Approved		€5,996,080	£1,600,000	
Total Value of operational projects in Euro (exchange rate 1.1)		€7,756,080		

* Subject to change

Telecommunications

Table 5 shows the status of the one Telecommunications Project approved.

Lead Partner	Project Name	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer issued		Status
		Euro	Stg	
DETI	Project Kelvin	€30,000,000		Operational
Total Value Approved		€30,000,000		
Total Value Approved in Euro (exchange rate 1.1)		€30,000,000		

4.0 Steering Committees and Calls for Applications

A call for applications was opened in Priority 2 Theme 1 in relation to Rural Development. The call opened on 26 June 2009 and closed on 30 October 2009. 15 applications were received by the deadline and are currently going through the assessment process.

A Priority 2 Steering Committee meeting will be held on 1st December 2009 to consider Public Sector Collaboration projects.

5.0 Payments and Expenditure

The Central Payments Unit of SEUPB has issued payments to projects, as of 27 November 2009, for £1,296,976.21 and €16,082,205.26. When an exchange rate of 1.1 is applied total payments is at €17,508,879.09. The issued payments include advance payments to projects which still need to be vouched and verified in order to become expenditure. The expenditure to date when an exchange rate of 1.1 is applied to sterling payments is at €16,274,879.79. The N+2 target for 2009 of €13,977,987.20 has therefore been exceeded.

6.0 Progress in assessing projects under the multiannual plans for the partnerships

As reported in the October Monitoring Committee progress paper, delays have been experienced in relation to operationalisation of the Partnerships Multi Annual Plans. To date, 7 'framework' Letters of Offer have been issued to Partnerships. However, all projects within these frameworks are required to individually submit an application to the approval procedure. An assessment process has been agreed to ensure that approved projects can become operational as soon as possible. The main stages of the process are:

- Outline business case (OBC);
- Assessment report;
- Economic Appraisal (EA) / Value for Money (VFM) assessment;
- Full Business Case (FBC);
- Steering Committee; and
- Letter of Offer (LOO) issued / Rejection

7.0 Summary

As of 30 November 2009, 34 applications have been approved by Steering Committees. The value of those approved applications total €152.3million. To date, 12 projects are operational to the value of €82,434,475.

Table 10 below summarises the current situation:

Table 10 – Value of operational projects against budget

Theme	Budget	Value of Operational Projects
1.1 – Enterprise	€70m	€12,412,687
1.2 – Tourism	€30m	€4,000,000
2.1 – Collaboration	€65m	€28,265,708
2.2 – Infrastructure	€75m	€37,756,080
SUB-TOTAL	€240m	€82,434,475
3.1 – Technical Assistance	€16m	
TOTAL	€256m	€82,434,475