

## **INTERREG IVA Programme (2007-2013)**

### **Quarterly Progress Report to Programme Monitoring Committee**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

It had been agreed at the third INTERREG IVA Monitoring Committee on 22 October 2008 to provide regular updates on the progress of the programme to the Monitoring Committee Members. This was completed on a monthly basis up until the sixth Monitoring Committee meeting on 27 April 2010. The Managing Authority now proposes to issue these progress reports on a quarterly basis. This is the first of these quarterly reports and outlines the progress that has been made since the INTERREG IVA Monitoring Committee in April 2010.

#### **2.0 Overview**

A total of 140 applications have been received for the INTERREG IVA Programme. Since the last Monitoring Committee there have been two additional Letters of Offer issued and accepted bringing the total commitment levels to €102m, an increase of €2.5m. There have also been 5 additional projects approved to the value of €5.9m. This brings the total number of projects approved in the programme to 32 with a total value of €107.9m or 45% of the value of the programme.

The total cumulative N+2 target to be met by the end of 2010 is €48m. By the end of June 2010 €29.9m of expenditure has been recorded on the Systems 2007 database which is 62.3% of the N+2 target achieved. The Managing Authority are therefore on target to achieve N+2 in 2010.

### 3.0 Progress on Implementation

#### 3.1 Priority 1 Theme 1 – Enterprise

Table 1 – Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 1.1

	Number of Projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of the Theme
<b>Value of Theme</b>		€70.0	
<b>Projects Approved</b>	10	€19.3	27.6%
<b>Letters of Offer Issued and Accepted</b>	7	€15.2	21.7%
<b>Current Expenditure</b>		€0.6	0.9%
<b>Remaining to be Committed</b>		€50.7	72.4%

Since the Monitoring Committee in April, three more projects have been approved by Steering Committee. These three projects are part of the Multi-Annual Plan Applications and the Lead Partner for all three is ICBAN.

The expenditure to the end of June is €0.6m which is an increase of €18,043 since the Monitoring Committee in April 2010. The cumulative N+2 target for Theme 1.1 is €6.5m leaving €5.9m of expenditure to be incurred in the remaining six months of the year. The Managing Authority are aware of the slow progress in expenditure in this theme, however, it is envisaged that this will pick up in the latter half of the year.

A list of the applications with Letters of Offer issued and accepted and those recently approved are outlined in Annex 1.

## 2.2 Priority 1 Theme 2 - Tourism

**Table 2 – Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 1.2**

	<b>Number of Projects</b>	<b>Value €m</b>	<b>Percentage against value of the Theme</b>
<b>Value of Theme</b>		€30.0	
<b>Projects Approved</b>	2	€11.0	36.7%
<b>Letters of Offer Issued and Accepted</b>	2	€11.0	36.7%
<b>Current Expenditure</b>		€0.03	0.1%
<b>Remaining to be Committed</b>		€19.0	63.3%

There has been no change in this theme since the Monitoring Committee in April 2010. For information on the progress of the Multi-Annual Plan applications please see Section 4 below.

The cumulative expenditure to the end of June 2010 in this theme is €0.03m and there has been no additional expenditure in this theme since the Monitoring Committee. The N+2 target to the end of 2010 is €2m. The Managing Authority are aware that progress has been slow in this theme but it is expected that a raft of multi-annual plan applications will be approved by the Steering Committee by the end of July which will assist in meeting this target in the latter half of the year.

A list of the applications with Letters of Offer issued and accepted and those recently approved are outlined in Annex 1.

## 2.3 Priority 2 Theme 1 – Collaboration

**Table 3 – Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 2.1**

	<b>Number of Projects</b>	<b>Value €m</b>	<b>Percentage against value of the Theme</b>
<b>Value of Theme</b>		€65.0	
<b>Projects Approved</b>	17	€39.4	60.6%
<b>Letters of Offer Issued and Accepted</b>	15	€37.7	58%
<b>Current Expenditure</b>		€0.9	0.14%
<b>Remaining to be Committed</b>		€25.6	39.4%

Two additional Letters of Offer have been issued since the Monitoring Committee in April with two additional projects approved and awaiting Letters of Offer. That brings the total commitment of the theme to €39.4m which is almost two-thirds of the total allocation to the theme.

The total cumulative expenditure to the end of June 2010 for this theme is €0.9m against a target of €6.4m, leaving €5.5m still to be spent by the end of the year. There has been a movement of €0.7m since the Monitoring Committee in April indicating that expenditure has begun to move at a faster pace and is expected to pick up over the coming months.

A list of the applications with Letters of Offer Issued and Accepted and those recently approved are outlined in Annex 1.

## 2.4 Priority 2 Theme 2 – Infrastructure

Table 4 – Current Commitment and Expenditure level in Theme 2.2

	Number of Projects	Value €m	Percentage against value of the Theme
<b>Value of Theme</b>		€75.0	
<b>Projects Approved</b>	3	€37.8	50.4%
<b>Letters of Offer Issued and Accepted</b>	3	€37.8	50.4%
<b>Current Expenditure</b>		€26.1	34.8%
<b>Remaining to be Committed</b>		€37.2	49.6%

There has been no change in this theme since the Monitoring Committee in April 2010. A Steering Committee is being held on 1 and 2 July 2010 to look at projects for this theme and it is expected that there will be more approvals and Letters of Offer in the next report.

The total cumulative expenditure for this theme up to the end of June 2010 is €26.1m against a target of €31.6m. Expenditure in this theme has been very high with only €5.5m of the target left to be achieved by the end of the year.

A list of the applications with Letters of Offer issued and accepted and those recently approved are outlined in Annex 1.

## 3.0 Steering Committees

There have been two Steering Committees held since the last Monitoring Committee in April 2010 with a further two scheduled for July 2010.

**Table 5: Steering Committee Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Priority</b>
19 May 2010	Priority 1, Theme 1 Enterprise and Theme 2 Tourism
16 June 2010	Priority 2 Theme 1 Collaboration
1 and 2 July 2010	Priority 2 Theme 1 Collaboration and Theme 2 Infrastructure
27 July 2010	Priority 1 Theme 2 Tourism

The focus of the INTERREG IVA Steering Committees has been to process the Multi-Annual Plan applications to meet the deadline of the end of July 2010. As a result of these meetings five more projects have been approved, 3 under Theme 1.1 and 2 under Theme 2.1.

The Steering Committee scheduled for 1 and 2 July 2010 are considering applications under Priority 2 both themes. The Steering Committee will be reviewing 35 applications over the two days and it is expected that a number of approvals will be made as a result.

The Steering Committee on 27 July 2010 will consider 11 projects under the Tourism theme with a number recommended for approval and expected to be processed as quickly as possible.

#### **4.0 Progress in assessing projects under the Multiannual Plans**

The following provides an update on the progress of the implementation of the 61 projects contained within the Cross Border Groups' Multi-annual Plans. All projects must be individually assessed against programme and value for money criteria and the main stages of the assessment process are outlined below:

- 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

The projects under each stage of the assessment process are outlined in the sections below. A more detailed analysis of each of the projects can be found in Annex 2.

### **Number and value of projects considered by the Steering Committee**

The current status of the projects that have been considered by the Steering Committee to date is summarised in Table 6 below:

**Table 6: Current Status of Projects considered by Steering Committee**

<b>Status</b>	<b>No. of Projects</b>	<b>Total Euro €</b>	<b>Reference Table</b>
LOO issued	9	5,442,452	Table 15 (Annex 2)
Approved	5	5,862,966	Table 16 (Annex 2)
Rejected	16	11,652,052	Table 17 (Annex 2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22,957,470</b>	

### **Projects profiled to be considered by Steering Committee in July 2010**

Table 7 outlines the status and value of the projects assessed and profiled to be considered by Steering Committee meetings on 1/2 and 27 July 2010. These are inclusive of 6 projects which will firstly have to be considered by DETI prior to going to Steering Committee.

**Table 6: Projects ready to be considered by Steering Committee**

<b>Status</b>	<b>No. of Projects</b>	<b>Total Euro €</b>	<b>Reference Table</b>
EA completed	10	14,950,095	Table 18 (Annex 2)
Assessment completed – recommended for rejection	3	2,495,986	Table 19 (Annex 2)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17,446,081</b>	

**Projects undergoing assessment**

Table 8 outlines the status and value of the projects undergoing assessment.

**Table 8: Projects under assessment**

<b>Status</b>	<b>No. of Projects</b>	<b>Total Euro €</b>	<b>Reference Table</b>
FBC completed <sup>1</sup>	1	839,816	Table 20 (Annex 2)
FBC being prepared	1	725,250	Table 21 (Annex 2)
EA being prepared	3	5,131,217	Table 22 (Annex 2)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6,696,283</b>	

**Projects not under assessment**

There are 13 projects not under active assessment as there is insufficient information available to proceed with the process or the projects have been withdrawn.

**Table 9: Number and value of projects not under active assessment**

<b>Status</b>	<b>No. of Projects</b>	<b>Total Euro €</b>	<b>Reference Table</b>
Projects with insufficient information to proceed	10	8,861,735	Table 23 (Annex 2)
Projects withdrawn by the applicant	3	3,984,797	Table 24 (Annex 2)
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12,846,532</b>	

**5.0 Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group met on 23 June 2010. One of the main points of discussion was in relation to the issues involved with regards to the implementation of the programme and the delays in processing applications. The group considered whether an independent evaluation would be required to look at these issues. It was agreed that SEUPB would consider the possibility of NISRA providing an independent view on the information and

<sup>1</sup> This project is currently being examined by DETI

details which would be collated and supplied by SEUPB. There will be a further update on this in the next report.

## **6.0 Regulatory Requirements**

As agreed at the most recent Monitoring Committee, a memo was issued to all members asking for their approval of the Annual Implementation Report for 2009 via written procedure on 29 May 2010. The deadline given for comments or amendments was the 9 June 2010. A few minor comments were received and incorporated into the report. A final memo was issued to the Monitoring Committee members to note that the Managing Authority had deemed the report to be approved by the Monitoring Committee. The report was then uploaded onto the Commission's database on 16 June 2010.

## **7.0 Audit**

The European Court of Auditors conducted an Audit of the programme in January 2010. The final report from the ECA was received by SEUPB on 29 April 2010. SEUPB collated a response which was presented to the ECA at a meeting in Brussels on 16 June 2010. The results of that meeting are yet to be received.

## **8.0 Summary**

As of 30 June 2010, 140 applications have been received and 32 approved by Steering Committees with 27 Letters of Offer issued. The current expenditure incurred in the Programme is €29.9m which includes €2.3m towards the 2 projects for under Priority 3, Technical Assistance.

Table 10 below summarises the current situation:

Table 10 – Value of applications approved/recommended for approval

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Allocation</b> <b>€m</b>	<b>LOO issued</b> <b>€m</b>	<b>Expenditure</b> <b>30/06/10</b>
1.1 – Enterprise	€70m	€15.5m	€0.6m
1.2 – Tourism	€30m	€11m	€0.03m
2.1 – Collaboration	€65m	€37.7m	€0.9m
2.2 – Infrastructure	€75m	€37.8m	€26.1m
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>€240m</b>	<b>€102m</b>	<b>€27.6m</b>
3.1 – Technical Assistance	€16m	€12.2m	€2.3m
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€256m</b>	<b>€114.2m</b>	<b>€29.9m</b>

## Annex 1 – Details of Applications with Letters of Offer issued and accepted and those recently approved

**Table 11: Theme 1.1 Enterprise**

Applicant Name	Project Name	Status	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer Issued and Accepted	
			Euro	Stg
IBEC/CBI Joint Business Council (JBC) ****	IBEC/CBI JBC Programme 2007 – 2013	LOO Accepted	€1,745,462	
Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT)	ICE	LOO Accepted	€2,479,370	
Enterprise Northern Ireland	Tradelinks II	LOO Accepted		£3,116,150
University of Ulster, Jordanstown	Success through Succession	LOO Accepted	€1,707,434	
ICBAN	HAATCH	LOO Accepted	€1,000,000	
North West Regional College	I Factory	LOO Accepted		£1,675,258
Northern Regional College	KITE	LOO Accepted	€3,302,528	
ICBAN	Enniskillen Airport (St Angelo)	Approved by Steering Committee	€1,623,966	
ICBAN	Innovation Enterprise Programme	Approved by Steering Committee	€2,500,000	
ICBAN	Traded Services	Approved by Steering Committee	€30,000	
<b>Total Value Approved</b>			€14,388,760	£4,791,408
<b>Total Value Approved in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)</b>			€19,659,309	

**Table 12: Theme 1.1 Tourism**

Applicant Name	Project Name	Status	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer Issued and Accepted	
			Euro	Stg
Donegal County Council	SailWest	LOO Accepted	€7,025,046	
Loughs Agency	Marine Tourism & Angling Development	LOO Accepted	€4,000,000	
<b>Total Value Approved (but subject to change as highlighted)</b>			€11,025,046	£0
<b>Total Value Approved in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)</b>			€11,025,046	

**Table 13: Theme 2.1 Collaboration**

Applicant Name	Project Name	Status	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer Issued	
			Euro	Stg
Centre for Cross Border Studies	Ireland/Northern Ireland Cross Border Co-operation Observatory	LOO Accepted		£1,441,098
CMAL Scotland	Small Ferries Strategic Plan	LOO Accepted		£255,000
DHSSPS	Putting Patients First	LOO Accepted		£24,000,000
RNIB	Sensory Engagement Project	LOO Accepted		£1,866,037
Donegal County Council	Women Into Public Life	LOO Accepted	€898,945	
COMET	Bio Recorders Network	LOO Accepted		£353,595
COMET	Admin Costs	LOO Accepted		£215,339
East Border Region	Promoting Balanced & Sustainable Cross Border Development	Approved by Steering Committee	€792,000	
East Border Region	Action for Biodiversity	Approved by Steering Committee	€917,000	
East Border Region	Admin Costs	LOO Accepted		£43,143
ICBAN	Spatial Planning Initiative	LOO Accepted		£1,456,995

ICBAN	Admin Costs	LOO Accepted		£400,161
North East Partnership	Business Improvement Project BIDS	LOO Accepted		£716,000
North East Partnership	Admin Costs	LOO Accepted		£199,683
North West Region Cross Border Group	Admin Costs	LOO Accepted		£308,027
DHSSPS	Driving Change	LOO Accepted		£1,257,421
EGSA	Deaf Communications Infrastructure	LOO Accepted		£962,080
<b>Total Value Approved</b>			€2,607,945	£33,474,579
<b>Total Value Approved in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)</b>			€39,429,982	

Table 14: Theme 2.2 Infrastructure

Applicant Name	Project Name	Status	Amount Recommended for Approval or Actual Letter of Offer Issued	
			Euro	Stg
Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)	BioMara	LOO Accepted	€5,996,079	
Scottish Government	Irish Scottish Links on Energy Study (ISLES)	LOO Accepted		£1,600,000
DETI	Project Kelvin	LOO Accepted	€30,000,000	
<b>Total Value Approved</b>			€35,996,079	£1,600,000
<b>Total Value Approved in EURO (exchange rate 1.1)</b>			€37,756,079	

## Annex 2 – Reference Tables for the Cross-Border Groups' Multi-Annual Plans

### PROJECTS CONSIDERED BY STEERING COMMITTEE

Table 15: Letters of Offer

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
COMET	Collaboration	Bio Recorders Network	388,954
COMET	Collaboration	Admin Costs	236,873
East Border Region	Collaboration	Admin Costs	427,672
ICBAN	Enterprise	HAATCH	1,000,000
ICBAN	Collaboration	Admin Costs	440,177
ICBAN	Collaboration	Spatial Planning Initiative	1,602,695
North East Partnership	Collaboration	Admin Costs	219,651
North East Partnership	Collaboration	Business Improvement Districts BIDS	787,600
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	Admin Costs	338,830
<b>Total</b>			<b>5,442,452</b>

Table 16: Projects Approved

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
East Border Region	Collaboration	Promoting Balanced and Sustainable Cross Border Development	792,000
East Border Region	Collaboration	Action for Biodiversity	916,999
ICBAN	Enterprise	Enniskillen Airport (St. Angelo)	1,623,966
ICBAN	Enterprise	Innovation Enterprise Programme	2,500,000
ICBAN	Enterprise	Traded Services	30,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>5,862,966</b>

Table 17: Projects rejected

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
COMET	Collaboration	Chamber Capacity Building	328,900
COMET	Collaboration	Carbon Footprint Analysis	379,500
ICBAN	Collaboration	Rural Men Support Network	351,363
ICBAN	Collaboration	Cross Border Poverty and Social Inclusion	66,000
ICBAN	Collaboration	Cross Border Disability Access Project	482,105

ICBAN	Tourism	Events and Festivals	900,000
ICBAN	Tourism	Cross Border Angling	1,000,000
North East Partnership	Collaboration	Shared Heritage Project	423,500
North East Partnership	Collaboration	Absenteeism in the Workplace	423,500
North East Partnership	Tourism	Biker Tourism	660,849
North East Partnership	Tourism	Causeway Connection	1,653,335
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	Sports Development and Community Outreach	880,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	Health and Healthy Living Development	880,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Enterprise	Diaspora Project	803,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Enterprise	Management and Workforce Enhancement Programme	1,320,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Enterprise	Estates and Infrastructure Management Programme	1,100,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>11,652,052</b>

## PROJECTS READY TO BE CONSIDERED BY STEERING COMMITTEE IN JULY 2010

Table 18: Economic Appraisals completed

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
COMET	Collaboration	Local Authority Executive Leadership Programme	875,936
COMET	Tourism	Cultural Tourism Network	636,586
East Border Region	Tourism	Tourism Development Plan	2,756,052
East Border Region	Collaboration	Energy Efficiency & Micro Generation Project	856,695
ICBAN	Tourism	Cross Border Eco Tourism	1,000,000
North East Partnership	Tourism	The Gobbins and Sliabh Liag	5,467,204
North West Region Cross Border Group	Tourism	Recreation and Visitor Trails Enhancement Programme	1,100,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Tourism	Inch Levels - Lough Foyle Wildlife Programme	731,500
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	Urban and Rural Village Renewal Programme	1,000,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	SPACEial North West	526,121
<b>Total</b>			<b>14,950,095</b>

Table 19: Assessments completed (recommended for rejection)

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
ICBAN	Enterprise	Construction Business	725,250

		Programme	
North East Partnership	Tourism	Sustainable Island Tourism	494,736
North West Region Cross Border Group	Tourism	Tourism Management and Marketing and Communications	1,276,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>2,495,986</b>

## PROJECTS UNDERGOING ASSESSMENT

**Table 20: Full Business Case Completed (being considered by DETI)**

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
North East Partnership	Enterprise	Innovation & Growth	839,816

**Table 21: Full Business Case under preparation**

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
ICBAN	Enterprise	Green Business	725,250

**Table 22: Economic Appraisals being prepared**

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
East Border Region	Tourism	Eco Geo Tourism	1,610,700
ICBAN	Tourism	Border Uplands Project	3,000,000
North East Partnership	Tourism	Celtic Circle - Cycle Route	520,516
<b>Total</b>			<b>5,131,216</b>

## PROJECTS NOT UNDER ASSESSMENT

**Table 23: Insufficient information to proceed**

Region	Theme	PROJECT	Total Euro €
COMET	Enterprise	NITC Competitiveness Transfer	504,900
East Border Region	Tourism	Tourism and Hospitality Training	300,000
East Border Region	Enterprise	Clusters and Networks	2,467,000
East Border Region	Enterprise	Business Infrastructure Support	750,000
East Border Region	Enterprise	Innovation - Awareness, Pre-incubation & Support to Existing Businesses	1,450,000

East Border Region	Collaboration	Environment Research and Project Development Studies	250,000
East Border Region	Collaboration	Spatial Plan Related Activities	1,300,000
ICBAN	Enterprise	Regional Food Initiative	739,835
ICBAN	Collaboration	Settlement Regeneration	TBC
North West Region Cross Border Group	Enterprise	Sectoral Clustering & Networking Programme	1,100,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>8,861,735</b>

**Table 24: Projects withdrawn by the applicant**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>Total Euro €</b>
COMET	Enterprise	Three Centred Incubation	1,738,000
North East Partnership	Collaboration	Communicate, Cooperate & Collaborate Initiative	220,000
North West Region Cross Border Group	Collaboration	Strategic Development and Operational Management	2,026,797
<b>Total</b>			<b>3,984,797</b>