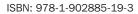


Consultation Strategy Progress

# Regional Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland

Action Plan 2008-2011

Stimulating innovation enterprise and competitiveness





April 2008

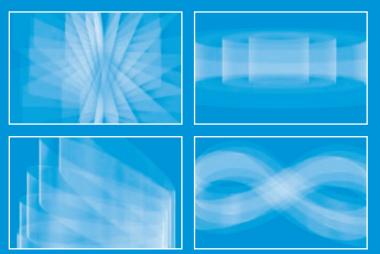
#### Innovation Policy Unit

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# Regional Innovation Strategy for Northern Ireland

Action Plan 2008-2011

We have four key drivers that provide a structure for our decision making: innovation, enterprise, skills and infrastructure







Innovation is the key to unlocking the door to future economic growth. We know that successful economies which exhibit increased prosperity are characterised by high productivity delivered through the application of fresh thinking and new techniques. Innovation is already a major component of the Economic Vision for Northern Ireland and a major element of the Executive's Programme for Government which seeks to create a *dynamic, innovative economy.* Within these important parameters, this Action Plan has been drawn up to help drive us towards the new future.

The task facing all of us in Northern Ireland is to reduce the productivity gap with the UK (excluding the Greater South East of England); our aim is to halve this gap by 2015. Particularly relevant to the Action Plan is the contribution that the growth in Business Expenditure on R&D can make to this objective. There are undoubtedly challenges for all, whether in terms of seeking to develop or apply new products and processes or in directing resources into R&D and staff development. I do not underestimate the scale of the task and there is no room for complacency. It will not be easy.

Northern Ireland can only prosper in a globalised economy if we unlock the talents of all of our people. I therefore want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the open and generous approach that the business and academic communities have taken in contributing to this Action Plan. In particular I welcome the leadership shown by the Institute of Directors, the Federation of Small Businesses and the Centre for Competitiveness. The significant contributions of our two universities, the Further Education colleges and the Northern Ireland Science Park is also very much appreciated.

This Action Plan has received the endorsement of the Northern Ireland Executive, the Enterprise, Trade and Investment Committee and other Departmental Committees, the Economic Development Forum and MATRIX (the Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel). I look forward to their continued interest in the delivery of the Action Plan as it is rolled out over the next 3 years.

Through this Action Plan we aim to make Northern Ireland an ideal location in which to run an innovative business or to undertake research which gives us market edge, and where public services use regulation and procurement to support innovative solutions. We will do this by investing in people and Knowledge, unlocking the talent of our young people, investing in research and seeking the exploitation of knowledge. In this Action Plan there are exciting challenges for business, academia and government. I look forward to its future progress and the results and outcomes from this sterling drive towards an innovative, dynamic Northern Ireland.

**Nigel Dodds OBE MP MLA** Minister with responsibility for Enterprise, Trade and Investment



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Ministerial Foreword Page 05

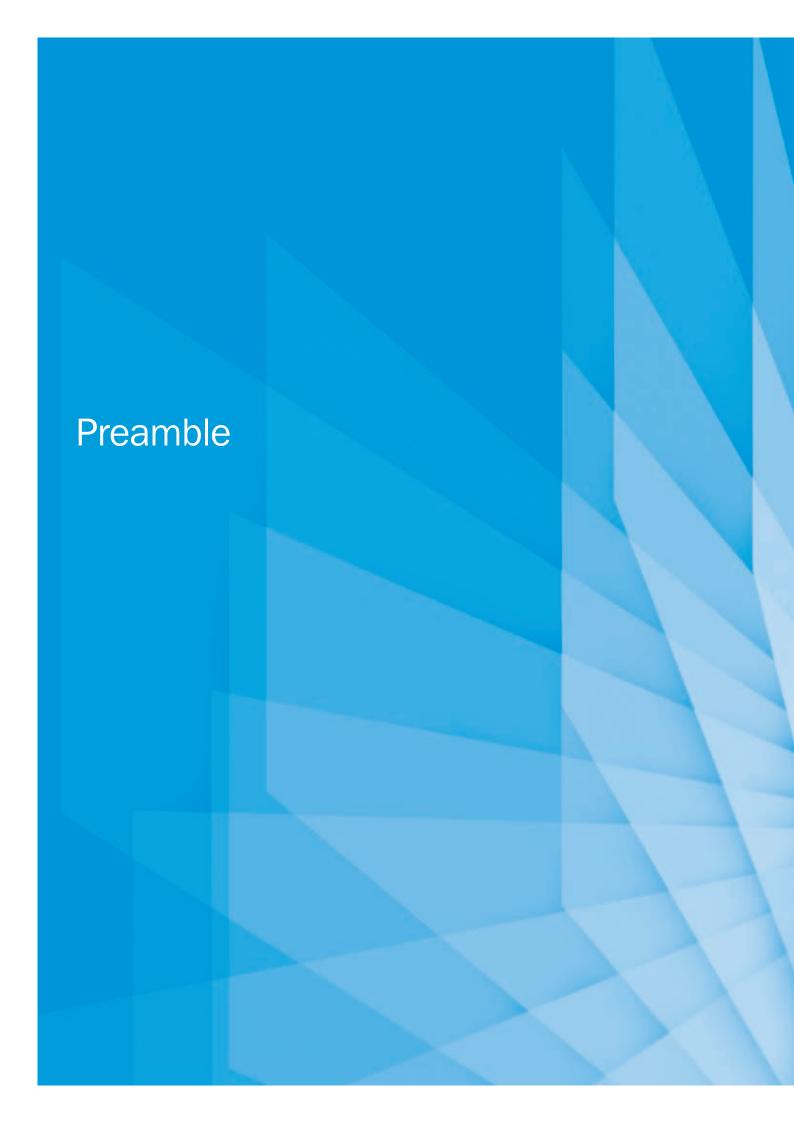
### 1

**Preamble** Page 09

Imperatives and Objectives Page 13 2 RIS Foundation Initiatives Page 15 Annex A Table of RIS Actions Page 19

**Annex B** Northern Ireland **Fund for Innovation** Page 42

Annex C Glossary of Terms Page 52



### Preamble

#### THE INNOVATION CHALLENGE

- Innovation "the successful exploitation of new and existing ideas" - is the means by which regional economies can differentiate and exploit their unique skills and capabilities in order to compete in the global economy. For Northern Ireland to progress as a modern economy it faces a number of challenges, one of the most important of which is that it must become more innovative.
- 2. It is a simple reality that, in the new knowledge based global economy, innovation has become business critical for *all* sectors. In the 21st century companies, agencies, universities, colleges and indeed government departments which do not have innovation embedded in their planning processes and their product/service delivery will fall further and further behind their more successful international competitors.
- 3. Across the Northern Ireland economy as a whole for many years there has been a degree of under-achievement and a low level of business innovation which impedes growth and stymies wealth creation. While it is possible to point to the apparent success in recent years of economic growth and the record numbers of jobs created, this masks the more sobering reality that we are not maximising the gains possible through the exploitation of R&D and

innovation, especially when compared to more successful regional competitors in the world economy.

### PROGRESS ON THE REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY

- 4. In the realisation of both the threats and opportunities inherent in the new innovation dependent global economy, in June 2003 DETI took the first important steps towards preparing Northern Ireland's economy to face the challenge of globalisation with confidence, and launched the Regional Innovation Strategy (RIS). During the first phase of the RIS considerable progress has been made in building the platform on which a culture of business and commercial innovation can thrive throughout the region. Under the auspices of the RIS, organisations and individuals across the public, private and academic/education sectors have forged new and dynamic partnerships and launched joint-initiatives which would otherwise not have happened. Such work has undoubtedly enhanced and improved Northern Ireland's capacity to innovate and will be the bedrock on which to build for the future.
- 5. In the past innovation was more often talked about than delivered. Today Northern Ireland's business, government and academic sectors

are embracing innovation in a more habitual and systemic way. The evidence is already there to be seen: delivery of better products and services (including public services); more efficient processes and improved management practices; better skilled and more highly paid employment (most encouragingly from indigenous private sector investment); more commercially focused activity in HE and FE, and an increasingly open approach to new economic or commercial possibilities in forward looking sectors. These improvements are in turn starting to create increased productivity, a more prosperous and confident consumer society, a more robust and less risk averse financial services sector, and increased global competitiveness. In short the evidence suggests that Northern Ireland is beginning to move up the "value-added" chain. But it is just the beginning and much more needs to be done if the momentum created by this initial progress is to be sustained.

6. It is important to keep sight of the fact that the world economy continues to evolve and it is not enough to bank recent success and assume that Northern Ireland's innovation system is future proof. The project to build a knowledge economy is forever a work in progress - like innovation itself it relies on flexibility, diligence and constant exertion to succeed. Therefore the Regional Innovation Strategy - and its supporting Action Plan - must be viewed as an iterative process which is responsive and flexible enough to identify and meet immediate challenges while maintaining the capability to make future focused plans for challenges as yet unknown.

7. This new RIS Action Plan is the next phase in building for economic success over the medium and long term. It has been developed from an evaluation of the Regional Innovation Strategy which, crucially, reaffirmed that its strategic direction remains the right one. It is built on the evidence gleaned from an extensive round of consultations with key stakeholders across business, government and academia/ education. Plus it draws on UK, Republic of Ireland, EU and international Innovation studies and analyses - including a suite of recent evaluations of Invest NI Innovation Programmes - to ensure that Northern Ireland is benchmarked against best practice internationally and learns from the experience of other comparable regional economies.

#### **COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

8. Building an effective regional innovation system depends not only on the actions of each stakeholder, but on the connectivity and flow of information between stakeholders to achieve something greater than the sum of the parts. This Action Plan is about building a more responsible and more genuinely collaborative partnership between the private, academic and public sectors. Northern Ireland Departments, led by DETI, can (and will) continue to facilitate the development of an innovation economy. But it cannot make it happen without the proactive and dynamic engagement of the universities, the FE colleges, and most critically of all, the business community, especially through the work of the various business representative bodies. The Institute of Directors, Federation of Small Businesses, the Northern Ireland Science Park, the Association of Northern Ireland Colleges, Queen's University and the University of Ulster have joined the NI

Government Departments in committing themselves to important actions in this phase of the RIS for which they will be held fully accountable by the Northern Ireland Executive over the period 2008-2011.

#### STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES AND OBJECTIVES

9. Based on the experience of the last 4 years, this Action Plan is more tightly focused on delivering change through key knowledge commercialisation and exploitation objectives. It is founded on four Imperatives which must be taken forward for the development of the Northern Ireland innovation system and infrastructure. The Imperatives have evolved from the priorities of the original RIS - and against each there are a number of associated output-driven Strategic Objectives (see Table 2).

### FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

10. These Objectives will be realised by a comprehensive series of Actions assigned for delivery to lead organisations across the stakeholder base. The most fundamentally important actions - the "RIS Foundation Initiatives" - are detailed within Section 2. These Initiatives have been selected to highlight the range of actions across and between the key stakeholders - industry, academia and government. They have not been selected because they necessarily correspond to the largest financial investment; rather they reflect the step-change in cooperative relationships which will drive Northern Ireland's Innovation agenda for the future. For example, between industry and academia through new bursary awards; through government, academia and industry working together in exploiting new technologies in Health; through government and industry sharing risks around leading edge

research; and, importantly, through international linkages such as the US/Ireland R&D Partnership. The Foundation Initiatives also reflect longer term, strategic investments, for example, in our young people through STEM education, and in growing our R&D infrastructure through increasing the number of Centres of Excellence.

#### STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

- 11. A full list of the RIS Actions, can be found at Annex A. It is estimated that the over-arching investment in the delivery of these actions by NI Departments and partners across the wider public, private and academic/education sectors is of the order of £360m over the next 3 years. This includes £90m from the new innovation funding stream as well as approximately £170m from Invest Northern Ireland aimed at encouraging NI businesses to devote more to R&D activities and adopt more innovative practices. It should be noted that a number of the initiatives add significant value to the Northern Ireland innovation agenda, yet are resource neutral, or reflect contributions in kind from organisations.
- 12. The Action Plan includes initiatives aimed at, for example, increasing the uptake of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects in schools in order to promote progression into high-technology careers; upskilling the current workforce in order to increase the capacity of NI businesses to innovate; promoting commercial exploitation of research within health and social care; developing the NI tradable services sector, particularly the creative industries; and, increasing the level of knowledge and technology transfer from the university research base for economic benefit. A number of these actions are

underpinned by the £90m announcement of funding for innovation made by the Finance Minister in January 2008 as part of the overall Budget Statement. This funding has added value to innovation in Northern Ireland and the associated actions would not have gone ahead without its support. For ease of reference, the Innovation Fund supported actions have been extracted from the main Action Plan and are shown separately at Annex B.

#### **MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS**

13. The Action Plan has been developed in recognition of the contribution that innovation can make to Northern Ireland's productivity

growth. Therefore its overall success will be measured in terms of its contribution to the Programme for Government goal of *halving the private sector productivity gap with the UK average (excluding the Greater South East of England)*. In particular this Action Plan addresses the Executives Public Service Agreement (PSA) 1, which seeks to "promote *higher value-added activity through innovation and the commercial exploitation of R&D*" and which will be measured in terms of the increase in the average annual growth of Business Expenditure in R&D. This is shown in more detail at Table 1 below.

## TABLE 1PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT 1 - PRODUCTIVITY GROWTHIMPROVE NORTHERN IRELAND'S MANUFACTURING AND PRIVATE SERVICES PRODUCTIVITY

TABLE 1: PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT 1 - PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH				
Objective Target				
Promote higher value-added activity through innovation and the commercial exploitation of R&D.	Increase by 8% the average annual growth in BERD expenditure in Invest NI client companies with less than 250 employees;			
	Increase by 5% the average annual growth in BERD expenditure in Invest NI client companies with greater than 249 employees.			

- 14. In order to measure progress towards these important goals one of the first activities to be undertaken following publication of the Action Plan will be to establish, in consultation with all stakeholders, a number of potential determinants of achievement and to put in place baselines in relation to each of these indicators against which performance will be benchmarked on an annual basis. The annual review will also provide the opportunity to revise and refocus actions as Northern Ireland's innovation performance matures.
- 15. In summary, this Action Plan consolidates the success of the first 4 years of the RIS and marks the commencement of the drive over the next 3 years and beyond to ensure that Northern Ireland becomes and is recognised as a truly innovative region on the international stage. We already have the knowledge, talent and understanding to realise our ambition now, through this Action Plan we also have a coordinated and consensual framework within which to make it happen.

TAE	BLE 2: IMPERATIVES AND OBJECTIVES	
Imp	perative	Strategic Objective
1	To establish Northern Ireland as an outward-focused & competitive region	1.1 Ensure that Northern Ireland is playing its full role in the UK, all-island, European and global innovation arenas;
	in the global knowledge economy - with an international reputation for innovation excellence.	1.2 Enhance and promote the development of an innovation culture in Northern Ireland (across all sectors of business, government & academia/education);
		1.3 Encourage Northern Ireland business and universities to be more outward focused and raise their profiles internationally.
2	To encourage Northern Ireland's businesses to become more innovative and creative in order to compete in the	2.1 Ensure that Northern Ireland business (and the business representative organisations) become more proactive in leading and informing the innovation agenda;
	global market.	2.2 Promote an increased level of Innovation and R&D activity within Northern Ireland businesses (including encouraging businesses to invest more in innovation and R&D);
		2.3 Encourage and support Northern Ireland businesses in building the capacity to take forward innovative ideas into new products, services and processes;
		2.4 Create the context in which Northern Ireland businesses become more independent of public sector support.
3	To encourage Northern Ireland Government and the wider	3.1 Ensure that the public sector realises the (commercial) value of its R&D for the wealth of the region;
	Northern Ireland Public Sector to lead by example in championing and exploiting Innovation and R&D.	3.2 Encourage the public sector to lead the adoption of best practice in innovation and R&D and to champion the use of innovation and creativity as business critical in service delivery and process development;
		3.3 Use the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy as a mechanism by which the public sector can drive the innovation, creativity and design agenda;
		3.4 Ensure Northern Ireland Government addresses risk management issues and adopts an appropriate outcome-based approach to procurement;
		3.5 Ensure that Government interventions to promote and support Innovation and R&D exploitation become more streamlined and targeted in order to assist innovation and R&D practitioners.
4	To ensure that the Northern Ireland education system adopts an enhanced	4.1 Encourage the tertiary education sector to take appropriate steps to realise the commercial opportunities of its research to enhance the wealth of the region;
	role in developing a culture of innovation and creativity and enables people to recognise opportunities in the knowledge economy.	4.2 Create the circumstances in which industry can take more responsibility for informing and supporting the education sector in preparing people for work in the knowledge economy;
		4.3 Ensure that more people are encouraged to recognise career opportunities through science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

## **RIS Foundation Initiatives**

### **RIS** Foundation Initiatives



#### **RIS FOUNDATION INITIATIVES**

Although there are a number of actions identified under each of the four Imperatives for the Regional Innovation Strategic Action Plan 2008-2011 (see Annex A for complete RIS Action Plan), the following initiatives, which will be determined through a range of actions, have been selected to highlight the range of actions across and between the key stakeholders - industry, academia and government, and the step-change in cooperative relationships which will drive Northern Ireland's Innovation agenda for the future. They also reflect longer term, strategic investments, for example, in our young people through STEM education, and in growing our R&D infrastructure through increasing the number of Centres of Excellence. These are therefore considered to be the "RIS Foundation Initiatives".

It has been agreed across the key stakeholders in Business, Government & Academia that these actions must be delivered if we are to create the foundation on which Northern Ireland's Innovation and Knowledge Economy can maximise its potential in the Global Marketplace.

- 1 DETI and Invest NI will continue to work with the Irish Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment to explore areas of North/South co-operation in Innovation and R&D including, building our R&D infrastructure by increasing the number of commercially focused Science and Technology Exploitation Centres of Excellence including the development of industry led Competence Centres. The opportunity for all-island centres will be considered where there is potential to be realised. £21m between 2008-2011.
- MATRIX The Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel (and its related Horizon Scanning Programme), subject to evaluation in 2008, will continue to provide a mechanism by which business can advise NI Government and lead development on the commercial exploitation of R&D. Assuming a positive outcome in the evaluation, MATRIX will be supported by a budget of £1.2m from DETI over the period 2008-2011.

- 3. DEL, working with the Northern Ireland universities and in consultation with businesses and the business representative organisations, will create 3 new cohorts of 100 DEL-funded PhD studentships in areas of economic relevance- £12.2 million of investment has been secured for this initiative.
- 4. DE will lead on the delivery of a number of actions aimed at ensuring a growing supply of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) educated people into the labour market and creating a better match between the supply of STEM skills and demand by industry. This will include, the development of specialist STEM schools at post-primary level; development of careers education, information, advice and guidance for STEM areas; development of curriculum resources to support the growth of STEM take-up in schools; and promotion of STEM work in primary and post-primary schools through competitions and exhibitions. DE will fund these initiatives to the total of £10.7m over the period 2008-2011.
- 5. Exploiting Business Innovation Opportunities in Health R&D, Nanotechnology and Sensors on a transnational basis through the US/Ireland R&D Partnership, the DHSSPS, Invest NI and DEL will work with the US Department of Health & Human Services, the National Institutes of Health (US and Rol), the National Science Foundation (US) and Science Foundation Ireland (Rol) to support world class research collaborations with the potential to deliver new discoveries, improvements in health care provision and economic gain in the three jurisdictions. This will be funded to the total of £6 million for the period 2008-2011.

- 6. Business Support for Innovation and R&D. Invest NI will increase expenditure by 29% in support of Research, Development and Innovation schemes with the aim of increasing business expenditure in R&D (BERD) by 8% in SMEs and by 5% in large companies. All of Invest NI's business support programmes are open to client companies of all sizes, including SMEs. This represents an investment of £170m over the period 2008-2011.
- 7. The Institute of Directors will, working with its membership and the two Northern Ireland universities, explore the development of a number of bursary schemes aimed at encouraging students to enrol in courses that will service the innovation and R&D skills requirements of the local economy with a view to having 5 initial schemes in place during the 2009-2010 Academic Year. Once established it is anticipated that the company contribution will be in the region of £1000 per student per company.
- Invest NI and DCAL, working with SEUPB and counterparts in Western Scotland and the Republic of Ireland, will develop a new programme of support for the creative industries under the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme
   potentially up to €15 million (£10.4m) is available to support this programme over the period 2007-2013.
- DARD will establish a fund to stimulate private sector investment in R&D by seeking proposals from agri-food and rural enterprises for relevant, innovative R&D work. DARD will contribute £2.46m to the fund over the period 2008-2011.

10. DHSSPS will develop a **Telehealth Hospital** Links Scheme to provide for the use of telehealth technology to monitor remotely, on a daily basis, the vital signs of those patients with long-term conditions who are most at risk of hospital admission. This will enable more effective management of disease, maintain patients' independence at home, maximize the use of healthcare professionals' time and reduce the use of hospital capacity. The scheme, which will form part of a wider £46m programme to reform the way chronic disease is managed, will be funded to a total of £10m over the period 2008-2011. Annex

## Annex A Table of RIS Actions

## Annex B

Northern Ireland Fund for Innovation

### Annex C

**Glossary of Terms** 

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
1.1 Ensure that Northern Ireland is playing its full role in the UK, all-island, European, and global innovation arenas.	1.1.1 DETI and Invest NI will continue to work with DETE to explore areas of North/South co-operation in Innovation and R&D including, for instance, building our R&D infrastructure by increasing the number of commercially focused Science and Technology Exploitation Centres of Excellence including the development of industry led Competence Centres. The opportunity for all-island centres will be considered where there is potential to be realised.	DETI/Invest NI in partnership with DETE & InterTradeIreland	7 New Centres established 2008-2011	£21m over 2008-2011
	1.1.2 Through the US-Ireland R&D Partnership, the DHSSPS, Invest NI and DEL will work with the US Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health (US and Rol), the National Science Foundation (US) and Science Foundation Ireland (Rol) to support world class collaborations with potential to deliver new discovery or the creation of sustainable business ventures and/or improved health care provision.	DHSSPS/DEL/ Invest NI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£3m from DHSSPS unde the new fundin for Innovation budget; £3m from DEL/ Invest NI
	1.1.3 DHSSPS will develop a Telehealth Hospital Links scheme to provide for the use of telehealth technology to monitor remotely, on a daily basis, the vital signs of those patients with long-term conditions who are most at risk of hospital admission. Thus enabling more effective management of disease, maintaining patients' independence at home, maximising the use of healthcare professionals' time and reducing the use of hospital capacity. By 2011, 5000 people will have access to a remote monitoring service for their condition.	DHSSPS	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£10m over the period 2008- 2011 under the new funding for innovation budget



### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1**

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	RATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1			
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
<b>1.1</b> Ensure that Northern Ireland is playing its full role in the UK, all-island, European, and global innovation arenas.	1.1.4 A new programme of investment support will be developed for the Creative Industries under the EU INTERREG IVA Programme Priority 1: Regional Co-operation for Enterprise to support Creative Industries in NI, the Six Border Counties of the RoI and Western Scotland.	SEUPB and stakeholders including Invest NI in partnership with DETI and DCAL	Programme to go to tender May 2008	The Enterprise Theme of the EU INTERREG IVA Programme has an initial allocation of €70m
	1.1.5 DETI/Invest NI will work with counterparts in the RoI to establish an all-island approach to promote and support SMEs for the mutual enhancement of 7 <sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme funds. For Northern Ireland, this will be delivered through an enhanced Invest NI RTD R&D directorate.	DETI/Invest NI, in partnership with DETE & InterTradeIreland	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£1.3m over the period 2008- 2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
	1.1.6 DETI will work with its counterparts in the Rol to establish collaborative & strategic arrangements between MATRIX (the NI Science-Industry Panel) and the Irish Advisory Science Council (ASC) for optimising the commercial exploitation of science, technology and innovation across both jurisdictions of the island.	DETI	Commencing April 2008	Resource Neutral
	1.1.7 DETI will work with its counterparts in the Rol to establish collaborative arrangements between the Rol's Inter-Departmental Committee Science, Technology and Innovation (IDC) and the NI Inter-Departmental Working Group on Innovation (IDWG).	DETI	Commencing April 2008	Resource Neutral

#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
1.1 Ensure that Northern Ireland is playing its full role in the UK, all-island, European, and global innovation arenas.	1.1.8 DARD and AFBI will work with appropriate science institutions locally, nationally and internationally to develop collaborative research, including: (i) increasing the range, number and extent of MoUs; (ii) organising and managing an international conference on Renewables; (iii) seeking to secure EU Framework 7 funding annually; and (iv) meeting with DEFRA and Rol counterparts as and when beneficial.	DARD/AFBI	2008-2011	Resource Neutral
	<ul> <li>1.1.9 In developing applied research proposals for external funding from the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), the UK Collaborative Technology Programme and similar national and international initiatives Queen's University will be proactive in encouraging participation by local companies and supporting them within the QUB Partnership by:</li> <li>(i) considering the potential for a university-based advisory and support service;</li> <li>(ii) ensuring university participation in more than 12 FP7 contracts;</li> <li>(iii) ensuring that 8 local companies are participating in FP7 contracts.</li> </ul>	QUB in partnership with the University of Ulster	2008-2011	£250k per annum
	1.1.10 The universities will develop and promote participation in collaborative R&D and innovation in national, all-island and international initiatives, programmes and networks with the aim of establishing up to 10 major research infrastructure investments.	QUB in partnership with the University of Ulster	By 2009	Resource Neutral
	1.1.11 DEL, working with counterparts in the Rol, will establish a focused funding stream to support cross-border university research with the overall aim of strengthening the all-island research base.	DEL	To commence 2008-2009	£10.5m for period 2008- 2011 under t new funding for innovation budget



#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1**

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	RATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1			
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
<b>1.1</b> Ensure that Northern Ireland is playing its full role in the UK, all-island, European, and global innovation arenas.	1.1.12 Working with Invest NI, DETI and the Universities, DHSSPS's European Centre for Connected Health will develop by March 2009 an agreed strategy for the introduction of new technologies to health and social care to 2012.	DHSSPS	2007-2009	Resource Neutral
1.2 Enhance and promote the development of an innovation culture in Northern Ireland (across all sectors of business, government & academia/ education).	1.2.1 HSC R&D Office, with support from Invest NI, will support the development of <i>HSC Innovations</i> to raise awareness, provide incentives for innovation and, to pursue the potential of intellectual property assets to generate revenue streams that will ultimately benefit services users in the HSC and beyond.	DHSSPS, Invest NI	Ongoing over period 2008-2011	£1.6m for period 2008-2011
	1.2.2 The NI Science Park, through its tenant businesses and extensive network of contacts, will continue to facilitate and run workshops to highlight innovation best practice and encourage the NI business and academic communities to collaborate and participate in UK, all-island and wider European research initiatives to mutual economic benefit.	NISP with sponsorship from the private sector and through the CONNECT programme	At least 6 workshops each year will be organised directly by NISP throughout 2008-2011	Resource neutral
<b>1.3 Encourage Northern</b> Ireland business and universities to be more outward focused and raise their profiles internationally.	1.3.1 Invest NI will continue to promote NI research by means of outward and inward technology missions.	Invest NI	2 Technology Missions Per Annum	£50k per annum for period 2008-2011

#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 1**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
1.3 Encourage Northern Ireland business and universities to be more outward focused and raise their profiles internationally.	<ul> <li>1.3.2 Queen's University, as a Russell Group member, will establish strategic relationships with the UK Research Councils, major charities, Science Foundation Ireland and the Higher Education Authority in Ireland to ensure that Northern Ireland is linked closely with key national and all-island research and innovation initiatives. This will include: <ul> <li>(i) agreement of strategic partnerships between QUB &amp; MRC and QUB &amp; CRUK;</li> <li>(ii) development of strategic partnerships with SFI and HEA.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	QUB	During 2007-2008 Academic Year During 2008-2009 Academic Year	£25k per annum £25k per annum
	<ul> <li>1.3.3 Queen's University will develop further its high quality international R&amp;D and innovation partnerships that complement the outward looking priorities of business and government e.g. US (in particular Georgetown University, Washington), India (in particular the National Institute of Immunology), China (in particular the QUB/BP lonic Liquids Laboratory at Dalian) and SE Asia (particularly the link with Petronas in Malaysia). This will include:</li> <li>(i) establishing a pilot initiative with research partners in India to promote technology transfer collaboration in ICT and electronics</li> <li>(ii) extending the Strategic Institutional Partnership network to include China.</li> </ul>	QUB	During 2008-2009 Academic Year During 2008-2009 Academic Year	£200k per annum £50k per annum

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2**

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	RATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2			
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
2.1 Ensure that Northern Ireland business (and the business representative organisations) become more proactive in leading and informing the innovation agenda.	2.1.1 MATRIX - The Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel (and its related Horizon Scanning Programme) to obtain Executive agreement on the priorities for commercial exploitation of R&D for greatest benefit to the NI economy.	DETI/MATRIX	December 2008	£0.5m over the period 2008- 2011 (including £0.1m under the new funding for innovation budget)
	2.1.2 MATRIX will publish at least 5 Horizon Panel reports on NI's opportunities for the commercialisation and exploitation of key strategic technologies.	DETI/MATRIX/ Horizon	December 2008	£0.7m over the period 2008- 2011 (including £0.2m under the new fund for innovation budget)
	2.1.3 The Federation of Small Businesses will explore with the Further Education (FE) sector the potential for a joint project to promote innovation to small businesses while also increasing awareness of how FE can work with the business community.	FSB in partnership with the FE Sector	1 event per month	Resource Neutral
	2.1.4 The NI Skills Expert Group will work with MATRIX to address common issues around R&D and science & technology skills.	DEL/DETI/MATRIX	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	Resource Neutral
	2.1.5 Centre for Competitiveness will design and launch a company innovation process standard based on the EU model of Best Practice with the aim of targeting 500 companies over 2008-2011. Open to all sectors. Process will use an industry-led forum, with representatives from NI Government.	Centre for Competitiveness	Ongoing throughout 2008 2011	2008 - £100K 2009 - £125K 2010 - £175K 2011 - £225K
2.2 Promote an increased level of innovation and R&D activity within Northern Ireland businesses (including encouraging businesses to invest more in innovation and R&D).	2.2.1 By December 2008 DETI working with DFP, Invest NI, DIUS, HM Treasury and HM Revenue and Customs will consider how to more actively promote the take-up of the R&D Tax Credit Scheme by Northerm Ireland businesses.	DETI/DFP/Invest NI/DIUS/HMT/ HMRC	December 2008	Resource Neutral

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2** ENCOURAGE NORTHERN IRELAND'S BUSINESSES TO BECOME MORE INNOVATIVE & CREATIVE IN ORDER TO COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL MARKET

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
2.2 Promote an increased level of innovation and R&D activity within Northern Ireland businesses (including encouraging businesses to invest more in innovation and R&D).	2.2.2 DARD will establish a fund to stimulate private sector investment in R&D by seeking proposals from agri-food and rural enterprises for relevant, innovative R&D work. A minimum of 20 proposals will be funded by the end of the period.	DARD in partnership with industry	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£2.46m over the period 2008-2011 from the new funding for innovation budget
	2.2.3 Invest NI will establish an initiative to increase demand for innovation through awareness raising and promotion on an all-Island basis and, through the recruitment of a range of Innovation Advisors to provide increased levels of hands on professional support and assist companies identify priority areas and develop implementation strategies for innovation that can be supported through a range of innovation programmes. The aim is to attract 300 companies new to R&D.	Invest NI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£4.5m under the new funding for innovation budget
	2.2.4 Invest NI will launch an enhanced innovation vouchers scheme modelled on the Enterprise Ireland Pilot Scheme, to provide SMEs with access to technical support from publicly funded research institutions throughout the island of Ireland.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£0.9m under the new funding for innovation budget
	2.2.5 The Further Education (FE) sector will work with local companies, through workforce development forums and other networks, to develop and facilitate clusters which enhance innovation activities within the local economy.	FE Sector	Core activities ongoing from September 2007-2010	Resource neutral
	2.2.6 Centre for Competitiveness will develop a process for identifying NI Innovation Champions & related Case Studies with the aim of developing over 150 case studies over 2008-2011.	Centre for Competitiveness	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	2008 - £50K 2009 - £80K 2010 - £100K 2011 - £150K

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2.2 Promote an increased level of innovation and R&D activity within Northern Ireland businesses (including encouraging businesses to invoct more in	2.2.7 Centre for Competitiveness will run Quarterly Innovation Seminars - aimed to keep innovation to forefront of business thinking with the goal of addressing over 400 businesses over 2008-2011.	Centre for Competitiveness	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	2008 - £30K 2009 - £35K 2010 - £40K 2011 - £45K
to invest more in innovation and R&D).	2.2.8 The NI Science Park will continue to invest in the innovation infrastructure by increasing the availability of agile, high capacity, fibre networked workspace to circa 270,000 sqft by March 2011 (current baseline 150,000 sqft (gross)) with a view to accommodating knowledge- based, high-technology businesses employing circa 1500 staff, 50% of which will be graduates primarily engaged in R&D.	NISP	Additional 60,000 sqft of workspace by March 2009 270,000 sqft (gross) of workspace by end 2011	£4.25m (Government) and £2m (Private Sector) £6m (Private Sector)
	2.2.9 By April 2009, the NI Science Park, working with Invest NI, Belfast City Council and other stakeholders, will examine the development of a programme that will, through mentoring, networking and business planning support, assist in the creation of new micro-based business starts in the knowledge sector, with a particular emphasis on the young entrepreneur.	NISP in partnership with QUB, UU, Invest NI, BCC and other stakeholders	Annual £25k Awards throughout 2008-2011 Establish NISP- CONNECT by April 2009 Establish panel of 500 mentors by April 2009 Establish programme of 40 school visits to Thompson Dock at NISP	£300k over three years £200k per annum Investment of £1.1m by NITB BCC, EHS and Better Belfast
	2.2.10 The Institute of Directors, working with Business Alliance colleagues and other agencies, will deliver 2-3 events aimed at raising awareness and increasing the application of innovative practices within NI firms.	IoD/Centre for Competitiveness	2008-2011	Resource neutral with sponsorship to cover costs of events and their promotion

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Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
2.2 Promote an increased level of innovation and R&D activity within Northern Ireland businesses (including	2.2.11 DRD will explore potential technical developments identified by MATRIX, in particular by its Advanced Engineering and Advanced Materials Horizon Panels.	DRD	Commencing 2008 and on-going during 2008-2009	Resource neutral
encouraging businesses to invest more in innovation and R&D).	2.2.12 InterTradeIreland will significantly expand the INNOVA collaborative R&D programme to deliver 17 all-island inter-firm research projects.	InterTradeIreland with Invest NI and Enterprise Ireland	2008-2012	Up to £1m per annum
	2.2.13 Invest NI will deliver a programme of Design activities to 600 companies to ensure that existing and potential clients make effective use of Design.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£2.5m
2.3 Encourage and support Northern Ireland businesses in building the capacity to take forward innovative ideas into new products,	2.3.1 Invest NI will support the technology transfer function of the two universities with the aim of securing 100 KTP and 60 PoC projects during 2008-2011.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£3.5m for KTP and £2.5m for HEIF £4.0m for PoC
services and processes.	2.3.2 Following a successful pilot Invest NI will establish in 2008 a Technical Development Incentive Scheme with the aim of supporting 100 companies during 2008-2011.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£150k for the period 2008-2011
	2.3.3 Within the Joint Departmental Social Economy Interim Action Plan, and the overall action to support & develop performance of the Social Economy Sector, DETI and Invest NI will liaise with SEN to deliver an innovation themed initiative/event in 2008-2009.	DETI in partnership with Invest NI & SEN	2008-2009	Resource neutral

#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
2.3 Encourage and support Northern Ireland businesses in building the capacity to take forward innovative ideas into new products, services and processes.	<ul> <li>2.3.4 DEL, under "Success through Skills", will lead a 'Skills for Innovation' project aimed at increasing the capacity for more innovation in NI businesses.</li> <li>By November 2008 carry out a literature review on the human facilitators/inhibitors to innovation in N.I. businesses. By February 2009 develop interventions to address recommendations of literature review.</li> </ul>	DEL	2008-2009	£20k
	2.3.5 Through the revision of the interdepartmental Unlocking Creativity Strategy DCAL will take the lead in developing support mechanisms for the creative industries commencing with the establishment of a Creative Industries Seed Fund.	DCAL	Commencing 2008-2009	£5m under the new funding for innovation budget over the period 2008-2011
	2.3.6 Building on the Higher Education Innovation Fund 1 (HEIF 1) Programme, DETI/Invest NI and DEL will support the universities' core Knowledge Transfer activities through the second round of HEIF, a permanent "third stream" fund.	DETI in partnership with DEL & Invest NI, and also QUB & University of Ulster	DEL formula allocations commenced Academic Year 2007-2008. Invest NI funding to commence 2008-2009	£3m per year over the period 2008-2011
	2.3.7 Centre for Competitiveness will run an annual innovation conference attracting over 150 delegates per annum.	Centre for Competitiveness	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	2008 - £50K 2009 - £60K 2010 - £65K 2011 - £75K
	<ul> <li>2.3.8 University of Ulster will work with QUB, DEL, Invest NI, and local councils' economic development functions to deliver seminars, workshops and other events aimed at enhancing the absorptive capacity of NI businesses for Innovation. This includes:</li> <li>(i) 14 events with FE and QUB;</li> <li>(ii) 30 events under UU Knowledge Club (with average business attendance of 40).</li> </ul>	University of Ulster	Over period 2007-2010 During period 2007-2010	£50k per annum 2007-2010

### REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2

key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
2.3 Encourage and support Northern Ireland businesses in building the capacity to take forward innovative ideas into new products, services and processes.	2.3.9 University of Ulster will engage on an ongoing basis with industry representatives to understand and capture its requirements for developing an innovative ambition and to support knowledge-based investment. Opportunities for jointly funded projects will be exploited.	University of Ulster	During 2008- 2010, 200 requirement sets captured per annum, leading to 50 unique proposals	£1m over 2008-2011
	2.3.10 The Further Education (FE) Sector) with other relevant partners will work with UU and QUB to ensure the successful delivery of the HE-FE Collaboration Fund (Connected) in supporting businesses, especially SMEs, to undertake research and innovation activities. The six colleges and two universities will make 100 added value engagements, deliver 24 projects and 3 joint KTPs per annum.	FE Sector	Over the period 2007-2010	£3m
	2.3.11 University of Ulster - in partnership with DETI & DSD - will develop a strategic framework and supporting programmes to enable the application of knowledge and innovation to the benefit of social enterprises and the community.	University of Ulster	Ongoing over the period 2008-2011	£100k commitment the University of Ulster
	2.3.12 University of Ulster, as a leading provider of consultancy from academia into industry, will develop clusters of competence to further meet the needs of priority industrial sectors in Northern Ireland.	University of Ulster	Ongoing over the period 2008-2011	£200k over the period 2008-2011
	2.3.13 University of Ulster will deliver an Innovation Promoters Programme (IPP) to encourage and support investment in innovation.	University of Ulster	Ongoing over the period 2008-2011	£250k per annum

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Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment	
2.3 Encourage and support Northern Ireland businesses in building the capacity to take forward innovative ideas into new products, services and processes.	2.3.14 QUB will build on its position as the most successful Knowledge Transfer Centre in the UK and seek to develop further mechanisms for increasing the number of graduates and postgraduates employed in NI businesses. This includes expanding KTP schemes to an average of 30 per year employing at least 40 graduates and postgraduates.	QUB	During 2008-2009 Academic Year	To lever £1.8m per annum	
	2.3.15 InterTradeIreland's FUSION programme will deliver 180 all-island projects, with a focus on first-time innovators.	InterTradeIreland with Invest NI and Enterprise Ireland	2008-2011	Up to £2m per annum	
	2.3.16 Invest NI's Collaborative Networking Programme will support companies working together for a common business benefit with the aim of establishing 18 collaborative networks.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£3m	
	2.3.17 Invest NI Business Improvement Services will encourage and support client companies through innovation, to differentiate from their competitors, improve their competitiveness and increase their profitability. 400 companies to be supported over 2008-2011.	Invest NI	2008-2011	£5m	
2.4 Create the context in which Northern Ireland businesses become more independent of public sector support.	2.4.1 Invest NI will introduce a new Venture Capital initiative - NISPO - incorporating a follow on to NITECH and including seed funding to support business and university based Spin Out companies.	Invest NI in partnership with private sector and universities	2008-2009	£10m across the 5-year investment period.	
	2.4.2 The Institute of Directors will work with the District Councils and the local business angel networks to deliver a series of events aimed at helping NI businesses to better understand private equity finance and to work more effectively with private sector investors.	loD	2-3 events per year over 2008-2011	Resource neutral	

### REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2

ENCOURAGE NORTHERN IRELAND'S BUSINESSES TO BECOME MORE INNOVATIVE & CREATIVE IN ORDER TO COMPETE IN THE GLOBAL MARKET

REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 2					
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment	
2.4 Create the context in which Northern Ireland businesses become more independent of public sector support.	2.4.3 By September 2008 NISP, working with Invest NI and InterTradeIreland, will establish mechanisms to deliver "halo", the business angel network which matches angel funding and support with early stage knowledge based ventures, with the target of an eight- fold return on cost of programme with angel and geared funding.	NISP, Invest NI and InterTradeIreland	Develop and maintain a register of 25 active business angels by April 2009	£520k over 2008-2011	

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 3**

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 3					
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment		
3.1 Ensure that the public sector realises the (commercial) value of its R&D for the wealth of the region.	3.1.1 DETI, through Invest NI will provide advice and guidance to Public Sector Research Establishments in developing mechanisms for the commercialisation of public research e.g. the establishment of equivalent schemes such as KTP and Proof of Concept.	DETI, Invest NI	2008-2009	Resource Neutral		
	3.1.2 HSC R&D Office, through HSC Innovations, will support the identification, assessment and management of intellectual property with the aim of generating improved technologies and treatments for the benefit of health and social care users and the wider economy.	DHSSPS	Ongoing over period 2008- 2011	£1.6m for period 2008- 2011 (as at 1.2.1 above)		

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Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
3.1 Ensure that the public sector realises the (commercial) value of its R&D for the wealth of the region.	3.1.3 GSNI will undertake advanced and innovative analysis of the information gathered through the TELLUS project and promote that information locally and internationally with a view to licensing data to, and working with, local and international players in the natural resources exploration, renewables and geothermal energy sectors; and, collaborate with government and industrial partners in the Rol in extending the TELLUS project into the Rol.	GSNI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£1.9m for period 2008- 2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
3.2 Encourage the public sector to lead the adoption of best practice in innovation and R&D	3.2.1 DSD will promote innovative solutions within the construction sector through the development of affordable and sustainable housing.	DSD	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	Resource Neutral
and to champion the use of innovation and creativity as business critical in service delivery and process devicement	3.2.2 The Government's Policy 'Toolkit' will promote the inclusion of innovation considerations in policy making.	OFMDFM	Ongoing for period 2008-2011	Resource Neutral
development.	3.2.3 DRD Roads Service will work closely with private and public sector research bodies (including Northerm Ireland Universities) to identify innovative techniques and solutions to engineering and transport challenges.	DRD	Commencing 2008 and on-going during 2008-2009	Resource neutral
	3.2.4 DRD will work with the Achieving Excellence Initiative to promote innovation through public procurement.	DRD	Commencing 2008 and on-going during 2008-2011	Resource neutral
	3.2.5 DHSSPS will produce a strategy to develop N.I. as a connected health economy which will set out its objectives and priorities for the application of new technologies and communication systems over the next 5-7 years.	DHSSPS	December 2008	Resource neutral

#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 3**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
8.3 Use the Northern reland Sustainable Development Strategy as a mechanism by which the public sector can drive the	3.3.1 The Central Procurement Directorate of DFP will introduce an innovation sub-strand to the NI Sustainable Procurement Action Plan.	DFP	March 2008	Resource Neutral
public sector can unvertie innovation, creativity and design agenda.	3.3.2 Building on the DARD Renewable Energy Action Plan, DARD, DETI, Invest NI and others will underpin knowledge and support exploitation of renewable energy technologies in the rural economy. The Renewable Energy knowledge transfer programme will provide 1000 demonstration places and construct 3 renewable energy infrastructure items.	DARD in partnership with DETI and DOE	Action Plan published January 2007 and target date for review initiation April 2008	£2.55m under the new fundin for innovation budget
	3.3.3 DARD will introduce an initiative to exploit natural products e.g. grass silage to produce novel products such as fibre insulation material, biocompounds and biopolymers.	DARD	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£1.08m over the period 2008-2009 to 2010-2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
	3.3.4 DARD will establish an initiative to enable CAFRE to deliver demonstrations to food companies around technological developments in food packaging.	DARD	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£650k over the period 2008- 2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
	3.3.5 DETI will identify and support NI energy research and innovation and contribute to its commercial exploitation, pursue economic growth in the sustainable/renewable energy sector in NI, and support research into geological formations to facilitate innovative energy storage provision. Novel geological modelling techniques will also be considered.	DETI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£3.75m over the period 2008-2011 under the new funding for innovation budget

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Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
3.3 Use the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy as a mechanism by which the public sector can drive the innovation, creativity and design agenda.	3.3.6 DETI will establish a range of initiatives to support and promote research into emerging renewables technologies such as Hydro Power, Household Wind Power and Biofuels.	DETI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£1.5m over the period 2008-2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
	3.3.7 DoE will contribute to the delivery of the QUB-led OMNIVORE project to develop a prototype engine that will optimise the combustion of a range of biofuels and fossil fuels.	DoE	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£103k over the period 2008-2011 the new funding for innovation budget
3.4 Ensure Northern Ireland Government addresses risk management issues and adopts an appropriate outcome-based approach to procurement.	3.4.1 In taking forward it's policy and legislative work DoE will use innovation and research to guide evidence based policy development and where possible maximise opportunities within the public and private sectors to deliver effective implementation solutions.	DoE	Proposed start mid-2008 with completion by December 2010	Subject to a bid of €12.24m to INTERREG IV
	3.4.2 The Central Procurement Directorate of DFP will produce guidance on procuring innovative solutions and work with Departments to ensure that procurement contracts, where appropriate, are structured in such a way as to allow for innovative tendering.	DFP	March 2008	Resource Neutral
3.5 Ensure that Government interventions to promote and support Innovation and R&D exploitation become more streamlined and targeted in order to assist innovation and R&D practitioners.	3.5.1 Invest NI will streamline and increase the effectiveness of its R&D and innovation support with the aim of engaging 300 companies in R&D for the first time.	Invest NI	2008-2009	Annual Programme budget for innovation, research and technology is currently £43m rising to £48m in 2010-2011
	3.5.2 HSC R&D office, working with Invest NI, will examine the potential for the application of the Proof of Concept programme to the HSC.	DHSSPS in partnership with Invest NI	2008-2009	Resource Neutral

#### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

TO ENSURE THAT THE NORTHERN IRELAND EDUCATION SYSTEM ADOPTS AN ENHANCED ROLE IN DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF INNOVATION & CREATIVITY AND ENABLES PEOPLE TO RECOGNISE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	RATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4			
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.1 Encourage the tertiary education sector to take appropriate steps to realise the commercial opportunities of its research to enhance the wealth of the region.	4.1.1 DARD, working with NI's Higher Education Institutions, AFBI and other research providers, will establish a mechanism for a research digest and improved knowledge and technology transfer to rural businesses.	DARD	April 2010	£0.5m per annum
	4.1.2 DEL, working with the universities and industry, will support 3 additional cohorts of 100 DEL funded PhD studentships in areas of economic relevance to NI.	DEL in partnership with the universities and Industry	First additional cohort to commence Academic Year 2008-2009	£12.2m over the period 2008-2011 (including £7.1m under the new funding for innovation budget)
	4.1.3 DEL will establish a permanent funding stream for collaboration between the universities and FE Colleges to increase the commercialisation of their research. This will build on the recently established "Connect <b>ed</b> " pilot initiative.	DEL	Pilot established 2007-2008. To be reviewed 2009 with view to making permanent from 2010-2011	£3m over period 2007-2008 to 2009-2010
	4.1.4 DEL will introduce a new permanent research capital fund, the Research Capital Investment Fund, co-funded by DIUS, to encourage institutions to take a longer-term, more strategic approach to research capital investment thereby promoting institutional financial sustainability.	DEL	Funding to be available from July 2008	£11.4m from DIUS; £15m from DEL (£7.5m over the period 2008-2011 under the new funding for innovation budget)
	4.1.5 University of Ulster's Technology & Knowledge Transfer offices (the Office of Innovation) will work with industry to identify and prioritise the investment opportunities of highest potential within their technology disclosure and research pipelines. This will entail 12 unique investments to encourage either spin-out, incorporation or joint ventures.	University of Ulster	Ongoing throughout period 2008-2011	£1m over the period 2008-2011

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Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.1 Encourage the tertiary education sector to take appropriate steps to realise the commercial opportunities of its research to enhance the wealth of the region.	4.1.6 University of Ulster - with DEL & Invest NI - will hold regular events to highlight university knowledge and technology with commercial potential and showcase inspirational case studies from successful entrepreneurs. The target is 50 events with an average of 32 business attendees.	University of Ulster	Ongoing throughout period 2008-2011	To be supported under the ConnectED Programme, funded at £3m over 2008-2011
	4.1.7 University of Ulster - working with DCAL & Invest NI and with support from NESTA - will establish a facility to encourage knowledge and technology transfer between its School of Art & Design and SMEs, wherever possible, tailoring its support to the explicit needs of the creative industries sector, and to support new product development.	University of Ulster, DCAL/Invest NI, NESTA	2008-2010	£100k for Phase I, £500k for Phase II
	4.1.8 University of Ulster will establish a "Coordinator of Academic Enterprise" who will report to a newly created Innovation Committee. This committee will have responsibility for all policies, programmes, and actions relating to academic enterprise and innovation.	University of Ulster	2008-2010	£120k per annum
	4.1.9 Under the HEIF Programme, the universities will work with the Business Alliance, DEL, DETI, Invest NI and ANIC/FE colleges to develop an innovative and cost effective programme of business and community engagement that will more effectively transfer technology to local enterprises, secure increased BERD and promote innovation in business and industry. This will lead to the establishment of 5 pilot competence centres in Digital Engineering; Environmental Management; High-performance computing; Polymer Technologies; and, Creative Digital Industries.	QUB in partnership with the University of Ulster, DEL, DETI and Invest NI	2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Academic Year	£2.175m

## Annex A

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.1 Encourage the tertiary education sector to take appropriate steps to realise the commercial opportunities of its research to enhance the wealth of the region.	4.1.10 The Knowledge Exploitation Unit at Queen's University will provide a 'one stop shop' for innovation support and will facilitate innovation in the business sector with a particular focus on the needs of SMEs and emerging knowledge based companies.	QUB	KEU to be established 2008-09 Academic Year	£1m per annum
	4.1.11 Queen's University will continue to be proactive in seeking opportunities to improve innovation and the exploitation of publicly funded research through enhanced structures and processes to increase consultancy, licensing and the establishment of 'spin out' companies, building upon the successes of QUBIS Ltd. This includes the establishment of 8 new spin-out companies and the negotiation of 20 licenses as a consequence of investments in the QUB research base.	QUB	Ongoing throughout the period 2008-2011	£500k over the period 2008-2011
	4.1.12 The NI Science Park, working with the universities and other public and private sector bodies, will facilitate events aimed at encouraging stronger university- industry research collaboration, with a focus on those sectors of most significance to the growth of the NI economy.	NISP in partnership with the universities	At least one major event each year to showcase a particular area of university- industry importance	£10k per annum plus contribution in kind by senior industrialists and academics
	4.1.13 The Institute of Directors will follow up on its 'Working Together for Profit' event run during Innovation Week 2007 in association with Invest NI, QUB, UU and ANIC to encourage firms to exploit to a much greater extent the resources of FE and HE to undertake R&D that will help grow their business.	loD	2008-2009	Resource neutral with sponsorship for the production of materials in DVD and hard copy

## **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.1 Encourage the tertiary education sector to take appropriate steps to realise the commercial opportunities of its research to enhance the wealth of the region.	4.1.14 DRD Roads Service will work with Queens University to assist in the development and approval of an innovative prefabricated concrete arch bridge, for use on civil engineering projects.	DRD	Prototype bridge to be built by March 2009	Up to £50k
4.2 Create the circumstances in which industry can take more responsibility for informing and supporting the education sector in preparing people for work in the knowledge economy.	4.2.1 MATRIX will use its communications strategy to promote & enhance science and technology innovation and commercialisation not only to industry but also the education system through the production of 4 newsletters per year.	MATRIX/DETI	2007-2008 (2009-2011 pending review of MATRIX)	Resource Neutral
economy.	4.2.2 DEL will establish a programme to ensure that the FE sector has the capacity and expertise to deliver the skilled workforce required by potential Northern Ireland FDI companies (this will include support for the development of 'clusters' in specific sectors identified by DETI and Invest NI as offering potential significant growth and investment).	DEL in partnership with DETI and Invest NI	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£9m over the period 2008-2011 under the new funding for innovation budget
	<ul> <li>4.2.3 The Institute of Directors will, working with its membership and the two NI universities, explore the development of a number of bursary schemes aimed at encouraging students to enrol in courses that will service the R&amp;D and innovation skills requirements of the local economy. This will involve:</li> <li>(i) discussions with QUB and UU re funding and logistics;</li> <li>(ii) hosting an event to discuss issues with IoD members;</li> <li>(iii) identification of companies to support 5 initial bursary schemes.</li> </ul>	IoD/QUB/UU	By May 2008 By September 2008 During 2009-2010 academic year	IoD Resource neutral plus bursary contribution from companie of circa £1000 per student per company

## Annex A

### **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.3 Ensure that more people are encouraged to recognise career opportunities through science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).	4.3.1 DE and DEL, working with key industrial, educational and public sector stakeholders (including DETI), will complete a review of STEM in schools and Further Education with a view to producing a 10-year strategy for STEM development for the benefit of the economy.	DE in partnership with DEL	June 2008	Resource Neutral
	4.3.2 DE will develop curriculum resources to support growth of STEM take-up in schools including web-based and other links with national bodies for the promotion of STEM-based subjects in GB and the Rol; and a grant scheme to promote STEM curriculum development in the primary sector (within the revised NI Curriculum) via materials and equipment.	DE	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£1.9m over the period 2008- 2011 under th new funding for innovation budget
	4.3.3 DE working with DEL will develop careers education, information, advice and guidance to improve young people's knowledge and understanding of the opportunity for entering well paid and challenging careers which require a background in STEM subjects.	DE in partnership with DEL	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£2.2m over the period 2008- 2011 under th new funding for innovation budget
	4.3.4 DE will develop an initiative to promote STEM work in primary and post-primary schools through competitions and exhibitions, including a specialist science week involving the FE colleges and the universities.	DE in partnership with DEL, FE Colleges and the Universities	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£600k over the period 2008- 2011 under th new funding for innovation budget
	4.3.5 DE will identify, through competition, specialist STEM schools in order to extend strengths in STEM subjects within their schools, collaboration schools and FE partners; build a collaborative network of primary and post-primary schools focusing on aspects of STEM; and disseminate best practice in respect to STEM areas of learning.	DE	10-12 schools over the period 2008-2011	£6m over the period 2008- 2011 the new funding for innovation budget

## **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

ey Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
.3 Ensure that more eople are encouraged o recognise career pportunities through cience and technology.	4.3.6 DEL will establish a Critical Sectors Initiative to increase the number of university level applications for STEM subjects with a view to addressing the lack of skilled individuals capable of taking up positions in high value employment in key sectors.	DEL	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	£6m over the period 2008- 2011 under th new funding for innovation budget
	4.3.7 DCAL will continue to work with DE to promote creativity in teaching and learning.	DCAL in partnership with DE	Commencing 2008	£500k per annum for creative Learning Centre mainstreamed for period 2008-2011
	4.3.8 DEL working with DE and Sector Skills Councils will provide young people with access to impartial careers information, advice and guidance, based on up to date labour market information.	DEL in partnership with DE	Ongoing throughout 2008-2011	To be supporte through existir DEL/CEIAG budget
	<ul> <li>4.3.9 Queen's University will promote and champion the development of an entrepreneurial culture among staff and students through the operation of NICENT, Roberts' Review, SET funding and HEIF, including the establishment of a Student Enterprise and Employability Unit within the Students' Union. This includes:</li> <li>(i) establishment of the Student Enterprise and Employment Centre;</li> <li>(ii) Commencement of an Enterprise Fellowship Scheme;</li> <li>(iii) Embedding of entrepreneurship in all Arts and Social Science Degree programmes.</li> </ul>	QUB	2007-2008 Academic Year 2008-2009 Academic Year 2007-2010 Academic Year	£100k per annum £154k per annum £200k per annum

# Annex A

## **REGIONAL INNOVATION STRATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4**

REGIONAL INNOVATION STR	ATEGY ACTION PLAN IMPERATIVE 4			
Key Objectives	Actions	Lead	Target Date	Investment
4.3 Ensure that more people are encouraged to recognise career opportunities through science and technology.	4.3.10 By 2009, the NI Science Park, working with DCAL, DE and DEL will develop a programme of activities aimed at educating young people regarding the career opportunities available through studying STEM subjects by showcasing science in action.	NISP in partnership with DCAL, DE and DEL	Ongoing throughout 2009-2012	Resource Neutral
	4.3.11 The Institute of Directors will draw on its membership to identify appropriate business people to work with schools in educating pupils to the career opportunities that are available through the study of STEM subjects. This will include the development of an annual 'IoD Schools Day' (when 100 IoD members go into 100 primary schools to talk to P7 pupils about careers in business) and engagement between IoD members and Sentinus/Young Enterprise.	IoD	During 2008, develop an 'loD Schools Day' First 'Schools Day' to take place in 2009 50 loD members per year to engage with Sentinus and Young Enterprise	IoD Resource neutral with sponsorship for promotional material

	Total		2.46	С 2	1.08	0.65	6.74
		Resource £m	1.03	0.75	0.44	0.1	2.32
	2010/11	Capital £m	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.2
		Resource £m	0.93	0.75	0.44	0.1	2.22
	2009/10	Capital £m	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3
		Resource £m	0.5	0.75	0	0.1	1.35
	2008/09	Capital £m	0	0.1	0	0.25	0.35
SNOI	Fund for Innovation Project		Industry R&D challenge fund	Research into renewable energy and associated technology transfer	Research into non-Food Crops	Food Packaging - Biodegradable/ environmentally friendly packaging developments	Sub-total
ATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	Department		DARD	DARD	DARD	DARD	
NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, S	RIS Action		DARD will establish a fund to stimulate private sector investment in R&D by seeking proposals from agri- food and rural enterprises for relevant, innovative R&D work. A minimum of 20 proposals will be funded by the end of the period.	Building on the DARD Renewable Energy Action Plan, DARD, DETI, Invest NI and others will underpin knowledge and support exploitation of renewable energy technologies in the rural economy. The Renewable Energy knowledge transfer programme will provide 1000 demonstration places and construct 3 renewable energy infrastructure items.	DARD will introduce an initiative to exploit natural products e.g. grass silage to produce novel products such as fibre insulation material, biocompounds and biopolymers.	DARD will establish an initiative to enable CAFRE to deliver demonstrations to food companies around technological developments in food packaging.	
NORTHE	Action		2.2.2	3.3.2 	3.3.3	3.3.4	

NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION

NORTHE	NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	UPPORTED ACT	SNOI							
Action	RIS Action	Department Fund for Innovatio	Fund for Innovation Project	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
				Capital £m	CapitalResourceCapitalResource£m£m£m£m	Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	
2.3.5	Through the revision of the interdepartmental Unlocking Creativity Strategy DCAL will take the lead in developing support mechanisms for the creative industries commencing with the establishment of a Creative Industries Seed Fund.	DCAL	Creative Industries Seed Fund	0	H	0	0	0	N	ى س
			Sub-total	0	Ħ	0	0	0	0	2

	Total		1.9	2.2	0.6	σ	10.7
		Resource £m	0.7	0.8	0.2	H	2.7
	2010/11	Capital £m	0	0	0	त	Ħ
		Resource £m	0.7	8. Ö	0.2	Ч	2.7
	2009/10	Capital £m	0	0	0	H	H
		Resource £m	0. 5	0.0	0.2	Ч	2.3
	2008/09	Capital £m	0	0	0	Ч	Ŧ
SNOI	Fund for Innovation Project		Development of curriculum resources to support the growth of STEM take-up	Development of Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance for STEM	Promotion of STEM work in Primary and Post- primary through competitions and exhibitions	Development of specialist schools initiative	Sub-total
SUPPORTED ACT	Department		ä	ä	ä	ä	
NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	RIS Action		DE will develop curriculum resources to support growth of STEM take-up in schools including web-based and other links with national bodies for the promotion of STEM-based subjects in GB and the Rol; and a grant scheme to promote STEM curriculum development in the primary sector (within the revised NI Curriculum) via materials and equipment.	DE working with DEL will develop careers education, information, advice and guidance to improve young people's knowledge and understanding of the opportunity for entering well paid and challenging careers which require a background in STEM subjects.	DE will develop an initiative to promote STEM work in primary and post- primary schools through competitions and exhibitions, including a specialist science week involving the FE colleges and the universities.	DE will identify, through competition, specialist STEM schools in order to extend strengths in STEM subjects within their schools, collaboration schools and FE partners; build a collaborative network of primary and post-primary schools focusing on aspects of STEM; and disseminate best practice in respect to STEM areas of learning.	
NORTHE	Action		4.3.2	4.3.3	4.3.4	4. 5	

	Total	lice	4 <b>10.5</b>	3.4 <b>7.1</b>	0 7.5	<b>റ</b> ന
	2010/11	Capital Resource £m £m	0	0	N	0
	20:	ource	ů.	m	0	m
	2009/10	Capital Res £m £m	0	0	. 2 7	0
		Resource £m	m	0.7	0	m
	2008/09	Capital £m	0	0	m	0
SNOI	Fund for Innovation Project		Strengthening the All Island Research Base	Fund 3 additional annual cohorts of 100PhD science studentships	Research Capital Investment Fund (RCIF)	FDI Employer Support Programme
UPPORTED ACT	Department		DEL	DEL	DEL	DEL
NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	RIS Action		DEL, working with counterparts in the Rol, will provide a focused funding stream to support cross- border university research with the overall aim of strengthening the all-island research base.	DEL, working with the universities and industry, will support 3 additional cohorts of 100 DEL-funded studentships in areas of economic relevance to Northern Ireland.	DEL will introduce a new permanent research capital fund, the Research Capital Investment Fund, co-funded by DIUS, to encourage institutions to take a longer-term, more strategic approach to research capital investment thereby promoting institutional financial sustainability.	DEL will establish a programme to ensure that the FE sector has the capacity and expertise to deliver the skilled workforce required by potential Northern Ireland FDI companies (this will include support for the development of 'clusters' in specific sectors identified by DETI and Invest
NORTHE	Action		1.1.11	4.1.2	4.1.4	4.2.2

NOVATION	
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H	NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	UPPORTED ACT	SNOI							
Action	RIS Action	Department Fund for Innovation	Fund for Innovation Project	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
				Capital £m	CapitalResourceCapitalResourceCapitalResource£m£m£m£m£m	Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	
	DEL will establish a Critical Sectors Initiative to increase the number of university level applications for STEM subjects with a view to addressing the lack of skilled individuals capable of taking up positions in high value employment in key sectors.	DEL	Critical Sector Initiative	0	N	0	N	0	N	Q
			Sub-total	m	8.7	2.5	11.5	3	12.4	40.1
l										

	Total		ю. О
	10		
		Capital Resource £m £m	0
	2010/11	Capital £m	0
		Capital Resource £m £m	0
	2009/10	Capital £m	0
		Capital Resource £m £m	о о
	2008/09	Capital £m	0
SNOI	Fund for Innovation Project		MATRIX & HORIZON Programme
UPPORTED ACT	Department Fund for Innovatio		DETI
NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	RIS Action		MATRIX – The Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel (and its related Horizon Scanning Programme) to obtain Executive agreement on the priorities for commercial exploitation of R&D for greatest benefit to the NI economy. MATRIX will publish at least 5 Horizon Panel reports on NI's opportunities for the commercialisation and exploitation of key strategic technologies.
NORTHE	Action		2.1.2

NORTHE	NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, S Action RIS Action	ATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	rions Fund for	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
			Innovation Project	0000		07/2007				10101
				Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	
	GSNI will undertake advanced and innovative analysis of the information gathered through the TELLUS project and promote that information locally and internationally with a view to licensing data to, and working with, local and international players in the natural resources exploration, renewables and geothermal energy sectors and collaborate with government and industrial partners in the Rol in extending the TELLUS project into the Rol.	DETI	TELLUS Project Implementation	0	O. 8	0	o.o	0	о. Э	ب ٥
	DETI will identify and support NI energy research and innovation and contribute to its commercial exploitation, pursue economic growth in the sustainable/renewable energy sector in NI, and support research into geological formations to facilitate innovative energy storage provision. Novel geological modelling techniques will also be considered.	DETI	commercialisation of Energy R&D Projects	0	1.25	0	1.25	0	1.25	3.75
	DETI will establish a range of initiatives to support and promote research into emerging renewable technologies such as Hydro Power, Household Wind Power and Biofuels.	DETI	Emerging Renewables Technologies Research	0	0.5	0	0.5	0	0.5	1.5
			Sub-total	0	2.85	0	2.35	0	2.25	7.45

# Annex B

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment Regional Innovation Strategy Page 47

	Total		m	9	13
		Resource £m	H	5	6.25
	2010/11	Capital £m	0	0	0
		Resource £m	R	3.15	4.15
	2009/10	Capital £m	0	0	0
		Resource £m	H	i. 6	2.6
TIONS	2008/09	Capital £m	0	0	0
	Fund for Innovation Project		US-Ireland R&D Partnership	Telehealth Monitoring	Sub-total
ATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	Department		DHSSPS	SASSHO	
NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPO	RIS Action		Exploiting Business Innovation Opportunities in Health R&D, on a transnational basis through the US/Ireland R&D Partnership the DHSSPS will work with the US Department of Health & Human Services, the National Institutes of Health (US and Rol) and the National Science Foundation (US) to support world class research collaborations with the potential to deliver new discoveries, improvements in health care provision and economic gain in the three jurisdictions. This will be funded to the total of £3 million for the period 2008–2011.	DHSSPS will develop a Telehealth Hospital Links scheme to provide for the use of telehealth technology to monitor remotely, on a daily basis, the vital signs of those patients with long-term conditions who are most at risk of hospital admission. Thus enabling more effective management of disease, maintaining patients' independence at home, maximising the use of healthcare professionals' time and reducing the use of hospital capacity. By 2011, 5000 people will have access to a remote monitoring service for their condition.	
NORTHE	Action		1.1.2	1.1.3	

NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION

NORTH	NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	UPPORTED ACI	lions							
Action	Action RIS Action	Department Fund for Innovation	Fund for Innovation Project	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
				Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	CapitalResourceCapitalResourceCapitalResource£m£m£m£m£m	Capital £m	Resource £m	
3.3.7	DoE will contribute to the delivery of the QUB-led OMNIVORE project to develop a prototype engine that will optimise the combustion of a range of biofuels and fossil fuels.	DOE	OMNIVORE projects on Biofuels	0	0.066	0	0.037	0	0	0 0.103
			Sub-total	0	0.066	0	0.037	0	0	0 0.103

NORTHE	NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS	UPPORTED ACT	SNOI							
Action	RIS Action	Department	Fund for Innovation Project	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
				Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	Capital £m	Resource £m	
1.1. 1.5	DETI and Invest NI will work with counterparts in the Rol to establish an all-island programme to promote and support SMEs for the mutual enhancement of 7th EU Framework Programme funds. For Northem Ireland, this will be delivered through an enhanced Invest NI RTD R&D directorate.	Invest NI	Enhancement of RTD Directorate	0	О. Э	0	0.U	0	0.5 0	1.3
2.2.3	Invest NI will establish an initiative to increase demand for innovation through awareness raising and promotion and, through the recruitment of Innovation Advisors, will provide increased levels of hands on professional support to assist companies identify priority areas and develop implementation strategies for innovation.	Invest NI	Promotion of Innovation (All Island)	0	1.5	0	<del>ر</del> ا س	0	1.5	4.5
2.2.4	Invest NI will launch an enhanced innovation vouchers scheme modelled on the Enterprise Ireland Pilot Scheme, to provide SMEs with access to technical support from publicly funded research institutions throughout the island of Ireland.	Invest NI	Innovation Vouchers (All Island)	0	0.2	0	ю. О	0	0.4	6. 0
			Sub-total	0	ы	0	2.3	0	2.4	6.7



NORTHERN IRELAND FUND FOR INNOVATION, SUPPORTED ACTIONS (OVERALL TOTAL)	OR INNOV	ATION, SUPF	PORTED AG	TIONS (OVE	RALL TOTA	L)	
	2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		Total
	Capital £m	Capital Resource £m £m	Capital £m	Capital Resource £m £m		Capital Resource £m £m	
<b>Overall Totals</b> Capital (£m) Resource (£m)	4.35	20.87	3.80	27.26	3.20	30.32	11.35 78.44
Annual Total		25.22		31.06		33.52	89.79

# Annex C

GLOSSARY OF	TERMS
ACNI	Arts Council for Northern Ireland
AFBI	Agri-food and Biosciences Institute
ASC	Advisory Science Council
BCC	Belfast City Council
BERD	Business Expenditure on R&D
BP	British Petroleum
CAFRE	College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise
CAST	Co-Operative Awards in Science and Technology
CEIAG	Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance
CIS	Community Innovation Survey
CLC	Creative Learning Centre
CRUK	Cancer Research UK
CSR	Comprehensive Spending Review
C&YP	Children and Young People's Fund
DARD	Department for Agriculture and Rural Development
DCAL	Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
DE	Department of Education
DEL	Department for Employment and Learning
DETE	Department of Enterprise and Employment
DETI	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment
DfES	Department for Education and Skills
DFP	Department of Finance and Personnel
DHSSPS	Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
DIUS	Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills
DoE	Department of the Environment
DSD	Department for Social Development
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EU	European Union
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FE	Further Education
FP7	Seventh Framework Programme
FSB	Federation of Small Businesses
GB	Great Britain
GSNI	Geological Survey Northern Ireland
HE	Higher Education
HEA	Higher Education Authority
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HEIF	Higher Education Innovation Fund

# Annex C

GLOSSARY OF	TERMS
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
HMT	Her Majesty's Treasury
HSC	Health and Social Care
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDC	Inter-Departmental Committee
IDWG	Inter-Departmental Working Group
Invest NI	Invest Northern Ireland
loD	Institute of Directors
KEU	Knowledge Exploitation Unit (QUB)
KTP	Knowledge Transfer Partnership
MATRIX	The Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel
MRC	Medical Research Council
NESTA	National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts
NI	Northern Ireland
NICENT	Northern Ireland Centre for Entrepreneurship
NISC	Northern Ireland Screen Commission
NISP	Northern Ireland Science Park
NISPO	Northern Ireland Spin Outs
NITB	Northern Ireland Tourist Board
NMNI	National Museums Northern Ireland
OFMDFM	Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
PSRE	Public Sector Research Establishment
QUB	Queen's University of Belfast
R&D	Research and Development
RTD	Research and Technological Development
Rol	Republic of Ireland
SE	South East
SEN	Social Economy Network
SET	Science, Engineering and Technology
SEUPB	Special EU Programmes Body
SFI	Science Foundation Ireland
SME	Small to Medium Sized Enterprise
SRIF	Science Research Investment Fund
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
UU	University of Ulster
W5	Who What Where When Why - Science Discovery Centre









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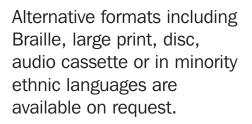


### April 2008

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Enterprise, Trade and Investment



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