

European Priorities 2013/14 Implementation Report



Winning in Europe



**Northern Ireland
Executive**

www.northernireland.gov.uk

This page has been left intentionally blank

EUROPEAN PRIORITIES 2013-14

Covering the Period 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

Background

The Executive's 2013-14 European Priorities maintain the thematic approach established in previous years, identifying 29 objectives to be pursued by the four cross-departmental sub-groups of the Barroso Task Force Working Group (BTWG):

- Competitiveness and Employment;
- Innovation and Technology;
- Climate Change and Energy; and
- Social Cohesion.

These objectives were translated into the 113 individual targets that constitute the 'European Priorities 2013-14 Implementation Plan'.

Summary

Thematic Sub-Groups have assessed progress by adopting the Programme for Government (PfG) methodology which assigns a 'Green', 'Green/Amber', 'Amber' or 'Red' rating, depending on the degree to which the target is fully on track or has encountered differing degrees of delay or difficulty (Table 1).

Table 1: Progress Summary

| Definition of RAG ratings and associated target numbers | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Green | Green/Amber | Amber | Red |
| 103 (91%) Achieved | 6 (5%) Substantively Achieved – outstanding progress will be pursued | 1 (1%) Substantively Achieved – outstanding progress will not be pursued | 3 (3%) Not Achieved |

Thematic Sub-Groups report that 103 targets (91%) were fully achieved with a further 7 (6%) substantively achieved. Only 3 targets were not met.

A full list of the targets and their ratings is provided (Appendix 1), along with more detailed commentary on each target considered to have encountered a substantive delay or difficulty (Appendix 2).

Successes during the period

- Funding has been provided for an additional 467 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics places at local Higher Education providers.
- The I&T Thematic Group reported that Northern Ireland (through DHSSPS and HSC) was one of 13 regions across Europe awarded European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing 3 Star Reference Site status. This was the highest level of award achieved by any Region.
- The prestigious European Business Innovation Network Congress came to Northern Ireland for the first time taking place in Derry/Londonderry from 29-31 May 2013. The Congress, part-sponsored by Invest NI, DEL and DCAL was attended by over 500 delegates from all around Europe.
- The €3.86m ATBEST project, coordinated by QUB with DOE as an associate partner, commenced in July 2013. This Marie Curie Actions FP7 project will develop innovative research and training for the biogas industry in Europe. It comprises eight training sites located in the UK, Ireland, Germany and Sweden and is a multidisciplinary collaboration between internationally-renowned research teams and industrial partners.
- DOE is an Associate Partner in the REPUTE project which was submitted under the INTERREG IVB Atlantic Area Programme. The project aims to create a framework for encouraging innovation in enterprises promoting the use of renewable energy in public transport.
- The TEN-T and Connecting Europe Facility Regulations were published in December 2013. Through continued engagement by DRD over a two-year period, exemptions and flexibilities have been successfully secured which avoid Northern Ireland being forced to make multi-billion Euro investments to meet unnecessary infrastructure standards. In addition, increased opportunities to bid for CEF funding for Northern Ireland's transport network have been negotiated.
- The Ecar team have completed the installation of rapid charge points in NI under the International Green Electric Highways project.
- Two DRD projects have been approved for funding under the DETI Competitiveness and Employment programme during 2013:

- Clean Urban Transport Phase 2: Replacement of Metro and Ulsterbus fleet (£5,110,000 ERDF funds); and
 - The A2 Shore Road to Greenisland (£12,977,000 ERDF funds).
- The Department for Regional Development has been awarded £15M of TEN-T funds to upgrade the A8. 20 delegates from Northern Ireland travelled to Brussels for a Horizon 2020 Health Brokerage Event and information Day in December.
- In December Invest NI, as part of a pan-European Consortium, was successful in securing a £3.2 million European Commission project to build a European Design Innovation Platform (EDIP). The EDIP aims to raise awareness of how design-driven innovation increases efficiency in public services and drives business growth throughout Europe.
- ONIEB have been working hard throughout the year to ensure the office is able to provide the policy and practical support for Ministers, senior officials and Assembly Members to engage with the EU institutions in Brussels to progress the NI Policy Agenda. 14 Ministers and over 30 Assembly members, including representatives from 4 Committees pursued Brussels engagement programmes during the reporting period.
- Invest NI co-hosted a Bio-economy brokerage event in Brussels in January. The event attracted more than 120 researchers from across Europe with 12 project ideas presented and discussed, 3 of which were from Northern Ireland.
- In November DHSSPS established an EIP-Active and Healthy Ageing Reference Site Collaborative Network (RSCN). The RSCN brings together Reference Sites from across Europe in order to share strategy and policy interventions, at government department level to address health and social care priorities along with the alignment of new technologies and care pathways.
- DSD is a partner with the European Volunteering Centre (CEV) volunteering network and is now a partner with CEV and has identified a number of areas with the potential for increasing our engagement with volunteering organisations across Europe.
- The Justice Minister raised the profile of Northern Ireland by attending his first formal Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting in Brussels in December 2013. He got the opportunity to meet officials from Commissioner Malstrom's Cabinet and raised domestically relevant policy issues and justice related European funding. The Minister also met with the European Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinator, who accepted an invitation to visit Northern Ireland. Plans are underway for this visit around EU Anti-Trafficking Day in October 2014.

- The Northern Ireland European Regional Forum (NIERF) has held 3 plenary sessions over the year. Through the NIERF, OFMDFM supported the first EU masterclass in March 2014. Approximately 35 people attended the event including representatives from departments and from the Voluntary and Community Sector.
- On 4th June 2013, OFMDFM Ministers launched the European Centre for Delivering Social Change. The European Centre held its first seminar in Brussels on 26th March 2014 to share best practice and experiences of Delivering Social Change. At the event, NCB NI presented the Child Poverty Outcomes Model. There were also presentations from Eurochild and DG Employ.
- As part of EU Sustainable Energy Week in June 2013 DOE organised two seminars at the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels (ONIEB), one on sustainable energy and transport, the other on sustainable energy and innovation.
- DETI, in partnership with the Department of Business Innovation and Skills, organised Northern Ireland's first ever conference on Smart Specialisation (S3) in October.
- Visiting Arts (as the UK Cultural Contact Point) held an information session in Belfast in November on the new Creative Europe programme and this was followed up with a further Creative Europe event in February to ensure that all interested parties were provided with the latest information on the Creative Europe programme.
- Departments also organised 7 policy seminars throughout the year. Details of these are included in target 2.1.

APPENDIX 1

EUROPEAN PRIORITIES 2013-14 – Targets and ‘RAG’ ratings at 31/03/2014

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|---|--|
| 1 | Fully realise the opportunities which the European Union presents | | | |
| 1.1 | Facilitate drawdown of £12 million competitive EU funds by NI departments between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Departments drew down over £30m competitive EU funds. |
| 1.2 | Facilitate BTWG thematic groups to scope and initiate a benchmarking exercise to assess relative performance in drawing down competitive EU funds against the highest achieving European regions by March 2014. | OFMDFM | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | <p>Benchmarking exercise initiated at the Barroso Task Force Working Group meeting of 12 February with a deadline for completion by all departments of 31 October 2014.</p> <p>Target for completion of exercise will carry forward to the 2014/15 EU Priorities.</p> |
| 1.3 | Secure a secondment of a member of the European Commission’s Task Force to the NI Civil Service by March 2014. | OFMDFM | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | Work in Progress. Currently under consideration in consultation with CHR, including budgetary provision and arrangements for identifying reciprocal secondments. |
| 1.4 | Further relationships with our representatives in Europe, including MEPs and representatives on the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee, to progress EU issues and opportunities. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Regular and frequent contact is maintained with all our MEPs, CoR and EESC representatives with formal meetings scheduled as issues warrant.</p> <p>Contact and briefing is provided on both a regular and an ad hoc basis to MEP’s, representatives of CoR, EESC and others.</p> <p>Officials attended Strasbourg plenaries, provided written and oral briefing to MEP’s on behalf of NI Departments and requested briefing from NI Departments if requested by MEP’s.</p> <p>Officials briefed members of EESC both in Brussels and Belfast. In preparation for the EESC Presidency visit to Belfast (which took place in April 2014 after this reporting period) much of the preparatory work for this high profile delegation visit to Belfast was undertaken in Brussels in February and March 2014.</p> <p>The third ‘Perspectives’ group meeting was held in Belfast in the period.</p> <p>DRD Officials in the newly created EU Transport Policy and Funding Unit completed an introductory visit to Brussels in September. Useful meetings</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | <p>were held with Northern Ireland's MEPs, Commission Officials, UK Rep and Irish Rep. Several follow-up actions have been identified to continue to build on these relationships. The Minister for Regional Development and officials travelled to Helsinki and Estonia to lead an NI delegation attending the TEN-T Info Days 2014. During the visit the Minister met the European Transport Commissioner, MEPs and various key stakeholders in Transport at an EU level.</p> <p>In December, DRD Officials travelled to Brussels attending a TEN-T financial workshop, and engagements with DG Regio and the Swedish Transport Authority. Additionally, officials attended the latest TEN-T funding Call.</p> |
| 2 | Influence and shape future policy. | | | |
| 2.1 | Over the 2013-14 year, facilitate BTWG thematic groups to deliver 6 European policy seminars, including 2 on cross-cutting priority topics, in conjunction with the European Commission Office in Belfast. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>7 policy seminars were delivered during the year. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information seminar on Transversal Study visits – 17 September. • Horizon 2020 workshop – 21 October • Youth Unemployment Policy Seminar – 21/22 November • Seminar to launch Erasmus+ Programme – 4 December • Cross-border / cross regional further education seminar – 29/30 January • European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing and European Service Innovation Centre – partnering with industry, researchers and Europe – 30 January • European Centre for Delivering Social Change – NCB Child Poverty outcomes model and Delivery Social Change – 26 March. |
| 2.2 | Achieve positive policy outcomes in relation to Regional Aid Guidelines, TEN-T/Connecting Europe Facility, Common Agricultural Policy, Eel Recovery and Connected Health in 2013-14; through sustained engagement in OFMDFM Brussels. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | The Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels (ONIEB) has arranged for DETI, DRD, DCAL, DARD and DHSSPS to both make representations at various levels to the European Commission and European Parliament resulting in a greater understanding of the issues that are important to Northern Ireland and in some |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | | | | <p>cases progress to a better policy outcome.</p> <p>The TEN-T and Connecting Europe Facility Regulations were published in December 2013. Through continued engagement by DRD over a two-year period, exemptions and flexibilities have been successfully secured which avoid Northern Ireland being forced to make multi-billion Euro investments to meet unnecessary infrastructure standards. In addition, increased opportunities to bid for CEF funding for Northern Ireland's transport network have been negotiated.</p> <p>In terms of CAP, all delegated acts were passed with terms which were acceptable to DARD following intensive engagement by ONIEB and DARD officials.</p> |
| 2.3 | Provide and deliver customised visits for Executive Ministers during 2013-14 to advance their European policy objectives. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Since April 2013 ONIEB has delivered 14 Ministerial visit programmes. These programmes have been customised to meet individual Ministers' requirements. The Minister for Regional Development travelled to Brussels at the end of June 2013 for the EU Sustainable Energy Week. In October, the Minister for Regional Development travelled to Helsinki and Estonia to lead a NI delegation attending the TEN-T Info Days 2014. During the visit the Minister met the European Transport Commissioner, MEPs and various key stakeholders in Transport at an EU level.</p> |
| 2.4 | Deliver an improved, effective NICS Brussels EU policy study programme by March 2014. | DFP | ACHIEVED | <p>Corporate HR (CHR) commissioned the Centre for Applied Learning to facilitate an EU Study Visit which took place from 17-21 March. Eleven Departments nominated staff ranging from EO1 to Grade 6 for the thirteen places available. CHR sought the views of the BTWG HR Sub Group and conducted an evaluation exercise of previous study visits to improve the 2014 event. The improved programme was very well received by all participants with particular highlights being the sessions delivered by ONIEB staff and the bi-lateral meetings. Positive feedback was received for each of the changes made to the programme, following the evaluation exercise of previous study visits, and future</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|---|
| | | | | <p>programmes will therefore be delivered in the revised format.</p> <p>The cost for the study visit will be met by the EU Central Fund, which all NICS Departments contribute to and is administrated by CHR, under the management of the BTWG HR Sub Group.</p> |
| 3 | Build our positive profile. | | | |
| 3.1 | Offer assistance to the Irish Presidency of the European Union through to June 2013. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>OFMDFM has seconded one member of staff to the Irish Permanent representation and ONIEB has made available office space in Brussels during the Irish Presidency for presidency related meetings.</p> <p>DEL provided staff to the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation in support of the International Labour Organisation conference in Geneva.</p> <p>DOE agreed to the secondment of a member of staff to work with the Irish Presidency team.</p> |
| 3.2 | Deliver at least five events promoting Northern Ireland on the European stage by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>ONIEB has, since April arranged seven cultural events, two exhibitions of original artwork and four policy events.</p> |
| 3.3 | Participate in at least 3 EU themed weeks in Brussels by the end of March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>ONIEB facilitated Departmental and NIERF participation in sustainable energy week.</p> <p>The DOE/DRD Ecar team travelled to Brussels at the end of June 2013 for EU Sustainable Energy Week. The team attended a number of events in addition to presenting at seminars organised by DOE and meeting with local officials. They intend to build on this for next year.</p> <p>DRD and DOE are currently involved in a BATTERIE project event which will culminate in an electric vehicle making a journey to mainland Europe.</p> <p>The NIERF held a workshop on SME engagement in ONIEB which was launched by Minister Hamilton during SME week in November.</p> <p>EU themed week 'Open Days: Cities and Regions' was again supported by ONIEB. Additional events (European Border Regions and Belfast City Council) were facilitated by the office in addition to objective 3.4 below for Open Days 2013.</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|---|--|
| | | | | Preparatory work for Open Days 2014, including forming a new partnership, was undertaken in the period. |
| 3.4 | Facilitate AFBI's participation in a regional partnership in DG Regio's OPEN DAYS week in October 2013, including hosting the partnerships' official seminar in the Executive's Brussels Office. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Open Days took place on 7-10 October 2013. ONIEB co-ordinated NI's involvement with 10 partner regions from across Europe. AFBI's participation was facilitated by ONIEB, with over 100 delegates in attendance at their seminar on the theme of 'Agri-food Innovators'. |
| CE1 | Promote and facilitate mobility | | | |
| CE1.1 | Increase participation by students by a minimum of 7.5% and staff by a minimum of 5% in the Erasmus programme and other lifelong learning programmes (Current Lifelong Learning programme in 2013, and Erasmus+ 2014). | DEL | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL NOT BE PURSUED | <p>Staff mobility increased by 14.7% and exceeded the target. Student study mobility increased by 11.4%, however there was a marginal reduction in student work placement mobility and this had an impact on the overall performance and gave a combined increase of 5.4%. This was below the projected target of 7.5% and was due to a lack of uptake by students.</p> <p>We are engaged in ongoing discussions with our HEI's and University Colleges to improve further on these figures. At a UK Erasmus consultative meeting held in November. DEL officials were informed that since 2007/08 the UK mobility figures have grown by 42%. Northern Ireland mobility figures for growth for this period are the best in the UK at over 60%.</p> |
| CE1.2 | Ensure at least two representatives from NI Higher Education Institutes (HEI's) sit on the European Co-ordination Group. | DEL | ACHIEVED | Representatives from both Queen's University Belfast and St Mary's University College are members of this group along with a representative from DEL Higher Education Policy Branch. The last meeting was held on 17 December 2013. |
| CE1.3 | Work with the Northern Ireland Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) Advisory Group to plan promotional events in 2013-14, helping to secure increased participation in the Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal programmes. | DEL | ACHIEVED | The Lifelong Learning Programme Advisory Group meeting was held in September 2013. Further details of the successor programme Erasmus+ were provided at the meeting. Two well-attended briefing sessions were held in Belfast on 4 th December 2013 to promote the Erasmus+ programme for organisations working in Vocational Education and Training and adult education. |
| CE1.4 | Hold a promotional event in September 2013 to promote the final round of Transversal study visits to policy makers | DEL | ACHIEVED | DEL held a promotional event with Ecorys on 17 th September 2013. The event attracted 20 |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| | and managers in education. | | | delegates representing DEL, the Further Education sector, training organisations and the voluntary sector. Feedback from the event was positive. |
| CE1.5 | In conjunction with the Department for Work and Pensions develop a new Charter for European Employment Services (EURES) delivery by March 2014. | DEL | ACHIEVED | The new EURES charter has been developed. The Department for Employment & Learning and Department for Work and Pensions are formulating implementation and detailed delivery plans for the reformed EURES Services based on the new EURES Charter. The regulation is still due to come into effect in January 2015. Current EURES activities are funded until 31 st December 2014 to ensure a smooth transition to the new EURES Services. |
| CE1.6 | Deliver European Qualifications Framework (EQF) projects through the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and other UK networks. Five EQF projects will be progressed during 2013-14. | DEL | ACHIEVED | <p>All of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) projects have progressed well. Of particular note is the UK EQF international conference which took place in Birmingham on 25/26 February 2014. The Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), on behalf of the UK EQF National Co-ordination Points (NCPs), led on the organisation of this highly successful event which showcased a wide range of UK and EQF initiatives.</p> <p>DEL has articulated the importance of the Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF), in terms of it being referenced to the EQF, to the Office of Qualifications and Examination Regulations (Ofqual), who are conducting a review of the QCF. The QCF, and its linkages to the EQF and The European Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training (EQAVET), are promoted by DEL as key tools in enhancing increased portability of qualifications and quality of provision.</p> |
| CE1.7 | Deliver, through CCEA, a programme of awareness and support for potential Northern Ireland European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training (ECVET) users throughout 2013-14. | DEL | ACHIEVED | CCEA has met with a number of mobility practitioners across NI to provide advice and guidance on incorporating ECVET principles and tools into their mobility projects. |
| CE1.8 | Establish a project group to commence the development of an NI Single Qualifications and Credit Framework which will be referenced to the European Qualifications | DEL | ACHIEVED | Dr Jayne Mitchell of the UK Quality Assurance Agency has agreed to be the Chair of the project group. The QAA have |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|---|--|
| | Framework (EQF) by March 2014. | | | previously carried out work in relation to referencing the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (FHEQ) and the framework for higher education qualification in Scotland. Membership of the team has been finalised and the initial meeting took place in December 2013. |
| CE1.9 | To examine the potential for educational programmes within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and business education spheres to be extended through accessing European funding and through connection to European programmes. | DE | ACHIEVED | Discussions have taken place with DEL regarding the possibility of submitting an application for EU funding through the 2014-2020 ESF Structural Fund to build capacity within DE's existing STEM and Business Education intervention activities. Due to the many demands on the ESF funding stream DEL have had to prioritise activities to ensure the maximum impact is achieved in keeping with EU Commission guidance. Investment under objective 10 of the new Programme will therefore focus on apprenticeship training, seeking to apply the findings of the review of apprenticeship provision currently being undertaken. The Department will continue to monitor other EU projects for suitability as and when these become available. |
| CE2 | Increase the skills profile of the working population | | | |
| CE2.1 | To support the 'Agenda for new skills and jobs' and contribute to the EU employment target for 2020 of having 75% working-age population (20-64 years) in work by delivering 53,000 qualifications in 2013-14. | DEL | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | Data for the 2013-14 academic year will be available in January 2015. An update will be provided when this information is available but analysis of previous data indicates the target will be met on schedule. |
| CE2.2 | Provide funding for an additional 467 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics places at local Higher Education providers by September 2013. | DEL | ACHIEVED | Funding for the 467 additional STEM places has been included in the block grant allocations to the universities and colleges for the 2013-14 academic year. |
| CE2.3 | Provide 15,000 careers guidance interviews to adult clients in 2013-14 | DEL | ACHIEVED | Delivery of 15,000 adult guidance interviews has been exceeded. This has been achieved through raising awareness of career guidance services among DEL colleagues and within community and voluntary organisations. |
| CE3 | Utilise European Social Fund | | | |
| CE3.1 | Through the provision of additional funding, to increase the number of those 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEETs) accessing European Social Funds (ESF) | DEL | ACHIEVED | Currently 507 NEETS young people have availed of Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) funding to help them to access ESF programmes since the |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | scheme was started in October 2012. This is against a projected number of approximately 500. |
| CE4 | Explore the potential of the Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs (COSME) to support NI business growth and competitiveness. | | | |
| CE4.1 | Complete an assessment of the potential value of COSME as an additional source of funding for NI SMEs by 31 December 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | The final assessment was delivered to DETI in the third quarter (November 2013). |
| CE5 | Explore potential funding opportunities for Social Enterprises. | | | |
| CE5.1 | Carry out an assessment of the opportunities and key policies for Social Enterprises in Northern Ireland for the forthcoming programming period 2014-2020 by 31 December 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | The Desk Officer produced a paper on 'Opportunities and Key Policies for Social Enterprises in Northern Ireland' in December 2013. The paper aims to give an overview of the key aspects of this sector in Europe – from a policy perspective, funding perspective, and with key networks that could aid interested enterprises. In going forward DETI will consider the best way to share the findings with relevant stakeholders and representatives such as Social Enterprise NI. |
| CE6 | Explore Trans-European Transport Network funding opportunities. | | | |
| CE6.1 | Consider submission of a TEN-T application in order to bid for EU funding during 2013-14. | DRD | ACHIEVED | The Department for Regional Development has been awarded £15M of TEN-T funds to upgrade the A8. The first payment (approx £4M) was received December 2013. Department for Regional Development Officials attended an Information Day for the latest TEN-T Call for proposals in December 2013. The Department has submitted an application for £2.8m of TEN-T funds towards a study into the development of an Inter-modal transport hub in Belfast. Confirmation on whether the project is successful is likely to be received in the Autumn. |
| CE7 | Prepare for and influence EU decision-making processes in respect of future structural fund programmes, the State aid rules, the Trans-European Network regulations and the associated Connecting Europe Facility. | | | |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|--------------|--|
| CE7.1 | Continue to monitor and, where possible, influence the European Institutions' consideration of the Trans European Network - Transport and Connecting Europe Facility regulations prior to adoption of the final regulations. | DRD | ACHIEVED | The TEN-T and Connecting Europe Facility Regulations were published in December 2013. Through continued engagement by DRD over a two-year period, exemptions and flexibilities have been successfully secured which avoid Northern Ireland being forced to make multi-billion Euro investments to meet unnecessary infrastructure standards. In addition increased opportunities to bid for CEF funding for Northern Ireland's transport network have been negotiated. |
| CE7.2 | Develop the Investment for Growth & Jobs programme in line with the EC timeframe. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Preparation of the ERDF Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme continues in line with the EU Commission timeframe. The ERDF Programme will be submitted to the EC by DFP before end June 2014. Executive approval will also be sought by DFP. Please Note: DETI is the Managing Authority for the ERDF Investment for Growth & Jobs programme, 2014-2020. DEL is the Managing Authority for the ESF Investment for Growth & Jobs programme. |
| CE7.3 | During 2013, ensure the Northern Ireland position is fully reflected in the United Kingdom's interactions with the Commission on the State aid modernisation initiative (i.e. Regional Aid Guidelines, Risk Capital Guidelines, R&D&I Guidelines, de-minimis regulation, General Block Exemption Regulation etc.) | DETI | ACHIEVED | During the year, the NI position on the following State aid rules and regulations was communicated to BIS to help inform the UK's response and position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Aid Guidelines 2014 – 2020; General Block Exemption Regulation for 2014 – 2020; The EC's R&D&I Framework; The de minimis regulation for 2014 – 2020; The EC's Cinema Communication; the functioning and taxation of ports; New procedures for State aid complaints; Environmental and Energy Guidelines 2104 – 2020; The Risk Capital Guidelines for 2014 – 2020; and The Rescue & Restructuring rules. |
| CE8 | Increase level of engagement with Europe. | | | |
| CE8.1 | Hold a seminar in Europe showcasing exemplars of good practice. | DEL | NOT ACHIEVED | A seminar intended to share best practice with the mid-Norway region did not take place due to mid-Norway postponing the |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| | | | | event. |
| CE8.2 | Hold a policy seminar in Belfast highlighting specific policy developments in addressing youth unemployment. | DEL | ACHIEVED | <p>An event focussing on youth unemployment and NEETs in particular was held in November 2013. Those taking part were Senior Commission officials and stakeholders from all over Europe including a number of NEETS individuals themselves. The event was very successful and a paper is being finalised on the outcomes and ways forward.</p> <p>The Department intends to maintain the momentum and plans further engagement with practitioners and NEETs individuals on an ongoing basis in order that the lessons learned can be reflected in DEL policies going forward.</p> |
| CE8.3 | By September 2013, lead on an NI application to a call for "Clusters and Entrepreneurship in Support of Emerging Industries" promoted by DG Enterprise and Industry. This call aims to foster cross-sectoral spill over through better capitalising on cross-cutting technologies and services. | DETI | ACHIEVED | <p>2 applications have been submitted.</p> <p>Invest NI are part of a consortium of 14 partners that has received £3.2m for a project to build a European Design Innovation Platform.</p> |
| CE8.4 | Engage in a process of knowledge exchange with DG Connect on the benefits of ICT Innovation Vouchers" with a view to encouraging NI participation in workshop during the Week of Open Days in October 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | <p>In recent years, Invest NI has developed strong relationships with the Deputy Head of Unit of Innovation at DG Connect and was invited to share Invest NI's experience of operating Management Information Systems (MIS) grants and Innovation vouchers at a 'Dialogue Day for ICT innovation vouchers' on 15 May 2013. The small number of participants was selected carefully by the Commission to exchange knowledge and best practice between regional players and the EC. This was followed up with a presentation from Invest NI during the week of Open Days in October 2013. Both presentations were an opportunity to raise the profile of Northern Ireland to an EU audience.</p> |
| CE8.5 | Explore the educational benefits of international engagement by schools with a view to setting out how existing partnering might be extended and take-up increased. | DE | ACHIEVED | <p>Discussions are continuing with the British Council to examine how increased international engagement by NI schools can be achieved through the new ERASMUS+ programme. A steering group is being established to maximise the impact of the new Erasmus+ programme for education, training, youth and sport and the Department is to be represented on this.</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|--|
| CE9 | Increase partnership links between NI organisations and European organisations. | | | |
| CE9.1 | Identify opportunities and partners by March 2014 | DEL | ACHIEVED | Opportunities and partners were identified, however only one opportunity was suitable to be taken forward. An application was submitted but it was unsuccessful. |
| CE9.2 | Hold a master-class in Northern Ireland on relationship building by March 2014. | DEL | ACHIEVED | <p>DEL, in conjunction with colleagues from Colleges NI, West of Scotland Colleges' Partnership and Institutes of Technology Ireland organised a seminar in Dundalk on 29th and 30th January. The objectives of the seminar were to bring together representatives from the Irish Institutes of Technology and colleges in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) explore funding opportunities available from the Erasmus+, Interreg V, Horizon 2020 and other EU transnational programmes; b) share information on each others' areas of curricular strength with a view to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stimulating thinking on potential collaborative projects that could secure EU funding; and • Create embryonic collaborative partnerships across the four nations to start the process of developing applications and finding other transnational partners to respond to Calls for Proposals under various EU programmes in the period 2014 to 2020. |
| CE9.3 | By March 2014, identify and join networks relevant to promoting Competitiveness and Employment. | DEL | ACHIEVED | The Desk Officer identified possible networks for the Social Enterprise / Economy Sector which were highlighted to appropriate organisations. The ESF Managing Authority is engaged as partners with 3 ESF Learning Networks; Transnationality; Age and Career; and Active inclusion. |
| IT1 | Maximise the drawdown of Horizon 2020 funds for NI by promoting increased participation in EU research, technology and innovation programmes by NI companies, universities, research base and elsewhere in the public sector. | | | |
| IT1.1 | Finalise appointment of an NI Horizon 2020 Contact Point (NICP) Network by the end of October 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Final NICP has been appointed by Queens and will start in June 2014. |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---|
| IT1.2 | Develop a Horizon 2020 communications strategy by the end of June 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Strategy was completed by June 2013. |
| IT1.3 | Develop a NI Horizon 2020 website by the end of August 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Website is in place – www.detini.gov.uk/horizon2020 |
| IT1.4 | Appoint a specific NI Contact Point with responsibility for SMEs by the end of August 2013 | DETI | ACHIEVED | In place. Dr Joanne Coyle (Invest NI) was appointed as UK National Contact Point for SMEs in July 2013. |
| IT1.5 | Organise at least 10 Horizon 2020 workshops by December 2013 | DETI | ACHIEVED | There have been 24 with further workshops being planned into 2014. In Q4, Invest NI promoted Horizon 2020 at two NI events: one with Action Renewables and one with AFBI. |
| IT1.6 | Increase the number of Horizon 2020 evaluators from NI as a continuous process throughout the lifetime of the programme | DETI | ACHIEVED | A new strategy for this has been developed and is being implemented by the network. |
| IT1.7 | Identify additional ways to provide direct support to non Invest NI clients and review the existing support mechanisms by the end of September 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Discussions with RoI counterparts has indicated that support to government agencies and third sector organisations should be the responsibility of parent departments – options are being considered. Invest NI have launched an Innovation Voucher to support Horizon 2020 participation particularly aimed at SMEs with no experience of collaborative R&D. This complements financial assistance available from Invest NI's R&D Project Definition programme. In Q4, Invest NI offered almost £31k to 9 Horizon 2020 participations with closing dates before 31 st March 2014. Further consideration on how to enhance support to potential H2020 applicants is ongoing. |
| IT1.8 | Increase NI representation on EU Research Technology & Innovation groups and committees as a continuous process throughout the lifetime of the programme. | DETI | ACHIEVED | This is an ongoing process and through the activity of the network, progress is being made. |
| IT1.9 | Develop Marie Curie (MC) and European Research Council (ERC) strategies to ensure an enhanced take-up by potential applicants and thereby encourage an increased level activity in comparison with that under FP7 by the end of June 2013. | DEL/DARD | ACHIEVED | All strategies have been developed for ERC and MC by QUB, and UU. |
| IT1.10 | Develop a new NI Horizon 2020 guide by December 2013. | DETI | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | The guide will be completed early 2014/15 and will be published following Executive Committee agreement of the new Northern Ireland Innovation Strategy which will include the Executive's competitive EU funds target from Horizon 2020. |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| IT1.11 | Promote opportunities within Connected Health R&D to local and international businesses throughout 2013-14. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | Funding was provided for HSC researchers to travel to Invest NI brokerage event in Brussels on 10 December. All H2020 opportunities being promoted throughout contact network. H2020 Thematic Lead has been actively making links for proposals in preparation to create opportunities for participation across the sectors. |
| IT1.12 | Work collaboratively, locally and internationally, to improve health and well-being and support sustainable services throughout 2013-14. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | The Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) is leading on an Integrated Care proposal under the Policy Support Programme (PSP ICT7). A number of EU Regions are included as partners on the project. The HSCB is also partnering with other regions in responding to a number of recent health-related H2020 funding calls. Over the course of the year the Department has worked to progress a number of health-related MOUs and underpinning Action Plans with European regions. |
| IT1.13 | Develop a Draft Strategic Policy Framework for Smart Specialisation document to be submitted to the European Commission by June 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | The draft S3 Strategy has been submitted to DG Regio. |
| IT1.14 | Host an EU conference on Smart Specialisation by December 2013. | DETI | ACHIEVED | Conference held on 17 October. Over 60 delegates from across the UK and EU attended. |
| IT1.15 | Promote networking opportunities, and facilitate at least 3 keynote events by March 2014, for local creative and cultural industries to engage with EU businesses, organisations and networks to encourage economic and social innovation. | DCAL | ACHIEVED | <p>In May 2013 DCAL was a principle sponsor (along with Invest NI and Ilex) of the European Business Network (EBN) Congress held for the first time in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The 2013 EBN Congress took place in Derry/Londonderry and was hosted by the Northern Ireland Business and Innovation Centre (NORIBIC).</p> <p>In November 2013 DCAL, together with Invest NI and Belfast City Council, supported the hosting of the Cartoon Finance conference in Belfast. Cartoon is the European Association of Animation Film and is based in Brussels. This annual conference attracted around 250 animation professionals and industry investors from across Europe and promotes industry networks and commercial opportunities.</p> <p>In November 2013 the Arts Council in partnership with Queen's University, hosted a seminar on "Creative Europe –</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|---|--|
| | | | | <i>Gearing up for 2014</i> ". Facilitated by <i>Visiting Arts</i> (as the UK Cultural Contact Point) the event provided an overview of new initiatives for the cultural and creative sectors that come in to effect in 2014 and EU funding opportunities for arts, cultural, heritage and creative projects. Case studies were explored on how to develop applications, build a good project, as well as advice on finding partners across Europe. |
| IT2 | Further engage with the European Union in relation to Agri-Food Sector. | | | |
| IT2.1 | Promote and enhance effective technology and knowledge transfer arrangements in the agri-food sector through involvement in the European Innovation Partnership on Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP) throughout 2013-14. | DARD | ACHIEVED | The follow on to Dairyman is currently being considered for submission to an H2020 call. The Operational Groups being funded under the RDP will support the EIP here as will any multiactor projects or co-ordination and support actions funded under Societal Challenge 2 calls. DARD rep attended the EIP Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability event in January and linkages with the EIP are being further developed. |
| IT2.2 | Explore the scope for NI involvement in the European Innovation Partnership, relevant Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) and European Research Area Networks (ERANETs) by December 2013. | DARD | SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | EIP and EIP operational groups will be part of the new RDP. |
| IT2.3 | Explore the scope for NI involvement in the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) in relation to health, food and raw materials by March 2014. | DARD | ACHIEVED | DARD have continued to gather information. The Agri-food NI Contact Point will continue to work to explore potential for NI involvement to continue. |
| IT2.4 | Provide annual funding of up to £1million to support collaborative R&D and innovation within the agri-food and rural sectors by December 2013. | DARD | ACHIEVED | The £1m was made available this year although the rigorous assessment process meant that not all applications were successful. DARD awarded grant funding of £716k although one applicant later decided not to proceed. DARD is now assessing applications from the latest call and further funding awards will be made in 2014/15. |
| IT3 | Develop a more effective process to support effective collaborations involving health professionals and policy makers in EU bids and encourage the commercialisation and the widespread adoption of research findings related to technology and organisational models in the publicly-funded health sector. | | | |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| IT3.1 | Provide up to a total of £50k throughout 2013-14 within the Health & Social Care (HSC) R&D EU support fund to encourage participation of HSC researchers in EU funding applications, where funds cannot be accessed from other funders. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | Support provided for researchers to travel to a number of meetings in Brussels and other EU regions or to host meetings in NI to develop their funding proposals. Increased numbers of requests are now being received and supported. |
| IT3.2 | Provide information to and receive updates from Health & Social Care Directors, Research Managers and Trust R&D finance leads, covering the full breadth of relevant EU opportunities for funding and partnership, applications submitted and funding secured throughout 2013-14. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | NI H2020 Contact Points meeting research managers and individual HSC researchers on an ongoing basis and liaising with HSC R&D Division and HSC Board on funding proposals in development. Where possible appropriate partners are being identified for studies in preparation. |
| IT3.3 | Provide dedicated staff contact to support the participation of Health & Social Care researchers in EU funding applications in 2013-14. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | In HSC R&D Division, intern has been retained as temporary staff member and will spend 0.5 Whole Time Equivalent on this work, supporting Assistant Director and 0.1 WTE Programme Manager. |
| IT3.4 | Promote knowledge transfer by means of the Health & Social Care R&D Division Knowledge Transfer scheme. Issue a further call by 31 December 2013. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | Further call issued and workshops planned for Q4. Fourteen proposals will go forward for evaluation. |
| IT3.5 | Promote interaction between the Health & Social Care Directors of Research and other Trust stakeholders and the academic commercial sectors in connected health and beyond, holding at least one event by end March 2014. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | EU contact list has been augmented by means of awareness raising event on 19 November and now receiving alerts for H2020 opportunities and other seminars. |
| IT3.6 | Become a European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA) Reference Site by July 2013. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | DHSSPS was awarded 3 Star European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA) Reference Site Status on 1 July 2013. NI was one of 13 Regions across Europe to be awarded this rating. DHSSPS has since established an EIP Reference Site Collaborative Network (RSCN) which currently has 22 Reference Site region members. |
| IT3.7 | Promote and enhance effective technology and knowledge transfer arrangements in the health sector through involvement in the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA). | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | DHSSPS and HSC have made 7 Commitments under the EIP-AHA objectives and are working collaboratively with EU Regions in delivering on the Commission's Action Plan. The potential for effective knowledge transfer will be further enhanced through the RSCN. |
| IT3.8 | Run a series of events through the NI Connected Health Eco-System throughout 2013-14 with the aim of identifying opportunities where innovation and technology can contribute to the delivery of health and social care services. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | Eco-System events were held in June, September and December 2013 and March 2014. In addition, an International Eco-System meeting was held in May and attracted attendees from the US and Europe. |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|--|
| IT3.9 | During 2013/14 explore opportunities for economic development through innovation linked to the health sector arising from the Economy and Jobs Initiative Task and Finish Group Report. | DHSSPS | ACHIEVED | Ministers have endorsed the Task & Finish Group's recommendations and they are now being progressed. A Life and Health Sciences Strategy is under development and should be completed in 2014. Scoping studies have been carried out on the recommended development of a Connected Health Integrated Platform and an International Health Analytics Centre. An Implementation Advisory Group will be established under the direction of the Connected Health and Prosperity Project Board to advise on the actions required to take forward the various recommendations. |
| CC1 | Promote the increased participation of relevant bodies (e.g. Departments, research establishments, NGOs, SMEs etc.) in the European competitive funding process. | | | |
| CC1.1 | Participate in workshop to help develop confidence and capacity to participate in relevant funding programmes by October 2013. | DOE | ACHIEVED | DOE hosted a very successful Horizon 2020 funding workshop on 21 October to provide interested parties with an early look at the new funding stream and provide attendees with the opportunity to network with experts to build confidence and capacity. |
| CC1.2 | Circulate details of calls for projects under relevant European funding programmes to relevant bodies within 5 days of announcement. | DOE | ACHIEVED | A number of calls for a range of funding programmes issued during the year. The DOE Barroso Team circulated all relevant calls within the target of 5 days from announcement. |
| CC1.3 | Support relevant bodies through the sharing of information, access to contacts and provision of resources to assist them in the preparation and submission of at least 6 funding applications by end March 2014. | DOE | ACHIEVED | Meetings have been held with and advice given to various organisations from areas including central and local government, industry, education and the not for profit sector. This support has led to a number of client organisations preparing project proposals and submitting 7 funding applications. |
| CC1.4 | Participate in 3 meetings of the Northern Ireland European Regional Forum during 2013-14. | DOE | ACHIEVED | All 3 meetings held so far this year have been attended by DOE officials. |
| CC2 | Develop our profile as a region of excellence for innovative research and development on climate change and energy. | | | |
| CC2.1 | Participate in the European Business and Innovation Centre Network (EBN) Congress on 29-31 May 2013. | DOE | ACHIEVED | Attended all 3 days of EBN conference, participating in meetings and workshops and manning a stand in the exhibition area to allow for dissemination of information and extensive networking. Follow up contact |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | has been made with several other conference attendees. |
| CC2.2 | Attend / participate in at least 2 European networking events to promote Northern Ireland projects and organisations. | DOE | ACHIEVED | <p>On 16 May officials attended an Intertrade Ireland conference in Dublin. This allowed for collection of information and networking possibilities alongside one to one meetings with members from various areas of industry and education.</p> <p>From 24-26 June DOE organised, attended and presented at a number of seminars in Brussels during EU Sustainable Energy Week. The seminars were designed to showcase NI businesses and innovation around sustainable energy. They were supported by DRD colleagues and the DRD Minister who also attended and spoke at a number of events.</p> <p>On 9 September officials attended a LIFE workshop organised by DEFRA. It was attended by officials from various jurisdictions allowing for networking and promotion of Northern Ireland ideas at the event and via follow up teleconference.</p> <p>On 10 December 2013, DOE officials attended the Irish launch of the Horizon 2020 programme, meeting officials from Enterprise Ireland, Irish Government Departments and other organisations interested in collaboration with organisations in NI.</p> |
| CC3 | Identify opportunities to develop proposals aligned to EU policy that will support the development and delivery of better policies across climate change, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy and sustainability. | | | |
| CC3.1 | Identify a minimum of 10 areas where additional research is necessary to support policy development in respect of climate change, resource efficiency or energy policy by 31 March 2014. | DOE | ACHIEVED | DOE officials have produced a climate change risk assessment from which the 10 areas for potential research may be sourced. Preliminary discussions have been held with partners to share this information and help to develop research topics. |
| CC3.2 | Develop outlines for at least 6 project proposals across climate change, resource efficiency and energy by 31 March 2014 | DOE | ACHIEVED | DOE have assisted a number of organisations to produce 10 relevant project outlines. Where appropriate, these outlines have been circulated to relevant contacts and potential partners. Within DOE, NIEA has (with the other DAs) developed outlines for 3 LIFE Integrated Projects and a |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|--------------|--|
| | | | | number of LIFE Traditional Projects. DOE has also collaborated with other organisations to develop outlines for Horizon 2020 projects and supported project applications under INTERREG IVB. |
| CC3.3 | Identify one potential partner project to improve domestic energy efficiency in the private rented and privately owned sector by 31 March 2014. | DSD | NOT ACHIEVED | Despite efforts to find a suitable project and partner, it did not prove possible to do so within the agreed timescale. |
| CC3.4 | Encourage AFBI to work with their European partners to identify and develop at least one project to improve resource efficiency / resource management in the agriculture sector by 31 March 2014. | DARD | ACHIEVED | AFBI and partners are preparing bids for Horizon 2020 funding that link to resource efficiency in the agriculture sector. |
| CC3.5 | Work with NI Water to identify and explore EU funding opportunities to support potential work in the area of energy efficiency, biodiversity, environmental and flood mitigation. | DRD | ACHIEVED | Regular liaison and meetings have been held with NI Water to identify relevant projects and EU programmes from which funding may be sourced. DRD discussions were held with DFP in May 2013 on potential NI Water projects that would be relevant for inclusion in the INTERREG and Competitiveness programmes for 2014-20. Events and conferences have been attended including the InterTradelreland conference in May 2013 to hear about preparations for Horizon 2020, an Environment and Renewable Energy event in September 2013, Horizon 2020 Workshop in October 2013, and an INTERREG V Technical Working Seminar in December 2013. |
| CC4 | Prepare for and influence EU priorities for new legislation and funding programmes proposed for 2014-20. | | | |
| CC4.1 | Input to and seek to influence priorities for <i>Horizon 2020, LIFE+, INTERREG V and European Social Fund</i> programmes by December 2013. | DOE | ACHIEVED | DOE officials have been providing input and feedback on policy drafts when appropriate. DRD continue to meet with DFP, the Department for Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER), the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTAS) and the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) in order to influence the priorities and Thematic Objectives for the INTERREG V programme, with the aim of the inclusion of Thematic Objective Area 7: Sustainable transport and removing bottlenecks in key network infrastructures. |
| CC4.2 | Develop summaries of the new funding programmes within 2 weeks of their official announcement and distribute to relevant bodies. | DOE | ACHIEVED | The first new funding programme to be officially launched was Horizon 2020, on 11 December 2013. A summary of this programme was prepared and published on 16 December 2013. |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|---|
| CC4.3 | Provide appropriate support to relevant bodies to assist in the preparation of at least 6 project proposals in readiness for the first calls issued under the new funding programmes. | DOE | ACHIEVED | DOE has continued to circulate appropriate information and to meet relevant stakeholders to discuss potential proposals. The department hosted a workshop on Horizon 2020 providing an opportunity for potential project partners to network to further develop projects. DOE officials sit on the H2020 NI Contact Point Network, ensuring that accurate information is received and disseminated in a timely manner. There were 19 referrals for project proposals to be developed as a result of this support. |
| CC5 | Work with the European Union to develop and deliver policies and/or projects relating to reducing congestion and emissions and provide sustainable transport solutions. | | | |
| CC5.1 | Facilitate at least one sustainable transport promotional event by the end of March 2014. | DRD | ACHIEVED | Ecar held ecar DRIVESHOW events in Coleraine, Cookstown, Enniskillen, Newry and Londonderry in March 2014 |
| CC5.2 | With the Electricity Supply Board (ESB), jointly undertake the International Green Electric Highways - Study to assess fast charging infrastructure by 30 September 2014. | DRD | ACHIEVED | Ecar have completed the installation of rapid charge points in NI under the International Green Electric Highways project. A second iteration of the customer survey on attitudes to electric vehicles has been completed. |
| CC5.3 | Work with the Managing Authority and DFP EUD to identify potential projects for the Competitiveness and Employment programme during 2013-14 | DRD | ACHIEVED | Two DRD projects have been approved for funding under the Competitiveness and Employment programme during 2013: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Urban Transport Phase 2: Replacement of Metro and Ulsterbus fleet (£5,110,000 ERDF funds); and • The A2 Shore Road to Greenisland (£12,977,000 ERDF funds). |
| CC6 | Identify key infrastructure projects which align with EU energy policy and funding opportunities and support the delivery of the Strategic Energy Framework. | | | |
| CC6.1 | Work with the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation (NIAUR) in support of Projects of Common Interest (PCIs) proposing investment in Northern Ireland's energy networks during 2013-14. | DETI | ACHIEVED | DETI actively supported seven potential PCI projects – 4 within the electricity field and 3 related to natural gas. This support saw all seven make it on to the Commission's PCI list which was published on the Commission's website in October 2013. |
| CC7 | Continue to build capacity to improve access to the European institutions and elective funding opportunities through engagement by officials and Ministers. | | | |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|--------------|---|
| CC7.1 | Arrange at least one visit by Minister of the Environment to Brussels by March 2014. | DOE | NOT ACHIEVED | DOE is actively seeking appropriate opportunities for a Ministerial visit and is confident of arranging a visit within the year. |
| SC1 | Through the development of the European Centre for Delivering Social Change, promote and facilitate increased participation in competitive European funding streams and relevant EU policy among social cohesion stakeholders in government, the community and voluntary sector, academia, and the private sector. | | | |
| SC1.1 | Attend at least three international conferences in areas relevant to social cohesion and European funding/policy by March 2014. Where possible, arrange for Northern Ireland experts to be speakers. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>8 International Conferences attended in the areas of Social Investment, Creative Europe, Social Innovation and Lifelong Learning. Of particular interest, the Desk Officer attended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Convention of the Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion • The Creative Forum – Creative Industries and EU Funding • The Irish presidency's conference on the Social Investment Package • An international conference on Social Entrepreneurship • The Lifelong Learning 2013 Information Day. <p>There were no Northern Ireland experts involved as speakers in the conferences</p> |
| SC1.2 | Hold regular workshops through 2013 and 2014 in Northern Ireland to circulate the opportunities available in Europe and promote the support available through the Barroso Task Force. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>This was carried out through NIERF meetings with input from Desk Officers and other relevant sources. OFMDFM and Belfast City Council have reformatted NIERF sessions to provide more targeted information through workshops/master classes.</p> <p>The first NIERF masterclass was held on 21st March. This event targeted those organisations with little or no experience of applying for EU Competitive Funds.</p> <p>There were 3 NIERF plenary sessions during the year.</p> |
| SC1.3 | Continue to develop the European Centre for Delivering Social Change in conjunction with Queens University Belfast and the University of Ulster by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Ministers launched the Centre in June 2013.</p> <p>Two workshops have taken place in conjunction with the universities and relevant departments; the first considered Educational Attainment and the second considered</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | Unemployment and Economic Activity in those aged over 45. |
| SC2 | Prepare for the introduction of the new 2014-20 competitive funding programmes, targeting Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes. | | | |
| SC2.1 | Produce a summary paper analysing the future of EU funding relating to social cohesion from 2014 to 2020 for regional stakeholders by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | A paper has been completed and shared with the Committee. |
| SC2.2 | Analyse proposals for new competitive funding streams relevant to social cohesion, and delivering social change. Identify key themes, opportunities and any amendments required by social cohesion stakeholders by March 2014 | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | The regulations have mostly been released and analysis has been completed for Creative Europe, H2020 and Erasmus+. EaSI has yet to be released. |
| SC2.3 | Disseminate summary documents on the Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation and the Horizon 2020 Programmes to the social cohesion communication network by March 2014 | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | A summary paper has been produced analysing EU funding streams relating to the social theme and competitive funding opportunities have been highlighted. A summary bulletin has been disseminated through NIERF. The ONIEB has begun to collate funding calls and event information and circulate this to BTWG members for info. This will also be disseminated to NIERF. |
| SC2.4 | Investigate developing a web portal to disseminate funding opportunities to the widest possible audience in conjunction with the NIERF by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | A limited web presence is currently in place through the Belfast City Council (http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/business/investinginbelfast/nierf/nierf-about.aspx) This will be developed further once the EU Capacity Fund resources are in place. |
| SC3 | Provide advice, guidance and support to organisations and stakeholders involved in applying for European funding or influencing policy decisions throughout 2013-14, targeting Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes. | | | |
| SC3.1 | Help organisations applying for European funding to find partners by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | This is ongoing work but there have been a number of successful instances of finding partners for NI led transnational projects. For example, the PSNI has been put in touch with partners in the Czech Republic and Flanders. Three organisations in total have found partners through the office. |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | Others have been helped, but have not subsequently applied for funding. |
| SC3.2 | Attend at least 3 relevant Brussels-based information events relating to funding programmes relevant to social cohesion by end March 2014 and communicate information derived from these to relevant stakeholders. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Three information events have been attended; one on Creative Europe, one on Social Entrepreneurship in Strasbourg and one on Horizon 2020. |
| SC3.3 | Consider proposals for funding for those projects which have met all the necessary conditions for European funding but currently lack match funding by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Ministers have agreed to the establishment of a European Capacity Building Fund, which will include a provision for match funding. Agreement has been reached with Belfast City Council on how this will be managed and discussions continue with how the fund will be implemented by end June 2014.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference for the fund will be available once they are finalised with Belfast City Council.</p> |
| SC4 | Build capacity amongst organisations involved in social cohesion with limited or no experience of working with the European Union, targeting Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes. | | | |
| SC4.1 | Organise at least two events throughout the year to make stakeholders aware of existing avenues of support and advice on EU matters by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>The dissemination of information regarding available support and advice on EU matters. Three NIERF meetings have been held (two in Belfast and one in Craigavon) to share information with stakeholders. This has been further supported by the availability of information via the NIERF web presence.</p> <p>NIERF sessions have been changed to a workshop-style format. The first masterclass for organisations with little or no experience of applying for competitive EU Funding programmes was held on 21 March 2014.</p> |
| SC4.2 | Explore the creation of a financial resource to support organisations in the community and voluntary sector with limited resources to visit Brussels and pursue funding opportunities by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Ministers have agreed to the establishment of a European Capacity Building Fund, which will include a provision for gap funding. Agreement has been reached with Belfast City Council on how this will be managed and discussions continue with how the fund will be implemented by end June 2014.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference for the fund will be available once they are finalised with Belfast City Council.</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| SC4.3 | Manage and support the Justice Network throughout 2013-14 to identify and disseminate funding opportunities. | DOJ | ACHIEVED | <p>The Department has continued to inform the Justice Network of funding opportunities and supports its efforts in applying for European funding despite the limited opportunities available in this transition year. Much emphasis on information sharing has been on preparation for the new opportunities available in the new budget period 2014-20.</p> <p>During his first official visit to Brussels in December 2013, the Justice Minister represented views of the Justice Network by highlighting the lack of human trafficking proposals in the forthcoming Horizon 2020 calls, when he met with the European Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.</p> |
| SC4.4 | Organise one event with the Youth Council for Northern Ireland by the end of September 2013 to publicise the Youth in Action Programme to organisations working in the most disadvantaged areas. | DSD | ACHIEVED | <p>DSD in partnership with the Youth Council for Northern Ireland held an Information morning on 3 September 2013 in Grosvenor House, Glengall Street, Belfast to publicise the Youth in Action Programme. Over 60 key representatives from Voluntary and Community organisations attended the event.</p> |
| SC4.5 | Explore and identify funding opportunities through the Creative Europe Funding Stream. | DCAL | ACHIEVED | <p>Work is ongoing to identify funding opportunities through the Creative Europe funding stream and the Department has made contact with the British Council, the National Agency in that regard.</p> <p>In November 2013, Visiting Arts held an information session in Belfast on the new Creative Europe programme. The event was organised and hosted by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in partnership with Queens University Belfast.</p> <p>In February 2014, an additional Creative Europe event was held in Belfast to ensure that all interested parties were provided with the latest information on the Creative Europe programme ahead of the first deadlines in March 2014. The British Council's Head of the interim Creative Europe Desk facilitated the event and provided expert opinion on the day. In addition, one to one 'surgery' sessions were held to provide detailed advice and assistance to those organisations from Northern Ireland at a relatively advanced stage in the development of an application under the Creative Europe programme.</p> |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|-----------------|---|
| | | | | DCMS has appointed the British Film Institute and the British Council as the designated UK National Agency for Creative Europe. These two parties will form a consortium of delivery partners for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to deliver the suite of services of the Creative Europe Desk. In Northern Ireland that role will be performed by a dedicated post based at the Arts Council which will explore and identify funding opportunities through Creative Europe and other EU programmes. The delivery arrangements for the new Creative Europe Desk for the UK will be finalised at the beginning of the 2014/15 performance year. A Co-operation Agreement has been developed (signed by all delivery partners) and submitted to Brussels in accordance with the 31 st March 2014 deadline. |
| SC5 | Increase engagement with the European institutions and key European networks by March 2014 in relation to delivering social change and the Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes. | | | |
| SC5.1 | Organise full programmes for two Executive Ministers to visit Brussels and engage with the European Commission, MEPs and other essential contacts by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Full programmes organised for OFMDFM Junior Minister's for their 24/25 June visit. The Ministers met with senior officials and advisers from DG Connect to discuss cyber-bullying and also received a briefing on the 3 rd Annual Convention of the Platform Against Poverty. Minister Ford attended Council on 5/6 December. Outside the formal Council event, the Minister also met with Commissioner Malmstrom's Cabinet to discuss justice negotiations and also met with Myria Vassiliadou, the EU's Anti Human Trafficking Co-ordinator. |
| SC5.2 | Engage with key European networks connected to Erasmus+, Horizon 2020, Social Change and Innovation and Creative Europe to prepare for the 2014-2020 funding period. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Up-to-date information on EU Programmes is being collated by and disseminated via the NIERF. This is carried out through plenary sessions, with supplementary information made available via the NIERF online presence. We have also subscribed to the European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN) and made contacts within Eurochild. |
| SC5.3 | Join one anti-poverty or one volunteering network by March 2014. | DSD | ACHIEVED | The Departments application to join the European Volunteering Centre (CEV) volunteering |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|--|------------|------------|--|
| | | | | network has been successful and DSD is now a partner with CEV. This is in line with its commitment under the Barroso Task Force Implementation Plan". |
| SC5.4 | Meet with one office of another European Region to identify opportunities for partnership working to identify possible funding opportunities in the areas of Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Successful meetings held with the Basque Region, the Irish Regional Office, Ile de France, Picardie, the Skane region and West Midlands. Each of the regions has agreed to share information about new projects in their areas which have a social cohesion aspect. Meetings with the Social Innovation Factory have also proved successful and contacts have offered to share examples of their work with future potential identified for working together. |
| SC6 | Enhance the region's profile as a region with expertise in innovative practices in the area of social cohesion relating to areas of delivering social change. | | | |
| SC6.1 | Hold at least one event in Brussels to showcase examples of best practice and innovation in relation to social cohesion and delivering social change by March 2014 | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | A European Centre for Delivering Social Change event was held in the Brussels office on 26 March, in collaboration with NCB NI. At the event, NCB NI presented the Child Poverty Outcomes model. Information on the Delivering Social Change framework was presented. Representatives from Eurochild and DG Employ also delivered presentations. |
| SC6.2 | Host an event in conjunction with the European Commission to tie in with the European Year of the Citizen by December 2013. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | OFMDFM was involved with a workshop organised as part of the ESF NEETs conference hosted by DEL on 21-22 November. Junior Minister McCann addressed the conference on the issue of NEETs and highlighted the importance of the European Year of the Citizen and the engagement of young people with the opportunities available in the EU. Donald Storrie from Eurofound also attended to present on youth unemployment. The event was attended by over 250 delegates from a wide range of stakeholders, from organisations from Northern Ireland and from across Europe. |
| SC6.3 | Encourage at least ten groups from Northern Ireland who are interested in accessing EU funding to visit Brussels and organise meetings with relevant Commission officials and other EU contacts by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | Visits were organised/ facilitated by the social liaison officer for 25 groups during the year. Due to the new funding period about to commence, an overview of all funding opportunities for 2014-2020 were discussed with all groups in order to illustrate |

| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|---------------------------|---|------------|---|---|
| | | | | potential funding streams available to them. |
| SC6.4 | Share our experience of conflict resolution to assist others by disseminating the upcoming book, <i>the Story of Peace</i> , an account of the development and process of the three EU PEACE Programmes to date, throughout European networks by December 2013. | DFP | SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | SEUPB have finalised <i>the Story of Peace</i> . Will soon be made available on their website – and in hard copy format on demand. |
| SC7 | Track and report information on relevant EU funding opportunities and policy developments on relevant funding programmes, including Erasmus+, Creative Europe, Social Change and Innovation, and Horizon 2020 Programmes. | | | |
| SC7.1 | Issue a bi-monthly newsletter setting out relevant funding opportunities and policy developments relevant to social cohesion to NIERF members and those organisations who have asked to receive funding updates. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>The first newsletter was disseminated via NIERF in March 2014 now that most new funding streams and calls are online. Since the departure of the Social Cohesion Desk Officer in February, staff in ONIEB have been circulating regular email updates on funding opportunities and up-and-coming events.</p> <p>This will be supported by the new Liaison Officer once in post.</p> |
| SC7.2 | Hold a funding master class for the community and voluntary sector with examples drawn from organisations that have successfully accessed EU funding by March 2014. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>The NIERF held a masterclass for beginners in EU funding for the voluntary and community sector organisations on 21 March 2014.</p> <p>Representatives from OFMDFM, DEL, PSNI and Gingerbread gave presentations providing a background to a range of funding streams and sharing advice and guidance on successfully applying for funding.</p> |
| SC7.3 | Maintain and regularly update a detailed database of organisations involved or interested in European funding opportunities | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>A database has been compiled which is made up of details of all organisations with a registered interest/membership in NIERF. This enables appropriate and relevant information regarding EU funding opportunities to be circulated.</p> <p>OFMDFM continues to encourage interested organisations to join the NIERF. Any new details are passed to BCC for inclusion on the database/mailling list.</p> |
| SC7.4 | Maintain and regularly update a detailed database of current and future applications for European funding. | OFMDFM | ACHIEVED | <p>Current applications are currently tracked and monitored via the NIERF. However this relies on organisations notifying the NIERF of applications submitted.</p> <p>Once additional resources are in</p> |

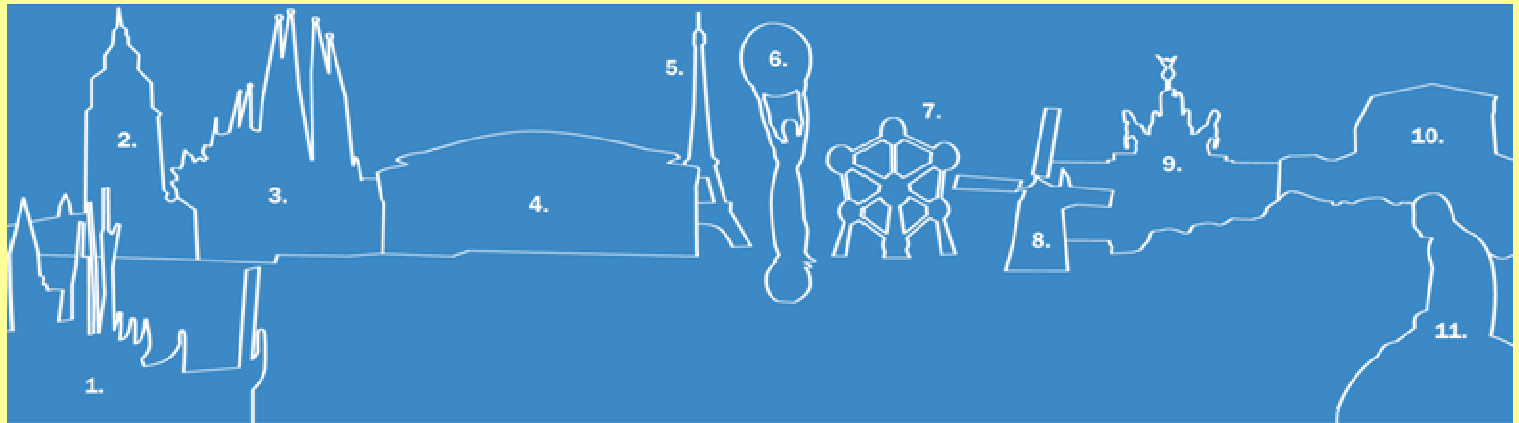
| OBJECTIVE / TARGET NUMBER | TITLE OF OBJECTIVE / TARGET | LEAD DEPT. | RAG RATING | EXPLANATION FOR ASSIGNED RAG RATING |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | | | | place through the EU Capacity Building Fund this will allow a more proactive approach to capturing information on other applications. |

APPENDIX 2

EUROPEAN PRIORITIES 2013-14 –Commentary on Targets not fully achieved

| Target No. (Lead Dept) | TITLE | RAG RATING | DEPARTMENTAL NARRATIVE |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1.2 (OFMDFM) | Facilitate BTWG thematic groups to scope and initiate a benchmarking exercise to assess relative performance in drawing down competitive EU funds against the highest achieving European regions by March 2014. | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | <p>Benchmarking exercise initiated at the Barroso Task Force Working Group meeting of 12 February with a deadline for completion by all departments of 31 October 2014.</p> <p>Departments are now assessing relative performance against nine competitive EU funding streams that constitute the majority of drawdown against the 20% target. However the work has not been straightforward. Departments have cited the following difficulties when attempting to carry out benchmarking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of availability of quality data to make regional/national comparisons; • Disparities in data leading to concerns about integrity; • Majority of information is held at Member State level and not disaggregated; • Access to information at EU level not available to those departments who are not the 'managing authority'; and • Absence of an agreed methodology and approach for benchmarking. <p>Moving forward, departments have commented that benchmarking should be based on qualitative as well as quantitative data.</p> <p>Target for completion of exercise will carry forward to the 2014/15 EU Priorities.</p> |
| 1.3 (OFMDFM) | Secure a secondment of a member of the European Commission's Task Force to the NI Civil Service by March 2014. | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | <p>Progress had been made, with a candidate identified by the Commission and progress towards agreeing a role within NICS, however the candidate was not able to take up the post.</p> <p>The proposal for a secondment remains a target, with progress continuing after this unexpected delay.</p> |
| CE1.1 (DEL) | Increase participation by students by a minimum of 7.5% and staff by a minimum of 5% in the Erasmus programme and other lifelong learning programmes (Current Lifelong Learning programme in 2013, and Erasmus+ 2014). | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL NOT BE PURSUED | The Erasmus programme was actively promoted by the British Council and the HEIs and this has resulted in increased staff and student mobility. However due to a lack of uptake by students the increase in student mobility was less than projected. |
| CE2.1 (DEL) | To support the 'Agenda for new skills and jobs' and contribute to the EU employment target for 2020 of having 75% working-age population (20-64 years) in work by delivering 53,000 qualifications in 2013-14. | SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | CE 2.1 refers to a qualifications target for which there is currently no data. The data for qualifications in 2013/14 won't be available until early 2015 and we therefore put the RAG rating as Amber/Green. We do expect the target to be met. |
| CE8.1 (DEL) | Hold a seminar in Europe showcasing exemplars of good practice. | NOT ACHIEVED | The Desk Officer in ONIEB has advised that the Norwegian seminar will no longer take place due to Norway cancelling the event. The Desk Officer is exploring alternative dates. |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| IT1.10 (DETI) | Develop a new NI Horizon 2020 guide by December 2013. | SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | Production of the new H2020 Guide has been delayed due to inability of QUB to find a suitably qualified candidate. The Guide needs to have contact details of all Contact Points. Following the third re-advertisement of the position a suitable candidate has now been appointed. The Guide will now be published in June 2014. |
| IT2.2 (DARD) | Explore the scope for NI involvement in the European Innovation Partnership, relevant Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) and European Research Area Networks (ERANETs) by December 2013. | SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | EIP and EIP operational groups will be part of the new RDP. DARD have continued to gather information in relation to JPIs and ERANET although scope for NI involvement in JPIs may be limited as they are managed at UK level. |
| CC 3.3 (DSD) | Identify one potential partner project to improve domestic energy efficiency in the private rented and privately owned sector by 31 March 2014. | NOT ACHIEVED | Despite strenuous efforts to identify suitable projects and partners within the private rented and privately owned sectors, it has not proved possible to do so during this financial year. |
| CC 7.1 (DOE) | Arrange at least one visit by Minister of the Environment to Brussels by March 2014. | NOT ACHIEVED | Unfortunately, due to Assembly and constituency business it did not prove possible to identify an appropriate opportunity for a Ministerial visit within 2013-14. It is hoped that such an opportunity can be identified early in the new financial year. |
| SC 6.4 (DFP) | Share our experience of conflict resolution to assist others by disseminating the upcoming book, <i>the Story of Peace</i> , an account of the development and process of the three EU PEACE Programmes to date, throughout European networks by December 2013. | SUBSTANTIVELY ACHIEVED – OUTSTANDING PROGRESS WILL BE PURSUED | DFP have continued to follow this up periodically. SEUPB cited failure to achieve agreement between themselves and their consultants as the cause of the delay. However, these obstacles have been overcome, and the booklet is completed. A number of editorial amendments have been requested by SEUPB of their design company, and the finalised booklet is expected back shortly. |



Cover Key:

1. Gondolas, Venice; 2. Town Hall, Krakow; 3. Sagrada Família, Barcelona; 4. Waterfront Hall, Belfast;
5. Eiffel Tower, Paris; 6. Circle of Thanksgiving, Belfast; 7. Atomium, Heysel, Brussels; 8. Windmill, Netherlands;
9. Brandenburg Gate, Berlin ; 10. The Parthenon, Athens; 11. The Little Mermaid, Copenhagen.

If this document is not in a format that meets your requirements, please contact:

Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister
European Policy and co-ordination Unit
Room E5.27, Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3SR
Email: info.europe@ofmdfni.gov.uk
Telephone: (028) 9052 3125