
Mark H Durkan MLA
Minister of the Environment
Goodwood House, 44 - 58 May Street,
Town Parks, Belfast BT1 4NN

Fearghal McKinney MLA
Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont

AQW 53915/11-16

Fearghal McKinney MLA has asked:

To ask the Minister of the Environment (i) to detail the (a) matched; and (b) unmatched European Union funding his Department has sourced in each of the last ten years; and (ii) where this money was spent.

ANSWER

Over the last ten years, my Department successfully sourced additional funding from the main EU structural programmes; Interreg IIIA, Interreg IVA and the Building Sustainable Prosperity (BSP) scheme. The BSP and Interreg IIIA programmes are now closed and the Interreg IVA programme will close within the next few months, to be replaced by the new Interreg VA programme.

Details of the funding relating to these programmes, matched and EU, over the financial years 2006/07 – 2015/16 (inclusive), have been placed in the assembly library.

These EU funding programmes assisted in the delivery of a range of key environmental outcomes, mainly through waste and water related projects, and

also contributed to the promotion and awareness on environmental issues in relation to school children, providing education and information to the next generation.

Details of the projects for the Interreg IVA, Interreg IIIA and the BSP programmes have also been placed in the assembly library.

The tables for both the Interreg IIIA and the BSP programmes provide details of the projects over the period 2000-2006 as both these schemes ended in 2006. However, there was some residual expenditure relating to both of these programmes over the following three financial years to 2008/09. A list of all the projects funded under these programmes has also been placed in the library.



Signed:

Mark H Durkan MLA

26/02/16

Date:

**Table 1 - EU Structural Funding Expenditure
Last 10 Years**

EU Grant Programme	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07	TOTAL
Interreg IVa - Match Funding	£79,523	£440,767	£763,572	£760,484	£472,810	£36,326	£0	£0	£0	£0	£2,553,482
Interreg Iva - EU Element	£238,568	£1,322,303	£2,289,715	£2,282,453	£1,418,431	£108,977	£0	£0	£0	£0	£7,660,447
Interreg IIIa - Match Funding	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£237,192	£391,333	£177,081	£805,606
Interreg IIIa - EU Element	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£711,576	£1,173,997	£531,248	£2,416,821
BSP - Match Funding	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£4,184	£40,950	£86,106	£131,240
BSP - EU Element	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£11,962	£115,028	£257,444	£384,434
Total (Match Funding)	£79,523	£440,767	£763,572	£760,484	£472,810	£36,326	£0	£241,376	£432,283	£263,187	£3,490,328
Total (EU Element)	£238,568	£1,322,303	£2,289,715	£2,282,453	£1,418,431	£108,977	£0	£723,538	£1,289,025	£788,692	£10,461,702
Total (Gross spend)	£318,091	£1,763,070	£3,053,287	£3,042,937	£1,891,241	£145,303	£0	£964,914	£1,721,308	£1,051,879	£13,952,030

TABLE 2: INTERREG IVA (2007-2013)

Project Name	Lead Partner	Project description	Project Area
Agricultural Need for Sustainable Willow Effluent Recycling (ANSWER)	Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute	The project examined the potential to use short rotation coppice (SRC) willow to help clean up organic waste and wastewater, whilst also being used to produce renewable bio-energy.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Controlling invasive riparian plants and restoring native biodiversity	Queen's University Belfast	The project aimed to control and if possible eradicate harmful invasive plant species from river catchment areas in Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.
Development of targeted ecological modelling tools for lake management (DOLMANT)	Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute	The DOLMANT Project aimed to develop lake management tools that integrate the biological, hydromorphological and physiochemical properties of lakes with lake and lake catchment variables to improve and maintain the ecological status of lakes.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Halting Environmental Loss Project (HELP)	RSPB (NI)	The aim of the HELP project was to improve habitats for a range of priority species that have undergone severe declines in number and range.	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.
Integrated Aquatic Resources Management Between Ireland, NI and Scotland (IBIS)	Loughs Agency/SCENE, University of Glasgow/C-MAR, QUB	The project aimed to protect aquatic resources across Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.
Hydrographic Survey Project (INIS Hydro)	Maritime and Coastguard Agency	The project aimed to produce a standardised hydrographic survey specification and accurate high-resolution bathymetric datasets for seven important seabed areas to the east of Ireland/Northern Ireland and off the west coast of Scotland.	Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.
Practical Implementation of Freshwater Pearl Mussel measures	Donegal County Council	The project aimed to tackle the decline in the population of freshwater pearl mussels in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Tellus Border	Geological Survey of Northern Ireland	Tellus Border was a mapping project which was designed to collect geo-environmental data on soils, water and rocks across six border counties in Ireland – Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Monaghan and Louth alongside continuing analysis of existing data within this field in Northern Ireland.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

TABLE 3: INTERREG IIIA (2000-2006)

Project Name	Lead Partner	Project description	Project Area
NS SHARE Project	Derry City Council	The purpose of the project was to strengthen inter-regional capacity for environmental monitoring and management, to improve public awareness and participation in water management issues and to develop a number of river basin management strategies for cross border waters based on best practice in river basin management planning.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Lough Melvin Nutrient Reduction Programme	Queen's University Belfast	A programme to identify the amount of phosphorus currently entering Lough Melvin, and to initiate engagement and incentives for reduction measures.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Definition and mitigation of excessive multi-source nutrient loss to freshwater	University of Ulster	The project defined the multi-source nature of nutrient transfer in agricultural river catchments and implement mitigation measures under the terms of the Water Framework Directive.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
A framework for the management of forest impacts on upland lakes	Agricultural and Environmental Science Department	Over a forest cycle of 40 years, upland lakes in southwest Ulster experience a number of potentially deleterious biological impacts associated with tree planting, fertilisation and timber harvesting. Their impact was investigated by contemporary investigations of water quality and by assessing changes in the composition of lake sediments.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Strategic Planning for Cross Border Waste management	Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) Ltd	The project undertook research to assist address the current lack of cross border waste management strategic planning.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Producer Waste Awareness	North West Institute of Further & Higher Education (NWIFHE)	The North West Institute of Further and Higher Education, in association with Letterkenny Institute of Technology, delivered a series of one-day courses to waste producers in the border region, offering training in waste minimisation, safety and environmental concerns.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Water Quality Monitoring Buoys	The Loughs Agency	The project purchased and installed four additional telemetry systems in the Foyle and Carlingford catchments. These systems were used to gather information on a number of environmental parameters.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Fish Counter - Strule River	The Loughs Agency	This project provided a fish counting station of the River Strule at Omagh.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Inshore Patrol Vessel - Carlingford	The Loughs Agency	The provision of an inshore patrol vessel to monitor, protect and conserve the fisheries and their environment in Carlingford Lough.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Tagging and Detection Unit	The Loughs Agency	The project involved the purchase of three coded wire tagging units (CWT) and four detection units for the marking of juvenile salmon as they are migrating from the river to their feeding grounds as smolts.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Combined Fishery Enhancement and Management Programme	Fisheries Conservancy Board NI	The project established salmon spawning targets, locally, regionally and at national level and ensure that sufficient adult salmon are available to spawn and maximise the smolt output from freshwater. The four essential elements of the plan include: collection of habitat data, adult counts, juvenile surveys and exploitation data.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Fish Surveying echo-sounders (Acoustic monitoring of fish)	Dept of Agriculture for NI, AFESD, Aquatic Systems Branch	The project carried out quantitative acoustic (echo-sounder) survey of fish populations in Lough Erne, specifically by funding investment in the latest generation of portable computer based scientific equipment.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

Project Name	Lead Partner	Project description	Project Area
populations in cross-border catchments)			
Pilot project to track Shellfishery vessels (Fisheries Division – Aqua-Conservation project)	Fisheries Division, DARD NI	The Fisheries Aqua-Conservation Project's was designed to protect and promote environmental integrity through more effective management of coastal and inland waters and the activities which may have an effect on it.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Cross Border Waste Awareness Action Campaign	Department of Environment	A high profile TV and media advertising campaign to raise awareness at public and business levels of the need to reduce the volume of waste going to landfill and to treat waste as a resource which can be recycled into useful products.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
Seabed Mapping Data Project	Maritime & Coastguard Agency	To provide comprehensive multibeam bathymetry data over the prioritised area within the 3 nautical mile coastal strip between Donegal Bay and Dundalk Bay.	Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

Table 4 – Building Sustainable Prosperity (2000-2006):

Recipient	Project Title	Project Description
COD International Ltd, Dungannon	Waste Management for refrigerated products	Monitoring data in relation to fridges recycled and gases collected.
Conservation Volunteers NI	Habitat Management Training Programme	General training on environmental issues.
MAGNI (National Museums and Galleries of NI)	Habitas - the next developmental phase	1. Biodiversity Trail created at Ulster American Folk Park. 2. Invertebrate Ireland website created on Habitas website . 3.
University of Ulster	Enhanced natural attenuation of hydrocarbon contaminated land	Research of assistance to academics.
Queens University Belfast	Conservation of genetics of NI seagrass bed	QUERCUS Report; Conservation Genetics of Northern Ireland seagrass beds 04-06;
Queens University Belfast	Conservation genetics of NI peat bogs	QUERCUS Project
ARENA Network (Business in the Community)	Helping Hands	Raising environmental awareness through community groups and businesses.
Queens University Belfast	Refinement of a novel method for measuring reparation in surface waters	Paper published in Water & Environment Journal, Vol 21, Issue 3, September 2007.
Mourne Heritage Trust	Mourne Interpretation & information strategy	Enhanced educational understanding of the Mourne environment and production and distribution of interpretative publications.
Antrim BC	Provision of worm bins in schools in Antrim Borough	Production of recycling, research and waste information
Queens University Belfast	Molecular basis for a species action plan for the red alga Ahnfeltiopsis	Draft scientific paper circulated for publication in peer reviewed scientific publication.
MAGNI (National Museums and Galleries of NI)	Sponge Biodiversity on Rathlin Island	Published as a book by EHS.
NI2000	Rare Earth	Drama production for children to encourage the appreciation of sustainable environment principles by children across NI.
CONSARC	The Natural Stone Database	This project has delivered information which can be used by architects, builders, archaeologists and the general public.