



Together from ideas to innovation

Rethinking your products and services is the key to unlocking commercial success. Discover how today:

intertradeireland.com/innovation

 **InterTradeIreland**

How we can help

- Business Explorer
- Innovation Boost
 - Synergy
- US-Ireland R&D Partnership

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Business Explorer

The Business Explorer programme provides support by funding a suitable academic professional or industry specialist to work with an SME to explore innovative solutions to business challenges or innovative techniques to develop an idea further. The programme is a pathway of support that will continue to fund the academic/industry specialist to support the business to take their findings to create a plan to adapt the solution into the business, therefore nurturing a culture of innovation.

The Business Explorer pathway of academic or industry specialist support is provided over two programmes:

Explore – Investigate a problem or new idea = £5,000/€5,813 + VAT

Plan – Take the findings and develop a plan to implement = £20,000/€23,265 + VAT

Innovation Boost

Product development and innovation is at the heart of growth but often needs costly technology support. InterTradeIreland's Innovation Boost programme can provide that support by helping to fund a high calibre science, engineering or technology graduate, and partnering you with a third level institution with specific expertise. The graduate is based in your company with mentoring from the academic partner and the InterTradeIreland Innovation Boost consultant.

You can choose an 18-month project (typically for new product or service development) or a 12-month project (typically for process improvement) depending on your company's needs. Funding is available up to £56,000/€67,900 for 18-month projects, and up to £39,000/€47,400 for 12-month projects.





Innovation Boost Business to Business

InterTradelreland also supports the development of collaborative and innovative cross-border business to business partnerships, where two or more businesses partner to develop a solution to a problem, develop a new product or improve a process.

Providing support for up to £50,000 per partner which is 50% match funded by the business, the cross-border business to business collaborative innovation projects must align with InterTradelreland corporate objectives, offering real value to participants and supporting the development and integration of new knowledge, processes and expertise.

US-Ireland R&D Partnership

InterTradelreland supports scientists and engineers from Ireland, Northern Ireland and the United States to form collaborative partnerships that will advance research interests and economic development.

The partnerships assist in the areas of:

- Agriculture
- Health
- Nanoscale science and engineering
- Sensors and sensor networks
- Telecommunications
- Energy and Sustainability
- Cyber Security

Synergy

Working with clusters and networks across Ireland and Northern Ireland provides SMEs with many benefits, including; matchmaking opportunities, up-skilling staff, cross fertilisation of ideas, sharing experiences and new product/ service development. InterTradelreland can provide advice and funding to link clusters and networks across the island.

Thrive-SME Innovation Programme

The Thrive SME Innovation Programme is an InterTradelreland initiative, focused on supporting small and medium businesses to grow and develop new relationships with businesses and university experts across the entire island of Ireland.

Delivered in a collaboration format by University College Cork, University of Galway, Queens University Belfast and Technological University Dublin. The Thrive Programme guides owners and managers in generating, developing, and implementing new ideas through workshops and one-to-one sessions. This programme can help you to create growth plans through a targeted new product, process, service or business model.

Am I eligible?

For further information and eligibility criteria for all InterTradelreland support programmes, please visit our website:

intertradeireland.com/innovation



InterTradelreland is the all-island economic development agency. We connect and help businesses across the island to trade cross-border, collaborate, innovate and attract investment. Through our unique role we also identify opportunities for North-South collaboration that accelerate economic growth and help deliver shared policy priorities.

With 25 years' experience of working alongside businesses of every size in every county on the island of Ireland, InterTradelreland's trade, innovation and entrepreneurship pathways help businesses to access funding, advice, experts, and networks across the island to maximise their exports, productivity and growth. To date we have supported over 57,000 businesses and generated €1.8bn/£1.6bn in business development value.

InterTradelreland

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InterTradelreland will endeavour to facilitate requests for alternative formats of this publication including Irish Language, Ulster Scots, Braille, disk and audio cassette.

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