

The Co-Innovate Programme – State Aid registration under General Block Exemption (GBER)

This document sets out information relating to the Co-Innovate programme and how State Aid granted to the project complies with Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2017 of 17 June 2014, the General Block Exemption Regulation.

1. Member State:

United Kingdom & Ireland

Northern Ireland, 6 Border Counties, Western Scotland, & Highlands & Islands

2. Granting Authority:

InterTradeIreland

3. Legal basis:

The North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) Northern Ireland Order 1999 – Section 2.3 Part 7 of Annex II of the Act empowers InterTradeIreland to invest, grant aid or lend for the purposes of its function, the British/Irish Agreement Act 1999 (Section 2.3 Part 7 of Annex II of the act empowers InterTradeIreland to invest, grant aid or lend for the purposes of its function) and European Communities Act 1972.

4. EC Legal Basis:

The aid provided to this Project will be within the limits and conditions set out in Commission Regulation (EU) 651/2014, the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0651&from=EN>

5. Project Name:

The Co-Innovate Programme

Total Project Cost: €22,443,035.33

Amount of EU funding: 16.671,743.77

6. Grant Recipient:

SMEs

7. Project Aim:

The Co-Innovate programme is a cross border research and innovation (R&I) initiative funded under the European INTERREG VA Programme. The programme aims to increase the proportion of SMEs engaged in cross-border research and innovation in the 3 Interreg eligible regions of Northern Ireland, Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland. For the first time, the programme brings together these regions' key development agencies to deliver a programme aligned with each government's strategic priorities.

8. Project Description:

To increase the number and capacity of SMEs engaged in cross-border Research and Innovation (R&I) collaboration in the eligible region from 22% to 33%.

Objectives

- To demystify and promote the benefits of innovation for all SMEs within the eligible region.
- Strengthen SME innovation capabilities through support tailored to each company's needs.
- To increase business expenditure on R&I and the number of companies innovating.
- Support collaborative projects with academia, business to business, or as part of a cluster.
- Enhance cross-border linkages & help overcome issues arising from the existence of borders.
- To complement existing R&I resources in the target area.
- To Leave a Legacy

Regional development agencies, working together to deliver the programme aligned with government strategic priorities.

InterTradeIreland (Lead Partner)
Scottish Enterprise
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Enterprise Northern Ireland/Local Enterprise Organisations (CBLEP)
East Border Region

9. Compliance with GBER:

The State aid to this project falls within the Common provisions set out in Chapter 1 and scope and conditions of Article 25, Article 28 and Article 30.

10. Summary of aid:

2018-2022

11. Form of aid:

Grant

12. Date of grant award:

July 2018

13. Name and Address of Granting Authority

Co-Innovate Programme, C/o IntertradeIreland, The Old Gasworks Business Park, Kilmorey Street, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2DE

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