



**EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS PROGRAMMES IN SCOTLAND PROJECT PROFILE**

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	New Interventions to Illustrate Innovation System Dynamics Implementing Organisation
<b>PROJECT SPONSOR</b>	The Scottish Executive

**PROJECT ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT**

A group including representatives of the Scottish Executive, Scottish Enterprise, the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Universities Scotland and Heriot-Watt University has met over the last 18 months to consider how such a project might be conceived and to look at what outputs should be considered useful.

**PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

Building on the information provided by the previous project in this area, this project would seek to build a portfolio of case studies illustrating the workings of the Scottish innovation system, showing the interactions and dynamic flows of the various elements, e.g. knowledge, skills and funding, within the system and illustrating how they work both in practice and in theory for a range of different innovation opportunities. This would be useful in designing and implementing new public sector interventions that would seek to optimise the innovation capability of the Scottish system.

**PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

Using the material from the previous study, a balanced portfolio of cases would be developed to show how the system works in practice by analysing the experience of organisations which have gone through the system, categorised by the major elements identified in the previous studies, e.g. public/private sector, SME/large firm, manufacturing/services, university spin-out/start up, etc. A similar set of case studies would be developed using a hypothetical approach to illustrate how an organisation could progress through the system if all of the elements and participants played an optimum part in the process. Comparison of the two sets of studies would benchmark the reality of the system as it stands in Scotland against what best practice could be if the system worked to its fullest capacity and against international comparators. The implementation of new interventions would be tested against this ideal model



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**PROJECT STRUCTURE**

A Steering Group will be set up to include representatives of the Department’s policy teams with an interest in the area of the project along with colleagues from the Analytical Services Division which will provide specialist expertise from an economist and statistician point of view.

Standard Scottish Executive methodology for overseeing such projects will be followed.

**PROJECT FINANCE**

Funding Partners	The Scottish Executive
Total Costs (£)	£100,000
Eligible Costs (£)	£100,000
ERDF/ESF Support (£)	£ 50,000
Action Line	1 – The Scottish Innovation System

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### PROJECT PERFORMANCE

The portfolio of case studies would provide a comparison between the situation as it currently exists in Scotland and how the system might work if it functioned at optimum effectiveness over a wide-range of organisations categorised by relevant factors established in previous studies. This project would be a largely desk-based study to discover and catalogue all of the relevant interventions and organisations involved. Public sector policy in this area and any new interventions would be tested against the ideal using the outputs from this study.

The outputs of the project will be of interest to all organisations, public or private sector, involved in innovation in Scotland. The Scottish Executive will use the material to initiate discussions with others on their involvement and how to maximise its impact.

### PROJECT FUTURE

The outputs of the project will be placed on the Department's web site and shared with interested partners through involvement and presentations at suitable seminars and conferences and in Ministerial presentations and speeches to relevant audiences.

### PROJECT CONTACT

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