## Fund synopsis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Fund</strong></th>
<th><strong>North Sea Regional Programme</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Acronym:</strong> NSRP</td>
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### Fund amount

| **Overview** | The North Sea Regional Programme (NSRP) is currently undergoing consultation as to the content and nature of the Cooperation Programme for 2014 – 2020. Information about the fund's new structure is limited at present. It will seek to deliver a long-term strategic approach to transnational cooperation for this region. Since the start of the first North Sea Region Programme, cooperation in the region has matured and intensified. This has meant that with each programme period, it has been possible to raise ambitions for the impact and durability of the projects funded, and the new North Sea Region Programme will continue this progression. Thematically, the Programme builds on positions of strength, developing on proven successes and complementing these with new themes based on the current analysis. |
| **Aims and objectives** | There are strong ambitions for the new funding Programme and its priorities, but overall it aims that projects shall be:  
- Based on the shared needs of all partners  
- Reliant on joint implementation  
- Focused on delivering progress on core programme goals  
- Focused on implementing EU policy  
- Innovative  
- Based on demonstrating and proving what is possible  
- Limited and specific in the changes they wish to generate  
- Inspiring national and regional policy and practices |
### Priorities

The Programme has been revamped for 2014 – 2020, with the final Cooperation Programme currently awaiting approval from the European Commission. Based on the consultation process, the Programme submitted to the EU contained four main priority axes:

- **Priority Axis 1** – Thinking Growth: Supporting growth in North Sea Region economies
- **Priority Axis 2** – Eco-Innovation: Stimulating the green economy
- **Priority Axis 3** – Sustainable North Sea Region: Protecting against climate change and preserving the environment
- **Priority Axis 4** – Green Transport and Mobility

Each priority axis has its own set of objectives and aims – please visit the NSRP website for an overview of the Cooperation Programme. As with all ERDF funded programmes in the period 2014 – 2020, this Programme will focus on innovation, the economy and working smarter to deliver better benefits for society as a whole.

### Proposed supportable activities

Projects will be accepted that contribute to the overall aims stated above, but that also:

- Strengthen research, technological development and innovation
- Preserve and protect the environment and promote resource efficiency
- Promote climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
- Promote sustainable transport and remove bottlenecks in key network infrastructures

### How it works

Projects should be built around a clearly defined and agreed set of needs with a clear definition of the requirements and skills that each partner brings into the partnership. Projects allow all participating regions to pool the resources used on their particular challenges – and to complete these with new themes based on the current analysis of the Programme area. Results should be based on joint action.

Every Programme objective has a clear output and a related Programme target. These targets give a clear direction for all activities and the results expected, and should give practical shape to European policy by developing synergies with existing national and regional initiatives, and also integrating the outputs of relevant projects under other Interreg programmes and all other funding programmes.

All projects are expected to be ‘innovative’ by rethinking standard approaches and using the skills, knowledge and experience available in the partnership to develop completely new approaches. Research is an important part of the Programme, but it is important to stress that the Programme focus is on demonstrating practical developments for the North Sea Region. Projects must, therefore, focus on demonstrating and testing new ideas.

The current ‘ provides a good indication of how the Programme is going to be managed for the next period of funding. As a beneficiary of the Programme, you would be expected to deliver a set of specific designated tasks for the project as a whole.
### Grant (the full UK grant will be confirmed in 2015)

| **Size of grant** | Programme funding is limited, but its ambition is to positively influence the whole Programme area. This requires that the positive effects of results are not limited to the project partnership, but are communicated to the most important stakeholders in order to secure a durable legacy after the end of the project. |
| **Restrictions** | Restrictions will be more clearly defined by the managing authority once the fund details have been finally adopted. |
| **Match funding** | The financial requirements and conditions will be published by the EU in early 2015. |

### Guide to eligibility

| **Overview** | Local, regional and national authorities, NGOs, intermediate organisations, research institutions, universities etc., as well as private partners fulfilling certain conditions that are located within the eligible Programme area, can participate in a project. |
| **Exceptions and restrictions** | A [map of all eligible areas](#) can be found here. |
| **Industry involvement** | Transnational programmes tend to have a larger scale and ambition than other territorial cooperation programmes, and as such you will likely need to be part of a large partnership with large-scale ambitions and projects with a Blue Economy feel to them. More details will be available in 2015. |
| **Stakeholder involvement** | The Programme is based around cooperation and, therefore, you will form part of a transnational partnerships whereby the project will be delivered and all outputs and learnings shared amongst the partners and wider audience. |

### Contact details for applicants

| **Managing authority** | Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). |
| **Contact details** | [NSRP](#) |

### Useful websites and where to go for other information

| **North Sea Regional Programme** | • Current NSRP website  
• Leaflet outlining [objectives for 2014 – 2020](#)  
• [Operational programme overview](#)  
• FAQ section |
| **European Commission** | Beginners Guide to EU Funding |

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