



**THEME:**

Research and Innovation

**FUNDING (ERDF+MATCH):**

€16,641,271.28

**MATCH FUNDERS:**

Department for the Economy Northern Ireland, Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Ireland and the Scottish Government

**LEAD PARTNER:**

InterTradelreland

**PROJECT PARTNERS**

Enterprise NI Ltd; East Border Region Ltd.; Local Enterprise Offices (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo); Scottish Enterprise; and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

**Start Date:** 01/08/2016

**End Date:** 31/03/2023

<https://co-innovateprogramme.eu/>

[@Team\\_COI](https://twitter.com/Team_COI)

## SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY Co-Innovate (The Innovation Pathway Programme): Progress Update

The Co-Innovate project brings together the three regions' key development agencies to deliver a programme aligned with each government's strategic priorities, led by cross-border body InterTradelreland in partnership with Enterprise Northern Ireland, East Border Region, Local Enterprise Offices in the Border Region, Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

Co-Innovate gives companies the tools and tailored support to help businesses innovate, differentiate and compete successfully. The programme offers graduated levels of support including free workshops, individual business health checks, detailed innovation audits, R&I project funding, project management placements and one-to-one expert mentoring.

Since the projects launch over €1M has been invested in research and innovation. 1,100 companies have benefited from the project, through the likes of workshops, funding, and mentoring across Northern Ireland, the Border Regions of Ireland and Western Scotland. 11 companies have benefited from funding including Mulan Lighting; STATSports; Donite Plastics and Kids Bee Happy.

*"So far, 11 companies and three academic institutes have secured funding of €1,050,000 to help push forward their cross-regional research and innovation partnerships. These include partnerships that are developing fully compostable plastics from renewable sources, developing organic fertilisers from waste products and technology that will help to monitor athletes, their performance and training/playing conditions with the aim of reducing injuries."*

Dianne Dundas, Co-Innovate's Innovation Advisor

