

Smart Regions Scheme

An introduction to Smart Regions (Enterprise Innovation) Scheme

Presentation to the Strategic Policy Committee - Economic Development and Enterprise
Dublin City Council

Tuesday 28th November 2023



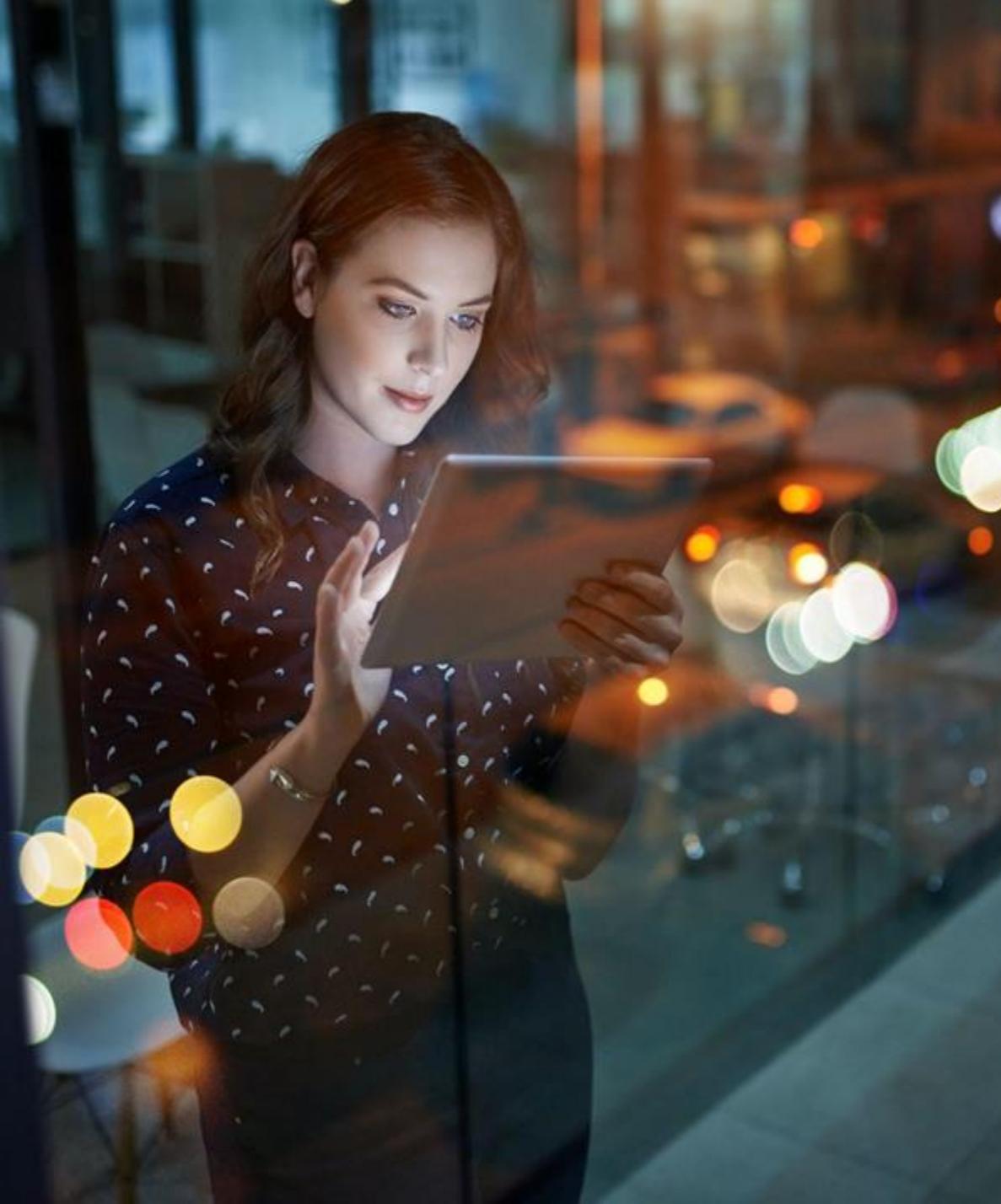


About Enterprise Ireland

- Accelerate the development of world-class Irish companies to deliver sustained prosperity
- Generation of foreign earnings
- Manufacturing, Food and internationally traded services companies at all stages of development
- Company exports of €32.1 billion in 2022
- Enterprise Ireland companies employed 218,000 people in 2022
- Dublin based EI clients employed almost 70,000 in 2022
- Direct economy expenditures by Dublin based Irish-owned exporting companies was €8 billion (2021)
- Close working relationship with Dublin City LEO team and DCC

Regional Enterprise Development Fund 2017-2020





Smart Regions Scheme

Aim of Smart Region is to:-

- Leverage and build on each Regions' strengths and emerging areas of opportunity.
- Address gaps in existing regional innovation.
- Support projects aligned with objectives of the REPs.
- Seek out opportunities to enable inter-regional collaboration through structures like the REP national oversight group.

Context:-

- Ireland negotiated package of Cohesion Funds.
- Funds tailored to national and regional identified needs
- Ireland published its National Smart Specialisation Strategy for Innovation 2022-2027 (**S3**) in July 2022.
- S3 is an enabling condition for ERDF funding and underpins and aligns with the core objectives of the Smart Regions Scheme.
- Also links to other national and regional enterprise and innovation policies

Leading in a Changing World

Objective: Enterprise Development & Job Creation

Impact of Smart Region Scheme



2,290
Enterprises
Supported



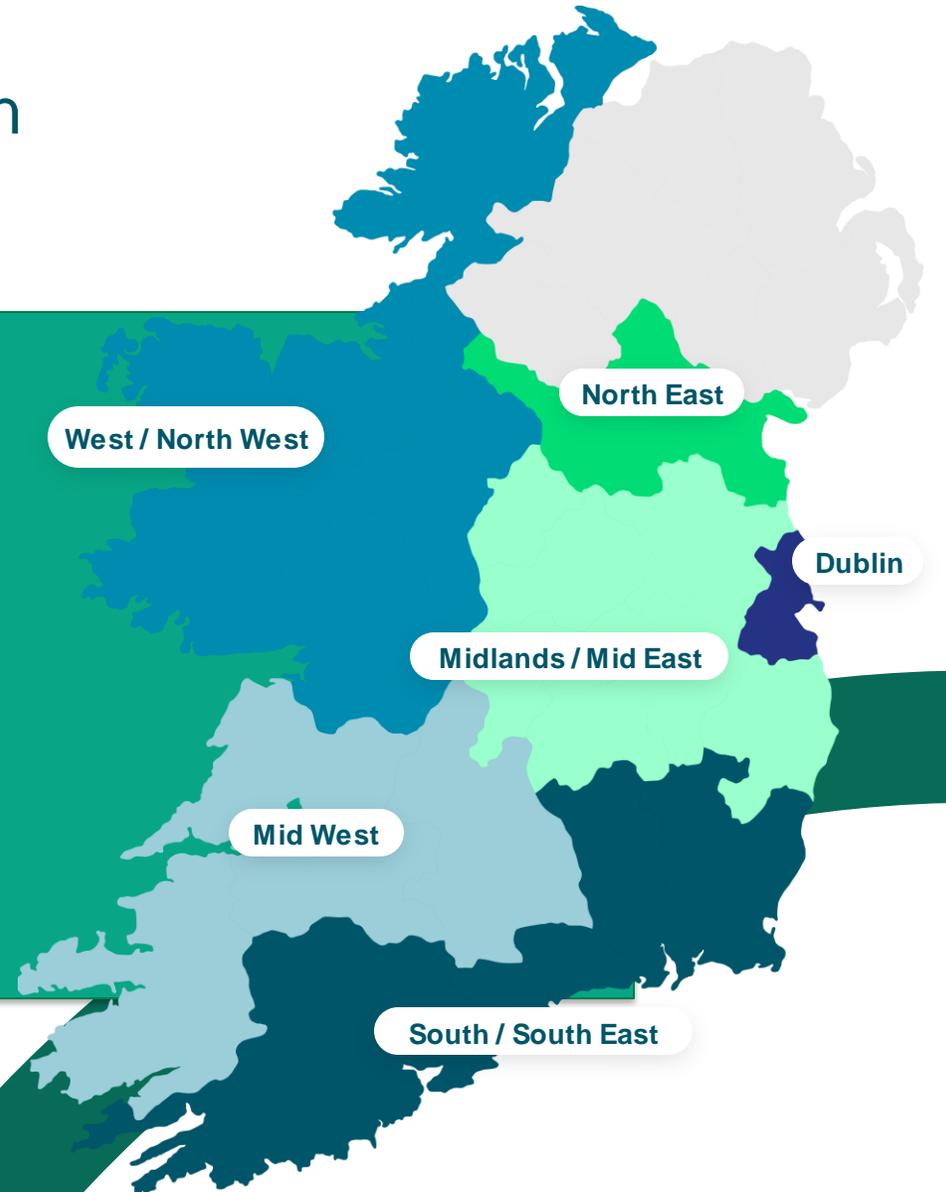
590
New
Regional
Enterprises
Supported



1,297
New
Incubation
Spaces



1,440
Process or
Product
Innovation
in SMEs



Smart Regions Scheme

4 Streams – Total Value of €145.3 million

Stream 1 – Local Infrastructure

Deliver long run strategic solutions

DAC or CLG

Grant funding €1m - €10m

Art 56 GBER – **100% Funding Gap** funded

Funding gap = Build Costs – Accumulated Operating Profit over 15 years – other sources of state aid

Stream 2 – Innovative Clusters & Consortia

Support the growth and development of new or established clusters & consortia in a regional / cross-regional / national

DAC or CLG at least 5 independent unrelated companies

Grant funding €50k - €2m

GBER Art 27 - 50% grant - programme supports (balance cannot be from public funding)

Min. 2 years - Max. 3 Years

Stream 3 – SME Innovation

Industry lead to maximise benefits of collaborative opportunities

DAC or CLG

Grant funding €200k - €1m

De-minimis Regulation 1407/2013
80% grant of the estimated market value of programme delivery

Min. 2 years - Max. 3 Years

Stream 4 – Feasibility & Priming

Can be used to prepare future stream 1 applications (including Environmental Impact Assessment)

DAC, CLG or public body (Feasibility only)
DAC, CLG (Priming)

Feasibility – grant funding €25k - €50k
Priming – grant funding €50k - €200k

De-minimis Regulation 1407/2013
80% grant towards eligible programme supports

To be concluded within 1 year of approval

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