

Farm Modernisation Programme

The Farm Modernisation Programme is funded under Axis 1 of the Rural Development Programme.

It aims to contribute to improving the competitiveness and economic performance of agricultural and horticultural businesses in Northern Ireland.

This programme will provide financial support for farm business across all sectors to modernise their holdings and improve their production techniques through on-farm investments in new plant, machinery and equipment over six priority investment areas:

- Introduction of new technologies and innovation;
- Improved animal health and welfare;
- Increased hygiene control and product storage;
- Enhanced occupational safety and business efficiency;
- Increased energy efficiency; and
- Enhanced environmental status.

A sub-programme, the Manure Efficiency Technology Sub-Programme, aims to encourage uptake of specific advanced slurry spreading distribution systems. These technologies will help farmers to achieve greater nutrient efficiency from manures and slurry and reduce the environmental impact.

Who can apply?



This Programme is open to all farm businesses with a Business Identification Number (Business ID).

What funding is available?



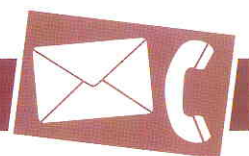
Financial support will be provided at up to 40% of the invoiced purchase cost of a wide range of plant, machinery and equipment from a pre-defined list of eligible items up to a maximum amount allowable for each item.

Two levels of financial support will be available:

Farm Modernisation Programme (FMP) — Financial support per farm business of up to £5,000 on eligible expenditure of £12,500 will be available for the FMP List of Eligible Items. Expenditure in excess of this will not attract additional funding. Farm businesses must apply for a minimum financial support of £1,000 (that is, minimum eligible expenditure of £2,500); and

Manure Efficiency Technology Sub-Programme (METS) — Financial support of up to £10,000 will be available for a limited list of advanced slurry handling equipment.

How do I apply?



The opening and closing dates for schemes/programmes supported under the Rural Development Programme are advertised and promoted widely. The Rural Development Programme website www.rdpni.info provides a full list of what is currently open for applications together with further details of each scheme/programme and how to apply. If you do not have access to the internet or require additional information please contact us using the details provided overleaf.

Funds will be allocated on a “first come, first served” basis.