

Agricultural and Forestry Marketing and Development Grant Scheme

The Agricultural and Forestry Marketing and Development Grant Scheme is funded under Axis 1 of the Rural Development Programme.

It provides financial support for businesses engaged in the marketing of the produce of agriculture (including horticulture) and forestry or of agricultural products derived from such produce.

The key aims of the scheme are to improve the economic performance and international competitiveness of the agri-food and forestry sectors by:

- Encouraging greater integration and collaboration between producers, processors and others in the food, wood-supply and renewable-energy chains; and
- Improving the application of technology in the forestry sector and improving the marketing capability of businesses in the food, wood-supply and renewable energy chains.

Who can apply?



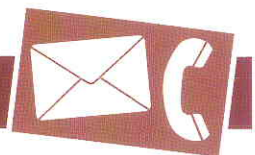
The Agricultural and Forestry Marketing and Development Grant Scheme is open to micro, small, medium and intermediate sized agri-food enterprises, including individual producers or others wishing to set up a procurement group, groups of collaborating producers, food processors, trade associations and industry bodies. In the case of forestry, support will be limited to micro enterprises.

What funding is available?



Projects submitted by micro, small and medium sized enterprises may be paid at a grant rate of up to 40% of eligible costs. Projects submitted by intermediate enterprises may be paid at a grant rate of up to 20% of eligible costs. The maximum grant payable on a project is £150,000.

How do I apply?



The opening and closing dates for schemes/programmes supported by 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 are interested in participating in this Scheme but do not have access to the Internet please contact us using the details provided overleaf.

What happens next?



Your application will be checked for eligibility and a technical evaluation by DARD staff will be carried out. Your application will be assessed competitively by a Selection Panel. You will then receive a letter to inform you whether your application has been successful or not. If your application is successful, you will receive a detailed Letter of Offer. If you are unsuccessful, we will write to you and explain why.