



D15 –Third Party Finance Opportunities

Third Party Finance Opportunities

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Bulgaria



Community Grants

Fiscal measures for landowners and farmers

Scale : Local, Regional

Direct payments for the landowners/farmers are available through the Ministry of Agriculture (http://www.mzgar.government.bg/mz_eng/default.asp)

The payments are granted in five of the measures of the Bulgarian “Rural Development Programme:

- Modernization of farms
- Adding value to agricultural and forestry products
- Diversification of economic activities
- Support for formation and development of micro-enterprises,
- Common services for the economy and the population of the village areas

Opportunities for investments are foreseen in production, processing and utilisation of energy crops and animal primary and secondary biomass. It supports as well the modernization and the establishment of plants for production of bioenergy from agricultural and forest products biomass.

For the measure “Modernization of farms” the following subsidies are granted, as a part of the total eligible investments, for projects approved by the 31 December 2009.

- 65 % - for young farmers in less favoured areas (LFAs)
- 60% - for the farmers in the LFAs and young farmers in Natura 2000 areas and out of LFAs.
- 55 % - for the young farmers in the other areas.
- 50 % - for the rest of the farmers.

For further information on “Rural Development Programme” please visit the following web-site:

http://www.mzgar.government.bg/mz_eng/RuralAreas/BG-RDP-2007-2013%20third%20official%20version-eng.doc

Subsidies for energy crops

Scale : Local, Regional

Bulgaria

Currently the agricultural subsidies for energy crops are BGN 90 per hectare(€ 46,01).

Since 2007, an additional subsidy of 9 levs per decare (0,1 ha) of energy crops has been granted to farmers. Added to the 15 levs granted by the general system of direct payments, the farmers are finally granted 24 levs per decare, 50-100% more than the relief funds for the rest of the farmers. In case of technical crops cultivated in mountain or desolated areas, additional incentives are granted by the European Fund for developent of the rural areas.

Sources of Private Capital

Bultera Venture

Scale : National

EcoPetroleum Company, URL: <http://www.ekopetroleum.com/>

Astra BioPlant, URL: <http://www.bulmarket.bg/contacts.htm>

Bulgarian-Russian joint venture [Bultera](#), which main business is construction and real estates.

European Sources

ICS International Consulting SP

Verbio Vereinigte Bioenergy, URL: <http://www.verbio.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx>

AG-Germany, URL: <http://www.verbio.de/en/desktopdefault.aspx>

Green Fuel Corporation SA,

URL: <http://www.greenfuel.es/green-fuel-corporacion.php?idioma=GBR>

Coener Systems Group-Spain, URL: http://www.sofiaecho.com/article/spanish-coener-to-invest-60m-euro-in-biofuel-production-in-pleven/id_27372/catid_67

Non-European Sources

Petro-Group – Israel, URL: <http://www.petro-group.co.il/>

Loan Finance

No special loans and credit lines for biofuels.

Bulgaria

Plants investments projects from Bulgaria or abroad are designed in line with the requirements set by the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Waters. http://www.moew.government.bg/index_e.html.

Biofuels use is indirectly supported by green cars market. but there are no specific incentives or promotional campaign to raise the awareness among end users.

Financial Incentives

Tax Exemptions

Scale : National

The Bulgarian Law on Excise Tax and Tax Registered Storage Areas (*from 15 November 2005*) specified a zero taxation rate for 100% biodiesel (art. 32 and 33), applicable from 1 January 2006. As of January 1, 2007, the new amendments in the Excise Duty and Tax Warehouse Act [SG, issue 105/22.12.2006] entered into force. These amendments have been in accordance with the European policy for promotion of biofuels production and use, and introduced zero excise duties for biodiesel and bioethanol motor fuel.

Bulgaria has stopped excise duties on bioethanol and biodiesel, and plans to reduce tax of fuels blends. Blending of biodiesel or bioethanol in up to 5% diesel or petrol blends is obligatory, since 2008.

The new *Renewable and Althernative Energy Sources and Biofuels Act*, proposed by the Ministry of Economy and Energy envisages the introduction of zero excise duties also for the biodiesel component in blends and for bioethanol. This will be accompanied by a planned increase of excise duties on conventional fuels.

For further information on new *Renewable and Althernative Energy Sources and Biofuels Act*, please visit the folowing web-site:

<http://www.mi.government.bg/eng/norm/rdocs/mdoc.html?id=212967>,

Subsidies for oleaginous crops

Scale : National

Other existing support measures, related to biodiesel, are the agricultural subsidies for growing oleaginous crops. For example, subsidies for rapeseed cultivation in 2006 amounted to BGN 35 (17.90 Euro) per hectare. Currently the agricultural subsidies for energy crops are BGN 90 (46.01 Euro) per hectare.

Greece



Financial Incentives

Subsidies for cultivation of energy crops (Joint Ministerial Decision 36781/2007)

Scale : National

A subsidy of **45 €/ha** for energy crops is granted to farmers. The aid is given for areas whose production is covered by a contract between the farmer and the processing industry, except where the processing is undertaken by the farmer on the holding. An additional subsidy of **60 €/ha** of energy plantation is granted to farmers in case of seed processing facilities.

Responsible for energy crops subsidies is the Ministry of Agriculture Development and Food Security (www.minagric.gr).

For further information visit the following web-sites:

EC Regulation 1973/2004 (Chapter 8), available in Greek:

http://www.minagric.gr/greek/agro_pol/KAP/Kanonismoi/02004R1973-20070101-el.pdf

Joint Ministerial Decision 36781/2007, available in Greek

<http://nomothesia.ependyseis.gr/eu-law/getFile/YA+36781+2007.pdf?bodyId=339028>

or contact the Direction of Agricultural Development of your Prefecture Authority,

National Development Plan (NDP) (Law 3299/2004, as it was modified by 3522/2006 Article 37)

Scale: National

The NDP is an open type (no time frame limitations) financing tool for the support of investments. Biofuel production is an eligible sector of investment. For the investments fall under the provision of the Law the following types of incentives are foreseen: Cash grant (covers part of the investment cost), Leasing subsidy and Wage subsidy (for employment created by the investment) up to 35% or Tax allowance up to 100%.

The amount of incentive, granted under the NDP, depend on the geographic region within the country. In the Region of Central Macedonia 30% is foreseen for Cash grant, Leasing and Wage subsidies and 100% for tax allowance. However, incentives for investment in Prefecture of Thessaloniki are much lower: 15% for Cash grant, Leasing and Wage subsidies and 50% for tax allowance.

Greece

Additional incentives up to 10% and up to 20% are envisaged for small and medium enterprises respectively. The amount of additional incentive depends on the geographic region within the country and the type of investment.

The NDP is administered by the Ministry of Development (www.ypan.gr)

For more information about New Development Law (3299/2004) please visit the following web sites:

http://www.ggb.gr/el_ec_newsitem355.htm (Law 3299/2006, available only in Greek)

<http://www.mnec.gr/export/sites/mnec/el/nomothesia/law/Documents/3522-2006-276-A-06.pdf> (Law 3522/2006, Available only in Greek)

http://www.elke.gr/default.asp?V_DOC_ID=2384&V_LANG_ID=0

(Summary of New Development Law in English)

Operational Competitiveness Program (OCP), 2007-2013

Scale: National

The Operational Program “Competitiveness” comes under the 4th Community Support Framework (4th CSF) 2007-2013. It incorporates a group of actions and subsidies designed to improve the competitiveness of the Greek economy in the framework of the national development strategy for 2007-2013.

The Operational Program includes 5 priority axes. The 4th priority axis, which aims to “integrate the national energy system and improve its sustainability”, supports actions for RES utilization and energy saving, including investments in biofuels production.

The Operational Competitiveness Programme is administered by the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

For more information about OCP please visit the following web site:

<http://www.espa.gr/> (Available only in Greek)

http://www.hellaskps.gr/en_2007-2013.htm (Available in English)

or contact:

Information Office-Ministry of Economy and Finance

Nikis 5-7 Athens

Tel: (+30) 210 3332588

E-mail: info.kps@mnec.gr

Greece

Or contact CFS Managing Authorities:

http://www.hellaskps.gr/documents/contacts_csf.htm

Ireland



Business Grants

Support for new businesses

For new businesses there are grants available from the county enterprise boards depending on the number of people to be employed. Support is provided in feasibility studies, marketing and capital costs.

Grants provided by County Enterprise Boards one for each county in Ireland. In Tipperary there are 2 enterprise boards for North and South Tipperary. Reference the attached website for further information on the county enterprise boards: <http://www.enterpriseboards.ie/>

Support of larger projects

For larger projects development authorities such as the Industrial Development Authority, Enterprise Ireland, Shannon Development provide support to developing projects towards business and plant set up costs.

Links to Shannon development and the IDA are as follows:

<http://www.shannon-dev.ie/>

<http://www.idaireland.com>

Community Grants

Support of rural based enterprises and activities

Scale: Local, Regional

Funding from leader groups who can assist in developing rural based enterprises which support the local economy. There are Leader groups in each county in Ireland who support local rural based initiatives in their respective areas.

In Tipperary the Tipperary Leader Group administer Leader funding and reference the attached link for their website: <http://www.iol.ie/~tippleader/tippleader/tippleadergroup.htm>

Sources of private capital

Ireland

Business Expansion Scheme

Investors can be attracted by registering under the Business Expansion Scheme for new businesses. This scheme offers tax incentives for investors to invest money in start up businesses.

This programme is administered by Enterprise Ireland and the website is as follows:

http://www.enterpriseireland.com/Grow/Finance/Business_Expansion_Scheme.htm

Financial Incentives

Energy plantations

Scale: National

Support to energy plantations: energy plantations 45 €/ha plus €80/ha from the Irish government.

The department of agriculture administers these grants and their website is as follows:

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/index.jsp?file=schemes/bioenergy/bioenergy.xml>

Mineral Oil Tax Relief programme

Scale: National

Excise relief on biofuels produced by companies that were approved under the Mineral Oil Tax Relief programmes in 2005 and 2006. For further details of these programmes reference the attached Government link for the department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources: <http://www.dcmnr.gov.ie>

Flexible Fuels Vehicles

Scale: National

Finance Act 2005 allows for a 50% VRT reduction on flexible fuel vehicles which can achieve blends of bioethanol with petrol of up to 85%. This relief is in place until 31 December 2007 when it will be reviewed and may be extended to other vehicles. This scheme has been extended to July 2008. From July 1st 2008 there will be a €2500 relief payment on the VRT payable for flexifuel and hybrid electric vehicles.

This scheme was unveiled by the Department of Finance.

Reference the attached link for details of the scheme unveiled in 2005:

Ireland

<http://www.taxireland.ie/documents/finbillistofmeasures06.pdf>

The updates to the scheme in 2008 are in the attached link.

<http://www.finance.gov.ie/documents/publications/financebill2008/Listofitems08.pdf>

Indicative targets for biofuels use in Ireland

Scale: National

Biofuels obligation announced by government that biofuels represent 5.75% of Ireland's transport fuel market by 2009. For further information on this target reference the Department of Communications Marine and Natural Resources: <http://www.dcmnr.gov.ie>

Research & Development in biofuels

Scale: National

Support to R&D in biofuels particularly second generation biofuels.

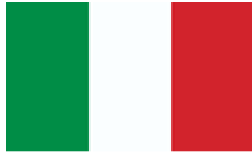
Use of pure plant oil in public and hauliers fleets

Scale: National

The Department of Transport is running a pilot programme offering 75% grant aid for public authorities and hauliers converting their vehicles to run on pure plant oil.

For further information on this project reference the attached link: www.biofuelsfortransport.ie

Italy



Business Grants

Grants to industrial production

Scale: Regional, National

No special grants for Biofuels production plants on industrial level. Production of biofuels is comparable to any other industrial production.

The authorities responsible for this action are under the Ministry for the Economic Development. *Ministero per lo sviluppo economico. Dipartimento per la competitività.*

- *Direzione generale per il sostegno alle attività imprenditoriali.*
Via Giorgione, 2/b - 00147 Roma
Tel.: (+39) 06 54927 - 06 54927906 - Fax: (+39) 06 59601226
E-mail: segreteria.dgcii@sviluppoeconomico.gov.it
- *Direzione generale per le piccole e medie imprese e gli enti cooperativi*
Roma - Vicolo d'Aste 12 - pal.B
Recapito postale: Via Molise 2 - 00187 Roma
Tel.: (+39) 0647055276 – 0647055277 - Fax: (+39) 0643532356
E-mail: segreteria.dgec@sviluppoeconomico.gov.it

The IPI-Institute for Industrial Promotion is a Technical Agency of the Ministry

URL: <http://www.ipi.it>

Community Grants

Funding of Biogas plants

Scale: Local, Regional

Public funding for establishment of Biogas plants at regional level, in the framework of special programs, aims to support multifunctionality in Agriculture. This local scheme of incentive is based on Rural Development Policy (i.e. European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)). Each Region in Italy defines a specific Rural Development Policy.

Regions are the Public Authorities responsible for administration of these funds. Contact point can be found on Regions' websites: www.regione.NameREGIONE.it (e.g. www.regione.lombardia.it, www.rezione.lazio.it etc.)

Italy

Agriculture Department for each region is the technical body responsible for the Regional Rural Development Policy.

Loan Finance

Biogas plants

Scale: Local, Regional

Biogas plants: special guarantee funds performed by local and national Banks according to the Regional Public Funding Schemes. Local authorities sign special agreements with local/national banks in order to support the construction of biogas plant. Within these schemes banks offer special loans with a low rate of interest. The Policy Regions are the PA responsible for Rural Development.

Biofuels production plants

Scale: Local, Regional

No specific loan for biofuels production plants (Biodiesel or bioethanol).

Financial Incentives

Support to energy crops

Scale: National

Incentive to energy crops of 45 €/ha (Carbon credit according to Reg. CE 1782/2003, art. 88)

Rural Development subsidies

Scale: Regional

Specific subsidies are defined at Regional level within the Rural Development Plans. Regions are responsible for administration of subsidies.

Excise duty reductions

Scale: National

- Excise duty reduction (20% of diesel excise duty on a Biodiesel content base) only for Biodiesel- Diesel blends (B5 to B25) and up to a total amount of 250.000 t/year of

Italy

Biodiesel produced or imported at national level. A part of this quantity (has to be produced within local/national biofuels chains.

- Excise duty on pure vegetable oil only for electricity production but not for use as fuel in vehicles. In Italy the use of pure vegetable oil for vehicles it is currently forbidden.
- Excise duty for bioethanol: 289,22 €/m³
- Excise duty for Bio-ETBE: 298,92 €/m³

Indirect incentives

Scale: National

The production of bioenergy by farmers is considered an “agricultural activity”. Thus, it is administered (VAT, taxes, administrative management) the same way as other agricultural activities, i.e. milk, meat and vegetables production.

The **Public Authority responsible** for Excise reduction and VAT is the Agenzia delle Dogane under the Ministry of Finance.

For further information the producers should visit the following website: www.agenziadogane.it.

Regional and provincial offices are available on the whole national territory.

The same Agenzia is responsible for the allocation of the annual production among producers.

Latvia



Business Grants

Financial support to biofuels

Aid programme: *“Procedure for allocation of the national support for production of the annual and necessary minimum of biofuels, and quotas for financial support for biofuels” 2005.–2010.*

Responsible authority: Ministry of Agriculture (<http://www.zm.gov.lv>)

Aid category: Environmental Aid

Budget: Total: 19 million/milj. LVL (500000 LVL in 2005; 185 00000 LVL in 2006 - 2010)

For further information please visit the following web-site:

(http://www.fm.gov.lv/image/file/220_vii.pdf)

Community Grants

Capital grants

- Grants to biofuel producers increase cost competitiveness of Latvian market of oil plants versus the international market.
- Financial aid to rapeseed cultivation areas.
- Subsidies for development of oil seed industry for crops grown in Latvia.
- Reduced excise duty rates
- The government granted subsidies for the development of oilseed processing plants

Responsible for the Administration of these grants are the Ministry of Economics of Republic of Latvia <http://www.em.gov.lv> and the Ministry of Environment <http://www.vidm.gov.lv>

Infrastructure and Services Programme

Infrastructure and Services programme supports fuel conversion projects aiming to reduce the impact of energy production on the environment. This program is financed by the European Investment Bank and the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development.

Latvia

Responsible for the Administration of this grant are the Ministry of Economics of Republic of Latvia <http://www.em.gov.lv> and the Ministry of Environment <http://www.vidm.gov.lv>

Loan Finance

Commercial banks and other financial institutions

Latvian Guarantee Agency LLC

Since 2003, Latvian Guarantee Agency LLC (hereinafter - LGA), as supervisory institution of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Latvia, fulfills the tasks defined in the national economic policy for the support of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which help businesses to attract new investments for further expansion of their activities. LGA provides the opportunity to SMEs to obtain a real financial assistance or collateral for implementation of innovative business ideas, and a guarantee security for credit or leasing transactions with Latvian commercial banks.

For further information please visit the following web-site: <http://www.lga.lv>

Financial Incentives

Financial supported quota

- 270 Euro per 1000 liters of biodiesel fuel produced in the framework of the financial supported quota;
- 14,2 Euro per 1000 liters of pure seed oil produced in the framework of the financial supported quota;
- 328 Euro per 1000 liters of bioethanol produced in the framework of the financial supported quota;

Rape plantations

Aid to rape crops (45 €/ha)

Rapeseed oil production

Aid to producers of rapeseed oil for biofuel production purposes, that we use as raw material rapeseeds produced in Latvia: Excise-duty 0; price supports 80 - 95 €/t (60% of full cycle price).

Poland



Business Grants

Investments in biocomponents production

Scale: National

Grants to business investing in biocomponents production (selection based on competitive procedures), both preparation of documentation and investments in production plants:

- Projects over EUR 5 million,
- Total volume of different grants (EU and national) EUR 180 million.

SMS investments in biofuel chain

Scale: National

Support to development of rural areas, SMS investments in biofuel chain, minimum EUR 30.000, maximum EUR 6 million per project

Operational Programme Infrastructure and Environment

Scale: National

Priority 9.5. Production of biofuels from renewable sources.

Grants supporting building production plants of biocomponents and biofuels; Total financial support EUR 234.97 million.

Maximum grant support – 30% of eligible costs.

Minimum project value – PLN 20 million (about EUR 5.5 million).

First applications expected June-September 2008.

For further information please visit the following web-site:

<http://www.mrr.gov.pl/ProgramyOperacyjne+2007-2013/Infrastruktura+i+Srodowisko/>

(Ministry of Regional Development, Ministry of economy, available in Polish)

Poland

Community Grants

Zones for ecological transport

Scale: Local, Regional

Creation of special zones in town centres and environmentally important areas only for public ecological transport (lost incomes of municipalities covered from the National Environmental Funds)

Removal/reduction of parking fees

Scale: Local, Regional

Removal/reduction of parking fees for biofuel cars (lost incomes covered from the National Environmental Funds)

Reduction of environmental fees

Scale: Local, Regional

Reduction of environmental fees (applied presently for each company vehicle)

Loan Finance

Scale: National

Special guarantee fund of Bank of National Economy (BGK) to support EU grants

Financial Incentives

Energy plantations

Scale: National

Support to energy plantations: 50% of plantation costs, supplement to energy plantations 45 €/ha.

Reduction/Removal of excise duties and taxes

Scale: National

Poland

- No excise duty on pure biofuels
- Excise duty on fuels with bio-components reduced – equally to the level of applied tax (under EU notification procedure)
- Reduction of CIT (19%) for biofuels producers
- Fuel tax removed (pure biofuels) or proportionally reduced for fuels with bio-components

Research and Development

Scale: National

Support to Research and Development in biofuels

Awareness raising

Scale: National

Support of awareness rising and educational campaigns (covered by the National Environmental Funds).

Vehicles using biofuels

Scale: National

Support of vehicles using biofuels, especially for separate fleets vehicles using high-biocomponent fuels (covered by the National Environmental Funds)

Source: *Funding possibilities in the total biofuels chain – “Long-term programme of biofuels promotion for 2008-2014” (Ordinance by the Council of Ministers; Official Journal 24.08.2007).*

For further information please visit the following web-site:

<http://isip.sejm.gov.pl/prawo/index.html> (Available only in Polish)

Spain



Business Grants

Scale: Regional

Financing of biogas vehicles

Vehicles using biogas: 60% of the total investment amount(max. 12.000 €/vehicle)

Regional grants are managed by the Regional Administration

For further information please visit the following web-site:

http://www.argem.es/servlet/integra.servlets.Multimedias?METHOD=VERMULTIMEDIA_2593&nombre=E42007_PLAN_DE_MOVILIDAD_SOSTENIBLE.pdf

or contact Agencia de Gestion de Energia de la Region de Murcia (ARGEM):

Tel: (+34) 968 22 38 31

Community Grants

Scale: Regional

Financing of biogas vehicles

Vehicles using biogas: 60% of the total investment amount(max. 12.000 €/vehicle)

Regional grants are managed by the Regional Administration

For further information please visit the following web-site:

http://www.argem.es/servlet/integra.servlets.Multimedias?METHOD=VERMULTIMEDIA_2593&nombre=E42007_PLAN_DE_MOVILIDAD_SOSTENIBLE.pdf

or contact Agencia de Gestion de Energia de la Region de Murcia (ARGEM):

Tel: (+34) 968 22 38 31

Sources of private capital

Investments financing

Project financing: up to 80% of the total investment amount. Only some specialised banks like Banco de Sabadell and others.

For further information please visit the following web-site:

Spain

https://www.bancsabadell.com/en/XTD/INDEX/?url=https://www.bancsabadell.com/en/NUES_TROS_NEGOCIOS/DIVERSIFICADOS/BS_CAPITAL/?menuid=9717&language=en

Loan Finance

Investments financing

Up to a maximum 80% of the total investment amount, coming from the banks

Financial Incentives

Tax exemption

Biofuels are tax exempt

Sweden



Loan Finance

Almi Företagspartner AB

Scale: Regional

Almi Företagspartner AB – loan fund supports SMEs with potential for significant growth. Small loan up to €11.000 might be given by Almi alone. Above that amount financial risks are shared with commercial banks/investors.

For further information please visit the following web site:

www.almi.se/almi_in_english.html

Svenska Riskkapitalföreningen

Scale: National

The Swedish Private Equity & Venture Capital Association (SCVA) - is an independent, non-profit association that supports the interests of companies and individuals active in the Swedish private equity and venture capital industry. The Association's objective is to promote an efficient private equity and venture capital market, as well as to promote entrepreneurship.

For further information please visit the following web site: www.svca.se

Financial Incentives

Investment grants for biogas stations

Scale: National

30 % investment grant for biogas filling stations up to SEK 1.140.000 (~€115.000)

For further information please contact Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket): magnus.ostling@naturvardsverket.se

or visit the following web-site: www.naturvardsverket.se

Purchasing of eco-cars

Sweden

Scale: National

Investment contribution of SEK 10.000 (~€ 1.100) for individuals buying eco cars (ethanol, gas and hybrid cars)

For further information, please visit the following web-site:

www.vv.se/templates/page3_21943.aspx#Eco_car_subsidy

Tax reduction for eco-cars

Scale: National

20-40 % reduction of beneficial car taxation,

20 % reduction for ethanol cars

40 % reduction for gas and hybrid cars

For further information, please visit the following web-site:

www.skatteverket.se/fordigsomar/arbetsgivareinfotxt/miljobilar.4.18e1b10334ebe8bc8000111.html

Or contact Skatteverket Headquarters

E-mail: huvudkontoret@skatteverket.se

Tel: +46 8 764 79 87

Facilitate eco-cars

Scale: Local

- Eco cars (ethanol, gas and hybrid cars) are free of charge from digestion fees. (Stockholm)
- Free or reduced parking in the cities

Legal incentives

Mandatory sale of renewable fuels

Scale: National

Fuel stations are obliged to offer at least one renewable fuel. (Started >3000 m³ fuel sold 2006 and declining >1000 m³ fuel sold 2009)

For further information please visit the following web-site:

<http://www.regeringen.se/content/1/c6/05/18/00/8b325734.pdf>

Conversion of petrol cars

Scale: National

Allowance converting petrol cars into ethanol (FFV) started on 1 July 2008)

For further information please visit the following web-site:

<http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/10143/a/105106>

Or contact:

Ministry of Environment: registrator@environment.ministry.se

Switchboard: Tel. +46 8 405 10 00

United Kingdom



Business Grants

Grant for Research and Development (R&D)

Scale: Regional

Up to £500,000 (60%) for research and development of a technologically innovative product or process. For further information, contact one of the Regional Development Agencies in England: www.englishrdas.com

For example: www.southwestrda.org.uk (South West of England Regional Development Agency); www.emda.org.uk (East Midlands Development Agency); www.lda.gov.uk (London Development Agency)

Shell Springboard Funding for Climate Change Innovation

Scale: National

Funding for SME's with innovation for green house gas reduction max £40,000. Further info at <http://www.shellspringboard.org/>

Community Grants

O₂

Scale: National

It is your community grants – up to £1,000 for community projects. Further info at http://www.o2.com/cr/community_fund.asp

E-On Source Fund

Scale: National

Up to £30,000 for innovative technology to deliver energy savings
E-ON - 024 7618 1945 or source@eon-uk.com

United Kingdom

Cotswold District Council Community Projects

Scale: Local

Fund – up to £15,000 for community projects – Cotswold District Council

Further info at http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=4124 01285 623 169

Gloucestershire Environmental Trust

Scale: Local

Up to £30,000 local community projects

Further info at <http://www.glos-environment-trust.co.uk/> 01452 739006

Selective Finance for Investment in England

Scale: Local

London financial support to assist businesses with new investment projects that lead to long-term improvements in productivity, skills and employment in Assisted Areas.

Further info at www.london-innovation.org.uk/server.php?show=nav.008003005

South East Community Loan Fund

Further info at www.seeda.co.uk

Sources of private capital

South West Ventures Fund

Scale: Regional

Up to £250,000 Venture capital funding available

Further info at <http://www.southwestventuresfund.co.uk/>

MMC Ventures

Scale: National

United Kingdom

Up to £500,000 investment for entrepreneurs to develop business ideas

Further info at <http://www.mmcventures.com/>

NESTA Ventures

Scale: National

Invest directly in early-stage companies

More info at <http://www.nesta.org.uk/>

Loan Finance

Accelerator Fund

Scale: Regional

Loan fund that supports SMEs in the South East with potential for significant growth

Finance South East scheme at the South East England Development Agency
www.financesoutheast.com / 01276 608510 (email: mail@financesoutheast.com)

Business Angels - Greater London

Scale: Regional

The London Business Angels provides financial support, as well as marketing, financial and strategic management expertise to both start-up and growing businesses. Further info at www.lbangels.co.uk

Elderstreet Investments

Scale: Regional

This venture capital fund provides early stage and development capital for growing businesses. Further info at www.elderstreet.com

Carbon Trust Venture Capital & Interest free loans

Scale: National

Further info at http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/climatechange/investors/vc_investors.htm 0800 085 2005

United Kingdom

Carbon Trust Enhanced Capital Allowances

Scale: National

Further info at www.eca.gov.uk

Financial Incentives

Selective Finance for Investment in England (SFIE)

Scale: National

Up to £2million (35%), further info at www.london-innovation.org.uk

Removal of road fuel duty

Scale: National

HMRC announced that users of less than 2500 litres a year will now no longer need to register with Customs and Excise and pay road fuel duty as of the 30th of June.

Further info at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/>

RTFO Certificate scheme

Scale: National

In April 2008 the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO) certificate scheme will mean a price reduction for heavier users of fuel. The certificate scheme will be in addition to current 2500 litre limit exemption. Further info at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/environment/rtfo/>

Treasury Invest to Save Budget (ISB)

Scale: National

ISB provides the initial financial backing to public sector projects that demonstrate the capacity to achieve sustainability.

Further info at <http://www.isb.gov.uk/hmt.isb.application.2/index.asp>

ANNEX I

ANNEX I: Bio-NETT Financial Assistance Questionnaire

Partner	
Country	
Project Number	

Business Grants:	Local/Regional/National
Community Grants:	Local/Regional/National
Sources of Private Capital:	Local/Regional/National
Loan Finance:	Local/Regional/National
Financial Incentives:	Local/Regional/National

Signed:

Name:

Name of Organisation:

Date:

ANNEX II

ANNEX II: Financial Assistance opportunities in England

OTHER BUSINESS GRANTS

Selective Finance for Investment in England – London

This scheme provides financial support to assist businesses with new investment projects that lead to long-term improvements in productivity, skills and employment in Assisted Areas.

Funding can be used for:

- launching a new business
- modernising, expanding, or reorganising an existing business
- taking a new product, service or process from the development stage to production
- to set up research and development facilities

Minimum amount: £10,000.

The level of grant depends on the needs of the project and its impact on productivity and skills. Successful businesses typically receive around 10 to 15 per cent of a project's total eligible capital expenditure.

Eligibility

Projects must:

- be undertaken within one of the Assisted Areas of England
- be unable to go ahead without a grant
- involve expenditure on fixed assets, such as property, plant and machinery
- create new jobs or safeguard existing employment
- be viable and help the business become more competitive
- contribute positive benefits to both the regional and national economy

Additional Info

Assisted Areas are areas of the English regions that have relatively low levels of economic activity and high and persistent unemployment. Contact scheme organisers for further details.

Website:	www.london-innovation.org.uk/server.php?show=nav.008003005
Contact:	London Development Agency (LDA)
Address:	The Business Grants Team Palestra 197 Blackfriars Road SE1 8AA
Tel:	020 7593 8688
Email:	sfi@lda.gov.uk

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Charities Main Grants Programme

The scheme provides a grant to charities which will support a variety of projects that benefit the local community.

Min amount: £5,000.

Max amount: Discretionary.

Eligibility

Applicants must be a registered charity.

Website:	www.cloreduffield.org.uk/main_intro.htm
Contact:	Clore Duffield Foundation
Address:	Studio 3 Chelsea Manor Studios Flood Street London SW3 5SR
Tel:	0207 351 6061

LOANS BUSINESS LINK

Business Angels - Greater London

The London Business Angels provides financial support, as well as marketing, financial and strategic management expertise to both start-up and growing businesses.

Minimum amount: £100,000.

Maximum amount: £750,000.

Eligibility

Applicants must fulfil the following selection criteria.

Businesses must:

- be based within the Greater London area
- have a clear technological advantage
- have a strong, experienced management team
- have a product or service that can be quickly taken to market
- be prepared to accept syndicates of angel investors with part-time representation on board
- be an independent company (no more than 30 per cent subsidiary)

Evaluation

ANNEX II

Investors favour high-growth companies with a sustainable unique selling point.

Additional Info

- Applicants must submit a full business plan.
- The majority of Business Angels investments are for periods of three to five years.
- Applicants will be expected to pay a registration fee. Contact London Business Angels for further details.

Website:	www.lbangels.co.uk
Contact:	London Business Angels
Address:	New City Court 20 St Thomas Street London SE1 9RS
Tel:	0207 089 2303
Email:	sarah@lbangels.co.uk

Elderstreet Investments

This venture capital fund provides early stage and development capital for growing businesses.

Maximum amount: £5 million.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- be an established business in the UK
- be in a growth market
- have a business plan and a strong management team

Additional Info

Contact Elderstreet Investments for details of eligible sectors.

Website:	www.elderstreet.com
Contact:	Elderstreet Investments Limited
Address:	32 Bedford Row London WC1R 4HE
Tel:	020 7831 5088
Fax:	020 7831 5077
Email:	admin@elderstreet.com

ANNEX II

Northern Venture Managers (NVM) Limited - Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Northern Venture Managers (NVM) is an independent firm of venture capital managers. It invests in companies operating in a broad range of industry sectors, including:

- manufacturing
- engineering
- IT
- design
- catering

Min amount: £1 million.

Max amount: £7.5 million.

Eligibility

NVM specialises in making equity investments in UK unquoted companies.

Website:	www.nvm.co.uk
Contact:	Northern Venture Managers (NVM) Limited - Newcastle
Address:	Northumberland House Princess Square Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8ER
Tel:	0191 244 6000
Fax:	0191 244 6001
Email:	new@nvm.co.uk

London Seed Capital Fund

The London Seed Capital (LSC) is an early stage, venture capital fund aimed at high growth businesses located in London or the Home Counties.

LSC can invest a maximum of £100,000 in the first round, alongside a minimum of £100,000 of business angel investment.

The LSC is only able to invest where its investment is at least matched by business angels.

Additional Info

LSC operates in conjunction with the London Business Angel network through which the majority of the required matched business angel investment is likely to be sourced.

Website:	www.londonseedcapital.com
Contact:	London Seed Capital Limited
Address:	New City Court 20 St Thomas Street London SE1 9RS

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Tel:	020 7089 2338
Fax:	020 7089 2301
Email:	robert@londonseedcapital.com

Small Firms Loan Guarantee Scheme (SFLGS)

The scheme provides a loan guarantee so businesses can access finances that may not otherwise be available to them.

Provides a guarantee for loans of up to £250,000.

Applicants are required to pay two per cent per annum on the outstanding balance to the organiser.

Loans may not be given under the scheme simply to replace existing financing arrangements.

Businesses must have an annual turnover of less than £5.6million.

Website:	www.uksteelenterprise.co.uk/index.php?page=finance&sub=sflgs@ion=north&cm0=42&cm1=0&cm2=46
Contact:	UK Steel Enterprise
Address:	The Innovation Centre Vienna Court Kirkleatham Business Park Redcar TS10 5SH
Tel:	01642 777 888
Fax:	01642 777 999
Email:	north@uksteelenterprise.co.uk

East End Micro-credit Consortium

The scheme provides a number of loans to start-up businesses that are run by women in the London area.

- First loan maximum amount: £500.
- Second loan maximum amount: £1,000.
- Third loan maximum amount: £1,500.
- Fourth loan maximum amount: £2,000.

Eligibility

Businesses must be based in London and run by women.

Website:	www.quakersocialaction.com/streetcred.htm
Contact:	Street Cred

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Address:	45-47 Blythe Street London E2 6LN
Tel:	020 7729 9267

B. P. Marsh - Venture Capital

The scheme provides equity funding to businesses operating in the financial services sector and looking to grow.

Max amount: £2.5million.

Eligibility

Applicants must operate in the financial services sector.

Website:	www.bpmarsh.co.uk
Contact:	BP Marsh
Address:	Granville House, 132 Sloane Street London SW1X 9AX
Tel:	020 7730 2626
Fax:	020 7823 5225

Bestport Ventures

The scheme provides equity finance to small businesses in order to help them grow and develop.

Min amount: £250,000.

Max amount: £2million.

Website:	www.bestport.co.uk
Contact:	Bestport Ventures
Address:	29 Gloucester Place London W1U 8HX
Tel:	020 7487 2555
Fax:	020 7487 5535

Endless Equity Investment

The scheme provides equity finance to businesses with high growth potential.

Min amount: £1million.

Max amount: £20million.

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Website:	www.endlessllp.com
Contact:	Endless
Address:	3 Whitehall Quay Leeds LS1 4BF
Tel:	0113 210 4000
Fax:	0845 280 2411

Enterprise Growth Fund

The scheme provides equity to finance combined with targeted tax breaks for private investors.

Max amount: Discretionary.

Website:	www.enterprisepe.com/render.aspx?siteID=1&navIDs=1,10
Contact:	Enterprise Private Equity
Address:	113/123 Upper Richmond Road London SW15 2TL
Tel:	020 8246 6400
Fax:	020 8780 1563

ETC Capital

The scheme aims to help entrepreneurs develop and their ideas and grow their business by providing them with equity investment.

Max amount: Discretionary.

Website:	www.etcapital.com/index.htm
Contact:	ETC Capital
Address:	St John's Innovation Centre Cowley Road Cambridge CB4 0WS
Tel:	01223 422 010
Fax:	01223 422 011

Kelso Place Asset Management

The scheme provides businesses with equity finance and support services to help them expand.

Max amount: Discretionary.

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Website:	www.kelsoplace.com
Contact:	Kelso Place Asset Management
Address:	110 St Martin's Lane London WC2N 4BA
Tel:	020 7836 0000
Fax:	020 7836 1001

Key Capital

The scheme provides equity finance to profitable businesses with high growth potential in order to help their development.

Min amount: £1million.

Max amount: £5million.

Website:	www.keycapitalpartners.co.uk
Contact:	Key Capital partners
Address:	Princes Exchange Princes Square Leeds LS1 4HY
Tel:	0113 280 5824

Longbow Venture Capital

The scheme provides equity finance to early stage businesses looking to increase sales and awareness of their product.

Max amount: Discretionary.

Website:	www.longbow.co.uk
Contact:	Longbow
Address:	25 Watling Street London EC4M 9BR
Tel:	020 7332 0320

Next Wave Partners

The scheme provides businesses with high growth potential with a range of equity finance to help them grow.

Min amount: £1million.

Max amount: £5million.

ANNEX II

Website:	www.nextwave-ventures.com
Contact:	Next Wave Partners
Address:	71 Wimpole Street London W1G 8AY
Tel:	0870 760 6395

Iceni Seedcorn Fund

The scheme provides equity finance to businesses looking to implement a development projects. It favours early stage projects.

Max amount: Discretionary.

Eligibility

Investment will only be made in projects that:

- arise from research carried out in one of the partner institutes or from a collaboration with a partner institute
- do not comprise established companies
- represents a real commercial opportunity that is accessible and sustainable

Website:	www.icenifund.com
Contact:	Iceni Seedcorn Fund
Address:	The Registry University of East Anglia Norwich Norfolk NR4 7TJ
Tel:	01603 593 894

Adventure Capital Fund - Main Investment Fund

Provides financial assistance to community enterprises which have the potential to make a major contribution to their communities.

The fund may be used to provide working capital or revenue costs, to finance the purchase or refurbishment of a capital asset.

Minimum amount: £50,000.

Maximum amount: £750,000.

Eligibility

Community organisations that are already undertaking enterprise activity in England, may apply.

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Additional Info

The investment must enable an organisation to develop its enterprising activities to become a sound, sustainable business which can make a major contribution to its community.

Website:	www.adventurecapitalfund.org.uk
Contact:	Adventure Capital Fund
Address:	Ground Floor Ibex House 42-47 Minories London EC3N 1DY
Tel:	020 7488 3455
Fax:	020 7488 9231
Email:	info@adventurecapitalfund.org

Adventure Capital Fund - The Managed Workspace Fund

The Managed Workspace Fund provides investments to community enterprises looking to set up a managed workspace facility.

Maximum amount: discretionary.

Eligibility

Community organisations that are already undertaking enterprise activity in England, may apply.

Website:	www.adventurecapitalfund.org.uk/content/view/35/49/
Contact:	Adventure Capital Fund
Address:	Ground Floor Ibex House 42-47 Minories London EC3N 1DY
Tel:	020 7488 3455
Fax:	020 7488 9231
Email:	info@adventurecapitalfund.org

LONDON REMADE

Enhance London

Enhance helps develop businesses and social enterprises that reduce London's waste, reuse resources or work with recycled materials.

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The Enhance programme is supported by £4.8 million from the London Development Agency.

Enhance would like to award several capital grants for:

- over £100,000
- between £20,000 and £100,000
- up to £20,000

Website:	www.enhancelondon.co.uk
Contact:	Enhance London
Tel:	020 7061 6369 (businesses) or 020 7324 4694 (social enterprises).
Email:	info@enhancelondon.co.uk

DTI ALL SCHEMES

BERRs Technology Programme

£100 million for UK business to research and develop new technologies from environmentally friendly low carbon projects to leading edge manufacturing.

Over the period 2005-2008, £320 million is available to businesses in the form of grants to support research and development in the technology areas identified by the Technology Strategy Board.

Website:	http://www.dti.gov.uk
Contact:	Department of Trade and Industry
Address:	Department of Trade and Industry 7th Floor 1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET
Tel:	Public Enquiries +44 (0)20 7215 5000 Textphone +44 (0)20 7215 6740 (for those with hearing impairment)

Carbon trust Venture Capital

For technology that has commercial potential, can demonstrate its feasibility and have potential co-investors.

Typical investment between £250k-£1.5m per deal as a minority stakeholder alongside private sector investors on the same terms.

Website:	http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/investments/venturecapital/selection_criteria.htm
Contact:	Venture Capital Team
Address:	The Carbon Trust

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	8th Floor 3 Clement's Inn London WC2A 2AZ
Tel:	Tel: 020 7170 7000
Fax:	Fax: 020 7170 7020
Email:	invest@thecarbontrust.co.uk

Shell Springboard

Shell Springboard is a programme that provides a financial boost to innovative, low carbon business ideas from across the UK.

Up to 6 awards of between £20,000 and £40,000 are on offer in each of 3 UK regions.

In short, the judges are looking for business plans for a product or service which:

- will lead to greenhouse gas reductions;
- are commercially viable; and
- are innovative.

Eligibility

If you are a business set up as a sole trader, partnership, limited company or community interest company (including university or government spin-outs)

- have been established for a minimum of 3 months
- have less than 250 employees
- operate in the UK
- have a project which is your own and/or which you are free to disclose
- have a project that has not been previously supported by a Shell Springboard award

Website:	www.shellspringboard.org
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WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme)

The award of Capital Grants are made on a competitive basis (the best applications are awarded support) where a project proposal meets the specific criteria, objectives and evaluation criteria defined by WRAP, a financial award is offered (subject to a contract) towards the capital cost of plant, equipment, land and infrastructure relating to the project costs.

Eligibility

Often there are no restrictions on the type or size of organisation that can apply. Sometimes the size and location of an applicant can affect the amount of funding they are eligible for and applicants will need to look at the specific application pack carefully.

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Website:	www.wrap.org.uk
Contact:	WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme)
Address:	WRAP, The Old Academy, 21 Horse Fair, Banbury, OX16 0AH.
Tel:	08081112040

First LIFE+

The deadline for the submission of proposals to the Member States is 30 November 2007. The final LIFE+ application package is now available. A total amount of €187 million is available for this first call for proposals.

With a budget of €2.143 billion (for the period 2007-2013), LIFE+ is a limited but focused funding instrument providing specific support for the development and implementation of Community environmental policy and legislation, in particular the objectives of the 6th EAP (Decision 1600/2002/EC) and resulting thematic strategies.

Website:	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm www.htspe.com
Contact:	Contact person for LIFE-Environment: Gillian Storey
Address:	LIFE-Environment and LIFE-Nature Astrale GEIE – HTSPE Development Innovation House 39 Mark Road Hemel Hempstead UK – (Herts) HP2 7DN
Tel:	+44.1442.202440
Fax:	+44.1442.266438
Email:	htspe@astrale.org

DEFRA

Energy Crops

Grants to establish energy crops

Establishment grants of £1000 per hectare for short rotation coppice (willow or poplar) and £920 per hectare for miscanthus (a tall, woody grass) are available. [The enhanced rate of £1,600 per hectare for short rotation coppice on ex-livestock land is under review following CAP reform.]

Applicants need to demonstrate that they have or will have an energy end-use for the crops. This could be:

ANNEX II

- a biomass power plant
- a community energy scheme using combined heat and power (CHP).
- Heat for a small business or home (including own use).

The end-use(s) must be within a reasonable distance of the crops (generally 10 miles for small installations, 25 miles for power plants). Applications must be for at least 3 hectares and are subject to environmental checks.

Website:	www.defra.gov.uk
Contact:	Establishment Grants
Address:	Organic and Energy Crops National Implementation Team Crewe
Tel:	01270 754 000
Email:	Organic-energy@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Funding to set up producer groups

Producer groups must be legally formed by and consist of members who are growing short rotation coppice for an energy end-use. [Grant aid for miscanthus producer groups may be available under the forth-coming Bio-energy Infrastructure Scheme]. Up to 50% of the costs of setting up the group is available (maximum £200,000 per group).

Eligible expenditure includes;

- Purchase of specialist equipment
- Staff costs
- Specialist fees
- Office accommodation
- Publicity and promotion

Website:	www.defra.gov.uk
Contact:	Producer Groups and Bio-energy Infrastructure Scheme
Address:	Agri-industrial Materials Branch London
Tel:	020 7238 5317
Email:	industrialcrops@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Closed July/June 2006

SPRINGBOARD

Incubator Programme – Carbon Trust

The Carbon Trust launched its Low Carbon Incubator programme in April 2004.

Priority will be given to novel solutions that fall into the 'focus' and 'consider' areas of the [Low Carbon Technology Assessment LCTA](#). For enabling technologies a case must be

ANNEX II

made based on the emissions reduction which they make possible, for instance if electrical energy storage enables additional generation from renewable energy sources.

The Carbon Trust provides up to £60K of advisory support per accepted start-up/spin-out company, paid directly to our incubator partners for services provided to the company being incubated.

There are also criteria for exit from the incubator, and companies are expected to make continual progress whilst in the incubator, and to work with the incubator partner to meet agreed milestones.

Companies typically spend 12-18 months in the incubator.

Website:	http://www.thecarbontrust.co.uk/technology/incubator/
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Applicants should contact the four incubators separately

Angle Technology Limited

Contact:	Mark Bornhoft
Address:	ANGLE plc 20 Nugent Road Surrey Research Park Guildford GU2 7AF
Tel:	Tel:01483295830
Email:	carbontrust@angleplc.com

Imperial Innovations Ltd

Contact:	Alfred Dietel Senior Executive, New Ventures
Address:	Imperial Innovations 12th Floor, Electrical and Electronic Engineering Building Imperial College South Kensington London SW7 2AZ
Tel:	020 7594 1102
Email:	a.dietel@imperial.ac.uk

Isis innovation Ltd

Contact:	Dr Mark Mawhinney
Address:	Isis Innovation Limited

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	Ewert House Ewert Place Summertown Oxford OX2 7SG
Tel:	01865 280902
Email:	mark.mawhinney@isis.ox.ac.uk

TTP PLC

Contact:	Dianna Butler
Address:	Cambridge Road Melbourn Royston Hertfordshire SG8 6EE
Tel:	01763 262626
Fax:	01763 262265
Email:	carbontrust@tppgroup.com

NESTA Invention and Innovation

NESTA Ventures

We invest directly in early-stage companies.

Our portfolio covers a range of sectors

- Engineering
- Environmental Technology
- Information and Communications Technology

We thoroughly analyse all of our prospective investments. When we do invest, we aim to maximise our investment by assigning mentors, part-time managers or specialist support.

How we invest

- Our evergreen fund is around £5m per annum, building to £25m over five years.
- We seek to invest up to £500,000 over several rounds in each company and have the ability to act as a lead investor. In exceptional circumstances, we can provide follow-on investment to existing portfolio companies, beyond this level.

Website:	www.nesta.org.uk
Contact:	NESTA Ventures

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Address:	NESTA Ventures 1 Plough Place London EC4A 1DE
Tel:	020 7438 2500
Fax:	020 7438 2501
Email:	Investments@nesta.org.uk