



Smart Productivity

Securing Sustainable Development
in the English Regions



In just one year, the nine regional development agencies have:

Created/safeguarded 100,000 jobs

Brought in £754 million from private sector investment

Enabled 200,000 people to receive training opportunities

Brought 1,000 hectares of brownfield back into use

Helped start up 7,500 enterprises

These figures refer to 12 month period 2004/05.

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Getting 'smart'

While our 2004 publication, **Smart Growth**, demonstrated that Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) are contributing to sustainable development, **Smart Productivity**, an initiative undertaken in partnership with Defra, aims to bring together an evidence base of RDA interventions which support both regional economic growth and sustainable development principles at the same time.

The case studies have been grouped around the five drivers of productivity: enterprise, competition, investment, innovation and skills which reflect the four priorities of the UK sustainable development strategy: sustainable consumption and production; climate change and energy; natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and sustainable communities. Introductions to each of the economic drivers aim to define 'smart productivity' and suggest ways in which it could be measured.

Building on the traditional approach to improving labour productivity, 'smart productivity' (a term coined for this report) recognises that longterm gains rather than short term fixes, the flow of resources, and the ability of innovation to get more from less are critical if we are serious about increasing economic growth in line with sustainable development principles. In terms of resources, a good example of this is underlined here in the East of England where it has been estimated that £229 million a year could be added to our region's economy through the improved use of resources by our businesses: a sum which would require considerably more effort to achieve through business growth alone.

The scope of the work showcased is wide, although strong support for the renewable energy sector reflects the expected sector growth rate of 25% over the next five years. Since the publication of **Smart Growth**, I am delighted to see progress has been made on

a number of renewable initiatives including on the world's first 20MW Wave Hub, supported by the South West of England Regional Development Agency, which has recently secured the first three companies to use its facilities after it is installed in 2008. Progress is needed to ensure that regional economic performance indicators better capture the full range of sustainable development outcomes/outputs and strategic added value. On page 30 we have included some tools which could be more widely used and developed to support our investment decisions.

English RDAs would welcome the opportunity to work alongside the government to continue to improve the evidence base on 'smart productivity', enabling better alignment with the RDAs' public service agreements. We need to also be mindful of getting 'smart' in terms of delivery of business advice, ensuring that sustainable development-related issues become part of an efficient 'fit for

purpose' advice package rather than regarded as an optional extra – something I, and the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, John Healey, hope to start to address through the taskforce on business energy efficiency.

I hope you will agree that this report shows some encouraging work which demonstrates the foresight of the RDAs in 'doing things differently' and of the dedication of the individuals involved in delivering these initiatives on the ground. Although we still have a long journey to make towards having a low carbon economy, I am hopeful we are getting closer to removing the barriers preventing us from making faster progress.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Ellis', with a horizontal line underneath.

Richard Ellis
Chairman, East of England
Development Agency

Achieving a sustainable economy

In April 2006, the Government published **Securing the Regions' Futures**, our approach to strengthening delivery of sustainable development in the English regions. It echoed the Government's ambition, as set out in the UK sustainable development strategy, to achieve a sustainable economy, not as an end in itself but as a means of creating a strong, healthy and just society which lives within environmental limits.

Under **Securing the Regions' Futures**, we committed to work with the Regional Development Agencies in order to publish **Smart Productivity**. This document follows an earlier publication called **Smart Growth** and so represents a further step in the progress being made to achieve a sustainable economy.

As part of reinforcing economic stability and long-term success, the Government is committed to enhancing the economic performance of all nations and regions in the UK through tackling market failures in the five drivers of productivity – enterprise, competition, investment, innovation and skills. 'Smart productivity' is sustainable productivity – it adds to rather than depletes the country's environmental and social capital over the long-term. Our economic prosperity depends on these assets and as a society we are becoming increasingly aware of the pressures on them. Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) have a leading role to play in fostering and investing in 'smart productivity'. This publication highlights some excellent practical examples of RDA-funded projects which, in line with regional economic strategies, generate economic value whilst also delivering a range of environmental and social benefits.

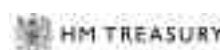
We face some profound challenges over the next decade: increasing demographic change and globalisation, climate and environmental change as well as far-reaching changes in technology. These challenges demand innovation and new ways of working. None more so than the way we can harness enterprise, competition, investment, innovation and skills as drivers for more resource-efficient, productive businesses and a better quality of life overall.

We welcome this publication. The case studies it includes contribute to a growing evidence base about the way in which sustainable productivity can be pursued. This is not an easy task and we will work across government and with Regional Development Agencies to continue to improve the evidence base on 'smart productivity'.

We hope that the case studies shown here will inspire further innovation in every region in order to maximise investment in 'smart productivity'.



John Healey
Financial Secretary to the
Treasury



Ian Pearson
Minister of State
Climate Change and
the Environment



Margaret Hodge
Minister of State for
Industry and the Regions



ENTERPRISE

Enterprise requires a 'can-do' attitude, plus the skills to apply it to business opportunities. Enterprise is measured by the number of VAT registrations: how many entrepreneurs turn their idea into business reality.

Smart enterprise could be measured to reflect the number of new company start-ups that contribute to protecting natural resources or integrate social principles.

Yorkshire Forward

Helping sales rise

A key aim of Defra's sustainable food and farming strategy is to help small regional producers develop new markets. In the nation's biggest food-producing region, Yorkshire Forward is turning the strategy into reality by helping food and drink businesses grow, export and diversify.

Yorkshire Forward funds the Regional Food Group for Yorkshire and Humber (RFGYH), which acts on behalf of companies producing or selling food and drink in the region. The group provides a support network for the food and drink industry. It acts as an information centre, holding exhibitions and 'meet the buyer' forums to introduce producers to new markets. Each of its 250 members, ranging from brewers to sauce-makers, can market their produce

under the DeliciouslyYorkshire brand. A DeliciouslyYorkshire breakfast has been created for the hospitality industry, helping save food miles by promoting locally-sourced ingredients.

RFGYH has **created 466 jobs in total and safeguarded another 900**. It has helped set up **35 new businesses** and attracted **over £1 million of private finance**. The group has generated **turnover of £12.6 million** as a direct result of its activity.

Yorkshire Forward's contribution to the RFGYH for 2002-2006 is £1.6 million, amounting to 59% of the funding. The rest is provided by Food from Britain and the private sector.

www.foodyorkshire.co.uk/rfg

RDA contribution = 59%



RFGYH helped the Real Yorkshire Pudding Company expand its sales into a nationwide deal with ASDA.

East of England Development Agency

Blown and grown

The East of England is uniquely positioned to develop energy technologies from 'blown and grown' sources. Its long coastline offers great potential for harnessing wind and tidal power and its landscape contains a high proportion of arable land for growing fuel crops. The region has a thriving environmental technologies industry and, being near to large areas of demand, it is well placed to help the whole country secure energy from within its borders. By 2010, the region aims to produce **14% of its electricity** from renewable energy.

In the driving seat is Renewables East, founded in 2003 by the East of England Development Agency to bring in a full range of low carbon energy solutions and seize the opportunities presented by an emerging global market for the region.

The wind industry is currently investing £8-10 billion to establish almost a dozen offshore wind farms, with the potential to generate **6,000MW of energy**, off the region's coast. Renewables East will help harness the economic potential that these developments bring to the region with the opening of OrbisEnergy, an offshore renewable energy centre located at Ness Point in Lowestoft, towards the end of 2007. Offering space for up to 30 small to medium-sized companies and employing up to 150 people, OrbisEnergy is set to become a central hub for products and services in the offshore renewable energy sector,

including wind, wave and tidal technologies. The East of England Development Agency is contributing £3.65 million towards the cost of constructing the £6.25 million centre.

On land, Renewables East is helping to bring bioethanol to market. This renewable source of energy can be blended with petrol to reduce hydrocarbon consumption and air pollution. Bioethanol can be produced from wheat or sugar beet, both of which are major crops for the East of England. Research commissioned by EEDA in 2003 showed that the region has the potential to produce over one million tonnes of bioethanol from its agriculture and indicated **a net job gain of 970 jobs per 100,000 tonnes of production**. Since then, with the support of Renewables East, British Sugar has begun construction of a £20 million bioethanol plant in Wisington, Norfolk, capable of producing 55,000 tonnes of bioethanol a year. Renewables East is helping to create a market, too, recently helping to make bioethanol available to British motorists for the first time. E85 'Harvest Bioethanol', a fuel that reduces carbon emissions by 50% per mile, is now on sale at Morrisons forecourts in Norfolk and Suffolk. The UK Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation states that by 2010, 5% of all fuel sales must be biofuel, reducing vehicle emissions equivalent to removing one million cars from the roads.

www.britishbioethanol.co.uk
www.renewableseast.org.uk

RDA contribution = 58% (OrbisEnergy construction) and 82% (Renewables East)

Offshore wind turbines
near Great Yarmouth



County Durham farmer John Seymour
with his valuable fuel crop



One NorthEast

Farm to forecourt

Motorists in the North East can now fill up with a cleaner, greener fuel – grown and processed locally. Around 20 garages in the region are selling biodiesel, a blend of conventional diesel and fuel derived from oils such as rapeseed which can be used in any diesel-powered vehicle. The number of these specially-branded biodiesel garages is set to reach 30 in the next two years under the One Green Route project. This initiative to market biodiesel to private and commercial drivers is supported by One NorthEast and is helping to raise awareness and increase everyday use of the fuel. Biodiesel is a market with potential: European demand for biodiesel has more than tripled to three million tonnes since 2002 and is predicted to rise to nine million tonnes by 2010.

Northeast Biofuels, a not-for-profit group, was created four years ago to keep the region at the forefront of an emerging industry. Its members range from farmers to fuel producers – biodiesel can benefit both the rural and industrial sectors. Farmers are helped to see the potential of a profitable fuel crop, and refiners, marketers and distributors of biodiesel are building up their business: Europe's largest biodiesel complex for turning oilseed rape into fuel recently began operations at Seal Sands in Teesside and overall

up to 270 jobs will be created in the region in the funding period.

Until now, biodiesel has been imported, but every part of the process, from farm to forecourt, can now be grown and produced locally in Teesside. A March 2006 assessment of the biofuels supply chain says that crops grown and processed into biodiesel in the region can deliver **carbon reductions of 66%** compared with conventional ultra low sulphur diesel. A well-developed biodiesel supply chain has the potential for **net primary energy savings of 97%**, **CO₂ emissions savings of 94%**, and total **greenhouse gas emissions savings of 57%**, compared to the production of conventional diesel from crude oil.

Northeast Biofuels is working with biofuels investors throughout the UK, recognising both the Energy White Paper and the UK Government's Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation which requires 5% biofuels in petrol and diesel by 2010.

One NorthEast is contributing around £180,000 to the Biofuels Development project and the One Green Route initiative over three years and is also investing across a wide range of biofuel, bioenergy and biomass activities.

www.northeastbiofuels.co.uk

RDA contribution = approx 33% (Northeast Biofuel activities)

London Development Agency

Closing the loop

The Ford Motor Company now implements a closed loop policy on all its office paper and cast iron components. This means it uses only recycled material and then recycles after use. Last year, Ford diverted 10 tonnes of waste from landfill by recycling its IT equipment. It has also found a new market in sludge. Ground up, it can be made into briquettes for use in steelmaking and road surfacing. Ford is also trialling recycled glass-based water filters for industrial water recycling.

Ford, along with 51 FTSE 100 companies, has signed up to the Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code. Launched in 2001, the Mayor's Code supports the municipal waste strategy of tripling recycling rates, helping stimulate the market for recyclates by encouraging purchasing of quality recycled products at competitive prices. Companies signing up to the Mayor's Code can enter at a number of levels, from registering interest to agreeing

targets on buying products made from recycled content. So far, signatories have spent over **£221 million on recycled products** and there has been a **nine-fold increase** in purchases of recycled goods made in the past year. The Mayor's Code has helped give reassurances on technical quality. The creation of a steady and reliable stream of products back into recycling is helping to encourage the development of innovative recycling technologies.

Nearly 500 organisations, as well as all 33 London Boroughs, have signed up to the Code. Signatories can receive free advice from London Remade brokers. In 2004/5, the initiative helped **divert 380,000 tonnes of waste** from landfill as well as **creating or safeguarding a total of 480 jobs**. The Mayor's Code is being further improved and expanded.

The London Development Agency has invested £1 million over three years to support this project.

www.londonremade.com/mgpc.asp



Waste sludge from Ford is now made into briquettes for steelmaking.

COMPETITION

Competition is all about companies finding an edge over others, to help secure longer-term survival. Competition drives smart productivity when it encourages companies to innovate, adopt new technologies and minimise inefficiency to achieve growth more quickly.

Competition is currently measured by the number of companies per head of population. A measure of smart competition could reflect success in terms of social and environmental impact, as well as profit.

London Development Agency

Enhancing the supply chain

The Green Bottle Unit, a social enterprise and offshoot of the Free Form Arts Trust charity, aims to bring beautiful, sustainable and saleable 100% recycled glass products to the building industry market. Green Bottle is one of many London enterprises listed on the Green Directory held by **enhance**. This is a business support programme for the development of new and existing small and medium-sized enterprises and social enterprises involved in recycling, reprocessing or remanufacturing. **enhance** helps them exploit the commercial opportunities presented by the public and private sector supply chain, the potential of which has been increased by recent sustainable public procurement initiatives.



The Regent Canal towpath in Islington is marked by recycled glass signs made by the Green Bottle Unit.

enhance raises business awareness of the need for quantified, quality processes, sustainable development policies, managed audited accounts and health and safety certification. The **enhance** team of business experts helps companies overcome barriers and provides mentoring and advice on business development; funding; obtaining premises; marketing, training and sector information.

Outputs to date include: **115 jobs created or safeguarded; five businesses created; six businesses expanded/retained; 376 business advice and 486 business consultancy sessions.**

The £1.8 million programme is 100% funded by the London Development Agency (from November 2004 to March 2007) and is delivered by London Remade and the London Community Recycling Network, with steering group support from WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme).

www.enhancelondon.co.uk

RDA contribution = 100%

Northwest Regional Development Agency

Office savings

ENWORKS delivery partner Groundworks Blackburn helped office furniture manufacturer Senator International knock £10,000 off its annual electricity bill and save over 100 tonnes of CO₂, by suggesting a £25,000 initial investment in energy-efficient lighting. It also helped Senator reduce waste disposal costs with a 150% increase in recycling, and save £110,000 by investing in computer-aided cutting equipment to maximise material use.

Senator is just one of 1,000 businesses that have been assisted by consultancy members of ENWORKS, an organisation which helps businesses in the North West of England improve their economic performance while reducing their impact on the environment. ENWORKS advisers use a range of tools to audit a company's environmental performance, and then produce a tailored action plan. ENWORKS provides both immediate and ongoing support to help turn good intent into practical action. An award-winning online toolkit allows organisations to spot where resource efficiencies can be made and quantifies results afterwards.

In a region where, in 2005, the manufacturing sector was estimated to contribute £19 billion to the region's GDP, ENWORKS, liaising with Business Links, has steered firms towards £8 million worth of savings, with a

further £10 million expected in the next two years.

ENWORKS estimates that a total of **38,000 tonnes of waste** have been diverted from landfill, and **200,000 tonnes of construction waste** have been recycled in the region. From June 2004 to September 2005, ENWORKS helped companies cut emissions of CO₂ by **35,000 tonnes**, water use by **360,000 cubic metres** and avoided the need to purchase **2.2 million tonnes of raw material**.

ENWORKS has **safeguarded a total of 5,500 jobs** and contributed to the region's skill base, with **1,100 people training** to attain formal qualifications in environmental management. In October 2005, it was recognised by the European Commission as an example of best practice in clearly fostering the principle of sustainable development.

Supporting business in a region which contains over three-quarters of the UK's top 100 firms is one of the Northwest Regional Development Agency's top five priorities. The Agency has funded ENWORKS with a total of £5.4 million over five years. In the past two years the Agency has funded 70% of ENWORKS' activity. Funding also comes from European sources and the private sector, notably United Utilities.

www.enworks.com

RDA contribution = 70%



Energy-saving lighting at office
furniture makers Senator

Water-saving reedbeds
encourage biodiversity



Water margin

Sheepdrove is an organic farm that means business. On 2,000 acres of Berkshire downland sheep, pigs, cattle and poultry and a wide range of arable crops are farmed according to organic principles. A conference centre, built to award-winning sustainable principles, hosts business and educational events for up to 200 people. Sheepdrove is highly committed to the sustainable use of water, making an annual saving of over 1,600 cubic metres of water – and £229,000 – with its natural reedbed water treatment and recycling system. A range of water-saving devices are built into the conference centre.

Sheepdrove Organic Farm is just one business in the South East of England which benefits from the unique network of organisations promoting a range of sustainable business practices. A Sustainable Business Partnership within each of the seven sub-regions shares experience and expertise, pools resources and develops innovative ways of engaging businesses in best practice.

An umbrella organisation, the South East Sustainable Business Group (SESBG), funded and chaired by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) since 2001, brings together those seven sub-regional partnerships as well as Business Links, the Environment Agency, Envirobusiness, Business in the Community, the Federation of Small

Business, Envirowise and the Carbon Trust to co-ordinate sustainable business activity in the region. In addition, the SESBG delivers, through its four action teams, region-wide partnership projects such as **egeneration**, an internet-based centre of excellence for building sustainable business, and Simple Utility Management Seminars (SUMS).

Since 2002, the Sustainable Business Partnerships (SBPs) have **directly engaged over 18,000 businesses**, helped provide **over 8,800 training places**, helped **advise over 11,000 businesses**, secured **£6.13 million of external funding**, achieved **£1.42 million of savings**, promoted **2,870 environmental suppliers**, diverted **48,633 tonnes of waste** from landfill and created a total of **39 full-time equivalent jobs**.

Last year Sheepdrove Organic Farm – along with two businesses supplying the renewable energy industry – was a winner in SEEDA's annual Sustainable Business Awards for the South East.

SEEDA contributes £70,000 to SBPs, £125,000 for the Sustainable Business Awards, and £250,000 over three years for **egeneration**. The SBPs also receive £210,000 of funding per annum to deliver the Agency's Business Resource Efficiency and Waste (BREW) Programme.

www.egeneration.co.uk

RDA contribution = 16%

Tomato source

Tomato grower John Baarda Ltd has one of the most technologically-advanced units in the UK, growing 360,000 plants at any one time. It has now provided the first-ever UK over-wintered tomatoes for our supermarket shelves – with the aid of Terra Nitrogen. Both companies are based in Billingham, Teesside. Terra supplies John Baarda with surplus CO₂ generated from the manufacture of ammonia; waste steam to heat the greenhouses, and low-cost electricity. This initiative removes approximately **250,000 food miles** by replacing imports of Spanish tomatoes and diverts **12,500 tonnes of waste CO₂** from the atmosphere each year. The new production site for the over-wintered tomatoes has brought **80-100 jobs** for the local community.



Tomatoes are grown with the help of the chemical industry.

Both businesses are members of the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP), a business opportunity programme which helps organisations to improve their resource efficiency. Started in the Midlands with funding from Advantage West Midlands, NISP is now a national programme, funded with £6 million in 2006/07 through the Business Resource Efficiency and Waste (BREW) programme which helps businesses achieve the waste reduction required by the additional Landfill Tax. Regional Development Agencies have contributed further funding of £900,000 via a proportion of their BREW funding.

Since April 2005 the NISP programme has helped to **divert more than 1.6 million tonnes of waste from landfill sites and created 342 new jobs overall**. Nationally, there has been a **reduction of 1.2 million tonnes of CO₂ and savings of more than £145 million to industry**. More than **238 jobs** have been safeguarded across the UK as a direct result of the programme and it has also seen **£22.3 million of private capital investment** in reprocessing and recycling. Member companies have generated an additional **£65 million of sales**. Industrial **water use has been reduced by 330,000 litres** and numerous brownfield sites have seen redevelopment.

www.nisp.org.uk
www.defra.gov.uk/Environment/waste/brew

RDA contribution = 15%



Making converters for the wind industry

Advantage West Midlands

Winds of change

Within 18 months of deciding to enter the wind energy industry, Rugby-based engineering company Converteam had secured **multi-million-pound orders** for its power converters and generators. This UK business success in an industry dominated by a strong mainland European supply chain was achieved with the help of WindSupply, a project set up to help engineering companies to diversify and apply their expertise to the new and fast-growing global wind energy market.

Wind turbines contain complex components and systems which offer British manufacturers and service companies many levels of opportunity. WindSupply maps and recruits relevant UK companies through workshops and a strong presence at the major international wind energy trade events. WindSupply's product innovation groups are successfully bringing together UK companies, universities and the existing market leaders to develop the latest technology.

The wind energy market is growing globally by almost 30% annually. With the UK market estimated at over £1 billion a year, this is a valuable new

industry whose potential is reflected in the growth of the project itself. WindSupply began in the West Midlands in 2003, with the support of Advantage West Midlands. Thousands of UK companies are now working with the project and **more than £250 million worth of orders** will be delivered over the next three years in the Midlands region alone. Unsurprisingly, other regions have seen the potential and WindSupply is beginning to replicate this success elsewhere with the support of the East Midlands Development Agency, the South East England Development Agency and with input from the Northwest Regional Development Agency, One NorthEast and Yorkshire Forward.

Current RDA investment in WindSupply is approximately £800,000, representing 85% of the total monetary contributions. Further funding is under discussion to take the project through to 2008, when it is expected that British firms will be firmly established within the global energy industry. WindSupply is also starting to link UK companies into the evolving wave, tidal and micro-generation markets.

www.windsupply.co.uk

RDA contribution = 85%

INVESTMENT

Investment in physical capital (the buildings, equipment and facilities which support economic activity) is a key determinant of economic growth.

A measure of smart investment could reflect the proportion of regional gross value added (GVA) spent on facilities which attain sustainable construction standards or the supply of low environmental impact products to the market.



One NorthEast

Wood power

As fuel prices continue to rise, Kielder village in Northumberland enjoys heating provided by the renewable source of energy all around it. Kielder, surrounded by England's largest man-made forest, has the UK's first wood-fuelled district heating scheme. The system heats and supplies hot water to the Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, business workshops, the village school, the youth hostel and to six new, three-bedroom homes. The 1,200 cubic metres of woodchip it takes annually to feed the system is provided by the Forestry Commission.

The woodchip-fuelled power plant **balances carbon emissions**: trees absorb as much carbon when they are growing as they release when they are burned and this scheme is **saving 155 tonnes of carbon emissions a year**. The woodland producing the woodchip is replanted with new trees. The technology for the 300kW boiler and heating network is fully automated so needs little maintenance. Members of the local community have been recruited and trained to manage the system, with full responsibility for delivering heat

to customers. At the core of the project is a social enterprise, Kielder community enterprises limited, whose activities have also included reopening the local petrol station, campsite and taxi-bus service.

This pilot project is part of a wider regional biomass initiative in the North East of England, aiming to achieve a target of 50MW of power produced from biomass by the end of the decade, enough to provide hot water for all the houses in Northumberland.

One NorthEast has contributed £250,000 to the £630,000 scheme, and has worked on this and a range of related issues in partnership with Tynedale Council, the Northumberland National Park Authority, Powergen, Northumberland Strategic Partnership, the Forestry Commission – and the local community.

www.kielder.org

RDA contribution = 39%

Chair of One NorthEast, Margaret Fay, in the Kielder woodchip store.

INVESTMENT



Bristol's Temple Quarter

South West of England Regional Development Agency

Regeneration Quarter

The South West of England Regional Development Agency's ambitions for creating sustainable communities in the region are set out in its 2005 proposals **The Way Ahead**. This shows how plans to build more homes across the region must go hand-in-hand with initiatives to strengthen the economy, enhance environmental and social performance and spread the benefits of sustainable economic growth evenly across the region.

The city of Bristol is one of five main centres identified by **The Way Ahead**. In the eastern sector of the city centre, a £750 million development provides a good demonstration of the proposal's aims of giving people in new homes access to good jobs in attractive towns and cities, as well as improving transport infrastructure.

Temple Quarter is a mixed-use city centre development on the major transport interchange of Temple Meads, encouraging people to live and work in the city centre and contributing to neighbourhood renewal and quality of life indicators such as jobs, transportation, housing, and access to open spaces. Throughout its construction, the South West of England Regional Development Agency's 'West at Work' programme will help local people develop the right skills to take

advantage of job opportunities arising from the development.

Temple Quarter will ultimately offer 2.5 million square feet of office space which includes **work space for 10,000 people**. To date, it has provided **jobs for 4,500 and 200 homes**. **Forty hectares of brownfield land have been reclaimed**. Temple Quarter's masterplan includes 1,000 homes, a hotel, retail space and catering facilities. The first major office development, occupied by government departments, has been built to sustainable standards and received a BREEAM rating of excellent. **Pedestrian-friendly facilities**, easy access to the Temple Meads transport hub and a rapid transport system are all incorporated in the plan. A new multi-use 10,000-seater Arena for the city, arising from the regenerated site of a former diesel depot within Temple Quarter, is also proposed.

The regeneration of Temple Quarter is showing a good financial return on the public sector investment. Around £21 million of the South West of England Regional Development Agency's £30 million initial funding has already been recovered. Temple Quarter is expected to bring in £1 billion of private sector investment and has drawn in £400 million so far.

www.templequarter.com

RDA contribution = 4%

Advantage West Midlands

Green energy

Advantage West Midlands is backing two pilot renewable energy projects and supporting rural diversity. In Staffordshire, it has provided £935,000 towards a £6.5 million scheme to develop the UK's first successful biomass power plant. The plant,

which is currently being built, will use miscanthus or 'elephant grass' as a solid biomass fuel. The 2MW generator near Stafford will be capable of supplying around **2,000 homes with electricity**. The plant will **save 8,000 tonnes a year of CO₂** compared to fossil fuels. It has also **enabled around 170 farms to diversify** into energy crops. The project has received public sector capital grants from the DTI and Defra as well as private sector investment.

In Shropshire, Advantage West Midlands co-funded the installation of an anaerobic digester to divert 5,000 tonnes per year of kitchen and garden waste from landfill through a household separation scheme. Biogas produced from the digester is being used by 12 local businesses for heat and renewable electricity and pasteurised bio-fertiliser is being offered to local farmers. The plant, run by a community company, has created **six new jobs**. The project, the first of its kind in the UK, helps meet mandatory targets from the EU Landfill Directive as well as government targets for 30% recycling and composting by 2010.

Advantage West Midlands and Defra's Waste Implementation programme are each providing around 50% of the total £3 million cost.

www.bical.net
www.greenfinch.co.uk

**RDA contribution =
 14% (Stafford), 50% (Ludlow)**



New energy crop miscanthus grass.

Yorkshire Forward/East Midlands Development Agency/
South East England Development Agency

Smart transport

Smart productivity means smart transport solutions. A joined up and accessible public transport system which eases congestion and reduces pollution also helps businesses. Some Regional Development Agencies are investing in selected schemes to keep their regions moving.

Yorkshire Forward is investing more than £8 million to part-fund an increase in train capacity by 6%, providing 12 extra carriages and 375,000 extra seats on three of the region's busiest lines. The resulting reduced overcrowding on trains and decongestion of roads, will, by 2013, have **saved over 3,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions**.

The East Midlands Development Agency is supporting a new bus service between Nottingham, Leicester, Derby and Nottingham East Midlands Airport. Piloted originally in Nottingham, the Derby and Leicester services will begin this year. Working with a range of partners, the scheme will reduce car journeys and help improve access to jobs and training opportunities at the airport for residents of the three cities. The Agency has provided £1.56 million

over eight years out of a total cost of £4 million.

England's south eastern ports accommodate over a third of the UK's imports and exports. The South East England Development Agency is the lead partner in a European Regional Development Fund-funded project known as IMPACTE that unlocks rail freight bottlenecks by enabling freight to stay off the roads and reducing air pollution on the Dover to London and the Southampton to Midlands freight corridors. The total UK investment package for the IMPACTE project, supported by SEEDA, AWM and SWRDA is around £3 million and consists of three major components; a first-stage Network Rail assessment to reconnect the port to the railway line and establish a wagon-based freight service at Dover; investment at Portsmouth to help build a freight terminal and a rail gauge enhancement between Southampton port and the West Coast mainline.

www.yorkshire-forward.com
www.emda.org.uk
www.seeda.co.uk

**RDA contributions:
50% (Yorkshire trains),
36% (bus link), 10% (IMPACTE)**



Bus link to Nottingham East Midlands Airport.

East Midlands Development Agency

Blueprint for the future

blueprint was formed in May 2005 with a remit to regenerate and rejuvenate failing neighbourhoods. It comprises a public private partnership between the East Midlands Development Agency, English Partnerships and Morley Fund Management's Igloo Regeneration Fund. It is a **unique partnership vehicle** where investment, control, risk and profit are shared equally between the public and private sector.

blueprint's remit is to deliver economic and social benefits within a commercial framework. Commitment to deliver sustainable development is core to all its activities and is embedded from project inception through to end use. Whilst the East Midlands Development Agency has transferred property assets to the new vehicle, the Agency still retains a role in evaluating development options for the assets and can ensure that sustainability standards and social enterprise are encouraged in the schemes that come forward. Projects are judged on social and environmental as well as financial returns.

blueprint-sponsored properties are 'sustainable development-proofed' via a **16-point assessment that covers reducing carbon emissions** from the site, making use of renewable energy, increasing the biodiversity of brownfield land and accessibility considerations.

One of the first development opportunities, launched by **blueprint** with a design competition in November 2005, is the 12-acre site at Highfields in Nottingham, the second phase of the Nottingham Science and Technology Park.

A key aspect of the development involves regenerating the site as a communal resource both for private companies and the surrounding community. Design features such as open space for sitting, meeting and relaxing have been planned to restore a sense of common ground between the local community and science park users, all set within an ecologically-sensitive landscape using natural features such as new oak and birch plantings to complement the existing biodiversity in the area.

The partnership is currently progressing six projects: two in Nottingham, one in Derby and three in Leicester. **blueprint** is planning to start construction on three of its projects in 2007, including a new scheme within Derby's Cathedral Quarter.

blueprint represents a radically new model for delivering regeneration and combines public assets with private money to fund innovative new solutions. Some £100 million of private funds will be attracted to finance activities within the East Midlands' six priority urban areas.

www.blueprint.gb.net

RDA contribution = 25%

Blueprint for
Highfields
Science Park



INNOVATION

Innovation is the development of new technologies, products and production processes. It is linked to research and development (R&D) in both the private and public sectors, with higher education a significant driver. Key to innovation is translating new ideas and inventions into opportunities, products and services.

A measure of smart innovation could, for example, reflect R&D spend on 'future-proofed' technologies.

One NorthEast

Northeast sunshine

The market for solar power is increasing globally by 35% and in the UK by 25% a year. In 2004, the UK increased the amount of power generated by solar photovoltaic conversion (PV) by 2.26MW, bringing the UK total to 8MWp¹ installed. By comparison, Germany installed 800 MWp in 2005.

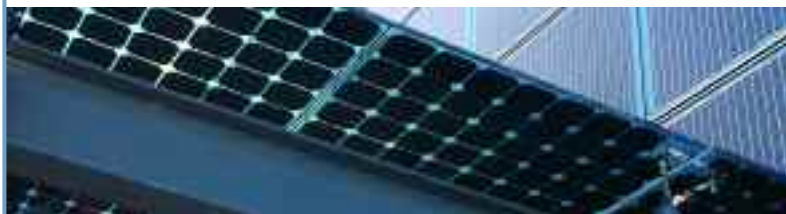
One NorthEast's strategic commitment to developing the photovoltaics (PV) market has led it to support a number of innovative ventures. The Photovoltaic Technology Centre for the testing and development of solar products is one of the enterprising organisations located at the flagship New and Renewable Energy Centre (NaREC) at Blyth, founded with support from One NorthEast of £20 million over three years. One NorthEast also provides the secretariat to the PV-NE network,

a cluster of companies which is successfully establishing a PV supply chain. This has close links to Northumbria University's Photovoltaic Applications Centre, the site of the UK's first building-integrated photovoltaic installation. Research carried out under NaREC's umbrella brought together Consett-based Romag Ltd with BP Solar. This led to a £3 million investment (including £400,000 from One NorthEast) by Romag in a new production facility with the capability of producing cells with a total generating capacity of 6MW each year. The workforce has increased from 140 to 165 and further expansion is expected in 2007.

¹power generation under peak sunlight conditions

www.narec.co.uk/technologies-solar-pv.php
www.romag.co.uk

**RDA contribution = 100% (NaREC),
15% (Romag new facility)**



Romag PV cells at the Gateshead International Business Centre.

Yorkshire Forward

The power of sleep

Sleep mode can provide a surprisingly lively topic of debate. Early this year, MPs were told that Britons waste the equivalent of two power stations' worth of electricity annually just by leaving TV sets and other appliances on stand-by mode. That is about 7TWh of energy, emitting 800,000 tonnes of carbon. Addressing this problem presents an opportunity for business inventiveness, based on an understanding of what measures people are practically prepared to take to save money and power. Enter the Savasocket. This device plugs into the mains electricity socket and can change all the home's appliances from standby into off mode with a single touch of a TV remote control button. The idea, developed by Daletech Electronics, was turned rapidly into a marketable prototype with the help of academics in Hull and Leeds Universities.

This is just one example of a new type of collaboration between industry and academia being enabled in Yorkshire and Humberside. Here, 14 Centres of Industrial Collaboration (CICs) have been created in the past three years to harness the region's academic scientific expertise to industry. These have accelerated growth and innovation in key industries such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, advanced engineering and polymers, [helping to](#)

gross more than £32 million in research income as well as creating or safeguarding 450 jobs. More than 1,200 collaborative projects have been undertaken with some significant successes.

In Sheffield, the Materials Analysis and Research Services CIC worked with local pharmaceutical company Medical House to develop the first ever needle-free insulin delivery system to be prescribed on the NHS.

The Environmental Technologies CIC, formed to reduce waste, minimise the use of raw materials and meet the demands of 'green' legislation, worked in conjunction with Yorkshire Water to develop lab-on-a-chip devices to analyse environmental pollutants such as iron, phosphate and ammonia in water. The complete mini analytical devices are able to filter, manipulate and quantify the analytes in real water streams. This work will lead to the development of a range of portable analysers able to separate and quantify a range of key analytes in natural water samples.

Yorkshire Forward has invested £11 million in the CICs, in partnership with the European Regional Development Fund.

www.yorkshirecic.com

RDA contribution = 78%

The Savasocket could help save
800,000 tonnes of carbon emissions a year





Research at the Composite Structures Development Centre

South West of England Regional Development Agency

Lightweight solutions

The contribution of air travel to climate change is significant. One way of lowering damaging aircraft emissions is to reduce aircraft weight. Research initiatives into this area are therefore addressing an urgent problem. In Bristol, the Composite Structures Development Centre's investigations into the development of lightweight composite materials for use in the aerospace industry could play a key role in helping to reduce emissions. The South West of England Regional Development Agency has invested £3.19 million in the £13 million project. Delivering an important part of its regional economic strategy, the Agency's support recognises the importance of the aerospace industry. Around 43,000 people are employed directly by the industry in the region and another 100,000 jobs are dependent on it. The centre has been built at the Airbus site in Filton (with Bristol University receiving some of the investment) and forms the hub of a regional alliance of companies, universities and colleges in the South West, who together offer a world-class capability in the field of composites technology. It will also keep Airbus, a major employer locally, at the forefront of key technologies for future generations of aircraft, as well as carrying out development work for other transport sectors such as the automotive and marine industries.

The Bristol facility is one of four centres of excellence forming the National Composites Network, which is jointly funded by government and industry to embrace the UK composites industry and its supply chain. The newest one opened in May 2006 in Manchester. The Northwest Composites Centre was launched with £2.1 million from the Northwest Regional Development Agency. Drawing together scientific expertise in the region's universities, it aims to become a centre of international scientific reputation, offering applied research leading to the development of new, low energy, rapid manufacturing techniques.

Meanwhile on the Isle of Wight, the South East England Development Agency is, together with the DTI, supporting a complementary centre, hosted by global engineering company GKN, to develop low-cost manufacturing techniques for composites with the objective of reducing the cost of carbon fibre composite structures by 30%. The Agency's contribution will be £1.25 million by the end of 2006.

A further centre for the validation of materials is based in Wales.

www.ncn-uk.co.uk

RDA contribution = 24% (Bristol), 100% (Manchester), 22% (Isle of Wight)

East of England Development Agency

Neat meter

How can you save energy unless you know exactly how much you use – or need? A new smart meter will give both consumers and utility companies up-to-the-second information about electricity and gas consumption. The internet-linked meter will enable utilities to match supply and demand, potentially saving up to 2% of UK gas and electricity usage and cutting annual UK carbon emissions by 2.5 million tonnes a year. The next stage is to bring the smart meter to market, and this where the Centre for Sustainable Engineering (CSEng) in Peterborough comes in.

CSEng is a new national independent and not-for-profit centre dedicated to helping innovative cleaner technologies become commercially viable. Combining a large knowledge base, engineering capability and strong connections with City of London finance, the centre's team of engineers and network of over 40 industry and academic experts

are opening up routes to market for cleaner technologies. CSEng believes it has found a clear gap in the market, capitalising on rapidly-increasing corporate sector interest which has seen equity listings in alternative energy ventures more than double in one year. So far in 2006, the centre has helped make introductions that have secured more than **£8 million of private investment** to develop a range of projects in the low carbon sector. It has brought **over 90 companies** into contact with universities and **mentored 35 companies** developing cleaner technologies, helping to create high value and wealth-creating jobs. CSEng has a target of earnings over four years of **£1.72 million** and is supported by the East of England Development Agency with a contribution of £500,000 of the total costs of £850,000 over three years.

www.cseng.org.uk

RDA contribution = 62%



Helping innovative cleaner technologies become commercially viable.

Testing the water
in Exmoor



Rural innovation

Reedbeds are a natural way of purifying polluted water and enabling ecosystems to survive and diversify. A team of environmental experts in Somerset has now come up with a way of making such reedbeds transportable, delivering this environmentally-friendly solution to the door of rural businesses. Over the next 18 months, Rentareedbed will be trialling its unique mobile reedbeds with local businesses including farmers, campsite owners and an ice-cream producer, with the aid of a £30,000 grant from the Exmoor Sustainable Development Fund.

On the eastern edge of Exmoor, an advance order of £10,000 by the fund helped Kleen Kutt Forest Products create two extra jobs. The company makes timber products from trees grown according to the high standards approved by the Forest Stewardship Council on Exmoor and makes its products such as picnic tables, benches and disabled-access birdhides available to Exmoor community, voluntary and educational groups.

These are just two of 25 projects receiving assistance from the fund between April 2005 and 31 March 2006. From October 2005 to March 2006, **5.5 jobs** have been **created or safeguarded** and **four people helped to gain qualifications**. Before March 2008,

the 25 projects will **safeguard or create 15 jobs** and involve up to **420 people in training** which improves their literacy and numeracy skills. They will engage over **2,200 young people** and reach over **250 businesses**, involving 17 community and voluntary groups through **21 new partnerships**. Grant aid has been offered to a total of 73 projects since August 2002; 30 are still in progress.

The fund addresses one of the key barriers to innovation in rural areas: access to suitable finance in the form of grant aid to enable good ideas to get to market. Projects are selected on the basis of their long-term contribution to furthering the Park Authority's statutory purposes to conserve and enhance its natural and built assets, provide education and enjoyment of those assets, and foster the social and economic well-being of its communities and local economies. As part of its regional economic strategy, regional environmental strategy and sustainable strategy for farming and food, the South West of England Regional Development Agency is contributing £300,000 to the Exmoor Sustainable Development Fund between October 2005 and March 2008. This tops up an annual Defra contribution of £200,000.

www.southwestrda.org.uk

RDA contribution = 38%

SKILLS

Skills play a key role in increasing economic growth – skilled workers are more able to adapt to changing technologies and challenge traditional business processes.

A measure of smart skills could be the proportion of the workforce with qualifications and skills relating to environmental management or sustainable communities.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Careers Northwest website. At the top left is a logo of a person in a wheelchair. The main header features the text 'Careers Northwest' in large, bold letters. Below the header is a navigation menu with categories like 'Start here', 'Careers', 'Your career', 'Jobs and courses', 'Advice and guidance', and 'Careers Northwest'. The main content area includes a 'Welcome to Careers Northwest' message, a photo of a woman, and a section titled 'Learn about yourself games' with the text 'Play while you learn.... discover the careers you are really suited for!'. At the bottom, there are links for 'Home', 'Feedback', 'Contact us', and 'Terms and Conditions'.

Northwest Regional Development Agency

Careers on line

'It's like having your own personal careers adviser!' says Charles, a new internet user who is finding the Careers Northwest website easy to navigate and useful, too.

Careers Northwest is a website initiated, funded and managed by the Northwest Regional Development Agency to provide effective and dynamic careers information and advice on key employment sectors in the region. Set up in 2003, it has made a major contribution to the development and retention of a skilled and motivated regional workforce, with over a million people using the site to date – 1,300 a day.

Careers Northwest provides advisers and individuals with user-friendly access to reliable and authoritative intelligence and tools, ensuring equality of opportunity for choice, access and inclusion. It can be used by all age groups from any location with internet access, reducing the amount of travel and visits to careers advisers. Users of the site can build their own career profile online, upload their CVs

and use a dynamic and interactive careers matchmaker. They can also access fact sheets and case studies about the prospects of the region's key sectors, including environmental technologies and regeneration. The website holds current information about major strategic projects in the region, for example, the £1 billion Omega international business development in Warrington, which will provide **12,000 new jobs before 2013**.

Careers Northwest, valued by schools and universities for its live and relevant careers information, is helping raise awareness and understanding of the labour market and employers' needs in the North West of England. The Northwest Regional Development Agency has contributed £714,000 over three years and is working with Jobcentres Plus this year to collect data on successful job applications through the site.

www.careersnorthwest.com

RDA contribution = 100%



Young Enterprise club with their regeneration magazine, Bennerley, Derbyshire

East Midlands Development Agency

Gold from Alchemy

Chris Pienaar has a varied working week, one day helping Steve Waterall start up his own garden maintenance company, the next mentoring Lea Grant who gained NVQs to set up her own daycare centre. Then he works with Susan Smith on her community arts project, before his regular Young Enterprise club where teenagers are creating their own regeneration magazine.

Chris is one of five coaches providing practical support and empowerment to communities through Local Alchemy, an initiative based on the belief that one of the failures of economic and regeneration policy is that communities have things done to them rather than being enabled to harness their own resources, skills and passion.

Local Alchemy offers economic literacy training and, using a customised toolkit, ongoing coaching support to help identify opportunities for new and existing businesses to grow. The toolkit helps to raise awareness among local communities and entrepreneurs about the environmental and social impact of their economic choices. The Local Alchemy coaches help to create networks of support to sustain local economic action. An important aspect of their work is to remove barriers to enterprise by brokering meetings with public bodies (and large private sector organisations) and local communities. This is particularly relevant where public procurement budgets and

private sector investment can be used to strengthen local economies.

To date, the Local Alchemy programme has supported 220 new and existing enterprises such as a book shop, a hairdressing salon and a childcare business (which is a social enterprise), to name but a few. It has helped improve community assets (a community café and a sporting complex), as well as create new jobs and increase skill levels among local communities.

Local Alchemy is a four-year pilot programme working with 13 communities across the East Midlands, from the inner city (Sneinton in Nottingham), to the rural (Gainsborough in Lincolnshire), urban fringe (Corby in Northamptonshire) and ex-coalfield (Cotmanhay in Derbyshire).

The East Midlands Development Agency's investment in Local Alchemy is motivated by the desire to increase economic activity in the region's less prosperous areas and to learn which techniques and approaches work. Over the next two years, learning from Local Alchemy will be integrated into the Agency's broader economic regeneration and development responsibilities.

The East Midlands Development Agency is investing £8 million into the Local Alchemy programme between 2003 and 2008.

www.local-alchemy.net

RDA contribution = 100%

Advantage West Midlands

Centre of opportunity

It took 10 years of community effort to save a Grade II-listed building from dereliction, but the Bordesley Centre in Birmingham now offers people in some of the poorest parts of Birmingham the chance to improve their skills and access job opportunities. The restoration of the building was a community effort spearheaded by the Muath Welfare Trust, set up in 1990 to help communities live in harmony by developing the skills of those living on the margins of society. In 2003, after phase one of the restoration, Advantage West Midlands and the European Regional Development Fund stepped in with capital funding for a library, nursery, IT and training facilities. This initiative is linking people to opportunities, and will help the local community benefit from the economic developments in Birmingham Eastside, one of Europe's largest regeneration projects.

Over 800 students are enrolled on over 40 different courses offered on site through Birmingham City College, the University of Central

England and Birmingham University. With daycare facilities completed, enrolment by women in courses has increased by 25%. Eleven jobs have been created at the Bordesley Centre project which is expected to deliver a total of 17 jobs, safeguard another 18, and help equip 1,500 people with skills, some of whom have been economically inactive until now. The construction of a business start-up unit is ongoing and is expected to create 18 businesses.

Advantage West Midlands committed £2.8 million to the total cost of the £5.4 million Bordesley Centre through its East Birmingham and North Solihull Regeneration Zone, in partnership with the Government Office for the West Midlands and the Muath Welfare Trust. Initiatives like this have ensured that 2,700 of the 5,000 jobs provided by the Birmingham Bullring skills partnership were filled by the long-term unemployed.

www.muathtrust.org

RDA contribution = 52%



Enrolment in women-only courses increased by 25% this year.

East of England Development Agency

Nurturing regional talent

Mushroom-shaped floating dining areas, a giant red performance pod – the new campus of South East Essex College gave its students some truly futuristic accommodation when it relocated to the centre of Southend in 2004. It also signalled the rejuvenation of the town's high street, which will be further boosted after the current redevelopment of the Odeon Cinema by Essex University. The Odeon campus will provide education for up to 1,500 students of health and public sector-related disciplines, as well as being the site of business development and innovation centres.

This venture by Essex University has been strongly supported by the East of England Development Agency with a contribution of £6.4 million. The campus is one of five new higher education sites to be developed in the region over the next 10 years with the Agency's support. This commitment recognises the crucial link between easily-accessed higher education and business success. In 2003, research by KPMG showed that higher education was underprovided in the region, giving impetus to a strategy to develop new sites of higher education. Now university-level education will be widely accessible in Suffolk, Southend, Peterborough, Harlow and Thurrock in the next decade.

In Suffolk, the Agency has made its largest-ever contribution to a single project: £18.17 million towards University Campus Suffolk (UCS), a joint venture between the University of East Anglia and Essex University. The first stage, a waterfront development in Ipswich, will open its doors to students in September 2007. Two further higher education hubs are planned alongside the FE colleges at Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds. The development of UCS will increase participation and raise aspirations in a county with lower than average participation in higher education. A specially-designed curriculum will complement the region's main employment sectors: transport, communications, health and education, and emerging sectors such as renewable energy. The new £150-million campus will provide **7,050 full-time education places** for students and will help to create an estimated total of **1,655 jobs and 19 new businesses**. In addition, **5.4 hectares of brownfield land** will be **remediated and £29.72 million of private sector investment** will be leveraged by April 2007.

The East of England Development Agency, **is partnering higher education institutions, local authorities**, and other partners across the region in an **overall likely contribution of** around £30 million out of over £220 million.

RDA contribution = 14%



Students in the high tech i-lab ideas centre at South East Essex College

London Development Agency

Diversity works

Londoners come from over 220 countries and speak over 300 languages. One in 10 Londoners is Muslim, one in five has a disability, and one in three is from a black, Asian or minority ethnic background. At least half a million London residents are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. London is the most diverse city in the world; it is also consistently voted Europe's number one business location.

Diversity Works for London, the Mayor of London's flagship programme run by the London Development Agency, was launched in March 2005 to improve business performance through good diversity management. Its fundamental principle is that diversity is good for London's people and good for London's business. Mainstreaming diversity into business activity improves product and service development, generates creativity and innovation, aids recruitment and retention, improves brand image, assists in competing for public sector contracts and fulfils corporate responsibility aims. The result of the programme will be to create a change in the way business values diversity,

ensuring that London's diverse people benefit from the capital's success.

The programme will enable **10,000 businesses** (1,000 large corporations and 9,000 SMEs) to benefit from London's unique access to diverse customer and labour markets. Diversity Works also partners the voluntary sector, trade unions and the academic community. Its bespoke diversity support enables businesses to increase employment and supplier diversity. Products and services include a telephone advice line for businesses and their employees and an online diversity diagnostic tool, the Diversity Dividend. This has been piloted by **27 multi-national companies** which have gained advice and guidance from London Development Agency consultants to develop Diversity Action Plans. A good practice guide called **Profiting from Diversity** has been published and **5,000 copies** distributed to companies and stakeholders across London. The London Development Agency is contributing £10 million over four years.

www.diversityworksforlondon.com

RDA contribution = 100%

City recruitment consultants hold a regular clinic at the Employment Café, Brixton



MEASURING SMART PRODUCTIVITY

There are a number of tools and existing data to help RDAs measure and evidence 'smart productivity'. A number of examples included here show the value of the RDA network in piloting different approaches to gathering evidence and providing guidance which can then be shared and tailored to individual regional needs.

SCPnet – partnership project bringing together all the English regions, the Environment Agency and WWF-UK to collect data and evidence relating to sustainable consumption and production. RDAs are using it to revise and implement their Regional Economic Strategies (RES) and work out their regions' eco-footprints. Tools available through SCPnet include: REEIO, a computer tool for regional strategy and policy appraisal which links economic policy to environmental impact; and REAP (Resource and Energy Analysis Program), an integrated resource/environment modelling tool based on policy scenarios. www.scpnet.org.uk

BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method) – widely-used means of reviewing and improving the environmental performance of buildings. BRE also offers **Ecopoints: a single score environmental assessment** (pdf) and **The Green Guide to Housing Specification** (pdf). www.bre.co.uk/service.jsp?id=51

ENWORKS online toolkit – monitoring and assessment tool, first used in the North West, allowing users to enter identified resource efficiency opportunities. Automatically calculates potential cost savings and environmental benefits. Defra is funding its roll-out to all regions under the BREW (Business Resource Efficiency and Waste) Programme in 2006/07, with the intention of using its anonymised realtime data to assess some of BREW's outputs at a regional level. www.enworks.com/resource_efficiency/toolkit.asp

Eastex – regional materials exchange actively matching one company's waste with another's raw material. An online monitoring and modelling system feeds back real-time data. www.eastex.org.uk

Open Strategy on Sustainable Procurement (SP) – pilot web-based tool containing data on SP activities in the North West to evaluate strategic multi-agency planning and partnership working and improve understanding of sustainable procurement. www.openstrategies.co.uk
www.actionforsustainability.org/tools/introduction.php

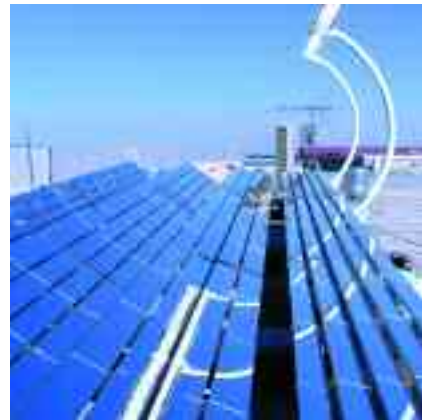
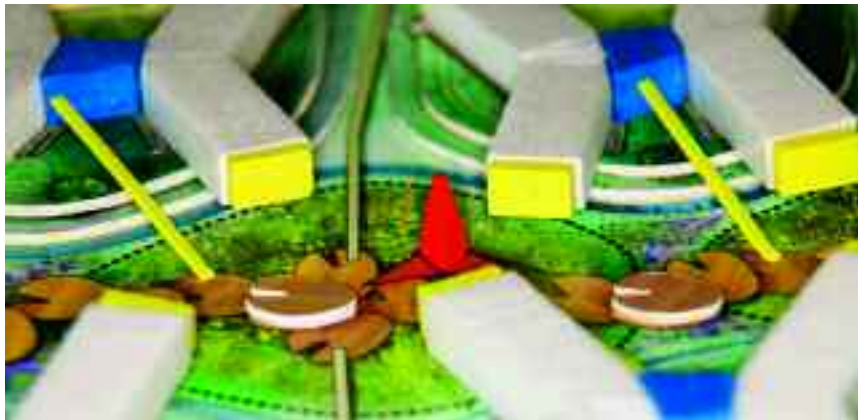
Sustainable Development Assessment & GHG Forecasting and Inventory Tool – a two-module set of calculations covering a wide range of project types. Focused on greenhouse gas (GHG) savings, but also covering wider sustainable development impacts. Contact: debbie.rosen@yorkshire-forward.com

National Sustainability Checklist for Developments – developed by global conservation organisation WWF and BRE. Funding from ODPM has helped WWF-UK produce a tailored Checklist for each region. WWF's One Million Sustainable Homes campaign aims to bring sustainable homes from the fringes to the mainstream across the UK. WWF has also created a Housebuilder Sustainability Toolkit. www.wwf.org.uk/sustainablehomes/toolkit.asp

The East of England Toolkit – information source, development aid and audit record to highlight and help improve the economic, environmental and social impacts of policies, development proposals and other new initiatives within the region. It has also been rolled out in the North West and East Midlands. www.toolkit-east.org.uk
www.entoolkit.org.uk
www.sdtoolkit-northwest.org.uk

Design 4 Biodiversity – general guidance on biodiversity for developers to illustrate how to integrate ecologically-sensitive designs and features. Developed by the London Development Agency, Greater London Authority and English Nature. www.d4b.org.uk

Sustainability Checklist for the South East – aims to ensure that all construction industry players recognise the impact of new developments on natural resources, ecology and energy. www.southeast.sustainability-checklist.co.uk



Transforming English regions through sustainable economic growth



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