



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



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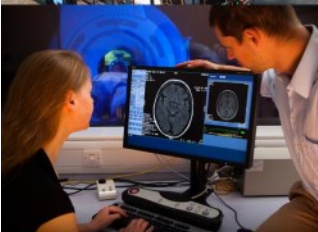


UNDEB EWROPEAIDD
EUROPEAN UNION



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Cronfeydd yr UE: Buddsoddi yng Nghymru EU Funds: Investing in Wales



European Structural Funds Investing in Wales 2007-2013



European Structural Funds Working for Wales 2007-2013



The final report on the EU Structural Funds Programmes 2007-2013 was submitted to the European Commission in March 2017.

This is a summary of the main achievements at both programme and project level.

What have the funds achieved?

Every part of Wales has benefited from the EU Structural Funds Programmes 2007–2013.

Across Wales we:

- invested EU funds of some **£1.8 billion**, driving a total investment of **£3.4 billion**
- created **36,970** new jobs
- created **11,925** businesses
- helped **72,700** people into work
- helped people achieve **234,335** new qualifications
- supported **56,055** people into further learning

The impact of EU funds can also be seen in:

- the narrowing of gaps, both within Wales and with the UK, in employment and economic inactivity
- falling levels of unemployment
- increasing skills levels
- a doubling of investment in research and innovation

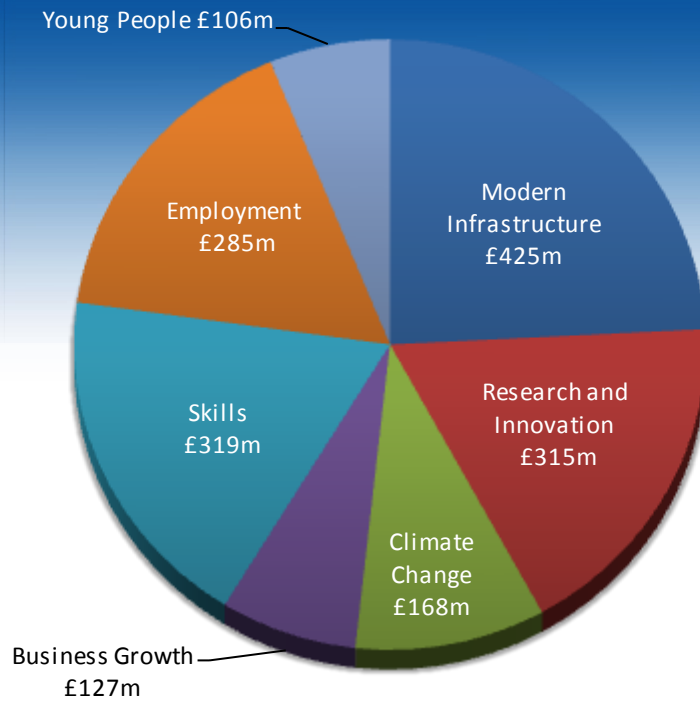
What's more, our programmes were implemented in particularly challenging times, during which Wales was hit by the global economic and financial crisis of 2008 / 2009, making the EU funds even more vital, particularly for the creation and safeguarding of jobs and businesses.

How were the EU funds delivered?

EU funds supported public, higher and further education, business and voluntary organisations to deliver a range of activities to help the Welsh economy grow and to create jobs.

This is a summary of how we, with our partners, made a success of the programmes.

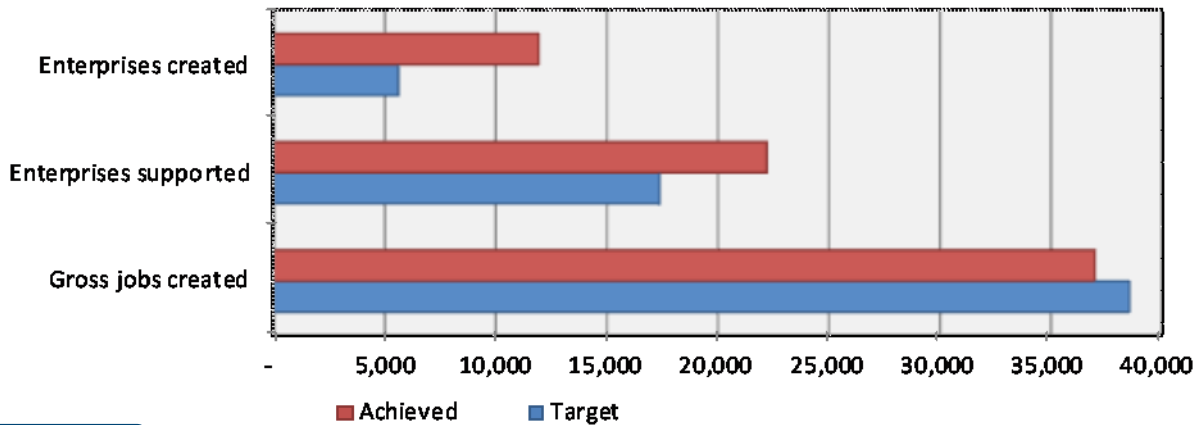
How was the money spent?



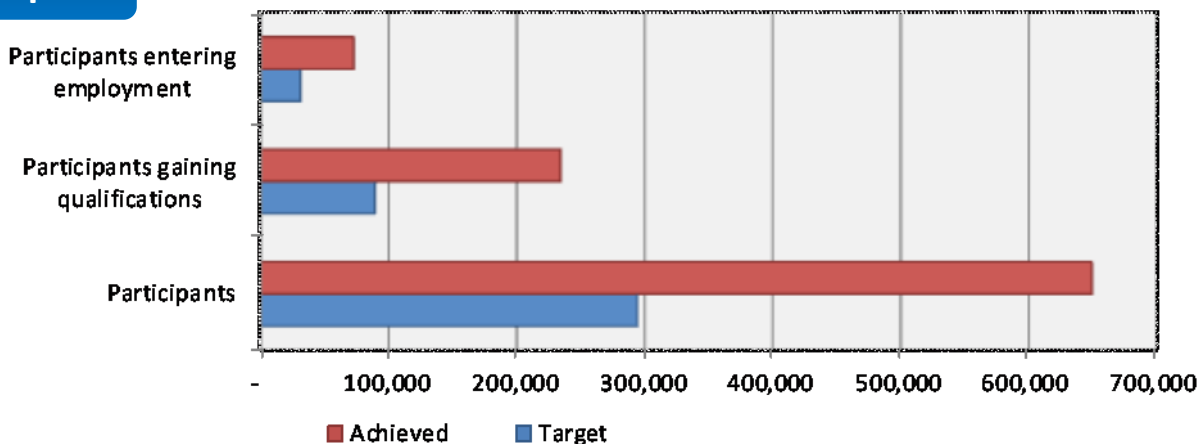
Did we hit our targets?

We have achieved most of our ambitious targets, many by a significant margin. A summary of the main achievements of each of the 290 projects we funded is available at <http://gov.wales/funding/eu-funds/previous/searchprojects1/?lang=en>

Business and Jobs



People



What have the EU funds done for Wales?



At a glance, they have...

- Increased our research and innovation capacity by supporting major university expansions and new research facilities, such as Swansea University's Innovation Campus, and brought leading international scientists to Wales
- Helped people to improve their skills by providing over **79,600** apprenticeship opportunities and over **12,400** traineeships, including at Airbus, Admiral and GE Aviation
- Invested in tourism and heritage at sites such as Lido Ponty and Cardigan Castle, and town centres including Pontypridd and Merthyr Tydfil to boost visitor numbers and business activity
- Created world-class facilities for business such as Ebbw Vale's Innovation Centre and the North East Wales Strategic Business Parks
- Improved train stations, such as Aberystwyth, Llandudno, and Carmarthen, and major roads including A465 and Harbour Way, to connect people to jobs and reduce travel times
- Supported workers to gain **117,000** qualifications
- Helped some **12,000** new businesses to start up and grow through Business Wales and Social Enterprise Support schemes
- Provided over **134,000** young people with new learning opportunities, including through the STEM Cymru and Engage projects, and built new colleges such as Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone and the Works
- Trained over **67,500** unemployed and economically inactive people to help them into work, including through the Bridges into Work, Gateway, and Workways projects
- Helped over **25,000** people affected by redundancy during the economic crisis through REACT
- Promoted equal opportunities and gender equality in the workplace
- Helped protect over **8,600** homes and businesses from flooding
- Supported partnerships between higher education and businesses to seize innovation opportunities and enhance business success in areas including health and emerging technologies
- Supported low carbon schemes such as SEACAMS to make our environment secure for future generations to come