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A CELEBRATION OF 20 YEARS OF EUROPEAN FUNDS IN WESTERN SCOTLAND

Project Title **Women into Enterprise (WiE)**
Project Sponsor **Glasgow City Council/Strathclyde European
Partnership/Scottish Enterprise Glasgow/Scottish Enterprise
National/Careers Scotland**

PROJECT ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

Previous activity within Glasgow City Council and Local Enterprise Development Companies indicated that women have to overcome additional barriers to business entry, which are gender related. Following the success of Glasgow City Council's "Women's Integrated Development Fund" a new project was devised that would be flexible and innovative utilising best practice and best value to deliver a service to women wishing to start-up in business or develop their business. The Women into Enterprise (WiE) project was developed with Glasgow City Council as the lead partner and the support of Scottish Enterprise Glasgow and Scottish Enterprise National. The project was funded for three years until February 2005.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The project aimed to extend entrepreneurship and innovation in the specific target groups and improve competitiveness and sustainability of small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) owned/managed by women, young and mature, ethnic minorities, disabled and those from Social Inclusion Partnership areas.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Information/advice, advocacy, counselling, signposting and aftercare.
- Grants, loans and development of small loan funding designed for focus groups.
- Networking events and seminars/workshops.
- Training.
- Mentoring and coaching.
- Development of innovative pilot programmes.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

- Grants for start up and existing SMEs.
- WiE team responsible for management, development and delivery including appraisal, monitoring and aftercare.
- Training and Development and Pilot Programmes
- WiE responsible for management, development and delivery of training programmes and pilots, monitoring and aftercare.
- Management of pre-start and start up training.
- Get Into Enterprise
- Careers Scotland and WiE responsible for the management, development and usage of the project in schools, colleges and universities.
- 50+ Challenge
- A pilot project which was the responsibility of Scottish Enterprise Glasgow and was

- delivered by Strathclyde University.
- Networking – Women Into Business and Elevator
- SEG was responsible for the management and co-ordination of networking activity.
- Supported by PSYBT and WiE.

PROJECT FINANCE

Funding Partners	Glasgow City Council/Strathclyde European Partnership/ Scottish Enterprise Glasgow/Careers Scotland
Eligible Costs (£)	£783,946
ERDF/ESF Support (£)	£391,973
Priority/Measure	Western Scotland Objective 2 Programme - Priority 1: To develop the competitiveness and innovative capacity of the regions SMEs - Measure 1.2: Enhance SME advice and support services to develop a competitive and innovative business base.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE

Indicator	Target	Achievement	% Target Achieved
No of business/sectoral networks supported	38	50	131.58%
No of existing businesses receiving advice	77	72	93.51%
No of instances of advice to existing businesses	42	342	814.29%
No of instances of advice to new businesses	42	987	2350.00%
No of new businesses receiving advice	67	56	83.58%
No of gross new jobs created for women	161	82	50.93%
Total no of gross new jobs created	161	92	57.14%