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Tender

DFE: InterTradelreland: All Island Women's Entrepreneurship

InterTradelreland

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-033507

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-054f75

Published 18 June 2025, 7:13pm

Scope

Reference

ID 5827132

Description

InterTradelreland is the Trade and Business Development Implementation Body, one of six cross-border bodies established under the 1998 Belfast Agreement.

InterTradelreland's mission is to identify and help realise opportunities to improve competitiveness, generate economic growth, and create sustainable, quality jobs in both jurisdictions, through increased levels of North/South trade and co-operation on innovation and business development opportunities.

InterTradelreland, under the Shared Island Enterprise Scheme, aim to appoint up to four Suppliers to design, manage and deliver four programmes to promote Women's Entrepreneurship.

This tender has been divided into four separate lots and Suppliers may bid for as many

lots as they want. Each lot will be evaluated independently of each other.

Total value (estimated)

- £2,927,240 excluding VAT
- £3,512,688 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 31 August 2025 to 31 December 2028
- 3 years, 4 months, 1 day

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services
- 73300000 - Design and execution of research and development
- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

Lot constraints

Description of how multiple lots may be awarded:

Each Lot will be evaluated and awarded independently. There are no restrictions on the number of Lots a Supplier can bid for or be awarded, Suppliers may bid for one, or more

Lots as they wish but must have the capacity to deliver on all Lots tendered for. One Supplier will be awarded per lot based on the Most Advantageous Tender (MAT).

Lot ID 5827132 . ID 5827132 LOT 1 - Women Innovating in Research Education Programme (W.I.R.ED)

Description

The W.I.R.ED initiative falls under the Women's Entrepreneurship priority and aims to support the commercialisation of research conducted by female university researchers. It will provide a structured package of support to Principal Investigators (PI) and Researchers at Masters, PhD, and Postdoctoral levels, enabling them to undertake market validation activities and advance towards commercial viability.

It is anticipated that the programme will run to 31 December 2028 with a total budget of £905,000 (excluding VAT). The delivery model is designed to ensure a clear pathway from ideation to commercialisation funding, leveraging existing support structures from InterTradeIreland, Enterprise Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland, and academic institutions and research organisations across the island.

Lot value (estimated)

- £905,000 excluding VAT
- £1,086,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are

the same for all lots.

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 2. LOT 2 - Shared Growth Programme

Description

Shared Growth is an all-island initiative designed to support women-led businesses in achieving sustainable growth and with ambition to trade cross-border. Delivered by InterTradelreland (ITI) under the Shared Island Enterprise Scheme, this programme will provide structured training, mentorship, and strategic support to help women entrepreneurs grow their businesses, increase their market presence, and enhance their leadership capabilities.

It is anticipated that this programme will run to 31 December 2028 with a total maximum budget of the sterling equivalent of £800,470 (excluding VAT). The delivery model will ensure tailored support for businesses, providing structured learning, peer networking, and expert mentorship. These programmes will also leverage existing support structures from InterTradelreland, Enterprise Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland, and other key stakeholders to maximise impact and sustainability.

Lot value (estimated)

- £800,470 excluding VAT
- £960,564 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 3. LOT 3 - Scale Together Programme

Description

Scale Together is an all-island initiative designed to support women-led businesses in achieving sustainable growth and international expansion. Delivered by InterTradelreland (ITI) under the Shared Island Enterprise Scheme, this programme will provide structured training, mentorship, and strategic support to help women entrepreneurs grow their businesses, increase their market presence, and enhance their leadership capabilities.

It is anticipated that this programme will run for to 31 December 2028 with a total maximum budget of the sterling equivalent of £421,300 (excluding VAT). The delivery model will ensure tailored support for businesses, providing structured learning, peer networking, and expert mentorship. These programmes will also leverage existing support structures from InterTradelreland, Enterprise Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland, and other key stakeholders to maximise impact and sustainability.

Lot value (estimated)

- £421,300 excluding VAT
- £505,560 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 4. LOT 4 - Future Focused Tech Programme

Description

The Future Focused Tech Programme is an all-island initiative designed

to equip women entrepreneurs with the mentorship, digital skills, confidence, networks, and funding access needed to lead and innovate in tech-enabled businesses.

It is anticipated that this programme will run to 31 December 2028 with a total maximum

budget of the sterling equivalent of £800,470 (excluding VAT) The delivery model will ensure tailored support for businesses, providing structured learning, peer networking, and expert mentorship. These programmes will also leverage existing support structures from InterTradeIreland, Enterprise Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland, and other key stakeholders to maximise impact and sustainability.

Lot value (estimated)

- £800,470 excluding VAT
- £960,564 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Lot ID 5827132 . ID 5827132 LOT 1 - Women Innovating in Research Education Programme (W.I.R.ED)

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 2. LOT 2 - Shared Growth Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 3. LOT 3 - Scale Together Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 4. LOT 4 - Future Focused Tech Programme

Not Applicable

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot ID 5827132 . ID 5827132 LOT 1 - Women Innovating in Research Education Programme (W.I.R.ED)

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 2. LOT 2 - Shared Growth Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 3. LOT 3 - Scale Together Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 4. LOT 4 - Future Focused Tech Programme

As detailed in the Tender Documents

Particular suitability

Lot ID 5827132 . ID 5827132 LOT 1 - Women Innovating in Research Education Programme (W.I.R.ED)

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 2. LOT 2 - Shared Growth Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 3. LOT 3 - Scale Together Programme

Lot ID 5827132: Lot 4. LOT 4 - Future Focused Tech Programme

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

11 July 2025, 3:00pm

Tender submission deadline

21 July 2025, 3:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

11 August 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Qualitative Criteria	5 Criteria - as detailed in the Tender Documents covering: Proposed Methodology Key Personnel Experience Contract Management and Contingency Recruitment and Outreach Activities Social Value	Quality	80%
Quantitative Criteria	Total Contract Price - as detailed in the Tender Documents	Price	20%

Other information

Payment terms

As detailed in the Tender Documents

Description of risks to contract performance

As detailed in the Tender Documents

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

InterTradeIreland has conducted a two-pronged Pre-Market Engagement approach

consisting of Pilot programmes and a Feasibility Study. However these were all undertaken by the Department prior to the commencement the Procurement Act 2023, which came into force on February 24, 2025. Further details can be found within the document entitled 'ID 5827132 - Instructions to Tender'.

Contracting authority

InterTradelreland

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZBY-5224-MBBM

The Old Gasworks Business Park, Kilmorey Street

Newry

BT34 2DE

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://intertradeireland.com/>

Region: UKN08 - Newry, Mourne and Down

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

CPD - Supplies & Service Division

Summary of their role in this procurement: Construction and Procurement Delivery - Supplies and Services Division, is a Centre of Procurement Expertise and provides a central procurement function for central government in Northern Ireland.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWG-8426-YWXV

Clare House, 303 Airport Road West

Belfast

BT3 9ED

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Contact organisation

Contact [CPD - Supplies & Service Division](#) for any enquiries.