

The RDPE could help make your ideas in the South West happen

The Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) is a seven-year £3.9 billion national programme jointly funded by the EU and Defra. The budget for South West England is more than £800 million.

It aims to support and promote sustainable farming, forestry and agri-food sectors - all of which bring wider benefits for the economy, the environment and rural communities.

Based on a thorough analysis of South West England's rural characteristics and economy, a Regional Implementation Plan was drawn up to set the strategy and themes for investment in the region.

The eight themes for funding are:

- Business support
- Skills development
- Supply chain and adding value
- Resource management
- Sustainable rural tourism
- Social enterprise
- Local Action for rural communities, and
- Biodiversity and landscape.

If one or more of the above relates to your area of business or interest, you might be eligible for a share of the national £3.9 billion budget to help your ideas for your business, woodland or community get off the ground.

For general information about the funding and support available through RDPE visit www.sw-ruralgateway.info

For information and advice about your next step, contact one of the following organisations.

Rural enterprise

Business Link

Call **0845 600 9966**

Visit businesslink.gov.uk/southwest/rural

Improving the environment

Woodlands

Forestry Commission

Call **01626 890666**

Visit www.forestry.gov.uk/southwestengland

Agriculture, Biodiversity and Landscape

Natural England

Call **0300 060 1118**

Visit www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/funding/es

Local Action Groups

Visit www.southwestrda.org.uk/local-action

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European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.

There's more than £800 million to support sustainable farming, forestry and agri-food sectors in South West England



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Helping the rural economy and communities...

Are you part of a rural community?

There is funding through Local Action Groups to help:

- Encourage communities to diversify
- Strengthen local economies, and
- Improve the quality of life in those communities, through local business initiatives and training.

For rural enterprises, funding can:

- Provide comprehensive business support to both new and existing rural small enterprises to strengthen the provision of basic services in rural areas and develop the rural economy.

Providing business support and advice...

Are you a farmer, horticulturist, forester or food producer using local produce?

There is support for your innovative ideas:

- Grants to help you diversify
- Grants for implementing new processes and practices
- Funding for learning about new technology
- Funding for developing new skills, and
- Funding for expert professional advice.

Improving the environment...

Are you a woodland owner?

There are grants for:

- Planning, improving and managing woodlands, and
- Creating new woodlands that will deliver public benefits.

Are you a farmer or landowner?

Financial support is available for work that promotes:

- Natural conservation
- Public access
- Landscape enhancement
- Conservation of the historic environment, and
- Protection of natural resources.

