

## What types of projects have received funding already?

Firewood processors to improve the efficiency and safety of firewood businesses.



Woodchipper for a woodfuel business to supply quality chip.

Mobile sawbenches to add value to timber at source.



A marketing project for wood products from a small local group of forestry contractors.

Infrastructure for the expansion of a business making sweet chestnut paling fencing.



Buildings for woodchip storage for a woodfuel supply business.

## Where can I find out more?

For more information on all funding opportunities:

[www.forestry.gov.uk/segrants](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/segrants)  
01420 23337

### RDPE Direct

Rural Development Officer, Forestry Commission  
01296 696543

### Other funding for forestry businesses:

#### LEADER

Supports the same types of projects as RDPE Direct, only smaller scale (up to £50,000 grant), within specific local designated LEADER areas. Available until 2013.

#### South East Woodland and Timber Fund

Supports lower value projects to develop forestry businesses that are outside LEADER areas or not eligible under RDPE. Funded by SEEDA, managed by the Forestry Commission. Available until 2010.

#### LandSkills South East

Subsidised training in woodland management, forestry skills, business development, health and safety with selected training providers. Managed by LANTRA on behalf of SEEDA. Available until 2013.

#### English Woodland Grant Scheme

Supports the creation, improvement and management of woodlands which deliver public benefits. Managed by the Forestry Commission.

## Funding Opportunities for Forestry in South East England – Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

Do you want to improve the economic value of your woodland?

Are you considering adding value to your forestry products?

Do you want to invest in marketing support for your forestry business?

Do you need more than £50,000 of grant support?

Grants are available now for you to invest in your forestry business.



## What is eligible for funding?

Applicant	Activity	Grant Rate
<b>Woodland Owners</b> (includes organisations and local authorities)	Increase the economic value of your woodland by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" purchasing forest management equipment</li> <li>" developing the forest infrastructure</li> <li>" undertaking recreation feasibility studies</li> </ul>	Up to 50%
<b>New or Existing Forestry Micro-Enterprises (eg. forestry contractors)</b>	Support the development of your business through capital investment in equipment and buildings to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>" add value to forest products</li> <li>" develop new markets for your products</li> <li>" improve the efficiency and safety of your production</li> <li>" develop new products</li> <li>" develop the woodfuel supply chain</li> <li>" feasibility studies</li> <li>" marketing</li> </ul>	Up to 40%
<b>Land based businesses</b>	Undertake training in woodland management, business, marketing, health & safety	Varies up to 70%

**Micro-enterprise** - an enterprise which: employs fewer than 10 persons, and has either:  
 an annual turnover of less than EUR 2 million  
 OR  
 has an annual balance sheet total which does not exceed EUR 2 million.



## How do I apply for funding?

Complete an Expression of Interest form from [www.seeda.co.uk/RDPE/docs/EOI-FormFarmersGrowersForesters.doc](http://www.seeda.co.uk/RDPE/docs/EOI-FormFarmersGrowersForesters.doc)



You will receive feedback within 15 working days, plus Application form if the project is eligible.



Complete the Application form and submit to SEEDA with supporting information including a business plan, 3 quotes for your capital investment and 3 years of business accounts.



Your application will be appraised, processed and passed to the Regional Appraisal Panel who meet to assess grant applications every 2 months.

Managed by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)



### What other support is available?

If you need help with your business planning, Business Link offer a free business review 0845 6009006  
[www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast)