

16th February 2009

Our ref: R00083

Freedom of Information Request – Agency and Research information

1. The number of researchers and other employees working in your institute.

SEEDA (the South East England Development Agency) employs 343 (321.02 full time equivalent) staff of which nine work full-time on research. SEEDA also engages external consultants and other organisations to undertake research on its behalf.

2. Where you get funding and how much per year. Provide annual report including budget information.

The total grant and income received by SEEDA during the financial year 2007-08 was £205.3 million (2006/07: £202.5 million). In addition to SEEDA's 'Single Pot' of £165 million (2006/07: £159 million), Government grant aid, SEEDA gained £11.6 million (2007/07: £14.2 million) European funding, £7.8 million (2006/07: £5.9 million) other grant income and £20.9 million (2006/07: £23.4 million) other general income. Total income was expended on grant awards to the region, on direct investment and capital assets.

Full details are provided in SEEDA's annual report, which is available to download from the SEEDA website at: www.seeda.co.uk/Publications/Annual_Reports/docs/AnnualReport_2007_2008.pdf

3. Introduction of your Organisation (the 'year' when established), objective, mission, direction of entire projects.

SEEDA is the Government funded agency set up in 1999 responsible for the economic and social development of the South East of England - the driving force of the UK's economy.

The economy of the region is the 22nd largest in the world. As home to over eight million people, it is the largest region in the UK - bigger than Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland combined, and covers the

counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and East and West Sussex.

SEEDA's aim is to create a prosperous, dynamic and inspirational region by helping businesses compete more effectively, training a highly skilled workforce, supporting and enabling our communities, while safeguarding our natural resources and cherishing our rich cultural heritage.

SEEDA aims to be a catalyst for change within the South East, working with partner organisations- businesses, education at all levels, local authorities, Government agencies, voluntary and community organisations and many others - to produce clearly recognisable results.

Details of SEEDA projects can be viewed on the SEEDA website (www.seeda.co.uk)

4. Research

- Introduction of research area

The SEEDA Research and Economics team produce economic reports across a number of different categories:

- Skills and labour market
- Enterprise and innovation
- Housing and infrastructure
- Environment and sustainability

5. List of research projects (for recent 3 years)

- **Subject**
- **Researcher's name (only the 1st writer will be fine)**
- **Period**
- **Summary**

A list of research projects is attached.

Completed research is published on SEEDA's website under the 'Publications' section at www.seeda.co.uk/Publications/- in particular the sections entitled: 'Research & economics' and 'Smart Growth'

6. Detailed information about last year and ongoing researches

- **Subject**
- **Researcher's Name**
- **Period**
- **Summary**

Please see the list provided in response to question 5.

As stated above, completed research projects from last year are available on SEEDA's website.

SEEDA uses a range of organisations to conduct research on its behalf. Details of research projects can be viewed at:

[www.seeda.co.uk/About SEEDA/Research and Economics/](http://www.seeda.co.uk/About_SEEDA/Research_and_Economics/)

In addition, SEEDA has the following research projects underway:

1. A study on the impact of recession on women in the South East (commissioned to Delta economics)
2. A study on the impact of recession on the South East economy (commissioned to Deloitte)
3. The National Business Survey - Spring 2009 wave (commissioned to BMG)
4. Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2008 (realised by Aston Business School)

- 7. Other key projects that your organization focuses on education, publication, exhibition, archive, seminars, etc.**
Please see SEEDA's website for details of key projects and activities.

8. Collaboration with other research institutes.

SEEDA is cooperating with all Universities in the region, more information can be found on the HESE website:

www.hese.ac.uk/

Information on cooperation of SEEDA with research institutes can be found on the following websites:

Knowledge Network Programme: www.southeastknp.co.uk/

SEEDA's Knowledge Network Programme managed by the University of Surrey, brings businesses and the knowledge base together to exploit research opportunities, catalyse collaboration and bring more innovation to market. The key driver for the Programme is to turn knowledge into commercially successful products and services. This is achieved through Knowledge Networks, which bring together representatives of the knowledge base and business.

Research Excellence: www.researchexcellence.org/

Businesses in the UK and overseas can now access a web database that offers full details of the very best research underway at universities in the South East of England ,that has potential for commercial application.

With twenty-five universities and a range of public sector research establishments in the South East, there is a vast potential to help businesses become more competitive and productive. Up to date contact details for university business teams and technical experts are detailed, so businesses can quickly take their ideas forward.