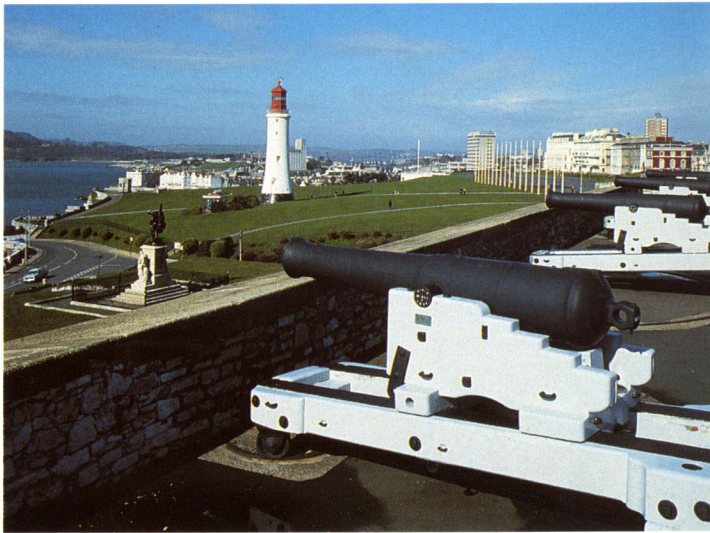


The South West

A REGION
OF THE



European Union



Plymouth Hoe. Photo: COI Picture Library

The South West

A REGION
OF THE

European Union

The term “European Union” stemming from Maastricht is preferred in this text. However, whenever funding programmes or policies/laws stemming from the original EEC or ECSC treaties are referred to the term “European Community” is used.

The dynamic diversity of the European Union is embodied in its regions. The Union, a Community of 12 Member States where decisions are taken by Ministers appointed by national parliaments, is committed to preserving this diversity as it advances towards ever closer integration.

Each of the regions of the European Union has its own particularities. Each is affected by Community policies. The increasing recognition of this fact underlies the vast growth in cooperation between the regions, from the humblest twinning links to large cross-frontier spending programmes such as INTERREG, providing European Union support for the problems of national border areas. Cross European links in transport, energy and telecommunications are being initiated from the smallest to the greatest. These links are the nerves of the European Union as a Community with a common purpose based on national and regional self-interest with a blossoming regional diversity.

Development of the Regions

The removal of frontiers has brought regions in direct contact with each other. There are increasing trans-frontier exchanges and cooperation on projects. Many policies of the Union will be of special benefit to the regions. Just to mention a few, competition policy has helped create a level playing field where firms from all regions can compete on fair terms on EU markets; the deregulation of transport policy has cut the cost of moving goods between the regions. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have been among the prime beneficiaries of EU action. Measures include helping them make contacts with partners in other countries and providing them with business start-up aid.

The harmonious development of the regions can only be achieved by reducing the disparities between the economically strong and the less advanced among them. This is why the European Union is committed to re-allocate more of its resources (25% of its budget) to the regions which are lagging behind. The Structural Funds

consist of the European Regional Development Fund, the guidance section of the Agricultural Fund and the European Social Fund. Nearly two-thirds of the money goes to disadvantaged priority regions, based on priority objectives. The aim is to help regions seriously affected by industrial decline and to promote the development of rural areas.

The European Union must also promote the balanced social development of its regions. The citizens benefit from education, training and mobility programmes. These include help for technology training, vocational training for young people, as well as student exchanges under the ERASMUS programme.

The Single Market

Community spending programmes do not by any means represent the whole picture. Much of this spending has a wider impact by the very fact that the Community is addressing common problems, such as the difficulties of frontier areas, coal and steel closures or the telecommunication needs of the outer regions. Similarly, the scientific and education programmes have a far wider impact than the amount of money involved might suggest, through the large number of cooperation networks that these programmes have helped to establish.

At the heart of the European Union lies the Single Market. Its economic impact is of a different order of magnitude. Here lie the freedoms leading to Europe's competitive edge in the rest of the world: free movement of goods, people, services and capital. Its counterpart is the Community external trade policy. Here the economic benefits of the Union acting together, for example, in the recent Uruguay round of the GATT negotiations, dwarfed any impact of the funds in the regions. The regions and the Union itself are indivisible.

THE SOUTH WEST

Devon and Cornwall are the two most westerly counties in England and are renowned in the UK and Europe for the outstanding quality and variety of the natural environment and particularly for the coastal scenery bordering both the Atlantic and the English Channel.

This area is rich in history; notably the maritime links with Sir Francis Drake, with Plymouth Hoe and the Naval Base, and with the Cornish fishing villages and the once important tin mining industry. By British standards, the area is a large one; covering about 10,260 square kilometres, with a total population of 1.5 million, split almost equally between males and females. There is an above average elderly population compared with the rest of the UK, with some 140,000 (9.3%) people aged 75 or over, whereas the UK average is 7%.

It contains a wide variety of communities ranging from small villages and hamlets associated with the region's traditional industries to the City of Plymouth, the 20th largest city in the United Kingdom with a population of 255,000.

In terms of both the UK and the European Union the area can also be considered as "peripheral" - the distance of Penzance from London being 440 kilometres, from Brussels 725 kilometres and from Milan 1,465 kilometres.

In both a UK and a European context, Cornwall and Devon in relative terms have a low GDP per head, low earnings and high unemployment. The industries traditionally important to the region are tourism, agriculture, fishing and defence. HM Dockyard at Devonport is the largest in western Europe and the most strategically placed in the United Kingdom.

The most significant recent development in the European Union has been the creation of a Single Market allowing free movement of goods, people and capital and freedom to provide services within its boundaries. These freedoms are now being extended beyond the European Union itself to the wider European Economic Area. As the original Customs Union in the European Community developed into a Single Market, strong intra-European trading links have established themselves. Despite the distances involved, the South West has established sound export markets in Europe.

A recent survey of 172 companies in the area showed their principal export markets to be:

EU Countries	No. of companies In sample	%
Germany	35	20.35
France	24	13.95
Ireland	15	8.70
The Netherlands	10	5.80
Spain	8	4.60
Italy	8	4.60
Other EU Countries	4	2.30
		<hr/>
		60.30
Non EU Countries		
USA	29	16.90
Middle East	13	7.60
Australia	8	4.70
Sweden	6	3.50
Canada	6	3.50
Africa	6	3.50
		<hr/>
EU proportion of export markets =	60.3%	100.00

It is interesting to note that, despite the difference in size of the two countries, the number of markets established in Germany exceeds that for the United States of America.

Transport

Including all classifications, the region's network of roads exceeds 23,800 kilometres in length. It has an operational rail network of some 530 kilometres.

The airports at Exeter, Plymouth, Newquay and Lands End handle in excess of 319,800 passengers per annum, including the helicopter air link between Penzance and the Isles of Scilly. There are approximately 5,100 bus route kilometres and 36 million bus kilometres are covered per annum.

The ports of Falmouth, Plymouth, Fowey/Par, Penzance and Teignmouth between them carry 5.106 million tonnes of freight and 576,000 passengers per annum.

The region's resources and traditional industries

Resources - workforce

In terms of the age 16+ population, just over 50% of the population were classed as economically active, based on 1991 mid-year estimates (See Table 1).

The latest comprehensive set of European statistics cover the period 1988-90 and show Cornwall and Devon as a region well down the European "league table" in terms of unemployment (64th out of 171) at that time.

The position has worsened considerably since then, with the unemployment rate in the region in July 1993 running at 10.7% compared to the 7.1% based on the earlier figures.

Table 1

DEVON AND CORNWALL

EMPLOYMENT
ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE/INACTIVE PEOPLE AGED 16 AND OVER
(1991 mid year est)

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE	677,300
Employees	
full time	part time
359,200	121,300
Self Employed	
with employees	without employees
42,200	84,600
On a Government Scheme	11,400
Unemployed	58,600
ECONOMICALLY INACTIVE	523,500
Students	45,300
Retired	270,800
Other Inactive	207,400
TOTAL	1,200,800

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

Agriculture

Agriculture is a key part of the region's economy. Approximately 40,000 people are employed in this sector, with an expected reduction of 1 to 2 per cent per annum to the end of the century. Most farming enterprises are small dairy and mixed farms and the sector faces both "quota" reductions and reduction in price support under the Common Agricultural Policy, as well as limitations on the use of fertilizers.

Fishing

Fishing has played an important role in the life of both Cornwall and Devon, providing, today, over £50 million of output per annum and employing directly or indirectly some 4,500 people. Employment statistics in the fishing industry are masked by the fact that most fishermen are self employed.

The fishing industry is particularly affected by European Union decisions on quotas, which will lead to a reduction in the number of vessels allowed to fish and may limit the time they spend at sea. These reductions will impact significantly on the industry and local economy in areas like Newlyn (the biggest fishing port by value in England), Brixham and Looe and, to a lesser extent, Plymouth and Falmouth.

Defence

Plymouth has been the home of the Royal Navy for over 300 years and latterly during this period other defence establishments such as Culdrose in Cornwall and Chivenor in Devon have grown up alongside Devonport.

Devonport Dockyard alone generates an income for the local economy of around £520 million per annum and the defence industry is estimated to employ directly or indirectly some 45,000 people in the two counties.

The fact that Devonport was awarded the contract for refitting nuclear submarines, worth an estimated £5.5 billion over the next thirty years

means that employment should be largely sustained, although offset against this is the fact that Rosyth has been guaranteed a larger share of surface ship refitting, work usually undertaken at Devonport.

In North Devon, the threatened reduction of RAF Chivenor to a care and maintenance basis will have a significant economic impact on the area. The base presently supports directly or indirectly over 1,200 jobs, (more than 400 of these being in the civilian sector) and generates some £21 million income per annum.

Traditional industries – Tourism

Devon and Cornwall have long been in the lead within the UK, currently attracting 8.3 million visitors to the region, of whom 750,000 are from overseas, including 307,500 from Countries of the European Union.

The tourist industry earns the region £1.4 billion annually and supports directly or indirectly some 73,000 people who are employed in tourism and dependent upon the maintenance of Devon and Cornwall as the premier locations for UK tourism. Whilst the numbers employed and the money earned by tourism is impressive by any standards, the region faces stiff competition from overseas, and an increasing trend towards short stay or long weekend breaks taken more frequently than the traditional annual holiday.

An analysis, by industry, of the employment structure of the region, is given at Table 2. It is immediately evident that the main service industries of distribution and catering are collectively twice as large as manufacturing industry. Taking other, smaller services into account, this area amounts to nearly 56% of the region's employment.

Table 2

DEVON AND CORNWALL

EMPLOYMENT
EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE BY INDUSTRY
(Employees and Self Employed)

Industry	Devon	Cornwall	Total	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	18,570	10,870	29,440	5.0
Energy and Water	5,820	2,170	7,990	1.4
Mining	7,180	5,130	12,310	2.1
Manufacturing	56,480	18,890	75,370	12.8
Construction	33,850	16,880	50,730	8.6
Distribution and Catering	97,530	45,560	143,090	24.3
Transport	23,130	9,140	32,270	5.5
Banking and Finance	38,730	13,900	52,630	8.9
Other Services	130,150	54,900	185,050	31.4
Total Persons	411,440	177,440	588,880	100.0

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Chapter Two

THE REGIONAL IMPACT OF EUROPEAN UNION POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

The region has benefitted considerably from European funding through the three Structural Funds, which are:

- the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- the European Agricultural Guarantee and Guidance Fund, (EAGGF)
- the European Social Fund, (ESF)

In general terms, the ERDF and EAGGF benefit the region's economy, infrastructure and environment, whilst the ESF supports vocational training and job creation programmes.

ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)

Since 1989, there have been four ERDF "mainstream" operational programmes in the South West, these being:

- a) The Cornwall NPCI (National Programme of Community Interest). This programme, which ran until December 1991, covered the Assisted Areas of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The ERDF grant was £16,310,000 and a total of 41 projects were initially approved for assistance under this programme, including:
 - i) the building of the 'Tate Gallery of the West' at St Ives, which qualified for a grant under the Tourism section of £877,500 towards the total cost of £3.3 million, to display paintings, sculptures and ceramics. The Tate Gallery in London has some 250 Cornish works of art and is providing over 60 of these on permanent loan to the new Gallery, which was officially opened in June 1993. The applicant was Cornwall County Council.
 - ii) improvements to the runway at St Mary's Airport on the Isles of Scilly, which qualified for a grant under the Communications section of £680,000 towards the total cost of £1.36 million. The applicants were the Cornwall County Council and the Borough of Restonne District Council.
 - iii) development of the Indian Queens Industrial Estate, which qualified for a grant under the Industrial Land Buildings section of £711,100 towards the total cost of £1.36 million. The applicant was the Isles of Scilly Council.
- b) The Plymouth TTWA (Travel-to-Work Area) NPCI. This programme ran from 1989 to December 1991 covering the whole of the large Plymouth travel-to-work area. The ERDF grant was £7,520,000 and a total of 40 projects were initially approved for assistance under this programme, including:

- i) improvement of the physical environment of Princetown which, being at the centre of Dartmoor, is an important visitor destination. The improvements make it a more attractive location for residents and visitors alike, encouraging inward investment to assist the local economy. Under the Environmental Action section, Devon County Council was granted £56,400 towards the total cost of £112,700.
 - ii) Tavistock, on the south-western fringe of Dartmoor and some 24 kilometres from Plymouth, is regarded as an “inland resort”. West Devon Borough Council, seeking to enhance the tourist facilities, built the Meadowlands Leisure Pool complex to create jobs and stimulate the local economy. Under the Tourism Development section, £1,229,000 was granted towards the total cost of £2,240,000.
 - iii) Plymouth Hoe is one of the best known tourist attractions of the City’s many historic areas. Devon County Council sought to provide direct access to the Hoe and at the same time reduce the traffic which would otherwise pass through the Barbican, another historic part of the City, thereby improving journey times and enhancing the environment. Under the Transport and Communications section, a grant of £379,000 towards the total cost of £1,356,000 was received.
- c) RENAVAL. This was a special programme for areas adversely affected by the decline in the shipbuilding and repairing industries. In this region is covered the Plymouth TTWA (other areas of the country with similar problems were also covered). The Plymouth programme ran from December 1990 to 1993, the initial grant allocation being £10,790,000, although with subsequent exchange rate variations this increased to £12,726,000 by the end of the programme. A total of 49 projects were initially approved for assistance under this programme, including:
- i) the access to Millbay Docks at Plymouth, which has been improved by the first phase of the project, which was to build a new roundabout. This provides, in particular, a more suitable entrance and exit for European ferry traffic that passes through the Docks. Considerable areas of derelict land within the Dock will, when redeveloped,

benefit from the new access. The second phase, due to start in January 1994, will provide improvements to the Millbay Road/Crescent junction which is on the main route to and from the Docks. An application from Devon County Council, under the Industrial Development section, secured a grant of £200,500 towards the total cost of £432,000.

ii) Tourist car parking needs. These concern the historic Barbican area (as well as those generated by the anticipated rejuvenation of the Coxside area, with the help of other ERDF-assisted access improvements), together with the proposed National Marine Aquarium. Under the Tourism Infrastructure section, Plymouth City Council received a grant of £1,736,000 towards the total cost of £3,541,000 for significant new parking facilities.

iii) Rail links. Due to the rapid expansion of Ivybridge over the last decade, rail links have been restored after an absence of many years by the provision of a new station. It is in keeping with the "park and ride" strategy to ease commuter traffic for the City of Plymouth. It will help to reduce road freight traffic in servicing the needs of the business community. Under the Multi Objective Infrastructure, Devon County Council applied for and was granted £590,000 towards the total cost of £1,180,000.

d) Objective 5b Multi-Fund Programme (MFP). This programme covered the period January 1992 to December 1993 and replaced the two previous NPCIs for the Cornwall Assisted areas and the Plymouth TTWA. When initially approved, the ERDF grant allocation was £20,582,000 but by the close of the programme, currency fluctuations had increased this to £22,951,000. A total of 124 projects were initially approved for assistance under this programme, including:

i) preservation of Crownhill Fort, an historical fortification on the perimeter of Plymouth City and listed by English Heritage as an ancient scheduled monument. Relinquished by the Army in 1987, it was bought by the Landmark Trust. The Trust is renovating the fort as a tourist attraction by upgrading buildings to incorporate a museum centre and short stay holiday accommodation, together with additional car parking and toilet facilities. Under the Tourism section, the Landmark Trust was granted £201,900 towards the total cost of £403,900.

- ii) major improvements to the approaches to Falmouth town and Docks, designed to link up with previous ERDF projects which enhanced the Dock facilities and the environment. This project received funds from three sources; a Department of Transport Supplementary Grant and Cornwall County Council, who also applied for a grant under the Peripherality section and received £2,783,000 towards the total cost of £11,570,000.
- iii) redevelopment of the British Rail Depot at Laira to enable integration of the railway network into the European Passenger Service, which will provide a direct rail service from Plymouth to Paris via the Channel Tunnel. Under the Multi-Objective Infrastructure, British Rail received a grant of £1,200,00 towards the total cost of £3,021,000.

EAGGF (European Agricultural Guarantee and Guidance Fund)

- a) EAGGF aid to the fish marketing and processing industry for the period 1991 to 1993 was announced in March 1991 to improve conditions and in so doing to guarantee fishermen an adequate and lasting share of economic benefits. The grants contribute towards the cost of capital investment projects at a rate of up to 30% in Great Britain and 35% in Northern Ireland. Successful projects not eligible for aid under other UK grant schemes would normally receive an additional UK grant of 5% as required under the EU rules.

The grants were provided in two rounds. The first comprised £4,800,000 from the European Union and £1,300,000 from the UK Government and was awarded to 46 projects across the UK. In the second round, a further £6,500,000 of European funding, plus another £1,700,000 of UK Government money was allocated to an additional 54 UK projects, this region receiving:

- i) £152,900 for the installation of new smoking and packing facilities at Plymouth
- ii) £18,000 for the installation of new grading units at Brixham

- iii) £121,600 investment in a fish processing factory at Buckfastleigh
 - iv) £74,800 for the improvement and expansion of fish processing facilities at Exmouth
 - v) £33,500 for the installation of new freezing and packing equipment at Plymouth
- b) EAGGF aid for agriculture based projects in the region was made available as follows:
- i) 667,200 ECUs (approximately £517,600) of grant aid was awarded to a meat processing company in the Bodmin area of Cornwall, which allowed them to construct an extension to their existing plant. The extension incorporated a state-of-the-art cutting line and new packaging machinery, designed to produce boxed retail packs of meat and aimed at meeting the needs of supermarkets up to the turn of the century. There were also benefits for primary producers, as the company obtains a large proportion of its stock directly from farmers in Devon and Cornwall, the remainder being obtained indirectly from local markets.
 - ii) A £48,250 grant was awarded to a Bideford firm for the improvement of cheese processing facilities.
 - iii) The West Cornwall and North Tamar LEADER projects. LEADER (Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Economie Rurale) is a European initiative set up in 1991, with the aim of assisting the poorer agricultural regions within the European Union. In 1992, 217 projects were approved throughout all 12 Member States with two in England, both of which are in this region: the West Cornwall project being based at Rosewarne, Camborne and the North Tamar project at Bude.

The West Cornwall project covers the districts of Penwith, Kerrier and the Isles of Scilly, bringing together key personnel from various organisations to manage and/or fund a wide range of schemes which concentrate particularly on the development of marketing expertise.

The North Tamar project covers the Bude and Holsworthy area and operates through small-scale community-based schemes, involving local bodies like Chambers of Commerce, in the fields of agriculture, vocational training, small business and tourism development.

ESF (European Social Fund)

During the period 1989 to 1993, more than 3,000 people in Devon and Cornwall have received assistance from the European Social Fund, which has provided in excess of £20 million under various programmes and which, in this region have included:

- EUROFORM - promotes training to meet the new needs arising from the Single Market and technological development
- NOW - promotes the vocational training and employment of women
- HORIZON - promotes the social and professional integration of the handicapped

Interesting examples include:

- i) Objective 5b of the Structural Funds is designed to develop rural areas where incomes are low and social and economic development below average. A project run by the Agricultural Training board uses this funding to bring farmers together in the evening and provide advice and training on the use of computers and appropriate software for farming.
- ii) a scheme using the EUROFORM programme to link the South West and Western Ireland to develop distance learning training for people in rural tourism businesses, including the promotion of local food products.
- iii) a project under the NOW programme to develop the business potential of women in rural areas by providing initial training and support at local centres.
- iv) the promotion of transnational training partnerships, the most recent being a EUROFORM project to help Spanish farmers develop the necessary language and presentation skills for the emergent tourist industry in the Basque region.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

The European Community has a range of education programmes each with different objectives but all designed for students, teachers, administrators and others involved in education with the aim of increasing cooperation at the European level.

- ERASMUS - helps universities to include a period of study abroad as an integral part of their courses.

- LINGUA - is designed to improve the teaching and learning of foreign languages especially through improving the training of foreign language teachers.

- PETRA - is designed to improve the quality of vocational training to young people and ensure its availability.

- COMETT - is designed to promote cooperation between universities and industry to improve training in technology.

- TEMPUS - is aimed at helping the higher education sector in Central and Eastern Europe by programmes of cooperation which include provision for student mobility.

Some of the funding programmes active in the region are:

- ERASMUS - the University of Exeter coordinates eight ERASMUS programmes and participates in a further 28. In the last three years some 300 students from the University have participated.

The University of Plymouth is currently coordinating two ERASMUS programmes in the fields of Technology and Fine Art and is a partner in 12 others. In the last three years some 200 students have spent time abroad on industrial placement and university studies for which they receive full academic recognition.

- COMETT - A University-Enterprise Training Partnership is based at Plymouth University with some 120 partners in the West and South West.
- LINGUA - South Devon College in Torquay has links with Denia in Spain and Randers in Denmark. The project involves the local press and the students are working on a paper for their age group as part of a B-TEC in Travel and Tourism.
- PETRA - Plymouth College of Further Education is linked with the institutes at La Selgura in Spain and in Dublin as part of the European Network of Training Partnerships. The project is in the field of business studies.
- TEMPUS - The Universities of Exeter and Plymouth both participate in TEMPUS projects. At Exeter the School of Education has a major project to train trainers and the Department of Economic & Social History and the Department of Music receive students. Plymouth University has sent seven staff to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

In addition, there have been cultural projects with other European partners including one to develop the Celtic culture as a tourism resource; another project, in co-operation with twenty other regions and supported by the European Commission, is to produce a multi-lingual cultural tourism itinerary.

Research and Development

The European Community has a framework programme for scientific research promoting cooperation in pre-competitive R&D in a variety of areas including Information Technologies (ESPRIT), Telecommunications (RACE) Telematics, BRITE/EURAM (Industrial Technologies and Advanced Materials), Biotechnology, Agriculture and the Food Industry, Marine Science and Technology (MAST), Energy and the Environment. The emphasis in these is to improve Europe's industrial competitiveness through the application of Europe's scientific resources to these key areas.

Institutions in the South West have been active in seeking support under these programmes

The University of Exeter recognises the importance of involvement with European research projects, and has found that it stimulates international collaboration and broadens perceptions.

In the four year period from 1988 to 1992, fourteen research projects under the DELTA, ESPRIT and STEP programmes were undertaken with grant aid totalling 1,715,000 ECU (equivalent to £1,330,000 at current rates of exchange).

Examples of research projects under various programmes included:

- i) Educational systems based on Multi-media databases (53,500 ECU/£41,500). [DELTA - part of the Telematics programme dealing with distance learning]
- ii) Lateral microstructures (141,500 ECU/£109,800). [ESPRIT]
- iii) Rock matrix diffusion as a mechanism for radionuclide retardation (440,600 ECU/£341,800). [Radioactive Waste Disposal programme]
- iv) Mechanisms of nutrient turnover in the soil compartment of forests (201,700 ECU/£156,500). [STEP]
- v) Support and counselling for clients of clinical genetic services (40,000 ECU/£31,000). [Human Genome Analysis]

The University of Plymouth, as part of its strategic plan, is committed to maintaining and enhancing its involvement with European research developments. In the last year, it has secured grants and contracts from the European Union in excess of 3 million ECU (£2,327,000). The University recognises the importance of high quality EC research funding in enhancing its research ratings and teaching quality, also the multiplier effect of such funding on the local economy.

Examples of research projects undertaken are:

- i) MAST 2 - investigation of transport in very shallow water over an inter-tidal mudflat. This and other projects under the same programme receiving in excess of 1,500,000 ECU (£1,160,000).
- ii) BRITE-EURAM II - design and manufacture of composites, (350,000 ECU/£271,500).
- iii) Research training in social research (in excess of 250,000 ECU/£193,000), supported by the ESF.

Energy

Two of the EU programmes funding current projects in the region are:

- a) ALTENER - alternative energy programme intended to co-ordinate national initiatives in renewable energy.

A feasibility study in the Hatherleigh area of West Devon will assess the potential for renewable energy generation, within identified existing environmental constraints, from: energy from waste (including sewage sludge and farm slurry), energy forestry and crops, small scale hydro power, wind power and solar power and other renewable energy sources.

Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council and the Department of Trade and Industry's Energy Technology Support Unit succeeded in their application for funds to carry out this feasibility study receiving some £20,000 towards the approximate total cost of £40,000.

- b) JOULE II - a research project into alternative energy sources. Phase Four of the Hot Dry Rocks Geothermal Energy project began in April 1992 at Rosemanowes Quarry, near Penryn. It is a collaborative project with France and involves the geophysical, engineering, instrumentation, numerical modelling, acquisition, reporting and project management aspects.

CSM Associates Ltd were granted £1,620,000 towards the total cost of £3,237,000.

EUROPEAN LINKS

Apart from its growing links with the rest of Europe in the educational and scientific world, the South West participates in a number of initiatives designed to create institutional links across Europe.

The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

The CPMR was established in 1973 and both Devon and Cornwall have held membership from that date. As the title implies, this is an association of the Regions which are relatively distant from the main centres of the European Union. They tend to have a lower Gross Domestic Product than the European average and are heavily dependent on primary industries and tourism.

CPMR has, therefore, largely been a pressure group drawing the attention of the European Union to these issues; to this end, the exchange of experiences between the 75 member Regions has been valuable.

UK membership has been concentrated in Devon and Cornwall, Wales and Scotland. CPMR was the effective source of the Assembly of European Regions (AER) and of the Atlantic Arc, which is one of the four Commissions of the CPMR.

The Assembly of European Regions

Formed in 1985 (Cornwall and Devon being founder members), the AER has increased greatly in size and considerably in influence. Its main objective is the promotion of the regions in playing a full and equal part in European Union affairs. (Counties in England are accepted as being "regions"). Almost 200 European and East European Regions hold membership, including 33 English and Welsh Counties and Scottish Regions.

The AER was instrumental in lobbying for the establishment of the Committee of the Regions, subsequently included in the Maastricht Treaty and has developed proposals for its operation.

Atlantic Arc

The Atlantic Arc Commission was created in October, 1989 at Faro, Algarve, by the Conference of the Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR). It is one of four Commissions; the North Sea Commission and the Mediterranean Commission were also created at this time, the Islands Commission being established at a later date in 1990.

The Arc began as a French initiative, centred on the Pays de la Loire Region and administered from the regional capital of Nantes.

The South West forms part of the Atlantic Arc, a network which brings together the westernmost regions of the European Union, stretching from the west of Scotland in the North, via Ireland, Wales and South West to the Atlantic seabords of France, Spain and Portugal.

The objective of the Atlantic Arc is to support the common purposes of its regions. Its aim is to define the elements for development policy within the Arc; to reduce the effects of its member regions' peripheral natures; and to develop them through inter-regional co-operation, notably in the maritime field and matters concerning territorial development.

There are at present 23 member regions of the Atlantic Arc, including most EU regions bordering the Atlantic Ocean. Solidarity among the regions is strengthened through the Atlantic Arc's programme of inter-regional co-operation and through its infrastructure and communications policies that it defines and implements.

CEDRE, to use its European acronym, is a professional research organisation based in Strasbourg. It provides support to the three organisations previously described, particularly the AER, being based in the same building.

Links with Eastern Europe

Early in 1990 Devon established a link with the County of Baranya in Southern Hungary in order to make a contribution to the emergent democracies and in the longer term, also, to contribute socially and economically to Devon.

Twinning Associations

Both Devon and Cornwall have flourishing twinning organisations. Currently 178 links have been established, the majority being signatories to formal Charters.

The County of Devon is officially twinned with the Department of Calvados. Interestingly, Devon has the highest number of twinning arrangements of any UK County, whilst Calvados has the highest number in continental Europe.

Both Cornwall and Devon are members of a protocol agreement with Finistère to develop economic and environmental links.

Chapter Five

LOCAL INVOLVEMENT IN EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT

Europe Weeks

Two Europe Weeks have been held in the region, the first five years ago and included the County of Somerset. The second was held in 1990 in Plymouth. The organisation of Europe Weeks is shared between the local authorities involved and the London office of the European Commission, who supports the events with their Mobile Information Unit.

The Westcountry Development Corporation

WDC is the emergent strategic body to speak with one voice for the economic interests of the region of Devon and Cornwall, being a partnership between the private and public sectors, and the Devon and Cornwall Training and Enterprise Council.

Address: Windsor House, Tavistock Road, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 5UF

Devon and Cornwall Training and Enterprise Council

DCTEC has given financial support to twelve business competition winners to fund the implementation of their export proposals; also four ESF, two LEADER and one NOW project. Resources are also being invested in pioneering the Department of Trade and Industry's "One Stop Shops" which will rationalise the confusing plethora of business support sources currently available.

Address: Foliot House, Budshead Road, Crownhill, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 5XR

The West Country Tourist Board

The WCTB is the official Tourist Board for Devon, Cornwall (including the Isles of Scilly), Somerset, western Dorset, Wiltshire and Avon. It is an independent limited company with nearly 2000 members and forms a three-way partnership between private

enterprise, local government and central government. Statistical information relating to overseas tourism is collated by the WCTB.

Address: 60, St Davids Hill, Exeter, Devon, EX4 4SY

Devon County Council

The Chief Executive's Department includes a European Office and an Economic Development Office.

Address: County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4QD

Cornwall County Council

The County Planning Department includes an Economic Development Office which is the key point of contact for all European matters and which serves as a secretariat for the Cornwall Economic Forum.

Address: County Hall, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3BB

City, District and Borough Councils

All City, District and Borough Councils have sections dedicated to the economic development of their area; European links and funding programmes are inevitably part of their overall scope.

Addresses:

Exeter City Council, Civic Centre, Exeter, EX1 1JN

Plymouth City Council, Civic Centre, Plymouth, PL1 2EW

Torbay Borough Council, Town Hall, Torquay, TQ1 3DR

West Devon Borough Council, Council Offices, Kilworthy Park,
Drake Road, Tavistock, PL19 0BZ

East Devon District Council, Knowle, Sidmouth, EX10 8HL

Mid Devon District Council, The Great House, 1 St Peter Street,
Tiverton, EX16 6PG

North Devon District Council, Civic Centre, Barnstaple,
EX31 1EA

South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Plymouth Road,
Totnes, TQ9 5NE

Teignbridge District Council, Forde House, Newton Abbot,
TQ12 4XX

Torridge District Council, Town Hall, Bideford, EX39 4HT

Borough of Restormel District Council, 39 Penwinnick Road,
St Austell, PL25 5JX

Caradon District Council, Luxstowe House, Liskeard,
Cornwall, PL14 3DZ

Carrick District Council, Council Offices, Pydar Street, Truro,
Cornwall, TR1 1EB

Kerrier District Council, Council Offices, Dolcoath Avenue,
Camborne, TR14 8RY

North Cornwall District Council, Higher Trenant Road,
Wadebridge, PL27 6TW

Penwith District Council, Council Offices, St. Clare, Penzance
TR18 3DU

Twining Committee for Cornwall

The Committee is recognised as the official body for twinning in the County by both the Cornwall County Council and the International Bureau.

Address: Mrs H E Jones, 40 Dobbs Lane, Truro, TR1 3NB

Twining in Devon

Devon County Council has a Twining Officer available to help with all aspects of the twinning relationship (including getting started), and who can provide information on up-to-date legislation which might affect Associations.

Address: Mrs C French, Higher Farm, Stokeinteignhead, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4QB

Public Libraries

Both Counties have Reference Libraries which either hold or have access to information on the European Union and are able to answer queries from other Libraries.

Addresses:

County Reference Library, Union Place, Truro, TR1 1EP

Central Library, Castle Street, Exeter, EX4 3PQ

European Information Centres

The Euro Info Centre Southwest was set up by the European Commission in 1989 and is part of a network of over 210 centres in the European Union and Eastern Europe. It is supported by a "hotline" to Brussels and can supply information on grants and funding, trade links, EC directives, supply contracts and tenders etc. Euro Information Centres are intended to assist Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

Addresses:

Reed Hall, Exeter University, EX4 4QR. 0392 214085

(Branch office) Learning Resources Centre, College of St. Mark and St John,

Derriford Road, Plymouth PL6 8BH

Regional Subnetworks

Addresses:

*Euro Info Centre Plymouth, 6th Floor, Intercity House,
North Road Station, Plymouth. 0752 251350*

*Euro Info Centre Dorset, Business Link Centre, Poole,
Dorset
(from June 1994)*

European Documentation Centre

The Law Library at Exeter University is a Reference Library, open to the public, and includes a European Documentation Centre. It receives all official publications and journals from the EU and has a CD ROM database for access to the information.

Address:

*Exeter Law Library, Amory Building, Rennes Drive, Exeter,
EX4 4RJ. 0392 262072*

The Cornwall and Devon European Liaison Office. Brussels

Formally opened in May 1993, the office was first established five years previously, funded by both County Councils, Plymouth City Council and a number of District Councils. It provides prompt and first hand information on events in Brussels and forms a vital link for the benefit of the region.

Address:

Rue Bordiau 20, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

The European Parliament

The South West sends two members to the European Parliament for the constituencies of Devon and Cornwall & Plymouth. The UK office of the European Parliament is at:

*2 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AA. Telephone 071 222
0411*

United Kingdom Regions

THE SOUTH WEST A REGION
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1 South West

Devon
Cornwall

2 West

Dorset
Wiltshire
Somerset
Avon
Gloucestershire

3 East

Norfolk
Cambridgeshire
Suffolk
Bedfordshire
Essex
Hertfordshire

4 West Midlands

Staffordshire
Shropshire
West Midlands
Warwickshire
Hereford and Worcester

5 North

Durham
Tyne and Wear
Cleveland
Northumberland
Cumbria

6 South East

Kent
West Sussex
East Sussex
Surrey

7 South

Hampshire
Berkshire
Oxfordshire
Isle of Wight
Buckinghamshire

8 East Midlands

Leicestershire
Nottinghamshire
Northamptonshire
Lincolnshire
Derbyshire

9 Yorkshire & Humberside

South Yorkshire
West Yorkshire
North Yorkshire
Humberside

10 North West

Greater Manchester
Merseyside
Lancashire
Cheshire

11 Greater London

12 Scotland

13 Wales

14 Northern Ireland

Author: Neil Kelly

We would like to thank all those individuals and organisations in the region, without whose enthusiastic assistance this brochure could not have been produced.

April 1994 – 9490



South West Region

- 1 Cornwall
- 2 Devon

