

REWARD

*Regional and Welsh Appraisal of
Resource Productivity and
Development:
A Baseline Assessment*

Chapter 5

*Future action by Regions to
promote resource productivity*

5 Future action by Regions to promote resource productivity

As set out in chapter 1 of this report, the Regions have been actively involved over the past 3-4 years in developing robust Regional policy and strategy frameworks for setting out the challenges and actions needed to tackle inefficient Regional economies.

The publication of revised Regional Economic Strategies, has clearly identified the Regional Development Agencies as continuing to have a significant role in driving and facilitating the Regional delivery by many organisations tackling this agenda. There will be the continuation of a number of existing, or development of new programmes over the next 2-3 years, as set out in each of the RDA Corporate Plans. A flavour of some of the programmes to be supported and implemented by the RDAs across the country is set out below:

- Development of recycle centres of excellence, which will provide technical assistance and market development for recycle products. Also wider promotion of materials recovery and recycling.
- Major investment in greenhouse gas emission reductions and creating opportunities for a low carbon economy, including a major shift to renewable technologies and energy saving equipment in partnership with organisations such as the Carbon Trust.
- Supporting the development and establishment of forums for the environmental technologies industries, and wider technology transfer and dissemination of cleaner technologies and processes.
- Leading and/or facilitating more co-ordinated and accessible business support networks in the Regions.
- Acting as exemplar organisations by adopting environmental management systems and corporate commitments to minimise the environment footprint from offices and working practices.
- Promoting the resource efficiency and business benefits through supply chains, within both the public and private sector.
- Gaining greater understanding of how improving ICT infrastructure and take up of ICT in business can afford resource efficiency benefits.
- Gaining greater understanding of resource use within key sectors of the Regional economies, and developing more sustainable strategies for growing clusters.