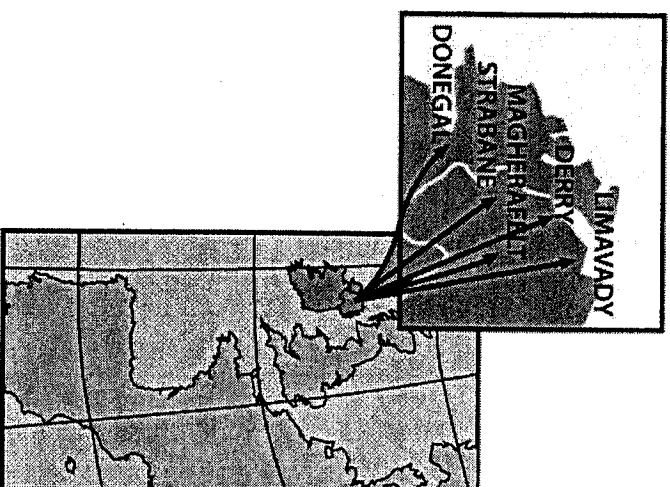


REPORT

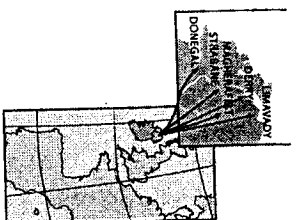
The Current Status of the Application for Funding
Of the North West Region Cross Border Group
Multi-Annual Plan under the INTERREG IVA Programme



NORTH WEST REGION
Cross Border Group

North West Region Cross Border Group

INTERREG IVA REPORT



This report contains detail on the current status of the application submitted to the Special European Union Programmes Body (SEUPB) for funding under the North West Region Cross Border Group's Multi-Annual Plan (MAP).

In June 2009 SEUPB informed the local authority groups that the Treasury Green Book was being reviewed and that this would need to be taken into account in any assessment of applications from the respective groups. The main feature of this would be the need for the Groups to submit business cases for each individual element of the MAP. SEUPB undertook to issue a template for the required business case by the beginning of September 2009. At a subsequent meeting with SEUPB on the 3rd September 2009 the Groups were informed that SEUPB had reviewed the entire application process and that individual applications were now required and a business case template would not be forthcoming.

The NWRCBG, through the Lead Implementing Councils, has been working with the project teams comprising nominated officers from each of the participating councils, to collate detailed information to translate each element of the Map into individual project proposals. The majority of the applications have been submitted and it is expected that the remainder will be submitted within the coming days to SEUPB for the next stages of the approvals process. These applications reflect the agreed high-level activity approved by the NWRCBG in the MAP.

The timeframes for taking applications forward to allow roll out of the programme has been dictated by SEUPB and the Chief Executive has indicated that they are aiming to have all the activity submitted by the local authority groups, through the approvals process by early 2010.

The INTERREG IVA Programme is being funded at 100%. This means that central government departments are providing the 25% match funding from their respective budgets. While this in no way gives the said departments a veto on spend, the

departments must satisfy themselves that any proposed projects are robust, provide value for money and are needs based. Therefore SEUPB must present all applications to the relevant departmental casework committees for approval.

This should in no way be seen as detrimental, whilst admittedly lengthening the approvals process, it adds robustness to the overall assessment and assures the Steering Committee of departmental support for the project.

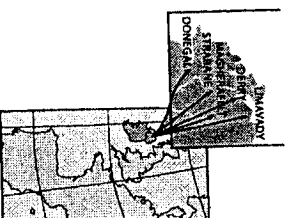
The amounts currently approved by Steering Committee under each of the themes are approvals in principle. Final amounts will be approved on the presentation of the economic appraisals that will have undergone scrutiny from the departmental casework committees. The departmental casework committees are primarily Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment (DETI) and Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP), who are the accountable departments for the match funding.

All five local authority Groups are in exactly the same position with the current programme. No approvals have been given on any groups' applications. The emphasis now must therefore be on ensuring that SEUPB adheres to it's stated timeframe so that the programme rolls out as early as possible in 2010 and that money is actually put on the ground. Meeting N+2 targets creates pressure for all project promoters and SEUPB, further delays in the rollout will only add to this position.

The five member Councils are partners in the MAP and subsequent individual project applications. The participating Councils have agreed the Lead Implementing Council for each project.

North West Region Cross Border Group is the Lead Partner for the MAP.

The Chief Executive of the SEUPB has indicated that he is willing to attend a future meeting of the NWR/RCBG to address any issues or concerns that members have regarding the INTERREG I/VA Programme.



OPERATION	PROJECT /PROGRAMME	LEAD IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	AMOUNT APPROVED BY SC	STATUS	NEXT STAGES
Enterprise	Management and Workforce Enhancement Programme	Derry City Council	£1,200,000 (€1,320,000)	Application and supporting documentation submitted	Economic appraisal ¹ Full Business Case ² Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ³ Steering Committee for final approval ⁴
Enterprise	Sectoral Clustering and Networking Programme	Limavady Borough Council	£1,000,000 (€1,100,000)	NWRRCBG currently in discussion with InterTrade Ireland as the Programme Steering Committee has requested that this	InterTradeIreland to liaise with SEUPB and relevant departments to progress this activity. An overarching steering group comprising the five local authority groups, InterTradeIreland and representatives from INI and EI could ensure an integrated approach across the entire eligible area but permit sub-regional activity to be

¹ Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB

² Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

³ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

⁴ Letter of Offer or Rejection

				<p>activity is rolled out throughout the entire eligible region in an integrated manner. Funding for this activity has also been awarded to EBRC as part of their Multi-Annual Plan and InterTrade Ireland has also submitted an application for funding in under this theme.</p>	<p>rolled out according to local need. (An independent economic appraisal of the InterTrade Ireland proposal for sectoral clustering networking has been completed).</p>
Enterprise	Estates Management Infrastructure Programme	Derry City Council	£1,000,000 (€1,100,000)	Application and supporting documentation submitted	Economic appraisal ⁵ Full Business Case ⁶ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ⁷ Steering Committee for final approval ⁸

⁵ Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB

⁶ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

⁷ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

Enterprise	Diaspora Programme	Donegal County Council	£730,000 (€803,000)	Application and supporting documentation to be submitted upon final review by Lead Implementing Council	Economic appraisal ⁹ Full Business Case ¹⁰ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ¹¹ Steering Committee for final approval ¹²
Tourism	Recreation and Visitor Trails Enhancement Programme	Limavady Borough Council	£1,000,000 (€1,100,000)	Application and supporting documentation submitted	Economic Appraisal due for completion week beginning 26th October 2009 Full Business Case ¹³ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ¹⁴ Steering Committee for final approval ¹⁵
Tourism	Tourism	Derry City	£1,160,000	Application	Economic Appraisal on-going due for

⁸ Letter of Offer or Rejection

⁹ Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB

¹⁰ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

¹¹ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

¹² Letter of Offer or Rejection

¹³ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

¹⁴ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

¹⁵ Letter of Offer or Rejection

	Management and Marketing and Communications Programme	Council	(€1,276,000)	and supporting documentation submitted	completion week beginning 19 th October 2009 Full Business Case ¹⁶ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ¹⁷ Steering Committee for final approval ¹⁸
Tourism	Inch Levels / Lough Foyle Awareness Programme	Donegal County Council	£665,000 (€731,500)	Application and supporting documentation to be submitted upon final review by Lead Implementing Council	Draft economic appraisal completed, due for review with final application. Full Business Case ¹⁹ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ²⁰ Steering Committee for final approval ²¹
Collaboration	Sports Development and Community Outreach	Strabane District Council	£800,000 (€880,000)	Application and supporting documentation	Economic appraisal ²² Full Business Case ²³ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ²⁴

¹⁶ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

¹⁷ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

¹⁸ Letter of Offer or Rejection

¹⁹ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

²⁰ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

²¹ Letter of Offer or Rejection

				submitted	Steering Committee for final approval ²⁵
Collaboration	Health and Healthy Living Development Programme	Strabane District Council	£800,000 (€880,000)	Application and supporting documentation submitted	Economic appraisal ²⁶ Full Business Case ²⁷ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ²⁸ Steering Committee for final approval ²⁹
Collaboration	Strategic Development and Operational Management	NWRCBG	£1,000,000 (€1,100,000)	Application and supporting documentation submitted	Economic appraisal ³⁰ Full Business Case ³¹ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ³² Steering Committee for final approval ³³

²² Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB
²³ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB
²⁴ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%
²⁵ Letter of Offer or Rejection
²⁶ Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB
²⁷ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB
²⁸ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%
²⁹ Letter of Offer or Rejection
³⁰ Independent appraisal by consultants appointed by SEUPB
³¹ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB
³² Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

Collaboration	Spatial Planning Analysis and Information Sharing Programme	Donegal County Council	£545,455 (€600,000)	Application and supporting documentation to be submitted upon final review by Lead Implementing Council	Economic Appraisers to be appointed week Full Business Case ³⁴ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ³⁵ Steering Committee for final approval ³⁶ beginning 20 th October 2009
Collaboration	Urban and Rural Village Renewal Programme	Donegal County Council	£909,091 (€1,000,000)	Application and supporting documentation to be submitted upon final review by Lead Implementing Council	Economic Appraisers to be appointed week beginning 20 th October 2009 Full Business Case ³⁷ Presentation to departmental Casework Committee ³⁸ Steering Committee for final approval ³⁹

³³ Letter of Offer or Rejection

³⁴ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

³⁵ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

³⁶ Letter of Offer or Rejection

³⁷ Prepared by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the SEUPB

³⁸ Casework Committees are internal committees of the accountable departments who are contributing the 25% match funding as the programme is being funded at 100%

³⁹ Letter of Offer or Rejection

APPENDICES

Project Summaries

1. Management and Workforce Enhancement Programme
2. Sectoral Clustering and Networking Programme
3. Estates Management/ Investment Infrastructure Management Programme
4. Diaspora Programme
5. Recreation and Visitor Trails Enhancement Programme
6. Inch Levels / Lough Foyle Awareness Programme
7. Tourism Management and Marketing and Communication Programme
8. Sports Development and Community Outreach Programme
9. Health and Healthy Living Development Programme
10. Spatial Planning Analysis and Information Sharing Programme
11. Urban and Rural Village Renewal Programme
12. Strategic Development and Operational Management Programme

ENTERPRISE THEME 1 - MANAGEMENT & WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: £1,200,000

Description:

A programme of support to develop the Regions workforce and to enhance the capacity of the Region's existing and new businesses in order to improve the Region's opportunity, ability and position to compete effectively in national and international markets. This project will help improve the potential and performance of both indigenous enterprises and Foreign Direct Investment Companies operating in the North West.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop & build upon past experience and intervention as well as existing expertise • To establish & sustain a culture of enterprise • To address existing skills gaps / deficiencies within business and enhance the knowledge, skills and capacity of enterprise • To develop businesses experience and expertise in their operational activities • To develop a job capturing and job matching model on a c/b basis to coordinate employment lead opps • To collaborate on a cross-jurisdiction basis to share expertise and experience to improve the knowledge and skills base for businesses throughout the Region • To influence the economic and social sustainability of businesses in the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The creation and skills development solutions that are needs driven (within sectors and in enterprises) • 50 existing business enterprises availing of tailored skills and capacity building support • 25 existing business enterprises entering new geographical markets • 15 existing business enterprises entering new product markets • 500 people re-engaged with the labour market • 10 best practice exchanges through cross-border collaboration

ENTERPRISE THEME 2 - SECTORAL CLUSTERING & NETWORKING PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: £1,000,000

Description:

The Group will develop a programme to support strategic sectoral clustering and networking within the Region to bring key businesses and stakeholders together to establish and promote a knowledge and experience-sharing environment of entrepreneurialism and business development, at an operational level. The programme will target businesses on a sectoral basis, to work as clusters of specialist products / services, and to focus on raising the competitiveness, market profile and position and opportunity for business/enterprise based on shared experience and expertise.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop & build upon past experience and intervention as well as existing expertise • To enhance the profile, reputation and credibility of the regions "offer, both within and outside the region • To develop clusters and networks that provides the basis to stimulate global competitiveness and innovation • To develop clusters of interaction and collaborative activity among sectors / businesses that share common expertise • To encourage the identification and growth of a critical mass of suppliers, customers and competitors to underpin sectoral/ businesses development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 clusters of related businesses/ companies on a sectoral basis to include at least 2 clusters established on a cross border basis, by Sept 2011 • 60 participating businesses / companies • 5 cluster / networked-based activities comprising indigenous companies and FDIs

ENTERPRISE THEME 3 - ESTATES MANAGEMENT / INVESTMENT INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: £1,000,000

Description:

The Group will deliver a programme of work to create a uniform or standardised presentation and investment profile for e.g. development sites, industrial estates or business and commercial parks and investment opportunities, throughout the Region. This intervention will focus on the 'presentation' of the estates and infrastructure (and not the development of new), in order to leave a physical legacy after the programme is completed which is more than solely the aesthetics of the presence of a site / estate.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop and establish a uniform "presentation profile" for commercial and industrial sites throughout the region. • To improve the regions profile and to enhance the competitiveness of the regions employment and industrial zones • To encourage increased levels of investment by new businesses / companies to existing sites (gap / vacant sites) • To "wi-fi enable" the investment profile and proposition of the regions development and investment opps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 employment / industrial / investment zones physically enhanced and re-represented to the business, developer and investment community • 15 new business investments into employment / industrial / investment zones in the region

ENTERPRISE THEME 4 - DIASPORA PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: £730,000

Description:

The utilisation of the Diaspora of an area as an economic driver, particularly to secure inward investment is one that internationally has been proven to act as a catalyst for economic development. The Group proposes a programme of intervention to further develop and enhance the Diaspora project that was funded under the INTERREG IIIa Programme.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working together as a region to bring home or bring us together with the wider North West community who live outside the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One networking project supported Continue populating Diaspora database – 500 per annum for three years to a total of 2000 Develop virtual network to facilitate virtual interaction, e-zines and shared information resource (quarterly e-zines / develop existing website and utilize to provide job opps / develop publication to focus on highlighting up to date key selling messages for the region) Develop marketing events run under the Diaspora Phase 1 to become established events in the relevant market e.g.: annual Diaspora Awards (Dublin – target of 100 members / London – target of 50 / US – target of 100 Establish a regional method of rewarding individuals from the Diaspora community who contribute to support the regional economy either through investment or support of local business. Create ambassadors in 6 target cities

	<p>(Dublin / London / Belfast / New York / Boston</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 – 3 Sectoral Development Initiatives investigated• Best Practice visits undertaken – to review other international areas engaged in Diaspora activity• Key selling message material for NW Region, disseminated to approx. 2000 from target groups
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TOURISM THEME 1 – RECREATION AND VISITOR TRAILS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

Timescale: 2.5 Years

Budget: £1,000,000

Description:

The Group proposes to deliver a programme of support to develop/enhance the provision of activity trails & visitor touring routes across the Region. It is proposed that this theme will comprise a series of individual components that complement one another, & which are inter-connected & intrinsically linked. The proposed projects in each Council area will be based on one or both of the regional spines – the Ulster Way and Lough Foyle marine Trail that link to or through the 5 local authority areas. These will encompass some 470 kms of new trail development. The 3 key elements of the programme are:

1. An Audit & Review of Best Practice in Recreational Trail Provision
2. Recreational Trails - An Enhancement Programme
3. Visitor Touring Routes - An Enhancement Programme

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To address weaknesses in product/services & infrastructure provision associated with activity trails provision. 2. To improve/enhance existing provision of recreation/activity trails including cycling, walking & equestrian routes. 3. To improve/enhance the existing provision of touring routes throughout the Region. 4. To develop/establish a dedicated resource for the on-going & consistent management & maintenance of activity trails & touring routes. 5. To collaborate on a cross-jurisdiction basis to share expertise & experience to improve the knowledge & skills base for businesses throughout the Region. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A comprehensive baseline audit & review of existing routes & trails 2. A detailed audit & assessment of 20 specific trails (or sites). 3. A model of best practice to add value to the potential development, management, marketing & commercialisation of activity routes. 4. The upgrade & redevelopment/enhancement of existing activity routes. 5. The formulation of a central activity route management & maintenance resource 6. The upgrade & enhancement of angling opportunities & facilities. 7. 30 Trail projects that will see 470 km of new trail developed.

TOURISM THEME 2 - INCH LEVELS / LOUGH FOYLE AWARENESS PROGRAMME

Timescale: 3 years

Budget: £665,000/€731,500

Description:

The Inch Levels-Lough Foyle Project will aim to deliver 2 world-class visitor and recreation attractions through a number of targeted interventions. The Project proposes a programme of themed and niche market development activity to enhance and promote the natural landscape and environment with particular emphasis on bird watching in and around a Natura 2000 site. In addition to this, the project will aim to establish the entire northwest region as a first class birdlife and environmental destination.

<p>The aims of the project are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To establish Inch Levels and Lough Foyle as a world-class environmental tourism attraction, which will attract visitors from all round the island of Ireland and on an international basis. 2. To grow inbound visitor numbers through targeting the attraction at not only eco-tourists but across a variety of markets through the development of both sites cultural/heritage strengths also. 3. To raise awareness of the special nature of both Inch Lake and Lough Foyle, not only as areas important for over wintering wildfowl but in terms of biodiversity and outdoor recreation. 	<p>Infrastructure</p> <p><i>Inch Levels</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 12-space car park at Inch Island side of Inch Lake. • Development of 3.5km of walkway Inch Island side of the attraction. • Installation of Timber Boardwalk at Inch Embankment. <p><i>Lough Foyle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 4 bird hides located at strategic points throughout Lough Foyle project area. • Construction of 25m footbridge to span the Burnfoot river on the eastern shore of Lough Foyle. • Installation of appropriate access controls to allow for better visitor management at site. • Development and installation of interpretative and orientation panels across both sites. • Installation of visitor monitoring equipment at key sites – pedestrian and vehicle.
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TOURISM THEME 3 - TOURISM MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMME

Timescale: 3 years **Budget:** £1,160,000

Description:

The Group proposes to deliver a programme of interventions to market & promote the North West Region in the international market place, & to facilitate & manage visitors to the Region.

1. A Visitor Management Strategy & Action Plan
2. A Tourism Marketing & Communications Programme

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To raise the profile & position the Region in the international market place. 2. To increase the international visibility, awareness, knowledge & accessibility of the Region to consumers in making travel decisions. 3. To influence the movement of visitors & their activities while visiting the Region. 4. To market the Region in partnership with key trade & industry stakeholders throughout the public, private & community sectors. 5. To increase visitors' length of stay in the Region. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audit and Development of a regional image bank 2. Delivery of NW Air Access 2 3. Development of We Capability and Web Portal (Visitor Management/Marketing) 4. Delivery of Regional Cruise Ship Initiative (Visitor Management/Marketing) 5. Development of Digital Orientation and Visitor Management System 6. Production and Distribution of Multi-Media Presentation 7. Integrated regional marketing campaign in target markets 8. Festivals Programme

COLLABORATION THEME 1 - SPORTS DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Timescale: 3 Years

Budget: £800,000

Description:

The sport and community programme is strategically and operationally focussed to build upon previous investments in sports activity within the region. The programme draws upon the strategic framework for sport as presented in both N Ireland and ROI through Sport NI and The Irish Sports Council. It has been designed to contribute to the strategic objectives of increasing participation in sport and recreation; improving sporting performance, delivering positive health benefits through participation in sport, developing more positive attitudes to sport and physical activity and ensuring improved efficiency and effectiveness in the planning of and delivery of sport. More specifically it is designed to provide people, especially young people and under represented groups, with pathways and options for lifelong learning and personal development.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Address current weaknesses in product, services and infrastructure associated with sports development and provision. 2. Improve accessibility, understanding and knowledge of sports and sports development opportunities in the Region through the establishment of a stakeholder forum. 3. Promote participation in sporting activities within disadvantaged and under-represented groups of the population. 4. Contribute to the health and social well-being of individuals and groups and the sustainability of local communities within the Region. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A comprehensive baseline audit and review of sports development and sports development opportunities 2. A forward strategy for the development of sports, enhancement participation and delivery of associated public services 3. The establishment of a stakeholder forum to co-ordinate, consider, inform and influence sports development in the region 4. The identification, development and delivery of capacity building solutions to support sports development in and throughout the region 5. The effective and collaborative promotion of and increased levels of participation in sporting activities within disadvantaged and under represented groups of the population

	6. The positive contribution to the health and social wellbeing of individuals and groups, to equality, corporate governance and the sustainability of local communities within the region
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COLLABORATION THEME 2 - HEALTH AND HEALTHY LIVING DEVELOPMENT

Timescale: 3 years Budget: £800,000

Description:

The Health and Healthy Living programme is a strategic intervention designed to deliver optimum regional benefit and is strategically and operationally focussed to build upon previous investments in health and healthy living activity within the region.

The programme draws upon the strategic framework for health as presented in both NI and ROI. Research on the benefits of community gardens and allotments indicates that the benefits attained directly support Government agendas in relation to health, education, climate change and social inclusion

AIMS

1. Develop a community garden/ allotment programme as a valuable contribution to the regions sustainability by providing health, social, economic and environmental benefits
2. Establish a baseline study of health, healthy living within the region as part of an overall baseline of participation rates in sport and physical activity.
3. Establish a strategic forum for healthy living in the region comprising of a series of inter connected sub forums
4. Establish a collaborative programme of intervention to improve the health status of the region focused on allotment and community garden activity
5. Develop an educational programme to support the development of health and healthy living activity

OUTPUTS

1. A comprehensive baseline audit and review of health and healthy living activities
2. A forward strategy for the development of health related activity focused on allotments and the natural environment delivery of associated public services
3. The establishment of a stakeholder forum to co ordinate, consider, inform and influence development in the region
4. The identification, development and delivery of capacity building solutions to support health improvement throughout the region
5. The effective and collaborative promotion of and increased levels of participation in health and healthy living activities within disadvantaged and under represented groups of the population

	<p>6. Improved levels of health, fitness and wellbeing within the region</p> <p>7. Ongoing co operation among agencies and organisations on a cross border basis to enhance the delivery of social health improvement activities</p>
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COLLABORATION THEME 3 - SPATIAL PLANNING ANALYSIS & INFORMATION SHARING PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: £545,455 (£600,000)

Description:

The Group will develop a programme to evaluate the effectiveness of the spatial structure of the North West Region. Project activities will include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the strategy in promoting economic development and social progress in the linked gateway of Derry / Letterkenny. The evaluation will examine how effective spatial planning has been to date, in generating growth and prosperity in the North West Region. The programme will utilise and build upon existing partnerships already established in information sharing and planning, and will develop a series of (quantitative and qualitative) indicators to measure any such growth.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate the effectiveness of the spatial planning process / structure of the North West Region. • To estimate the impact of expenditure and level of drawdown of funding support under the NSS. • To develop an 'effectiveness examination model' and 'methodology' to measure the impact of expenditure under the NDP. • To disseminate and share information to all relevant public sector stakeholders, with the view to apply any such model, on an all-island basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more coordinated approach to funding that will address gaps or pockets of deprivation within the area and thereby drive the long-term sustainability of rural communities. • An estimation of the impact and effectiveness of e.g. particular infrastructure investment on the demographic profile and migratory patterns of the Region's resident population. • The dissemination and sharing of information among sector and between jurisdictions for mutual benefit and future planning.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of restraints and blockages preventing optimum spatial planning / intervention expenditure.• A more evidence based approach to spatial planning and policy making in the NW Region that is based on availability of comparable spatial indicators across the entire area.• Strengthening of existing and creation of new partnerships and working relationships, on a cross-border basis.
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COLLABORATION THEME 4 - URBAN & RURAL VILLAGE RENEWAL PROGRAMME

Timescale: 4 years

Budget: €909,091 (€1,000,000)

Description:

This programme of intervention is proposed to bring about economic and social development of two local urban and rural village areas and to enable those communities to engage and become centrally involved in that development. The Programme will put in place structures that promote enterprise and economic development, that target disadvantaged areas and communities, and that regenerate the surroundings in urban and rural centres throughout the Region. The intervention will be aimed at the promotion of a sustainable physical, social and economic revitalisation of urban centres.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve and renew the physical environment of villages in order to attract and sustain an enterprise base and a vibrant socio-economic environment. • To empower communities in the most disadvantaged areas of the country to tackle in an integrated way the social and economic problems that they face. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physical redevelopment and restoration of urban and rural villages. • The establishment of a lasting physical, economic and social change in urban and rural villages, and their surrounding areas. • The dissemination and sharing of information among sector and between jurisdictions for mutual benefit and future planning. • Strengthening of existing and creation of new partnerships and working relationships, on a cross-border basis.

COLLABORATION THEME 5 – NWRRCBG STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT & OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Timescale: 4 Years

Budget: £1,000,000

Description:

The NWRRCBG proposes to implement a resource to enable the Group to develop an integrated programme of economic and social activity, to improve the capacity of partner Councils to act collectively for the benefit of the region. The Group will continue to promote co-operation and collaboration on a cross border basis.

AIMS	OUTPUTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To progress a coherent and integrated programme of economic and social development for the North West Region 2. To improve the capacity of the region to act collectively in the interests of the region to exploit the region's economic development potential 3. To facilitate co-operation on a cross border basis and to act as the vehicle for co-operation and collaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 operations developed and implemented under the multi-annual plan • 3 cross border project management teams established to support the implementation of the multi-annual plan • INTERREG IVA delivered in the NW cross border region • Communications plan implemented • 4 Cross border policy initiatives undertaken • Capacity on regional collaboration built and training provided for 30 elected members and officers • 2 Major conferences supported • 3 Cross border workshops/Seminars held per year • 200 participants in themed activity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 meetings per year between elected members and officials• Strengthening co-operation on a European wide basis, including promotion of the activities of the region at EU open days, participation in Association of European Border Regions (AEBR) events and activities
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