



Special EU Programmes Body
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

PEACE III CONFERENCE

Waterfront Hall, Belfast

20th May 2010



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SEUPB Panel Presentation:

Shaun Henry	Director of Managing Authority
Howard Keery	Director of Joint Technical Secretariat
Jacqueline Irwin	Community Relations Council
Paddy McGinn	Pobal



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PEACE III (2007-2010)

Howard Keery
Director, Joint Technical Secretariat
Special EU Programmes Body

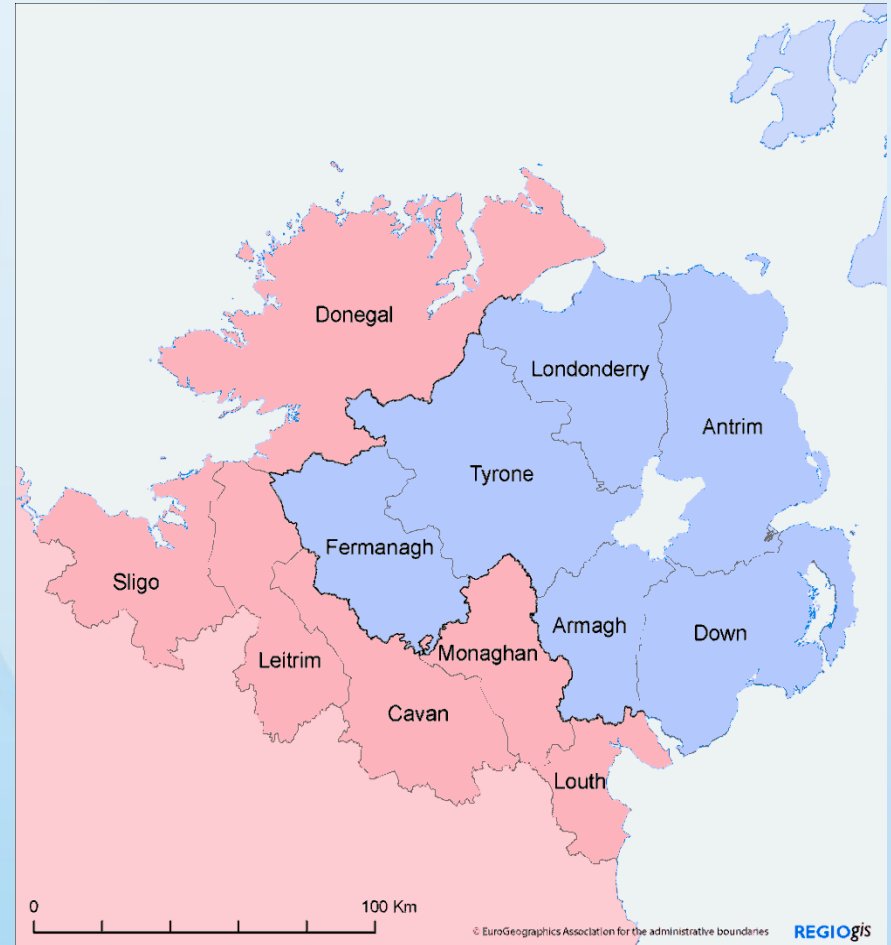


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PEACE III Programme

PEACE III – 2007 to 2013:
Programme value €333 million.

Objective: “To reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promote reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.”



Eligible area: Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland

Building Positive Relationships

- Support provided for all 14 Local Peace Action Plans, delivering over 360 projects to value of €50m.
- Over 45,000 people to attend events designed to reduce sectarianism and racism.
- 21 Letters of offer issued for regional level projects to value of €26m.



Acknowledging and dealing with the past

- 55 Letters of offer have been issued to the value of €23m.
- Addressing needs of victims and survivors of the conflict.
- Explore the legacy and memory of the conflict.
- Over 6,000 people to receive counselling.
- Over 18,000 people to attend events in support of victims and survivors.



'Theatre of Witness Project' – The Playhouse, Londonderry

Creating Shared Public Spaces

- 8 Letters of offer issued with a value of €48m.
- Support given to iconic projects of strategic importance.
- Projects will help create a lasting legacy for the PEACE Programme.



Peace bridge – Londonderry , a new and ‘iconic’ foot and cycle bridge designed to help promote greater cross-community interaction and engagement.

Building Key Institutional Capacity for the Future

- 10 Letters of Offer issued with a value of €7m.
- Explore new shared service delivery models.
- Support the development of a new shared society.
- Promote European networking.



Launch of NICVA's 'Vital Links' project in the Long Gallery, Stormont.

PEACE III - Evaluating the Impact

Evaluating Change:

Different initiatives are being used to evaluate the success of the programme:

- Attitudinal change survey (Summer 2010)
 - A review of the Programme to include:
 - Acknowledging & dealing with the past measure (June 2010)
 - Local Area Peace & Reconciliation Action Plans (Summer 2010)
 - Community uptake analysis (Autumn 2010)
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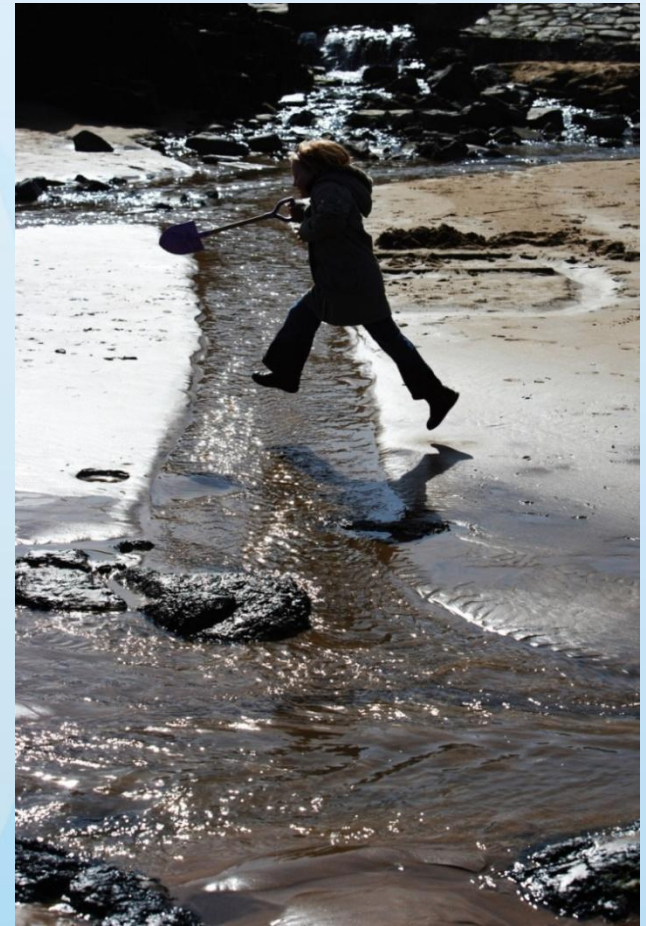
PEACE III – Looking Ahead

- Final decision on Shared Spaces
 - €33m to be allocated in Sept.
- Final call on Acknowledging and dealing with the past
 - €27m funding call in the Autumn
- Local Peace & Reconciliation Actions Plans
 - €40-50m for Phase II (2010-2013).



Local Peace & Reconciliation Plans

- Existing cluster configuration will be used for preparation of all bids under Phase II.
- Local authorities to take a leadership role.
- All partnership consortia formed will utilise experience developed under Phase I.



PEACE III – Looking Ahead

JTS has commissioned technical support from the Consortium of **Pobal** and the **Community Relations Council** to:

- Advise/assist on the transfer of learning from Phase I to Phase II.
- Advise/support on appropriate consultation process.
- Comment/feedback on all draft Phase II Plan's.
- Develop learning from Phase I through programme of work including workshops and seminars etc.



PEACE III – Looking Ahead

Timetable & Spend Targets:

- Current Phase I plans to end mid-2011.
 - New Peace & Reconciliation Action Plans will need to be ready prior to this date.
 - **Closing date for final Action Plans is 17th Sept 2010.**
 - This is a challenging timetable.
 - Financial Allocations potentially agreed by early 2011, with key spend targets including September 2012, 2013 and 2014.
-

PEACE III - Future Challenges

CHALLENGES:

Two major challenges moving forward:

- Ensure impact of the programme is fully maximised.
 - Secure a positive legacy for Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland.
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Thank you

Questions & Answers



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Project Clip R.A.F.T.



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EU Funding – What else is out there?

Ronan Gingles
Irish Regions, Brussels Office



Presentation

- Why go 'European'?
 - What the EU is looking for
 - Activities
 - EU Funding landscape
 - How the programmes are organised
 - Some 'social' programme options for NGOs/C&V sector
 - Other programmes
 - Mindset required: Some pointers for success
 - Financial aspects
 - How to get involved.
-

Why go 'European'?

- ❑ Rare opportunity to freely explore new horizons
- ❑ Kudos for showing initiative and leveraging extra funding
- ❑ Non-financial benefits:
 - ❑ Access to alternative perspectives (different systems)
 - ❑ Capacity-building – organisational & personal (e.g. linguistic),
 - ❑ New connections can be further developed
- ❑ Involvement possible at different levels
 - ❑ Lead Partner – full coordination responsibility!!!
 - ❑ Partner
 - ❑ Background involvement in local consortium (under LA?)
 - ❑ Associate/Observer status (unfunded)
- ❑ International profile (first step in regular networking?) _____

What does the EU want?

- ❑ “Project” = Means to test/develop EU policy objectives
- ❑ Issue relevance beyond local/national (European added value)
- ❑ Diverse organisations working collectively towards shared goals:
- ❑ Wide sense of “transnationality” including links with newer EU Member States (and beyond)
- ❑ Truly joint applications: appropriate partners, realistic ambitions
- ❑ Value for money: additional and future activities only
- ❑ Emphasis on reaching target groups (final beneficiaries)
- ❑ Innovative approaches & results – new ways of problem solving
- ❑ Integrated thinking – examine issue from various perspectives
- ❑ Long-term purpose (vision) and sustainability of impacts
- ❑ Built-in dissemination campaign (widen effect)

Activities for consideration

- Knowledge & experience exchange
 - Study visits & placements
 - Best practice transfer & adaptation
 - Active stakeholder survey and engagement
 - Training seminars & workshops
 - Awareness-raising campaigns & events
 - Strategy development & implementation,
 - Further studies & research
 - Applied research: pilot & demonstration projects
-

EU Funding Landscape

- a) The ‘negotiated’ programmes (managed nationally/regionally):
- Regional Competitiveness & Employment Programmes
(NI & RoI x 2)
 - European Social Fund Programmes (NI & RoI)
 - INTERREG IV A, B, C Programmes
 - PEACE III
 - Rural Development Programmes (NI & RoI)
 - European Fisheries Fund
 - Common Agriculture Policy (direct payments)
- b) ...”Transnational Programmes”
A.K.A “Community Action Programmes”
A.K.A “Direct funding from the European Commission”
-

How do transnational programmes work?

- ❑ Same overall timeframe (2007-2013, 2014-2020)
- ❑ Virtually independent – own structures, procedures, target audiences, eligibility rules, timetables...
- ❑ Managed by EC (usually) – occasional national authorities' role
- ❑ Varying priorities & criteria (Annual Work Programmes)
- ❑ Calls for proposals launched (usually annual)
- ❑ Competitive bidding process - emphasis on merit, not charity
- ❑ “Transnational Action grants”
- ❑ No guaranteed national envelope
- ❑ EU-wide...and sometimes beyond
- ❑ Aimed at organisational activities
- ❑ Not intended for (immediate) profit-making

EU 'social' programmes

...possible options for NGOs/C&V sector

- 'Europe for Citizens'
- Leonardo (Vocational Training)
- 'Grundtvig (Adult Education)
- Youth in Action'
- 'Culture 2007'
- 'Integration of Third Country Nationals'
- 'European refugee Fund'
- Daphne III (combating violence)
- 'Fundamental Rights and Citizenship'
- 'Drug Prevention & Information'
- 'Prevention of and Fight against Crime'
- PROGRESS (employment & social solidarity)
- 'Public Health Programme'

'Europe for Citizens'

- ❑ Bringing a shared concept of 'Europe' closer to its citizens
 - ❑ Facilitating transnational interaction and understanding on active citizenship & European issues, e.g:
 - Democracy (esp. the future of Europe, EU elections...)
 - Social inclusion
 - Local economic development & employment
 - Education, training, languages...
 - Impact of EU policies (e.g. equal opps., European Year of...)
 - ❑ *Town-twinning*: one-off and themed/multiannual programmes
 - ❑ *Citizens' Projects*: discussing key European challenges.
 - ❑ Support for NGO and C&V awareness-raising on key themes
 - ❑ Actions *"to deepen understanding of active European citizenship"*
-

‘Leonardo da Vinci’

Vocational Education & Training

- ❑ Improving quality, fostering innovation and promoting European dimension of VET systems and practices.
 - ❑ VET organisations, institutions, associations, businesses...
 - ❑ Learners & trainers
 - ❑ Relatively small-scale
 - ❑ *Mobility* - training and work experience (abroad)
 - ❑ *Partnerships* – organisational cooperation activities, geographical or sectoral
 - ❑ *Transfer of Innovation* – adapting & integrating innovative results to new settings
 - ❑ *Preparatory Visits*
-

'Grundtvig'

Adult Education

- ❑ Improving adult skills and competences
 - ❑ Making LLL opportunities more widely available
 - ❑ AE learners/trainers from community groups, NGOs, charities...
 - ❑ Including “autonomous, community or experiential learning”.
 - ❑ *In-Service Training* (abroad) for professional development
 - ❑ *Multilateral Projects* – e.g. on AE accessibility & delivery
 - ❑ *Learning Partnerships* – small-scale practical activities
 - ❑ *Thematic Networks* – discussion & exchange platforms
 - ❑ *Senior Volunteering* (abroad) – themed, long-term links
 - ❑ *Staff Visits & Exchanges* and ‘*Assistantships*’ (abroad)
 - ❑ *Preparatory Visits/Contact Seminars* attendance (staff) or *Approved Workshops* (learners)
-

'Culture 2007'

Performing & visual arts, cultural heritage, translation

- ❑ Enhancing the European cultural area
 - ❑ Cooperation between cultural creators, operators & institutions, local authorities, small cultural enterprises...

 - ❑ 1-2 or 3-5 year cooperation projects on:
 - ❑ Mobility of artists/performers & works
 - ❑ Sectoral or cross-sectoral creativity & innovation
 - ❑ Cultural diversity awareness and intercultural dialogue
 - ❑ Literary translation
 - ❑ Links beyond EU
-

‘Youth in Action’

informal education & training

- ❑ Developing young (age 13-30) peoples’ sense of responsibility, initiative, concern for others, and active citizenship
 - ❑ *Youth Exchanges* - youth group mobility and themed activities
 - ❑ *Youth Initiatives* – designed & delivered by youth groups
 - ❑ *Youth Democracy* – activities along with decision makers
 - ❑ *European Voluntary Service* – personal development opportunity to volunteer internationally on approved projects
 - ❑ *Training and Networking Projects* – long-term exchange of experience among youth work support systems
 - ❑ *Seminars* to improve European dialogue & policy discussion.
-

‘DAPHNE III’

combating violence against the vulnerable

- ❑ Human rights, gender equality, child & youth protection
 - ❑ Protection, prevention and support measures
 - ❑ Improving public health, well-being and social cohesion policies
 - ❑ Tackling trafficking of human beings and sexual exploitation.
 - ❑ Knowledge base, information exchange and good practice
 - ❑ Develop and implement intervention programmes for victims/people at risk
 - ❑ Reaching out to target specific audiences.
 - ❑ Multidisciplinary networks among NGOs and other organisations
 - ❑ Design, test & adapt awareness-raising and educational materials
-

‘Fundamental Rights and Citizenship’

- ❑ Promoting the development of a society based on respect for fundamental rights derived from EU citizenship
 - ❑ Tackling racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism
 - ❑ Encouraging open, transparent and regular dialogue in respect of fundamental rights
 - ❑ Annual priority themes usually include:
 - Dialogue between religions and cultures
 - Fight against homophobia
 - Protection of the rights of the child
 - Active participation in the democracy
-

‘Drug Prevention & Information’

- ❑ Supporting exchange of best practices and development of innovative approaches on drug prevention and treatment
 - ❑ Improving awareness of and dialogue on the social and health problems caused by drugs use
 - ❑ Support measures aimed at preventing drug use, including the reduction of drug-related harm
 - ❑ Particular attention given to projects targeting young people, pregnant women, vulnerable groups and people living in socially disadvantaged areas.
 - ❑ Projects can also target those dealing with drug users, (e.g. parents, social workers, educational staff...)
-

‘Integration of Third Country Nationals’

- ❑ Promoting the integration of legal migrants from beyond the EU
 - ❑ Direct engagement with new arrivals (perceptions etc.)
 - ❑ Integration programmes and activities (e.g. basic language, society, cultural issues)
 - ❑ Building dialogue with civil society organisations on their role
 - ❑ Platforms & networks at European level (seeking out and evaluating best practices; developing integration models)
 - ❑ Complementary to the ESF actions to increase participation of migrants in employment
 - ❑ Note: National programme strategies are agreed each year
-

‘European Refugee Fund’

- ❑ Improving the efforts of Member States to grant reception conditions to refugees and displaced persons
 - ❑ Supporting the capacity building of EU asylum systems
 - ❑ Improving quality of asylum decision-making
 - ❑ Applying fair and effective asylum procedures
 - ❑ Promoting good practices in the field of asylum
 - ❑ Enhancing solidarity and the promotion of common measures to address specific needs
 - ❑ Note: National multiannual programme strategies in place
-

'Prevention of and Fight against Crime'

(includes)

- ❑ Promoting tools and methods to guarantee security and public order, e.g. new approaches to young offenders
 - ❑ Promoting and developing best practices for the protection and support of crime victims and witnesses
 - ❑ Anti-terrorism radicalisation measures among vulnerable communities and target groups (2010 priority: 18 June deadline!)
 - Disengagement programmes using role models;
 - Enhancing (youth) knowledge and awareness of problem
 - increased response capacity of civil society to speak out
 - effective channels for improved communication and outreach
 - ❑ Measures against trafficking of human beings (*25 June priority*)
 - Awareness-raising, training, networking
-

'PROGRESS'

employment & social solidarity

- Research and assessment supporting the development of responsive EU Employment and Social Affairs policies
- Mutual learning, awareness and dissemination activities
- Transnational networks, training seminars & exchanges

Priorities:

- Employment
 - Social inclusion and protection
 - Working conditions
 - Non-discrimination
 - Gender equality
-

'Public Health 2008-2013'

- ❑ Protecting citizens against health threats and improving patient safety
 - ❑ Health promotion efforts, reducing health inequalities and measures to prevent major diseases relating to key determinants such as alcohol and nutrition.
 - ❑ Disseminating information to citizens and actions on health indicators.
-

Other programmes

- ❑ MEDIA 2007 (audio-visual industry)
- ❑ Comenius (schools networking)
- ❑ Sport (future programme)
- ❑ Civil Protection (disaster management)
- ❑ LIFE+ (environment)
- ❑ Intelligent Energy Europe
- ❑ ICT-PSP (technology to benefit society)
- ❑ EIP (entrepreneurship & innovation)
- ❑ Seventh Framework, FP7 (research & development)

Latter programme primarily technical/economic in nature...
...possible opportunities for C&V background involvement?

Mindset required: some pointers

- ❑ Open-mindedness to influence of other cultures & systems
 - ❑ Link local relevance into wider and EU contexts
 - ❑ 'Speculate to accumulate' attitude – pros & cons of time, effort, resource management, administrative complexity...
 - ❑ Take advice from those who've been through EU process
 - ❑ Consider background role in initial wider local partnership
 - ❑ Begin as (collective) partner(s) in someone else's project
 - ❑ Willingness to network – enthusiasm, inventiveness, own specifics etc. to overcome perceptions of peripherality
 - ❑ Ability to shape a joint bid document and shared budget
 - ❑ Ongoing commitment to implementation – local & transnational (including administrative)
-

Financial aspects

- ❑ Eligible costs based on project delivery: staff, travel etc.,
- ❑ EU Co-financing (typically 50-80%, sometimes 100%)
- ❑ 'Match funding' shortfall must be secure but may be from:
own resources, or external (non-EU) grant
and can usually include:
 - ... non-cash contributions (e.g. staff allocation)
 - ... or 3rd party 'in-kind contributions' (e.g. materials), or
 - ...proportional indirect cost estimations (e.g. overheads)
- ❑ Payment normally in arrears but some lump sums and risk assessed pre-financing
- ❑ Occasional preparatory support (travel to meetings)
- ❑ Break even at end of project...no profit-making

How to get involved?



- ❑ Take stock of your situation (from various perspectives) to identify issues to address transnationally
 - ❑ Size up programmes (and current priorities) for a good 'fit'
 - ❑ Research situation in other EU countries to target partners
 - ❑ Partner search: join/recruit a partnership:
 - Notify interest to national officers, Contact Points etc.
 - Scan & register on programme website databases
 - Circulate intentions across Europe through various EU services based in/working for NI/RoI interests
 - Contact any relevant European networks (captive audience)
 - Proactive or informal one-to-one contacts (own research)
 - ❑ Build a project together...more than the sum of its parts
-

Direct funding from the European Commission?



*“You’ll never know
...unless you go”*





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EU Funding – What else is out there?

European Territorial Co-operation Programmes INTERREG IVB & INTERREG IVC

Teresa Lennon
Programme Manager
SEUPB



Outline of Presentation



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Overview of European Territorial Co-Operation

Overview of INTERREG IVB and IVC

Role of SEUPB

Examples of Successful projects

Further Information



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European Territorial Co-operation 2007 - 2013



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- **Cross Border Co-Operation (INTERREG IVA and PEACE III)**

Northern Ireland / Ireland / Scotland

- **Transnational Co-Operation (INTERREG IVB)**

Northern Periphery Programme

Atlantic Area Programme

North West Europe Programme

- **Interregional Co-Operation (INTERREG IVC)**

Involves all 27 Member States of EU



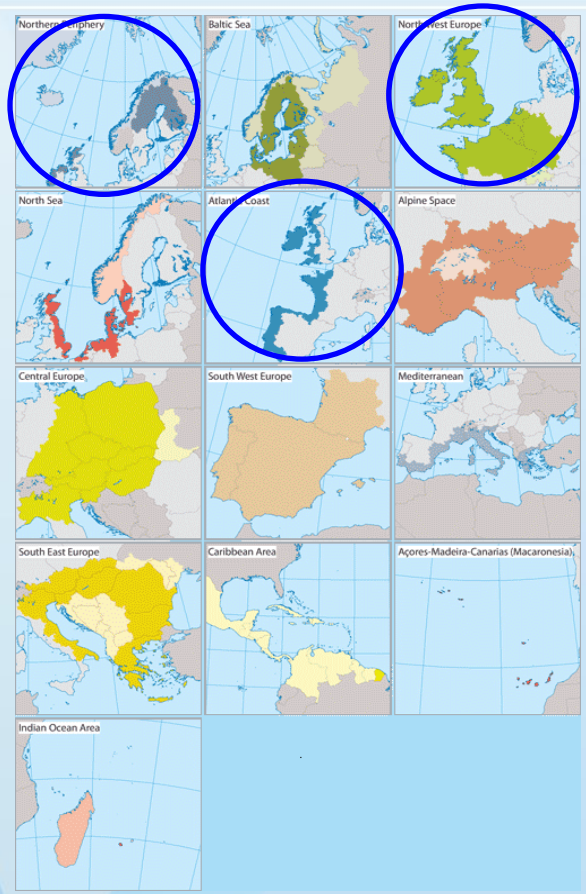
European Territorial Co-Operation Transnational Cooperation areas



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13 programme zones, 3 of which are relevant to Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland

- Northern Periphery Programme
- North West Europe Programme
- Atlantic Area Programme



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Northern Periphery Programme



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Two priorities:

Promoting Innovation and Competitiveness in Remote and Peripheral Areas [€27m ERDF]

- Innovation, networks and Competitiveness
- Accessibility

Sustainable Development of Natural and Community Resources [€18m ERDF]

- Environment as an asset in the periphery
- Urban-rural development and promotion of heritage

Total Programme Budget - €45.1m ERDF



North West Europe Programme



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Four Priorities

Capitalising on Innovation [€89.3m ERDF]

- Developing the NWE knowledge based economy by capitalising on our capacity for innovation

Managing Resources and Risks [€86.9m ERDF]

- Sustainable management of natural resources and of natural and technological risks

Improving Connectivity [€89.3m ERDF]

- Improving connectivity by promoting intelligent and sustainable transport and ICT solutions

Strengthening Communities [€68.5m ERDF]

- Promoting strong and prosperous communities at transnational level



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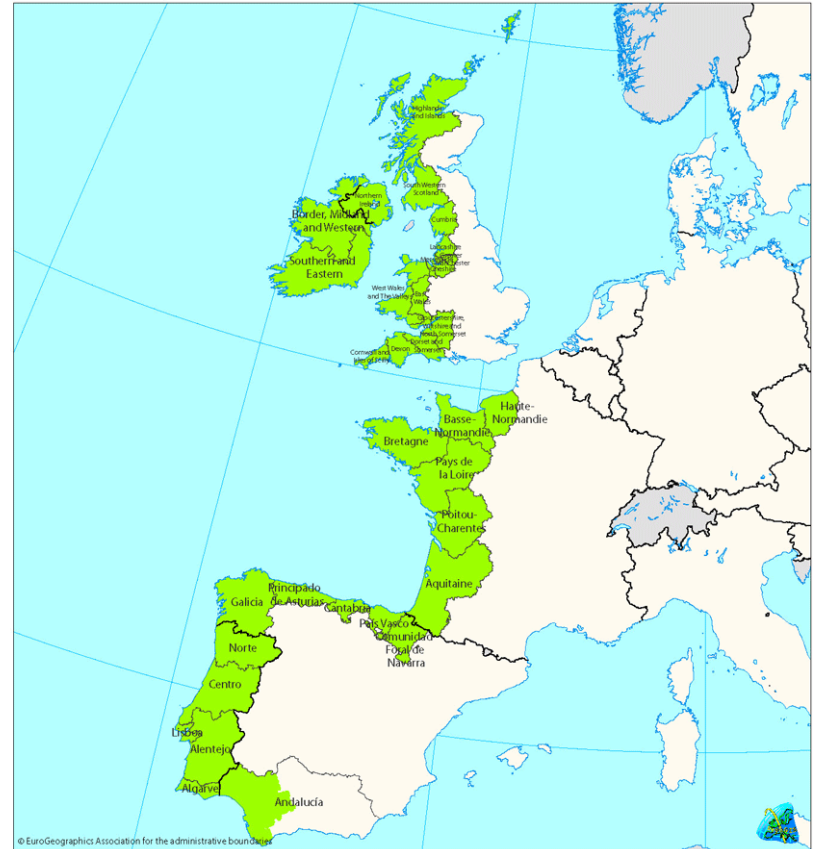
Atlantic Area Programme



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Four Priorities

- Transnational entrepreneurial and innovation networks [€ 27.3m ERDF]
- Protect, secure and enhance the marine and coastal environment sustainability [€ 37.7m ERDF]
- Improve accessibility and internal links [€ 18.4m ERDF]
- Synergies in sustainable urban and regional development [€ 14.3m ERDF]



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**Transnational Cooperation Areas 2007-2013
Atlantic Coast**



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INTERREG IVC programme



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Innovation and Knowledge economy (€177m)

- Innovation, Research & Technology Development
- Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- Information Society
- Employment, Human Resources and Education

Environment and Risk Prevention (€125m)

- Energy and Sustainable Transport
- Biodiversity and Preservation of Natural Heritage
- Natural and Technological Risks
- Water & Waste Management
- Cultural Heritage and Landscape



Characteristics of INTERREG IVB and IVC



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- Transnational Partnership

- *Transnational partnership required (normally at least 3 - 4 regions)*
- *An appropriate range of partners*
- *Lead Partner required*

- Coherence with transnational programme strategy

- Calls for each programme approximately every 6 months

- Value for Money

- Match funding required:

NPP – Grant Rate 60%

AA – Grant Rate – 65%

NWE – Grant Rate 50%

INTERREG IVC – Grant Rate – 75%



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Role of SEUPB



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- New focus on INTERREG IVB and IVC in Northern Ireland
- New area of work for SEUPB
- Promoting North/South participation
- Project advice and guidance for all INTERREG IVB and IVC programmes
- Regional Contact Point for Northern Periphery Programme
- Responsible for providing NI input into the project assessments
- Liaison with Programme Secretariats / Programme Events
- Acts as First Level of Control for all Northern Ireland partners



Examples of successful projects



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NWE – Senior Enterprise

The objective of Senior Enterprise is an increase in the economic contribution of older people to their local communities through a variety of means: starting new businesses alone or with others, investing in or acquiring businesses started by others, or by advising or supporting innovation in SMEs. This project's ambition reflects a refreshingly positive approach which sees people aged 50+ as a resource to be empowered rather than as a burden

NPP - My Health@Age

The project will create a new modular product platform that makes it possible to provide safety-, prescribed self treatment- and social network applications to elderly people based on each individuals needs and circumstances.



Examples of successful projects



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NPP – NoCry

The aim of NoCry project is to improve and support the entrepreneurial competence among young artists in the NPP area and to provide better understanding of the business potential that lies in the creative industry. In addition, the aim is to provide means and tools for effective cooperation, networking and knowledge transfer between creative business incubators and creative young people.

AA – NEA2

NEA 2 aims to develop entrepreneurial and innovation networks in the watersports sector at regional and trans-national levels through the implementation of innovative joint initiatives.



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Further Information



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Northern Periphery

www.northernperiphery.eu

North West Europe

www.nweurope.eu

Atlantic Area

www.coop-atlantico.com

INTERREG IVC

www.interreg4c.eu



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YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME 2007 – 2013

Bernice Sweeney
Youth Council for Northern Ireland



Objectives



- Active European citizenship

- Mutual understanding
- Solidarity among young people

- Quality of support systems for youth activities

- Co-operation in youth policies



Priorities

- European **Citizenship**
- Young people's **participation**
- Cultural Diversity**
- Inclusion** of young people with fewer opportunities
- Annual - 2010 youth unemployment/global challenges/combating poverty & social inclusion

Who can participate?

- Young people aged between **13 and 30** (individuals or groups), independently of their level of education/social & cultural background
- Youth organisations or associations
- Youth workers and youth leaders
- Public authorities
- Other non-governmental organisations
- Other institutions and individuals, working in the field of youth and non-formal education

Geographical Scope



Programme Countries

27 EU Member States

EFTA

Candidate Countries

Neighbouring Countries

South East Europe

Eastern Europe & Caucasus

Mediterranean Partner Countries

Other Partner Countries

Latin America, Africa, Asia, the Pacific & Caribbean



Budget



- Overall Programme budget: €885m (2007-2013)
- Per capita, NI more active than other parts of UK
- Still under utilised despite generous project funding

- Funding: varies per Action - can be up to 100%
- Matching funding can be via 'in kind' contributions

- Up to 70-100% actual travel costs
- Youth Initiative Projects (up to 100% max grant - €10k euros)
- Youth Dem Projects & National Youth Seminars - 75% total eligible costs up to €50k/project [travel/ accommodation/ seminars/ activities/ consultations/ publications/ translations/ info costs]
- EVS - at NO cost to volunteer



Management



- ❑ The European Commission is ultimately responsible for the management of the Youth in Action programme.
- ❑ Implementation of YIA mainly decentralised. Each Programme Country has appointed National Agency (NA) resp for implementation at national level. Currently UKNA is British Council (London)
- ❑ YCNI is the local Regional Co-ordinator for YIA in N.Ireland [YCNI International Committee (Reps from: Vol Youth Sector, 5 ELBs, DE, NI Youth Forum, EVS,BC)]



5 Actions



- Action 1** Youth for Europe
- Action 2** European Voluntary Service
- Action 3** Youth in the World
- Action 4** Youth Support Systems
- Action 5** Support for European Co-operation in the Youth Field



Benefits

YCNI independent survey 2009

- Truly open to ALL - don't have to be 'high flyer'
- 'neutral' zone
- Acquisition of soft skills
- Recognition of non-formal learning (YOUTHPASS)
- Evidence of impact (e.g. EVS)
- Enhanced employment opportunities
- YIA – as next rung in ladder
- Local help & support available
- Easy to access/ 5 annual deadlines/ generous funding
- Voluntary participation
- Youth workers/young people love it!**

Via participation in YIA young people will:



- meet their peers on their own terms
- participate & have a valid stake in society
- explore their own values, challenge stereotypes & build racial tolerance
- be enabled to provide evidence of their learning & abilities
- develop skills which may be transferable to other areas of their lives
- have their self confidence & self awareness enhanced
- broaden their experience of life by contact with people from a variety of backgrounds, countries, faiths and cultural diversity;
- gain experience outside their own communities & understand more fully the behaviour, practices, values & beliefs of others;
- increase their self esteem, confidence & sense of achievement;
- learn to work collaboratively with agencies & services in other countries



Benefits cont'd

Citizenship

- o developing pride in one's own identity
- o exploring how one perceives one's own culture & sharing one's values with others
- o being engaged in the process of thinking about themselves
- o exploring how they can contribute to the community in which they live

Inclusion

“it showed me disability is not an obstacle to being involved in society. I can show people a different point of view from my disability.” (EVS)

Personal and Social Development

- o learning the value and skills of teamwork
- o leadership/ communication skills
- o boosting self confidence/ self esteem/ self awareness of own skills, abilities and feelings
- o opportunity to explore different attitudes/ beliefs/ cultures
- o Transition to independence with support to cope on own and be more self reliant.
- o Opportunity to step outside comfort zone & push boundaries
- o Increase in tolerance & understanding of others
- o Ability to develop relationships

“when exposed to a new environment they overcome their ‘national reticence’ and will shine socially and intellectually”
“the benefits are immeasurable, one trip is a lifetime experience”

Barriers – Real & perceived

- Lack of understanding/interest in acknowledging benefits of international partnerships & networking
- International work perceived as a 'jolly'
- Departmental & consequently priorities in education sector bodies
- Need for greater recognition of what can be achieved within non-formal education sector, re skills development & greater inter-cultural awareness outside of classroom
- RPA & uncertainties regarding educational structures
- Languages - huge 'perceived' barrier
- No 'partner' to work with
- No 'substitute' cover
- Forward planning & preparation

What former participants have said:

Young People:

- “I gained a new sense of identity. I began viewing things in a European context.”
- “I enjoy life more as there are so many opportunities. I feel I could live everywhere”
- “It made me more aware of a whole world.”
- “I developed tolerance towards multiculturalism and people from different communities and backgrounds.”
- “My work experience brought me my current job.”
- “EVS has totally changed my outlook on life. The work experience and training opened up a new domain of work for me. Personally, I gained a new sense of identity, I began viewing things in a European context.” (Conor Keenan)
- “I’ve become more independent and experienced a lot of personal growth. I got to know people from different countries and their cultures, which made me more aware of the whole world. I’ve become open-minded and more tolerant. (Ania Kostyszyn.)
- “the project was a life changing experience”

What former participants have said

– Cont'd



Youth workers/organisations:

- ❑ “Interpersonally they develop an increased facility for working and living with people they did not know before”
- ❑ “They learn about economic, democratic and social differences between the UK and other countries”
- ❑ “As more groups visit this region (Londonderry) concern within other European countries will diminish and hopefully this will have a positive effect on both tourism and industry.”
- ❑ “the largest impact on me was how important the work I do back home really is. I also learned a whole range of skills and ideas that now shape the way I work day to day;
- ❑ “the experience has improved my strategic approach to the projects I manage



For more information on the YIA



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www.ycni.org





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Q&A Session



European Union
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Project Clip Early Years



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund
Investing in your future



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Thank you



European Union
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Development Fund
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