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

Summer 2014

# YOUR EU!

An update on the European  
Union's PEACE III and  
INTERREG IVA Programmes

INTERREG IVA Programme  
'Hive' of activity at Leitrim's  
Technology Enterprise  
Centre

PEACE III Programme  
EARLS Project to transform  
Dungannon interface

Real Life Interview  
Sharp Focus: Crossing  
the Divide

News & Info  
STEM Project Launch



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007–2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
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# Welcome

WELCOME...

YOUR EU!

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Cover image: Sharp Focus Crossing the Divide, Craig Thornton and Marc Gill from Craobh Rua Youth Project, Muirhevnamor, Dundalk, County Louth. Credit: Michael Cooper Photography

The Special EU Programmes Body is a North/South Implementation Body sponsored by the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in Ireland. The Body was established on 2 December 1999, under the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland (8 March 1999), which created the implementing bodies.

The Special EU Programmes Body's principal function is to provide the Managing Authority and Joint Technical Secretariat functions for the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA Territorial Co-operation Programmes (2007–2013). It also has a signposting and supporting role for projects wanting to engage with the INTERREG IVB Transnational and INTERREG IVC Inter-regional Programmes.

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For additional copies of Your EU! or to be added to the database to receive an electronic copy contact us by e-mail at [communications@seupb.eu](mailto:communications@seupb.eu)

**Editorial and Production Management:**  
John McCandless  
**Copy Writing:** John McCandless

**Design:** [www.l-s-d.com](http://www.l-s-d.com)  
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# Foreword

Welcome to the summer edition of Your EU, which features updates from a wide range of projects which are being funded under the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA programmes.

From civic regeneration and healthcare to science, technology and the arts, the projects highlighted in this edition demonstrate how the PEACE III and INTERREG IVA programmes are positively impacting on lives across the region.

In Dungannon, an interface area will be transformed thanks to £7 million of PEACE III funding. The EARLS Project as it is known aims to boost community interaction in the town with the construction of a new 30,000 sq. ft. community building and the redevelopment of an interface area into a shared events and leisure space. Newly constructed walkways will link communities with the development and a public sculpture symbolising reconciliation will also be created to act as a focal point in the regenerated shared space.

Shared space is also a theme in Dundalk, where Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) is one of seven groups across Northern Ireland and

the Border Region of Ireland which have been awarded initial funding totalling £41,229 through the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities programme, funded by PEACE III. Students from over 40 countries studying at DkIT will join forces with residents of Dundalk to shape a new piece of public art which will connect the campus and surrounding community of the town.

Leitrim has been a ‘Hive’ of activity recently with Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Richard Bruton, TD, recently performing the official opening of the county’s €1.2 million Technology Enterprise Centre, The Hive, in Carrick-on-Shannon. The new centre is part of the Innovation Enterprise Programme (IEP), which has received nearly £2.3 million of financial assistance from INTERREG IVA.

Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) welcomed An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, TD to the Letterkenny campus recently to turn the sod on the North West Regional Science Park project, which is funded by the European Union’s INTERREG IVA Programme.

Our in-depth feature ‘zooms’ in on Sharp Focus – ‘Crossing



the Divide’, a project funded by PEACE III which brought together four groups of young people aged 14-18 from Northern Ireland and the Border Region with professional filmmakers to produce four short films exploring the legacy of the conflict.

We are also currently working through the second phase of a public consultation for the new PEACE and INTERREG Programmes for 2014-2020. We have received a lot of feedback from the consultation and are working on the final versions of the cooperation programmes, alongside representatives of the two Member States (UK and Ireland), for submission to the European Commission by the 22 September.

If you have any feedback on this edition of Your EU or suggestions for content for future editions, please contact the SEUPB’s Communications Team - email [communications@seupb.eu](mailto:communications@seupb.eu)

**Pat Colgan**  
**Special EU Programmes Body**

FOREWORD...



# EARLS Project to transform Dungannon interface area

## PROJECT NEWS

***A shared community building, leisure space and public sculpture are set to transform an interface area in Dungannon, thanks to £7 million of European funding.***

The EARLS Project aims to boost community interaction in Dungannon with the construction of a new 30,000 sq. ft. community building and the redevelopment of an interface area into a shared events and leisure space. Newly constructed public walkways will link communities with the development, which spans Castlehill in the north of the

town and Railway Park in the south. A public sculpture symbolising reconciliation will also be created to act as a focal point in the regenerated shared space.

Funding for the project was provided by the EU's PEACE III Programme, with match funding support from the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in Ireland.

Welcoming the launch of the project Lorraine McCourt,

Director with the SEUPB, said: "This is an ambitious and exciting peace and reconciliation project that will help to transform Dungannon town into a more integrated and welcoming civic space. It will create new opportunities for positive cross-community interaction that will have a positive and long-term impact upon the lives of local people.

Mayor of Dungannon, Cllr Sean McGuigan commented:

"It is pleasing that during the final year of this Council, we will see commencement of such an important and timely transformation in the town. The project will support closer community interactions and opportunities to share in new activities and events. We are grateful to our funders for their support and look forward to sharing further updates on this ambitious scheme in the very near future."

The EARLS Project will be delivered in a partnership between the Council and a community consortium that includes STEP, a not-for-profit community organisation that supports local people and community development.

Pictured at the announcement of £7 million of European Union funding for the EARLS Project, a major peace and reconciliation initiative in Dungannon, are (left-right) Lorraine McCourt, SEUPB Director; Cllr Sean McGuigan, Mayor of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council; and Bernadette McAliskey, Co-ordinator of STEP community organisation.





# Change a Little, Change a Lot

***Thirty organisations in Derry-Londonderry which place a critical importance on accessibility to benefit staff, services users and volunteers with disabilities have been celebrated at the recent Change a Little Change a Lot Accessibility Awards.***

Speaking at the awards ceremony, Teresa McDonough, Chairperson of the Disability Equality Group NI (DEGNI) said: "Disability is not a problem, it is part of who we are. These accessibility awards are about the ability to access, not about disability."

The Change a Little, Change a Lot Accessibility Awards is an initiative of the Community Awareness Programme, which is part of the EU INTERREG IVA funded Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT) Citizenship Project. It was part-funded in Derry-Londonderry by the Public Health Agency as part of the 2013 UK City of Culture Programme.

Mayor of Derry, Cllr. Martin Reilly praised all the award-winning organisations and called on other organisations to follow their lead:

"With 17% of the population in Northern Ireland registered as having a disability it is vital that



The Partners in the Change a Little Change a Lot Accessibility Awards pictured at the final awards ceremony are: (Back row left to right) Teresa McDonough, Independent Advisory Panel; Brigid McGinty, CAWT; Amy Byrne, Secretary, EU INTERREG Citizenship Project; Siobhan Sweeney-Public Health Agency; Mayor of Derry, Cllr. Martin Reilly; Edel O'Doherty, CAWT and Joanne Sweeney-Burke, Media Box. (Front row left to right) Aisling Irvine, Disability Action; Shauna Clifford Independent Advisory Panel and Orla McCann, Disability Action.

we make access a priority. Today you have shown a great example which I hope others will follow."

Edel O'Doherty, CAWT's Deputy Chief Officer said: "The awards are not just about physical changes, they are about attitudes, awareness and communication. Access is a fundamental aspect of inclusion and from CAWT's perspective we saw the value in working with our partners to create a programme where access was integrated

into business and communication plans."

All organisations honoured have successfully completed Change a Little Change a Lot Accessibility programme and were awarded with a Bronze, Silver or Gold award at an event in the Millennium Forum and Conference Centre.

Read the stories of each award-winning organisation at [www.changealittlechangealot.co.uk](http://www.changealittlechangealot.co.uk)

PROJECT NEWS...

# An Taoiseach turns the sod of the North West Regional Science Park

## PROJECT NEWS

***Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) welcomed An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, TD to the Letterkenny campus recently to turn the sod on the North West Regional Science Park project, which is funded by the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme.***

The North West Regional Science Park (NWRSP) development, in association with LYIT's partners Northern Ireland Science Park (NISPS) and North West Region Cross Border Group (NWRCBG), will

allow the world renowned Science Park brand, operating model and support programmes to be brought to the North West at Fort George in Derry and at the CoLab at LYIT.

The NWRSP project creates the first 3rd generation Science Park in the Republic of Ireland and will further assist LYIT in building a regional innovation ecosystem, turning knowledge into enterprise and building a new economy in Ireland's North West.

The turning of the sod by An Taoiseach marks the culmination of four years' hard work on behalf of all the stakeholders in bringing this project from concept to a reality. An Taoiseach commented that he was delighted to be in Donegal to launch this progressive initiative and he looks forward to project completion in mid-2015.

For further information on the North West Regional Science Park, please visit [www.lyit.ie](http://www.lyit.ie)



An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, TD (centre) visited Letterkenny Institute of Technology recently to turn the sod on the North West Regional Science Park project, which is funded by the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme.

# Construction Commences on Girdwood Community Hub

*Construction work has commenced on a state-of-the-art, inclusive community hub on part of the former Girdwood Barracks site in north Belfast, a project which will bring together modern, vibrant leisure and community facilities under one roof.*

The Hub is funded by the EU's PEACE III Programme, the Department for Social Development (DSD) and Belfast City Council. The council is leading on the development of the Hub and will manage it on completion, while DSD is responsible for the wider development of the Girdwood Park site, which will transfer to council ownership in April 2015.

The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, commented:  
"Securing almost £12 million of funding from the EU PEACE III Programme to revitalise north Belfast is a great example of the programme in action, and the Girdwood Hub is a significant investment for this part of the city."

The Minister for Social Development, Nelson McCausland MLA, joined the Mayor in marking the launch of the project:  
"I am delighted to celebrate this milestone towards achieving



Pictured at the launch of construction work on Girdwood Community Hub are (left to right): Lorraine McCourt, Director, SEUPB; Máirtín Ó Muilleoir, Lord Mayor of Belfast; Nelson McCausland, Minister for Department for Social Development; Alderman Gavin Robinson, chair of Belfast City Council's Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

the agreed plan for shared development of Girdwood Park. My department is directly investing £8 million in essential infrastructure to support this plan. I will continue to work with Executive colleagues and Belfast City Council to realise the vision for Girdwood."

The Girdwood Hub will be a world-class building which will help residents to tackle some of the long-term issues facing local communities, including poverty, health problems and more opportunities for young people. The health and wellbeing offering will reflect local need and the building will also meet education and training needs, with Belfast Met agreeing to deliver classes from the Hub.

Welcoming the project, Lorraine McCourt, Director with the SEUPB said:  
"This project has the local community at its heart and will help to create a safe and welcoming environment where people from many different communities can come together and learn from each other. This is one of the key objectives of the EU's PEACE III Programme, which has allocated over €80 million to a large number of 'shared space' projects that are helping to transform local communities and encourage greater levels of meaningful reconciliation."

For further information on the Girdwood Hub, please visit [www.belfastcity.gov.uk](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk)

PROJECT NEWS...



# Real Life Interview — Sharp Focus: Crossing the Divide

## REAL LIFE INTERVIEWS...

Drogheda's Calipo Theatre and Picture Company has been working creatively in peace building since 2003 and so was well placed to undertake Sharp Focus – 'Crossing the Divide', a project funded by the EU's PEACE III Programme which brought together four groups of young people aged 14-18 from Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland with professional filmmakers to produce four short films exploring the legacy of the conflict.

For Collette Farrell, producer with Calipo, the project was both an intensive and hugely rewarding process: "Recruiting the right young people and professional filmmakers to Sharp Focus was fundamental to the success of the project. We hosted a series of drama

taster workshops with groups of young people on both sides of the border and while many of them had no previous experience of drama or film, what we were looking for was energy, enthusiasm and a willingness to commit to the creative process. We were delighted with what we found."

Working with the company's longstanding cross-border partners Shankill Women's Centre in Belfast and in association with WAVE Trauma Centre and Healing Through Remembering, Calipo's researcher Michelle Moloney undertook comprehensive explorative work which included interviews conducted by the project facilitators and participants with victims and survivors of the conflict.

A series of residencies followed, during which the project participants – from the Shankill and Falls Women's Centres in Belfast, Monaghan Youth Theatre and Craobh Rua Youth Project in Dundalk - went on to devise, rehearse and produce their own screenplays, inspired by the real-life stories which had been shared with them. The groups brought out relevant issues and themes in their scripts with the help of professional filmmakers and suggested locations in their communities for the film shoots where the effects of the conflict were often still visible.

Calipo celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and this method of exploring themes and issues through creative outreach work is a central part of the company's ethos. Darren Thornton, Artistic



On set with Monaghan Youth Theatre



Writer Malcolm Campbell and Nadia Dahou (Falls Women's Centre) on the set of Melter



Croabh Rua Youth Project at Gala Screening in Dublin



On set with Shankill Women's Centre



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*"Sharp Focus has given our young people a lot more confidence - they were amazed at what they have achieved. Some of them are coming up with ideas for their own projects now and starting to think about a career in the film industry".*

Director of Calipo, is a product of the youth theatre model himself and is a testament to its success. Commenting on Sharp Focus, Darren said: "One of the most informative experiences I had as a teenager was finding a platform for my own creativity through the Youth Theatre movement. To now be able to facilitate a project that offers teenagers that same opportunity is something that makes me incredibly proud. Sharp Focus harnesses all of our expertise within Calipo - our experience as filmmakers, as drama facilitators, as storytellers - and directs it into one large-scale, multifaceted project. It's the most exhausting of all the projects we do, but without question it's the most rewarding."

One of the main challenges which Sharp Focus presented was how to create stories which are relevant and appealing to young people, but which also respect the source material of the real life experiences of victims and survivors. Responding to this, Malcolm Campbell,

screenwriter of 'Melter', which was devised by the Falls Women's Centre, said: "It was a daunting task, but from the first workshop I knew that we would have no problem finding characters and story. The girls were very funny, brutally honest, but respectful of the process and inquisitive too. They interrogated their own lives and their past and let those discoveries influence the work. Everything they reported felt real and I knew that if I captured their unique voices, we would go a long way towards making a film that was authentic and had something to say."

The four films which were produced by Sharp Focus - 'Collusion', 'Forget Me Nots', 'Melter' and 'Escape Plans' - were premiered at a gala screening at the Lighthouse Cinema in Dublin in December 2013 and also screened at the Belfast Waterfront as part of the city's film festival in April 2014. The films went on tour across Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland for screenings in 12

locations in the Cinemobile mobile cinema and there are further plans to share the films and disseminate the groups' experience of the process.

Remarking on the impact of the project on the young participants, Caroline Flanagan - Youth Leader, Craobh Rua Youth Project, Muirhevnamor, Dundalk said:

"Sharp Focus has given our young people a lot more confidence - they are amazed at what they have achieved. Some of them are coming up with ideas for their own projects now and starting to think about a career in the film industry, something they would never have dreamt of before. The local community has benefited too - they have previously experienced the negative impact of filming on their estate but they are really proud of the work that has been done on 'Escape Plans'."

For further information on Sharp Focus - 'Crossing the Divide' and the work of Calipo, please visit [www.calipo.ie](http://www.calipo.ie)

REAL LIFE INTERVIEWS...

## bric builds relations with European Parliament committee

Developing and maintaining a robust Good Relations strategy is the key to success within Northern Ireland's deeply segregated social housing sector, a delegation from the European Parliament has heard.

Representatives from the Building Relationships in Communities (bric) Programme showcased their work to a European Parliament delegation from Ireland, the Basque Country and Germany in Waterford recently following an invitation from the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). The EU PEACE III funded bric Programme is a unique partnership between the Rural Development Council, Housing Executive and Tides Training and is currently operating in almost 90 social housing areas across Northern Ireland as it aims to cultivate good relations across the province.

Speaking at the meeting, Kerry McIvor, bric Programme Manager, said it was an honour to present to the delegation and to have the work of the initiative recognised by SEUPB.

"We are delighted to be able to highlight our work to the European Parliament as we strive to tackle one of the biggest issues facing Northern Ireland now and in the coming years."

Mary Montague, Director of Tides Training, said: "The social housing sector in Northern Ireland is going through a period of enormous change and transition. Through the bric Programme we have been playing an integral role in helping the Housing Executive face these challenges and deal with them."

"Not only have we seen the building of the institutional good relations capacity of the Housing Executive staff, but we have also helped break down the physical, social and other perceived barriers experienced by residents and staff within training, mediation and a series of community-led projects across the province." Pat Colgan, Chief Executive of SEUPB, said:

"bric is an excellent example of the type of work that is having a real impact in terms of tackling some of the main barriers to social cohesion within Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. I am deeply appreciative of the efforts of all those involved in the delivery of the project and recognise its importance in terms of encouraging meaningful reconciliation amongst many local communities."

For more information, please contact Jonathan Walmsley, Communications Officer for the bric Programme within the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council on 028 9043 8180 or 028 8676 6980.

## Major expansion anticipated for Biomass Energy industry

A range of speakers from across the Biomass Energy sector gathered at a major cross-border Biomass Conference in County Louth recently to share their experiences, expertise and research and to reinforce the message that the industry in Ireland is on the cusp of a major expansion with resulting positive benefits for local employment, the economy and the environment.

Organised by Smart ECO Hub, this unique event addressed issues affecting the entire Biomass supply chain, from growing the feedstock through to boiler manufacturing and the practicalities and economics of converting to a Biomass-based boiler.

The opening address at the conference was provided by Fergus O'Dowd, Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources and the event was also attended by Ms Mairead McGuinness, Member of the European Parliament. Duncan Stewart, the well known environmentalist and the presenter and producer of RTE's Eco Eye programme, also spoke at the conference and led a number of discussions on sectoral issues.

From discussions at the event it became clear that Ireland



## Let STEM help to reduce your business costs

Businesses which are interested in receiving help to identify savings in their workplace, their networks and to gain a green award such as ISO 14001 are being urged to sign up to the services of the EU funded Sustainable Together through Environmental Management (STEM) Project before the project ends.

The STEM Project, which is part financed by the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme, is now into its final year of funding and will conclude in March 2015. The project offers practical on and offsite support and has identified over £900,000 of savings for businesses to date.

STEM also successfully brings together businesses from across Ireland to address specific issues, share best practice, learn about new technologies, explore ways to collectively save money, build their connections and in many instances do business with each other.

Recent events which have taken place as part of the STEM Project include the "Zero Your Waste" event in the Michelin plant in Ballymena and "Flat Pack Your Costs", which was hosted by IKEA Belfast. The project will host its annual conference Green Biz 2014 on 2nd October at the Canal Court Hotel in Newry.



L-R: Duncan Stewart, RTE Eco Eye, Minister Fergus O'Dowd, MEP Mairead McGuinness, Chair of Louth County Council Cllr Declan Breathnach, Dette Hughes, East Border Region, Michael Curran, Louth Local Authorities and David McDonnell Smart ECO Hub.

is currently seriously lagging behind many of its European neighbours in reducing its dependency on imported fossil fuels. This exposes Ireland to major energy price shocks and risks to supply, triggered by circumstances outside of its control.

Speakers from Northern Ireland highlighted the stimulus that the government Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme has given to the industry there, which has created business opportunities for local growers, equipment manufacturers and installers. Minister O'Dowd indicated that the Dublin government were also committed to providing a stimulus to the market in the south and he expected a consultation paper to be

published by his department imminently.

The conference also provided an excellent networking opportunity for the attendees with a number of businesses also exhibiting their products on the day. The Smart ECO Hub will continue to work with its member companies and other interested stakeholders to promote the development of the industry.

The Smart ECO Hub cluster aims to stimulate innovation and commercialisation in the energy sector through collaboration. The project is part financed by the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme. See [www.SmartECOHub.com](http://www.SmartECOHub.com) for future news and events.



Left to Right – Anne Mason, STEM, Cllr Gerard Mallon, EBR Chairman, Dette Hughes, EBR, Eileen Campbell, SGEHC, Martina McNulty, SGEHC and David Meade, celebrity host at Green Biz conference 2013. Green Biz 2014 is happening on 2nd Oct in Canal Court Newry.

Full details of all events and the opportunity to register to attend and sign up to STEM can be found at [www.stemproject.com](http://www.stemproject.com).

## SPIRE Energy Project Launches

An innovative new EU funded research project which has significant implications on how electricity is stored and managed on both sides of the border has been launched at Titanic Belfast.

Through the SPIRE energy project, researchers from the University of Ulster and Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) will examine the likely market scales of different capacities of wind energy storage on the all-Ireland energy market. The project is being backed with £2.9 million of financial assistance from the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme.

Welcoming the launch of the project Lorraine McCourt,

Director with the SEUPB, said: "The SPIRE project has great potential in terms of reducing our future reliance upon imported fuels, enhancing the security of our existing energy supply and also supporting the cross-border development of the renewable energy sector. I look forward to hearing how it progresses and what findings are produced for small, medium and large-scale energy storage upon its completion."

Speaking at the launch Alastair Ross MLA, Assembly

Private Secretary said: "The SPIRE project is a great example of how we are utilising EU funding to assist in the development of pioneering energy research projects that can have a real and lasting impact. We see daily the challenges of ever rising energy costs and their impact on business competitiveness and I welcome this research that may ultimately assist businesses to ensure their own security of energy supply and decrease their overall costs."

Professor Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ulster said:

"The University is renowned for its research excellence and has been at the forefront of sustainable, renewable technology development for many years. This latest Ulster research project, which is benefitting from valuable INTERREG support and collaboration with DkIT, has the potential to make



Pictured at the launch of the SPIRE Energy project at Titanic Belfast are (left to right) Alastair Ross MLA, Assembly Private Secretary; Lorraine McCourt, Director Joint Technical Secretariat, SEUPB; Professor Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ulster.

major progress in the evolving all-island energy market, delivering technological advances which could have international impact."

The renewable energy sector is a key priority support area for the European Union, which has set itself the ambitious target to get 20% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020.

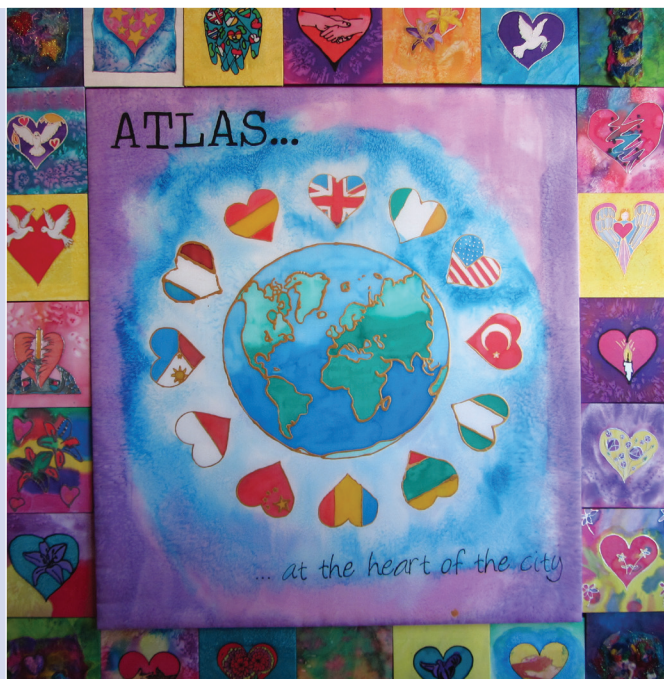
## Atlas...at the heart of the city

Atlas Women's Group has unveiled a series of silk paintings called "Atlas... at the heart of the city". The pieces have been created by members of the group as part of the PEACE III Programme for the Lisburn and Castlereagh cluster area.

The workshops are part of the Celebrating and Understanding Culture through the Arts programme which has been running in Lisburn and Castlereagh over the past few months, which were delivered by the Workers' Educational Association (WEA).

People of all cultures, genders, backgrounds and abilities are welcomed at Atlas Women's Group, so they featured the globe as a central feature surrounded with flags of all the cultures who participate.

The silk painting technique also allowed each participant to demonstrate their own ideas of symbols of peace, inclusion and acceptance



One of the silk paintings produced by Atlas Women's Group as part of the Lisburn and Castlereagh PEACE III Programme.

of all. The symbols included handshakes, mended hearts, flowers, candles and other symbols of peace such as the dove.

There was a great sense of team work as the group worked together to blend and merge colours on the large central panel and to prepare the silk paintings for mounting. The surrounding individual images brought the whole project together as a bespoke colourful representation of a centre with a sense of community and inclusion at the heart of Lisburn.

When asked about the programme, one participant said,

"During the 'Symbols of the Heart' project we learnt about

different cultures - what food they eat, their clothing and beliefs. I thought it was very interesting and learnt a lot. It changed my thoughts about different religions and cultures."

The work presented by Atlas is one of a collection of art pieces, created in eight "Learning Hubs" across the two council areas which promote cultural diversity and enhances respect within their community.

For further information about this project, contact Carole Kane on (028) 90329718, or email [carole.kane@wea-ni.com](mailto:carole.kane@wea-ni.com) or Diarmuid Moore on (028) 90329718.



# International Students Build Peace through the Arts in Dundalk

## PROJECT NEWS

***Students from over 40 countries studying at Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) are to join forces with residents of the neighbouring housing estate of Muirhevnamor to shape a new piece of public art that will connect the campus and surrounding community of Dundalk.***

The public art will be installed in the extensive campus grounds which are used by students and local people alike. It is hoped that the project, led by the DKIT Students' Union, will be a welcoming symbol of shared space while reflecting the diversity of the college and the changing demographics of the border town.

Dundalk Institute of Technology is one of seven groups across Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland which have been awarded initial funding totalling £41,229 through the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities programme. The programme enables community groups and local authorities to explore and challenge issues of sectarianism and racism through creatively engaging communities in the development of public art. Brian Fitzpatrick, President of DKIT Students Union, said: “We plan to use this funding to help foster relationships within and between the

student population and surrounding communities and we look forward to developing a legacy for the wider community to appreciate and enjoy.”

Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities, which is funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the PEACE III Programme and the International Fund for Ireland, offers grants of up to £5,000 to fund peace building through local consultation and creative engagement for each project site. Upon completion of this stage, a second application up to £50,000 can be made to produce and install the artwork.

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) leads the roll-call of groups awarded funding from the Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities programme. Pictured are Brian Fitzpatrick, Dundalk Institute of Technology Students' Union; Ann Ward, Arts Council of Northern Ireland; Miyo Nakayama from Japan and Mariya Al Balushi from Oman.



# Tellus Border project at House of Commons

Roisin McDonough, Chief Executive of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, said:

"The arts introduce a new dimension to the process of building reconciliation within and between communities and I'm delighted that these projects are now in a position to place creative regeneration at the very heart of their local neighbourhoods."

Other Border Region areas to have been awarded funding through the Building Peace programme include Cavan County Council, awarded £15,800 for four projects and Drogheda Civic Trust, which was awarded £5,000.

In Northern Ireland, Killesher Community Development Association and Carrosyl Community Association (Carrowshee Park / Sylvan Hill) are the first groups from Co. Fermanagh to be awarded Re-Imaging programme funding, while Belfast City Council's City Cemetery project and Suffolk Lenadon Interface Group have also been supported.

To find out more about the programme, please contact the Arts Council's Re-Imaging Communities team on +44 (0) 28 9038 5228, visit: [www.artscouncil-ni.org](http://www.artscouncil-ni.org) or email: [mbeck@artscouncil-ni.org](mailto:mbeck@artscouncil-ni.org)

***The Tellus Border project recently presented to the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Earth and Environmental Sciences at the House of Commons.***

Funded by INTERREG IVA, the Tellus project is a series of multi-partner environmental survey and research projects in the UK and Ireland that are delivering innovative data and research to inform policy, decisions and regulation on new investments in mineral, energy and infrastructure resources to support and enhance our natural capital.

The project is a cross-border initiative between the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland, the Geological Survey of Ireland, Queen's University Belfast and Dundalk Institute of Technology.

The event at the House of Commons was entitled "Valuing and realising our natural capital assets" and the presentations explained how the Tellus project is catalysing the sharing and analysis of 'Big' environmental data across a growing partnership of scientific and professional users. This will help to meet the wider objective of realising the value of our natural capital, and to help deliver the world leading data and research needed to



Outside and beneath 'Big Ben' from right Mike Young Director GSNI, Dr Marie Cowan Tellus Border project Manager and Dr Andy Howard British Geological Survey.

measure success in meeting the objectives of the 2011 White Paper 'The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature', which commits us to be the first generation to leave the natural environment in a better state than it was inherited.

For further information on the project, please visit <http://www.tellusborder.eu/>

PROJECT NEWS...

# SPRES - Oil Spill Prevention and Response at Local Scales

## PROJECT NEWS

***Covering the European Atlantic coastal area, the SPRES (Oil Spill Prevention and Response at Local Scales) Project aims to create operational hydrodynamic models that will predict the behaviour of oil following a spill or other pollution event. Unlike the large scale models which currently exist, the models which SPRES is developing focus on smaller geographical areas and will be of a much higher resolution, down to a distance of 20 metres.***

Dr. Adam Mellor and Dr Annika Clements of the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute are the SPRES Site Leads for Belfast and are working with research

institutions and non-profit organisations in Falmouth, Spain, Portugal and France to progress the project, which is funded by INTERREG IVB (Atlantic Area programme). Dr Mellor explains:

“SPRES will build high resolution hydrodynamic models and couple them to habitat models, oceanographic and meteorological information. This project has a particular focus on higher risk areas such as ports and harbours, where fuel is transferred and ships arrive and depart. It is vital to predict as accurately as possible what the impact of an oil spill might be and how it would be best to respond. SPRES will offer a predictive model to help train

authorities on how to plan for such incidents as well as an operational tool for use in the event of an incident.”

The project is currently in its validation phase and is working closely with stakeholders that are involved in the planning and delivery of the project aims, as well as promoting sustainable development of marine resources and disseminating the project results to the wider industrial and public sector communities.

For further information on the project, please visit [www.spresproject.eu/](http://www.spresproject.eu/)



Group from the SPRES Project shown surveying Belfast Harbour (left to right): Ian Cameron – independent film maker contracted to produce a training video for the project; Florence Poncet (CEDRE, France); Esterine Evrard (CEDRE, France); Annika Clements (AFBI, Belfast); Ian Spratt (Belfast Harbour).



# 'Hive' of activity at Leitrim's Technology Enterprise Centre

**Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Richard Bruton, TD, recently performed the official opening of Leitrim's Technology Enterprise Centre The Hive, the new €1.2 million Technology Enterprise Centre in Carrick-on-Shannon.**

The Hive is a 7,500 sq. ft. state of the art building which provides a purpose-built, technology-focused business environment for 14 new and expanding businesses and has the potential to create up to 70 new jobs for the area.

The new centre is part of the Innovation Enterprise Programme (IEP), which is a cross-border initiative between Omagh District Council, Leitrim County Enterprise Board, Leitrim County Council, Omagh Enterprise Company and led by the Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) Ltd.

The IEP has received nearly £2.3 million of financial assistance from the European Union's INTERREG IVA Programme. The aim of the project is to support the creation and development of innovative technology-oriented businesses within the region. The Technology



Pictured at the launch of The Hive are (left to right): Colm Keane - Business Development Manager The Hive, Joe Lowe - Secretary Leitrim County Enterprise Fund, John Perry TD - Minister of State for Small Business, Paschal McGuire - Regional Director Enterprise Ireland, Minister Richard Bruton - Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Rosaleen Kieley - Chairperson Leitrim County Enterprise Fund, Joan Mullen - Assistant Regional Developer Enterprise Ireland, Sean McDermott - Chairperson of Leitrim County Council & ICBAN Board member, Frank Curran - County Manager Leitrim County Council.

Enterprise Centre is also part-funded by Enterprise Ireland under the Community Enterprise Scheme.

The Hive offers businesses top class infrastructure and services, high-spec office access and top of the range broadband available throughout the building, making it both flexible and affordable to start-up businesses.

Speaking of the new build, Joe Lowe, Secretary of Leitrim County Enterprise

Fund said: "The Hive is a key development for the region and will play a significant role in strengthening the local economy by supporting new and existing businesses in order to grow locally and compete globally".

For further information on the Technology Enterprise Centre, please contact Colm Keane, Business Manager, The Hive, Leitrim County Enterprise Fund on 0035371 9616275 or by e-mail at [colm@leitrimenterprise.ie](mailto:colm@leitrimenterprise.ie).

PROJECT NEWS...

# European Commission visit to CAWT Diabetes Project

## PROJECT NEWS

***The CAWT (Co-operation and Working Together) Diabetes Project was delighted to welcome Maria Jose Doval Tedin, from the European Commission in Brussels and Paul Boylan from the Special EU Programmes Body to view the Pre-Pregnancy Care clinic which took place in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust's South Tyrone Hospital in Dungannon recently.***

As a result of this cross-border EU INTERREG IVA funded project, Pre-Pregnancy Care clinics have been established in 14 health service sites across Northern

Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. This collaboration is enabling information and expertise to be shared across the clinics and across both jurisdictions. To date 392 women with diabetes have benefited from attending the Pre-Pregnancy Care clinics within the eligible area for the INTERREG IVA Programme.

Commenting on her visit to the project Maria Jose Doval Tedin, Programme Manager with the European Commission, said: "I was particularly impressed by what I saw during my visit, both in terms of the dedication of the staff involved and in the tangible impact that the project is making on the lives

of women from both sides of the border. This type of practical cross-border collaboration reflects many of the key objectives of European Territorial Co-operation as it encourages regions from different EU Member States to work together and learn from each other."

Both programmes are being independently evaluated to determine their future development in both jurisdictions after the funding period for the project has ended. For further information on the project, please visit [www.cawt.com](http://www.cawt.com)



Pictured during their visit to the CAWT Diabetes Project are (front row, third from left) Maria Jose Doval Tedin, Programme Manager (Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy - European Cross Border Cooperation) in the European Commission in Brussels and (front row, second from right), Paul Boylan, INTERREG IVA Programme Manager, Special EU Programmes Body.

# Inter-regional and Transnational Programmes

## Transnational Programming 2014-2020

The Transnational Programmes are currently under development for the new programming period, 2014-2020. The programmes are all at different stages of development however each one is making progress towards formal approval by the EU Commission later in 2014/early 2015. Please note the following summary in relation to the specific programmes:

### Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2014-2020

The development needs and potential of the programme area, together with the policy and historic context have resulted in four priority axes:

- Using innovation to maintain and develop robust and competitive communities
- Promoting entrepreneurship to realise the potential of the programme area's competitive advantage
- Fostering energy-secure communities through promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage.



The sparsely populated communities of the programme area are the focus point of all four priority axes. More information can be found in the draft Cooperation Programme document, available from [www.northernperiphery.eu/](http://www.northernperiphery.eu/)

### North West Europe Programme 2014-2020

The Public Consultation for the Programme ended on 30 May 2014. The likely Thematic Objectives for the programme will be:

- Strengthening research, technological development and innovation
- Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors
- Protecting the environment and promoting energy efficiency.

For further information on the programme and for the results

of the consultation, please visit <http://www.nweurope.eu/>

### Atlantic Area Programme 2014-2020

The Operational Programme for the Atlantic Area Programme is currently out to public consultation until 27 June 2014. The suggested priorities for the programme are:

- Stimulating innovation and competitiveness
- Fostering resource efficiency
- Strengthening risk management systems
- Enhancing biodiversity and the natural and cultural assets.

For further information and to submit a response to the consultation, please visit <http://atlanticarea.ccdr-n.pt/presentation/2014-2020>

PROJECT NEWS...



# Programme Summaries and SEUPB Contacts

## PEACE III

The €333 million PEACE III Programme 2007-2013 is a distinctive European Union Structural Funds Programme aimed at reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting reconciliation. Building upon lessons and good practice gained from previous PEACE Programmes, it specifically focuses on two Priorities:

- Reconciling Communities and
- Contributing to a Shared Society.

The eligible area is Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (Counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, and Sligo).

**For further information on the PEACE III Programme contact:**  
Joint Technical Secretariat  
Omagh,  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 8225 5750  
E: [omagh@seupb.eu](mailto:omagh@seupb.eu) or Belfast,  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9026 6660  
E: [info@seupb.eu](mailto:info@seupb.eu) or

The Consortium  
Pobal  
Tel: +353 (0)1 5117500  
E: [enquiries@pobal.ie](mailto:enquiries@pobal.ie)

## INTERREG IVA

The €256 million INTERREG IVA Programme 2007-2013 aims to support strategic cross-border territorial co-operation for a more prosperous and sustainable region.

The targeted eligible area is Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland (Counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, and Sligo) and western Scotland (Lochaber, Skye & Lochalsh, Arran & Cumbrae and Argyll & Bute, Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland, and South Ayrshire).

The Programme's two key priorities are:

- Co-operation for a more prosperous cross-border region, and
- Co-operation for a sustainable cross-border region.

**For further information on the INTERREG IVA Programme contact:**  
Joint Technical Secretariat,  
Monaghan.  
Tel: + 353 (0)47 77003  
E: [monaghan@seupb.eu](mailto:monaghan@seupb.eu) or

Caroline Coleman, National Contact Point for Scotland, Scotland  
Europa, 150 Broomielaw, Atlantic Quay, Glasgow G2 8LU.  
Tel: +44 (0) 141 228 2202  
E: [Caroline.Coleman@scotent.co.uk](mailto:Caroline.Coleman@scotent.co.uk)

## INTERREG IVB Transnational Programmes

The SEUPB has a role in promoting North/South participation in the relevant INTERREG IVB Transnational Programmes.

These programmes are:

- **The Northern Periphery Programme.**  
This €45.2 million programme aims to help peripheral and remote communities in the northern regions of Europe to develop their economic, social and environmental potential. The programme area involves parts of Finland, Ireland, Sweden, Scotland, Northern Ireland – in co-operation with the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and Norway. SEUPB is the Regional Contact Point for Northern Ireland.
- **The North West Europe Programme.**  
This €355 million programme aims to help make this new region more competitive, environmentally friendly and cohesive by improving access to more and better jobs, enhancing the environmental qualities of the region, improving accessibility and ensuring that cities and rural areas are attractive and sustainable. The programme area is France, the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland Luxembourg, Belgium, and Switzerland. The SEUPB works in an advisory and signposting role.

## – The Atlantic Area Programme

This €104 million programme aims to achieve progress on transnational co-operation that is geared towards cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage. The programme region covers all of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and those regions within Portugal, Spain, France and the UK that border the Atlantic Ocean. The SEUPB works in an advisory and signposting role.

## INTERREG IVC Inter-regional Programme

The €302 million INTERREG IVC Inter-regional Programme is aimed at local and regional authorities. It focuses on the identification, analysis and dissemination of good practices by public authorities in order to improve the effectiveness of regional and local policies. Co-operation projects are eligible across all 27 EU states, plus Norway and Switzerland.

SEUPB works in an advisory and signposting role for North/South participation in this programme.

For further information on IVB and IVC Programmes, contact:  
Declan McGarrigle at the SEUPB Belfast office:  
Tel: + 44 (0) 28 9026 6678  
E: [declan.mcgarrrigle@seupb.eu](mailto:declan.mcgarrrigle@seupb.eu)

**Special EU Programmes body**  
[info@seupb.eu](mailto:info@seupb.eu)  
[www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)

**Belfast**  
7th Floor,  
The Clarence West Building  
2 Clarence Street West  
Belfast BT2 7GP  
Northern Ireland  
T: +44 (0) 28 9026 6660

**Monaghan**  
M:Tek II Building  
Armagh Road  
Monaghan  
Ireland  
T: +353 (0) 477 7003

**Omagh**  
EU House  
11 Kevlin Road  
Omagh BT78 1LB  
Northern Ireland  
+44 (0) 28 8225 5750