

Special EU Programmes Body

Project Case Study

Programme:
PEACE III Programme

(b.r.i.c.) Building Relationships in Communities

Theme:
Key Institutional Capacities

Funding:
£3,522,000

Lead Partner:
**NI Rural Development
Council (RDC)**

Website:
www.rdc.org.uk

Project contact:
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Geographical area:
Northern Ireland / Border
Region of Ireland

According to figures from the NI Housing Executive, approximately 90% of social housing in Northern Ireland remains segregated into single identity communities yet 80% aspire to live in mixed or shared communities.

The b.r.i.c. project is designed to help the Housing Executive put good relations at the heart of its policies and delivery functions. It also aims to encourage positive relationships within housing estates who wish to make their communities safe and welcoming to all sections of society.

The project is delivered through an innovative partnership involving the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) and TIDES Training.

The project supplies Good Relations and Conflict Management Training to key Northern Ireland Housing Executive staff as well as a large number of resident/community associations. It offers financial assistance to local communities who wish to improve their estates and make them more welcoming to all communities.

b.r.i.c. is helping local communities living in close proximity to physical interfaces with the removal or re-imagining of murals or other symbols which could be perceived as sectarian. The project is also conducting research into the patterns of housing market trends, along the Border Region of Ireland, with the aim of promoting joint government action on cross-border housing.



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Key Project Outputs:

- **Train over 400 Northern Ireland Housing Executive staff on how to put Good Relations into Housing Policy.**
- **Provide Good Relations Training to 80 local community associations.**
- **Establish 80 separate Good Relations plans for local housing estates.**
- **Create a research report into social housing market trends on a cross-border basis.**