



## SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

### Project Case Study : Addressing the legacies of inter-communal violence through facilitated dialogue

#### THEME:

Building Positive Relations:  
Regional Level Projects

#### FUNDING (ERDF+MATCH):

€1,237,627.90

#### MATCH FUNDERS:

Executive Office (Northern  
Ireland) & Department of  
Rural and Community  
Development (Ireland)

#### LEAD PARTNER:

Glencree Centre for Peace  
and Reconciliation

#### PROJECT PARTNERS:

Glencree Centre for Peace  
& Reconciliation

**Start Date:** 01/09/2017

**End Date:** 31/08/2022

 <https://www.glencree.ie/peace-iv/>

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The project will be focused around, but not limited to, the experiences of four ‘victims and survivors’ groups and their communities, and will through a process of 20 private and confidential facilitated dialogues, examine themes and issues which remain as obstacles to deeper understanding and the promotion of positive relations.

The four key groups along with other relevant parties will co-develop their own process and pace of engagement, entering into dialogue with groups and individuals with differing interpretations of what happened in the past including, as appropriate, those perceived to have contributed to causing harm.

It is envisaged that approximately 1,270 individuals will engage in the project. The learning created is expected to be of assistance to ‘Victims and Survivors’ groups, other interest groups, academics, policymakers, and practitioners in learning how to productively engage with Northern Ireland’s contentious past.

*“The Legacy of Violence Peace IV Project has proven to be an important gateway into addressing the traumatic effects that the violence of the Troubles has and continues to have on the families of the victims of violence from that dreadful period in our history.”*

Rory Finegan, APM, Addressing the Legacy of Violence through Facilitated Dialogue, Peace IV Project



Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation - Wicklow



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A crucial aspect to this project is the co-design of the process, and activities, with the key participant groups. Therefore, more specific objectives are likely to change and will be determined as the project evolves. However, the following will be delivered :

- **An Increased profile of women and women's stories within a legacy context:** increased ability for women to articulate gender-specific aspects of past violence, an increase in women's formal and informal leadership roles, and an increased ability for all participants to hear and acknowledge women's stories, experiences, and perspectives.
- **An increased confidence within victims/survivors group:** increased confidence to engage with existing legacy structures, to engage with individuals and groups from across communal and geographical divides, and in their own ability to advocate for meaningful change.
- **Shared learning:** Fora created for project participants and Glencree to communicate insights gained throughout the project across the eligible area and internationally, while protecting the confidentiality of the process and its participants.

*"The work of this project demonstrates the need for continued support for families of the victims of violence through facilitated dialogue. Intergenerational trauma remains a major issue within Northern Ireland society, this project will help address these issues, and hopefully allow shared intercommunal dialogue and understanding."*

Will Devas, Peace IV Project Facilitator



Roisin McGlone, Gina McIntyre (SEUPB), Senator Mary Alice Higgins