



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund
Investing in your future



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

Spring 2012

YOUR EU!

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

Groundwork NI
£1m Regeneration Project
Comes to a Close

News & Info
Minister Helps Turn First Sod
at Workspace Development in
Enniskillen Airport

INTERREG IVA
Update on Call for Proposals

Belfast 2012
Growing a Shared City



Ireland's EU Structural Funds
Programmes 2007 - 2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



**Northern Ireland
Executive**

www.northernireland.gov.uk



**The Scottish
Government**

Welcome

WELCOME

Project News

- Page 4 Mapping the Border Region from the Air
Page 5 £1m Regeneration Project Comes to a Close
Page 6 European Investment in our Loughs
Page 7 Planning for Spatial Reconciliation

Real Life Interview

- Page 8-9 Real Life Interview – Rural Enabler: Beyond the Difference, the Sameness
Page 10-11 Real Life Interview – Rural Enabler: Getting to Know Us

News & Info

- Page 12 European Funding Secured for Northeast
Page 12 New Peace Building Resource Guide
Page 13 Minister Helps Turn First Sod at Workspace Development at Enniskillen Airport
Page 13 INTERREG IVA Call Update

Project News

- Page 14 Updates on INTERREG IVB & IVC Programmes
Page 15 Minister Announces £3 million in Funding for Antrim Station
Page 16 Trauma Training Participants Receive Awards
Page 17 My Hands, My Heart, My Life
Page 18 Growing a Shared City
Page 19 New Marina Building for Ballycastle

YOUR EU!

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.

Your EU! ISSN:1750-6700 Published by the Special EU Programmes Body www.seupb.eu

To submit ideas, material and photographs for the next issue, please e-mail

communications@seupb.eu or emilia.ferreira@seupb.eu by 15 June 2012.

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

Editorial and Production Management:

John McCandless and Emilia Ferreira
Copy Writing: John McCandless and Emilia Ferreira

Photography: www.michaelcooper.com

Design: www.navigatorblue.com

This magazine is printed by Impro Printing using environmentally friendly paper.



Foreword

Welcome to the spring edition of Your EU!

In this edition we focus on some recently launched initiatives and we take a look at the progress being made by some projects that have been underway for some time.

Among the new projects getting underway, we look at a PEACE III funded project, Planning for Spatial Reconciliation, led by Queen's University Belfast, which aims to contribute to better spatial planning that will help to promote reconciliation.

A number of projects funded by the INTERREG IVA Programme have also reached important milestones in their implementation process. The Sail West project has recently opened a new marina building in Ballycastle; the Tellus Border project, a geophysical mapping initiative, has commenced an air survey of the border region; and Workspace at St Angelo Airport in Enniskillen has recently celebrated a new phase in its construction.

As we move towards the final year of the programming period, a number of projects are coming to an end. In this edition we look at two PEACE III funded initiatives which have come to a close:

Reconciling Communities through Regeneration and the WAVE Trauma Training Learning Pathway.

Both projects have made a lasting impact on their participants and on the wider community.

I am delighted to announce that as the programming period progresses, a significant amount of funding is being allocated to new projects. Funding has now been made available for Phase II of the PEACE Action Plans led by the 14 Local Authority based partnerships. Many of these have already opened calls for proposals in their local areas.

A call for proposals under the INTERREG IVA Programme covering all of the programme's themes closed in February. An update on this call, which was considerably oversubscribed, is also provided in this edition of 'Your EU!'

To date, 75% percent of the INTERREG IVA Programme has been committed. This means a total of €191 million in funding has so far been allocated to cross-border projects involving organisations in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Western Scotland.



94% or €312 million in funding has been allocated to date to promote peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland, as part of the PEACE III Programme.

The SEUPB also continues to work to encourage partners in Northern Ireland to play an active role in INTERREG IVB and INTERREG IVC funded projects.

I would like to formally acknowledge the exemplary hard work and dedication of one of my colleagues Howard Keery who retired from the SEUPB at the end of March. His stalwart presence and immeasurable experience was of great benefit to the delivery of both the PEACE and INTERREG Programmes, for many years. He will be sorely missed by all who worked with him.

I welcome your feedback on the content of this news letter and any suggestions you may have for future editions.

Pat Colgan
Chief Executive
Special EU Programmes Body

FOREWORD...

Mapping the Border Region from the Air

PROJECT NEWS

The Tellus Border project, an INTERREG IVA-funded environmental mapping project is underway in the border counties of Ireland, including Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Monaghan and Louth. The work will provide scientific data which will inform environmental management and support the sustainable development of our natural resources, including soils, groundwater and geothermal energy resources.

The £4 million project is led by the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland, in conjunction with project partners Geological Survey of Ireland, Queen's University Belfast and Dundalk Institute of Technology. This cross-border collaboration ensures a harmonised approach to the

challenging task of integrating environmental data across borders. Northern Ireland has already been mapped between 2004 and 2007 as part of the award-winning Tellus project and work continues on the interpretation of this data throughout the Tellus Border project.

Mapping is being completed using two operations – a ground-based geochemical survey sampling soils, stream waters and stream sediments and an airborne geophysical survey. As part of the geochemical survey, over 3,700 soil samples were successfully collected with the support of local landowners before a planned winter break between December 2011 and March 2012. Meanwhile, the geophysical survey has been operating across the region

using state-of-the-art technology to measure the physical properties of soils and rocks, while flying at a low altitude of 56m. The survey is now 43% complete, with over 21,000 km successfully flown across counties Cavan, Monaghan and Louth. Maps and data will be available after project completion in 2013.

In tandem with the surveys, an extensive communications programme has been underway to inform people in the region about survey operations and to convey the project's benefits to stakeholders.

On 31 March, the project team organised an Open Day at Enniskillen Airport for the local population to get acquainted with their work.

The £4 million project is co-funded by the Department of Environment (NI) and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (Ireland).

Further information, including project updates and the latest flight schedules, is available at www.tellusborder.eu



Project Geophysicists Mohammednur Dessisa (R) and Dr James Hodgson (L).

£1m Regeneration Project Comes to a Close

Community leaders from Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland attended a celebration event to mark the end of the Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration (RCTR) programme. The three year £988,000 EU-funded regional project was delivered by Groundwork NI.

The project worked with ten communities across Northern Ireland and Ireland - Letterkenny, Blacklion, Killyclogher, Killowen and the Heights (Coleraine), Springfarm (Antrim), Areema (Dunmurry), Drumellan (Craigavon), Alexandra Park (North Belfast), Doury Road (Ballymena) and Castlederg.

Under this project, a Peace Gate was installed at the Alexandra Park peace wall in Belfast, a communal Skittle Alley was developed in Letterkenny and a multi-purpose games area opened in Blacklion.

At the event, over forty programme stakeholders had the opportunity to come together to exchange views and their experiences of the programme. Both Groundwork NI and the SEUPB took the opportunity to thank and congratulate the many local groups and statutory agencies

involved in delivering the programme, for their invaluable contribution.

Richard Rogers, Programme Manager of RCTR at Groundwork NI said: 'This event was a celebration of the achievement of the Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration programme, we wanted to take the time to thank all those individuals who have worked in the ten areas to make the programme so successful and we are delighted to see the impact that this PEACE III funded initiative has made and will continue to make on their daily lives.'

Howard Keery, Director SEUPB, commended the participants saying: 'By working directly with the

people who live within areas of contested space, Groundwork NI are to be congratulated for helping to create a locally focused dialogue that will contribute towards real and meaningful change. It not only enhances the quality of life for people living in the area but encourages greater levels of tolerance - thereby reducing both sectarianism and racism. I am confident that the relationships that the Reconciling Communities Through Regeneration project has helped forge will continue long into the future.'

The Mayor of Derry/Londonderry, Alderman Maurice Devenney also joined the celebrations as the group took a walking tour of the Peace Bridge.



Representatives from Killinagh Community Council (Blacklion) pictured with Mayor Alderman Maurice Devenney (Derry City Council) and Howard Keery, Director at the SEUPB (far left) with Groundwork NI staff.

European Investment in our Loughs

The Loughs Agency is the lead partner in a €4 million project to promote tourism in Foyle and Carlingford areas.

The aim of the Marine and Angling Tourism project is to develop and promote marine tourism, water based leisure activities, angling tourism and recreational angling in the Foyle and Carlingford areas. It involves a range of sub-elements including access and angling infrastructure; skills development; and marketing and communications.

Some of the specific schemes under the project include the development of boating access infrastructure, facilities for visitors, initiatives to enhance habitat and angling infrastructure. It is also one of the objectives of the project to raise visitor awareness of the marine environment by providing information and facilities at strategic sites, as well as develop a new

commerce based licensing system for the angling sector.

One of the elements already underway is the development of the Foyle Marina in Londonderry.

Working in partnership with the Loughs Agency, Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners will develop two elements on the River Foyle in the centre of Derry: a Cruise Ship Berth at Meadowbank Quay for cruise ships and small passenger vessels; and a Marine Event Platform at Baronet Street, a new 140 metre pontoon including visitor moorings and expansion of facilities for small ships, large naval boats, traditional craft and small passenger vessels.

Another element takes place at Gribben Quay on the River Foyle, near Strabane. The purpose is to develop and enhance infrastructure for game anglers in the area,

providing a quality game angling experience and encouraging return visits by promoting positive referrals to other angling tourists.

Malin Head, another one of the sites included in the initiative, is the most northerly point on the Irish mainland, located on the Inishowen Peninsula in a part of Donegal which is famous for its rugged coastal scenery and lovely beaches. Working in partnership with Donegal County Council this project seeks to sensitively deliver environmental education and interpretation at Malin Head.

The project has a number of distinct elements which will enhance, protect and promote the unique environmental value of Ireland's most northerly point, whilst engaging local communities and residents in a proactive manner - ultimately assisting with the development of a sustainable tourism product at Malin Head.

For more information contact Andrew Sides on andrew.sides@loughs-agency.org or visit www.loughs-agency.org/site

Malin Head, the most northerly point on the Irish mainland.



Planning for Spatial Reconciliation

Spatial divisions along religious and political lines not only exist across Northern Ireland but have intensified during the last 40 years. Recently, additional layers of social division have become more pronounced, particularly in Belfast.

Preliminary surveys indicate that all the currently vacant and derelict land within a 20 minute walk from Belfast city centre is equal to approximately 265 football pitches. Redevelopment of this land is made more challenging due to segregation and deprivation in neighbouring communities.

Our built environment has the capacity to affect the way we interact with spaces and one another. The planning of our towns and cities has, therefore, a significant role to play in the peace and reconciliation processes.

The Planning for Spatial Reconciliation project addresses some of the aspects of the current planning model which impact negatively on peace-building,

allowing traditional, and, indeed new, spatial division to persist. The plan aims to contribute to the rethinking and re-modelling of the current planning system by investigating innovative approaches to spatial and community planning that can assist the ongoing process of peace-building.

These aspects include the failure to recognise and address spatial segregation and social division; a limited capacity to deal with the duplication of services and amenities within divided settlements; or a concentration on the technical aspects of 'land use planning' in detriment of a broader strategic planning.

Despite this situation, some elements provide a favourable context to allow the research to have a favourable impact. A planned new form of local governance provides the potential for a more integrated approach; implementation of new legislation is set to considerably change the forms of planning; and a

partnership between Queen's University Belfast and the Department of the Environment allows for a unique combination of expertise.

Key stages in the EU-funded Planning for Spatial Reconciliation project include establishing a knowledge base through research, enabling community participation in long-term planning and facilitating institutional change. The initiative will also include a number of exploratory pilot projects in Northern Ireland to test how communities can employ the new Planning processes to deal with issues of segregation, deprivation and disconnection.

For additional information contact Samantha Livingstone on samantha.livingstone@qub.ac.uk

PROJECT NEWS...

YOUR EU!



Rural Enabler: Beyond the Difference,

Hugh Cunningham has lived a life split between Scotland, where he is from, England, where he worked, and the west coast of Ireland, where he now lives, thanks to a successful football career. As a Celtic and Fulham player he visited and welcomed many football teams and groups over the years. So why does he still get excited about a visit from a small youth group from Bushmills, Northern Ireland, and an impromptu 'Happy birthday' song?

The answer is probably given away by the excitement with which he talks about the community spirit that involved his neighbours and friends in Enniscrone, Co Sligo, and the warmth with which they welcomed the visitors:

“We had arranged for banners saying ‘Welcome Bushmills Group!’ to be put up on the shops in the town and it was incredible to see how the whole town got behind it. We had also arranged for ice cream to be given to the visitors as the kids went about on a treasure hunt around the town and when we later went to the shop to pay for it, the shop owner would not accept the money. He wanted to contribute as well.”

The visit was a residential, organised as part of the Rural Enabler Programme, a PEACE III funded project which aims to reach and engage rural communities in peace building and reconciliation activities using a network of specialised ‘rural enablers’.

Hugh, who is a volunteer youth coach with Kilglass/Enniscrone United F.C., was the instigator of the residential visits programme between his club and a youth group from Bushmills. The idea was born from a previous experience he had had with cross-border work and brought to life through a co-operation with Jane Golden, the ‘rural enabler’ in the area, who identified the Bushmills group as a potential partner. As part of the initiative, the young people from Sligo and Antrim came together to socialise and to discuss the issues of racism, sectarianism and division, in the context of their own reality and background. Hugh describes how after a first day of light-hearted social activities, the sessions of the second day reminded him of the differences between the two groups:

“Initially, the atmosphere in the group sessions was a little strange. We had all had a

brilliant time the night before with the treasure hunt. Then, at the dinner, the children found out that one of the girls was turning 16 and they all broke into an improvised happy birthday song, as if they had been friends for ever. But then, in the face of all those questions being put to us at sessions, it was as if we did not know each other. We had become strangers once more.”

The initial feeling quickly went away, though, as the discussion progressed. According to Hugh, “the facilitators were very good. The questions were posed in a way that made both children and adults really reflect on their opinions and values. It was an expertly led discussion.”

On a personal level, the experience has enriched Hugh’s life and left him with the confidence that it is possible to affect the lives of these young people positively, even when they live in the most remote areas of the island.

“If we can influence just one of these young people, then we will have done something good. Inclusiveness is a part of life!”

the Sameness



Hugh Cunningham at practice with the group he coaches.
(Photo Michael Cooper)

REAL LIFE INTERVIEWS...

"The facilitators were very good. The questions were posed in a way that made both children and adults really reflect on their opinions and values. It was an expertly led discussion."

Rural Enabler: Getting to Know Us

REAL LIFE INTERVIEWS...

Judith Getty in 'The Den'
(photo Michael Cooper)

"I think the children here are used to a divided world. They see the world in terms of 'us' and 'them'."

Judith Getty works in Bushmills, where she is one of two people responsible for managing a drop-in youth club called 'The Den'. She had previous experience as a youth worker in Londonderry, England and Ballymena, and it was her experience of cross-border work in Derry that led her to contact Orla Black, the local 'rural enabler' to organise something with a group south of the border.

The Rural Enabler project works to build positive relations in rural communities across 12 counties. Each rural enabler acts as a resource for individuals and groups, supporting them to address their needs.

The decision was to connect them with Enniscrone United F.C., from Co Sligo. According to Judith, "the discussions on the project were taking place around the time that Neil Lennon was on the news for receiving death threats. Because the Sligo group was part of a football club and the kids from Bushmills are mostly Rangers' fans, we thought it could generate interesting discussions, as well as help the children to interpret what they were seeing on the news."

She was particularly motivated to organise something given the low level of cross-community work in the area, which is still perceived as a 'no-go area' for cross-community initiatives due to its strong loyalist affiliation. The project included a first trip to Enniscrone and a return visit to Bushmills. For Judith, the highlight of the initiative was seeing the relationships form. Talking about the initial reactions she said: "They were very surprised by the fact that the children in Sligo didn't care about symbols and that whenever they showed them traditional loyalist symbols there was no reaction – they just didn't care!"

"I think the children here are used to a divided world. They see the world in terms of 'us' and 'them'. Initially there was a slight cultural shock because the Irish kids weren't what they were expecting. They weren't even Celtic fans!" she continued.

The Rural Enabler project seeks to address these cultural constructions and misconceptions by promoting interaction between communities that are traditionally isolated. For Judith the opportunity enabled her as a youth worker to push the

boundaries of the group a little and to demonstrate that, even if they are small, there are interesting things to be done.

One of the main challenges in organising the visits was to accommodate the dates of the summer marching season, which the children were very keen to take part in. Despite the challenges it presented, it also offered an opportunity to introduce the visitors to loyalist traditions, whilst giving Judith's group a chance to learn more about their own culture.

"It was telling that the group had been really surprised to learn during the first visit that the children in Sligo didn't know who 'King Billy' was. But when asked to explain it they didn't know either! All they knew was that he is on a banner", she explained.

Judith sees this project as an opportunity to widen the horizon on the young children she works with: "As a community, rural people don't have many opportunities to engage with others. They tend to keep to themselves and stay entrenched in their own ways. But now, these young people have a photo of a group of Catholic Irish children up on the wall. For me that is just wonderful!"

European Funding Secured for the Northeast

The North East Partnership has secured approximately £8.4m of INTERREG IVA funding towards a whole variety of cross-border projects in the Northeast region. The Partnership has secured an additional £0.5m in funding to cover administration costs.

Over £5m has been awarded under the Tourism theme, to the Gobbins and Sliabh Liag project. This project will see the restoration of the famous Gobbins Cliff Path in Islandmagee, Antrim, and the enhancement of facilities and the visitor experience at the famous Sliabh Liag Cliffs, in South West Donegal.

Another project recently approved is Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) which aims to implement the BIDs Model framework to improve the economic

centres by supporting increased business growth, organisational effectiveness and enhanced public and private sector investment. It was awarded £716,000 in funding and includes partners in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Western Scotland.

Similarly, the Innovation and Growth business focused initiative was allocated over £750,000 to work with up to 60 businesses across the northeast of Northern Ireland and West Donegal.

The most recent project to be approved is the Towns and Villages on Inland Waterways (RIVER) project with £1.3million committed to assist with project delivery. It aims to promote rural regeneration through physical improvements on settlements adjacent to navigable inland waterways.

For further information on the North East Partnership's projects contact Roisin O'Neill: roisin.ONeill@ballymena.gov.uk

New Peace Building Resource Guide

A new resource guide featuring case studies of successful cross-border and cross-community projects across the region called 'The Community Work Approach to Peace building' was launched recently.

Co-ordinated by the Community Workers' Co-operative Donegal Network (DCWC), as part of its 'Harnessing Equality for Lasting Peace' project, the guide was designed to showcase the conflict resolution work that has been achieved by groups in the local community sector.

The content of the resource guide has been shaped by many different community workers during a series of seminars, workshops and residential events across the region. It has also been informed by the 'Aid for Peace' methodology developed by the International Centre of Excellence for the Study of Peace and Reconciliation (INCORE) within the University of Ulster.

Available from the Community Workers' Co-operative website www.cwc.ie the resource guide explores the relationship between those involved in community work and those involved in peace building. It highlights the linkages between the two and how both, working in partnership, can be used to create meaningful and positive social change.



(l-r): Ald PJ McAvoy, Howard Keery, Mayor Hubert Nicholl and Anne Donaghy.

Minister Helps Turn First Sod at Workspace Development in Enniskillen Airport

The first sod has been turned on the £1.38m workspace development in St Angelo Airport in Enniskillen.

Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster helped mark the start of construction of the new 37,000 sq ft aircraft hangar, which will provide modern aircraft maintenance facilities at the airport.

The project, which has been financed with assistance from the INTERREG IVA Programme and is led by the Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN), aims to attract one fixed wing aircraft service and maintenance firm to locate at St Angelo Airport, to support the creation of jobs in aviation, engineering, and technical areas, and to provide infrastructure to assist the development of the tourism sector in the region.

Expressing her support for the initiative, Minister Foster said: "With the construction of these new aircraft maintenance facilities, St Angelo Airport will be able to generate greater levels of both business and leisure activity to help grow the local economy. In addition, it is envisaged that the new hangarage space could attract an aircraft maintenance company which would ultimately result in the creation of at least 14 highly skilled jobs."



Pictured (LtoR) ICBAN Chairperson Cllr David Alcorn, Minister Arlene Foster MLA, Pat Colgan of the SEUPB and Councillor Thomas O'Reilly, Chairman of Fermanagh District Council.

The new standalone unit will supply a full range of services including aircraft maintenance, piloting services and hangarage, complementing the existing helicopter service and maintenance facilities already provided at St Angelo Airport.

The project is scheduled for completion in December 2013.

For additional information contact Roisin McManus on roisin@icban.com

INTERREG IVA FUNDING CALL UPDATE

The latest funding call for the INTERREG IVA Programme closed on Friday 17 February 2012, with a total of 91 applications received.

The funding requested amounts to over €212 million. The amount of INTERREG IVA funding remaining to be allocated is in the region of €30m - so the call is considerably oversubscribed. Applications have been received across all the themes of the programme including enterprise, tourism, public

sector collaboration, health, roads, telecommunications and energy.

Stage 1 of the two stage application process has now been completed, and all 91 – applications have been assessed. A Steering Committee, to decide upon which applications will move to Stage 2, was held on 14 March and successful applicants have been informed.

The Stage 2 deadline, which involves the submission of a full business case, will occur in May 2012. Following submission of the business plans the SEUPB, in partnership with the relevant Accountable Departments providing match-funding, will undertake the required economic appraisal of all applications.

The SEUPB is committed to issuing letters of offer to successful projects before the end of 2012.

Updates on INTERREG IVB & IVC Programmes

Over the past four years, SEUPB has been working with organisations in Northern Ireland to promote participation in the INTERREG IVB and IVC programmes. To date, there are 61 project partners, participating in 52 projects across the four programmes of Northern Periphery Programme, the Atlantic Area programme, the North West Europe programme and the INTERREG IVC programme.

Northern Periphery Programme

To date 98% of the funding has been committed and there are 24 projects with 29 Northern Ireland partners. The Ninth and the last call for INTERREG IVB Northern Periphery Programme is currently open and will close on 02 May 2012. The call is open to main projects and to strategic projects and there is €1.1 million to be allocated to this call.

North West Europe

To date 87% of the funding has been committed and there are 5 projects with 5 Northern Ireland partners. The tenth and perhaps the last call for INTERREG IVB North West Europe will open in April 2012 and will close on 11 May 2012. The call is open to all priorities and €43 million is allocated to this call.

Atlantic Area
The Atlantic Area programme is 99.4% committed. The Joint Technical Secretariat does not expect to make any further call. There are 11 projects with 14 Northern Ireland partners.

INTERREG IVC

To date 100% of the €302 million funding available through this programme has been committed. There will be no further calls in the programme. There are 10 projects with 11 Northern Ireland partners. The remaining two projects are funded under the URBACT II programme and there are two NI partners participating in this programme.

'Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive' – booklet highlights best practice

In order to mark the excellent work of these organisations the SEUPB has recently produced a booklet 'Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive - The Northern Ireland Experience in Transnational Projects'.



This booklet showcases the range of organisations and projects from Northern Ireland which are currently participating in the Northern Periphery Programme, the Atlantic Area Programme, the North West Europe Programme and the INTERREG IVC Programme.

This booklet highlights how organisations in Northern Ireland are sharing best practice and gaining a wealth of knowledge from across the EU to make an active contribution to the Europe 2020 objectives of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

For more information please contact Teresa Lennon at Teresa.lennon@seupb.eu

Minister Announces £3 million in Funding for Antrim Station

Transport Minister Danny Kennedy recently announced £2.9million in funding for Northern Ireland's first environmentally sustainable bus and rail station.

The newly refurbished, integrated bus and rail station in Antrim will incorporate environmentally sustainable features such as roof mounted solar panels, a grey water harvesting system and a naturally insulated 'green' roof.

The project has been funded by the Department for Regional Development (£2,334,565) and through the Sustainable Stations Project (SUSstations), with €660,000 (£568,194) of support from the EU INTERREG IVB North West Europe Programme (NWE).

SusStation Achieving Sustainable Stations Project is an initiative involving five partners (including Translink in Northern Ireland) from different European countries that supports the construction of sustainable, low carbon railway stations.

At present, the Antrim Station holds separate bus and rail ticket for around 250,000 passengers per year. The new scheme will improve and integrate facilities for all public transport passengers.



Artist's impression of new station.

From a sustainable buildings perspective, the new scheme will also provide a good case study for modernising a listed building. The façade of the building will be preserved through a sensitive restoration work.

At the announcement, Danny Kennedy welcomed the support of the EU: "I wish to acknowledge the financing from the European Union through the INTERREG IVB North West Europe Programme and their continued support in investing in the public transport infrastructure. In addition I want to pay tribute to the Sustainable Station Project for inviting Translink to be part of the programme."

Some of the station's new facilities will include an integrated bus/rail ticket office, 180 spaces for park&ride, a new traffic management system, enclosed modern waiting area and improved pedestrian access.

Construction began in January 2012 and is expected to be completed within two years.

Other partners in the SusStations project include local authorities and transport companies from France, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK. Lancashire County Council has overall responsibility for the project.

For additional information contact Maurice Wray on maurice.wray@translink.co.uk

PROJECT NEWS...



The Antrim Bus and Rail Station as it looks today.

Trauma Training Participants Receive Awards

The WAVE Trauma Centre recently organised a celebration event to mark the end of the Trauma Training Learning Pathway project and to present the participants with their certificate awards.

At the event, Howard Keery, Director of SEUPB, addressed a packed Banqueting Hall at Belfast City Hall. He commended the work carried out by WAVE and the Consortium of the Community Relations Council and Pobal, which has responsibility for managing the project on behalf of the SEUPB. He complimented the accessibility of the courses saying: "the OCN courses may have been their first experience of academic achievement, or they may be a re-introduction to education that is delivered in a safe and supportive environment."



Members of Ballybeen Women's Centre with Hedley Abernethy (WAVE facilitator) after receiving their certificates.

The event at City Hall was attended by a wide range of guests including the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Niall Ó Donnghaile. In his address, the Lord Mayor said that since its establishment 20 years ago WAVE has gained extensive expertise in the provision of therapeutic training.

"Its development of training to the highest standard has been community-led," he said "and deserves recognition for providing frameworks that achieve positive results."

The Trauma Training Learning Pathway has offered participants the opportunity to participate in introductory level courses accredited by the Open College Network through to professional and academic development in partnership with Queen's University Belfast. During the three-year PEACE III project, 29 students have graduated in Trauma Studies from Queen's University, a collaboration that was pioneered by Professor Jean Orr, former head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery. The contribution of the Learning Pathway has been to improve the acquisition of skills and knowledge and to offer a better service to those who seek support.



The Lord Mayor of Belfast with the guest speakers at WAVE Trauma Centre's Presentation and Closure Evening.

At the event, more than 50 people received certificates bringing the total number of participants in WAVE's OCN-accredited courses to 700.

Nearly a quarter of participants who completed a course returned to complete at least one more course. Jim Callaghan is one such student having completed the Grief, Trauma and the Helping Relationship course as well as the Trauma and Addiction course. Speaking about his experience, Jim commended the relevance of the courses and went on to say that while many of us may not deal with trauma "unfortunately we will have to deal with grief."

My Hands, My Heart, My Life

My Hands, My Heart, My Life People with sensory loss came together to share their experiences of living with hearing or sight loss in a moving drama performance.

The event, organised by The Playhouse and the EU-funded Sensory Engagement Project, aimed to showcase the work of people who have undertaken a Performing Arts OCN course over the past year.

Some of the performances were a comic reflection on shared human experiences; others were highly personal, thought provoking and moving sketches developed by the students and describing their world and the challenges they face every day. These were a result of the work developed by the students and their reflection on their life experiences, brought to life via the creative use of drama.

Participants from the Action on Hearing Loss Group developed a performance focusing on the use of body language, whereas participants from RNIB NI, who live with blindness or sight loss, structured their performance around a series of monologues and songs. The group had previously worked on developing storytelling techniques

including diction, breathing and memorising techniques.

The course undertaken by the students was mostly aimed at increasing their sense of confidence and self-esteem, which enabled them to perform in front of a large audience. The whole programme was designed and implemented to increase the participation of adults with sensory loss within the world of performing arts. The added benefit of the performance was also to raise awareness in the audience of the life of people with sensory loss, their struggles and achievements.

Both groups, Action on Hearing Loss and RNIB NI, have participated in this training course through the Sensory Engagement Project, funded through the EU's INTERREG IVA Programme.

For more information contact Thomas Quigley on thomas.quigley@rnib.org.uk

PROJECT NEWS...



Growing a Shared City

Partnership working and engagement may seem to be the 'buzz words' of the moment but Belfast City Council has long since recognised these two key elements as fundamental to moving the city forward. EU's PEACE III funding has supported the development of institutional capacity over the past two years to build strong civic leadership which recognises the links between progress and harnessing the strength of different perspectives.

In a city like Belfast the positive aspects of diversity have all too often been overshadowed by the negative attributes of difference, however, the 'Growing a Shared City' project has supported a series of actions to enhance understanding of the role of diversity in the social, economic and political life of the city. The business case for this is growing stronger with clear links between successful diversity management and organisational reputation, recruitment and retention, productivity and innovation.

The project has to date delivered over 20 events including seminars and training. The lunchtime seminar series is now into its second run, building on the

2010/11 series which examined the role of diversity in the council in relation to how it can best deliver services. The theme of the second series is 'Exploring Engagement' and includes speakers from a wide variety of backgrounds. At a recent seminar entitled 'A Titanic Year for Belfast', Reverend Chris Bennett, Chaplain of the Dock at Titanic Quarter, reflected on the speed of change at Titanic Quarter and how these changes have affected perceptions and beliefs throughout the city.

The purpose of the seminars is to raise awareness and increase understanding of engagement and the importance of identifying local solutions to local issues.

To date, training has been delivered on topics such as partnership working, organisational development and how the diversity of people living in the city contributes to the sharing of space and resources rather than reinforcing existing divisions.

The recent launch of the draft Investment Programme for Belfast emphasises the need for joint working across all sectors, organisations and communities, to bring together the resources needed to make Belfast a competitive, inclusive and successful city; 'Growing a Shared City' has never been more important!

For additional information contact Lorraine Dennis on dennisl@belfastcity.gov.uk



Reverend Chris Bennett, Chaplain of the Dock at Titanic Quarter, pictured with two project workers, was one of the participants in a recent seminar to discuss how to explore engagement within the community.

New Marina Building for Ballycastle

PROJECT NEWS...

The official opening of Portnagree House, Harbour & Marina Visitor Centre at Ballycastle harbour took place on 22 February. The new visitor centre provides a welcome boost to the local economy as it will strengthen the reputation of Ballycastle as a destination for visiting boats from Ireland, Scotland and beyond.

The £600,000 facility owned and managed by Moyle District Council provides onshore toilet, shower, laundry and kitchen facilities for boat owners and users of the adjacent award winning marina. In addition it has a large meeting room and dedicated office space for the Harbour Master.

Moyle District Council is one of over 20 partners involved in the Sail West Initiative which encourages the development of marine tourism across the entire region, through a targeted capital investment programme in key marine infrastructure, and a concerted marketing campaign. The initiative will provide a necklace of highly developed boating, angling and marine related infrastructure aimed at increasing visitor numbers to the region which is now being marketed using the Malin-Waters brand name.

The new www.malinwaters.com website, and the 2012 edition of the Welcome Anchorages publication featuring Ballycastle Marina on the cover were also launched on the day.

Chairman of Moyle District Council, Cllr Padraig McShane welcomed guests to Ballycastle and officially opened the building. He acknowledged the valuable financial support that Moyle District Council received under the INTERREG IVA Programme saying: "Ballycastle can now fully seize the opportunity to position itself as a key maritime location linking Ireland to Scotland". Howard Keery from SEUPB highlighted that at €7.4 million the Sail West Initiative

was one of the most significant tourism projects that had been approved under the INTERREG IVA Programme.

The building is part-funded under the Sail West Initiative, which secured over €7 million in funding from the European Union for an integrated project along the coast of Sligo, Donegal, Northern Ireland and Western Scotland. The match funding was provided by Moyle District Council, the Department of Enterprise Trade & Investment (DETI) in Northern Ireland and by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport (DTTS) in Ireland.

For more information contact Lee-Anne Doherty at leeanned@donegalcoco.ie



L to R: Cllr Padraig McShane, Chairman Moyle District Council, Howard Keery, SEUPB, Richard Lewis, Chief Executive Moyle District Council at the launch of the Ballycastle New Marina Building, as part of the Sail West/ MalinWaters project.

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 or Belfast, Tel: +44 (0) 28 9026 6660 E: info@seupb.eu or

The Consortium Community Relations Council European Team Tel: +44 (0) 28 9022 7500 E: european@nicrc.org.uk or Pobal, Tel: +353 (0)1 5117500 E: 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 (excluding Greater Belfast), 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 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

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, environment-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: Teresa Lennon at the SEUPB Belfast office: Tel: +44 (0) 28 9026 6723 E: teresa.lennon@seupb.eu

Special EU Programmes body

info@seupb.eu
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