



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

PREPARING THE PEACE PLUS PROGRAMME

| European Territorial Co-operation
2021–2027

Stakeholder Engagement Survey – Questions

December 2019 to February 2020



Northern Ireland
Executive

www.northernireland.gov.uk



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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Survey questions

The purpose of this survey is to get input from stakeholders on potential funding themes for the PEACE PLUS Programme as well as feedback on delivery options as proposed by the draft regulations. The purpose of this document is to present the questions that will be included in the survey. Please do not respond on this document. If you would like a hard copy of the questionnaire please request one from PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu or 00 44 (0) 28 90 266 660.

PEACE PLUS is a new cross-border programme that will contribute to a more prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the border region of Ireland. The programme will achieve this by funding peace-building activities, and by funding activities that contribute to the cross-border economic and territorial development of the region¹. The combination of the PEACE and INTERREG type activities in a single programme is reflected in the name of the programme where “PLUS” stands for the inclusion of wider North/South economic, social and environmental activities, of mutual interest.

We welcome responses regardless of whether you have been involved in INTERREG or PEACE before. We really appreciate your views.

The survey is composed of 5 sections. We recommend that you read the [“Part 2 of the Stakeholder Engagement Information Document”](#) before responding, as questions will refer to this.

With the exception of Section A, no section is compulsory; please respond to the questions in the other sections where you wish to do so. Please use Section E to make more general comments that you do not feel are covered in the rest of the survey and to attach reports to support your response where you believe this is relevant for the programme development.

Responses are subject to word limits. This is to encourage focused responses and ensure that responses can be effectively analysed by the SEUPB as part of the process to develop the new programme. We recommend that you include evidence to support your responses. For example, you may include links to supporting information as part of your response or you may add attachments in the Section E.

Deadline for response

The engagement process will run from **10 December 2019** until **17:00 25 February 2020**.

Other ways to get involved

A number of stakeholder information events have been organised, at which members of the public and other key stakeholders will have the opportunity to express their views on the issues raised in this document. Information on the dates and locations for these meetings is available on the SEUPB’s website at <https://seupb.eu/peaceplus>.

¹ Previously funded under INTERREG.

Use of responses

This survey requires you to provide your name and postal address. This is for verification purposes only and to prevent multiple responses from the same person or organisation. No anonymous responses will be considered.

The SEUPB will publish a synopsis of the responses. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation we may publish your organisation's name, unless requested not to below. If you are responding as an individual we may refer to the content of your response but not your name or address, nor will we publish anything which may identify you or other individuals.

Notwithstanding the above, the information you provide in your response to this survey, excluding personal information, may be disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Code of Practice (North South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland Ltd.). If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please contact communications@seupb.eu, but be aware that, under the Code of Practice, we cannot guarantee confidentiality.

- I am responding on behalf of my organisation and I do not wish the details of the organisation to be published.**

A. About you

Q.A.1 Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

- Organisation:** Please state your name and your organisation's name and address.

- Individual:** Please state your name and address

Q.A.2 Which of the following best describes you? (Select as many as applicable)

- I am a stakeholder associated with the management of the PEACE or INTERREG programmes
- I receive or have previously received funding from the PEACE or INTERREG programmes (as a project partner or a subcontracted organisation)
- I have applied for funding from the PEACE or INTERREG programmes but my application was not accepted
- I have been a participant or beneficiary of a PEACE or INTERREG funded project
- I would like to get involved with this PEACE PLUS Programme
- Other. Please describe: _____

B (1). Thematic focus: Peace-building activities

The PEACE PLUS programme will contribute to a more peaceful, prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of Ireland¹ by funding:

- **peace and reconciliation activities**, and
- activities that contribute to North/South **economic, social and environmental** development in the region, in areas of mutual interest.

Peace-building activities

PEACE PLUS will fund Peace and Reconciliation under Policy Objective 4 of the draft EU regulation. This allows for funding to be awarded for the following:

- Actions to improve community and social cohesion,
- Improving employment opportunities,
- Increasing access to quality education,
- Reducing marginalisation through improved housing and services,
- Increasing access to quality health care in the region,
- Other peace building activities.

Thinking of the needs in your local area, we want your views on which actions are most relevant for achieving Peace and Reconciliation.

To help you with your responses you may wish to view case studies of the existing PEACE initiatives. These can be found here: <https://seupb.eu/case-studies>.

¹ Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo. Organisations from outside the programme area may be funded where this contributes to the programme objectives for the eligible region.

Q.B.1 Below are a list of indicative actions for achieving Peace and Reconciliation. Please rate the relevance of each type of action as a means to achieve Peace and Reconciliation.

	Not at all relevant 1	2	3	4	5	6	Extremely relevant 7	I don't know
Actions to improve community and social cohesion.	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Improving employment opportunities.	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Increasing access to quality education.	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Reducing marginalisation through improved housing and services.	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Increasing access to quality health care in the region.	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Other peace building activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>							

Q.B.1i Please explain why you have given the rating above: [Word limit 500 words]

Q.B.1ii If there are other types of action not covered by the table in Q.B.1 that you think are relevant for achieving Peace and Reconciliation in your local area, please describe them below. [Word limit 1000 words]

Q.B.1iii What are the main challenges and opportunities for greater Peace and Reconciliation (previously addressed under the PEACE programme)? [Word limit 1000 words]

Q.B.1iv Please list any ideas for initiatives or projects that could address the challenges/opportunities identified in Q.B.1iii. [Word limit 1000 words]

B (2). Thematic focus: North/South economic, social and environmental development of the region

The PEACE PLUS programme will contribute to a more peaceful, prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties of Ireland² by funding:

- **peace and reconciliation activities**, and
- activities that contribute to North/South **economic, social and environmental** development in the region in areas of mutual interest.

Wider economic, social and environmental development of the region

PEACE PLUS can fund the wider economic, social and environmental development of the region by financing projects under all five Policy Objectives set out in the draft EU regulations. The process for selecting which of these Policy Objectives PEACE PLUS will focus on is still in progress. This is why we would like your views on which Policy Objectives would enable investment with the most impact for the economic, social and environmental development of the region.

To help you with your responses you may wish to view case studies of the existing INTERREG initiatives. These can be found here: <https://seupb.eu/case-studies>.

(2) Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo. Organisations from outside the programme area may be funded where this contributes to the programme objectives for the eligible region.

Q.B.2 Rate the relevance of Policy Objective 1: A SMARTER EUROPE

- (i)** Actions under this Policy Objective could include:
- Measures to boost the innovation capacity of the region,
 - Measures to increase the uptake of advanced technology,
 - Actions to increase the growth and competitiveness of the SME sector,
 - Improvements to digital services.

Not at all relevant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely Relevant
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know

Q.B.2i Please explain why you have given the rating above: [Word limit 500 words]

Q.B.3 Rate the relevance of Policy Objective 2: A GREENER, LOWER CARBON EUROPE

- (i)** Actions under this Policy Objective could include:
- Measures to improve energy efficiency,
 - Additional renewable energy production capacity,
 - Smart grids for improved energy management,
 - Improved disaster monitoring, warning or response systems,
 - Improved water and waste treatment,
 - Measures to improve biodiversity.

Not at all relevant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely Relevant
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know



Q.B.3i Please explain why you have given the rating above: [Word limit 500 words]

Q.B.4 Rate the relevance of Policy Objective 3: A MORE CONNECTED EUROPE

(i) This Policy Objective focuses on improving transport and ICT infrastructure in the eligible region. Actions could include improvements to cross-border transport infrastructure.

Not at all relevant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely Relevant
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know

Q.B.4i Please explain why you have given the rating above: [Word limit 500 words]

Q.B.5 Rate the relevance of Policy Objective 4: A MORE SOCIAL EUROPE

All of the PEACE elements for PEACE PLUS must be set within the context of this objective. However, this objective can also fund activities with a wider scope. **For this question, we would like to know how relevant Policy Objective 4 would be for the wider economic, social and environmental development of the region.** Actions that can be funded under the activities include:

- Actions to improve community and social cohesion,
- Improving employment opportunities,
- Increasing access to quality education,
- Reducing marginalisation through improved housing and services,
- Increasing access to quality health care in the region.

Not at all relevant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely Relevant
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know

Q.B.5i Please explain why you have given the rating above. [Word limit 500 words]

Q.B.6 Rate the relevance of Policy Objective 5: A EUROPE CLOSER TO ITS CITIZENS

(i) Actions under this Policy Objective could include:

- Activities to boost tourism,
- Measures to promote cultural heritage,
- Improving community facilities,
- Measures to improve security.

This Policy Objective covers urban, rural and coastal areas.

Not at all relevant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely Relevant
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know



Q.B.6i Please explain why you have given the rating above: [Word limit 500 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.B.6i.

Q.B.7 What are the main challenges and opportunities for the wider economic and territorial development of the programme area (previously addressed under the INTERREG programme)? [Word limit 1000 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.B.7.

Q.B.8 Please list any ideas for initiatives or projects that could address the challenges/opportunities identified in Q.B.7. [Word limit 1000 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.B.8.

C. Increasing simplification and focus on results

In the current PEACE and INTERREG programming period, the SEUPB initiated a number of measures to reduce the administrative burden for applicants and to increase the result orientation of the programmes.

The draft regulations contain a number of provisions to further simplify the management and implementation of projects and make them more focused on results. The SEUPB is committed to continuing to address both of these goals and would like your views on which provisions would be most effective.

Q.C.1i To what extent would the following measures further simplify management and implementation of projects?

Greater use of flat rates

(i) Where costs are calculated through an automatic calculation. An example of a Flat Rate in the 2014-2020 programming period is the Flat Rate at which partners claim costs under the Budget Heading: "Office and Administration Costs". Projects do not claim actual costs related to Office and Administration (photocopying, electricity bills etc.). Instead the value of these costs are automatically calculated as 15% of eligible Staff Costs.

Not at all beneficial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely beneficial
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know

Greater use of unit costs

(i) Where payments are tied to the delivery of pre-agreed outputs rather than based on the direct costs related to producing the output. An example of a Unit Cost in the 2014-2020 programming period is the Unit Cost for SMEs attending a project workshop. Under this Unit Cost, partners can claim a fee for each SME that attends a workshop, rather than the actual costs associated with the workshop.

Not at all beneficial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extremely beneficial
	<input type="checkbox"/>							

I don't know



Q.C.1ii Please explain why you have given the ratings above. [Word limit 500 words]

A large, empty light blue rectangular box intended for the user to provide their explanation for the ratings.

Q.C.1iii Please detail any measures that would further simplify management and implementation of projects that are not listed above? [Word limit 500 words]

A large, empty light blue rectangular box intended for the user to detail measures for simplifying management and implementation.

D. Other administrative and delivery arrangements

For the current programmes, support to potential applicants is available in a number of forms, including through the SEUPB website and through events promoting calls for funding. The SEUPB would like to consider other ways of providing project development support during the new programming period.

Q.D.1i Below is a list of examples of measures that could provide project development support. Using the scale below, please rate how beneficial each of the following examples would be while applying for funding.

	Not at all beneficial 1	2	3	4	5	6	Extremely beneficial 7	I don't know
Expert assistance supporting project development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Events, including networking events and project development workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional materials published online, including manuals and instruction videos to support the development of projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lump sum payments for preparation costs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Q.D.1ii Please explain why you have given the ratings above. [Word limit 500 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.D.1ii.

Q.D.1iii Please detail any measures you can suggest that would be beneficial to potential applicants during Project Development that are not listed above? [Word limit 500 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.D.1iii.

Q.D.2 Should the current arrangements to source match-funding continue, or should some or all of match-funding be provided by the applicant (public or private)? Please explain your answer. If you would consider applying to PEACE PLUS, please state in your answer whether you would be willing to provide some or all match-funding? [Word limit 500 words]

Light blue rectangular area for response to Q.D.2.



E. Other comments

Q.E.1 Please make any additional comments about a future PEACE PLUS Programme that have not already been included in previous questions.
[Word limit 1000 words]

A large, empty light blue rectangular box intended for the user to provide additional comments for question Q.E.1.

Q.E.2 If you know of any reports that can inform the future PEACE PLUS programme development, please attach them here:

A large, empty light blue rectangular box intended for the user to provide information about reports for question Q.E.2.

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Belfast Office:

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

Email: PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu

<https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>



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