

Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

Feb - Mar 2025



The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Dublin City area. Funding sources reflect both local and national funding opportunities. All information is quoted directly from funder website / literature.

The bi-monthly Fundingpoint Local Digest is brought to you by Dublin City Council and The Wheel.

www.wheel.ie

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Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Citizenship, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) is the EU's funding programme for citizens' engagement and the implementation of EU rights and values. It replaces both Europe for Citizens and the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme.

Aims & Objectives

The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme's aims are to:

- protect and promote Union rights and values
- promote rights, non-discrimination, equality, including gender equality
- promote citizens engagement and participation in the democratic life of the Union and exchanges between citizens of different Member States
- raise awareness of the common European history

What does it support?

CERV funds actions:

- promoting non-discrimination and gender equality, the rights of the child, European remembrance and citizens' engagement, as well as combat racism and gender-based violence
- strengthening the protection and promotion of the rule of law and democratic dialogue, transparency and good governance
- supporting, empowering and building the capacity of civil society organisations active in the promotion of values and rights, at local, regional, national and transnational level.
- Specific activities funded include:
 - training activities, workshops, conferences
 - mutual learning and cooperation, capacity building
 - town twinning
 - media campaigns, awareness raising and dissemination activities

Eligibility

Who can apply?

Civil society organisations as well as public authorities, European-level networks and think tanks.

EU Policy

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [European citizenship and values](#).

Budget

€1,56 billion over 7 years

Project Examples

[Examples of successful projects from Ireland](#)

National Contact Point in Ireland

Not yet decided, information will follow soon.

Assistance is also available via www.accesseurope.ie.

How to Apply

Find open calls for [CERV](#), or see direct links below:

CERV - Operating grants to framework partners active in the area of Union values

Deadline: 5 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

CERV - Network of Towns

Deadline: 27 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

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Culture Ireland Grants

Culture Ireland operates a range of funding programmes to support and promote the presentation of Irish arts internationally. The current initiatives include a Regular grants round, the See Here scheme, Delegate Scheme and a Showcase programme.

Regular Grant Scheme

Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland traditionally offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, freight, accommodation and subsistence. In order for an application to be considered, the applicant must have an international partner or be an international presenter who will provide a fee to the artist and assist with promotion and presentation costs.

There will be four grant rounds in 2025 covering all windows of activity throughout the year. Based on feedback, we are also extending the activity timeline for each round – full details below – please check that your project is eligible prior to submission.

<https://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/regular-grant/>

Showcase Scheme

The Showcase Scheme has as its primary aim, the creation of new opportunities for Irish artists to present their work on the global stage.

This aim is achieved through the support of Irish artists to participate at industry showcase events. Where possible as part of their participation. Culture Ireland facilitates artists to present their work to international delegates, including programmers and presenters.

The strategic priorities for the Showcase Scheme are:

- To ensure ongoing contact between Irish artists and key international presenters/programmers
- To increase awareness and interest by the international sector of recent and new work by Irish artists with a view to future collaboration/partnership/presentation
- To provide mentorship for artists with specific reference to presentation of their work in the international environment

- To promote high quality digital recordings/promotional materials to showcase Irish artists.

Music from Ireland is a programme, delivered in partnership with First Music Contact to showcase [Irish music internationally](#).

Culture Ireland leads Irish delegations to events such as WOMEX World Music Expo, Classical: NEXT and Folk Alliance International and partners with national resource organisations in the delivery of many of the other Showcases as listed below.

Applications to form part of the Culture Ireland delegations are usually made by open call and must be made online.

<https://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/showcase/>

See Here Scheme

The See Here Scheme is specifically designed to support direct engagement by international promoters and programmers with Irish artists' work in Ireland a view to securing future presentation opportunities abroad.

Culture Ireland support under the See Here Scheme usually involves travel by international delegates to attend festivals where there is a programme of Irish artists being presented and meet artists in person in Ireland. Currently, given travel restrictions these engagements take place digitally and involve a combination of pre-recorded performances and live engagement.

Priority is given to attendance at events where the international delegates will see a range of work by Irish artists and to delegates connected with venues or festivals which have an interest in programming international artists.

Queries regarding Culture Ireland's See Here activity should be sent to: showcases@cultureireland.gov.ie

<https://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/see-here/>

How to Apply

Deadline: 6 Feb 2025 (for projects from May 2025 onwards)

<https://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/>

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ALL Collaboration & Innovation Fund

Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) is a 10-year strategy that aims to:

- ensure that every adult has the necessary literacy, numeracy and digital literacy to fully engage in society and realise their potential; and
- support organisations and services to be literacy friendly and fully accessible to adults with unmet needs.

The Collaboration and Innovation Fund is a great opportunity to fund projects and activities that support adults with unmet literacy, numeracy, digital and financial literacy needs. The Fund is managed by the Adult Literacy for Life Programme Office in SOLAS.

Who can apply?

Organisations that work in the public, not-for-profit, community and voluntary sector can apply for the Collaboration and Innovation Fund. Individuals and private sector organisations cannot apply for the Fund.

You need a minimum of two organisations working in partnership to apply for the Fund. One organisation is the lead applicant, and the other organisation or organisations are the partner applicants.

The lead organisation will need a tax clearance access number, tax reference number, and charity number, if applicable.

Ireland's first National Financial Literacy Strategy will be published in 2025. To support this, the Consumer and Competition Protection Commission (CCPC) has given €250,000 for projects on financial literacy.

How much funding is available?

In 2025, the total funding available in the Collaboration and Innovation Fund is €1 million.

The funding will be divided into two strands as follows:

- €750,000 for local and national projects that provide innovative and collaborative ways to:
- support adults with unmet literacy, numeracy and digital literacy needs, and
- create a more literacy friendly and equal society.

- €250,000 for local and national projects that support innovative and collaborative ways to:
- improve financial literacy skills for adults with unmet literacy, numeracy and digital literacy needs, and
- create a more literacy friendly approach to accessing financial services.

The minimum amount of funding available for a local project is €1,000 and the maximum amount is €25,000. A local or regional project has an impact in one area, county or Education and Training Board catchment area.

The maximum amount of funding available for a national project is €50,000. A national project has an impact in more than one county or happens in more than one Education and Training Board region.

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying, please read the [2025 Collaboration and Innovation Fund Guidelines](#) carefully before completing and submitting your application.

Then fill in the [online application form](#).

Deadline: 7 February 2025 @ 5pm.

If you have any questions, please contact the [Regional Literacy Coordinator for your area](#) or the Adult Literacy for Life Programme Office by email at cif@solas.ie

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Training Links 2025 – 2026

Training Networks are invited to apply for grants ranging from €10,000.00 to €50,000.00. There is a total fund of €575,000.00 available and applications are welcome from new, existing, previously funded networks who have completed their programme or previously unsuccessful networks.

There are a wide range of priority training areas covered under Training Links including:

- Digital Transformation
- Leadership and Management Development
- Green Transition
- Innovative Business Models
- Workplace Innovation
- Addressing Sector Challenges.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://www.wheel.ie/training/traininglinks>

The application deadline is 5pm on Friday, 7 February 2025.

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Erasmus+ Programme

Erasmus+ is the EU's funding programme for education, training, youth and sport.

Aims & Objectives

It aims to:

- Provide support for lifelong learning
- Contribute to building a European Education Area
- Promote learning mobility in education, training, youth, and sport
- Improve the quality of education and training systems
- Strengthen European identity and active citizenship

What does it support?

Projects addressing sector-specific priorities in the programme's strands:

- Adult Education
- Higher Education
- School Education
- Vocational Education and Training

Projects that address one (or more) of the programme's four key horizontal priorities:

1. Inclusion and diversity
2. Digital transformation
3. Environment and the fight against climate change
4. Participation in democratic life

Projects take the form of the following Key Actions:

- Key Action 1: Learning Mobility for Individuals
- Key Action 2: Cooperation Among Organisations and Institutions

- Key Action 3: Support to Policy Development and Cooperation

Who can apply?

In general, any public or private organisation in a Erasmus+ Programme country can apply if they are a legal entity. Sole traders cannot apply for Erasmus funding.

Higher Education

- Students
- Staff
- Higher Education Institutions

Adult Education

- Organisations providing formal, informal and non-formal adult education
- Local and regional public authorities, coordination bodies and other organisations with a role in the field of adult education
- Organisations whose aim is to educate the general public on a specific topic or issue

School Education

- All schools - pre-primary, primary and post-primary
- Teachers
- Learners – individuals or groups/classes
- School Education staff

Vocational Education and Training

- Organisations providing initial or continuing vocational education and training
- Local and regional public authorities, coordination bodies and other organisations with a role in the field of vocational education and training
- Companies and other public or private organisations hosting, training or otherwise working with learners and apprentices in vocational education and training

- Organisations creating training and/or educational materials for staff, volunteers or other professionals

Youth

- Young people
- Youth workers
- Organisations that work directly with and/or advocate for youth

Sport

- a public body in charge of sport at local, regional or national level;
- a sport organisation at local, regional, national, European or international level;
- a National Olympic Committee or National Sport confederation;
- an organisation representing the 'sport for all' movement;
- an organisation active in the field of physical activity promotion;
- an organisation representing the active leisure sector;
- an organisation active in the field of education, training or youth.

Why the EU funds education, training, youth and sport

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [Education, training, youth and sport](#)

Budget

€26.2 billion over 7 years.

Project Examples

The [SCOPE](#) project is aimed at third sector staff and volunteers in need of capacity building, skills development and recognition of non-formal learning, particularly those who are socially excluded in such a way that it is difficult for them to access training opportunities.

The [Ethics4Sport](#) project investigates and promotes ethics and perceptions of fairness in grassroots sport.

[ASPIRE](#) was an international collaborative project that sought to find out how to best support migrants and refugees, building on the wide popularity of sports and other forms of physical activity.

National Contact Point in Ireland

[Léargas](#) for Adult Education, School Education, Vocational Education and Training, and Youth strands

[Higher Education Authority](#) for Higher Education strand

Erasmus+ Sport is managed centrally in Brussels by the [European Education and Culture Executive Agency](#) and can be contacted at EACEA-SPORT@ec.europa.eu

How to Apply

Find open calls for [Erasmus+](#). Or, see specific calls details below.

ERASMUS+ - Youth Participation Activities

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Mobility of Young People

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Accredited projects for youth mobility

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Mobility of Youth Workers

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - DiscoverEU inclusion action

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Mobility of Sport Staff

Deadline: 12 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Accredited projects for mobility of learners and staff in vocational education and training

Deadline: 19 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Accredited projects for mobility of learners and staff in adult education

Deadline: 19 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in South Mediterranean Countries

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in Latin America

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in Neighbourhood East

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in Sub-Saharan Africa

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in Western Balkans

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity building in VET in Caribbean

Deadline: 27 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Cooperation Partnerships in Adult Education

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Cooperation Partnerships in Vocational Education and Training

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Small-scale partnerships in Adult Education

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Small-scale partnerships in Vocational Education and Training

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Small-scale partnerships in Youth

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Cooperation Partnerships in Youth

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Small-scale partnerships in Sport

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Not-for-profit European Sport Event

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity Building in the Field of Sport

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Cooperation Partnerships in Sport

Deadline: 5 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Alliances for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills (implementing the 'Blueprint')

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Alliances for Education and Enterprises

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - European Youth Together

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity Building in the Field of Youth in Sub-Saharan Africa

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity Building in the field of Youth in Western Balkans

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity Building in the field of Youth in Neighborhood East

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

ERASMUS+ - Capacity Building in the field of Youth in South Mediterranean Countries

Deadline: 6 March, 2025

[View Detail](#)

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Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary repair, maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland.

The scheme supports outdoor recreation activities such as walking, trekking, cycling, kayaking and hiking. It helps to make use of the resources of the countryside that contribute to healthy active lifestyles. It supports the economic and tourism potential of the area for both local communities and tourist visitors alike.

The 2024/2025 scheme is now open.

Measure 1

- Small scale repair/development/promotion and marketing.
- Funding of up to €40,000 at a 90% rate of aid.
- Maximum of 6 applications can be submitted by each local authority.
- Maximum of 3 applications can be submitted by each local development company.

Measure 2

- Medium scale repair/upgrade and new trail/amenity development.
- Funding of up to €200,000 at a 90% rate of aid.
- Maximum of 3 applications can be submitted by each local authority.
- Maximum of 1 application may be submitted per local development company and state body.

Measure 3

- Large scale repair/upgrade and new strategic trail/amenity development
- Funding of up to €500,000 at a 90% rate of aid
- Local authorities and state bodies can submit 1 application each under this Measure.

Project Development Measure

- Detailed development of projects which would enable them to reach a standard for application under Measure 2 or Measure 3 of ORIS.
- Funding of up to €50,000 at a 90% rate of aid.
- Local authorities can each submit two applications under this Measure.
- Local development companies and state bodies can each submit one application under this Measure.
- Local authorities with inhabited off-shore islands may submit one additional application under this Measure (max. 3 applications) which relates directly to a project on one of the inhabited off-shore islands.

Funding allocations

Information on funding allocated to The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) can be found here: [Funding allocated to schemes and programmes](#)

How to Apply

Deadlines:

Measure 1: 14 Feb 2025.

Measure 2: 28 Mar 2025.

Measure 3: 28 Mar 2025.

Project Dev: 14 Feb 2025.

[The full scheme outline is available here.](#)

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HSE - National Lottery Grants

The HSE offers National Lottery grants to health and social care projects. Community groups and voluntary organisations can apply.

You must provide health or social care services to the community. For example, you might help people with a disability, older people, carers or disadvantaged groups.

Projects we can fund

We fund one-off projects and services that improve the health of communities.

For example, you can apply for funding to:

- buy equipment and small fixtures and fittings like hoists, tables, and chairs
- run camps, classes, courses, personal development training, information or activity events

You must be able to start and finish your project in the same year you apply for the grant.

Respite care

Your group or organisation may apply for funding for short-term or once-off respite care. For example, if your organisation supports carers you might apply for funding for respite care or a break for carers or the people they are caring for.

You must use your respite care funding by 30 June the following year.

How much you can apply for

You can apply for between €300 and €10,000 in funding for each project.

You can apply for funding for more than 1 project. But there is a limit on how much funding you can get from your local HSE Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO).

The maximum that a CHO can give to an organisation or group is €10,000.

How to Apply

[Full details and guidelines are available here.](#)

Deadline: 14 Feb 2025

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Waterways Ireland - Heritage in the Community Grants

In support of the Waterways Ireland Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2030, we are delighted to announce that the Community Grant Scheme 2025 is now open for applications.

A fund of €20,000 has been allocated to assist community- based projects which complement or fulfil the delivery of the Waterways Ireland Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2030 along the Barrow Navigation, Erne System, Grand Canal, Lower Bann, Royal Canal, Shannon Navigation, Shannon-Erne Waterway, and the Ulster Canal (Upper Lough Erne to Clones).

Applications will be considered from communities seeking assistance for projects that help support the Objectives of the Heritage & Biodiversity Plan 2030:

Objective 1 (developing high quality and accessible waterways heritage knowledge), the grant scheme could prioritise funding for community-led research and survey projects that document local heritage features, collect oral histories, or conduct biodiversity monitoring along the waterways. Funded projects would need to commit to making their findings publicly available through Waterways Ireland's digital platforms and archives, helping build an open knowledge base about waterway heritage. This could include supporting citizen science initiatives where communities help gather data about wildlife, water quality, or heritage features.

Objective 2 (ensuring integrated management aligned with UN SDGs), grants could support projects that demonstrate clear linkages between heritage protection and sustainable development goals. For example, funding could go to initiatives that ensure heritage building restoration, or projects that enhance both biodiversity and community wellbeing through heritage-focused environmental improvements. Applicants would be encouraged to show how their projects contribute to specific SDGs.

Objective 3 (strengthening inspiring heritage experiences), the grant scheme could fund creative and engaging community projects that bring waterway heritage to life for diverse audiences. This might include supporting heritage festivals, educational programmes, arts projects, or digital interpretation projects that help people connect with waterway heritage in meaningful ways.

How to Apply

[Full details available here.](#)

Deadline: 14 Feb 2025.

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Interreg IVB - Atlantic Area

Interreg Atlantic Area is a European funding programme that promotes transnational cooperation among 36 Atlantic regions in five European countries.

Aims & Objectives

The programme's overall objective is to implement solutions to respond to regional challenges in the areas of innovation, resource efficiency, environment and cultural assets, supporting regional development and sustainable growth.

The programme priorities are:

- Priority 1: Stimulating innovation and competitiveness
- Priority 2: Fostering resource efficiency
- Priority 3: Strengthening the territory's resilience to risks of natural, climate and human origin
- Priority 4: Enhancing biodiversity and the natural and cultural assets
- Priority 5: Technical Assistance

The Atlantic Area for 2021-2027 covers the western part of the Atlantic Ocean and includes all regions of Ireland and Portugal, as well as several French and Spanish regions close to or on the Atlantic Ocean coast.

The total list of 27 regions is as follows:

Spain: País Vasco, Navarra, La Rioja, Cantabria, Principado de Asturias, Galicia, Andalucía, Islas Canarias

France: Normandie (Haute Normandie and Basse Normandie), Pays-de-la-Loire, Bretagne, Nouvelle-Aquitaine (Aquitaine, Limousin, Poitou-Charentes)

Ireland: Northern and Western, Southern, Eastern and Midland

Portugal: Norte, Algarve, Centro, Lisboa, Alentejo, Região Autónoma das Açores, Região Autónoma de Madeira

What does it support?

Interreg Atlantic Area co-finances cooperation projects in the fields of:

- Innovation & Competitiveness
- Resource Efficiency
- Territorial Risks Management
- Biodiversity and
- Natural & Cultural Assets.

Who can apply?

The following organisations can benefit from funding:

- Business support organisations
- Social enterprises
- Third sector organisations
- Public authorities
- Education and training organisations
- Environmental protection agencies
- Local communities
- Civil society clusters
- Universities
- Higher education bodies
- Research/innovation institutions

Budget

€113 million ERDF (up to 75% support per project) for the 2021-2027 programming period.

Project Examples

[Funded projects with an Irish partner.](#)

National Contact Point in Ireland

[Northern & Western Regional Assembly](#) is the national contact point for Interreg NPA in Ireland. Please contact Travis O Doherty at todoherly@nwra.ie.

How to Apply

Deadline: 14 Feb 2025

Full details available here: <https://www.accesseurope.ie/open-funds/interreg-atlantic-area---third-call-for-projects>

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Cork Street Fund

The Cork Street Fund was established in 1960 with the mission to assist “the sick and poor of Dublin”. It was granted an endowment from the closing of the Cork Street Fever Hospital and the opening of the new Dublin Fever Hospital. The Fund uses income from this endowment and other donations received to fund its activities. The Fund supports a wide range of groups working with people in need. The Fund is managed by Members who operate on a voluntary basis and administrative costs are minimal.

The Cork Street Fund considers applications for grants from bodies or groups that provide care or support to those in need within the Dublin area.

The Cork Street Fund considers applications for grants from bodies or groups that provide care or support to those in need within the Dublin area. The funding is intended for once off costs/activities and annual donations and core funding are not considered. The Fund does not make grants to individuals for their own need.

Generally, the Fund grants an average of 15 grants per year ranging from €500 – €2,000 with the maximum grant being €2,000 in any year. The Cork Street Fund may favour applications from smaller organisations who have limited access to funds. Applicant groups must be registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority.

How to Apply

Applicant groups must be registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority and must be up to date with CRA filing. Applications must be made on the current Cork Street Fund application form. The Form is revised every year.

Applications should only be submitted from two weeks before the closing date.

Deadline: 15 Feb 2025.

Learn more and download the application form here:

http://www.corkstreetfund.ie/grant_application/

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Rethink Ireland - The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund – Strand 2: Youth Entrepreneurship Incubators 2025

The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund 2023-2026 is a three-year fund, supported by a private donor, which aims to have impact across three strands:

Strand 1: [The Social Innovation Growth and Scaling Fund](#) (launched November 2023)

Strand 2: [Youth Entrepreneurship Incubators](#) (launched December 2024)

Strand 3: The Minority Entrepreneurship Fund (launched January 2025)

This open call covering Strand 2, worth a total of €600,000, is open for applications via [the online portal](#) from the 20th of December 2024 to 17th February 2025 at 1pm.

Strand 2 will support up to two organisations over two years to run new or existing youth entrepreneurship incubators, supporting young people aged 16-25 to bring their social or environmental business ideas or social enterprise from concept to reality. Cash grants of up to €150,000* annually per organisation over the two year period will be awarded. 25% of the total value of each award should be made in the form of a seed fund cash grant between €5,000 and €10,000 to participating young entrepreneurs.

* The Rethink Ireland Board will decide how much money to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The final amount of the award will depend on how many organisations are selected.

This fund is open to organisations that have a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a company limited by guarantee, a co-operative, trust, charity, and other voluntary organisations that meet the following criteria:

Eligibility & Criteria

Projects must meet both Rethink Ireland's criteria and the specific criteria for The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund – Strand 2: Youth Entrepreneurship Incubators 2025, as set out below:

Rethink Ireland Criteria

Applicants must come from an entity that has a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a company limited by guarantee, a co-operative, trust, charity.

Rethink Ireland defines a not-for-profit as any organisation whose constitution indicates it has public benefit purposes and is neither privately owned nor controlled by the State. Please note that Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are eligible to apply.

- The project proposed must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based on the island of Ireland and must make its main impact in the Republic of Ireland
- The project must have potential and a desire to scale or replicate in Ireland (it may also have potential internationally, but this is not a requirement)
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way.

The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund – Strand 2: Youth Entrepreneurship Incubators 2025 Fund Specific Criteria

Previous experience running youth entrepreneurship incubators or evidence of the ability to do so based on a track record in a similar area

Proven track record of distributing cash grants and have/will have the appropriate infrastructure in place to support this process.

WHAT DOES THE FUND OFFER?

Cash grants of up to €150,000* per year for two years will be awarded. 25% of the total value of cash grants awarded should go towards seed fund awards of €5,000 to €10,000 for incubator participants to support the launch of their enterprises

Capacity Building Supports delivered in the form of bespoke business and one-to-one consultancy supports delivered by experts consultants and designed in consultation with the successful projects/organisations on topics such as scaling, financial sustainability, investment readiness, organisational resilience, and impact measurement.

How to Apply

Deadline: 17 Feb 2025.

Full guidelines available here: https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/the-entrepreneurship-impact-fund-strand-2-youth-entrepreneurship-incubators-2025/

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Emigrant Support Programme

Working through hundreds of organisations across the world, the Emigrant Support Programme focuses primarily on two areas:

1. support for the vulnerable and underrepresented
2. nurturing Ireland's cultural heritage abroad among the diaspora.

The Irish Abroad Unit in the Department of Foreign Affairs manages and coordinates the Emigrant Support Programme.

This work is conducted in partnership with Ireland's Embassies and Consulates and the huge number of Irish organisations abroad.

Since 2004, the Emigrant Support Programme (ESP) has assisted more than 900 organisations in 51 countries. Grants issued total over €250 million.

Individual grants have ranged from small amounts for grass-roots groups to major allocations awarded to voluntary and community organisations operating on a large scale.

Grant round 2025/2026

Small Grants Scheme

We have introduced a separate application form for organisations seeking total funding of €30,000 or less (or local equivalent as per table below). This [Small Grants Scheme](#) involves a new shorter application form with less reporting throughout the year.

The criteria for both ESP streams remains the same.

Criteria for grant aid

Applicant organisations should be established as registered charities, charitable bodies or voluntary/not for profit organisations.

Evaluation is based on the following criteria:

- the need for the project
- beneficiaries in the Irish community (including second and later generations), their needs and vulnerabilities
- the impact of the project, based on clear expected outputs and outcomes

- partnerships with other statutory, voluntary and ESP-funded organisations to maximise service delivery to vulnerable Irish people
- how the outcomes will contribute to the achievement of ESP's objectives
- the capacity of the organisation to deliver the project
- the total project cost and value for money offered
- what funding has been secured from other sources for the project
- the monitoring and evaluation systems in place to measure the outcomes for target beneficiaries
- commitment to good governance and best practice throughout the organisation.

Categories of funding

All funding decisions are based on the information submitted in the official application form. Application must be submitted online through our grant portal. No hard copy application forms will be accepted.

The categories under which ESP can be applied for are as follows;

- Heritage - projects involving the promotion and maintenance of Irish heritage and identity overseas, such as Irish sports, Irish music, Irish dance and other arts.
- Community care - projects involving the provision of front-line welfare services including advisory, counselling, information and outreach services to Irish communities.
- Business networks - projects to support Irish business networks or other Irish professional networks overseas.
- Capital - projects involving the construction, refurbishment or purchase of capital assets. This includes projects related to website development and large digital/software projects.

How to Apply

Deadline: 19 Feb 2025.

Full details are available here: <https://www.ireland.ie>

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Music Network - Music Capital Scheme Piano Award

Applications are now open for the Music Capital Scheme 2024 Piano Award to support the purchase/refurbishment of concert standard grand pianos by arts venues and music presenters.

We are seeking applications from organisations that provide a year-round high quality music programme, support the work of professional musicians and have a strong track record in audience and community engagement.

A total fund of €180,000 is available through the award.

Pianos may be new or second-hand, and applicants may apply for:

up to 75% of the cost of purchasing a concert standard grand piano. (Refurbishment costs required to bring a second hand instrument up to concert standard can be included in addition to the instrument purchase price).

Or

up to 70% of the cost of refurbishing a grand piano to bring it up to concert standard (unless the refurbishment cost is €15, 000 or less, in which case the percentage will reduce to 50%).

Who can apply:

- Arts venues
- Music presenters programming in a dedicated performance space.

Note: Applications may be submitted in partnership with a Local Authority where the venue or presenter is the lead partner. Individuals are not eligible to apply for this award.

How to Apply

Deadline: 19 Feb 2025 @ 2pm

Full details available here: <https://www.musicnetwork.ie/whats-on/the-music-network-piano-award>

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European Solidarity Corps Programme

The European Solidarity Corps is the EU's funding programme for volunteering and promoting solidarity.

Aims & Objectives

The European Solidarity Corps aims to:

- Empower young people to participate positively in their world: The programme aims to provide young people, including young people with fewer opportunities, with easily accessible opportunities to take part in solidarity activities that bring about positive societal changes in the European Union and beyond.
- Build an inclusive and democratic Europe: The programme aims to support young people and organisations across Europe and to strengthen cohesion, solidarity, democracy, European identity and active citizenship in the European Union and beyond.
- Promote sustainable development through projects at grassroots level: European Solidarity Corps projects are about addressing societal challenges on the ground, with a particular focus on the promotion of sustainable development, social inclusion and equal opportunities.

The European Solidarity Corp's priorities are:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Environmental Protection and Climate Action
- Digital Transformation
- Participation in Democratic Life
- Health Promotion and Support
- Connecting EU and Youth

What does it support?

The European Solidarity Corps supports young people aged 18 to 30 to address needs in their community or abroad by taking part in activities across Europe.

Young people can volunteer or develop solidarity projects that benefit their communities at local, regional or European levels.

Projects are funded under 'Volunteering Projects' and 'Solidarity Projects'.

Volunteering Projects are projects where young people are sent by an accredited organisation to volunteer in another European country to exchange ideas, learn, connect and grow.

Volunteering may take place in Ireland or abroad. Funding is available for 'Individual Volunteering Projects', 'Volunteering Teams Projects' or 'Preparatory Visits'.

Solidarity Projects are organised by groups of young people who want to make a positive difference at national or international level.

Who can apply?

Any public or private body may apply for funding.

In order to take part in the European Solidarity Corps, organisations need to obtain a quality label, which certifies that they carry out high quality solidarity activities in compliance with the principles, objectives and requirements of the programme. Visit the European Solidarity Corps site for more [information about the Quality Label](#).

Why the EU funds European solidarity and volunteering

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [Education, training, youth and sport](#).

Budget

€1,1 billion over 7 years.

Project Examples

[My Experience as a European Solidarity Corps Volunteer: Laurita Maher-Bordalo](#)

[Amina Moustafa: The Evolution of the Erasmus+ Experience](#)

[Detached Youth Support - Supporting Young People in Time of Covid-19](#)

[More impact stories of the European Solidarity Corps](#)

National Contact Point in Ireland

[Léargas](#) is the National Agency for the European Solidarity Corps in Ireland and they hold a range of online application workshops and information sessions. Keep an eye on their [Event Calendar](#) or sign up to their [newsletters](#) for details.

Contact Suzanne Kavanagh at kavanagh@leargas.ie or Noeleen O'Callaghan at nocallaghan@leargas.ie for more information.

Website: www.leargas.ie

How to Apply

See open calls below:

European Solidarity Corps - Solidarity Projects

Deadline: 20 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

European Solidarity Corps - Volunteering Projects

Deadline: 20 February, 2025

[View Detail](#)

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The Arts Council - Commissions Award

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society. The purpose of the Commissions Award is to enable the commissioning of new work from freelance artists.

In general, the finished work may be in a form capable of being presented, exhibited, published, performed and/or disseminated in its entirety at the point of completion, or it may be capable of being presented as a work-in-progress, either live or online.

STRAND 1 – Artform commissions

Commissions can be applied for in the areas of:

- Opera
- Music

This means that any applicant, whether an organisation or an individual, can apply to commission an artist working within one of these artform areas.[\[1\]](#)

STRAND 2 – Cross arts-area commissions

In order to assist with the animation of arts organisations working across different artforms and with the commissioning of work by artists working in particular contexts, the award is open to organisations in the following categories:

Festivals

In these cases, organisations can apply to commission an artist working in any artform, with the exception of festivals applying for a commission in Dance, Music, Opera, Traditional Arts or Literature, which should apply directly to those artforms in Strand 1. The application will be assessed primarily in relation to the context in which the commission is proposed.

How to Apply

Deadline: 20 Feb 2025.

[Full guidelines available here.](#)

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The Arts Council - Young Ensembles Scheme

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

The primary purpose of the Young Ensembles Scheme is to support groups of young people between the ages of ten and twenty-four to create or critically engage with ambitious and original work together in any artform (e.g. circus, street art, spectacle, dance, digital media, film, music, theatre, literature, visual arts, architecture, or any combination of the above). Groups/ensembles must be made up of three or more members.

The Young Ensembles Scheme has two strands. The maximum award under Strand 1 is €10,000 and the maximum under Strand 2 is from €10,000 to no more than €25,000. You may only apply to one strand, and you should choose the strand that is most suitable for your ensemble and for your proposal.

Strand 1

This strand is for ensembles that wish to undertake a process or project that will develop the practice and experience of the young people involved. You may apply for up to €10,000. Applicants may be new or established ensembles and must demonstrate their capacity to develop and deliver a high-quality artistic process.

Strand 2

This strand is for ensembles that wish to undertake a larger-scale process or project that develops the work of the ensemble and which will cost more than €10,000 and no more than €25,000. Applicants must be established ensembles with a track record of delivering high-quality artistic processes or projects. Applicants must make clear why a larger budget than is available under Strand 1 is required.

For both strands, priority will be given to applications that demonstrate the following:

Young people have played a role in developing the proposal, and will play a central role in shaping, delivering, documenting and evaluating the project.

The proposal will ensure a high-quality artistic process that is ambitious and original, provides a challenging and rewarding experience for the participants, and enables them to develop their artistic skills.

The proposal will ensure young people have ownership of the work they undertake. This may mean they actively engage in the process of devising, creating, composing or designing an original piece of work or artistic initiative, or that they engage in a process of exploring, interpreting or reimagining a given script/composition/artistic work or series of works in a way that enables them to make it their own.

The proposal is youth-led, or will actively support and develop youth leadership in the arts.

The ensemble will benefit from the expertise, support or mentorship of professional artists or arts organisations.

The proposal includes a presentation or sharing of work. This may be small in scale (e.g. – for participants and families) or for a wider audience.

The proposal includes evidence of the ensemble’s artistic activities or work produced to date, and how funding will enable the participants to develop their experience further. (In the case of a new ensemble, evidence of other relevant projects in which the young people or artistic mentors have been involved should be demonstrated.)

The Arts Council welcomes in particular:

- Initiatives that enable young people from diverse backgrounds to collaborate in a high-quality artistic process.
- Initiatives that enable young people with disabilities to engage in a high-quality artistic process.

How to Apply

Deadline: 27 Feb 2025

[Please visit the Arts Council website for full application details.](#)

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Mohamed bin Zayed - Species Conservation Fund

The Fund will consider grants for the conservation of any threatened or poorly known animal, plant or fungus species.

Its focus is global and eligibility for grants will extend to all plant, animal and fungi species conservation efforts, without discrimination on the basis of region or selected species.

The Fund intends to be as flexible and accommodating as possible when reviewing applications, and to take into account as many different factors as is reasonable when assessing the merit of a suggested project. To support this and to try to streamline the application process, the review process is kept comparatively simple.

Grants will be awarded based on their ability to meet criteria pre-determined by the Species Fund, and are for maximum of \$25,000 for each project.

Criteria

Conservation status: The Fund was established to support species conservation work, and so if your project is not about an endangered species it is probably not worth your while submitting an application.

The Fund will use the IUCN Redlist (www.iucnredlist.org) as the primary guide to the conservation status of a given species, although documented variations for sub-species, distinct populations and sub-populations will be taken into account. For those species not assessed through the IUCN Redlist we welcome other methods of assessment and the submission of quantitative data to confirm a species status. Generally the Fund gives priority to those species facing a high threat of extinction (with an emphasis on Endangered and Critically Endangered species), as well as those which are listed as Data Deficient or unlisted but are suspected as highly threatened. Please ensure that the conservation status mentioned in the application is correct and cross-referenced to a website or publication. It might be of use to consult with the relevant IUCN/SSC Specialist Group if you are in doubt or would like some guidance.

Please note that applications with clearly incorrect conservation status and no justification will NOT be considered for funding.

Content: Text provided in an application should be kept concise and clear, with clearly stated quantitative goals, aims and methods. When writing an application, please bear in mind that there is only so much text which the Advisory Board and the Fund's board of directors are

capable of reading. Priority will be given to those projects that support the professional development of young conservationists.

In situ conservation: Generally the Fund is primarily interested in providing support to in situ conservation work in the field (such as survey work and data gathering, direct action, recovery management, training and the like), focusing on the species in its natural habitat. However, the importance of ex situ work (genetic analysis, workshops, ex situ populations etc) is also recognised, and so a few grants may be given to projects which focus on ex situ conservation work in certain circumstances.

Core costs: The Fund will not contribute to the core running costs of an organisation or administrative overheads, and yet does recognise that sometimes support salaries, stipends, per diems and project related living costs can be a vital part of in situ conservation work.

Species: Generally, the Fund would prefer to support projects which focus on a single species, but it also recognises that in some geographic and taxonomic circumstances it makes more sense to group a number of species.

Grants for continuation: The Fund is happy to provide continuation support for a project which had previously been supported, which is now completed and for which the Fund has received all required reporting by the time of the respective submission deadline.

External review: In some cases, the Advisory Board and/or the Fund's board of directors may ask for an application to be passed on for additional review, which may add to the response time.

Online: Only applications submitted through the Fund's online, web-based system will be considered. Supporting documents can be sent as email attachments, but the application itself must be online.

How to Apply

Deadline: 28 Feb 2025

[Visit the Fund website](#) to learn more before submitting an online application.

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Local Enhancement Programme 2025

The Department of Rural and Community Development's (DRCD) Local Enhancement Programme 2025 is open for applications in Dublin City from Monday 10th February at 12pm.

The aim of the scheme is to support non-profit, community-based and/or voluntary organisations/groups with either capital or operating/running costs.

Administered through the Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Dublin City Council, the total allocation of €675,260 is divided as follows:

- €575,590 to support capital costs up to a maximum of €25,000 per application incurred in 2024/2025.
- €99,670 to support operating/ running costs associated with rental, utilities and insurance incurred during period of 1st June 2024 to 30th January 2025 only up to a maximum of €5,000.

Please note, as part of the application criteria, organisations must demonstrate how their work contributes to Goal 4 of the Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029: *'Foster and nourish the City's communities to become more sustainable, thriving, safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive'*

In order to promote this fund we have shared this information across our networks including:

- Dublin City Councillors
- Dublin City PPN
- Local Development Companies
- Dublin City Council Area Offices and Communications unit.

How to Apply

Applications are accepted via Dublin City Council's Citizen Hub using the following link: <https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/LEP>

Deadline: 28 Feb 2025 @ 1pm.

Detailed guidelines, terms & conditions and eligibility checklists are also provided online but if assistance is required applicants may contact our team directly on:

- lcdc@dublincity.ie
- 0877589980 (Sarah Fagan) / 0861644897 (Molly Maher)

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Christian Brothers Edmund Rice Trust Fund

To mark the beatification of their founder in 1996, the Christian Brothers in Ireland established a Trust Fund to respond, in the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice, to the challenges facing Christianity in the modern world. The fund is managed by a Board of Trustees in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust. The Trust is a registered charity.

The annual income from the fund is available to promote the objectives of the Trust. These objectives include helping individuals and groups in the pursuit of projects which are in accordance with the objectives of the Trust and which are deemed worthy by the Trustees.

Among the projects it may assist are:

- The alleviation of poverty
- The training of teachers, parents, youth leaders or others engaged in the provision of education, leadership or development
- Research into educational disadvantage, school effectiveness, youth leadership and religious development of young people
- Educational facilities

APPLICATIONS

Applications are invited each year between January 1st and February 28th. Applications received after the closing date of February 28th are not considered.

Applications must be presented on the official application form available from the Secretary at the address below.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The Trustees meet in May each year to review applications received by the Trust. The applicants are advised of the Trustees decision in June. Successful applicants will receive funding in September and the funds received are to be applied from that September to June of the following year. Exceptions may be approved when circumstances are deemed deserving.

REPORTS

An Annual Report form, available from the Trust, should be completed and submitted to the Trustees for their information in June each year for funding received in the previous year

As part of this report, a detailed breakdown of how the funding was used should include the different items of expenditure, together with invoices and receipts, the total expenditure, and the balance in hand.

RULES GOVERNING FUNDING

Projects must be deemed by the Trustees to conform fully to the objectives of the Trust.

The Trust has strict a policy whereby it will only provide funding to groups/organisations with a child and vulnerable adult safeguarding policy. The Trust will not consider applications from any group/organisation which does not have such a policy in place.

The decision of the Trustees, regarding funding for any project, shall be final.

Funding from the Trust will be made available in the form of a donation which does not have to be repaid. However, if for any reason, after receipt of funding from the Trust, the implementation of the project becomes impossible, the Trustees shall be made aware of this immediately and they may require the return of whatever portion of the donation to the project that remains unexpended.

Any change in the details of the project, as submitted to the Trustees, must be made known to them immediately.

The Trustees must be informed immediately if funds, other than those already specified in the original application, later become available to finance the complete project or any section of it. This may have implications for ongoing funding.

The exact amount of funding received from the Trust must be acknowledged immediately to the Trustees. Where foreign exchange is involved, the acknowledgement must state (1) the exact amount received, in the currency in which it is received and (2) the equivalent in the local currency.

A payment schedule will be decided by the Trustees.

The Trustees require annual reports in June each year for funding received in the previous year. Failure to submit year end reports will impact the consideration of future funding applications.

The financial section of the year-end report should detail the financial aspects of the project, including all income and expenditure. All project-related records and documents, including receipts for expenditure, invoices, vouchers and bank statements, must be retained for a minimum period of seven years, in accordance with standard accounting practice

The Trustees have the right, at their discretion, to nominate a representative to visit the project in order to check progress and/or substantiate financial reports and records.

If applicants do not object, the Trustees may use information relating to the project in any statements by them concerning the operation of the Trust.

How to Apply

Deadline: 28 Feb 2025.

Download the latest application form [here](#).

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Rethink Ireland - Entrepreneurship Impact Fund – Strand 3: Minority Entrepreneurship Fund

The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund 2023-2026 is a three-year fund, supported by a private donor, which aims to have impact across three strands:

Strand 1: [The Social Innovation Growth and Scaling Fund](#) (launched November 2023)

Strand 2: [Youth Entrepreneurship Incubators](#) (launched December 2024)

Strand 3: The Minority Entrepreneurship Fund (launched January 2025)

This open call covers Strand 3, worth a total of €900,000, and is open for applications via the online portal from the 15th of January 2025 to the 28th of February 2025.

Ireland faces continuing critical social issues across health, education, equality, and the green transition sectors. One of the key problems confronting social innovations is the difficulty of scaling their operations and social impact. Insufficient funding in terms of both scale and duration to align with their aspirations, as well as a shortage of suitable capacity-building supports are key barriers.

The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund's Strand 3 is a unique opportunity for 5 minority-led social enterprises, taking an entrepreneurial approach to social change, to get support to deliver sustained individual and collective solutions across communities over a three year period and beyond.

The fund will focus on growing and scaling mid-stage minority-led social innovations and social enterprises that have proof of impact, but require additional support to reach the next stage of growth. It will provide multi-year funding and targeted support in the areas of scaling, investment and procurement readiness, organisational resilience, leadership, impact measurement, and financial sustainability.

For the purpose of this fund, the focus will be on supporting social enterprises led by ethnic minorities, migrants and refugees.

All five Awardees will receive a cash grant of up to €60,000 per annum over the 3 year period and a tailored non-financial supports package*. This will include supports such as strategic planning, communications planning, impact management and fundraising strategy development.

Capacity building supports include:

- a place on Rethink Ireland's Capacity Building Programme
- bespoke business and one-to-one consultancy supports delivered by experts consultants and designed in consultation with the successful projects on topics such as scaling, financial sustainability, investment readiness, organisational resilience, and impact measurement
- access to Rethink Ireland's networks

* The Rethink Ireland Board will decide how much money to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The final amount of the award will depend on how many organisations are selected.

This fund is open to organisations that have a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. charity, social enterprise and other voluntary organisations that meet the following criteria:

Eligibility & Criteria

Projects must meet both Rethink Ireland's criteria and the specific criteria for the Entrepreneurship Impact Fund, as set out below:

Rethink Ireland Criteria

- The project must address a critical social or environmental issue
- The project must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based in the Republic of Ireland
- The project must have the potential and desire to scale or replicate in Ireland
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way

Applicants must come from an entity that has a 'not for profit' legal form for example, a charity or voluntary organisation

Entrepreneurship Impact Fund – Strand 3 Core Criteria

The criteria that applicants for the Fund will need to demonstrate are:

- That the social enterprise is minority-led with a focus on supporting social enterprises led by ethnic minorities, migrants and refugees.

- How the social enterprise impacts on a critical social issue.
- A proven business model
- The social enterprise has potential and desire to grow and scale and has the ambition to further explore their business model with a view to scale to new geographies/locations
- The social enterprise has generated traded income

Advantageous criteria

The criteria below will be considered advantageous in applications, however, organisations that meet the core criteria but do not meet the advantageous criteria are encouraged to apply:

- Social enterprises that have a positive effect on Ireland's Green Transition through their activities/interventions
- The organisation has a strategic plan, supported by financial projections that outline plans to scale

What Does the Fund Offer?

The Entrepreneurship Impact Fund Strand 3 – Minority Entrepreneurship Fund – will support up to five awardees for three years with an annual cash grant of up to €60,000.

The fund will also provide:

- A place on Rethink Ireland's Capacity Building Programme:
- Rethink Ireland's Accelerator is a unique offer, equipping awardees with the skills needed to expand and deepen their impact. It provides training from best-in-class experts across the private, nonprofit and public sector. Training is provided across a range of functions and may include:
- Impact measurement and management
- Communications, strategy and social media storytelling
- End-game and scaling strategic planning
- Financial sustainability

In addition, the awardees will receive a budget for business supports in the range of €10,000 to €15,000 each. Business supports will be tailored to the specific needs of each project and

carried out by approved consultants, focusing on creating social impact in line with their theory of change and strategic plan.

How to Apply

Deadline for Strand 3: 28 Feb 2025

https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/entrepreneurship-impact-fund-strand-3/

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Go for Life - National Grant Scheme for Older People

Since 2001 Sport Ireland has provided funding to Age & Opportunity for our Active programme to help increase the participation of older people in recreational sport and physical activity. This Active National Grant Scheme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People is one element of the extensive Active programme which has resulted from this funding.

OVERALL AIM

The Active National Grant Scheme aims to assist in the implementation of locally developed, wellplanned initiatives designed to increase participation in recreational sport and physical activity by older people. In particular, the scheme is aimed at:

- Supporting the work of Age & Opportunity's Active Programme including the network of PALs (Physical Activity Leaders) and CarePALs, and the development of Go for Life Games and other initiatives,
- Assisting local clubs/organisations/care settings to enhance existing opportunities for their members in recreational sport and physical activity,
- Assisting local clubs/organisations/care settings to start new initiatives geared at involving older people in recreational sport and physical activity,
- Encouraging sports clubs to provide new initiatives within their clubs aimed at getting older people involved in their sport,
- Assisting those working in care settings (both nursing homes and day care settings) to introduce more initiatives to increase physical activity levels of those in their care.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Grants are available to all eligible local clubs, groups, care settings and organisations that promote increased participation in recreational sport or physical activity for older people as a main element of their activities.

Umbrella bodies, or their agents, are not eligible for funding under this grant scheme.

An exception to this is Local Sports Partnerships who are eligible to apply.

Sports Clubs please note: Funding for sports clubs will only be considered if the application specifically relates to older people (aged 50+ years), and they will be the overall beneficiaries of the grant.

We will be prioritising sports like Pickleball, Go for Life Games and adapted sports like Walking Football and Walking Hockey etc.

Funding for sports equipment will be prioritised for equipment specifically designed or adapted for older people.

KEY CRITERIA

Applications are encouraged from clubs/organisations/care settings that:

- Have the potential to increase levels and frequency of participation in recreational sport and physical activity among older people in their setting or local area,
- Can act as showcases or successful demonstration projects that can be replicated by other clubs/organisations/care settings in the future,
- Have the potential to develop into a sustainable, longer-term programme,
- Are developing initiatives in designated disadvantaged areas,
- Are developing initiatives for minority older populations or older groups with special needs,
- Have one or more active Physical Activity Leaders (PALs),
- Have a CarePAL in their setting,
- Are focused on an outdoor sport or physical activity initiative.

How to Apply

Deadline: 28 Feb 2025

<https://ageandopportunity.ie/active/age-and-opportunity-active-national-grant-scheme/>

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World Habitat Awards

Every year between January and March the World Habitat Awards receive applications from all corners of the world. Soon after the call closes we start a rigorous evaluation process involving an independent advisory group of housing experts.

Between eight and 12 projects that demonstrate exceptional work in providing or promoting access to adequate housing are shortlisted as finalists each year. Up to four projects are then visited by a small evaluation team before recommendations are presented to a panel of external judges, including the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

In the final stage two projects become Gold winners and the remaining either Silver or Bronze winners. Winning a World Habitat Award provides international visibility and acts as a mark of recognition that a housing solution is innovative, exceptional and exciting. The two Gold Award winning projects receive a prize fund of £10,000 each and a trophy.

Who can enter the World Habitat Awards?

Anyone representing or collaborating on an innovative project in the field of housing is welcome to enter: individuals, NGOs, public institutions, private initiatives, academia, United Nations programmes, etc.

We want to hear about projects from around the world that:

- focus on affordable and adequate housing;
- have taken action to address the climate emergency;
- are in progress or have been completed in the last ten years;
- are taking steps to promote diversity, equality and inclusion; and
- have been designed and/ or delivered in close collaboration with the residents/ local community.

How to Apply

Deadline: 3 Mar 2025

<https://world-habitat.org/world-habitat-awards/>

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Rise Community Fund

The RISE Community Fund supported by National Broadband Ireland and Granahan McCourt is aimed at addressing the rural urban digital divide. The fund will award 2 monthly grants of €1,000 in each county for the month of February 2025 to empower local businesses, community groups, farms and social enterprises to enhance their digital strategy. The Fund offers an immediate financial injection into your local community, boosting the digital ecosystem.

Eligibility

All applicants must be over 18 years of age and operate within the monthly Community Fund Location area.

WHAT INITIATIVES DOES THE COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORT?

Each applicant's submission must support the positive impact of technology on their project highlighting an identified digital need. Non-technology related applications will not be considered.

CAN YOU MAKE MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION?

Each organisation can submit only one application and prior grant recipients are ineligible.

WHO WILL DECIDE WHICH APPLICANTS ARE SUCCESSFUL?

The RISE Team and Board will review, shortlist and decide the successful applicants.

HOW AND WHEN DO APPLICANTS FIND OUT WHERE THEY ARE IN THE SELECTION PROCESS?

We will contact all applicants by phone or email after final decisions have been made between 4-6 weeks after the application has been submitted.

HOW WILL I RECEIVE THE €1,000 GRANT FUNDS?

Each successful applicant will receive their €1,000 grant via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). We will require a recent bank statement matching the organisation's name to facilitate quick payment.

Terms & Conditions

- You are 18 years of age or older.

- You have given full and truthful information, both verbal and written, at all stages of the application and selection process.
- Each applicant's submission must support the positive impact of technology on their project highlighting an identified digital need. Non-technology related applications will not be considered.
- RISE/NBI will hold the personal details which you submitted with your application form and will not share with third parties.
- Awardees will be requested to take part in publicity about the grants and allow NBI and RISE to publish the names and images of successful applicants.
- Awardees will be contacted by RISE to share updates on their project's progress and outcomes.
- Awardees will be expected to share the successful outcomes of their projects in supporting other organisations where relevant and sharing best practice.
- Due diligence is critical to RISE, organisations must be able to satisfy by supplying additional information upon request
- Annual turnover must not exceed €500,000

By sending in your application, you accept these terms & conditions and [privacy statement](#).

How to Apply

Deadline: 3 Mar 2025

Full details are available here: <https://riseglobalfoundation.com/programs/rise-community-fund/>

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Windfarm Community Funds

The 2025 ESB Wind Farm Community Funds are now open for applications.

The fund is available to community and voluntary groups, non-profit groups or organisations with a charitable status. The Wind Farm Community Funds will prioritise projects and initiatives that support and benefit the areas surrounding ESB wholly owned and co-owned wind farms, in the following categories:

- Education and skills.
- Health, safety and wellbeing.
- Environment and habitat conservation.
- Energy efficiency and sustainability.
- Culture and heritage.
- Recreation, sport and social inclusion.
- Tourism (Raheenleagh & Castlepook only).

Getting started on your project ideas early will greatly assist with your application, as a well-developed project is key to a successful outcome.

It is essential to note that applications from groups that do not submit required documentation with the application form e.g. planning permission, planning exemption, confirmation that you have liaised with your local authority or owner permission, may not proceed to evaluation.

How to Apply

Deadline: 7 Mar 2025

<https://windfarmcommunityfunds.ie/>

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Dublin Northwest Partnership: Community Grant

Dublin Northwest Partnership are delighted to launch our Community Grant for 2025. This grant is for Local Community Groups and community organisations in the Dublin North West area. Please see links below for the Community Grant 2025

DNP Social Inclusion Action Appraisal Committee (a subgroup of the DNP Board of Management) will review all applications and will approve selected applications based on clear criteria. Please note that applications will be scored based on merit and it may not be possible to award grants to all applicants as funding is limited.

Community Groups have the right to request feedback on their application; such requests must be submitted in writing.

Requirements of Successful Groups

Successful groups will become members of DNP's Social Inclusion Network. This Network will provide a structured space where Community Groups can grow together, develop a stronger voice, and engage in collective action and strategic work. Commitment to the network will require a minimum participation in three network meetings. In addition to providing an opportunity for information sharing, training, and other capacity building supports will also be provided at network meetings. These inputs will be designed to enhance the capacity of Community Groups and may address areas such as evaluation, fundraising, project management and risk assessment.

Successful groups will also be required to:

- Sign a contract with DNP. This contract will clearly detail the responsibilities of both DNP and the successful LCG.
- Attend compulsory training on DNP administrative and reporting requirements prior to receipt of any financial supports.
- Host interim visits of DNP staff and submit evidence of expenditure and final reports.

Supporting documentation must be provided to ensure the grant was spent for the purposes intended e.g., a report of the activity and costs funded by DNP, and evidence that the expenditure was incurred (submission of receipts). This must be signed off by the Chairperson of the community organisation.

Display the programme funders logos on all promotional materials relevant to the funded activities (these will be provided to successful applicants)

Successful groups will be invited to showcase their work at the seminar in early 2026

How to Apply

Deadline: 7 Mar 2025 @ 4pm.

Download full guidelines and application forms here: <https://dublinnorthwest.ie/community-grant-application-guideline-forms-2025/>

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The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity

The Hospital Saturday Fund was founded in 1873, at a time when poverty, overcrowding and ill-health were prevalent and little help was available for those needing costly hospital care.

The Hospital Saturday Fund has two grant categories:

1. Standard grants of up to £2,000 or €3,000

2. Large grants to up to £10,000 or €13,500 (please note this is the maximum sum that HSF will grant).

Eligibility

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants to registered medical health charities within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider giving grants to individuals within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

For medically related charities, hospitals, hospices and medical clinics:

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants towards medical capital projects, medical care or research and in support of medical training. The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider grants for running costs.

For Individuals: The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving partial or full grants to individuals for the following: Specialised mobility equipment, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, car adaptations, medical appliances and aids, hearing aids, nebulisers, specialised vision aids, specialised computer equipment, therapeutic equipment/treatment, orthopaedic beds, mattresses or pillows, riser /recliners chairs, lift hoist/aids.

Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Acupuncture, Speech Therapy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic treatment, Reflexology, Massage Therapy and Aromatherapy.

Home adaptations, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.

How to Apply

Deadline: 12 Mar 2025 (large grants).

Full guidelines and access to online applications are [available here](#).

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The Arts Council - Arts Grant Funding

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

The purpose of Arts Grants Funding is to ensure that there is a breadth of high-quality arts activity and programmes throughout the country. It offers flexible support for a fixed period of time, and in so doing responds to the needs of those who are making, presenting and supporting work.

Arts Grant Funding is intended to:

- Support more than one distinct arts activity taking place within a fixed period of time, or
- Provide supports or facilities to artists over a fixed period of time.

The focus of Arts Grant Funding is to deliver outcomes that develop the arts, either through:

- Generating high-quality experiences for the public to engage with the arts, or
- Providing excellent services, resources or facilities that support the work of artists or the arts sector and
- Contributing to the ecology of the arts within your area of practice.

Applications can be made to cover the costs of activities taking place from either January - December 2026, or January 2026 - December 2027.

Who can apply?

Arts Grant Funding is available across all artforms and arts practice areas, and is open to organisations and individuals.

Note: Individuals applying must demonstrate that their proposal involves collaboration and/or partnership that include the delivery of public outcomes or outcomes that benefit other artists

Preparing your engagement information

Additional guidance on preparing engagement information for your application is available in our new [public engagement section](#) which includes definitions, tools and resources to support you.

How to Apply

Deadline: 13 Mar 2025

Full guidelines and details of how to register in order to apply online are available [here on the Arts Council website](#).

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Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) is a commitment of €1 billion by government to be invested in rural Ireland over the period 2019 to 2027.

The purpose of the fund is to support job creation in rural areas, address de-population of rural communities and support improvements in our towns and villages with a population of less than 10,000, and outlying areas.

Initial funding of €315 million has been allocated to the fund on a phased basis over the period 2019 to 2022.

The minimum request from the Fund for Category 1 projects is €500,000. There is no upper limit, but all proposals must demonstrate detailed project costings and clear value for money.

As a general rule, the Fund will provide up to 90% of the total project value, with at least 10% to be provided in matching contributions by the applicants. A minimum of 20% of the matching contributions element must be in cash.

Objective of the Fund

The fund is supporting coordinated and integrated projects between government departments, State agencies, local authorities, other public bodies, communities and, where appropriate, philanthropic funders and/or the private sector, which will have an impact on sustainable economic and social development in rural areas.

Funding is being awarded through a competitive bid process.

Eligibility

For the purposes of compliance with public spending code, the lead party to an application must be a State-funded body. State-funded bodies are local authorities, Local Development Companies and other State agencies, including Commercial State bodies. Community organisations, voluntary groups or other civil society bodies cannot act as the lead party to an application but can partner with a State-funded body, which is in a position to assume the lead party role.

Proposals may be made in respect of towns with populations of 10,000 or fewer and their outlying areas. A limited number of specified towns with a population of 10,000 or fewer will be eligible for support under the [Urban Regeneration Fund](#) which is being operated by the

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government; however, funding will only be provided under one fund for any particular project.

A list of the funded projects to date is available [here](#).

How to Apply

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, has announced the Fourth Call for Category 2 applications to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) is now open.

The RRDF provides investment to support suitable projects in towns and villages with a population of less than 10,000, and outlying areas.

The Category 2 call will provide funding for project development and enabling initiatives to enable a proposal to reach Category 1 readiness.

The lead party to an application must be a State-funded body. A lead party is permitted to submit a maximum of two applications to this call for Category 2 applications.

Deadline: 14 Mar 2025

Full details available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/c77144-rural-regeneration-and-development-fund/>

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Dept. of Foreign Affairs - Reconciliation Fund

The Reconciliation Fund awards grants to organisations working to build better relations within and between traditions in Northern Ireland, between North and South, and between Ireland and Britain. From 2023, the Reconciliation Fund will move to operating one annual funding round for 12-month grants. A Strategic Partnerships stream for 3-year funding was also launched in summer 2021.

2025 Funding Round (for 12-month funding)

The Reconciliation Fund's Annual Funding Round (for 12-month funding) will open on Wednesday, 12th February 2025 at 11am . We will accept applications through our online application portal until the final closing date of Wednesday, 19th March 2025 at 12pm. No late applications will be accepted.

Reconciliation Fund Outreach Workshops 2025

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund invites you to attend our series of Outreach Workshops, or visit our stand at a range of funding fairs, over the course of January and February 2025.

This year we will host sessions in Belfast, Derry, Enniskillen, Armagh & Monaghan which will outline the application process for the Reconciliation Fund step-by-step in advance of the Annual Funding Round opening in February 2025 and answer any questions that you may have.

The Reconciliation Fund will also be in attendance at a number of funding fairs, details as follows:

Fermanagh-Omagh District Council Funding Fair, St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen, Thursday 6th February 2025, 4pm – 8pm

NICVA Funding Fair, Belfast, 26th February 2025, 10am-1pm.

Reconciliation Fund Strategy 2021 - 2024

Following extensive engagement with our funding partners and others working in the field of peace and reconciliation, a new [Reconciliation Fund Strategy](#) was approved by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in order to guide the work of the Reconciliation Fund during the period 2021-2024. The new strategy came into effect on 15 March 2021.

The strategy outlines an updated set of funding priorities and criteria for the Reconciliation Fund, to ensure that the Fund supports our vision of a reconciled Ireland and remains relevant,

effective, and efficient over the coming years. A summary of these funding priorities and criteria can be found in 'Am I Eligible?' below. Potential applicants should also consult the new Strategy document itself.

As well as setting out overarching themes and priority areas, the new Strategy outlines how the Reconciliation Fund can provide, in addition to direct project funding, Core Operational and Capital funding to support the important work of peace and reconciliation.

The new Strategy provided for the expansion of the Strategic Partnership multi-annual funding stream that had been piloted under the Reconciliation Fund's previous Strategy. Under the new funding stream, around 15-30 organisations will be eligible to become a Strategic Partner of the Fund, with a commitment to funding over a 3-year period, allowing them to develop a more strategic long term approach to planning their work. The first call for applications for Strategic Partnership under this new scheme was made during May-June 2021.

What we do

We give funding to non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community groups, and voluntary organisations to support reconciliation and to create better understanding between people and traditions on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Britain.

All applications to the Reconciliation Fund are assessed using the criteria laid out in the [Reconciliation Fund's Strategy 2021-2024](#). It is important when considering your eligibility for the fund that you look at this document and reflect on whether your project meets the aims laid out in it. The Reconciliation Fund supports many unique, diverse and important projects which all have a unifying thread – they all aim to play a part in creating a better relationship and understanding between traditions on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Britain. The Reconciliation Fund can support many aspects of proposed projects, including core and capital costs (see further information under 'How to Apply').

Background of the Reconciliation Fund

The Reconciliation Fund has been running since 1982, and was increased significantly in 1998, following the signing of the Good Friday Agreement.

The Department of Foreign Affairs operated an Anti-Sectarianism Fund in addition to the Reconciliation Fund in the period 2008-2014. Since 2014, in accordance with the Reconciliation Fund Strategy, the two funds have been merged into a single Reconciliation Fund. Anti-sectarianism is now mainstreamed throughout the entire programme and is one of a number of priority areas to be addressed by the Fund.

The last number of years has seen an increased commitment by the Government to supporting the Reconciliation Fund. In May 2018, it was announced that the annual budget for the Reconciliation Fund would be increased from €2.7 million to €3.7 million, and as part of its commitments set out under Annex B of the January 2020 “New Decade, New Approach” agreement, the Government renewed its commitment to maintaining this increased level of funding. Since then, reflecting in particular the wide-ranging implications of Brexit and the impact of Covid-19 on community and voluntary sector organisations working in peacebuilding, the Government has committed to further increasing the Reconciliation Fund’s budget.

Eligibility

In line with our new [Strategy for 2021-2024](#) , you will find below guidance on the eligibility criteria which we will apply to applications for Reconciliation Fund support in our annual funding rounds (which will accept applications for 12-month funding).

Eligibility - Our Funding Priorities:

The following sets out our funding priorities, in line with our new Reconciliation Fund Strategy:

Thematic Pillars

Our funding priorities continue to be rooted in two key overarching thematic pillars – repairing and building. For 2021-2024, the Reconciliation Fund will focus its support on reconciliation and peacebuilding work that seeks to:

Repair those issues which lead to division, conflict, and barriers to a deeply reconciled and peaceful society;

and/or

Build a strong civil society that encompasses all communities, through the continued implementation of the Agreements and promoting a rights-based society, political stability and respect for all.

Priority areas

Applications should be in line with one or both of these overarching pillars, while also focusing on one or more of the Reconciliation Fund’s priority themes/activities. Requests for funding support should therefore involve projects which support at least one of the following priority areas:

*Through dialogue or other means, seek to build understanding between peoples and traditions, whether within Northern Ireland, on a North-South basis, or on a British-Irish basis.

- Promote inter-community links and reduce segregation in Northern Ireland, including in the areas of integrated education and housing, and the use of shared community spaces.
- Build sustainable North-South links through the development of relationships and connections.
- Develop and deepen relations between Ireland and Britain.
- Seek participation in the most hard-to-reach and marginalised communities (in terms of economic and social deprivation), or those not normally involved in reconciliation and peace-building work, in line with the Government's commitments made at the time of the NDNA Agreement.
- Seek to address the legacy of violence during the Troubles.
- Specifically target sectarianism, and which are aimed at eliminating sectarianism from society.
- Help to tackle paramilitarism and support the transitioning of members of paramilitary groups to peaceful, democratic activities.
- Employ a transgenerational approach, helping a younger generation to be more aware of the recent past and to break the cycles which are barriers to long term reconciliation.
- Develop the role of women in peace-building and civic and political life, in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and which build their capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society.
- Educate and illuminate the events of the past, and in particular the events of the Decade of Centenaries, in order to deepen understanding and promote respect and tolerance between different groups and traditions.
- Explore issues around identity (including language and other cultural traditions) in ways that promote understanding, tolerance and inclusivity, or help to recognise the common aspects of traditions and identities shared by different groups.
- Involve academic research likely to significantly promote mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation, including in the context of the Government's commitment at the

time of the NDNA Agreement to commission research on the challenges faced by border communities (with a particular focus on minority communities in border counties).

- Empower diverse, underrepresented or new voices to articulate their views on issues relating to reconciliation.
- Assist communities from different traditions in trying to build a shared vision of the future.

Other factors guiding consideration of applications

In addition to assessing whether applications contribute under the thematic pillars and key priority/activity areas outlined above, we will be guided by a number of other factors in considering funding applications:

General factors:

- General factors which will be used in assessing applications will include:
- Geographical location of activity, with the aim of ensuring an appropriate spread of funding;
- Value for money of the project;
- The organisation's financial management capacity, governance arrangements and sustainability;
- The funding environment for the particular sector.

How to Apply

Deadline: 19 March 2025

Full details are available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/acf50-reconciliation-fund/>

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European Parliament - A European Public Sphere: A New Online Media Offer for Young Europeans

The call is launched in accordance with the 2024 Work Programme and will be managed by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT).

Activities funded

The following types of activities are eligible under this call for proposals:

- Coordination;
- Journalistic production and content distribution;
- Organisation of youth events and other youth engagement activities;
- Creation and maintenance of websites and platforms;
- Online advertising (max 10% of the total eligible direct costs);
- Other promotion and dissemination actions;
- Actions aiming at the creation and improvement of networks, such as exchanges of good practices among youth media reporters;
- Analyses and mapping of perceptions among youth;
- Financial support to third parties (e.g. a competition for young journalists, or support for projects (by media organisations, journalists etc) that provide independent journalistic coverage of current affairs for youth).

Proposals should focus on European topics and European languages. Proposals should create and select content in at least five European languages. Applicants are encouraged to handle content in as many EU Member States as possible, involving when needed relevant entities in those countries, taking into account the efficiency of the project.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies)

- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.: EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs)).

Proposals may be submitted by any of the following applicants or combinations of:

- News media organisations
- Non profit organisations, including youth organisations (private or public).

Consortium composition

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 5 applicants which complies with the following conditions:

- minimum 5 entities from 5 different EU Member States.

Budget

The Commission expects to fund up to 4 projects. Project budgets (maximum requested grant amount) are expected to range between EUR 1.5 and EUR 3.2 million per project, but this does not preclude the submission/selection of proposals requesting lower amounts.

Duration

Projects should normally range between 12 and 14 months.

How to Apply

Call detail: The action aims to engage with young Europeans by creating curated online spaces that gather thought-provoking journalistic content around current affairs, empowering them to compare and contrast national, regional and local perspectives from across Europe, discuss and discover how their interests link to interests of young Europeans in other Member States, and to relevant EU initiatives. The aim is to address topics of pan-European relevance, and create an open, true, informed and constructive debate about recent and future life in Europe among young Europeans, using innovative formats on digital platforms, with the ultimate goal of creating greater awareness about European visions and realities, European values, ideas and decision-making processes so that they subsequently contribute to a more active civil society.

Deadline: 24 Mar 2025

[Full details available here.](#)

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Rethink Ireland: Brighter Futures Fund 2025-2028

The Brighter Futures Fund is a three-year fund aimed at improving mental health and wellbeing for marginalised groups in Ireland. We invite applications from projects and organisations that proactively identify mental health challenges within marginalised communities, enabling early intervention that can prevent the escalation of these issues. This fund is created by Rethink Ireland in partnership with an anonymous donor and the Department of Rural and Community Development via the Dormant Accounts Fund.

Brighter Futures Fund will support organisations representing a diverse range of vulnerable groups in Ireland dedicated to addressing mental health and wellbeing disparities. These may include groups such as LGBTQI+, Traveller, Roma, migrant, or refugee communities and other vulnerable groups.

Whilst this fund aims to support projects and organisations focusing on early intervention, we understand that such a timely intervention is not always possible. Therefore, the projects/organisations who apply for the Brighter Futures Fund can be working across the full spectrum of mental health initiatives, including early interventions, wellbeing and resilience programmes, confidence-building supports, and/or initiatives for fighting depression/social anxiety/loneliness/stress etc. This is not an exhaustive list. We want to back organisations who will equip marginalised communities with the skills they need to improve and maintain their mental health and wellbeing over time.

The Fund offers a package of cash grants and non-financial supports to the value of €1.9 million for up to six projects to help them expand and increase their social impact.

This includes:

- Up to six awards of up to €285,000 (up to €95,000 per year for three years)
- The non-financial supports include:
- a place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme
- bespoke business and capacity-building supports designed in consultation with successful projects on topics such as strategic planning, maximising your impact, communications, storytelling and fundraising
- Access to Rethink Ireland's networks

* The Rethink Ireland Board will decide how much money to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The final award amount will depend on how many organisations are selected.

Eligibility & Criteria

This fund is open to organisations with a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a company limited by guarantee, co-operative, trust, charity and other voluntary organisations that meet the following criteria. Projects must meet both Rethink Ireland's criteria and the specific criteria for the Brighter Futures Fund, as set out below:

Rethink Ireland Core Criteria

- The project must address a critical social or environmental issue
- The project must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based on the island of Ireland and must make its main impact in the Republic of Ireland
- The project must have potential and a desire to scale or replicate in Ireland (it may also have potential internationally, but this is not a requirement)
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way.
- Applicants must come from an entity that has a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a company limited by guarantee, a co-operative, trust, charity.

Rethink Ireland defines a not-for-profit as any organisation whose constitution indicates it has public benefit purposes and is neither privately owned nor controlled by the State.

Brighter Futures Fund Criteria

Projects must be working towards enhancing positive outcomes in mental health for beneficiaries in marginalised communities, including one or more of the following:

- Using early interventions that prevent mental ill-health from occurring in the first place.
- Fighting levels of depression/social anxiety/social isolation/loneliness/stress for individuals in marginalised communities.
- Enhancing the positive mental health of marginalised communities using evidence-based approaches and/or community development approaches. Please note: by

community development we mean groups of people with commonalities not necessarily located in the same geographical area.

- Demonstrating a commitment to cultural competence, accessibility, and inclusivity, ensuring that mental health initiatives are tailored to the unique needs of diverse communities.
- Increasing the confidence and resilience of people from marginalised communities to maintain positive mental health in the longer term.
- Enhancing mental health literacy within marginalised communities to empower individuals to recognise signs of mental health challenges, access appropriate support services, and engage in self-care practices to promote well-being.

Advantageous criteria

- Projects that prioritise early intervention in addressing mental health and well-being disparities among vulnerable groups in Ireland.
- Organisations that are led or co-led by individuals from the participant communities they support, ensuring that the voices of those with lived experiences are central to the project's design, implementation, and decision-making processes.
- Organisations that actively promote peer leadership models, where individuals from within the target communities are trained and empowered to take on leadership roles, facilitate support groups, or act as mental health ambassadors.
- Projects that recognise and address the social determinants of health that contribute to poor mental health and wellbeing within marginalised communities.

How to Apply

Deadline: 24 Mar 2025

Full application guidelines are available here: https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/brighter-futures-fund-2025/

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NYC - Artist in Youth Work Scheme

The National Youth Council of Ireland is the representative body for national voluntary youth work organisations in Ireland. Is é Comhairle Náisiúnta na nÓg an eagrais ionadaíochta an óige in Éirinn. It represents and supports the interests of 50 voluntary youth organisations and uses its collective experience to act on issues that impact on young people.

The Artist and Youth Work Residency Grant Scheme is designed to promote innovative partnerships between youth groups, artists and (where relevant) arts organisations. A residency may take the form of an artist in residence in a youth work setting and/or a youth group in residence in an arts setting.

The scheme is managed by the National Youth Council of Ireland on behalf of the Arts Council and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

There are two strands to the artist and youth work residency scheme: the Youth Arts Explorer Grant and the Artist and Youth Work Full Residency Grant.

YOUTH ARTS EXPLORER GRANT €1,500

This grant is for projects, services and organisations that are exploring the introduction of youth arts experiences to their youth work setting but are not yet sufficiently experienced/confident to develop or manage a larger scale residency project. The aim of the grant is to support an organisation to explore the introduction of arts practice to the youth service.

Potential activities could include: testing an idea or concept, hosting introductory sessions, facilitating exploratory meetings between artist, young people and the youth service; or connecting the group to a local arts centre, cultural venue, etc. for a performance, workshop, or exhibition (with a view to facilitating further partnership).

ARTIST AND YOUTH WORK FULL RESIDENCY GRANT €5,000

The Artist and Youth Work Full Residency Grant aims to promote innovative partnerships between youth groups, artists and (where relevant) arts organisations; to support the development of youth arts practice in youth work and support young people's access to quality youth arts experiences. A residency may take the form of an artist in residence in a youth work setting and/or a youth group in residence in an arts setting.

This grant is intended to support residency programmes that have been jointly developed by the partners involved (i.e., the artist, youth group and any other key partner organisation), that

offer meaningful creative experiences where young people are at the heart of decision-making and that fully meet the criteria for the award.

How to Apply

Deadline: 28 Mar 2025

[Download the application form and guidelines here.](#)

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Aviva Stadium Community Fund Scheme

Aviva Stadium supports deserving projects in the area immediately surrounding the stadium and in 2007 created an annual fund of €100,000. This fund is index linked and will continue for the life of the stadium. The fund has been running since its inception and the funds have been invested into the local community.

Any monies not given out in the year go into the following year's fund. The fund is administered by the Stadium Community Committee (SCC - formerly the Project Monitoring Committee) which consists of two representatives each of Aviva Stadium, Dublin City Councillors, the local community and Dublin City Council executives. The SCC is advised by an independent advisor who now visits everyone making an eligible application to the fund. Documentation in relation to making an application to the fund can be found below.

Included in the applications are summer camps for local children; new uniforms for the local branch of the St Johns Ambulance; upgrading of sports facilities for a range of clubs; staging of theatre and dance shows; music and food festivals; a sensory room for a local school and miscellaneous equipment for a number of local organisations.

Facilities / services/programmes eligible for consideration shall include but not be limited to:

- Environmental improvements
- Multi-functional community facilities
- Heritage projects
- Facilities or services for local people.
- Schools
- Sports Club
- Churches
- Community Events
- Festivals.

The Stadium Community Committee will favour:

- Projects that provide additional community service or facility

- Projects that can be accessed by different sections of the community
- Projects that address social exclusion of community cohesion within the area.

Funding:

- Projects proposals may be capital or revenue based.
- Grants will be awarded to appropriate projects to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the project.
- Organisations will need to demonstrate their ability to raise the rest of the funds needed for any project.

How to Apply

Deadline: 31 Mar 2025

[Learn more on the Aviva website.](#)

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EYF Grants - Annual Work Plan Grant

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. Its purpose is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the Council of Europe's fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity.

An annual workplan is a project that includes a set of successive activities over a period of one year, interconnected and which contribute to the same broader aim. Within the strategic approach or global action plan of an organisation (what the organisation would like to achieve in the year(s) to come), you are asked to identify a coherent set of activities/elements to be submitted to the EYF. It should be in line with what you do and want to achieve, but it should also be in line with the work, priorities and [principles of the youth sector of the Council of Europe](#).

Each activity/element should contribute to the aim of the work plan and the accomplishments of the work plan as a whole should contribute to the global purpose of the organisation. The work plan does not need to reflect the whole strategy of your NGO; it can be one element of it only.

The different activities of a work plan have to contribute to achieve the objective of the work plan as a whole and have to be interconnected.

It is useful to look at the "flow" of the various actions chronologically: individual activities are linked to each other, feed off and feed into each other (content-wise, through the participants and/or multipliers, towards one common result).

Material production or preparatory meetings should not be included as separate activities. They should be included in the activities they are contributing to.

The maximum grant allocated is €60 000. The grant awarded for an annual work plan is paid in three instalments: 60% when the signed contract is sent to the EYF by post and the conditions in the contract (if any) are met, 25% upon receipt of the interim report and the remaining 15% upon receipt of a satisfactory activity and financial report.

The following criteria are a requirement for annual work plans:

- Composed by several activities (international/other); at least one international activity;

- Clear flow/link between activities: interconnected;
- Each individual activity contributes to the overall objectives of the work plan;
- Link with priorities, missions and vision of the CoE youth sector;
- At least one third of co-funding for international activities;
- A gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole process.
- Importance is also given to a non-formal education approach in your projects.

Until now, four working days were considered as a minimum duration for an international activity based on the principles of non-formal education/learning. However, in order to adapt to NGOs' needs, the EYF will no longer consider this duration as a hard criterion. Nevertheless, the EYF will continue to assess grant applications on the basis of their merit and the quality of the programme provided. NGOs applying for activities lasting less than four days will have to convince the EYF that the activity is based on a non-formal education approach.

Activities Funded

International activities

A work plan cannot be a set of very small activities or material production only. A work plan needs to have a "European dimension" and this means it should still contain international activities (at least one).

Remember the criteria of international activities (see [link](#)): 4 nationalities represented in the team, a gender and geographical balance among participants (minimum of 7 nationalities).

You should find co-funding for the international activities. The EYF will not be able to cover more than two-thirds of the total cost of the international activities calculated together (i.e. the two-third rule will not apply to each separate international activity).

Other activities

"Other activities" can be included such as campaigns, study visits, series of workshops, "mobile" activities (activities which involve travel).

Preparatory meetings, research, needs analysis should be linked to an activity in the work plan, not an activity in itself. Material production should be the "result of" or part of the "follow up of" an activity and not an activity standing on its own.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be included as separate activities in a work plan. These are covered by an EYF [structural grant](#). If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after an international activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

Who can apply?

[International youth NGOs;](#)

[International networks of youth NGOs.](#)

How to Apply

Non-governmental youth organisations must be registered before being able to submit an application.

Deadline: 1 Apr 2025

For further criteria and registration, [please visit the EYF website](#).

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EYF Grants - International Activity Grant

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. Its purpose is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the Council of Europe's fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity.

International activities are international meetings of young people or youth leaders in Europe which contribute to the work of the youth sector of the Council of Europe in topic, methodology and with a clear European dimension.

The following hard criteria are a requirement for an international activity:

- Must fall under the [priorities of the youth sector of the Council of Europe](#);
- Participants must come from at least 7 Council of Europe's member states*;
- The activity must have a core project team where people of at least 4 nationalities are represented (this includes the trainers, facilitators, project coordinator, etc.);
- 75 % of participants are under 30 years old;
- A gender and geographical balance must be ensured;
- In the planning and running of the international activity, the grantee organisation puts in place measures to ensure gender equality and inclusive practices;
- the activity responds to the needs of young people and participants are at the centre of the activity, with non-formal educational approaches included;
- the activity does not need to have a fixed duration; however, the EYF has considered in the past that 4 working days is a minimal duration to ensure a suitable educational and intercultural process. Organisations applying for shorter activities will need to explain their choice;
- the international activity must take place in the year for which the organisation applied for (the next year in comparison to the deadline). The applicant organisation must include in its application all the project duration, including the preparation, international meeting, follow-up activities, if any, and evaluation. The project duration is the period in which the project costs incur. The project duration must be within one calendar year.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be supported as a one-off international activity. These are covered by an EYF [structural grant](#). If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an international activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after the activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

The maximum grant allocated is €25 000. The EYF will cover up to two-thirds of the total real costs of the activity. NGOs need to find additional resources to cover the remaining one-third. The EYF will normally request the payment of the first instalment of the grant – 80% of the grant awarded – 10 weeks before the start of your activity. However it can take up to 3 weeks until the money arrives on your bank account. The remaining 20% will be paid upon receipt of a complete activity and financial report (check the [Reporting](#) page).

Who can apply?

[International non-governmental youth organisations](#) can apply on their own;

[International networks of youth NGOs](#) can apply on their own;

[Regional networks of youth NGOs](#) can apply on their own;

[National non-governmental youth organisations](#) can apply if the activity is prepared in partnership with at least 3 other national NGOs or networks from different countries or with at least 1 international NGO or network.

How to Apply

Non-governmental youth organisations must be registered before being able to submit an application.

Deadline: 1 Apr 2025

For further criteria and registration, [please visit the EYF website](#).

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Additional Resources

Nonprofits seeking fundraising advice and guidance can avail of two additional resources:

Fundraising Guidance Library

1. [Fundraising Essentials](#)
2. [Applying to Grant Makers](#)
3. [Fundraising From The Public](#)
4. [European Funding](#)

Fundraising Helpdesk

Can't find an answer to your fundraising question in the above articles? Then get in touch with The Wheel's Fundraising Helpdesk now. Email as much detail as possible to: paul@wheel.ie and we'll get back to you shortly. www.wheel.ie.

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