

# Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

June – July 2025



Monaghan  
County Council



Stronger Charities.  
Stronger Communities.

The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Monaghan 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 Monaghan County Council and The Wheel.

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## Human Rights and Equality Grant Scheme

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 gives the Commission powers to provide grant funding to bodies to carry out certain activities to promote human rights and equality in Ireland.

The themes of this year's funding are informed by the priorities set out in the Commission's Strategy Statement 2025-27.

### 2025-26 Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's 2025-26 Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme is now open and accepting applications until 3pm, Wednesday 4 June 2025.

The purpose of the grants scheme is to support projects by civil society and trade unions that promote human rights and equality. A total of €350,000 is available for projects.

### Grants Scheme Strands

The 2025-26 Grants Scheme's themes are informed by the Commission's strategic priorities set out in its [Strategy Statement 2025-27](#).

This year the Grants Scheme will support projects under the following strands:

Strand A: Applying the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty in combating disinformation, misinformation and hate, and building community solidarity and belonging.

Strand B: Applying the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty in challenging the structural causes of poverty, its impact on people and communities and the effectiveness of the State's responses.

Strand C: Applying the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty to ensure a human rights and equality approach to climate and environmental justice and a just transition.

Please see Guidance on [Implementing the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty](#).

### Funding Streams

Funding is available for small and general grants:

Small Grants up to: €7,000

General Grants up to: €22,000.

## Eligibility

The Grants Scheme is open to civil society organisations working to promote human rights and equality and trade unions in Ireland. Civil society organisations include: local and national community and voluntary organisations, non-governmental organisations, rights-holder-led groups, groups representing area based communities or communities of interest protected under the nine grounds of the Equality legislation, well as groups experiencing poverty, socio-economic discrimination or exclusion, including international protection applicants and migrant communities.

To be eligible, civil society organisations must be not-for-profit and registered with the Company Registration Office (CRO) and/or as a Charity.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 4 Jun 2025

<https://www.ihrec.ie/our-work/human-rights-and-equality-grants-scheme/>

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## Re-turn - Small Town, Big Difference

The Small Town, Big Difference campaign highlights stories of community groups, organisations, clubs, schools, and societies across Ireland that are raising funds and creating meaningful impact for their local area through the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS). At Re-turn, we're passionate about making a positive impact to local communities, by helping to create cleaner, greener towns, villages and cities across Ireland.

And over the last year, 3,000 local community groups have been making a big difference by raising funds through the deposit return scheme for their local community.

Now, we want to celebrate this incredible impact by launching 'Small Town, Big Difference' a new campaign calling on communities across Ireland to share the unique story of their local group, club, or initiative.

Simply tell us how your group has been making a big difference in your local community to be in with a chance to win €2,000 for your local initiative.

Five lucky winners will also win the chance to take part in our communities advertising campaign later in the summer!

So, whether you're a community champion, a club campaigner or a hometown hero, Re-turn wants to hear from you!

### Who Can Enter?

The competition is open to all local community groups, schools, clubs and initiatives across the country who are using the Deposit Return Scheme to make a difference in their area.

### How to Apply

To enter, groups must be official registered or have a pending registration with Re-turn. If you have not already registered, simply email [communities@re-turn.ie](mailto:communities@re-turn.ie) to register your group.

Deadline: 6 June 2025 @ 5pm

<https://re-turn.ie/heroes/>

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## 2025 – 2026 Lisle Global Seed Fund

Do you have a project idea that will bring people of diverse backgrounds together for shared learning? Lisle International provides Global Seed Grants to support innovative projects which advance intercultural understanding through shared experiences, with the goal of creating a more just social order. Projects may seek to bridge a variety of community divides, including ethnic, cultural, religious, racial or gender perspectives, anywhere in the world.

Lisle International was an early pioneer in intercultural education programming, beginning with US projects in 1936 and expanding internationally in 1952. Since 2004, Lisle has focused on providing small “seed grants” to support programs fostering intercultural understanding.

Grants of \$500 to \$5,000 are available to innovative projects that meet the eligibility criteria. Lisle awards between three and eight grants each year to projects in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa.

### Eligibility

The Lisle Global Seed Grants support projects that further the [Lisle mission](#) and promote intercultural communication and shared learning. It is essential applicants make clear how a proposed project promotes intercultural engagement and communication as a core goal achieved through intentional program components. Lisle only funds projects that promote intercultural understanding and bring people of diverse backgrounds together to share and learn from one another.

Lisle prefers funding organizations over individuals; individuals applying should affiliate with an organization for project implementation.

Focus on new projects with growth potential, rather than ongoing or well-funded programs, aligning with the “seed grant” spirit.

Prefers to be a significant donor for well-defined intercultural projects by small and young organizations.

Projects worldwide are eligible; US nonprofit status (501c3) not required, but local organizational certification is welcomed.

Successful projects are most often:

- Innovative and collaborative
- Centralize intercultural interaction in the project

- Working towards resolving conflicts
- Promoting community building

Lisle does NOT fund:

- Infrastructure (e.g. building or furnishing schools)
- Hardware (e.g., computers)
- Travel costs for U.S. participants in international programs
- Salaries for U.S. volunteers in international projects
- Religious education or proselytizing

## How to Apply

Deadline: 8 Jun 2025

Full guidelines and application details are available here: <https://lisleinternational.org/global-seed-grants/>

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## SuperValu TidyTowns Competition

The national SuperValu TidyTowns competition is an annual contest organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The competition is supported by the title sponsor SuperValu and many other agencies.

The competition involves participating areas being rated on all aspects of their local environment and prizes awarded to the best under many different categories. The overall winner is “Ireland’s Tidiest Town”. which is announced at a national ceremony in September each year.

With progress monitored and detailed feedback provided year on year, most participants initially enter the competition to generate interest about the environment in their community and create a solid platform on which to raise issues with the relevant authorities. Over time, the areas attain a standard where competing for major prizes is within reach. As such it is very much a development programme for towns and villages across Ireland.

Different aspects of the competition are explored in this section, from the types of areas that enter to the assessment criteria used. We hope after reading it, you will be encouraged to enter the competition this year.

### Eligibility

The SuperValu TidyTowns competition is open to all areas, big or small, urban or rural, and each are entered under their respective population categories. These range from the smallest, Category A – Under 200, to the largest, Category H – 25,001 and over. Entry is free regardless of the size of an area.

Entrants are the ‘ambassadors’ for their area in SuperValu TidyTowns and therefore are the primary contact in relation to correspondence. Ideally, entry should be made by a broad-based group that represents all sectors of the community.

However, it is not expected that these structures have to be in place before entering. Entry from a credible body, such as a Local Authority, Development Agency, Residents’ Group or Local Business, will also be accepted. Nonetheless, in all cases, it is expected that participation will be used to generate wider interest in the effort within the community. Progress on encouraging broader community involvement is a major part of the SuperValu TidyTowns’ assessment criteria.

The documentation needed to participate is a completed entry form forwarded to the TidyTowns Unit of the Department of Rural and Community Development, either by email, on-



line or via post. Additional information may also be provided with the form to assist the TidyTowns adjudicators in their assessment.

All participants are encouraged to prepare a multi-annual strategic plan to guide their activities. This may be forwarded with the entry form when available. However, it is not a requirement for entry.

## **Prizes**

On average there are over 300 prizes given out each year, with approximately €230,000 of the total prize fund of €300,000 awarded under the main competition. The rest is awarded in special prizes outside the main competition.

All main prizes are based on the scores achieved by entrants in the competition as follows –

- Endeavour Awards for the biggest improvement by an entrant in each county from the previous year.
- County Awards for the top three entrants in each county.
- Regional Awards for the top-scoring entrant in each region.
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals for entrants with scores that fall within a set range from that year's winning score.
- Category Awards for the highest scoring entrants in the Village, Small Town, Large Town and Large Urban Centre categories.
- Ireland's Tidiest Town Award for the highest scoring entrant in the whole competition.

There are also separate awards sections for Island entrants and Gaeltacht entrants.

## **2025 SPECIAL AWARD ENTRY FORMS**

Our sponsored Special Awards are organised in parallel to the main competition and look to reward initiatives focused on improving your community. Entry is open to all TidyTowns Groups as well as other interested individuals or groups. We are delighted to announce a new sponsors under our Special Awards category for 2025.

See special awards here: <https://www.tidytowns.ie/competition/2025-special-award-entry-forms/>

Note: the deadline for Special Awards is 9 June 2025, separate to the main competition deadline.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 9 Jun 2025

[Visit the Tidy Towns website](#) for full information.

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## Irish Youth Foundation - Vhi Health and Wellbeing Fund 2025

In partnership with the Irish Youth Foundation (IYF), Vhi is once again launching a fund of €85,000 to support young people's health and wellbeing.

The fund will support projects and programmes that seek to strengthen resilience in young people and help them manage anxiety, with the emphasis on early intervention and prevention. Projects may work directly with young people or with the adults that surround them.

This fund is open to projects based in the 6 counties where Vhi operate – Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny and Limerick.

### **What is the Vhi Health & Wellbeing Fund?**

Vhi aims to support their customers to live longer, stronger, and healthier lives. In partnership with the Irish Youth Foundation (IYF), Vhi is launching a fund of €85,000 to support young people's health and wellbeing.

The fund will support projects that seek to strengthen resilience in young people and help them manage anxiety, with the emphasis on early intervention and prevention. Projects may work directly with young people or with the adults that surround them.

Treatment programmes or 1-1 counselling will not be eligible for funding.

The fund is looking to support projects in the six locations where Vhi have offices;

Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick

### **Eligibility**

To be eligible the applying organisation must;

- Work with young people aged between 12-25 years old
- Be a registered not-for-profit or charitable organisation
- The organisation must have a bank account set up in the name of the organisation
- Be registered in the Republic of Ireland and active in Ireland for the past 12 months
- The organisation must have a child protection policy in place

### **What funding opportunities are available?**

Awards of up to €10,000.

Organisations applying for funding will be asked to submit a detailed budget breakdown of expenditure for both of the above options. The final allocation of awards will be determined after all applications have been reviewed.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 11 Jun 2025

All applications will be made online here: <https://iyf.ie/vhi-health-and-wellbeing-fund-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

OR

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(s): 11 Jun 2025 / large grants, 9 Jul 2025 / standard grants

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

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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:

- Inclusion and diversity
- Digital transformation
- Environment and the fight against climate change
- Participation in democratic life

Projects take the form of the following Key Actions:

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

### 3. 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](mailto:EACEA-SPORT@ec.europa.eu)

### **How to Apply**

#### **Current Open Call:**

#### **ERASMUS+ - Centres of Vocational Excellence**

This call supports the gradual establishment and development of European platforms of Centres of Vocational Excellence, contributing to regional development, innovation, and smart specialisation strategies as well as to international collaborative platforms.

Deadline: 11 June, 2025

[View Detail](#)

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## CLÁR-Funding for Small-Scale Rural Projects

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd Riachtanais) or Funding for Small-Scale Rural Projects is a targeted investment programme which provides funding for small-scale - infrastructural projects in rural areas that have suffered the greatest levels of population decline.

The CLÁR programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) provides funding for small-scale infrastructural projects in rural areas.

Reopened in 2016, CLÁR aims to support sustainable development in identified areas by attracting people to live and work there. The funding works in conjunction with local funding and on the basis of locally identified priorities.

The scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. It is delivered by local authorities in consultation with groups in local communities.

### CLÁR 2025

CLÁR 2025 was launched on 4th April 2025. The programme will be delivered through the following three separate Measures:

- Measure 1: Developing Community Facilities and Amenities
- Measure 2: Mobility, Cancer Care, Community First Responder and Meals on Wheels Transport
- Measure 3: 'Our Living Islands'
- Measure 1: Developing Community Facilities and Amenities

For details on this measure, please carefully read the scheme outline below.

**Measure 1 is administered by the Local Authorities therefore application and expressions of interest forms will be available from Local Authorities directly.**

You must contact your Local Authority or County Council in relation to this.

In turn the Local Authority or County Council submits the selected applications to the Department (up to the maximum submission allowed).

**Measure 2: Mobility, Cancer Care, Community First Responder and Meals on Wheels Transport**

For details on this measure, please carefully read the scheme outline below. Measure 2 is administered directly by the Department.

The application form is below along with a document outlining the supporting documents required.

Please complete the form in full and submit it with required supporting documents to [clar@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:clar@drcd.gov.ie) by 23rd May 2025

### **Measure 3: 'Our Living Islands'**

For details on this measure, please carefully read the scheme outline below. Measure 3 is administered directly by the Department.

The application form is below along with a document outlining the supporting documents required.

Please complete the form in full and submit it with the required supporting documents to [clar@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:clar@drcd.gov.ie) by 13th June 2025.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline(s): 13 Jun 2025

To find all CLÁR approved funding to date visit this webpage: [CLÁR Funding Approvals](#)

National and county area funding maps can be found here: [CLÁR Funding Area Maps](#).

Areas targeted under the CLÁR Programme are parts of counties: Carlow, Cavan, Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Longford, Louth, Mayo, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Roscommon, Sligo, Tipperary, and Waterford, Westmeath, Wicklow and all of County Leitrim.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-rural-and-community-development/policy-information/cl%c3%a1r-funding-for-small-scale-rural-projects/>

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## Pilot Place-Based Philanthropy Projects

The [National Philanthropy Policy for Ireland 2024-2028](#) was launched on 13 December 2023. The purpose of the policy is to deepen understanding and knowledge, creating an enabling environment and accelerate engagement with philanthropy in Ireland for social good. The policy contains 21 actions, divided between the following strands: communications and awareness raising; data and research; stimulating and incentivising philanthropy; government and sectoral partnership; and capacity building.

The aim of this 2025 call for Pilot-Place Based Philanthropy projects is to provide funding to co-funded projects that address local need or challenge, have a confirmed philanthropic partner and are able to demonstrate strong community involvement, cross sector collaboration and sustainable outcomes.

Applications to this call must be led by a community development organisation or community-based group that has a confirmed philanthropic funding partner.

### Programme Objectives

The aim of this call for place-based pilot projects is to support projects that:

- Address identified local needs or challenges – social, economic or environmental.
- Promote understanding and collaboration between philanthropy and government (both national and local government).
- Test innovative, co-funding approaches to addressing key social issues.

The main objectives of the programme are to:

- Bring together resources in a collaborative way to benefit the community in a defined geographical location.
- Promote partnership and collaboration between communities, philanthropists, local government and local organisations.
- Trial a co-funding approach to gain insights to inform future initiatives.

### Support Available

Successful projects will be funded on a 50:50 match funding basis, up to a maximum of €50,000 per annum over three years. The total maximum funding available for a project over the three years is €150,000.

## Eligibility

This call is open to community development organisations or community-based groups that can demonstrate the following:

- A confirmed philanthropic funding partner.
- A track record and established presence in their area.
- Support from relevant local authorities.
- Collaboration with relevant local stakeholders.
- Project ready to commence in Q3 2025.
- Applicants are only permitted to submit one application to this call.

## Types of Projects Funded

The call will provide funding to projects that will bring together resources to deliver existing or new initiatives in a collaborative way to benefit the community in a defined geographic area.

The project must address local needs or challenges and be able demonstrate strong community involvement, cross sector collaboration and sustainable outcomes.

Pilot projects may utilise a number of approaches to addressing needs or challenges at a local level. The funding will cover programme delivery costs including salary costs for 4 qualified/experienced community development workers. Capital costs, such as building related costs, are not eligible for funding under this call.

## How to Apply

The closing date for applications is 12pm on 16 June 2025. Applications should be submitted electronically to [philanthropy@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:philanthropy@drcd.gov.ie) using the official [application form](#).

Full details available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-rural-and-community-development/publications/pilot-place-based-philanthropy-projects/>

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## ESF+ Programme

The European Social Fund + (ESF) aims to support Member States and regions to improve employment and education opportunities, to enhance social inclusion and to tackle poverty.

ESF+ is a combination of four funds that were separate in the 2014-2020 programming period: the European Social Fund (ESF), the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived (FEAD), the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) and the European Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI).

### Aims & Objectives

The European Social Fund + (ESF) aims to achieve:

- high employment levels
- fair social protection
- the eradication of poverty
- a skilled and resilient workforce
- equal opportunities
- equal access to the labour market
- fair and quality working conditions
- social protection and inclusion

ESF+ has a particular focus on:

- quality and inclusive education and training
- lifelong learning
- investment in children and young people
- access to basic services

In all its investments, the ESF+ promotes its overall priorities of gender equality, respect for fundamental rights, equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

### What does it support?

ESF+ co-funds local, regional and national employment-related projects and its funding will focus on the following priorities:

- Social Inclusion
- Active inclusion
- Socio-economic integration of third-country nationals
- Socio-economic integration of marginalised communities, such as Roma people
- Equal access to quality services and modernising social protection systems
- Social integration of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion
- Addressing material deprivation
- Education and Skills
- Better education and training systems at all levels
- Equal access to quality education and training
- Upskilling, reskilling and lifelong learning for all
- Employment
- Access to quality employment for all, including youth employment
- Modernising labour market institutions and services
- Gender-balanced labour market participation
- Adaptation of workers, enterprises and entrepreneurs to change

### **Who can apply?**

Civil society organisations, public authorities or bodies, social security institutions and employment services, as well as microfinance institutions and institutions providing finance to social enterprises or other social investment actors.

### **Why the EU funds employment and social inclusion**

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [Human rights, justice and equality](#).



## Budget

€99 billion over 7 years.

ESF+ is a co-financed programme, meaning that EU funding must be matched by a set percentage of national funding.

## Project Examples

[Funded projects in Ireland](#)

## How to Apply

Learn more here: <https://eufunds.ie/european-social-fund/operational-programmes/esf-2021...>;

## Current calls details below:

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### ESF+ - Support EU networks active in the areas of social economy and social finance

The overarching objective for New Solutions is to enhance the social innovation ecosystem in Ireland by, ‘fostering active inclusion, promoting equal opportunities, non-discrimination and active participation, and to improve employability, for disadvantaged groups including through the social enterprise business model.’

These action grants will contribute to building up the institutional capacity of stakeholders delivering support to social economy entities as well as those supporting the development of social finance.

Deadline: 19 June 2025 @ 5pm (Brussels time)

Full details: <https://www.accesseurope.ie/open-funds/esf---support-eu-networks-active-in-the-areas-of-social-economy-and-social-finance>

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## Benefact Group - Movement for Good Awards

The [Benefact Group](#), does financial services differently – we give all available profits to charity and good causes.

The Movement for Good Awards is our annual programme of giving that anyone can get involved in, and again this year we'll be donating over £1 million to charities and good causes.

### **Nominate a Charity for €1,000**

Nominations made from Jan 1st 2025 – December 15th 2025 will be entered into all remaining £1,000 draws. Nominations from previous years do not roll over.

Nominations are accepted between Jan 1st 2025 – 16 Dec 2025.

During this time anyone can nominate their favourite charity or charities for an award of £1,000 – it's one nomination per charity, per person.

You can nominate a registered charity, not-for-profit organisation or community interest company in the UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands or Isle of Man. [Click here](#) to see the full terms and conditions.

There are six £1,000 draws in 2025, so the earlier you nominate, the more chances your charity has of being drawn.

Once you've nominated, your charity will be included in all the remaining £1,000 draws in 2025.

The more nominations a charity gets, the better their chances of being drawn, so once you've nominated please share with your network.

Please note: Nominations from previous years do not roll over.

See full [terms and conditions](#).

### **€5,000 Special Draws**

There will be four special draws throughout 2025 – we'll have 10 awards of £5,000 in each draw. See the categories and dates for each draw below and please sign up to receive notifications about any that are of interest to you.

These are special five day draws that support one charity sector each.

If your favourite charity is in the £1,000 draw, you'll need to enter them into the special draw too if they are eligible.

Draw 1: Animals & Wildlife / 17 - 23 Feb

Draw 2: Health & Wellbeing / 28 Apr - 4 May

Draw 3: Children & Young People / 16 - 22 Jun

Draw 4: Arts & Culture / 13 - 19 Oct

See here: <https://movementforgood.com/#specialDraws>

### **Partnership Funding**

In May we'll be launching our new partnership funding initiative. If you're a charity or know a charity that may be interested in applying, please sign up to our database to make sure you're kept up to date.

### **How to Nominate**

Deadline: 22 Jun 2025 / 5K Draw (children & young people, 28 Jul 2025 (1K draw).

Visit [www.movementforgood.com](http://www.movementforgood.com) to nominate a charity now.

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## Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme

The Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme supports the research community in building and sustaining essential resources to conduct high-quality, innovative research across all disciplines. This programme recognises that robust research infrastructure is fundamental to advancing knowledge that contributes to Ireland's cultural, social, environmental and economic development.

Research Ireland encourages the efficient use, renewal and development of existing infrastructure while also advocating for continued investment in state-of-the-art facilities and resources across diverse research areas of importance. The Infrastructure Programme aims to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and ensure all researchers have access to the resources necessary for excellence in their respective fields.

Applications to the 2025 Programme Call will support significant infrastructure investments across all disciplines within Research Ireland's remit. The programme welcomes proposals for substantial resources that enhance research capabilities in diverse fields, recognising the different infrastructure requirements of various research traditions.

Applications to the 2025 Programme Call will have a minimum budget request of €500,000 direct costs. An additional 10% cash cost share is mandatory in all applications; therefore, the total infrastructure cost must be at least €550,000. There is no maximum budget request.

The Programme will be run in collaboration with the [Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland \(SEAI\)](#).

### Primary Objectives:

To provide Ireland's researchers with access to cutting-edge infrastructure that enhances high-quality research activities and innovation across all disciplines

To facilitate broad usage across Ireland and to foster partnerships and collaboration between diverse research communities; for example, between Universities, Technological Universities, Institutes of Technology, other Eligible Research Bodies, researchers in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and between and among STEM and AHSS researchers in Ireland

To optimise utilisation and promote long-term sustainability of infrastructure through the development of robust management and access charge plans

### Supporting Objectives

To establish Ireland as an attractive destination for the recruitment of world-leading academics

To deliver outstanding infrastructure that enables Ireland's researchers to compete successfully in funding calls coordinated through Horizon Europe and future European Framework Programmes

To encourage research partnerships with industry through collaborative initiatives that facilitate industry access to infrastructure

To support the strategic development and growth of the Research Ireland Centres

To fund infrastructure that supports green transition initiatives and prioritises environmental sustainability

To advance national and European Open Science policies and principles and ensure access to an effective digital infrastructure ecosystem

To be eligible for funding through the Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme, all proposals must align with Research Ireland's legal remit where there is convincing evidence that there will be significant potential for economic and/or societal impact in Ireland.

## **Funding**

Applications to the 2025 Programme Call will have a minimum budget request of €500,000 direct costs. An additional 10% cash cost share is mandatory in all applications; therefore, the total infrastructure cost must be at least €550,000. There is no maximum budget request.

## **Eligibility**

Proposals are invited from individual eligible research bodies or consortia of eligible research bodies for infrastructure requests. Each Research Body must nominate a lead applicant from the Research Body who will have primary fiduciary responsibility and accountability for the management of the infrastructure award.

The Lead Applicant must be an independent researcher and must have held a PhD or equivalent qualification for at least three years at proposal submission. The official date of a PhD is defined as the year that the degree was conferred (i.e., the year printed on the official PhD certificate).

The applicant must hold, or have held, a significant peer-reviewed, independent research grant or award. This is typically a multi-annual ( $\geq 3$  years in duration) grant or fellowship that provides support for research costs and may support the salaries and/or stipends of staff/team member(s) in addition to the Applicant.

For the 2025 Research Ireland Infrastructure call, each eligible Research Body in the Republic of Ireland may submit a maximum of six applications, one application per Lead Applicant employed at that Research Body. Researchers based in Northern Ireland may not act as Lead Applicants in proposals submitted to this call, although they may participate as collaborators.

Applications to the Research Ireland Infrastructure Programme 2025 call may be associated with host institutions seeking to support Technology Centres and Technology Gateways funded by Enterprise Ireland. Research Ireland and Enterprise Ireland will ensure that Exchequer-based funding is appropriately distributed to Technology Centres and Technology Gateways for the acquisition of new equipment and/or other infrastructure.

Research Ireland and Enterprise Ireland do not expect applications for the same infrastructure to be submitted to this call and to any future equipment calls coordinated by Enterprise Ireland in 2025; both agencies will work together to ensure that no applicant institution may seek, or be provided funding for, the same item(s) through these calls.

## How to Apply

Prospective lead applicants must first contact the Research Office of the intended lead Research Body and notify them of their intention to submit a proposal. Applications should only be submitted to Research Ireland where it is clearly demonstrated that appropriate funding and resources are in place to ensure maximum usage of the requested infrastructure.

It is the responsibility of the Research Body to carry out selection processes to determine which proposals are put forward for submission. Should a lead applicant withdraw from the process prior to the full proposal deadline, the Research Body may nominate a replacement candidate.

## Application Process Overview

Expression of Interest (Email Submission):

Research Bodies must submit an Expression of Interest document to Research Ireland by email as Microsoft Forms only.

A member of the Research Office staff must provide Research Ireland with a cover sheet and infrastructure summary tables for all applications (as a single Microsoft Word document) by email ([infrastructure@researchireland.ie](mailto:infrastructure@researchireland.ie)). After receiving cover sheet, Research Ireland will invite applicants to submit EoI via Microsoft Forms. The EoI should be submitted no later than 23 June 2025, 13:00 local Dublin time.

The template for the Expression of Interest and Cover Sheet is provided on the Research Ireland website.

### **Full Proposal Submission:**

Full proposals will only be accepted through SESAME, Research Ireland's grants management system, and only upon invitation following the successful assessment of an Expression of Interest.

Proposals must be submitted online through SESAME to Research Ireland by the Research Office of the Lead Applicant's Research Body no later than 31 July 2025, 13:00 local Dublin time.

No extensions to this deadline will be permitted under any circumstances.

All proposals are to be submitted via [SESAME](#). If accessing SESAME for the first time, researchers should contact their local Research Office to get access to the system.

For more information, view the [SESAME User Guides and FAQs](#) on the Research Ireland website.

Queries on the SESAME management system should first be directed to your Institute's Research Office.

Deadline(s): 23 Jun 2025 (EoI) / 31 Jul 2025 (full proposal)

<https://www.researchireland.ie/funding/infrastructure/>

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## The Arts Council - Arts Centre Funding

The purpose of Arts Centre Funding is to invest in and support the infrastructure of arts centres required to sustain and develop the arts in Ireland.

Arts centres are defined as full-time, public-facing, professionally managed, building-based arts organisations. They support the creation, presentation and mediation of the arts across a range of artforms and arts practices.

They support professional, collaborative, voluntary and amateur arts practice. Recipients of Arts Centre Funding play a critical part in delivering the policy priorities of Making Great Art Work, the Arts Council's ten-year strategy.

In offering Arts Centre Funding, the Arts Council wishes to ensure:

- The year-round production and dissemination of arts activities, events and services of the highest quality throughout the country
- That greater numbers of people enjoy high-quality arts experiences
- That artists are supported in their professional practice
- That audiences, artists and participants reflect the diversity of contemporary Ireland
- Increased depth of engagement by and with the public
- High standards in governance and management.

In accordance with the [Policy and Strategy for Arts Centres](#), the Arts Council wishes to encourage arts centres to engage with and further develop supports for artists. Examples of this might be by:

Providing professional-development opportunities for practising artists through:

- The management of physical spaces for artists to develop work
- Residencies that are meaningful in length, appropriately remunerated, and relevant to the requirements of artists in different artforms and practices
- In-house productions/co-productions
- Other models of support as appropriate



- Working with cultural and other organisations (e.g. other arts centres and venues, local-authority arts offices, festivals, libraries, schools, care centres, etc.) to engage with people as artists, audience members, collaborators and participants
- Planning for the development of digitally intelligent buildings, supporting innovation both in creation and dissemination.

### **Who can apply?**

The Arts Centre Funding Programme is open only to building-based, professionally managed, multidisciplinary arts organisations that are open to the public all year round.

To be eligible for application, your organisation must: Be formally constituted as either a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG), a Designated Activity Company (DAC), a Company Limited by Shares (LTD) or a statutory body.

Apply in its own name, and not in the name of another company or individual.

What types of activities will be supported through Arts Centre Funding?

Arts Centre Funding is intended to support activities that your organisation undertakes to realise your mission and related operating costs.

Note: include any activities that were previously supported through separate funding schemes. For example:

- Residencies
- Artist-development initiatives
- Resource sharing
- Young ensembles
- Touring and dissemination of work in 2025.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 24 Jun 2025 (opening) / 11 Sep 2025 (closing)

Full guidelines and application details available here: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Arts-Centre-Funding/>

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# Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation.

## Aims & Objectives

It aims to:

- strengthen the EU's scientific and technological bases and the European Research Area (ERA);
- boost Europe's innovation capacity, competitiveness and jobs;
- deliver on citizens' priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals

## What does it support?

It funds actions under its three pillars and one horizontal activity:

Pillar 1: Excellent Science aims to increase the EU's global scientific competitiveness. This pillar includes the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions which fund the development of excellent doctoral and postdoctoral training programmes and collaborative research projects.

Pillar 2: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness supports research relating to societal challenges and reinforces technological and industrial capacities through its seven "clusters" or themes.

Pillar 3: Innovative Europe aims to make Europe a frontrunner in market-creating innovation via the European Innovation Council.

Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area: This horizontal activity will increase support to EU Member States in their efforts to make the most of their national research and innovation potential.

## Who can apply?

- Academia and higher education institutions
- Researchers and research centres
- Public bodies (local, regional, or national)
- Industry and private businesses

- Non-governmental organisations and nonprofits who would like to promote and facilitate engaged and ethical research into issues impacting their beneficiaries.

## **Why the EU funds research and innovation**

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [Research and innovation](#)

## **Budget**

€95.5 billion over 7 years.

## **Project Examples**

[Re-InVest](#): Investing in the right to a home. This qualitative research project used a participatory action approach to co-construct policy knowledge. The research focused on the experience of lone parent families living in emergency homeless accommodation, particularly in relation to their experience of the private rental subsidy Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and of Family Hubs, a new form of emergency.

[Find more case studies on the Campus Engaged website.](#)

## **National Contact Point in Ireland**

For [Horizon Europe \(Cluster 2\) & European Research Council](#): Irish University Association, Chiara Loda, [chiara.loda@iua.ie](mailto:chiara.loda@iua.ie)

For [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions \(MSCA\)](#): Irish University Association, Yvonne Halpin, [yvonne.halpin@iua.ie](mailto:yvonne.halpin@iua.ie)

For Horizon Europe Health: Enterprise Ireland, [Dr Matha Cahill](#)

[Horizon Europe Contact List](#)

## **Want to find out more?**

[Horizon Europe - The EU Research & Innovation Programme](#)

[Horizon Europe Info Days 2021](#)

[Irish Marie Skłodowska-Curie Office](#)

[Network of MSCA National Contact Points \(NCPs\)](#)

[MSCA matchmaking platform](#)

## Social media

[Horizon Europe on Twitter](#)

[Horizon Europe Ireland on Twitter](#)

[The Irish Marie Skłodowska-Curie Office on Twitter](#)

[Marie Skłodowska Curie Programme on Twitter](#)

How to Apply

Find open calls for [Horizon Europe](#).

### Current calls:

#### MSCA COFUND 2025

Deadline: 24 June 2025 5:00 PM Brussels time

Project Duration: Maximum 60 months

Funding available: EUR 101 820 280

This call co-finances new or existing doctoral programmes and postdoctoral fellowship schemes.

[Full details here](#)

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## 2025 AIB Community €1 Million Fund

The AIB Community €1 Million Fund enables customers, the public and our employees to support the local charities that matter most to them, within their region. The Fund supports charities across six regions in Ireland, Northern Ireland & Great Britain.

AIB will once again allocate €700,000 to charities chosen by its customers and the community, while €300,000 will be donated to charities chosen by employees.

The 2025 AIB Community €1 Million Fund opened for nominations on 14 May and will remain open for six weeks, closing on 25 June.

What are the funding amounts awarded?

- Public-nominated charities will receive €20,000
- Employee-nominated charities receive €6,000
- Some charities can be nominated in both funds.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 25 Jun 2025

Full details, including FAQs and Terms & Conditions, are available here: <https://aib.ie/community-fund>

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## Shared Island Civic Society Fund

The Shared Island Civic Society Fund is an initiative to promote practical North-South cooperation and engagement through increased cross-border civic society connections.

The Shared Island initiative is a whole-of-government priority which aims to harness the full potential of the Good Friday Agreement to enhance on-the-ground cooperation, connection, and mutual understanding on the island and engage with all communities and traditions to build consensus around a shared future.

The Shared Island Civic Society Fund has entered a second, three-year, phase, running from 2025 to 2027, with increased resourcing to support enhanced island-wide societal connection, cooperation and mutual understanding.

The fund has been allocated a budget of €6m over the 2025-2027 period, funded both by the Shared Island Initiative and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This means that there will now be €2 million available each year for disbursement by way of grant funding to eligible organisations.

### Principles of the fund

The Shared Island Civic Society Fund seeks to ensure that funding is not a barrier to cross border engagement. It encourages and supports civic society and community organisations to develop new cross-border links, to further strengthen existing partnerships, or to create or broaden cross-border connectivity on issues of concern for the island of Ireland.

### Who should apply to the fund

Consistent with the objectives of the Shared Island Civic Society Fund:

Applications are sought which will foster sustained engagement between civic society organisations at a regional, national or sectoral level as distinct from stand-alone events or engagements.

Applications are invited from civic societies, business and trade union representative groups and other regional or national representative bodies, including of underrepresented voices of women, young people, older people, ethnic minorities, and LGBTQI+

Applications are particularly welcomed in the areas of:

- Environment

- Women
- Youth
- Migrants
- Community/Voluntary sector
- Trade Unions, Business, and Social Enterprise.

### **What we look for in projects**

To qualify for funding, projects must have a strong North South dimension.

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate how their proposed project will do one or more of the following:

- Deepen North South links through the development of sustainable cross-border civic relationships;
- Develop and/or deepen cross-border relations between civic society organisations, North and South;
- Promote constructive and inclusive dialogue around the opportunities and challenges facing the island through cross-border and cross-community engagement;
- Contribute significantly to the development of an all-island civic society ecosystem, particularly in relation to areas of cooperation and fundamental rights provided for under the Good Friday Agreement;
- Adopts an innovative or novel approach to building North South relations.

### **Eligibility**

The following eligibility criteria apply:

- Applications must demonstrate a clear partnership between at least one organisation based in the South and at least one organisation based in the North, or must be from an all island body;
- Funding will not be awarded to cover standalone activities that are not part of a wider project/programme

- Only direct project/programme work will be eligible for funding and grants will not be awarded to cover core operational or capital costs;
- An organisation may only make one application for funding as a lead organisation per round;
- Organisations already in receipt of funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and other Government Departments/public bodies are eligible to apply for this fund, although activities supported must be distinct from those being supported by other Government funding schemes;
- Organisations who have received funding from previous rounds of the Shared Island Civic Society Fund and have not submitted all relevant reports from those previous rounds are not eligible to apply to subsequent rounds.

To be eligible an application organisation must also demonstrate

- What the project/programme outcomes are and how they align with the fund's objectives;
- The impact of the project/programme North and South based on clear expected outputs and outcomes;
- The capacity of the application organisation to deliver the outcomes set out in the project;
- The organisation's financial management capacity;
- The organisation's governance arrangements;
- The organisation's monitoring and evaluation systems;
- The organisation's financial stability and sustainability.

In addition to the above eligibility requirements, applications will be strengthened by the inclusion of funding contributions to the proposed project from the participating partner organisations.

## How to Apply

You apply for the Shared Island Civic Society Fund via the Grant Application Portal for the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland [Home · DFAT Grant Application Portal](#)



You are required to register your Organisation on the Grant Application Portal in advance of making your application to the Shared Island Civic Society Fund. Include a reasonable level of detail about your organisation and select “Euro” as the currency of your grant applications.

In completing the application form, applicants must clearly demonstrate that their projects will deliver on the Fund’s overall objective to deepen cross-border and all-island collaboration, North and South.

Applications must provide details of both cross-border partners and set out how collaboration between these partners will strengthen North South civic, economic or cultural links. The objectives, deliverables, costs, and timescales for this collaboration must also be clearly set out in the application. Applications will be prioritised based on how strongly they meet these criteria and align with the objectives of the Fund.

Any questions about the Fund should be directed to [sharedislandcsfund@dfa.ie](mailto:sharedislandcsfund@dfa.ie).

Any technical questions about using the online Grant Application Portal can be sent to [PortalAdmin@dfa.ie](mailto:PortalAdmin@dfa.ie)

Please note that the below documents must be included along with the application:

- letters of commitment from each organisation partnering in delivering the project
- the lead organisation's most recent annual accounts/financial statements or if newly formed a declaration of no income/expenditure signed by the Treasurer and another Board or Committee member (on headed official paper if available), along with evidence of a bank account, e.g. copies of a bank statement

If you’re applying for €10,000 or more, you’ll need a valid Tax Clearance Certificate for the lead organisation. This certificate, issued by the Irish Revenue Commissioners, is necessary for processing payments from any Irish Government Department, regardless of the organisation’s location in the world. You can easily obtain a resident or non-resident tax clearance certificate online at [revenue.ie](https://revenue.ie).

Deadline: 27 Jun 2025

Full guidelines and application details are available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-foreign-affairs/services/shared-island-civic-society-fund/>

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## Comhaltas - Ashling Murphy Scholarship

[Comhaltas](#) has established three scholarships to recognise and remember the talent and legacy of the late Ashling Murphy. Ashling was a primary school teacher, Comhaltas music teacher and performer.

There are three scholarships in her memory awarded each year under the categories of Community, Education and Research.

The scholarships are kindly sponsored by Ken Barrett of [KB Leisurewear](#).

### Community

The first scholarship will primarily focus on the community and is intended to support individuals working to develop participation and practice in traditional arts, including collaborative, community and socially engaged arts practices. Possibilities for the development of current Comhaltas community structures should be explored. It is envisaged that implementation of this project should result in tangible and beneficial outcomes for the traditional arts in the community.

### Education

The second scholarship will focus on music education. The scholarship is intended to support individual educators working with, and producing work for, students across the Irish traditional arts. The purpose of the scholarship is to support educators in the development of their practice and to encourage students to be more confident in their own ability. Delivery of this project can include the development of new programmes of traditional music education.

### Research

The purpose of the third scholarship is to support researchers in the development of a new piece of research in the Irish traditional arts. Possible areas for research might include aspects of regional performance styles, repertoire, composition, music education, collections, recordings, among others. It is envisaged that implementation of this project should result in tangible outcome, which may take the form of book/CD publication, lecture recital, journal article, website etc.

### Criteria

Submissions should include name, contact information, short biography of the applicant and a brief outline of the project to include a proposed budget and timeline.

Submissions are welcomed in both English and Irish language.

Successful applicants will be awarded €2000 towards the overall cost of the project: €1000 when the scholarship is awarded and €1000 upon completion.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of independent adjudicators and results announced before July 11th, 2025.

The scholarships will be awarded at [Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann](#) 2025 in Wexford.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 27 Jun 2025 @ 5pm

Full details, including application form, available here: <https://comhaltas.ie/education/ashling-murphy-scholarship/>

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## Save Our Seas Foundation Grants

The Save Our Seas Foundation (SOSF) offers a series of grants dedicated to research, conservation and education projects worldwide. Keystone Grant and Small Grant projects should integrate at least two of these components and focus on charismatic marine megafauna, particularly sharks, rays and skates.

The Storytelling Grant is dedicated to supporting early career and emerging conservation storytellers and focuses on photography in its inaugural year.

### Keystone Grant

Grants between 10,000–100,000. USD. Average 25,000 USD.

The Save Our Seas Foundation (SOSF) is committed to protecting our oceans by funding and supporting research, conservation and education projects worldwide, focusing primarily on threatened marine wildlife and their habitats. Only projects concerned with marine chondrichthyan species (sharks, rays, skates, sawfishes and chimaeras) will be considered.

### Small Grant

Max grant - 10,000 USD. Grant average: 5,000 USD.

The Small Grant is designed for short (12- to 18-month) and small projects (grants average US\$5,000) dedicated to early career scientists (within five years of a degree being awarded). Aimed at original and innovative start-up projects, the grant presents early career scientists, conservationists or educators with an opportunity to prove themselves. It targets local projects conducted by local project leaders. Whether or not the project is part of a larger endeavour, SOSF Small Grants are for specific and finite projects. Only projects concerned with marine chondrichthyan species (sharks, rays, skates, sawfishes and chimaeras) will be considered.

### Ocean Storytelling Grant

We are delighted to introduce our new emerging Ocean Storytelling Grant, which will focus on photography in its inaugural year.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 28 Jun 2025 (small grants)

[Access current grant deadlines and information here.](#)

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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](http://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: 30 Jun 2025

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

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## Fleetwood - Community Colours 2025

To mark 75 years of colour, creativity, and community, We are thrilled to relaunch our Community Colours campaign – with an even bigger splash! We're giving away €75,000 worth of paint to local communities all across Ireland, supporting the spaces that bring people together and make our neighbourhoods shine.

From the 1st of May through to the end of June, 75 community groups and clubs will each receive up to €1,000 worth of Fleetwood paint – whether it's to brighten a town hall, refresh a sports clubhouse, spruce up a Scout den, or add new life to a Women's or Men's Shed.

Last Year Was Big. This Year Is Bigger.

After the overwhelming success of last year's initiative – where €60,000 worth of paint was gifted to deserving community groups – we knew we had to go bigger. And 2025 is all about colour, community, and celebration.

Whether you're a tidy towns volunteer or part of a community centre team, this is your chance to give back to the places that matter most and nominate your club!

### How to Apply

Buy any Fleetwood product no minimum spend required. Paint, brushes, accessories – it all counts!

Scan the QR code on in-store posters, via links on our social media or click [here](#).

Upload your proof of purchase receipt and nominate your chosen club, group or community.

Deadline: 30 Jun 2025

Full details here: <https://www.fleetwood.ie/celebrating-75-years-with-colour-community-colours-returns-for-2025/>

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## URBACT Programme

The URBACT programme allows EU cities to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges.

### Aims & Objectives

URBACT IV runs from 2021-2027 and aims to build the capacity of cities to design and implement Sustainable Urban Development strategies in complementarity and cooperation with the European Urban Initiative. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to EU Cohesion Policy Objective 5 – Europe Closer to Citizens by fostering sustainable and integrated development.

URBACT's mission is to enable cities to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges, by networking, learning from one another's experiences, drawing lessons and identifying good practices to improve urban policies. The purpose is to promote integrated sustainable development in cities, improve city's policies and improve the effectiveness of cohesion policy in cities. The 'bottom up' approach of the programme allows cities to define their own needs whilst ensuring a strong link to the Cohesion Policy framework.

URBACT is an instrument of the Cohesion Policy, co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, the 28 Member States, Norway and Switzerland.

### What does it support?

The main mechanism that URBACT uses to achieve its objectives is through co-financing exchange and learning networks that typically run for 30 months and involve six to twelve cities, depending on the type of network. In URBACT IV there are three main types of networks:

- Action Planning Networks
- Transfer Networks
- Innovation Transfer Mechanism Networks.

Each network focuses on a specific theme or challenge. Key outputs of URBACT networks include the production of a local action plan by a local support group made up of key stakeholders, case studies and thematic reports.

### Who can apply?

- Cities, municipalities, towns;



- Local agencies defined as public or semi-public organisations
- City districts or boroughs
- Metropolitan authorities
- In addition, a number of non-city partners are eligible including:
- Provincial, regional and national authorities, as far as urban issues are concerned;
- Universities and research centres, as far as urban issues are concerned.

## **Budget**

The budget for URBACT IV is €79,769,799 ERDF and total €102,934,000.

## **Project Examples**

[Playful Paradigm](#)

[Military Assets as Public Spaces \(MAPS\)](#)

## **How to Apply**

[The Eastern & Midland Regional Assembly](#) is the national contact point for URBACT in Ireland. Contact Karl Murphy [kmurphy@emra.ie](mailto:kmurphy@emra.ie) or [urbactireland@emra.ie](mailto:urbactireland@emra.ie).

Open Calls:

## **URBACT Call for Transfer Networks**

Deadline: 30 June 30, 2025 @ 5:00 PM - Brussels time

Project Duration: 30 months

Funding available: EUR 750 000

Partners required: Up to 8 cities

This call aims to create partnerships of cities willing to transfer in their local contexts one of the [116 URBACT Good Practices](#)\*.

[Full Details Here](#)

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## EMEA Impact Through Innovation Awards

Our program aims to seed-fund innovative solutions that address health, mental wellbeing or educational outcomes for children and young people. The Awards help scale pioneering projects, connect ideas with capital and build capacity for charitable organizations.

This inaugural initiative invites EMEA-based charities in the regions where Morgan Stanley is [present](#) to submit innovative ideas to positively improve health, mental wellbeing or educational outcomes for children and young people. Up to ten winners are selected and a broader group of applicants are invited to join the expert-led Learning Series, to help improve their organizations' strength, growth and impact.

Each award winner receives £100,000 in seed funding.

Morgan Stanley is present in Dublin, Ireland.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 7 Jul 2025

Full application deadlines available here: <https://www.morganstanley.com/about-us/giving-back/emea-impact-through-innovation-awards>

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## The Arts Council - Partnership 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 Partnership Funding is to invest in and support the essential infrastructure required to sustain and develop the arts in Ireland.

Recipients of Partnership Funding must play a critical part in delivering the policy priorities of Making Great Art Work, the Arts Council's ten-year strategy.

In offering Partnership Funding, the Arts Council wishes to ensure:

- The delivery of excellent art and/or excellent arts activities, events and services
- A supportive environment for the development of the arts
- Excellent professional-development opportunities for practising artists and/or arts professionals
- That more people will enjoy high-quality arts experiences, including more diverse audiences
- Increased engagement by the public with the arts, in particular by new communities, people for whom access to the arts is difficult, and by young people and children
- Standards of excellence in governance and management in the arts.

### Eligibility

Partnership Funding is open to local authorities and Ealaín na Gaeltachta during this round.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 22 Jul 2025 (opening) / 2 Oct 2025 (closing)

[Please visit the Arts Council website for updated 2026 application details.](#)

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## The Arts Council - Theatre Project Award

The objective of the Theatre Project Award (strands 1 and 2) is to support the development, generation and creation of theatre for general audiences. The award is open to professional artists and organisations with a demonstrable track record in theatre practice, in collaboration with artists and/or in partnership with existing theatre organisations, arts centres or festivals, where that partnership is additional to, and separate from, that organisation's core activity.

Guidelines for the previous round of this award can be viewed [here](#). Please note: these guidelines may be changed for the upcoming round of the award. New guidelines will be available before the window for applications opens.

### Eligibility

The award is open to professional artists and organisations working in theatre. To be eligible to apply, applicants must:

- Be resident in the Republic of Ireland. However, we may accept applications from outside the Republic of Ireland. In this case, you must detail in your application form how your proposal would benefit the arts in the Republic of Ireland. We would need to be satisfied with your explanation.

### Theatre Project Budget Template

Applicants for the Theatre Project Award must provide a completed Theatre Project Budget Template as part of their supporting material. The template should use the following naming convention: Theatre\_Project\_Budget\_Template\_2025\_[name of project]. Please note that there are two tabs in the template, the second of which allows you to list in kind supports.

There are two strands to the 2025 Round 2 Theatre Project Award:

Strand 1 – Play Development (up to €15,000)

Strand 2 – Theatre Creation (up to €26,000).

### How to Apply

Deadline: 24 Jul 2025

Full details available here:

<https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Theatre-Project-Award/>

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## 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme was first introduced in 2016. It is managed on behalf of the Department by the local authorities, and the programme is funded under Project Ireland 2040. The Scheme is targeted at towns and villages with a population of 10,000 or less and all projects funded under the Scheme must be completed within a 12 to 18 month period.

Since the launch of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme in 2016, over €177 million of funding has been approved for almost 1,800 projects across Ireland.

The Town and Village Scheme is one of a series of national and local support measures designed to rejuvenate small rural towns and villages throughout Ireland, under the Department of Rural & Community Development's [Rural Development Investment Programme](#).

### The 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

The Department of Rural and Community Development, through the Our Rural Future, Town Centre First and Our Living Islands policies, recognises the importance of creating and maintaining vibrant rural towns and villages, and we will continue to achieve this by delivering a wide range of strategic interventions and investments throughout the country.

The 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme is designed to support the revitalisation of rural Ireland by focusing on stimulating town centre economic and social regeneration. This will be achieved through projects which support sustainable employment creation, town centre resilience and regeneration, enhancing our streetscapes, and bringing vacant and derelict buildings and lands back into use as community multi-purpose spaces through refurbishment and renovation.

Three funding streams are available under the 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme; the Main Scheme, the Project Development Measure and the Building or Land Acquisition Measure.

### Funding allocations

Information on projects previously funded under Town and Village Renewal Scheme can be found on this webpage: [Town and Village Renewal Scheme Funding Allocations](#).

If you have any questions about the Town and Village Renewal Scheme please contact [townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie).

### How to Apply

Deadline: 25 Jul 2025 (main scheme & project development measure)

Full details are available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-rural-and-community-development/policy-information/town-and-village-renewal-scheme/>

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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](mailto:paul@wheel.ie) and we'll get back to you shortly. [www.wheel.ie](http://www.wheel.ie).

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