

the business
information
service

BIS ⓘ

Guide to
Business Supports
in Donegal



Donegal County | Bord **Fiontar**
Enterprise Board | Chontae Dhún na nGall

In business, to help your business



Interested in

starting a business?

Are you

already up and running

but **need assistance**

to sustain growth or expand?

Are you aware of the

support that is available

to you?

Here at the Donegal County Enterprise Board, through the Business Information Service, we aim to act as a valuable information source for small business. Knowing where to turn for advice and support is an important first step, which is why the Business Information Service offers a guide to the range of assistance available to a new or existing business.

This guide identifies the agencies offering assistance to businesses which will make your start up phase that bit easier or improve the performance of your existing business.

Nothing will ever replace your dedication, time and talent needed to make your business a success, but enclosed in this guide are the agencies which give businesses in Donegal a greater chance to make this happen.

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The Support Matrix - A Bird's eye view of the range of Agencies that may be able to offer services to your business at each stage of its development.

	Pre-Start Up Assistance	Feasibility Studies	Business Plans	Ongoing Assistance (Post Start-up)	Finance	Management Development	Marketing Assistance	IT Assistance	Enterprise Education
Donegal County Enterprise Board	▲★★★✦◆	▲★★	▲✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	✦◆✦◆	✦◆
Donegal County Enterprise Fund	◆✦◆◆			◆✦◆◆	◆✦◆◆			◆	
Údarás na Gaeltachta	▲★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	▲★★★✦◆
Enterprise Ireland	▲▼◆✦◆	▲	★★★✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	★✦◆✦◆	▲▼◆✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	◆
FÁS	★✦◆✦◆			★✦◆✦◆		★✦◆✦◆			✦◆
Department of Social and Family Affairs	★✦◆			◆✦◆	▲▼◆✦◆		▲		
DLDC	★✦◆✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	●	★★★✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	▲★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆
Island Leader									
IRDLC	★✦◆✦◆	▲	◆	★★★✦◆	▲		●	●	●
Inishowen Partnership	★✦◆✦◆		★★★✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	●	★★★✦◆	★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆
MFG	▲	▲★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	●▲▼◆✦◆	★★★✦◆	▲▼◆✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆
Coillte	★★★✦◆	★	★	★	★	★	★		
Teagasc		★	★★★✦◆	●	★	★★★✦◆			✦◆
Fáilte Ireland North West	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	●	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆		✦◆
LYIT		★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆		★★★✦◆	★★★✦◆	★	

DONEGAL COUNTY ENTERPRISE BOARD



Contact	Michael Tunney, CEO
Office Hours	9am - 5pm
Address	Donegal County Enterprise Board The Enterprise Fund Business Centre Ballyrairie Letterkenny Co Donegal
Tel	074 91 60735
Fax	074 91 60783
Email	info@donegalenterprise.ie
Website	www.donegalenterprise.ie


Donegal County Enterprise Board works with and for small businesses in Donegal to create a thriving and innovative business sector throughout the county. Through flexible and client-focused actions and programmes the Enterprise Board seeks to promote and develop enterprise and entrepreneurship.

The objectives of Donegal County Enterprise Board are:

- To develop a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship in Donegal;
- To increase the number of small and micro enterprise start-ups in the county;
- To support existing businesses to increase their growth potential , competitiveness, innovation and sustainability;
- To develop and promote pilot economic initiatives in the county either on a regional or sectoral basis;
- To implement a number of economic cross-border initiatives designed to develop the capability of businesses to compete internationally.

Donegal County Enterprise provides a range of supports of ways to facilitate business development including:

- The Business Information Service, providing information and direction;
- Business Advice;
- Business Mentoring and Consultancy;
- Management Development and Training;
- Networking Opportunities and specific sector support;
- Direct Grant Assistance to new and existing businesses via feasibility study, capital, employment, repayable and equity grant funding. Grant funding is available to manufacturing and tradable service projects which are located in Donegal;
- In addition, a number of specialised programmes such as Tradelinks, the Donegal Design Directorate and Women in Business are delivered.

DONEGAL COUNTY ENTERPRISE FUND		
	Contact	Michael Tunney
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm
	Address	Donegal County Enterprise Fund The Enterprise Fund Business Centre Ballyraine Letterkenny Co Donegal
	Tel	074 91 60735
	Fax	074 91 60783
	Email	mtunney@donegalenterprise.ie
	Website	www.donegalenterprise.ie

Donegal County Enterprise Fund is a limited company with charitable status and its directors are drawn from the business, public and community sectors from throughout Donegal. The Fund provides a range of accessible low interest loan schemes, offering loans up to €50,000 to commercially viable and sustainable businesses. In addition to the Funds main loan scheme for small businesses, specific schemes are available to the longterm unemployed, women and people with disabilities.

Initially established with assistance from the International Fund for Ireland, the Fund has also received funding from ADM/CPA, the Ulster Bank, the Department of Social and Family Affairs, the three Partnership companies in Donegal, the Donegal County Enterprise Board and private businesses.

The County Enterprise Fund seeks to assist, support and develop any project whether in the industry or service sector, or any other business or enterprise which has the potential for creating or sustaining productive employment and enhancing economic prosperity in County Donegal. The Fund does not provide personal loans or loans to retail businesses.

The Fund also offers high quality office and workspace accommodation, and meeting and training rooms at its premises at the Enterprise Fund Business Centre, Ballyraine Letterkenny.

ÚDARÁS NA GAELTACHTA



Contact	Cathal Mac Suibhne
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	Údarás na Gaeltachta Páirc Ghnó Ghaoth Dobhair Doirl Beaga Doirí Beaga Leitir Ceanainn
Tel	074 95 60100
Fax	074 95 60101
Email	eolas@udaras.ie
Website	www.udaras.ie

Is áisíneacht stáit é Údarás na Gaeltachta le cúram forbartha, eacnamaíocht shóisialta agus cultúra na Gaeltachta.

Údarás na Gaeltachta, is a Government agency, charged with the economic, social and cultural development of the Gaeltacht.

Príomh sheirbhísí tacaíochta/ Údarás na Gaeltachta core services include:

Dreasachtaí airgeadais ar fail ón Údarás / Financial Incentives to Business

Údarás na Gaeltachta will assist investors through all stages of start up, from office identification to help with recruitment, training and legal requirements, in addition to financial assistance.

Dreasachtaí airgeadais ar fail ón Údarás / Financial Incentives available through An tÚdarás include:

- Employment Grants
- Capital Grants
- Marketing Assistance Grants for SMEs
- Training Grants
- Equity Participation
- Feasibility Study Grants
- Research and Development Grants

Tacaíocht eile / General Non-Financial Incentives Include:

- Availability of Suitable Accommodation
- Advice
- Assistance with Recruitment and Training
- Start Up Guidance
- Legal Advice
- General Marketing Advice

Eligibility for Assistance is Assessed on the Basis of:

- Economic Analysis.
- Business Analysis.
- Strategic Partnerships.

GAOTH DOBHAIR / GWEEDORE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Gaoth Dobhair is located in the North-West region of County Donegal, approximately 70 kilometres from the town of Letterkenny.

Gweedore is one of the most densely populated rural areas in Europe, with a hinterland containing a total population of 14,300.

Údarás na Gaeltachta is currently offering excellent financial incentives to locate at the Gaoth Dobhair Business Park.

Ag obair ar shon na Gaeltachta

ENTERPRISE IRELAND		
	Contact	Marian Roberts
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Portland House Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
	Tel	074 916 9800
	Fax	074 916 9801
	Email	marian.roberts@enterprise-ireland.com
	Website	www.enterprise-ireland.com

Enterprise Ireland is the Irish state development agency focused on transforming Irish industry. The core mission is to accelerate the development of world-class Irish companies to achieve strong positions in global markets resulting in increased national and regional prosperity.

Enterprise Ireland’s clients are:

- Manufacturing or internationally traded services companies who employ 10 or more and who have the commitment and capability for growth
- Entrepreneurs with the ability and capability to initiate projects that can compete in international markets
- Irish-based food and natural resources companies that are overseas owned or controlled

Encouraging and supporting new High Potential Start-Up (HPSU) business is a key priority for Enterprise Ireland. The key criteria for meeting HPSU status are that the proposed product is technologically advanced, the business is likely to achieve significant growth within three years (sales of €1.0m and employment of 10 or more), projected sales have a heavy export element, the business is Irish owned and located in Ireland.

The Enterprise Ireland business development approach to developing solutions for its clients takes into account all areas of business activity from business strategy and innovation to marketing and includes the key area of finance and human resource development.

Enterprise Ireland works in partnership with both well established and start-up companies to develop and build profitable sales and effective marketing capabilities using the network of overseas offices in more than 30 locations worldwide.

Enterprise Ireland offers a range of supports within its technology offer whatever the industry sector or research focus including Productivity Improvement, R & D funding for business, R & D Collaboration with third level and other companies, Research Commercialisation, International R & D Collaboration, Technology Acquisition.

FÁS (DONEGAL)

	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	FÁS Training Centre Ballyraine Industrial Estate Ramelton Rd, Letterkenny, Co Donegal
	Tel	074 91 20500
	Fax	074 91 24840
	Address	FÁS Training Centre Derrybeg Business Park Derrybeg, Co Donegal
	Tel	074 95 60500
	Fax	074 95 31114
	Address	FÁS Employment Office Dunfril House, Chestnut Road Ballybofey, Co Donegal
	Tel	074 91 30384
	Fax	074 91 31446

FÁS is the training and employment authority and seeks to increase the employability skills and mobility of jobseekers and employees to meet labour market needs, thereby promoting competitiveness and social inclusion.

FÁS offers a range of supports for businesses :

- **Recruitment/Employment Services:** finding suitable employees by effectively matching job seekers with vacancies.
- **FÁS Jobs Ireland:** 'Connecting you to the people you want'. The new FÁS Teleservices Centre takes vacancies from employers and quickly advertises them locally, regionally and nationally. Telephone 1850 66 11 66.
- **Electronic Labour Market Services/FÁS 'Job-Bank':** facilitating wider access to suitable employees through internet use (www.fas.ie)
- **Recruitment Abroad:** recruiting for targeted high skilled and professional occupations (www.jobsireland.com) and through the EURES network (www.fas.ie)
- **Training Advisory Services:** assisting in the identification of training needs and the development of training strategies for companies.
- **National Sector Specific Programmes:** planning and organising specific training programmes, in collaboration with various business sectors, and using external subject experts for delivery.
- **Training Incentives For Employees:** based on the training needs identified in the various sectoral industrial studies.
- **Construction Skills Certificate Scheme:** promoting the delivery of training and certification for specific non-designated occupations.
- **Small Firms Cluster Programme:** improving competitiveness in small firms by preparing a personalised training plan for each company.
- **Excellence Through People:** a FÁS developed training standard award that recognises and promotes high standards of training within companies.
- **Positive to Disability:** an award that recognises companies that have equal opportunities programmes in place which includes disability.
- **Disability Awareness Training Grants For Employees:** to promote more employment opportunities for people with a disability.
- **Worker Co-operative Development Programme:** assisting three or more people, who have a commercially viable business idea, to set up a co-operative

- **Labour Market Programmes:** providing experience and development for long-term unemployed people through
 - Community Employment: provides temporary employment opportunities to engage in useful work and training, within communities, on a local basis.
 - Job Initiative: provides full-time work within communities for those who have been unemployed for over 5 years.

Contacts:

Employment Services

Thomas Timlin	Tel: 074 91 20500
Bernie White	Tel: 074 95 60500
Gerry Bruton	Tel: 074 91 30384

Community Services

Pat Coyle, Nuala McGarrigle	Tel: 074 91 20500
Jimmy McBride, Michael Fenny	Tel: 074 91 20500
Una Donnelly	Tel: 074 95 31211

Service to Business

Willie Russell	Tel: 074 91 20500
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Management

Assistant Manager Training Services (Letterkenny) 074 91 20500
Assistant Manager Training Services (Gweedore) 074 95 60500



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY AFFAIRS AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ SÓisialACHA AGUS TEAGHLAIGH



Contact	Mr Joe O'Donnell, Regional Co-Ordinator Employment Support Service
Office Hours	9am - 4.30pm
Address	Department of Social & Family Affairs, Regional Office, Government Buildings, Cranmore Road, Sligo
Tel	074 91 40532
Fax	074 91 44511
Email	joe.odonnell@welfare.ie
Website	www.welfare.ie

The Employment Support Service of the Department of Social & Family Affairs (DSFA) was established in 1993, with Jobs Facilitators (JFs) appointed to many of the Department's local offices. Part of the role of the JF is to give advice and support to customers of the Department, to enable them to take up training/educational/employment options.

The employment supports include:-

- **Back to Work Allowance (BTWA), Back to Work Enterprise Allowance (BTWEA)** - This encourages unemployed people or other social welfare customers to take up a job or to become self-employed while continuing to retain a part of their previous social welfare payment (tax free) for a period of years.
- **Family Income Supplement (FIS)** - FIS is an income supplement for employees in low paying jobs. They must have at least one dependent child
- **Part-Time Job Incentive** - This allows long-term unemployed people to work on a part-time basis and continue to receive a "flat rate" social welfare payment. This sum is not affected by any earnings.
- **Employers PRSI Exemption** – This scheme allows employers who employ an eligible unemployed person exemption from the employer's portion of the PRSI for a period of 2 years. A tax clearance certificate is necessary.

For people on the BTWA or BTWEA there may be additional supports:

- **Technical Assistance & Training Fund (TA&TF)** – the Department has a small budget which can be used to subsidise the purchase of essential services or equipment in order to stimulate business viability. This can include public liability insurance; marketing & advertising; training & development; consultancy services and essential equipment. Payment is made directly to the provider of the goods/services, and the client will be expected to make his/her own contribution.
- **Interest Free "Soft" Loans** – The Department, in partnership with the voluntary organisation "First Step", set up a loan fund where BTWEA customers can, as a last resort, apply for a small interest free loan. The Department in partnership with a variety of organisations has contributed to the Donegal Enterprise Assistance Loan/ Women's Loan Fund (DEAL/WLF). Customers on BTWEA or women setting up in business can apply for a small start-up loan. The fund is administered by the Donegal County Enterprise Fund, and enquiries can be made to the local Partnership company or the local Jobs Facilitator.
- **Back to Work Employment Grants** – Where an employer who is on the BTWEA takes on an employee who goes on BTWA, the employer can apply through the local JF for an employment grant. This grant is payable in two lump sums, the first after 13 weeks of employment and the second after 39 weeks of employment

- **Very Long Term Unemployed (VLTU) Programme** – where an employer takes on a person who has been unemployed for 5 years or more, an initial training period of up to 6 weeks may be allowed prior to the employee progressing to the Back to Work Allowance (BTWA). During that training period the employee will continue to receive his/her social welfare payment plus an additional sum to cover expenses.

For further information contact your local Jobs Facilitator or Social Welfare office.

Revenue Jobs Assist – where a long term unemployed person takes up a job of over 30 hrs per week, both the employee and the employer may be entitled to claim additional tax credits. Revenue Jobs assist is not applicable where the employee is on BTWA. For further details contact the local tax office.

Outreach Offices in Donegal

North & North West

<i>Name</i>	Tomás McArdle
<i>Address</i>	Social Welfare Local Office, High Road, Letterkenny
<i>Phone</i>	074 - 9160483
<i>Mobile</i>	087 - 2308532
<i>Fax</i>	074 - 9121624
<i>E-Mail</i>	tom.mcardle@welfare.ie

Inishowen

<i>Name</i>	Seamus McGinley
<i>Address</i>	Social Welfare Office, St Mary's Road, Buncrana
<i>Phone</i>	074 - 9320210
<i>Mobile</i>	087 - 6473485
<i>Fax</i>	074 - 9361878
<i>E-Mail</i>	seamus.mcginley@welfare.ie

South & West

<i>Name</i>	Michael Scanlan
<i>Address</i>	Social Welfare Office, Public Services Centre Drumnahoe, Donegal Town
<i>Phone</i>	074 – 9740061
<i>Mobile</i>	087 - 2308502
<i>Fax</i>	074 – 9722456
<i>E-Mail</i>	michael.scanlan@welfare.ie

DONEGAL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY



Contact	Caoimhin MacAoidh
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	Donegal Local Development Company 1 Millennium Court Pearse Road Letterkenny Co.Donegal
Tel	074 91 27056
Fax	074 91 21527
Email	info@dldc.org
Website	www.dldc.org

Donegal Local Development Company Ltd. is dedicated to promoting the economic, social and cultural development throughout Donegal with the exception of Inishowen and the Gaeltacht. The Company offers financial assistance directed at these objectives through the LEADER +, National Rural Development and Local Development Social Inclusion programmes. Sustainable local development leading to greater social inclusion is a priority of the Company.

Outreach Offices in Donegal

Unit 4
Millcourt Mews
Donegal Town

Phone: 074 - 97 23368
Fax: 074 - 97 23373
Email: dldcdgl@iol.ie

Contact Person: Louise Brogan

Outreach Office Hours: 9am-5pm (Mon-Fri)

ISLAND LEADER GROUP



Comhthail Oileain na nÉireann

Contact	Tony Gallagher
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	Island Leader Group Arranmore Co-Op Arranmore Island Co. Donegal
Tel	074 95 20533
Fax	074 95 20533
Email	arranmoreco.op@indigo.ie
Website	www.oileain.ie

Comhdhail Oileain na nÉireann is the representative body of the off-shore islands of Ireland. At present there are 21 member islands with permanent population varying from 800+ to less than 10. Over the last number of decades all the islands have seen their population decrease dramatically while some have been completely depopulated. The Comhdhail was founded with the primary objective of stemming the population decline and improving the standard of living for those islanders still remaining on our off shore islands by assisting in their social, cultural and economic development. Generally the economics of islands are dependant on transfer payments through the social welfare system and some fishing and tourism. There is some subsistence agriculture, but this is hampered due to poor soils and unsuitable gradients.

LEADER, through the Comhdhail, hopes to harness the optimism and desire to remain on the islands and turn it into tangible benefits in the form of jobs, increased revenue in the islands and improved services.

While LEADER is not in a position to directly address all actual needs, it will act as a necessary focusing vehicle to assist the islands in accurately assessing needs and in developing a co-ordinated approach to addressing these needs.

INISHOWEN RURAL DEVELOPMENT LTD		
	Contact	Andrew Ward, Manager
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Inishowen Rural Development Ltd. Pound Street Carndonagh Inishowen Co. Donegal
	Tel	074 93 73083
	Fax	074 93 73084
	Email	irdl@iol.ie
	Website	www.inishowen.ie

Inishowen Rural Development Ltd., (IRDL) aims to make a significant contribution to the vitality of the local economy and community, in partnership with and through complementary action of other stakeholders, through facilitating sustainable development for achievement of the human and natural resource potential of the area.

IRDL consists of representatives of local community and development associations, industry and public sector agencies to administer the Leader+/NRDP Programme in the Inishowen area. The main aim of IRDL through the Programme is to encourage and help rural communities to think about the longer-term potential of their area. It seeks to encourage the enhancement of the natural & cultural environment, reinforce the economic environment in order to contribute to job creation and to improve the organisational abilities of the communities in the area.

LEADER + funding is available under the following measures:

- Training – Grant aided 100%;
- Analysis and development – Grant aided 80% for Community Groups / 50% for Private Individuals (to a Maximum of 7,500);
- Capital Grants – Grant aided at a rate of 50% (to a maximum of 65,000);
 - Innovative rural enterprise, craft enterprises and local services / facilities;
 - Exploitation of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries products;
 - Enhancement of the natural/built/social/cultural environment;
 - Environmentally friendly initiatives;

NRDP – Rural / Agri Tourism Measure (Capital Grants);

- Upgrading / expansion of existing or new visitor attractions and facilities – grant aided at a rate of 50% (to a maximum of 65,000);
- Restoration of farm buildings as self catering accommodation – grant aided at a rate of 40% (to a maximum of 40,000);
- Other accommodation, excluding B&B's – grant aided at a rate of 30% (to a maximum of 40,000);
- Marketing activities over the period of the programme to 2006 – grant aided at a rate of 50% (to a maximum of 10,000).

The Leader Programme, March 2007.
Details will be available on request.

INISHOWEN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY (PARTIOCHT INIS EOGHAIN)



Contact	Shauna McClenaghan, Manager
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	Inishowen Partnership Company St. Mary's Road Buncrana Inishowen Co. Donegal
Tel	074 93 62218
Fax	074 93 62990
Email	inishpar@indigo.ie / shauna@inishpar.ie
Website	www.inishpar.ie

Inishowen Partnership Company (IPC), which is one of thirty-eight similar partnerships throughout the country, was established in February 1996 to administer a programme of integrated local development in the Inishowen Peninsula and is currently responsible for the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme of the National Development Plan.

Target Groups

- Long Term Unemployed
- Short Term Unemployed
- Underemployed/Seasonal Worker
- Low Income Family Unit
- Disabled Person
- Lone Parent
- Disadvantaged Woman
- Traveller
- Disadvantaged Young Person
- Low Income Smallholder
- Substance Mis-user
- Homeless Person
- Asylum Seeker/Refugee
- Ex-prisoner

The Company aims to put in place a support framework which offers members of the target groups the opportunity to influence and participate in economic, social and community activities on offer while attempting to ensure that these activities are comparable with those on offer anywhere else in the State.

Other complementary programmes with which IPC are involved and which help to combat social and economic disadvantage throughout the peninsula include:

- The Millennium Access Education Fund
- Dormant Accounts project for Older People
- Gateway for Women
- Dormant A/C project for Farm Families
- FARSET-INISHOWEN Cross Border Initiative
- Low Income Smallholders Initiative
- TEACH – Clar Laptop
- Immigrant Outreach Project
- Area Allowance Scheme
- Jobs Club delivered in three outreach locations
- Jobs Initiative
- Community Services Programme
- Clar Suim – One-to-One Mentoring Programme
- Youthnet
- EDOL – European Digital Older Learners Project

Core Services:

The IPC's core services are delivered under three specific measures;

Services for the Unemployed, Community Development and Community Based Youth Initiatives.

- Support to Job Club which is delivered in outreach locations comprising of CV Preparation, Interview Techniques, Successful Job Seeking, Employment Law, Teamwork with a reference library of all vacancies in the County and nearby locations.
- Pre-Start Information for Long Term Unemployed on Setting up in business.
- One to one Mentoring for Long Term Unemployed going into business.
- Basic Book-keeping for small business.
- Ranges of courses from Office Procedures to Marketing your company.
- IT courses ranging from FETAC Foundation to City & Guilds.
- Business Plan Preparation.
- Small Grants for Women and Men to assist in returning to Education.
- Community Development Training
- Small Grants to Community Groups
- Support for Older People
- Support to Community Forum.
- Outdoor Pursuits Incentive Programme.
- Youth Group Support including Peer Education and Youth Leadership.
- Supporting the promotion of community arts, music and drama.

MFG TEO


Contact	Eithne Nic Lochlainn, Bainisteoir
Office Hours	9am - 5.15pm
Address	Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta MFG Teo An Screabán Na Doire Beaga Leitir Ceanainn
Tel	074 95 32017
Fax	074 95 32428
Email	eolasmfg@eircom.net
Website	www.mfg.ie

“Treoir ceannródaíochta le féin mhiunin a chothú agus an pobal a spreagadh I ngach gné dá saol, go mórmhór pobail agus creantair imeallacha, agus leas na teangan” leis an mana “ón mbonn aníos”

Programmes

Local Development Social Inclusion Programme (LDSIP), National Rural Development Programme (NRDP), MIDAS Food Development, L.A.N. - Small Holders Initiative, Job Club, Job Initiative, Siob Teo – Rural Transport Initiative, Rural Social Scheme, Bia Fas.

Target Groups:

- Daoine atá difhostaithe go fad téarmach;
- An Lucht Siúil;
- Daoine gan dídean;
- Daone a bhaineann mí-úsaid as substaintí;
- An Lucht difhostaithe;
- An Pobal;
- Mionlaigh eitneacha;
- Mna faoi mhíbhuntaiste;
- Seandaoine;
- Daoine le míchumas;
- Tuismitheoirí aonarach;
- Daoine óga I mbaol;
- Iar Phríosúnaigh
- Scarshéalbhóirí beaga

Criteria / Conditions

- Regarding LDSIP, LAN, Siob, Job Club, Job Initiative = Target groups
- Regarding NRDP = National conditions of the programme.

COILLTE


Contact	Colm O'Dwyer
Office Hours	9am - 5.15pm
Address	Coillte Pine Hill Mountain Top Letterkenny Co. Donegal
Tel	074 91 21139 Freephone 1800 200 728
Fax	074 91 25664
Email	colm.odwyer@coillte.ie
Website	www.coillte.ie

Coillte is the state agency with specific responsibility for the creation, planning, maintenance and harvesting of forests and the provision of advice & support to farmers and others who are engaged in or wish to become engaged in forestry.

In Donegal, Coillte manages almost 100,000 acres of forestry and is actively involved in extending the amount of forest land in the county. Coillte provides an advice service to farmers / landowners regarding EU grant aid for forestry. This includes assistance with grant aid application and a full management service for all new forests.

Coillte also operates a forest farm partnership scheme with landowners and farmers under which the land for forestry is provided by the farmer and the trees and management expertise are provided by Coillte foresters.

TEAGASC – THE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



Contact	P.J. Molloy, CEO
Office Hours	9.30am - 5.30pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	TEAGASC- The Agriculture and Food Development Authority Cavan Lower Ballybofey Co. Donegal
Tel	074 91 31189
Fax	074 91 32062
Email	p.molloy@donegal.net.teagasc.ie
Website	www.teagasc.ie

Teagasc seeks to provide the innovation and technology transfer services necessary for the sustained development of agriculture, the food production/processing industry and rural communities, through research, advisory and training services.

In this context, Teagasc clients are rural dwellers, farmers/farm families, various groups engaged in the business of farming, rural enterprises and allied pursuits in County Donegal.

Teagasc offers a range of services including:

- Training / Education:
 - Third Level Courses;
 - Vocational Courses;
 - Adult and Continuing Educational courses.

Contact: Mr A Mc Grath, Teagasc, Carnamuggagh, Letterkenny.

- Technology Transfer and Financial Management Advice;
- Environmental/Countryside Management Schemes
e.g. REPS, Code of Good Farming Practice;
- Diversified Farm Enterprises Advice:
 - Horses;
 - Rural Tourism;
 - Small FOOD enterprises;
 - Free range poultry;
 - Forestry;
 - Horticulture.

Outreach Offices in Donegal

Teagasc Training Centre Doonan, Donegal Town
Tel: 074 97 21231
Fax: 074 97 21918

Office Hours: 9.30am-1.00pm

Teagasc Training Centre Carnamuggah, Letterkenny
Tel: 074 91 21555
Fax: 074 91 26659

Office Hours: 9.30am-5.30pm

Teagasc c/o Public Services Centre, Malin Rd, Carndonagh
Tel: 074 93 74233
Fax: 074 93 74233

Office Hours: 9.30am-11.30am

LOUGHS AGENCY - FOYLE CARLINGFORD AN IRISH LIGHTS COMMISSION

	Contact	Derick Anderson
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Loughs Agency – Foyle Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission 22 Victoria Road Londonderry BT47 2AB
	Tel	048 71 342100
	Fax	048 71 342720
	Email	general@loughs-agency.org
	Website	www.loughs-agency.org

The Loughs Agency aims to provide sustainable social, economic and environmental benefits through the effective conservation, management, promotion and development of the fisheries and marine resources of the Foyle and Carlingford areas.

The Foyle Area is:-

- I. The whole of the sea along the coast between low water line of the northern most point of the Malin Head in the Country of Donegal and the low water line at the sea point of the boundary between the townlands of Downhill and Drumnagally; and the area seaward of Lough Foyle extending 12 nautical miles from the low water mark, any island or rocks within the same, with the whole of the tideway along the coast and;
- II. The whole of all the lakes, rivers and their tributaries which flow into the sea within the area defined in paragraph (i) above and all the land catchment from which water drains into those lakes and rivers.

The Carlingford area is:-

- I. The whole of the sea along the coast between the low water line of the southerly point of Cranfield Point in the County of Down and the low water line of the most easterly point of the Ballaghan Point in the County of Louth, and within a straight line between those points, and any islands or rocks within the same, with the whole of the tideway along the said coast; and
- II. The whole of all the lakes, rivers and their tributaries which flow into the sea within the area defined in paragraph (a) above and all the land catchment from which water drains into those lakes and rivers.

The Loughs Agency has responsibility for:-

- The promotion of development of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough for commercial and recreational purposes in respect of marine, fishery and aquaculture matters;
- The management, conservation, protection, improvement and development of the inland fisheries of the Foyle and Carlingford Areas;
- The development and licensing of aquaculture and;
- The development of marine tourism.

NORTHERN REGIONAL FISHERIES BOARD

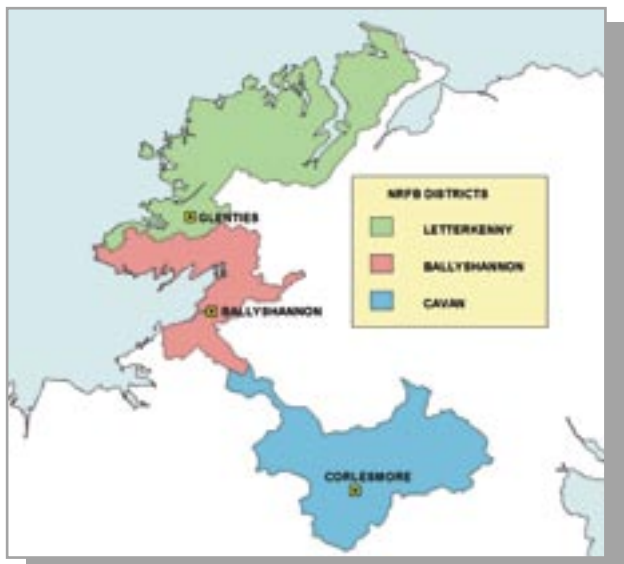


Contact	Harry Lloyd, CEO
Office Hours	9.30am - 5pm
Address	Northern Regional Fisheries Board Office of the Chief Executive Station Road Ballyshannon Co. Donegal.
Tel	071 98 51435
Fax	074 98 51816
Email	info@nrfb.ie
Website	In preparation

The Northern Regional Fisheries Board ensures that the valuable natural resources of inland fisheries and seas angling are conserved, managed, developed and promoted in their own right and to support sustainable economic activity, recreational amenity and job creation.

The Northern Regional Fisheries Board extends from the Mullaghmore Head, Co. Sligo to Malin Head, Co. Donegal. And includes catchment areas of all rivers and lakes that flow into the sea between these two points, as well as the seas area from coast to baselines and 12 miles from baseline out to sea, between these points. The region is divided on the basis of river catchments into 3 fisheries districts (see below):

- Letterkenny District
- Ballyshannon District
- Cavan District



The aims of the Northern Regional Fisheries Board include:

- Enforcement of the Fisheries Act;
- Protection of the inland fisheries and salmon at sea up to 12 miles from base lines. This includes the patrolling of rivers, lakes, shore and sea, and monitoring of salmon spawning and wild salmon sales;
- Conservation, development and enhancement of fisheries (inland, sea and shore);
- Promotion, development and marketing in a sustainable manner, of the region's fisheries resources;
- Issue of commercial salmon, eel and oyster fishing licences including authorisations in respect of eel fishing;
- Issue of salmon angling licences;
- Provision of information and guidance to individuals, clubs/associations, and companies in relation to fishery matters.

Angling Centres in Donegal

Owenea Angling Centre	Glenties	Tel: 074 95 51141
Eany Angling Centre	Gargrim, Frosses	Tel: 074 97 36559
Eske Angling Centre	Lough Eske Demense	Tel: 074 97 40781

INSTITÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA LEITIR CEANAINN LETTERKENNY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



Contact	Patsy Donaghey
Office Hours	9am - 5pm
Address	Business Development Centre Letterkenny Institute of Technology Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
Tel	074 91 86703
Fax	074 91 86701
Email	Patrick.Donaghey@lyit.ie
Website	www.lyit.ie

The Business Development Centre (BDC) opened in July 2000. Its mission is to stimulate innovation and nurture the growth of knowledge based business in the region. The BDC will provide flexible space arrangements from which to grow or develop new products or services. The BDC offers campus based incubation facilities to start-up companies, facilities for industrial research and commercial services to local industry.

The BDC will provide a development environment, which incubates business projects in a pro-active environment. The occupants of the BDC will consist of products or services that have a potential for growth in employment and revenue. The Business Development Centre will be the focal point for linking the expertise and resources of Letterkenny Institute of Technology and the development needs of the commercial sector and the wider community in the region.

The BDC offers state of the art conferencing facilities which are available to local businesses and industry to rent. These are housed in the Business Meeting Room and Seminar Rooms.

FÁILTE IRELAND NATIONAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**Fáilte Ireland**
National Tourism Development Authority**Contact** Maire Aine Gardiner / Joan Duffy**Office Hours** 9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
*Seirbhísí ar fáil trí Ghaeilge nó Béarla.
Services available through English or Irish language***Address** Fáilte Ireland North West
Neil T. Blaney Road
Letterkenny
Co. Donegal**Tel** 074 91 21160**Fax** 074 91 25180**Email** www.failteirelandnorthwest.ie**Website** www.donegaldirect.ie

Fáilte Ireland North West is a membership limited company funded through a combination of Fáilte Ireland subvention. Local Authority contribution, membership fee and commercial revenue. It is the principal contact for all individuals, organisations and authorities involved in tourism at local and regional level.

The main activities of Failte Ireland North West are:

Development:

Fáilte Ireland North West is the first point of contact for potential investment in new tourism enterprises and operations and administers the Torism Product Development Scheme in Co. Donegal. On behalf of Fáilte Ireland which is funded under the National Development Plan 2000-2006 and provides assistance under the following headings:

- Development of Major Attractors;
- Clusters of Existing Attractors;
- Special Interest Pursuits;
- Tourism / Environment Management.

Fáilte Ireland North West provide an advisory and assessment services to clients with queries on the following Schemes operated by Fáilte Ireland:

- Small and Medium Sized Accommodation Enterprises;
- International Sports Tourism Initiative 2000-2007;
- Certification for Capital Allowances on Construction/Refurbishment of Hotels;
- Business Expansion Scheme and Seed Capital Scheme.

Fáilte Ireland North West is responsible for the co-ordination of all grant applications for tourist products including EU, IFI, Agri-Tourism and BSE Programmes. We also participate in the affairs of partn'r agencies such as County Development Board, LEADER companies, etc. and also working in tandem with our funding Partners, the Local Authorities.

Promotion:

- Working in close partnership with the industry and the national tourism agencies towards promoting seasonal spread and balanced distribution of tourism business;
- Initiating marketing campaigns in co-operation with the tourism industry and Fáilte Ireland.
- Promotion of tourism in the County through the design and production of tourism related publications and website;
- Administering the innovative Festivals and Cultural Events Initiative on behalf of Fáilte Ireland to facilitate the best possible spread of tourism, primarily by supporting festivals and events with marketing activities.

Visitor Servicing:

Managing and operating Tourist Information Offices in Letterkenny, Donegal Town, Bundoran, Buncrana and Dungloe which provide an information and accommodation reservations service to visitors.

Corporate:

Fáilte Ireland North West is the voice of the industry at local level. It works in close co-operation with the national agencies, hosting information and training seminars and organising related events.

Fáilte Ireland – National Tourism Development Authority

Fáilte Ireland is the new development authority dedicated to Irish tourism. It provides strategic and practical support to develop and sustain Ireland as a high quality and competitive tourist destination. Established by Government, Fáilte Ireland works in partnership with the tourism industry.

Working with industry groups, Fáilte Ireland will promote and support the development of Irish tourism across a number of critical areas. These include:

- Identifying emerging *business opportunities*
- *Benchmarking competitors* in other destinations
- Identifying and promoting principles of tourism *best practice*
- Establishing and promoting standards of *excellence in customer service*
- Stimulating and supporting the development of *new tourism products*
- Developing compelling *marketing propositions* for tourism products at home and abroad, and supporting industry marketing
- *Building capability* at all levels within the industry
- Continuing to develop and promote the critically important *home holiday* segment
- Encouraging the removal of barriers to development within the broader business environment
- *Monitoring* industry performance and customer experiences

Collaborating with industry in these decisive areas, Fáilte Ireland will build on the expertise and services provided previously by Bord Fáilte and CERT.

A 'One-Stop-Shop' for the Tourism Industry

Fáilte Ireland's range of supports and services provides those involved or considering becoming involved in Irish tourism with a 'one-stop-shop' to meet their business or professional development needs.

Fáilte Ireland will facilitate a professional and highly efficient, results-orientated working relationship with clients in the areas of:

- **Industry Development:** strategic research, new product development and enterprise services
- **Education and Training:** recruitment, schools and college programmes and direct training
- **Market Development:** home holidays, special interest tourism, sports tourism, festivals and events and regional tourism.

The Executive Team at Fáilte Ireland – The National Tourism Development Authority:

- Shaun Quinn - *Chief Executive*
- Malcolm Connolly – *Directors of Industry Development:* Enterprise Development, Product Development
- Paul Keeley – *Director of Marketing:* Ireland Market, Product Marketing, Marketing Services (including Ireland of the Welcomes)
- Deirdre O'Keeffe – *Director of Secretariat/Corporate Services:* Central Services, Information and Communications Technology, Human Resources Development, Finance and Corporate Relations
- John Concannon – *Director of Regions:* Regional Tourism Development

WESTBIC - THE BUSINESS AND INNOVATION CENTRE FOR THE WEST/NORTH WEST REGION



Contact	Ultan Faherty
Office Hours	9am - 5pm
Address	WESTBIC Business Development Centre (LYIT) Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
Tel	074 91 86770
Fax	074 91 86771
Email	ufaherty@westbic.ie
Website	www.westbic.ie

WESTBIC, the Business and Innovation Centre for the Border, Midland and Western region of Ireland, is a specialist provider in the Irish Governments portfolio of supports to industry. It aims to identify, incubate and support value added enterprise opportunities and is primarily concerned with stimulating the creation and expansion of Higher Potential SME's in the region. In addition, it offers technical support and expert inputs to other public and private sector organisations.

Service Provision And Products


Established in 1988, services are provided to an ISO 9002 accredited standard and are delivered by a multi-skilled in house team, augmented by a national and international network and talent pool with a strong private sector input. These services include the following:

- **Enterprise Support**
 - Start-Ups: A hand-holding service for innovative enterprises through the initial stages from concept to commercialisation and into early growth, focusing on business planning, product development, marketing, human resources, IT and finance.
 - Established Businesses: Providing tailored support through a multi-skilled team and talent pool of experts to assist developing businesses to reach targeted growth objectives including new product development, international markets and raising capital for expansion.
- **Technical Support**
Specialised support to *Public and Private Organisations* to include:
 - Project management on regional, national & international basis.
 - Appraisal and evaluation of projects.
 - Feasibility studies, R & D, business planning.
 - Monitoring and mentoring for SME's.
- **Training/ Mentoring**
A recognised provider of bi-lingual training, fostering enterprise and entrepreneurship in conjunction with other intermediaries, colleges and private sector partners.
- **Finance**
Provision of financial engineering support and sourcing private and public enterprise capital.

Other Offices in Donegal:

Contact Person: Eunan Cunningham
Office Hours: 9am - 5pm

Address: Ionad Forbartha Gnó, WESTBIC, Kilcar, Co. Donegal.
Phone: (074) 97 38333
Fax: (074) 97 38342
Email: ecunningham@westbic.ie

IDA IRELAND		
	Contact	Marie McDaid
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Thur), 9am - 5.45pm (Fri)
	Address	IDA Ireland Portland House Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
	Tel	074 91 69810
	Fax	074 91 69801
	Email	marie.mcdaid@ida.ie
	Website	www.idaireland.com

IDA Ireland (Industrial Development Agency) is an Irish Government agency with responsibility for securing new investment from overseas in manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors. It markets Ireland as an attractive location for overseas investment through its network of offices abroad, emphasising the stability and competitive Irish economy, favourable tax regime, financial incentives and the skilled well educated workforce. IDA Ireland also encourages existing investors to expand and develop their businesses.

The mission statement of the IDA states that:-

“We will win for Ireland, its people and its regions, the best in international innovation and investment so as to contribute to the continued transformation of Ireland to a world-leading society which is rich in creativity, learning and personal and social well-being.

We will work in partnerships with other organisations to enhance the best of Irish capabilities and talents and match them to the best of global investment.

We will carry out our mission with integrity, professional excellence and responsiveness to all with whom we work or are in contact.”

IDA’s focus is to attract foreign investment that is of high value, requiring high skill levels and a sophisticated business environment. This covers a range of sectors such as pharmaceuticals & biotechnology, medical technologies, ICT, international financial services and global traded businesses.

What IDA can do for you

- Provide information on key business sectors and locations within Ireland.
- Assist with setting up a business in Ireland.
- Introduce potential investors to local industry, government, service providers and research institutions.
- Offer advice on property solutions.
- Provide financial assistance to companies wishing to locate in Ireland or expand their existing operations in Ireland. The unique characteristics of any proposed project will determine the incentive package available, in particular its location.
- Grants available include: employment grants, research and development grants, training grants and capital grants.

DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL



Contact	Mícheál Ó hEanaigh
Office Hours	9am - 4.30pm
Address	Donegal County Council County House Lifford Co. Donegal
Tel	074 91 72222
Fax	074 91 42130
Email	reception@donegalcoco.ie
Website	www.donegal.ie

Tá forleathnú mór tagtha ar réimse na gnónna ina mbíonn na heagraíochtaí áitiúla páirteach. Na laethanta seo tá tionchar mór acu i gcúrsaí eacnamaíochta, sóisialta agus cultúrtha an Chontae.

The involvement of the County Council and the various town councils is often crucial to individuals, companies and communities in relation to the projects they are about to undertake. Apart from their normal involvement in planning permission, sewage and water systems, roads, and other infrastructural matters, the local authorities in Donegal are now much more involved in the broader social and cultural development of the County. The services provided by them are now much more focussed on development and are closely linked to the work of other agencies such as FÁS, Enterprise Ireland, Border Action, Pobail and community groups, etc.

With the implementation of the Local Governance Reform Act 2000, Donegal County Council now have a wider remit in the economic, social and cultural development of the County. This has manifested itself in the establishment of the Community and Enterprise Section in Donegal County Council and the preparation and ongoing implementation of 'An Straitéis' – the economic, social and cultural strategy for County Donegal 2002 – 2012.

The Donegal County Council offer a number of services of interest to enterprises which include:

- **Town and Village Renewal Programme**

The Town and Village Renewal Programme is designed to ensure the general upgrading of the physical environment of towns and villages so as to improve their capacity to attract and sustain an enterprise base. (Contact Planning and Economic Development Department, Lifford).

- **Donegal County Council led Peace II Task Force**

The Donegal County Council led Peace II Task Force is managing measures 3.3, 3.4, 4.2A and the extended 3.3 measure of the current EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation.

The programme was open to all project promoters that could demonstrate how their project takes the opportunities arising from the ongoing Peace Process or demonstrate that they are addressing the legacy of the conflict in Donegal as a result of the project. The measures indicated are primarily focused on revitalisation and regeneration of both urban and rural areas. These measures are now closed as all available funds were allocated by June 2006. (For further information contact Peace II Task Force, Lifford or the Community and Enterprise Development Officer in the local Public Services Centres.)

- **Liaison Point for Economic Development Initiatives**

In recognition that the council plays a key role in the decision making process associated with business development generally, (in areas such as planning permission, development charges, commencement notices, various licenses, etc.) a facility is offered to economic/enterprise related projects to work via a single point of contact to access relevant personnel in the local authority in a expeditious manner. For further information please contact Community and Enterprise Section, Lifford.

Local Offices at:

Carndonagh Public Services Centre

Tel: 074 93 73700
 Fax: 074 93 73747
 Contact: Aideen Doherty

Dungloe Public Services Centre

Tel: 074 95 61300
 Fax: 074 95 22655
 Contact: Charles Sweeney

Letterkenny Public Services Centre

Tel: 074 91 94200
 Fax: 074 91 26441
 Contact: Aideen Doherty

Donegal Public Services Centre

Tel: 074 97 24400
 Fax: 074 97 23535
 Contact: Barney McLaughlin

Milford Public Services Centre

Tel: 074 91 53900
 Fax: 074 91 53801
 Contact: Charles Sweeney

FIRST STEP		
 <p>FIRST STEP Microfinance</p>	Contact	Colm O'Doherty or Mary Magee
	Office Hours	9.30am - 5.30pm
	Address	FIRST STEP Jefferson House Eglinton Road Donnybrook Dublin 4
	Tel	01 2600988
	Fax	01 2600989
	Email	info@first-step.ie
	Website	www.first-step.ie

First Step Microfinance is a private sector non-profit making limited company with charitable status serving the 26 counties of the Republic of Ireland.

First Step Microfinance provides loan finance for development and/or working capital, including fixed assets, to individuals who are unable to access the necessary funding through normal channels. Finance is available primarily for start ups but also for existing small businesses. Loans range between €1,000 and €25,000, are repayable up to 3 years, and are available for enterprises usually with less than five employees but may reach up to ten.

Criteria/Conditions:

Prospective borrowers must complete a First Step Application Form, available from our offices or website, and should also provide a simple but professionally prepared business plan.

The services of a voluntary Mentor are provided to all successful applicants for the duration of their loan.

Assistance is available to virtually all sectors of the community.

Relevant Contact person: Colm O'Doherty
 Mary Magee

Outreach Offices in Donegal:

Contact can also be made with us through the offices of the County Enterprise Boards, Local Partnerships or Job Facilitators in the Department of Social, Community & Family Affairs local offices.

THE SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY (SEUPB)



Contact	The INTERREG Team
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) European Union House Castle Meadow Court Monaghan, Co. Monaghan
Tel	047 77003 Freephone 1800 80 5005
Fax	047 71258
Email	interreg@seupb.ie
Website	www.seupb.eu

The SEUPB is one of the six North / South Bodies established under Strand 2 of the Good Friday agreement. The SEUPB with offices in Monaghan is the Managing Authority for the INTERREG IIIA Programme. The INTERREG IIIA Programme is an EU Community Initiative designed to support cross border co-operation, social cohesion and economic development between the regions of the European Union.

The Ireland / N. Ireland INTERREG IIIA Programme covers all of Northern Ireland and the six border counties of Ireland: Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo. The INTERREG IIIA Programme aims to address the economic and social disadvantages which can result from the existence of a border. This entails providing grant aid to individuals, groups and organisations from the EU's European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

The INTERREG IIIA Programme has 4 priorities and 11 measures which are listed below:

Priority One – Integrated Local Development Strategies

Priority One aims to achieve economic and social cohesion and to promote competitiveness within the eligible area through regeneration strategies.

There are four measures under this Priority as follows :

- Measure One: Business and Economic Development
- Measure Two: Knowledge Economy
- Measure Three: Human Resource Development & Skilling;
- Measure Four: Rural Development Initiative

Priority Two – Supporting Physical Infrastructure and the Environment

This priority aims to improve the essential economic infrastructure of the eligible region (energy, transport and communications) while maintaining and improving the physical environment.

Three measures are included as follows:

- Measure One: Inter-regional Economic Infrastructure;
- Measure Two: Environmental Protection and Management
- Measure Three: Renewable Energy – Energy Efficiency.

Priority Three – Civic and Community Networking

Priority Three aims to promote the quality of life of the population of the area through cross border community development and improved delivery of statutory services.

The Priority contains two measures as follows:

- Measure One: Social and Community Infrastructure;
- Measure Two: Health and Well Being.

Priority Four – Technical Assistance

The aim of this priority is to provide support for Technical Assistance actions under the programme through two measures:

- Measure One: Monitoring, Evaluation and Implementation;
- Measure Two: Programme Information and Publicity.

Check the website www.eugrants.org for current status of all measures.

BORDER ACTION		
 <p>Project supported by the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation</p>	Contact	Paddy McGinn / Paddy Logue
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Border Action European Union House Monaghan Co. Monaghan
	Tel	047 71340
	Fax	047 71341
	Email	info@adm-cpa.com
Website	www.adm-cpa.com	

Border Action is a joint partnership structure of Pobal and Combat Poverty which implements a number of measures of the Peace and INTERREG Programmes. Border Actions aims to be a dynamic catalyst for transformation working towards an inclusive, peaceful and equitable society.

Border Action is jointly responsible for the implementation of ten measures of the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation 2000-2004 (Peace II) in the border region of Ireland, and two cross border measures with partners, the Community Foundation of Northern Ireland and Co-operation Ireland. These two measures specifically promote cross border community reconciliation, and cross border social, education, training and human resource development.

In collaboration with Co-operation Ireland, Border Action implement Measure 3.1 of the Interreg IIIA Programme. This consortium has responsibility for just over 10million and is known as the Interreg Community Partnership. In addition Border Action is in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (Northern Ireland) to deliver Measure 1.4 of the Interreg IIIA Programme.

At present all programmes are fully committed and a new Peace (III) Programme as well as Territorial Cooperation Programme are being finalised (November 2006). Please contact the number highlighted for any queries.

Donegal Representative:

Paul Skinnader

McCaul House,
Pearse Road,
Letterkenny,
Co. Donegal

Tel: 074 91 04220

Fax: 074 91 68232

Email: paul.skinnader@borderaction.ie

WESTERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (WDC)



Contact	Gillian Buckley
Office Hours	9am - 5pm
Address	Dillon House Ballaghaderreen Co Roscommon
Tel	094 98 61441
Fax	094 98 61443
Email	info@wdc.ie
Website	www.wdc.ie

The Western Development Commission (WDC) is the statutory body promoting economic and social development in the Western Region, including counties Clare, Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo.

Functions of the WDC

Through its policy, development and investment activity, the WDC focuses on highlighting opportunities and supporting initiatives in the Western Region's productive sectors, its economic infrastructure and in its rural communities. Co-operating with Government Departments and agencies, local and regional authorities and with companies, as well as with the community and voluntary sectors, the WDC works to:

- Ensure that the development needs and interests of the Western Region are considered at the highest levels of Government;
- Identify, monitor and promote economic and social policy actions which are effective in meeting the region's need for sustainable development and which maximise the use of its human and physical resources;
- Foster and encourage regional initiatives in a variety of sectors, including the business, community and voluntary sectors and the local authorities;
- To ensure that the region retains its competitive positioning; close a funding gap in the region, by managing the dedicated €34.4 million venture capital and loan fund known as the WDC Investment Fund.

The WDC Investment Fund

The WDC Investment Fund was established by the Irish government to be a unique source of risk capital for projects, businesses and communities in the Western Region. The WDC Investment Fund is a key element of the government's policy of balanced regional development.

The WDC Investment Fund has a commercial remit and seeks a financial return on investments made as well as a socio-economic dividend to the region. The WDC Investment Fund consists of three sub-funds:

- **Business Investment Fund**, which provides equity and loan finance to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs)
- **Local Investment Fund**, which provides loan funding to community enterprises
- **Special Projects Investment Fund**, which provides investment funding for the development of flagship projects and regional initiatives.

Business Investment Fund

Under the auspices of the Business Investment Fund (BIF) the WDC provides venture capital by way of ordinary and preference share capital and in certain cases loans to 'high-potential' businesses in the Western Region.

Amount Invested:	€100,000 - €1 million
Business Stage:	Start-up, early stage, development stage and Management Buy-outs (MBOs)
Geographical Location:	The Western Region consisting of Clare, Donegal, Galway City and County, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo
Sectors:	The WDC will consider most sectors where there is a proven high potential business opportunity. Target sectors include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing and internationally traded services • Information & communications technology • Life sciences & medical devices • Tourism • Food, fisheries and natural resources

Benefits of Western Investment Fund equity investment

- Business risk is shared
- Fast track the success of the business
- Provides a long-term source of funding for investment and growth
- Improves the financial strength and balance sheet of the business
- Inspires increased confidence among bankers, suppliers and customers
- Can assist in leveraging other sources of funding, such as bank finance and grant aid
- No cashflow implications in the crucial early years of the business

Investment Policy

The Business Investment Fund is a commercial investment fund that seeks to achieve a return on its investment which reflects the risk taken. The WDC operates a stringent assessment and selection procedure for applications to the fund.

The decision to invest will be based on:

- The proven existence of a commercially sound project with a good growth potential
- The project having a strong management team with a proven track record
- A marketable product, or service which is of an international standard
- The project's ability to generate a return on the WDC's investment
- Contribution to the economy of the Western Region

The WDC as an equity partner will assist in the commercialisation of the business and reserves the right to appoint a Non-Executive Director to the board of the company being funded.

The WDC will realise its return on ordinary share equity investments by way of exit through:

- Initial Public Offering (IPO)
- Trade sale
- Sale of its shareholding to other shareholders, the company itself, or third parties.

In the case of preference shares the return will vary from investment to investment but will normally carry a coupon and have redemption and/or conversion rights.

In certain instances, where equity participation is not appropriate, the WDC may provide, through the Business Investment Fund, term loans at commercial rates. Loans are amortised over the term of the facility, up to a maximum of 10 years. Security is taken on the assets of the business. The interest rate is usually fixed annually based on the EU Reference Rate for Ireland.

CO-OPERATION IRELAND



Contact	Des Fagan, EU Programme Manager
Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
Address	Glendinning House 6, Murray Street BELFAST BT1 6DN
Tel	028 90 322445
Fax	028 90 891000
Email	info@cooperationireland.org
Website	www.cooperationireland.org

Agency Description

Co-operation Ireland is an independent charity established in 1979 whose aim is to advance mutual understanding and respect by promoting practical co-operation between the people of Northern Ireland and of the Republic of Ireland. The organisation has been selected to deliver elements of the European Union Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation, (PEACE II), 2000 – 2006. More recently the organisation is involved in the delivery of Peace II Extension programme.

Co-operation Ireland administered three Measures under Priority 5 (Cross-border Activity) of the PEACE II Programme. Co-operation Ireland has sole responsibility for Measure 1, and are administering Measures 3 and 4 in conjunction with Border Action and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

Measure 1: Increasing Cross-border Development Opportunities (ERDF)

This Measure provided support to projects and actions aimed at building confidence in private and public sectors. It also provided strategic frameworks to support cross-border initiatives develop economic opportunities for cross-border activities.

Measure 3: Developing Cross-border Reconciliation and Understanding (ERDF)

This Measure provided support for cross-border social and cultural regeneration, particularly targeting those communities and areas, which have suffered most from 30 years of violence. All projects highlighted tangible benefits such as employment, recognition of cultural diversity, cultural exchanges or wealth creation.

Measure 4: Promoting Joint Approaches to Social, Education, Training and Human Resource Development (ESF)

This Measure promoted cross-border co-operation and provided a strategic framework for support to cross-border strategies and projects, consistent with the objectives of the European Employment Strategy, across a wide variety of sectors and organisations. It provided a strategic framework for supporting strategies and projects which make a positive contribution to peace building and reconciliation and assisted in developing opportunities for increased cross-border activities and provided opportunities for those who have been prevented from fulfilling their potential.

All of these Measures are now closed.

Co-operation Ireland is also responsible for delivering measure 3.1 – Civic and Community Networking, of the INTERREG IIIA programme.

This Measure aims to actively engage people living in border regions in determining their own development; increase the quality of statutory, voluntary and community sector support of border areas through new planning, policy making and funding arrangements that are based on community development principles' and increase opportunities for engagement at a strategic level between Government Departments and other relevant agencies, North and South, in support of community development approaches.

For information on the work of Co-operation Ireland EU Programme and other Co-operation Ireland Programmes visit www.cooperationireland.org
email: info@cooperationireland.org or telephone 00 44 28 9032 1462

INTERTRADE IRELAND		
	Contact	Dara Cosgrove, Communications Manager
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm
	Address	The Old Gasworks Business Park Kilmorey Street Newry Co Down BT34 2DE
	Tel	048 30 834100
	Fax	048 30 834155
	Email	info@intertradeireland.com
	Website	www.intertradeireland.com

What we do...

Opportunities for companies to develop their businesses on an-island basis are growing, and the means by which business people can exploit those opportunities are available and ready to be exploited. InterTradelreland, is a key conduit through which businesses can make those connections. We were established six years ago as the Trade and Business Development Body, with a remit to exchange information on trade, business development and related matters. Today our portfolio of projects covers:

- Science, Technology and Innovation
- Sales and Marketing
- Business Capability Improvement
- Business Network Support Services
- Economic & Business Research

InterTradelreland helps individual businesses access knowledge and share information so they can build alliances and become more profitable and competitive. Through creating and fostering networks of people and businesses in key sectors we help them develop significant business opportunities. We make sure policy planning is based on a real understanding of the needs of business across the whole island by connecting business, policy makers and government. By building effective business relationships InterTradelreland helps strengthen individual businesses and promotes the value of growth sectors to make the island more competitive in a global economy.

InterTradelreland also supports viable business initiatives/projects in cases where the promoter has neither the necessary financial resources to advance the project nor access to same from other sources but where the project offers a credible contribution to the achievement of InterTradelreland objectives as defined in its current Corporate and Operating Plans. Support will be in the form of financial assistance.

For more information on InterTradelreland programmes and areas of activity, events and new items, visit the website www.intertradeireland.com.

BORDER, MIDLAND AND WESTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

 <p>Border, Midland & Western Regional Assembly <i>Shaping the Region</i></p>	Contact	Gerry Finn
	Office Hours	9am-5pm (Mon-Thurs), 9.15am-5pm (Fri)
	Address	Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly The Square Ballaghaderreen Co. Roscommon
	Tel	094 98 62970 / 98 62972
	Fax	094 98 62973
	Email	info@bmwassembly.ie
	Website	www.bmwassembly.ie

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND TO BMW REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

The regionalisation arrangements negotiated by the Irish authorities back in 1999 in the context of the Agenda 2000 Agreement, saw the designation of the country into two NUTS II Regions for Structural Funds purposes. These new regions, which were established in 1999¹ are:

- the Border, Midland and Western (BMW) region which qualified as Objective 1 status for Structural Funds for the full period to 2006 and
- the Southern and Eastern (S&E) region which qualified for a six-year phasing-out regime for Objective 1 up to the end of 2005, and for part of the region to 2006.

Under the next round of Structural Funds (2007 – 2013), the BMW region will no longer be eligible under Objective 1, but will qualify as a phasing in region under the Competitiveness and Employment Objective. The Regional Operational Programme will provide €458m in co-funded expenditure, of which €229m will be ERDF funded.

The BMW Regional Assembly has been designated by the Government to be the Managing Authority for the BMW Regional Operational Programme 2007 – 2013 and is responsible for its preparation and delivery.

Cohesion policy will concentrate on implementing EU policies, namely Lisbon and Göteborg. In reality, this will mean that the focus will be on innovation and the knowledge economy, environment and risk prevention and accessibility to services of general interest (i.e. investment in broadband, transport infrastructure). The Regional Operational Programme is currently being prepared and will set out a development strategy, including a coherent set of priorities to meet the strategic objectives that have been set for the region.

The main roles of the BMW Regional Assembly are to:

- Manage the Regional Operational Programme 2007 – 2013
- Monitor the general impact of all EU Programmes and the National Development Plan in the BMW region
- Promote the co-ordination of the provision of Public Services in the region
- Highlight issues of concern for the region
- Ensure that national policies take the regional dimension into account
- Evolve a role in creating a regional identity

IN ADDITION TO ITS CORE ACTIVITIES, THE ASSEMBLY IS INVOLVED IN THE FOLLOWING EU INITIATIVES**Innovative Actions Programme 2006 – 2008**

During 2005, the Assembly applied for and was subsequently approved by the European Commission for a second two year programme of innovative actions. The programme which involves an investment of €1.8m throughout the region follows on from the 2002 – 2004 programme and consists of five pilot initiatives aimed at increasing the innovation

¹ Local Government Act, 1991 (Regional Authorities) (Establishment) Order, 1999. S.I. No. 226 of 1999.

absorptive capacity of firms and improving academic and industrial linkages in the BMW region. The pilots are:

- Food Technology Transfer Programme
- Research and Intelligence Briefings
- Knowledge Technology Partnerships
- Innovation Management Training Programme
- Research Vouchers Scheme

Interreg IVB Atlantic Area Programme

For the 2007 – 2013 structural funds period, the BMW Regional Assembly will again act as National Contact point for the IVB Atlantic Area Programme. The new eligible area for the programme includes all of Ireland and Portugal and designated parts of Spain, France and the United Kingdom. It is anticipated that the Programme will support projects involving Spatial restructuring of the Atlantic space, Maritime safety, the environment and sustainable natural resources, sustainable transport systems and improving accessibility as well as promoting trans-national innovation networks.

Interreg IVB Northern Periphery Programme

From 2007, designated parts of Ireland will be eligible to participate in the trans-national Northern Periphery Programme. Counties Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo, Galway, Mayo, Clare, Limerick, Kerry and Cork will constitute the Irish eligible territory. The Northern Periphery Programme 2007-2013 will promote trans-national co-operation with Nordic and Scandinavian countries. The programme will support two core priorities: - the promotion of innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas of the Northern periphery and the promotion of sustainable development of natural and community resources.

FUTURREG

As a follow-on to the BMW Regional Foresight Exercise completed in 2005, the BMW Regional Assembly was invited to participate on a transnational Interreg project called FUTURREG. The partner regions are: Cardiff, Wales; La Rioja, Spain; Wallonia, Belgium; Malta; Macedonia, Greece; BMW, Ireland and Turku, Finland. The aim of the project is to develop five foresight tools, establish what the level of foresight expertise is in each of the partner regions and to apply the tools across the partner regions with the aim of supporting and assisting two exercises per region in 2006 and into 2007.

Interreg IIIC ADEP Project

The BMW Regional Assembly is a partner in ADEP, an Interreg IIIC project, which aims to improve the links between local development and regional policy, particularly in relation to training and capacity building. The project commenced in 2004 and continued in 2006 with the selection of four pilot initiatives in the BMW region:

- Western Development Tourism Programme
- Slieve Bloom Development Co-operative
- WESTBIC
- Border County Enterprise Boards

Each of the pilot initiatives has participated in inter-regional network events hosted in Ireland and in some of the partner regions, which include two Polish regions: Coujavie and Podkarpacie, Oulu (Finland), Navarra (Spain) and Tuscany (Italy). The project is lead by the Midi-Pyrenees region in France.

CONTACT:

BMW Regional Assembly,
The Square,
Ballaghaderreen,
Co. Roscommon.

Tel: 094 9862970
 Fax: 094 9862973
 Email: info@bmwassembly.ie
 Website: www.bmwassembly.ie

IBEC NORTH WEST



Contact	Padraig O'Grady, Regional Director
Office Hours	9.30am - 5.30pm
Address	3rd Floor Pier 1 Quay Street Donegal Town Co. Donegal
Tel	074 97 24280
Fax	074 97 22476
Email	padraig.o'grady@ibec.ie
Website	www.ibec.ie

The Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC) provides a service to member companies in Donegal and the North West region.

IBEC works in partnership with an employer giving direct advice and assistance on employment related matters such as contracts of employment, rates of pay, grievance, dismissal, equality, family-friendly working policies, etc.

The organisation also represents employers before third parties such as Rights Commissioners, Labour Court and Employment Appeals Tribunals. A dedicated Executive will meet directly with your management team and assist managers with work related matters.

Key management personnel are invited to local human resource, environment, telecommunications and health and safety meetings. Topical and pressing issues relevant to members in the region are presented and discussed during the briefings.

Additional services include an equality service, legal service, employee relations information unit, health and safety unit, survey and research unit, an employee relation's consultancy service, training and development and environmental unit among others.

IBEC acts as an extension to your management team. For further information please contact Padraig O'Grady, Regional Director, IBEC North West, e-mail: padriag.o'grady@ibec.ie, tel: 074 97 24280.

SMALL FIRMS ASSOCIATION (SFA)		
	Contact	Patricia Callan, Director
	Office Hours	9.30am - 5.30pm
	Address	Small Firms Association (SFA) Confederation House,s 84-86 Lr Baggot Street Dublin 2
	Tel	01 6051500
	Fax	01 6612861
	Email	info@sfa.ie
	Website	www.sfa.ie

The Small Firms Association (SFA) is the national organisation exclusively representing the needs of small enterprises in Ireland. The SFA has over 3,500 direct members and 4,500 affiliate members from various organisations. As a Social Partner, the SFA ensures that small business issues are central to the development of economic and social policy. Its role is to advise, assist and inform members to ensure that their contribution to the economy is recognised and to promote the profitable development of small business.

The outstanding work of the association in representing small firms is recognised by the coverage it receives in the national press, television and radio and through the many regional meetings and seminars which take place throughout the country. The association conducts regular surveys of business trends in the sector and publishes a bi-monthly magazine “Running Your Business” along with many reports on the needs of small Irish business. The SFA also provide a range of publications, advice and assistance, and seminar programmes on all aspects of personnel and industrial relations issues including recruitment & personnel records, rates of pay, contracts, discipline & dismissal and health and safety; corporate governance and business law; how to get paid on time, insurance; IT management; and e-business.

The association has also put in place a range of cost effective group services which are exclusive to member companies. These Group schemes include Insurance, ISO 9001: 2000, VHI, debt collection, pensions, crime management, and AA membership. In addition, the website has been designed and developed to provide all information and services on-line to members and to allow members to advertise their products and network with each other.

ISME (IRISH SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION LIMITED)

Contact	Mark Fielding
Office Hours	9am - 5.30pm (Mon-Thu), 9am - 5pm (Fri)
Address	ISME (Irish Small & Medium Enterprise Association Limited) 17 Kildare Street Dublin 2
Tel	01 6622755
Fax	01 6612157
Email	info@isme.ie
Website	www.isme.ie

ISME - the Independent Business Association, established in 1993 to assist owner managers nationwide.

ISME's strength rests in the combined experience of its members. The harnessing of that resource enables ISME to:

- Negotiate with Government, Financial Institutions and Public Utilities to obtain better conditions for owner-managed businesses.
- Reduce members' individual expenses through exclusive cost-saving Group Schemes. These schemes are regularly reviewed and adapted to meet the needs of members.
- Develop specific management training programmes to assist owner-managers in meeting the increasing challenges and opportunities facing them in an ever-changing business environment in a cost effective way.
- Inform members of new legislation, emerging opportunities and changing business climate applicable to their businesses. This is achieved by hosting regional Briefing Sessions; publishing monthly newsletters, bulletins and employment related guides. The ISME web site is updated regularly with the latest business news.

ISME Professional Advice And Support

ISME provides Owner / Managers with 24 hour professional advice and support. Listed below are just some of the areas that ISME offer professional advice and support in:

- Employment Contracts
- Employers Health & Safety Obligations
- Wage Rates & Conditions of Employment
- Work Permits
- Disciplinary Procedures
- How to deal with Late Payments
- Maternity Leave, Carers Leave, Paternity Leave
- Redundancies
- Revenue Audits
- Staff Pension Schemes / PRSAs
- Annual Leave & Bank Holiday Entitlements
- Staff Suggestion Schemes
- Bullying & Harassment in the Work Place
- Part-time & Contract Workers
- Recruitment & Retention Procedures
- Environmental Legislation
- Staff Salary Reviews
- The impact of new legislation
- Claiming Expenses
- Negotiating Finance
- Record Keeping Regulations
- Cost Reduction
- Email and Internet Policies

ISME Training and Briefing Sessions

ISME Training provides *Subsidised Regional Training*. The programmes on offer from ISME are supported by FÁS and Skillnets. Some of these programmes are part of the FÁS Training for People in Employment Programme, which has the general objective to increase the knowledge, skills and competencies of the Irish Workforce. For further information contact 01 6622755 or www.isme.ie

Network Briefing Sessions

ISME's Regional Briefing Sessions provide members with an opportunity to attend informative and relevant information sessions designed specifically on the needs of the Owner / Manager. For further information contact 01 6622755 or www.isme.ie

ISME Annual National Conference

ISME invites guest speakers from a variety of business sectors to impart their knowledge and experience to the SME sector in Ireland. Business Clinics and Exhibitors are also present. ISME's Annual Conference provides members and non-members an opportunity to network with some old and new friends, to share business ideas and issues with like-minded Owner / Managers.

Publications and Fact Sheets

ISME keeps members informed on relevant business issues and developments as well as employee related matters. Each ISME member receives:

- ISME's Monthly News Update
- ISME's Guidelines to Employment Law
- ISME's Specimen Contract of Employment
- ISME's Annual Wages & Conditions Report
- ISME's Specimen letter of Warning & Dismissal
- ISME's Guide to Revenue Audits
- ISME's Staff Appraisal Guideline
- ISME's Health & Safety Guidelines
- ISME's Guide to Employees Motoring & Subsistence Expenses
- ISME's Sample Internet & Email Policy
- ISME Sample Staff Confidentiality Policy
- ISME's Annual Budget Guide
- ISME's Health and Safety Guide
- ISME's Guide to Government Grants

ISME Saves You Money

ISME have negotiated attractive discounts for their members on a wide range of necessary and beneficial services. ISME members can quickly reduce their business costs - and recoup their tax deductible membership fees - by availing of attractive discounts negotiated by ISME on a wide range of services and financial products, essential for business:

- ISME Telephone Answering Scheme
- ISME Phone Scheme
- ISME Insurance Scheme
- ISME Life Insurance
- ISME Information Technology
- ISME Credit Insurance
- ISME Cash Flow Solutions
- ISME Commercial Finance
- ISME Bank Check
- ISME SART
- ISME Training
- ISME Property Finance
- ISME Health Cover
- ISME Foreign VAT Reclaim

DONEGAL TOWN COMMUNITY CHAMBER LTD.



Contact	Development Officer
Office Hours	9:30am - 4pm (Mon-Thur) 9:30am - 3:30pm (Friday)
Address	Donegal Town Community Chamber Ltd. Quay Street Donegal Town Co. Donegal
Tel	074 97 23760
Fax	074 97 23387
Email	development@donegal.town.ie
Website	www.donegaltown.ie

The Donegal Town Community Chamber aims to:

- To encourage public awareness in the good appearance of Donegal Town and area and generally inspire a sense of civic pride.
- To promote and aid the social and economic regeneration of the area, to strengthen community awareness through a programme of activities, information and advice; to assist the economic life of the area through the provision of work schemes.
- To take an active interest in lobbying the Government in relation to matters of public interest and to represent and express the opinions of the members of the company.
- To apply for, access and administer grant aid and to liaise with various statutory and voluntary agencies by way of support facilities for these offices and projects prioritised by the Directors of Donegal Town Community Chamber.

The Development office was established in September 2002 and is funded by donations from businesses and individuals for four years and provides a number of services:

- Tidy Towns National and Local Competition (up 5 marks 2003)
- Donegal Town Playground
- Local Area Plan
- Donegal Town Website
- Co-ordination of Fun days and Festivals
- Lobbying statutory groups and Local Government
- Grant Applications
- Assisting the Local Community and Business groups in developing their plans
- Fund Raising Activities
- Newsletter

GWEEDORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Comasa Tráchtála & Fionasáil Gearrtha, Donegal

Contact	Eamon McBride
Office Hours	9.30am - 5.30pm
Address	Gweedore Chamber of Commerce Derrybeg Letterkenny Co. Donegal
Tel	074 95 31666
Fax	074 95 31666
Email	emcbride@eircom.net

Gweedore Chamber was founded in 1990 and provides a lobbying forum to deal with Government bodies regarding infrastructural deficiencies and matters relating to tourism promotion and unemployment.

The annual dinner is held every year where a 'Business Person of the Year' and a 'Hall of Fame' person are nominated.

The Gweedore Chamber is the only wholly Irish Registered Chamber and operates from the Donegal Gaeltacht.

LETTERKENNY CHAMBER		
	Contact	Joanne Sweeney/ Anne Condon
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Letterkenny Chamber 40 Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
	Tel	074 91 24866 / 91 25505
	Fax	074 91 26678
	Email	info@letterkennychamber.com
	Website	www.letterkennychamber.com

Letterkenny Chamber seeks to create the best environment for business to succeed. It actively represents the interests of its members and also promotes the further development of the local economy. It works closely with the local authority, elected representatives and business agencies to copper fasten the economic success of Donegal.

CORE ACTIVITIES

1. Lobbying:

The Chamber lobbies Local Authorities, State Agencies, National and European Government, on issues of interest to local business and commercial life. We are affiliated to Chambers Ireland, the country’s largest Business Network, with 60 member Chambers, representing over 13,000 businesses throughout Ireland.

Letterkenny Chamber has well established links with cross border Chambers through a number of projects, especially Derry, which shares ‘Gateway Status’ with Letterkenny in the Government’s National Spatial Strategy.

2. Chamber Initiatives

Letterkenny Chamber is responsible for the following community events/services:

- Shop LK – Retail Branding initiative for Letterkenny
- CCTV
- Christmas Lighting
- Destination Letterkenny
- Business Watch – Crime Prevention initiative
- St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- North West 10k

3. Other Services include:

- Certificates of Origin for local exporters
- Promotional Services – sponsorship and advertising opportunities
- Business Lists / Databases
- Signposting / Business Information Service
- Publicity / Press Coverage
- Networking Events
- Meeting facilities

The Chamber Council has Sub-Committees on:

- Industry
- Retail
- Tourism
- Cross Border
- Sub-committees formed as the need arises, for example, environmental, commercial rates.

Information Request for Matrix

4. Business Support Types:

- Advisory Service
- Facilities (Hire of Boardroom / Use of Secretarial Services)
- Training (Chamber Business School)
- Networking Events
- Promotional Service (Sponsorship/Flyer Distribution/Publicity/Advertising)
- Business Information Service / Signposting Service to other Business Agencies
- Network Facilitation
- Business Awards (Business Person of the Year/Hall of Fame Award/Retail Assistant of the Year)

DONEGAL VEC



Coiste Gairmoideachais
Chontae Dhún na nGall
County Donegal Vocational
Education Committee

Contact	Dr. Martin Gormley, Adult Education Organiser Ms. Antoinette Breslin, Contract Training Manager
Office Hours	9am - 5pm
Address	Donegal VEC Ard O'Donnell Letterkenny
Tel	074 91 61600
Fax	074 91 22439
Email	info@donegalvec.ie
Website	www.donegalvec.ie

Donegal VEC is a statutory organisation delivering quality educational services at second level and in adult and further education.

Donegal VEC has responsibility for 14 Vocational Schools and Colleges and provides an Adult Education Service, Contract Training Centre, Literacy Service, Adult Learner Guidance Service and Gartan Outdoor Education Centre.

Offices in Donegal Town

Adult Education and Training Centre
Donegal Town
Phone: 074 97 21705
Fax: 074 97 22821
Email: martingormley@donegalvec.ie

Office Hours: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Offices in Letterkenny

I.T. Training Centre, Ard O'Donnell
Letterkenny
Phone: 074 9161560
Fax: 074 9161538
Email: antoinettebreslin@donegalvec.ie

Office Hours: 9.00am - 5.00pm

SKILLNETS LTD.



Contact	Jenny Marchants
Office Hours	9am - 5.30pm
Address	Skillnets Ltd. Level 1 Frankfort Court Dundrum Road Dublin 14
Tel	01 2079630
Fax	01 2079631
Email	info@skillnets.com
Website	www.skillnets.com

Skillnets is an enterprise led body, set up in April 1999, to provide companies with new opportunities to develop relevant, effective answers to their training and development needs.

The Skillnets Board includes representatives of the employers bodies IBEC, Chambers of Commerce of Ireland, Construction Industry Federation, Small Firms Association as well as representatives of employee bodies through the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and also representatives of the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

Skillnets is responsible for the operation of The Training Networks Programme. The first programme took place from 1999-2002 and a result of the success of this initiative, Skillnets has been given a further mandate to continue the programme for the period 2002-2005.

Skillnets Training Networks are either regional or industry sector based. Please visit www.skillnets.com to find the right network for your company, or contact the Skillnets office for a Network Directory.

DONEGAL COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE		
	Contact	Maria Gallo
	Office Hours	9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri)
	Address	Glenview Business Park Donegal Road Ballybofey Co. Donegal
	Tel	074 91 32416
	Fax	074 91 30314
	Email	info@donegalchildcare.com
	Website	www.donegalchildcare.com

Donegal County Childcare Committee was established in December 2000 under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP). The DCCC operates under both the ECOP and new National Childcare Investment Programme 2006-2010 within the remit of office for the Minister for Children.

The vision of the Donegal County Childcare Committee is: "To ensure that the needs and rights of children in County Donegal, with regard to childcare, are met (as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the National Children's Strategy)".

The Core Actions for Donegal County Childcare Committee are:

- Production of a County Childcare Strategic Plan, based on local consultation;
- Implementation of the Plan, to advance the provision of quality childcare facilities and services within County Donegal;
- To provide a co-ordinated approach of national strategies and policies at local level.

Donegal County Childcare Committee 2006 Action Plan:

1. Networking Actions – for childcare providers and interagency networking
2. Quality Actions – raising quality of provisions
3. Information Actions
4. Training Actions – Co-ordinating and Promoting training for Early Years section
5. Equality & Diversity Actions
6. Capacity Building DCCC Actions
7. Capacity Building Early Years Practitioners
8. Social Inclusion Actions – Family Action
9. Childminding Initiative Actions – Training, Networking Information and Childminding Development Grants
10. Administration of the NCIP Grants Programme


BANK OF IRELAND

BANK OF IRELAND			
			
Branch	Address	Telephone	
Ballybofey	Glenfinn Street	074 91 31019	
Ballyshannon	Main Street	071 98 51153	
Bunbeg		074 95 31193	
Buncrana	Main Street	074 93 61399	
Bundoran	Main Steet	071 98 41239	
Carndonagh	The Diamond	074 93 74156	
Donegal Town	The Diamond	074 97 21079	
Letterkenny	Main Street	074 91 22122	
Letterkenny	Business Banking	074 91 28779	
Dungloe	Main Street	074 95 21077	
Glenties	Main Street	074 95 51124	
Killybegs	Main Street	074 97 31036	
Moveille	Main Street	074 93 82067	

Website

www.boi.ie/business

AIB

AIB			
			
Branch	Address	Telephone	
Letterkenny	61 Upper Main St	074 - 9122877	
Ballyshannon	Main Street	071 - 98 51169	
Donegal	The Diamond	074 - 9721016	
Falcarragh	Main Street	074 - 9135186	
Gweedore	Derrybeg P.O.	074 - 9531077	
Buncrana	8 Market Square	074 - 9361087	
Moveille	Main Street	074 - 9382050	
Raphoe	The Diamond	074 - 91 45118	

Website


www.aib.ie

AIB Bank is a community based bank supporting businesses, agri and personal customers throughout County Donegal. We provide our customers with choice and convenience through:

- A range of delivery channels consisting of AIB branches, Post Offices, ATMs and Telephone and Internet Banking
- An unrivalled range of banking products and services.
- A range of payment methods including cheques, debit and credit cards, Internet, telephone and international payments

Specialist products and services in areas such as lending, pension, investment and protection business are processed through Ark Life, AIB Finance & Leasing, AIB Credit Cards, and AIB Investment Managers which collectively make up the AIB presence in County Donegal.

ACC BANK

ACC BANK			
			
Branch	Address	Telephone	
Letterkenny	Rossvie Business Park Port Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal	(074) 9121317	
Fax		(074) 9125336	

Website

www.accbank.ie

Email

letterkenny@accbank.ie

ACCBank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rabobank, Netherland, a "AAA" rated bank. With a nationwide branch network and specialist business banking centres. ACCBank provides banking services to the Business, Agri and Personal Sectors. ACCBank develops and markets innovative investment products complementing an existing portfolio of third party pension and investment products as well as commercial lending, asset finance, and home loans.


FIRST ACTIVE

FIRST ACTIVE			
			
Branch	Address	Telephone	
Letterkenny	Market Square	Paul McDaid 074 91 22655	

Website

www.firstactive.ie

ULSTER BANK			
	Branch	Address	Telephone
	Donegal County Business Centre	12-14 Main St Letterkenny	Tom Wherity Niall Kavanagh Clare Gleeson Eugene Griffin 074 9188423
	Letterkenny	1 Lower Main St	Peter Smyth 087 9396767 Aishling Gallagher 074 9109847
	Ballybofey	Main St	Peter Smyth 087 93 96767
	Ardara	The Diamond	Bobby Brennan 087 9517969
	Killybegs	Main St	Bobby Brennan 087 9517969
	Donegal Town	The Diamond	Miriam Page 087 6892949
	Buncrana	26 Upper Main St	Connell Porter 087 9085285
	Moville	Main St	Connell Porter 087 90852585
	Raphoe	The Diamond	Aishling Gallagher 074 9109847
	Website www.ulsterbank.ie		

NATIONAL IRISH BANK				
	Branch	Address	Telephone	
	Letterkenny	Business Centre Rossview Park Port Road	Robert O'Connor 087 2540909 Matt McGirr 086 8560291 Drew Corry 086 8270814 Martin Cassidy 086 8505097 Malcolm Stewart 086 6050157 John Hession 086 6050156	
	Asset Finance		Paddy Gallagher 086 8188034	
	Ballybofey	Main Street	074 91 31049	
	Cardonagh	Bank Place	074 93 74122	
	Dungloe	10 Main Street	074 95 21066	
	Letterkenny	Derrybeg PO	074 95 31366	
	Letterkenny	2 Port Rd	074 91 21435	
	Milford	Main Street	074 91 53100	
	Ramelton	The Mall	074 91 51200	
	Raphoe	The Diamond	074 91 45116	
	Website www.nib.ie			

PERMEMENT TSB			
	Branch	Address	Telephone
	Letterkenny Donegal	67 Upper Main St. The Diamond	074 91 29422 074 97 21946
	Business Banking Direct on		1850 595 000
Website www.permanentsb.ie			

USEFUL ADDRESSES AT A GLANCE

CRAFT COUNCIL OF IRELAND	Address	Castle Yard, Kilkenny
	Tel	056 77 61804
	Fax	056 77 63754
	Email	info@ccoii.ie
	Website	www.ccoii.ie
REVENUE COMMISSIONERS	Address	Donegal Revenue District, Government Offices, High Rd., Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.
	Tel	074 91 69400 LoCall 1890 777 425 (PAYE)
	Web	www.revenue.ie www.ros.ie
FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY OF IRELAND	Address	Abbey Court, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1
	Tel	01 817 1300 LoCall 1890 33 66 77
	Fax	01 817 1301
	Email	info@fsai.ie
	Web	www.fsai.ie
ST ANGELAS FOOD CENTRE	Address	St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo
	Tel	071 91 50734
	Fax	071 91 50741
	Email	info@thefoodcentre.ie
	Web	www.thefoodcentre.ie
BORD BIA: THE IRISH FOOD BOARD	Address	Clanwilliam Court, Lower Maount Street, Dublin 2
	Tel	01 668 5155
	Fax	01 668 7521
	Email	info@bordbia.ie
	Web	www.bordbia.ie
BORD GLAS: THE HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD	Address	Commercial House, West End Commercial Village, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
	Tel	01 803 0398
	Fax	01 803 0399
	Email	info@bordglas.ie
	Web	www.bordglas.ie
BORD IASCAIGH MHARA:THE IRISH SEA FISHERIES BOARD	Address	PO Box 12, Crofton Rd., Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin
	Tel	01 214 4100
	Fax	01 284 1123
	Email	info@bim.ie
	Web	www.bim.ie
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RURAL & GAELTACHT AFFAIRS	Address	Dun Aímhírgin, 43-49 Mespil Road, Dublin 4
	Tel	01 647 3000 LoCall 1890 474 847
	Fax	01 647 3051
	Email	eolas@pobail.ie
	Web	www.pobail.ie
DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE TRADE & EMPLOYMENT	Address	23 Kildare Street, Dublin 2
	Tel	01 631 2121 LoCall 1890 220 222
	Fax	01 631 2827
	Email	info@entemp.ie
	Web	www.entemp.ie
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, EQUALITY & LAW REFORM	Address	94 St. Stephens Green, Dublin 2
	Tel	01 602 8202 LoCall 1890 221 227
	Fax	01 661 5461
	Email	info@justice.ie
	Web	www.justice.ie

USEFUL ADDRESSES AT A GLANCE		
CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE	Address	Skehard Rd., Cork
	Tel	021 453 5000 LoCall 1890 313 414
	Fax	021 453 5555
	Email	webmaster@cso.ie
	Web	www.cso.ie
NATIONAL STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF IRELAND	Address	Glasnevin, Dublin 9
	Tel	01 807 3800
	Fax	01 807 3838
	Email	nsai@nsai.ie
	Website	www.nsai.ie
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS & FAIR TRADE	Address	44 Chelmsford Road, Dublin 6
	Tel	01 497 8600
	Fax	01 497 8601
	Email	cai@consumerassociation.ie
	Web	www.consumerassociation.ie
PATENTS OFFICE	Address	Governments Buildings, Hebron Road, Kilkenny
	Tel	056 77 20111 LoCall 1890 220 223 / 1890 220 120
	Fax	056 77 20100
	Email	patlib@emtemp.ie
	Web	www.patentsoffice.ie
IRISH FRANCISE ASSOCIATION	Address	30 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyboggan Rd., Glasnevin, Dublin 11
	Tel	01 813 4555
	Fax	01 830 3913
	Email	michaelbradley@irishfranchiseassociation.com
	Web	www.irishfranchiseassociation.com
COMPANIES REGISTRATION OFFICE	Address	Parnell House, 14 Parnell Square, Dublin 1
	Tel	01 804 5200 LoCall 1890 220 226
	Fax	01 804 5222
	Email	info@cro.ie
	Web	www.cro.ie
EQUALITY AUTHORITY	Address	Clonmel St., Dublin 2
	Tel	01 417 3333 LoCall 1890 245 545
	Fax	01 417 3331
	Email	info@equality.ie
	Web	www.equality.ie
IRISH EXPORTERS ASSOCIATION	Address	28 Merrion Square, Dublin 2
	Tel	01 661 2182
	Fax	01 661 2315
	Email	iea@irishexporters.ie
	Web	www.irishexporters.ie
MARINE INSTITUTE HEADQUARTERS	Address	Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway
	Tel	091 387 200
	Fax	091 387 201
	Email	Institute.mail@marine.ie
	Web	www.marine.ie
HEALTH & SAFETY AUTHORITY	Address	Government Offices, Cranmore Rd., Sligo
	Tel	1890 289 389
	Fax	071 91 44078
	Email	wcu@has.ie
	Web	www.hsa.ie



Lo-call

1890 607000 / 074 91 60735



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