

Social Integration, Inclusion and Reconciliation

Indicative Financial Weighting

This Measure will account for €1.2 million (NI 1.20, BR 0.00) which represents:

- 30% of the EAGGF resource committed to this Priority; and
- 3% of the EAGGF resource committed to this Programme.

Implementing Bodies

For the implementation purposes the lead Department will be the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

16. **Measure 2.11: Area-based Urban Regeneration – Belfast, Londonderry and Regional Towns (ERDF) (Northern Ireland)**

Rationale and Background

This Measure presents a focused approach to the distinctive problems presented by Belfast, Londonderry and regional towns. Effective regeneration is about tackling deprivation, particularly by giving disadvantaged communities the opportunity to participate in and sustain the regeneration process. The Northern Ireland conflict has stunted the growth of sustainable development, and by developing models of regeneration which can become self-sustaining, this Measure can empower local urban communities to shape their own destiny.

Much good work has already been achieved under the URBAN Community Initiative and through the "Urban Regeneration" Measures of PEACE I. The "Area-based Regeneration" Measure will focus regeneration at the neighbourhood level, using a Neighbourhood Partnership approach and will also develop and enhance town and city centres in social and economic terms.

A Neighbourhood Partnerships Approach is characterised by a focus on those individual neighbourhoods and estates that had the highest degrees of deprivation. Working within the local strategic partnerships in Priority 3 a more focused and co-ordinated approach to addressing the problems of these neighbourhoods is proposed. Joint working, building up local capacity to address deprivation and the legacy of the conflict is proposed.

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This Measure will be implemented by way of three geographical Sub-measures as follows:

1. *District* Council area of Belfast (which includes a specific and separate allocation for Laganside);
2. Londonderry; and
3. Other Regional Towns.

Measure Aims and Objectives

To promote the integration and inclusion of marginalised and disadvantaged groups, to achieve higher and more meaningful levels of cross-community participation in the regeneration of urban neutral spaces, community interface areas and neighbourhoods affected by the conflict in Northern Ireland.

Indicative Activities

- Support for partnership of the public, private community and voluntary sectors in deprived neighbourhoods, which will address the barriers to inclusion and investment in their areas.
- Enhancement of streetscape and linkages within the Cathedral Quarter of Belfast to improve access and encourage the provision of neutral spaces.
- Development and improvement of facilities and services to support economic, political and social stability particularly in local interface areas in Belfast and Londonderry.
- Development of environmental project with cross-community involvement and employment potential.
- Development of town centre management strategies and reinvigoration plans.

This Measure will provide support which is not otherwise available through other Measures within this Programme, other EU Programmes or mainstream Government Programmes in favour of urban areas. In particular, it will be distinct from but complementary to and closely co-ordinated with:

- the URBAN II Community Initiatives in Inner North Belfast; and
- the activities implemented by District Partnerships at local level as described in Priority 3.

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Targeting

Within the framework of areas, groups and sectors most affected by the conflict as set out in Chapter 3, this Measure will target members of disadvantaged social groups in deprived neighbourhoods, working in partnership; voluntary and community sector organisations; statutory and non-statutory providers of services to disadvantaged groups; district councils Town Centres Managers.

Indicative Financial Weighting

This Measure will account for €19.64 million (NI 19.64, BR 0.0) which represents:

- 34% of the ERDF resource committed to this Priority; and
- 7% of the ERDF resource committed to this Programme.

Implementing Bodies

For implementation purposes the lead Department will be Department of Social Development.

Cross-Border Co-operation

Targeting

Within the framework of areas, groups and sectors most affected by the conflict as set out in Chapter 3, the beneficiaries of the Measures in this priority will include private businesses, SMEs, business and employer representative bodies, trade unions and other social partner organisations, voluntary and community organisations, cross-border groups and networks, rural development practitioners, education and youth organisations, the unemployed.

Indicative Financial Weighting

This Measure will account for €16.10 million (NI 8.97, BR 7.13) which represents:

- 36% of the ERDF resource committed to this Priority; and
- 5% of the ERDF resource committed to this Programme.

Implementing Bodies

This Measure will be implemented by an Intermediary Funding Body.

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Measure 5.2: Improving Cross-border Public Sector Co-operation (ERDF)

Rationale and Background

Synergies developed between public bodies on both sides of the border in the approach to common concerns and the sharing of resources and professional techniques will assist in providing effective and impacting solutions to the specific problems faced in the eligible area.

This Measure will provide ERDF support to cross-border co-operation initiatives and projects between public bodies. Implementation of this Measure will ensure that, where appropriate, public bodies on both sides of the border adopt co-ordinated approaches to common problems in the eligible areas thereby securing mutual economic, social, and environmental benefits on a cross border and all-island basis which will make a positive contribution to peace building and reconciliation.

Measure Aims and Objectives

To provide a strategic framework for supporting Public Sector initiatives and projects which have suffered from an absence of contacts and which will make a positive contribution in developing opportunities for increased cross-border activities.

Cross-Border Co-operation

Activities under this Priority will be similar to activities identified under ERDF Measures under: Priority 1, Priority 2 and Priority 3, but will be applied in a specific cross-border context.

Indicative Activities

This Measure will cover joint initiatives between public sector organisations which will benefit communities in Northern Ireland and the Border Region. These include:

- support for public bodies involved in the design and delivery of services to co-ordinate and develop impacting strategies addressing recognised need; and
- public bodies support for joint planning of services and the development of joint initiatives, policies and actions for service development in areas such as health and social services, equality, education and youth, transport, waste management, environment, roads.

Targeting

Within the framework of areas, groups and sectors most affected by the conflict as set out in Chapter 3, the beneficiaries of this Measure in this Priority will include Government Departments, Public Bodies and local authorities.

Indicative Financial Weighting

This Measure will account for €18.00 million (NI 9.00, BR 9.00) which represents:

- 40% of the ERDF resource committed to this Priority: and
- 6% of the ERDF resource committed to this Programme.

Implementing Bodies

This Measure will be implemented by the SEUPB.

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Measure 5.3: Developing Cross-border Reconciliation and Cultural Understanding (ERDF)

Rationale and Background

Cross community and cross-border social and cultural activities and exchanges can be an important catalyst in the promotion of peace and reconciliation. This Measure will provide support for cross border social and cultural regeneration within the eligible area, particularly targeting those communities and areas, which