

ERDF Co-Funding under Regional & ETC programmes – the Urban Dimension

Stephen Blair
Director

Southern Regional Assembly

The urban dimension in EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020

- ▶ **The urban dimension in EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): total of €187 billion (excl. territorial cooperation) of which EUR €100 billion (54%) spent in cities through operational programmes, of which**
 - ▶ • EUR 14.5 billion (7.8%) directly managed at local level in the framework of integrated Sustainable Urban Development strategies, namely through **Integrated Territorial Investments and Community-led Local Development**
 - ▶ • **Cooperation and policy learning through Urbact III (EUR 96.3 million), Interreg Europe (EUR 359 million)**
 - ▶ • **Urban Development Network (UDN) of DG REGIO organises conferences workshops and study visits for more than 500 cities**
 - ▶ • **International Urban Cooperation (IUC):** Between 2016 and 2019, EUR 20 million from the ERDF will be used to establish projects between EU cities and third countries (city-to-city/sustainable development; sub-national/Covenant of Mayors; interregional/innovation
 - ▶ • **European Social Fund (ESF):** total of EUR 86 billion for job creation, training, social inclusion, of which EUR 1.5 billion for sustainable urban development



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



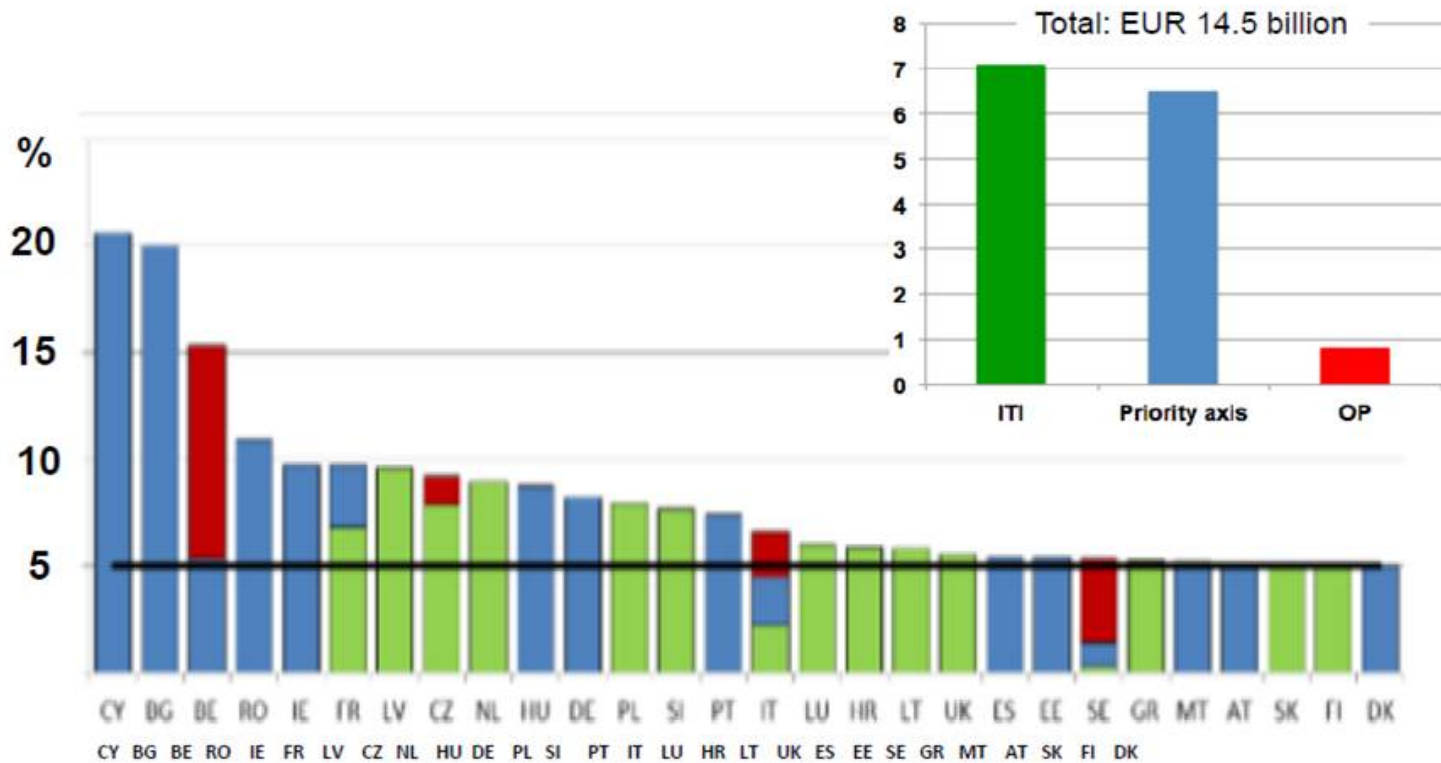
Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

ERDF budget for sustainable urban development 2014-2020

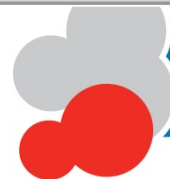


15 Member States use Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI), four Operational Programmes (OP) are dedicated to Sustainable Urban Development (metropolitan programme Italy, Brussels, Prague, Stockholm). 75% of the total will be invested in energy efficiency, urban mobility, urban regeneration and social inclusion



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

Background to the First Sustainable Urban Development Scheme in Regional OP's in Ireland

- 2007-13 Regional Programmes - pilot Gateways & Hubs Grants scheme introduced
- €17 million for urban renewal projects in the 7 Gateways and the 6 Hubs within the BMW Region
- €11 million in grants for projects in the 4 S&E Gateway cities
- Projects varied from tourist attractions to art centres, from street enhancements to smarter travel initiatives – see images though-out this presentation.



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

Background to the 2014-20 Scheme

- Sustainable Urban Development is one of the objectives of EU Regional Policy
- A minimum of 5% of ERDF allocation to each Member State for S.U.D. – Ireland chose to increase this to 10%
- Focus is on integrated social, economic and environmental development of urban centres
- Two broad Investment priorities
 - Revitalisation of the urban areas
 - Sustainable urban transport



Key features of the current Scheme

- **Eligibility is based on designation under the National Spatial Strategy**
 - 4 Gateways + 6 Hubs S&E Region
 - 7 Gateways BMW Region
- **Projects are to be selected and ranked by the designated Local Authorities in the Gateways & Hubs**
- **Projects must demonstrate that fit with Integrated Strategy for the city/town**
- **Level of Funding Available – Has increased in S&E Region but reduced in BMW as follows:**
 - €26m ERDF S&E Region
 - €14m ERDF BMW Region

50% co-financing rate giving a total investment package of €80m +



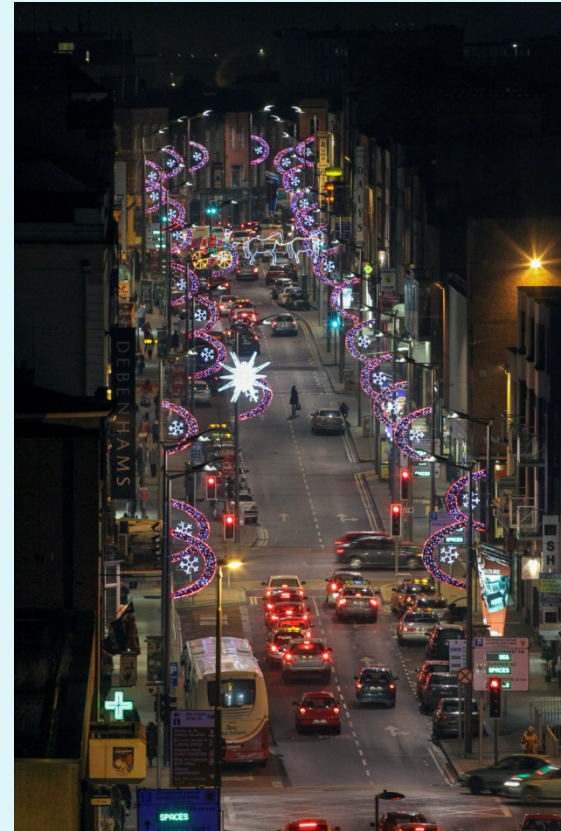
Investment Priority 1 – Revitalisation of the urban areas

- Eligible Actions include:
 - Urban regeneration, physical enhancement, social revitalisation
 - Rehabilitation of brownfield sites and new structures including social infrastructure
 - Development of community and cultural infrastructure



Investment Priority 2 – Sustainable Urban Transport

- Eligible Actions include:
 - Pedestrianisation
 - Installation/extension of Cycle Lanes
 - Installation/extension of Bus Lanes
 - Traffic information systems
 - Improved walking & cycling access to public transport



Ireland's EU Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

Call for Proposals

- ▶ Managing Authorities (Regional Assemblies) launched call for proposals in Autumn 2015
- ▶ Local Authorities submitted their selected & prioritised projects
- ▶ Spring 2016 following meeting of Steering Committee, awards of grants were made to the relevant Councils for each designated Gateway or Hub town.



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

Sustainable Urban Development Projects Selected

- **Southern & Eastern Region:**
 - – **Cork City**
 - Project 1 – Urban Renewal of Marina Park
 - Grant awarded €3.5m – total project cost €7m
 - Project 2 – Harley Street Cycling & Pedestrian Bridge
 - grant Awarded €1.5m–total project cost €3.5m
 - – **Dublin City**
 - Project 1 – Forbes Street Cycling & Pedestrian Bridge
 - Grant Awarded €2.9m – total cost €17m
 - Project 2 – Regeneration of Dun Laoghaire Baths
 - Grant awarded €1.1m – total cost 2.7m



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

S.U.D. Projects cont.

- Project 3 – Swords Castle Heritage Quarter
 - Grant awarded €1.5m – total cost €3m
- **Limerick City:**
- Project 1 – Urban centre revitalisation project
 - Grant awarded €4.1m – total cost €9m
- Project 2 – Shannon Town Park renewal
 - Grant awarded €0.4m – total cost €0.9m

Waterford City:

City Centre Public Realm Improvements

Grant awarded €4m – total cost of project €9.5m

Hub Towns Selected Projects

- Ennis – New County Library €1 m Grant/€8.5m
- Kilkenny – Abbey Creative Quarter €1 m/€4.5m
- Mallow – Town Hall Arts Centre €1 m/€2.1 m
- Tralee – Denny Factory site renewal €1.5/€3.2m
- Wexford – Trinity Wharf regeneration €1 m/€2.4m



Ireland's EU Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

B.M.W. Region Gateways Projects

- ▶ **Sligo**
*€2million for two projects – the renewal of O’Connell Street & a new Community Centre at Cranmore
- ▶ **Letterkenny**
*€2 million awarded to 3 projects – upgrading the Joe Bonner Link Road – Constructing a new Social Enterprise building – upgrading of town linkages for safe walking and pedestrian infrastructure
- ▶ **Galway**
*€3.5million for City Library and Cultural Centre.
- ▶ **Athlone:**
*€1.5million for Church Street Enhancement
- ▶ **Dundalk:**
*€2 million for Clanbrasil Street & St Nicholas Quarter Rejuvenation.
- ▶ **Mullingar**
*€1.5 million for enhancement of town civic areas and linkages between them.
- ▶ **Tullamore:**
*€1.5 million for Central Streets Enhancement Project



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

European Territorial Cooperation(ETC) Programmes

- Part of Cohesion Policy ('Territorial Cooperation')
- Operate on direct/competitive basis.
- Aims to reduce existing disparities between EU regions in terms of their development and environmental sustainability.
- Raise overall performance levels.
- Takes specific territorial features/opportunities into account.
- Encourages organisations to cooperate to improve economic, environmental, social and territorial development.
- Targets Local & Regional Authorities specifically.
- Umbrella programmes for specific geographical areas.
- A, B and C strands



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund



Cross-border Interreg VA		Transnational Interreg VB		Interregional Interreg VC	
60	Cooperation programmes Internal Borders	6.6	€ billion	15	Cooperation programmes
12	Interreg IPA Instrument for Pre-accession	242*	€ million	2.1	€ billion
16	(Interreg) ENI CBC European Neighbourhood Instrument	634*	€ million		
				4	Cooperation programmes
				INTERREG EUROPE INTERACT URBACT ESPON	0.5 € billion

* ERDF contribution

Strand A – Cross–Border Ireland–Wales Programme



Does not have an explicit urban focus, but covers the following broader themes:

- ▶ Priority 1: Cross–border innovation
- ▶ Priority 2: Adaptation of the Irish Sea and Coastal* Communities to Climate Change
- ▶ Priority 3: Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage

Permanent open call with a two–stage appraisal process (‘pre–planning’ and, upon invitation, ‘business planning’)

Status: Just 3 (full) approvals to date (Jan 2017). 23 more in pipeline.

Programme budget of €100m, of which €79M ERDF.

UK guarantees in place for commitments approved before BREXIT.



Ireland's EU Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly

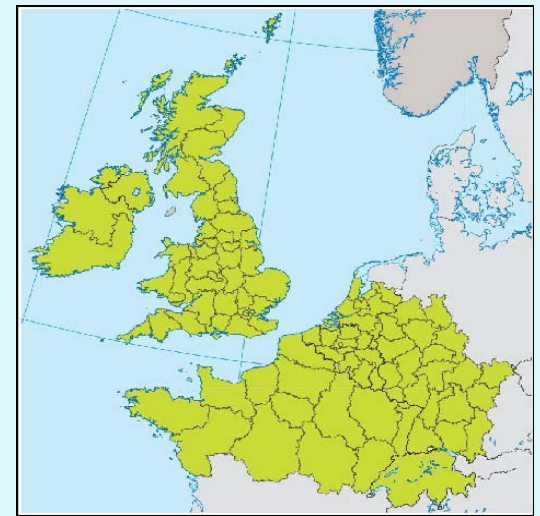


European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

Strand B – Transnational

Interreg 
EUROPEAN UNION
North-West Europe



Issues:

- Boosting knowledge flows to stimulate innovation
- SMEs innovative capabilities
- Resource and materials efficiency
- Energy security and supply
- Vulnerability to climate change events
- Inclusion



Ireland's EU Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

NWE Programme cont./

- Again no explicit Urban Priority, with projects to be funded under 3 Priority headings as follows:
 - Priority 1 – **Enhancing innovation performance of enterprises**
 - Priority 2 – **Low carbon**
 - Priority 3 – **Resource & Material Efficiency**
- ▶ €372M available for projects with 60% co-financing.
- Two-step application process & Calls: 2 per year: May and November deadlines (step 1)
 - 9 projects approved (calls 1 and 2, step 2) and 17 now at second step (call 3, step 1)
 - 50 applications received in Call 4 and Call 5 closes 26 May, '17



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

NWE Project:

CODEMA & South Dublin Co. Council

- Support SDCC in developing Dublin's first large-scale public district heating network.
- Connecting County Hall and Tallaght Hospital.
- Promote roll-out of 4th Gen District Heating...integrates heat, electricity and energy storage.
- Key contribution to lowering carbon emissions in heating sector and meeting national and EU targets.
- Potential for other businesses and buildings in the area to link in as it rolls out.
- Also includes Dublin City Council (associate partner): will support feasibility of other district heating networks in region.



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

Transnational



Issues:

- Ongoing deficits in Innovation and SME competitiveness capacity
- Dominance of Rural areas over Urban centres
- Uneven demographic distribution
- Environmental threats including climate change and biodiversity.
- Maritime heritage and marine resources and a strong Atlantic cultural identity.
- Opportunities in niche areas such as green growth, renewable energies and eco-Innovation.
- North-south divide

Atlantic Area Programme Priorities

1) Stimulating Innovation & Competitiveness

- Enhancing Innovation capacity to foster competitiveness
- Strengthening transfer of Innovation results to facilitate emergence of new products, services & processes .

2)Fostering Resource Efficiency

- Fostering renewable energies & energy efficiency
- Fostering Green Growth, eco innovation & environmental efficiency

3) Strengthening resilience to risks of natural, climate & human origin

- Strengthening risk management systems

4) Enhancing Biodiversity and the Natural and Cultural Assets

- Improving protection of biodiversity & enhancing ecosystems services
- Enhancing Natural and Cultural assets to stimulate economic development

Atlantic Area programme cont./

- ▶ Two-stage application process ('Expressions of Interests' then invitations to submit).
- ▶ 75% co-financing.
- ▶ €131.6M (projects)
- ▶ **Status: One call (at second stage) – decisions in Jan 2017.**
- ▶ **102 Expressions (9 Irish LAs) approved in stage 1.**
- ▶ **Have been previous projects around Atlantic city networks**



Ireland's EU Structural and
Investment Funds Programmes
2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government
and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund

Interregional



**Interreg
Europe**

European Union | European Regional Development Fund



Design and delivery of better local and regional development policies & approaches.

Support and facilitation of policy learning, sharing of knowledge and transfer of good practices.

Strategic*: Principally by reference to improving ESIF OPs (and ETC) ...but also other local/regional/national policy instruments.

Pan-European character. Balance EU15* and EU13 in partnership.



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

Interreg Europe Thematic Priorities



Research & innovation

Partners in this topic can work on:

1. Strengthening research and innovation infrastructure and capacities.
2. Innovation delivery through regional innovation chains in the chosen 'smart specialisation' field.

e.g.

- improving financial instruments for innovation support
- increasing commercialisation of R&D results



SME competitiveness

This topic allows regions to improve their policies in supporting SMEs in all stages of their life cycle to develop and achieve growth, and engage in innovation.

e.g.

- creating and boosting entrepreneurial spirit
- responding to obstructions to business growth



Low-carbon economy

Cooperation here addresses the transition to a low-carbon economy in all sectors.

This could be through policies aimed at raising the share of renewable energy sources in the energy mix or promoting sustainable transport.

e.g.

- increasing energy performance of public buildings
- promoting alternative mobility behaviour



Environment & resource efficiency

Two distinct fields are open for cooperation:

1. Protection & development of natural and cultural heritage.
2. Transition to a resource-efficient economy, promoting green growth and eco-innovation.

e.g.

- improving management of regional nature parks
- making the transition to circular economy

60



Ireland's EU Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014 - 2020

Co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an Deiscirt
Southern Regional Assembly



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Interreg Europe

Projects Phase 1:

- Set up a stakeholder group (each region).
- Share experience, ideas and know-how .
- Produce action plans (each region) .

Projects Phase 2:

- Monitoring of implementation
- Participate in the **Policy Learning Platforms***

€322.4M ERDF (projects): Average €1-2 million.

Co-financing < 85% (public bodies)

130 approved after 2 calls.

3rd call opens 1 March to 30 June 2017.

Thank you for your attention!
Any questions?

Contact details:

Assembly House, O'Connell Street, Waterford.

Phone: 051-860700

Email: sblair@southernassembly.ie

Web: www.southernassembly.ie