

# Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

Apr – May 2024



Cork  
County Council  
Comhairle Contae Chorcaí



Stronger Charities.  
Stronger Communities.

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

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

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## RISE COMMUNITY FUND

The RISE Community Fund supported by National Broadband Ireland and Granahan McCourt is aimed at addressing the rural digital divide and will award 5 monthly grants of €1,000 each to empower local businesses, community groups, farms and social enterprises to enhance their digital strategy. The Fund offers an immediate financial injection into your local community, boosting the digital ecosystem.

### Eligibility

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

### WHAT INITIATIVES DOES THE COMMUNITY FUND SUPPORT?

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

### CAN YOU MAKE MORE THAN ONE APPLICATION?

Each organisation can submit only one application in each community location area within the indicated deadline. Please note the deadline for your area as late applications will not be considered (Please see calendar above).

### WHO WILL DECIDE WHICH APPLICANTS ARE SUCCESSFUL?

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

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

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

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

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

### Terms & Conditions

- You are 18 years of age or older.

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

## How to Apply

Deadlines:

**Kildare:** Opening applications: 1 Apr 2024 / Closing applications: 30 Apr 2024

**Dublin:** Opening applications: 1 May 2024 / Closing applications: 31 May 2024

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

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## Energy for Generations Fund

As a leading Irish organisation with deep roots in the community dating back to 1927, we are committed to playing a role in addressing some of the key social issues facing Ireland today.

Corporate Responsibility (CR) is at the heart of this vision. ESB's Energy for Generations Fund sees €1m per year disbursed through a quarterly fund to charities working in the areas of Suicide Prevention, Homelessness and Educational Access and Support.

### Criteria

ESB's Energy for Generations Fund sees €1m per year disbursed through a quarterly fund to charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support.

ESB has been supporting initiatives in the areas of suicide prevention and homelessness since 2005. The Energy for Generations Fund introduced a new focus on education in 2014, which recognises the need for educational supports at all levels to ensure that Ireland has the skills it needs to compete effectively.

Our aim with the Energy for Generations Fund is to maximise the impact of our investment by taking a more strategic approach to effect change. Funding is only part of the jigsaw – we also want to leverage the skills and knowledge we have within the company to bring about more sustainable and positive outcomes.

The guideline application amount is c. €15,000. This is neither a minimum nor a maximum, rather an indication of the scale of the resources available. Average funding awards in recent years have been c. €8,000 - €12,000.

### How Does the Fund Work?

Charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support can apply to the Fund for project specific funding.

Every quarter ESB allocates an amount from the Fund for disbursement. The amount may vary because of the volume of applications received or seasonal considerations - wintertime and Christmas may require more funding than summer.

Applications submitted during each quarter are appraised at the end of the quarter and funding allocated accordingly.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 1 Apr 2024 (opening) / 22 Apr 2024 (closing)

[Visit the ESB website for full application details.](#)

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## The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity

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

The Hospital Saturday Fund has two grant categories:

1. Standard grants of up to £2,000 or €3,000
2. Large grants to up to £10,000 or €13,500 (please note this is the maximum sum that HSF will grant).

### Eligibility

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

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

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

#### **For Individuals:**

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

Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Acupuncture, Speech Therapy, Osteopathy, Chiropractic treatment, Reflexology, Massage Therapy and Aromatherapy. Some adaptations, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 3 Apr 2024 (large grants) / 1 May 2024 (standard grants)

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

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## National Lottery Good Causes Awards 2024

The National Lottery are seeking entries to this year's Good Causes Awards. The competition will culminate with a National Final awards ceremony which will take place on the 12th of October 2024 in Killashee House Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare.

### Eligibility

You can enter the National Lottery Good Causes Awards if you or your organisation, project or club has received funding through the following National Lottery part-funded schemes between 2019-2023:

#### **Sport – Winning through inclusion**

This category is open to any sports club who received a Sports Capital Programme Grant (Capital or Equipment) or any organisation who received funding issued through Sport Ireland.

#### **Arts & Culture - Celebrating Irish creativity**

This category is open to any individual or organisation who received a grant from the Arts Council of Ireland.

#### **Heritage – Protect, preserve and promote**

This category is open to any organisation who received a grant from the Heritage Council of Ireland.

#### **Youth - Nurturing Ireland's next generation**

This category is open to any organisation or youth club who received funding from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth through a UBU Your Place, Your Space grant, the Targeted Youth Funding Schemes or Youth Information Centres.

#### **Health and Wellbeing – Promoting healthier and happier communities**

This category is open to any organisation or community group who received funding through the HSE National Lottery Grant Scheme.

#### **Community – Enriching the fabric of Irish Life**

This category is open to any organisation who received National Lottery Good Causes funding through the Department of Rural and Community Development, namely the SSNO grants (Support National Organisations) or the Senior Alert Schemes.

#### **Irish Language - Cothú grá na cainte**

This category is open to any organisation who received an Irish Language Support grant issued through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.



Each of the 35 National Finalists will also receive a cheque of €1,000 to celebrate them reaching this stage of the competition. Full details can be found in our Terms & Conditions below.

Every year, the Good Causes Awards celebrate the inspirational work carried out by many volunteers, coaches, care givers and extraordinary people across Ireland, along with the organisations they represent. Beneficiaries will be judged on how the funds were used to make an ever-lasting impact on their local community, project, club, or service users. A total prize fund of €135,000 is available and a full breakdown of the prizes and categories is available in our Terms & Conditions below.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 4 Apr 2024

Full details available here: <https://www.lottery.ie/good-causes-awards>

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## Collaboration and Innovation Fund

The purpose of the Fund is to pay for collaborative and innovative projects that support adults with unmet literacy, numeracy and digital literacy needs, and create a more equal society.

In 2023, €1 million supported about fifty innovative projects and partnerships that enable adults to improve their literacy, numeracy and digital skills. The funding was given to a diverse range of organisations nationwide, from small community groups to libraries, refugee centres, support organisations and adult education providers and the results were amazing.

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

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

### What are the main criteria for getting funding?

- Collaboration: There must be at least two organisations involved.
- Innovation: Your project is new or innovative.
- Beneficial: Your project benefits adults with unmet literacy, numeracy, and digital literacy needs.
- Cost: Your project is good value for money, and is
  - less than €25,000 for a local project or
  - less than €50,000 for a national project.

### How much funding is available?

In 2024, the total funding available in the Collaboration and Innovation Fund is €1.25 million. €1 million is available to fund local projects in any county in Ireland. €0.25 million is available to fund national projects that have a wider, national scope.

### Who can apply?

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

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

The lead organisation must provide:

- a tax clearance access number,
- tax reference number, and
- charity number, if applicable.

### **What is the difference between a local and a national project?**

A local or regional project has an impact in one area, county or ETB catchment area. In a local project, the lead organisation is any public, not for profit organisation. The minimum amount of funding available for a local project is €1,000 and the maximum amount is €25,000.

A national project has an impact in more than one county or happens in more than one Education and Training Board area. In a national project, the lead organisation is a public, not for profit national representative body or an organisation that provides a service in more than one location.

The maximum amount of funding available for a national project is €50,000.

If you are not sure whether your project is local or national, please contact the ALL National Programme Office by email at [allinnovation@solas.ie](mailto:allinnovation@solas.ie).

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 4 Apr 2024

Full details available here: <https://www.adultliteracyforlife.ie/fund/>

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## PwC Ireland Resilient Communities Fund

PwC has launched the PwC Ireland Resilient Communities Fund in collaboration with ChangeX. The PwC fund is designed to empower individuals and teams to spearhead local community projects that promote inclusion, equitable access to opportunities, skills development, and sustainability.

This €100,000 fund is designed to empower individuals and teams across Ireland to spearhead local community projects that promote inclusion, equitable access to opportunities, skills development, and sustainability.

Check out these four inspiring ideas that might be of interest in your local community:

[FIRST LEGO League - Explore](#) : FIRST LEGO League is an engaging and educational program designed to introduce young minds to the exciting worlds of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

[Community Fridge](#) The Community Fridge concept revolves around the idea of sharing and supporting those in need. Anyone can contribute or take from the fridge, promoting a sense of community responsibility and solidarity.

[STEAM In A Box](#) STEAM In A Box is an immersive program that centres around educating the next generation of problem solvers, creative thinkers and innovators in the area of science, technology engineering, arts and maths.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 5 Apr 2024

Applications to the PwC Ireland Resilient Communities Fund can be made on the [ChangeX PwC Fund page](#).

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## Youth Theatre Ireland - Support Schemes

The Youth Theatre Support Schemes were developed to respond to some of the needs of youth theatres where alternative funding options could not be identified.

The Youth Theatre Support Scheme is open to all affiliated youth theatres that are in good standing and have renewed their membership. Organisational and Individual members are not eligible to apply.

There are currently three stands to the Youth Theatre Support Scheme. For spring 2024, there is a total fund of €4,000 to support these schemes.

### **Youth Theatre Partnership**

Have you met another youth theatre leader or group and felt that you would like to bring your youth theatres together? Youth Theatre Ireland has a one off, single award of up to €1,000 towards the cost of groups coming together for workshops or other collaborations/events.

### **Go See YT**

A scheme to support youth theatres with ticket and travel costs to attend another youth theatre show or a professional theatre production. There are three awards with a maximum of €300 per award.

### **Drama Facilitation Support**

Do you need someone to relieve a facilitator over a few weeks? Youth Theatre Ireland will support up to 3 x 2hr. sessions of relief drama facilitation in your youth theatre. Applications accepted on an on-going basis until the fund is exhausted.

[Please fill in the online application form here](#)

This is an ongoing fund of €1800 for 2024 and applications will be considered until the fund is exhausted.

How to Apply

Deadline: 5 Apr 2024

[Full details available here.](#)

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## Creative Europe Programme

Creative Europe is the European Commission's framework programme for support to the culture and audio-visual sectors.

The Creative Europe programme is open to cultural and creative organisations from EU Member States, as well as non-EU countries. Subject to certain conditions EEA (European Economic Area), candidate/potential candidate and ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy) countries can also participate in the programme on an equal footing with Member States.

### **Creative Europe Culture Sub-programme**

Creative Europe (2021-2027) will support European creative sectors with a budget of €2.44 billion.

The Creative Europe programme 2021 – 2027 sets out common goals for the cultural and creative sectors. It puts a stronger emphasis on transnational creation, global circulation and promotion of European works, innovation across sectors, and ease of funding access through higher EU co-financing rates. All funded actions and projects should respect gender equality and the EU's environmental commitments in the design and implementation of their activities

The CULTURE strand of the Programme consists of the following actions:

- Horizontal actions covering all cultural and creative sectors: support to cultural cooperation projects, networks of professional organisations, platforms for the promotion of European artists and works, individual mobility scheme.
- Sector-specific support to complement horizontal actions in music, book & publishing, cultural heritage and architecture as well as other sectors.
- Special actions to reward and promote excellence and creativity such as the awards for literature, music, architecture and cultural heritage, European Capitals of Culture, and the European Heritage Label.

### **Creative Europe Media Sub-programme**

The MEDIA sub-programme of Creative Europe supports European film and audiovisual industries in the development, distribution and promotion of their work. The programme supports projects with a European dimension while also enabling them to seek markets beyond national and European borders. Funding is also available for training, development, and new technologies.

## **Creative Europe Cross Sector Strand**

The Cross-sectoral strand of the Creative Europe programme is designed to serve three primary functions:

- The establishment of a Guarantee Facility targeting the cultural and creative sectors
- The promotion of transnational policy cooperation
- Supporting a network of Creative Europe Desks.

### **How to Apply**

You can read more on the [Irish Creative Europe website](#) and contact the national [Creative Europe Desk](#).

### **Current funding calls:**

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#### **Creative Europe MEDIA - European VOD Networks and Operators**

Deadline: 9 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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#### **Creative Europe MEDIA - Networks of European Festivals**

Deadline: 11 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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#### **Creative Europe - Circulation of European literary works**

Deadline: 16 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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#### **Creative Europe - European Film Distribution**

Deadline: 25 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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**Creative Europe - Innovation Lab**

Deadline: 25 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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## The Arts Council - Touring of Work Scheme

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

The objective of the Touring of Work Scheme is to make great art – of different kinds – available to more people throughout the country. When selecting tours to fund, we consider artistic excellence in the work itself and clear consideration of public engagement. In most cases, the work to be toured will have already been produced and well received by audiences and critics (see artform-specific criteria in the appendix for exceptions to this).

Successful applicants will also show how their tour will create – or make use of – a network of venues and/or other partners and collaborators. This might include other artists, producers, promoters, arts organisations, festivals, local authorities, funders, etc. Your partners and collaborators should contribute to the success of your tour in artistic, audience and geographic/spatial terms.

The Touring of Work Scheme, like all Arts Council awards, is informed by our ten-year strategy [Making Great Art Work](#), and connects in particular to the core priorities of the artist and public engagement. Other Arts Council policies that you should refer to are:

- Our spatial policy, [Place, Space and People](#), which seeks to ensure that artists, audiences and the arts thrive all over the country
- Our [Paying the Artist](#) Policy, which strives to ensure artists make and share great work for fair pay
- Our [Equality, Diversity & Inclusion](#) (EDI) Policy, which champions the equal rights of all to enjoy and participate in the arts.
- Our commitment to EDI is particularly strengthened through our [policy for children and young people's arts](#) and our work in [Arts Participation](#).

Individual artforms are supported through policies which can be found on our [website](#), and each artform has particular priorities for touring, which can be found in the appendix to these guidelines.

The Arts Council will publish a Climate Action and Environmental Policy in 2024, along with making specific climate and environmental training and resources available to the sector. While

the environmental impact of your tour will not affect your application in this round, we would like you to bear this in mind for the future.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 9 Apr 2024 (opening) / 9 May 2024 (closing)

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

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## National Geographic Society Grants

We have awarded more than 15,000 grants since our founding in 1888.

The recipients of these grants, who we call National Geographic Explorers, are a diverse community of changemakers from around the world working to support our mission to illuminate and protect the wonder of our world.

Our Explorers are people of all walks of life from all over the world. They don't just venture to the tops of mountains or the bottom of the ocean. They're also in the lab diving deep into the microscopic world, in their local communities capturing the stories of a fishing village, or in the classroom sharing their discoveries with the next generation.

We fund individuals working on projects in science, conservation, storytelling, education, and technology that align with one or more of our focus areas.

And we don't just support their incredible work. We actively seek to help them network, connect, and learn with National Geographic and each other, empower them with cutting-edge tools, technology, and training, and further their impact and recognition through our storytelling.

We offer grant opportunities at various entry points to provide a dynamic pathway to join our community and engage with us.

Whether you are an aspiring Explorer or already a luminary in the field, each opportunity has unique criteria and benefits to ensure that our Explorers receive support and funding aligned to their specific needs and goals. Each year, a small number of grants are awarded to individuals who are just beginning their National Geographic journey, as well as those who are working on more advanced projects.

The National Geographic Society warmly welcomes and encourages applicants from historically and currently underrepresented and underserved populations to apply. National Geographic is committed to funding a diverse and globally representative cohort of Explorers. The National Geographic Society does not discriminate on the basis of race, religious creed, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, ancestry, age, or disability.

### **LEVEL I FUNDING**

Level I Grants are designed for individuals who may be earlier in their career, those looking to establish themselves better in their field, those seeking mentorship from others in their field

and beyond, or those who want to grow their network and enhance their impact by joining a global community of National Geographic Explorers. This opportunity is best suited for individuals who have the potential and desire to make significant positive contributions to their field by leveraging the funding, capacity, and additional support provided by the National Geographic Society and connections to other Explorers. These grants are highly competitive and priority will be given to applicants who thoughtfully demonstrate how joining the [Explorer Community](#) will help to advance their career.

Individuals who are already National Geographic Explorers (i.e., those who have already received a grant from the National Geographic Society) are NOT eligible to apply for Level I Grants. Level I Grants are only available to individuals who are entirely new to the National Geographic Society network, as well as individuals already in the network who are not yet Explorers, including team members on previous grants, National Geographic Young Explorers awarded in 2019 or later, recipients of discretionary funding opportunities such as the COVID-19 Emergency Fund for Journalists and the COVID-19 Remote Learning Emergency Fund, and recipients of grants from the China Air & Water Fund.

Funding requests at this level can be up to USD \$20,000. Projects can be up to one year in length, although projects with “Technology” as the primary focus can be up to two years.

#### Benefits

Level I Grants receive funding up to USD \$20,000 and offer unique opportunities for training, networking, coaching, mentorship, and more from fellow National Geographic Explorers, experts, staff, partners, and forums. We are looking for individuals who are interested in becoming an active part of the [Explorer Community](#).

### **LEVEL II FUNDING**

If you are more established in your field, have previously received a National Geographic Society grant, or are seeking a higher level of funding, you may apply for a Level II Grant. You are not required to have previously received a National Geographic Society grant to apply for this opportunity. These grants are highly competitive and reserved for select projects that push boundaries to achieve significant and tangible impact in your field. Projects can be up to two years long.

#### Benefits

Level II Grant recipients receive funding up to \$100,000. Smaller requests will be accommodated and will not be more or less competitive. At this funding level, grantees will

provide mentorship to others within the Explorer community, contribute their expertise, and may participate in relevant speaking engagements upon request.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 11 Apr 2024

[Please visit the Society website for full grant guidelines, resources and application links.](#)

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## The St Andrews Prize for the Environment

The St Andrews Prize for the Environment is a major international initiative led by the University of St Andrews that recognises and supports innovative and inspirational responses to environmental challenges, including the climate crisis.

The St Andrews Prize welcomes applications from individuals and organisations (including community groups) who lead projects that protect the environment and/or contribute to its sustainable development.

As a core aim of the Prize is to bring about substantial progress in solving environmental problems, we seek applications from projects where winning would lead to a step-change in the development and implementation of the idea.

### Eligible projects

For a project to be eligible, it must:

- be an established project with a proven track record of success
- be related to sustainable development or biodiversity, and be aligned with the [UN Goals for Sustainable Development](#)
- be replicable from one geographic area to another and ideally be scalable in size
- have a clearly defined need for funding
- have the ability to inspire others in the field
- contribute to the global pursuit of sustainability in the short- to long-term
- meet high ethical standards in respect of intellectual property, and in how it interacts with people and with the environment
- be inclusive.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 12 Apr 2024

[Please visit the St. Andrews Award website to review the full details.](#)

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## European Solidarity Corps Programme

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

### Aims & Objectives

The European Solidarity Corps aims to:

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

The European Solidarity Corp's priorities are:

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

### What does it support?

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

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

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

Volunteering Projects are projects where young people are sent by an accredited organisation to volunteer in another European country to exchange ideas, learn, connect and grow. Volunteering may take place in Ireland or abroad. Funding is available for 'Individual Volunteering Projects', 'Volunteering Teams Projects' or 'Preparatory Visits'.

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

### **Who can apply?**

Any public or private body may apply for funding.

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

### **Why the EU funds European solidarity and volunteering**

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

### **Budget**

€1,1 billion over 7 years.

### **Project Examples**

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

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

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

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

### **National Contact Point in Ireland**



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

Contact Suzanne Kavanagh at [kavanagh@leargas.ie](mailto:kavanagh@leargas.ie) or Noeleen O'Callaghan at [nocallaghan@leargas.ie](mailto:nocallaghan@leargas.ie) for more information.

Website: [www.leargas.ie](http://www.leargas.ie)

## How to Apply

See open calls below:

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### European Solidarity Corps - Humanitarian Aid Volunteering

Deadline: 16 April, 2024

[View Detail](#)

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## WorldWise Global Schools Programme

WorldWise Global Schools (WWGS) provides grant funding to Schools and NGOs & Education Networks working in the post-primary sector in the Republic of Ireland (ROI).

Grant funding can be applied for on an annual basis (from April) to assist Schools/NGOs & Education Networks with activities and initiatives, which promote Global Citizenship Education, to take place in the following academic year.

### Eligibility

Eligible Schools, Networks and NGOs can register for the Grant Call via a registration button that appears on 'Apply for Grant Funding' page.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 17 Apr 2024 (opening) / 17 May 2024 (closing)

Full details available are available via the following link, including specific guidelines for schools and also for nonprofit organisations:

<http://www.worldwiseschools.ie/grants/>

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## Human Rights and Equality Grant Scheme

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

The themes of this year's funding are informed by the priorities set out in the Commission's Strategy Statement 2022-2024.

### 2024-25 Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's 2024-25 Human Rights and Equality Grant Scheme is now open and accepting applications until 3.00pm sharp, Thursday 18 April 2024.

The purpose of the grants scheme is to support projects by civil society and trade unions that promote human rights and equality.

A total of €350,000 is available for projects.

### Grants Scheme Strands

The 2024-25 Grants Scheme's themes are informed by the Commission's strategic priorities set out in its [Strategy Statement 2022-24](#). This year the Grants Scheme will support projects under the following strands:

Strand A: Advancing Economic Equality

Strand B: Promoting Awareness of Rights and Access to Justice

Strand C: Promoting Climate Justice, Environmental Justice and a Just Transition

### Funding Streams

Funding is available for small and general grants:

Small Grants up to: €6,000

General Grants up to: €20,000

Guidance and Application Form

[Grant Scheme 2024-2025 Guidance](#)

[Grant Scheme 2024-2025 Application Form](#)

The Grants Scheme is open to civil society organisations and trade unions, registered in the Republic of Ireland only (it is possible to have a partner in Northern Ireland), that aim to promote human rights and equality.

Civil society organisations include: local and national community and voluntary organisations, non-governmental organisations, rights-holder-led groups, groups representing area-based communities or communities of interest protected under the nine grounds of the Equality legislation, as well as people experiencing poverty, socio-economic discrimination or exclusion, including international protection applicants and migrant communities.

### **Activities Supported**

Activities eligible for grant support include but are not limited to:

- Training and capacity building courses
- Education and training resources
- Participatory and qualitative research, legal and policy analysis
- Conferences, seminars, and workshops
- Creative and participatory engagement initiatives
- Campaigns and digital resources.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 18 Apr 2024

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

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## Justice: Call for Proposals for Action Grants to Promote Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Criminal Matters

The Justice programme is the EU's funding programme to support judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters.

### AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The Justice programme has the general objective of contributing to the further development of a European area of justice based on the rule of law, mutual recognition and mutual trust.

Its three specific objectives are:

Judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters: to facilitate and support judicial co-operation in civil and criminal matters and to promote the rule of law. This includes supporting efforts to improve the effectiveness of national justice systems and the enforcement of decisions.

Judicial training: to support and promote judicial training with a view to fostering a common legal, judicial and rule of law culture.

Effective access to justice in Europe, including rights of victims of crime and procedural rights in criminal proceedings: to facilitate effective access to justice for all and effective redress, including by electronic means, by promoting efficient civil and criminal procedures and by promoting and supporting the rights of victims of crime, as well as the procedural rights of suspects and accused persons in criminal proceedings.

### WHAT DOES IT SUPPORT?

- Training activities (staff exchanges, workshops, development of training modules)
- Mutual learning, cooperation activities, exchange of good practices, peer reviews, development of ICT tools
- Awareness-raising activities, dissemination, conferences
- Analytical activities (studies, data collection, development of common methodologies, indicators, surveys, preparation of guides)

All actions funded by the programme must produce results whose benefits go beyond one single Member State.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

The programme mainly supports activities for judiciary and judicial staff, their representative bodies, public authorities and training bodies. It is also open to academic or research institutes and civil society organisations that contribute to the development of a European area of justice.

### **WHY THE EU FUNDS PROGRAMMES SUPPORTING JUSTICE**

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

### **BUDGET**

A total of €300 million from 2021-2027.

### **PROJECT EXAMPLES**

Explore results from previously funded Justice projects [here](#).

### **NATIONAL CONTACT POINT IN IRELAND**

Not yet confirmed. Please contact the [Access Europe team](#) with any questions about the programme.

### **How to Apply**

Current calls:

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### **JUSTICE - Call for proposals for action grants to promote judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters**

Deadline: 18 April 2024

[Full Details](#)

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## Rethink Ireland - The Social Innovation Regeneration Fund

The Social Innovation Regeneration Fund aims to build the capacity of social innovations with proven impact and a desire to scale. This Fund has been set up to support previous Rethink Ireland awardees who have encountered a temporary core funding gap and are seeking support to revisit their business model and improve their financial sustainability.

Over the past three years, social innovations have grappled with challenges like the Covid-19 pandemic, enforced closures, the Ukraine war, and the cost-of-living crisis. These changes in the external environment mean that some social innovations are experiencing a core funding gap i.e. a gap of financial resources that can be spent on their core functions, such as senior management salaries, communications, operations, governance, income generation, or other spending that is not project-specific.

This two-year Fund offers a package of cash grants and non-financial supports to a maximum value of €950,000 for up to 3 organisations, to help them address their recent core funding gap by reviewing their financial/business models. Ultimately this Fund aims to support successful applicants to improve their financial sustainability and increase their social impact.

### **What do successful applicants get?**

A minimum 50% uplift on funding secured\*

A place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme

A tailored non financial supports package to support them to improve their financial sustainability including supports in the areas of financial/business modelling, market assessments and growth strategies

Access to Rethink Ireland's networks

\*Applicants need to secure philanthropic funding commitments totalling at least €200,000 (€100,000 per annum) to make an application.

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

### **Eligibility & Criteria**

Projects must meet both Rethink Ireland’s criteria and the specific criteria for the Social Innovation Regeneration Fund, as set out below:

### **Rethink Ireland Criteria**

- The project must address a critical social issue
- The project must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based in the Republic of Ireland
- The project must have the potential and desire to scale or replicate in Ireland
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way
- Applicants must come from an entity that has a ‘not for profit’ legal form for example, a charity, voluntary organisation, Company Limited by Guarantee among other not-for-profit legal forms.

### **Social Innovation Regeneration Fund Core Criteria**

Applicants must:

- Be a previous recipient of Rethink Ireland funding and have graduated from a Rethink Ireland programme
- Have been operating for at least 3-5 years with a developed strategic plan, funding base and evidence of impact
- Have a proven track record of impact and have clear ambition to increase their impact
- Be experiencing a temporary core funding challenge and have a clear need to revisit their business model
- Have the motivation and capacity to revisit their strategy and business model as part of this Fund
- Be able to secure philanthropic funding commitments totalling at least €200,000 (€100,000 per annum)

### **Advantageous criteria**



- Organisations engaging meaningfully with minority/disadvantaged groups including but not limited to those led by women, ex-prisoners, recovering addicts, Travellers, and migrants.
- Organisations that have a positive effect on Ireland’s Green Transition through their activities/interventions. These criteria apply if the organisation tackles issues related to the environment and green transition such as carbon reduction, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, pollution and/or the just transition.

## **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS**

You will be required to provide a ‘[Donor Letter of Commitment](#)’ when submitting your application. Please download this letter for editing.

The minimum amount of philanthropic funding eligible for uplift funding is €200,000 (€100,000 per annum).

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

If you are successful, you will be asked to provide further evidence to verify the private funding you have secured.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 26 Apr 2024

Full guidelines and application details available here:

[https://rethinkireland.ie/current\\_fund/the-social-innovation-regeneration-fund/](https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/the-social-innovation-regeneration-fund/)

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## The Arts Council - Festivals Investment Scheme

Round one of the Festivals Investment Scheme (FIS) 2025 is for festivals that commence between 1 January 2025 and 30 of June 2025.

The Arts Council's role is to advocate for and support the development of a diverse and varied arts-festival ecology, and to provide a suite of supports that encourage best-practice festival models that increase opportunities for public engagement and participation in the arts or develop the work of an artist/artform.

In this regard the Arts Council offers financial support to small-to-mid-scale festivals to deliver high-quality arts experiences for audiences, and prioritises programmes engaged with, and relevant to, local communities or communities of interest.

The Arts Council acknowledges the diversity of festival operating models and the rich variety of artform-practice areas presented by festivals and their critical role in broadening public access to the arts. The Council also acknowledges the valuable contribution made by voluntary committees in developing these festivals.

In this regard the Arts Council welcomes applications from organisations (voluntary and professional) operating annual, biennial or triennial festival programmes and supports both multi-disciplinary arts festivals as well as those in a single artform discipline through this award.

The Festivals Investment Scheme is a competitive scheme that offers funding to support the staging of festivals on a non-recurring basis.

It is important to note that funding under this programme is offered on a once-off basis. Therefore, those offered awards in previous funding rounds of the Festival Investment Scheme should not assume that funding will be provided.

There are three bands of funding available:

1. Band A – For awards up to €10,000
2. Band B – For awards of €10,001–€25,000
3. Band C – For awards of €25,001–€45,000

Selecting the appropriate application band for the Festivals Investment Scheme (FIS)

There are three funding bands in the Festivals Investment Scheme and each one is designed to support festivals at different stages of their development. An organisation may make only one

application under the Festivals Investment Scheme in a year (i.e. one application in one band per calendar year). You should choose the one most suitable for your festival organisation. Please refer to the application guidelines for more details.

### **Important**

Applicant organisations that wish to apply to Band B must be established for a minimum of three years and have executed three consecutive festival programmes as a minimum requirement to apply to this band (see section 1.3 Who can apply? in the application guidelines for further details)

Applicant organisations that wish to apply to Band C must be established for a minimum of five years and have executed five consecutive festival programmes as a minimum requirement to apply to this band see section 1.3 Who can apply? in the application guidelines for further details)

Application forms and application materials are only accepted online using the Arts Council's Online System (OLS).

Posted, e-mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted.

Late applications will not be accepted.

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 30 Apr 2024 (opening) / 30 May 2024 (closing)

[Visit the Arts Council website for further information and guidelines.](#)

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## SuperValu TidyTowns Competition

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

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

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

### Eligibility

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

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

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

### Prizes

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

- Endeavour Awards for the biggest improvement by an entrant in each county from the previous year.

- County Awards for the top three entrants in each county.
- Regional Awards for the top-scoring entrant in each region.
- Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals for entrants with scores that fall within a set range from that year's winning score.
- Category Awards for the highest scoring entrants in the Village, Small Town, Large Town and Large Urban Centre categories.
- Ireland's Tidiest Town Award for the highest scoring entrant in the whole competition.
- There are also separate awards sections for Island entrants and Gaeltacht entrants.

### **2024 Special Awards**

Our sponsored Special Awards are organised in parallel to the main competition and look to reward initiatives focused on improving your community. Entry is open to all TidyTown Groups as well as other interested individuals or groups. We are delighted to announce some new sponsors under our Special Awards category for 2024.

- Tree Project Award - Prize Fund €1,000
- Gum Litter Taskforce Award - Prize Fund €5,000
- The Climate Action Award - Prize Fund: €6,000
- Young Persons in TidyTown Award - Prize Fund €5,000
- Town Centre First Award - Prize Fund €5,000
- THE RIAI TOWN CHALLENGE AWARD - PRIZE FUND €5,000
- SUPERVALU AND ASIAM INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES AWARD - PRIZE FUND €2,000
- Leave No Trace Award - Prize – €1,000 along with a Leave No Trace trained for one day to deliver either an Awareness course or workshop, access to online Leave No Trace Resources and promotion across social media.
- The Waters and Communities Award - Prize Fund €7,000
- Heritage Award - Prize Fund €3,000
- All-Ireland Pollinator Plan – Local Authority Pollinator Award - Prize Fund €10,000

- EPA CIRCULAR ECONOMY AWARD - PRIZE FUND €2,000
- Tiny TidyTowns Schools Award - Prize Fund €5,000
- The Bat Conservation Ireland Award - Prize Fund €1,500
- The Bat Conservation Ireland Award - Prize Fund €1,500

How to Apply

Deadline: 8 May 2024

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

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## PEACEPLUS

PEACEPLUS is a new funding programme designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. PEACEPLUS is the successor programme to both PEACE IV and INTERREG VA.

### **Aims & Objectives**

The overall objective of the PEACEPLUS Programme is to build peace and prosperity.

The programme aims to contribute towards a more prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. PEACEPLUS focuses on supporting social, economic and regional stability, in particular by promoting cohesion between communities.

The programme will help to address long standing social and economic challenges which have, and continue to, impact on communities, particularly those in rural border areas as well as ongoing challenges that exist in urban settings. It will also recognise the impact of Covid-19 on society and the risks associated with the UK's exit from the EU.

### **What does it support?**

PEACEPLUS aims to achieve its objectives by funding peace and reconciliation activities, and by funding activities that contribute to North/South cross-border economic and territorial development of the region.

The programme focuses on six key Investment Areas:

1. Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities
2. Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation
3. Empowering and Investing in Our Young People
4. Healthy and Inclusive Communities
5. Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future
6. Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration

Each thematic area of the programme includes a strong community-led focus. PEACEPLUS will involve civil society at all levels, in relation to the development and implementation of actions and initiatives to address societal and community challenges.

### **Who can apply?**

The Programme area includes Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, namely Counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo.

However, cross border collaboration is not strictly limited to the administrative borders of the Programme but has a flexible geography depending on the topic concerned. This is called a functional area and allows for organisations and institutions not based in the core Programme area to get involved in projects by linking with partners within the core Programme area.

### **Budget**

A total of €1.1 billion from 2021-2027.

### **Project Examples**

Case Study: [Connecting People, Places and Heritage](#)

Case Study: [Breakthrough](#)

The [PEACE Programmes Learning Platform](#) acts as a repository and archive of key records related to the PEACE Programmes and provides a single point of access to the materials that have been developed since 1994.

### **How to Apply**

National Contact Point in Ireland: The [Special EU Programmes Body \(SEUPB\)](#) manages programme delivery.

Current calls:

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### **PEACEPLUS - Investment Area 5.4 - Water Quality Improvement Programme**

Deadline: 9 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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### **PEACEPLUS - Investment Area 4.1 - Collaborative Health & Social Care (Cross-Border Addiction Services)**

Deadline: 23 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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## PEACEPLUS - Investment Area 4.2 - Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion Programme

Deadline: 23 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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## EYF Grants - Pilot Activity Grant

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

The aim of pilot activity grants is to support actions which address young people's needs or challenges at a local level. The actions have a clear link to the local context and address the [focus themes](#) for pilot activities, as set out by the Joint Council on Youth.

These activities should be based on innovation or on replication of good practice, have a clear youth work dimension and be based on non-formal education principles. The link between the action and the envisioned impact on the community should be clearly thought out.

### Format

Pilot Activities are flexible in their format and may utilise a range of approaches, such as training sessions, meetings with experts, local workshops, local actions, visits, campaigns, workshops in schools, festivals etc. An essential feature of a pilot activity is the educational element - the EYF supports education projects, using a [non-formal](#) approach.

The pilot activity can be:

- An awareness raising activity: participants are informed or educated about a topic or an issue, with the intention of influencing their attitudes, behaviours, solutions or responses in their local context. At the end of the activity they can say "I have learned this" or "I am aware of that".
- A Skills development activity: participants develop skills to address identified needs. At the end of the activity they can say: "I can do this" or "I have the ability to do that".
- Collaborative work: participants' skills and knowledge serve as a basis to build and develop an outcome (for example a campaign, guidelines, recommendations etc.) and at the end they can say "I have contributed to the development of this or that".

The maximum duration of a pilot activity project is 6 months.

If you are interested in reading some examples of EYF supported projects from the past years, you can visit the page "[Supported Projects](#)".

Be creative!

## Criteria

When assessing applications for pilot activities, the EYF will concentrate on the following criteria:

- Activities addressing challenges affecting young people at a local level. The EYF expects that you highlight a specific challenge or concern affecting young people at a local level based on evidenced needs. Applications will propose ways of tackling the issue, with a view to finding solutions and creating an impact in the community.
- NGOs should be concrete and specific when introducing the local context, the situation of young people, and their challenges and needs. It should be clear how their proposed activity will help respond to these challenges at the local level.
- The EYF expects that youth projects have an educational element and an approach based on non-formal education. Some [resources](#) on our website can give you some insight on how to integrate the [non-formal education](#) principles in your youth activities.
- The EYF expects to clearly see a link to our focus themes and the Council of Europe's youth sector priorities. Your project needs to contribute to one of the priorities of the Council of Europe's youth sector, defined by the Joint Council on Youth (the central co-managed political body of the youth sector). Within the [current priorities](#), the Joint Council on Youth has defined more specific [focus themes](#) for pilot activities to be supported by the European Youth Foundation.
- Projects supported by the European Youth Foundation must be organised by, with and for young people (between 15-30 years old). We will expect to see how young people are involved in the decision making at all stages of the project.
- The EYF will pay particular attention to activities developed with local authorities or social services/workers, and projects involving young people trained in the European Youth Centres or presented by local NGOs supported by an international/European youth NGO.

## Eligibility

[Regional networks of youth NGOs](#)

[National youth NGOs](#)

[Local youth NGOs](#)

Local actions may be carried out by international NGOs/networks as part of their work plan and in co-operation with local NGOs. However, only the NGOs mentioned above may submit a Pilot Activity application.

### **Application Criteria**

All the projects must start in 2024. Project must start at least 3 months after the deadline.

These deadlines do not concern the EYF Special call in support of young people from Ukraine. For this special call, applications are received on a rolling basis. For more information, [check the special call webpage](#).

As a reminder, only local and national youth organisations can apply for pilot activity grants. If an interested organisation is not yet registered with the EYF, please register as soon as possible. More information can be found [here](#).

Find out more about pilot activities [at this page](#). Read more about examples of projects supported [here](#).

Find out more about the budget and financial management at this [page](#).

Word versions of the applications for pilot activities can be found [here](#).

### **How to Apply**

Deadline: 15 May 2024

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

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## Training Links Programme 2024 – 2026

The Wheel is delighted to launch Training Links 2024 – 2026. Training Links funds community and voluntary organisations to form Training Networks — groups of organisations who come together to undertake training that they may not have the opportunity to do individually.

Training Networks are invited to apply for grants ranging from €10,000.00 to €50,000.00. Applications are welcome from new, existing, previously funded networks who have completed their programme or previously unsuccessful networks.

Training Networks must have a minimum of ten members, and over the course of the programme, members will work together to address a specific workforce training goal. Members of your Training Network can be from the same region, sub-sector or community of interest, for example.

### How to Apply

Deadline: 17 May @ 5pm

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

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## Erasmus+ Programme

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

### Aims & Objectives

It aims to:

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

### What does it support?

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

- Adult Education
- Higher Education
- School Education
- Vocational Education and Training
- Projects that address one (or more) of the programme's four key horizontal priorities:
- Inclusion and diversity
- Digital transformation
- Environment and the fight against climate change
- Participation in democratic life

Projects take the form of the following Key Actions:

Key Action 1: Learning Mobility for Individuals

Key Action 2: Cooperation Among Organisations and Institutions

## Key Action 3: Support to Policy Development and Cooperation

### Who can apply?

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

### Higher Education

- Students
- Staff
- Higher Education Institutions

### Adult Education

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

### School Education

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

### Vocational Education and Training

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

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

### **Youth**

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

### **Sport**

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

### **Why the EU funds education, training, youth and sport**

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

### **Budget**

€26.2 billion over 7 years.

### **Project Examples**

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

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



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

### **National Contact Point in Ireland**

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

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

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

### **How to Apply**

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

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#### **Erasmus+ Sport: #BeActive - Education Award**

Deadline: 22 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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#### **Erasmus+ Sport: #BeActive - Across generations award**

Deadline: 22 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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#### **Erasmus+ Sport: #BeActive - Local Hero Award**

Deadline: 22 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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#### **Erasmus+ Sport: #BeActive - Workplace Award**

Deadline: 22 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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**Erasmus+ - Policy Experimentation - Digital Education**

Deadline: 4 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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**Erasmus+ - Policy Experimentation - Adult Education**

Deadline: 4 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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**Erasmus+ - Policy Experimentation - Vocational Education and Training**

Deadline: 4 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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**Erasmus+ - Policy Experimentation - Microcredentials**

Deadline: 4 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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## Digital Europe - Girls and Women in Digital

The Digital Europe programme focusses on bringing digital technology to businesses, citizens and public administrations.

### AIMS & OBJECTIVES

Digital Europe is the first EU programme that aims to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe.

The programme is fine-tuned to fill the gap between the research of digital technologies and their deployment, and to bring the results of research to the market - for the benefit of Europe's citizens and businesses, and in particular SMEs.

Investments under the Digital Europe programme supports the Union's twin objectives of a green transition and digital transformation and strengthens the Union's resilience and strategic autonomy.

### WHAT DOES IT SUPPORT?

The Digital Europe programme will provide funding for projects in five areas:

1. Supercomputing
2. Artificial intelligence
3. Cybersecurity
4. Advanced digital skills
5. Ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

- Academia and higher education institutions
- Researchers and research centres
- Public bodies (local, regional, or national)
- Industry and private businesses, including SMEs
- Non-governmental organisations and nonprofits.

### WHY THE EU FUNDS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Read more about EU policy on the topic of [Digital Transformation](#).

## **BUDGET**

€7.5 billion over 7 years.

## **PROJECT EXAMPLES**

Explore results from previously funded Digital Europe projects [here](#).

## **NATIONAL CONTACT POINT IN IRELAND**

Ireland has several National Contact Points for the Digital Europe programme. [Find their details here](#).

## How to Apply

Current calls:

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### **Digital Europe - Girls and Women in Digital**

Deadline: 29 May 2024

[FULL DETAILS](#)

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## Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

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

### Aims & Objectives

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

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

### What does it support?

CERV funds actions:

- promoting non-discrimination and gender equality, the rights of the child, European remembrance and citizens' engagement, as well as combat racism and gender-based violence
- strengthening the protection and promotion of the rule of law and democratic dialogue, transparency and good governance
- supporting, empowering and building the capacity of civil society organisations active in the promotion of values and rights, at local, regional, national and transnational level.

### Specific activities funded include:

- training activities, workshops, conferences
- mutual learning and cooperation, capacity building
- town twinning
- media campaigns, awareness raising and dissemination activities

### Eligibility

## Who can apply?

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

## EU Policy

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

## Budget

€1,56 billion over 7 years

## Project Examples

[Examples of successful projects from Ireland](#)

## National Contact Point in Ireland

Not yet decided, information will follow soon.

Assistance is also available via [www.accesseurope.ie](http://www.accesseurope.ie).

## How to Apply

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

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### **CERV - Proposals to prevent and combat gender-based violence and violence against children**

Deadline: 29 May, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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### **CERV - European integration and its defining achievements**

Deadline: 6 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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### **CERV - Strengthening the remembrance of the Holocaust, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity to reinforce democracy in the EU**

Deadline: 6 June, 2024

[VIEW DETAIL](#)

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**CERV - Democratic transition, (re-)building and strengthening society based on the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights**

Deadline: 6 June, 2024

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**CERV - Migration, de-colonisation and multicultural European societies**

Deadline: 6 June, 2024

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## Patagonia Environmental Grants

Patagonia supports environmental organizations with bold, direct-action agendas and a commitment to long-term change.

We support innovative work that addresses the root causes of the environmental crisis and seeks to protect both the environment and affected communities. We focus on places where we've built connections through outdoor recreation and through our network of retail stores, nationally and internationally.

We believe local battles to protect a specific stand of forest, a stretch of river, an indigenous wild species or a community from a polluting refinery build public support and confront larger, more complex issues like climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental justice.

We encourage work that brings underrepresented communities to the forefront of the environmental movement and defend communities whose health and livelihoods are threatened by environmental exploitation.

We support multipronged campaigns that push for greater environmental protections and force the government to abide by its own laws.

We fund work that:

- builds an equitable, inclusive and diverse environmental movement
- confronts systemic bias, discrimination and injustice in environmental policy or outdoor spaces
- is action-oriented
- focuses on root causes
- has a clear strategy
- identifies specific goals and objectives that can be effectively measured to evaluate success
- builds public involvement and civic engagement
- works to build an inclusive and diverse environmental movement
- takes place within the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, **Ireland**, Italy, Japan, Korea,



Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Patagonia believes that the most direct path to real change is through building grassroots momentum.

Our funding focuses on organizations that have or can create a strong base of support. Because we're a privately held company, we have the freedom to fund risk-taking, off-the-beaten-track groups, and that's where we believe our small grants are most effective.

We accept one proposal per group in a given fiscal year (May 1–April 30). Our typical grant size ranges between \$5,000 and \$15,000. Proposals are reviewed and grants decisions are made by an employee grants council in Europe.

## How to Apply

Deadline: 31 May 2024

[Learn more here.](#)

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## Our Rural Future: 2024 Community Recognition Fund

The Minister for Rural & Community Development has announced a further €50 million in funding under The Community Recognition Fund, to deliver projects over 2024- 2025. The Community Recognition Fund was first introduced last year to recognise the huge efforts made by communities in welcoming and supporting people coming to Ireland.

Through the 2023 allocation, funding of €50 million was approved for some 900 projects in supporting cities, towns and villages nationwide that have welcomed people from Ukraine and other countries. Local authorities, in collaboration with communities, will be funded to develop projects that will deliver long term benefits to those living in the areas selected.

Under this latest announcement, a further €50 million is being provided again to deliver projects over 2024 and 2025.

Local authorities, in collaboration with communities, will be funded to develop projects that will deliver long term benefits to those living in the areas selected.

Projects that will be funded include:

- Development or refurbishment of community or cultural facilities including play areas, walkways, parks, community/sensory gardens, allotments, and recreational areas;
- Development or refurbishment of local club and sports facilities;
- Enhancement to school/parish facilities which are open to use by all of the community after school hours;
- Purchase of equipment for local clubs, festivals, community events and organisations
- Transport infrastructure such as community vehicles.

Local authorities can submit funding proposals to the Department of Rural & Community Development in phases, which will allow them to respond to changing circumstances during the year.

€50 million is available under the Fund and this was allocated between each local authority based on the number of 'new arrivals' located there. The Fund is being administered at a local level by the relevant local authority. Funding proposals, comprising of projects selected and prioritised locally, should be submitted by each local authority in the timeframes advised to the Department of Rural and Community Development for final approval.

The allocations per county are as follows:

Local Authority	CRF 2024 Allocation
Carlow County Council	€1,171,621
Cavan County Council	€1,155,190
Clare County Council	€2,608,408
Cork City Council	€1,214,022
Cork County Council	€2,014,691
Donegal County Council	€3,391,917
Dublin City Council	€2,140,584
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	€765,487
Fingal County Council	€1,538,573
Galway City Council	€1,702,897
Galway County Council	€1,303,230
Kerry County Council	€3,946,095
Kildare County Council	€830,007
Kilkenny County Council	€867,987
Laois County Council	€1,012,996
Leitrim County Council	€2,212,974
Limerick City And County Council	€1,400,378
Longford County Council	€893,486
Louth County Council	€1,317,173
Mayo County Council	€2,428,540

Meath County Council	€1,188,066
Monaghan County Council	€914,972
Offaly County Council	€1,055,308
Roscommon County Council	€1,002,434
Sligo County Council	€1,742,899
South Dublin County Council	€2,249,663
Tipperary County Council	€1,465,434
Waterford City And County Council	€1,436,394
Westmeath County Council	€1,740,646
Wexford County Council	€1,703,377
Wicklow County Council	€1,584,550
Total	€50,000,000

### Engagement with Communities

It is essential that the funding proposal submitted by each local authority is developed based on direct engagement with impacted communities and in consultation with the Municipal Districts, Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the local Community Response Fora. Proposals should also be consistent with Local Economic and Community Plans.

The proposal also has to demonstrate that the funding is targeted at and specifically invested in those cities, towns and villages where the highest level of new arrivals are located and where there is a clear need for investment identified.

The Fund will be administered at a County level by local authorities. If you have a query regarding a project please contact your local authority, details are [here](#).

### How to Apply

Deadline: 31 May 2024

Further details here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/e626a-community-recognition-fund-2023/>

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## Additional Resources

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

### Fundraising Guidance Library

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

### Fundraising Helpdesk

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

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