



Ireland Wales Programme – Interreg 4A Fourth Call for Proposals Public Notice Announcement

1. Introduction

The Ireland Wales Programme is pleased to advise that the fourth call for proposals is now open. The call will open February 8th 2010 and is open for applications for all priorities and themes. The closing date for applications is as follows:

Priority 1 30th April 2010 at 17:00
Priority 2 11th June 2010 at 17:00

The INTERREG IVA Ireland Wales Programme provides financial support for project partnerships in Ireland and Wales who wish to work together to find solutions to common problems. The Programme focus is to further develop the cross border region, thus strengthening the competitiveness and sustainability of the cooperation area.

The INTERREG Programme is financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The principles and regulations for the implementation of the Programme are laid down in Council Regulation 1083/2006 (General Regulation) and in Council and Parliament Regulation 1080/2006 (ERDF Regulation).

2. Priorities and Objectives

The overall objective of the Ireland Wales Operational Programme is cross border territorial development (2007-2013).

Through an integrated approach to economic, environmental, social and technological issues the Ireland Wales Territorial Cooperation Programme seeks to further develop the cross border region and to:

- Contribute to its greater competitiveness and sustainable development;
- Improve its overall economic, environmental and social well-being;
- Achieve a more cohesive, balanced and sustainable development of the Ireland Wales cooperation area, and thus to contribute to the overall competitiveness of the Community territory in a globalised world.

This objective will be delivered through two operational priorities:

Priority 1 Knowledge, Innovation and Skills for Growth

Theme 1 - Innovation and competitiveness

Theme 2 - Skills for competitiveness and employment integration

Priority 2 Climate Change and Sustainable Regeneration

Theme 1 – Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Theme 2 – Sustainable Regeneration of Communities

3. Fourth Call for Proposals

Following a decision of the Programme Monitoring Committee at its meeting on January 27th the call will be open to all Priorities and Themes, as outlined on the following page:

Priority 1 Theme 1 – Innovation and Competitiveness

Priority 1 Theme 2 – Skills for Competitiveness and Employment Integration

Priority 2 Theme 1 – Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Priority 2 Theme 2 – Sustainable Regeneration of Communities

In relation to **Priority 2 Theme 2**, the programme would particularly welcome smaller scale pioneering pilot projects from organisations that are active in the community development and community regeneration field. While the 2007-2013 Ireland Wales Programme does have a more strategic aspect to it, this should not exclude smaller scale organisations that have an interest in developing links across the Irish Sea.

The scale of the project budget really depends on the nature and extent of the activity involved but a suggested budget range could be between €300,000 and €700,000 depending on the number of partners involved. Ensuring value for money in project activity is also essential.

Projects ideas that address the following activities are of particular interest in this funding round under Priority 2 Theme 2:

- Active engagement of local communities in developing joint approaches to promote and facilitate social inclusion, including the incorporation of migrants, linguistic minorities, those not in employment, education or training;
- Develop capacity within communities to engage and share best practice and ideas in innovative community, environmental and economic regeneration.
- Promotion and development of cultural heritage and linguistic (Welsh / Gaelic) initiatives with emphasis on supporting economic development of the cross border area;
- Sharing economic regeneration best practice within the wider community including social enterprises
- Development of exchange and knowledge transfer in promoting health and well-being;
- Joint research and impact assessments into social and community changes;
- Support for cross border initiatives and exchanges to calculate/assign an economic value to non-market environmental and social resources

Potential applicants should contact their local Development Officer as soon as possible if they have not already done so.

4. Future Calls

Further calls will follow over the lifetime of the Programme and we will be in a position to advise regarding dates in late 2010.

5. Funding Available

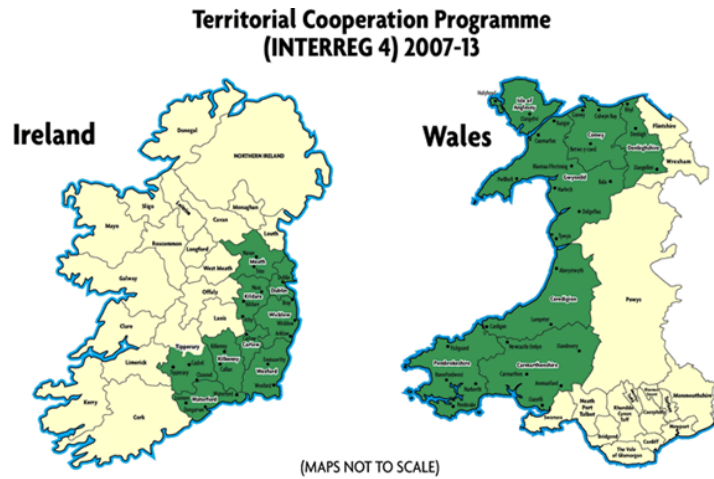
Between 2007 and 2013, the Programme will allocate more than €49.5 million of ERDF to the most ambitious and innovative projects. The programme has approved 17 projects worth €21.7 million or 43% of the overall ERDF grant allocation to date.

Projects must demonstrate value for money when collating their budgets.

All projects need to be co-financed. The maximum ERDF grant rate for projects is 75%.

6. Who Can Apply?

A wide range of bodies from the public, private and wider economic and social sectors are seen as potential beneficiaries. These will include such bodies as national, regional and local authorities, public and state supported agencies, higher education institutions, colleges and research institutions, private enterprises, voluntary and community sector organisations. All formal partners in approved operations must be either public bodies or public equivalent bodies.



The areas eligible for inclusion in the Ireland Wales Programme are the NUTS III¹ regions of Dublin, Mid East and South East in Ireland and Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey (Ynys Mon), Conwy, Denbighshire and South West Wales.

There is a limited budget available for partners in the adjacent areas providing the project benefits the core eligible area. At present the money available in the adjacency fund is €2.3m.

The adjacent area in Wales is the NUTS III areas of, Swansea and Flintshire and Wrexham. The adjacent area of Ireland is the NUTS III area of the South West Regional Authority area.

7. Lead Partner Principle

The Programme will operate the Lead Partner Principle in accordance with Article 20 of the ERDF Regulation No. 1080/2006, Article 20. The Lead Partner will have overall responsibility for the project and the aim will be to increase cross border coordination, increase joint working and streamline administration.

8. Project Applications

All project applicants are required to register their interest with the Development Officer team in both Ireland and Wales. Guidance for project applicants is also available in the *Programme and Project Management Guide*, which can be downloaded from our website, www.irelandwales.ie.

We will be holding **Information Workshops** for anyone who is intending to submit an application for funding during March; further details regarding venues, dates and times will be available on our website.

Date	Time	Venue	Contact
March 2010	10.00 – 2.30	Tbc, Waterford	Ireland_wales@seregassembly.ie
March 2010	10.00 – 2.30	WEFO Offices Government Buildings Dineth Road Colwyn Bay LL28 4UL	Roger Seddon Tel: 01492 542594 Email: roger.seddon@wales.gsi.gov.uk

¹ NUTS III

March 2010	10.00 – 2.30	WEFO Offices Government Buildings Picton Terrace Carmarthen SA31 3BT	Patrick Lilly Tel: 01267 225471 Email: patrick.lilly@wales.gsi.gov.uk
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9. Application Documents

All official documents and contact details for the Programme Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) and Development Officer Team are available on the Programme website www.IrelandWales.ie or by contacting the JTS at +353 (0)51 318100.

Detailed instructions on the application process are provided on the Programme website www.IrelandWales.ie. The closing date for applications is as follows:

Priority 1	30 April 2010 at 17:00
Priority 2	11 June 2010 at 17:00

10. Development Officer Contact Details

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JTS Contact Details:

<p>Joint Technical Secretariat Ireland Wales Programme Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly 2 Georges Street Waterford City, Ireland Tel: +353 (0)51 318100 Fax: +353 (0)51 318129 E mail: Ireland_Wales@seregassembly.ie</p>	<p>Wales Contact Office: Territorial Cooperation Unit Welsh European Funding Office Rhydycar Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1UZ Wales Tel: +44 (0) 1685 729 411 E mail: Interreg.Enquiries@wales.gsi.gov.uk</p>
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