

Information Webinar on the LEADER Grant Application Process 29th April 2024

TIPPERARY LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



Launch of LEADER 2023-2027 Programme
Cabragh Wetlands, Holycross
22.04.2024

Housekeeping

- ▶ Microphones Muted
- ▶ Cameras Off
- ▶ Meeting is being recorded
- ▶ Questions in the Q&A function at bottom of the screen

LEADER Programme

- ▶ Operating in Ireland and across the EU for over 30 years
- ▶ Supporting innovative and sustainable projects that have brought increased jobs and vibrancy to our rural communities
- ▶ Part of the Common Agricultural Policy – high level themes and subthemes
- ▶ Combination of EU and State funding
- ▶ Tipperary Local Community Development Committee in partnership with North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC) and South Tipperary Development Co (STDC) were invited to develop a strategy to identify needs and priorities

LDS 2023-2027

July 2023



**Local Development
Strategy 2023-2027**
County Tipperary



- A Local Development Strategy was submitted in July 2023 after significant stakeholder consultation by Tipperary LCDC, South Tipperary Development CLG and North Tipperary Development CLG
- Approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development last year and contracts were signed in December 2023
- Summary on our website

Total Budget – LEADER RDP 2023-27 County Tipperary

€ 5,850,000

based on a Community Led Local
Development Approach to
delivery in Tipperary

Budget per Theme – LEADER RDP 2023-27

County Tipperary

LEADER Themes		
<p>Economic Development and Job Creation</p> <p>Indicative Budget €2,515,500</p>	<p>Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion</p> <p>Indicative Budget €1,667,250</p>	<p>Sustainable Development and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</p> <p>Indicative Budget €1,667,250</p>

Eligibility also depends on compatibility with Co Tipperary strategies and policies

Theme 1: Economic Development and Job Creation

- ▶ **1.1 Developing Tipperary's Green Economy**
 - ▶ Support for new and existing businesses on projects that promote decarbonisation, circular economy and sustainable production
- ▶ **1.2 Supporting Agricultural Diversification**
 - ▶ Support farmers and farm families in establishing on-farm businesses or enhance existing ones
- ▶ **1.3 Promoting Rural Tourism and Recreation**
 - ▶ Development of amenities and activities based on Tipperary's natural resources; development of heritage, food, cultural and eco-tourism products; collaborative marketing



Theme 1: Economic Development and Job Creation (contd)

- ▶ **1.4 Promoting Enterprise Development**
 - ▶ Support for start-up and existing micro and SME enterprises that foster innovation and promote sustainable production and employment
- ▶ **1.5 Developing and Enhancing Rural Food Production**
 - ▶ Foster and support small, medium and artisan food and beverage producers (both new and existing); collaborative actions to market Tipperary as food brand and home of good food
- ▶ **1.6 Developing and Supporting Social, Community and Cooperative Enterprises**
 - ▶ Support for existing and new social, community and cooperative enterprises including capital, feasibility, training, governance and volunteer board support and networking.



Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion

- ▶ Designing facilities and services to be inclusive and actively encouraging everybody in the community to use them
- ▶ Targeting services directly for potentially excluded or vulnerable groups
 - ▶ Disabled people / poor physical or mental health
 - ▶ People living in isolation (geographical / social / cultural)
 - ▶ People who identify as LGBTQIA+
 - ▶ People with language / cultural difference
 - ▶ People who are unemployed
 - ▶ Older people
 - ▶ People living in poverty / homeless

Theme 2: Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion

- ▶ **2.1 Supporting sustainable regeneration of Towns and Villages**
 - ▶ Improve communities as places to live, work, do business and visit: Enhancing the physical appearance, infrastructure and amenities including SMART Village Planning
- ▶ **2.2 Developing accessible services for all.**
 - ▶ Support initiatives to combat discrimination and strengthen inclusive community development, e.g., rural isolation, intercultural awareness programmes, inclusive access to services, safe spaces for vulnerable people etc.
- ▶ **2.3 Supporting Youth (15-40)**
 - ▶ Support facilities and services for youth, eg youth spaces, clubs, and cafés especially for those with differing abilities, interests, sexual orientation, ethnicity etc.



Theme 3: Sustainable Development and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

► Enhancing Tipperary's Environment

- Water conservation and quality on lakes and river catchments
- Biodiversity: Habitat monitoring, restoration and improvement community gardens etc

► Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

- Skills Development and Awareness raising
- Green technologies – waste, circular economy, energy, new services
- Reducing carbon – supporting renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable transport, carbon sinks.
- Circular economy – reducing waste – reusing, repurposing, repairing, using recycled materials etc



What is eligible under LEADER?



- ▶ Capital
 - ▶ Building works /refurbishment / upgrade projects
 - ▶ Equipment
- ▶ Marketing materials
- ▶ Training (*non-mainstream*)
- ▶ Analysis and Development - Feasibility studies, Community plans etc

What is NOT Eligible under LEADER:

- ▶ Primary Agriculture, Horticulture & Fisheries
- ▶ Housing, Healthcare & Education
- ▶ Conventional Retail Operations
- ▶ Running costs / working capital / salaries
- ▶ Conventional Motor Vehicles (inc. Farm/Industrial/Construction)
- ▶ Improvements/Refurbishments to Private Residential Property
- ▶ Supports for Mainstream Activities of Mainstream Sporting Organisations
- ▶ Planning application fees





LEADER Grant Aid Available

Project type	Promoter type	Max Grant rate	Max Grant
Capital	For Profit	75%	€150,000
	Non Profit	75%	€200,000
Analysis and Development / Feasibility Study	For Profit	90%	€30,000
	Non profit	90%	€30,000
Training	For Profit	100%	€150,000
	Non Profit	100%	€200,000

The application process

- ▶ Requires time and effort
- ▶ Work with your Development Officer
- ▶ Detailed Application form
- ▶ Supporting Documents
- ▶ Typically, 3 months from submission of application to signing contract and project start



Application Form

- A** Project Promoter and Project Details
- B Construction projects and Capital Projects
- C Job Creation
- D Enterprise Projects **Only**
- E Training Projects **Only**
- F Analysis and Development Projects **Only**
- G Marketing / Promotion Projects **Only**
- H** Financial
- I Declarations and Assurances

Supporting documents

All Projects

3 years accounts

3 months bank statements

Governing Documents

Tax Clearance / VAT status

Full procurement / tendering

Matching Finance and Bridging Finance

Grants received in last 3 years

Capital Works Projects

Proof of ownership / lease

Planning permission / exemption

Statutory / Regulatory Approvals e.g. Fire Safety, Building regulations, HSE etc

Community Projects

Fair Usage Policy

Enterprise Projects

Business Plan (5 year)

National Procurement Thresholds (1)

Contract Type	Amount (excl. VAT)	Procedure
Supplies & Services	Less than €5,000	Seek written quotations from a minimum of 3 interested and competent suppliers/service providers – the responses must be obtained in writing.
	€5,000 - €50,000	Seek written quotations from a minimum of 3 suppliers on the basis of responses to written specifications
	€50,000 - EU Threshold (currently €221,000)	Publish Contract Notice on eTenders www.etenders.gov.ie – Open Procedure

National Procurement Thresholds (2)

Works Related Services	Less than €50,000	Seek written quotations from at least 5 firms on the basis of responses to written specifications, or follow the eTenders process
	€50,000 – EU Threshold (currently €221,000)	Publish Contract Notice on eTenders www.etenders.gov.ie
Works	Less than €200,000	Seek written quotations from at least 5 firms on the basis of responses to written specifications, or follow the eTenders process
	€200,000 - EU Threshold (currently €5,538,000)	Publish Contract Notice on eTenders www.etenders.gov.ie – Open or Restricted Procedure

Application Review

- ▶ Work closely with us
- ▶ Be clear and concise
- ▶ Remember the reader may not be familiar with your area / business etc
- ▶ Download forms from our websites or get them from your project officer

IEC Project Assessment

- ▶ Compatible with LDS / LEADER eligible
- ▶ Innovation / non displacement
- ▶ Promoter experience / ability to manage the project
- ▶ Financial viability / project sustainability
- ▶ Demonstrated need for the project
- ▶ Social Inclusion Impact
- ▶ Environmental Sustainability / Climate Change Impact



The approval process

- Independent Evaluation Committee (IEC)
- Rigorous Check and Audit of project file
- Local Action Group (LAG) Approval - Tipperary LCDC
- Issue & Signing of Contract



ONLY EXPENDITURE MADE AFTER CONTRACT ISSUE & SIGNING IS ELIGIBLE

GRANT AID PAID IN ARREARS – detailed claim process

Project should continue as funded and be insured for 5 years after final payment



Conclusion

LEADER funding can support your project

Application process requires time

We are here to help and support

For further general information:

www.ntdc.ie (067 56676)

www.stdc.ie (052 744 2652)



Thank you for Listening.

Any Questions??

Economic Development & Job Creation

Sub Themes:

The Green Economy

Agricultural
Diversification

Rural Tourism &
Recreation

Enterprise Development

Rural Food Production

Social Community &
Cooperative Enterprises

Rural Infrastructure & Social Inclusion

Sub Themes:

Rural Infrastructure

Accessible Services

Rural Youth

Sustainable Development Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption

Sub Themes:

Sustainable
Development of Rural
Environment

Climate Change Capacity
Building

Climate change
Mitigation & Adaption