



EU CAP Network Workshop 'Young entrepreneurs - Engines of innovation in rural areas'

30 Nov - 1 Dec 2023
Dublin | Ireland



Funded by
the European Union

Supporting environment for rural entrepreneurship in Ireland

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EU CAP
NETWORK



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the European Union





AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority

Supports for Rural Entrepreneurs in Ireland

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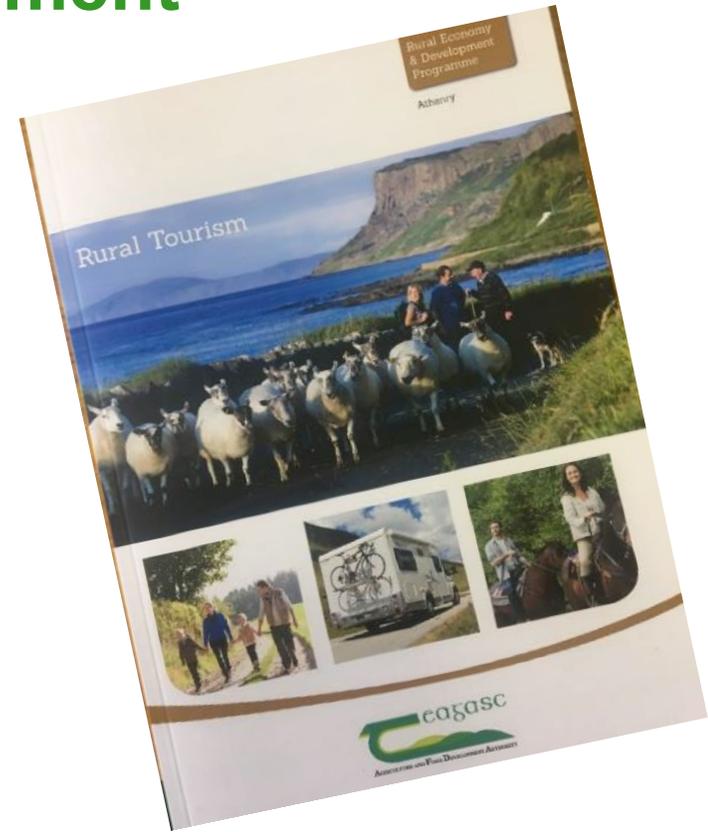
Teagasc Rural Development

Farm Business Options Programme

Diversification

Innovation

<https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/rural-development/>



What will you learn at - *Farm Business Options?*

Assessing your enterprise
Developing your idea
Food enterprise possibilities
Energy crops
Forestry
Renewables
Organic opportunities
Rural Tourism
Marketing and direct selling
A business plan - the basics
Applying for grant aid
Family farm finance
Business supports
Succession



Enterprise Ireland Funding



In-company
R&D
Financial
Supports
Available

Innovation
Vouchers

€5K Voucher
50:50 Funding (Up to
€10K)

Exploring Innovation Offer

Expenditure up to €70k
50% Grant Rate

Agile Innovation Fund
• R&D project
• Business Innovation
project

Expenditure up to €300K
25-50% Grant Rate

R&D Grant

Large projects
>€300k

Incubator Programmes (some examples)

- Teagasc Incubation facilities <https://www.teagasc.ie/food/research-and-innovation/research-areas/food-industry-development/moorepark-technology-mtl/>
- MERITS Programme www.merits.ie
- South East BIC <https://www.southeastbic.ie/>
- UCD Nova <https://www.ucd.ie/innovation/>
- Newmarket Kitchen <https://newmarketkitchen.com/>
- Bia Innovator Campus <https://biainnovatorcampus.ie/>

MERITS  INNOVATION
THINKSPACE

Bia Innovator Campus Athenry

www.biainnovatorcampus.ie



UCD Agtech Programme

- Intensive 12 week virtual programme
- Includes dedicated business development workshops
- Business Angel Networks

Nine Start-ups

- Cotter Agritech www.cottercrate.com
- Crophound www.crophound.com
- Fodderbox www.fodderbox.ie
- FreshGraze www.freshgraze.ie
- Izario www.izario.co
- Niskus BioTec www.niskusbiotec.com
- Positive Carbon www.positicecarbon.com
- ProvEye www.proveye.ie
- SmartBeeKeeper www.smartbeekeeper.com



Agtech Ireland

- Addressing issues of sustainability in Irish agriculture
- Partnership with Enterprise Ireland
- International buyers events
- Visits to European Parliament for stakeholder engagement
- Opportunity for companies to network, partner and build

<https://agtechireland.ie/>



Local Enterprise Offices (LEO)

First Stop Shop

The LEO offices are the local first-stop Shop for new entrepreneurs and existing micro-enterprise (employing < 10) and small business owners

Established in 2014

Part of the Local Authority

Partnered with Enterprise Ireland

National Network of 31 LEOs



<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Find-Your-Local-Enterprise-Office/>

Role of the Local Enterprise Office

- Offer business information, advisory services and enterprise supports
- Deliver high quality training to meet the needs of small businesses
- Mentor SME's with experienced experts
- To provide direct financial supports to microenterprise
- Advise on a large range of alternative funding options available
- Encourage and promote entrepreneurship in the county



Other LEO supports

- Feasibility Study Grant
- Financial assistance – Innovation Vouchers, Agile Fund, priming and expansion grants, market development
- Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters (TAME)
- Microfinance Ireland - (Small Business Loans of 1% APR lower when applied through LEO)



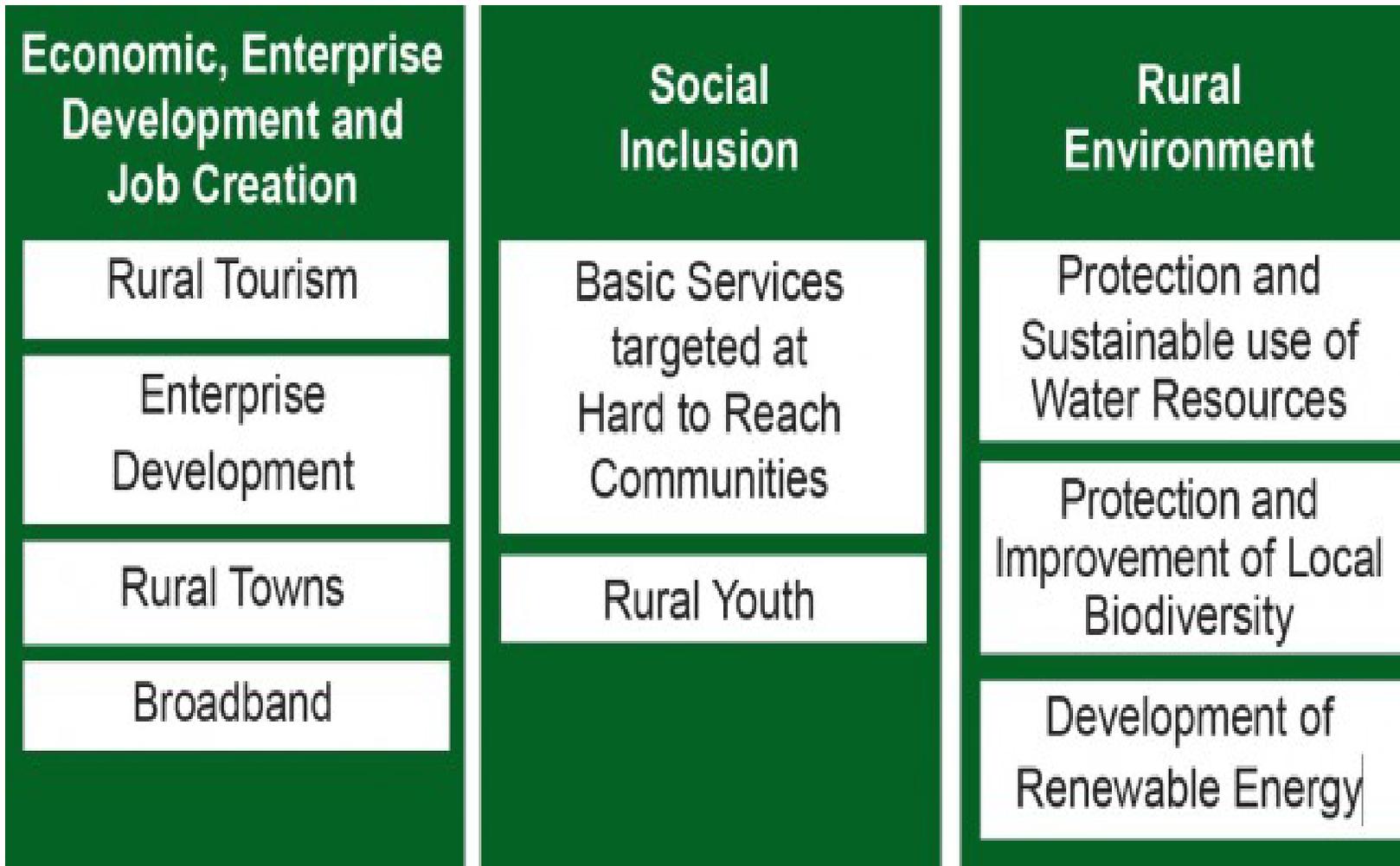
Microfinance
Ireland
Small Business Loans

LEADER Funding available for:

- Capital Investment
 - Analysis & Development (Feasibility Studies)
 - Training – generally group training
-
- Irish Local Development Network
 - <https://ildn.ie/>



The key Themes under LEADER



LEADER Enterprise Development

- Fostering Entrepreneurship (Animation & Training)
- Investment Programme for Rural Enterprises (Capital, Equipment etc.)
- Farm diversification (on-farm enterprises to supplement farm income)



Examples of LEADER projects

- Angling tourism pond
- Quad bike and 4x4 off road track
- Open farm/pet farm
- River adventure park
- Allotments business on farm
- Cross country hunter trials course
- Self catering / B&B farm stays
- All weather arena
- Boat Marina
- Glamping / camping
- Pony trekking / Adventure horse rides / riding schools / Equine swimming pool
- Conversion of old farm buildings for tourism accommodation
- Conversion of old farm buildings for tourism amenities
- Recycling business using old farm sheds
- Rural therapy centre
- Conversion old mill into training centre

DAFM Artisan Foods Initiative

Overview:

- Total National Budget of €15,000,000 Department of Agriculture Food & Marine (DAFM)
- National Call for Proposals through LEADER
- Scheme aims to improve marketing, product quality and business skills in the Artisan Food sector through collaborative projects.

Food tourism is getting bigger!

Food Works Programme - Accelerator



- Food Works: Joint food entrepreneurship initiative by Teagasc, Enterprise Ireland Bord Bia
- Focus: innovation, growth, exports
- 6 programmes 2012 – 2020
- 90 enterprises participating

<https://www.foodworksireland.ie/>



Teagasc Product Research & Development

Provision of:

- Expertise
- Product development kitchens
- Prepared Consumer Foods Centre
- Regulatory approved processing plant
- Test Laboratories
- Sensory testing
- Connections with research scientists
- Packaging suite



What are EIP Operational Groups



Operational Groups (OG's) are intended to bring together multiple actors such as farmers, researchers, advisers, businesses, environmental groups, consumer interest groups or other NGO's to advance innovation in the Agricultural and forestry sectors.

Identifying innovative solutions to particular challenges

A group with a project becomes an OG if its project is selected in a call organised by the regional/national RD managing authorities

Ireland's Operational Groups are selected by the Department of Agriculture Food and Marine.

Social Entrepreneurship

Social Entrepreneurs Ireland www.socialentrepreneurs.ie

- Idea academy
- Spark programme
- Action Lab
- Impact Programme
- Scale Partnership
- Community Programme

Find people with solutions to social problems and support them on every step of their journey. through their programmes, direct funding and a community of alumni, funders, and sector leaders.

Conclusion

- Best diversification projects complement the existing farm business.
- Wide range of supports available for rural entrepreneurs – possible confusion
- Teagasc Farm Business Options programme can be a good first step.
- No substitute for forward planning and looking at every aspect of the business.

Thank you for you attention!

Questions?

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EU CAP Network workshop ‘Young entrepreneurs engines of innovation in rural areas’ 30 November – 1 December 2022 Dublin, Ireland

All information on the workshop is available
on the [EU CAP Network website](#)

On the event webpage:

https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-young-entrepreneurs-engines-innovation-rural-areas-2022-11-30_en

