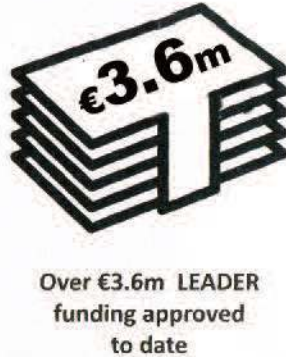




LEADER delivering for County Monaghan



LEADER is in its final year for funding allocation under the current programme. After a successful year in 2019, we have now committed funding to 62 LEADER projects, with over €3.6 million now allocated to community and enterprises projects throughout County Monaghan. Just over €2 million remains to be allocated to projects ranging from enterprise development and rural tourism, to projects that support rural youth, biodiversity, renewable energy and rural businesses/farm diversification. Individuals and voluntary groups are eligible to apply for funding, with typical rates of grant aid at 75% for community projects and 50% for private applicants (businesses/farmers/individuals).



The LEADER Team in Monaghan Integrated Development report a great spread of projects being developed across the county. Gabriel O’Connell (CEO) says “demand is high for project funding. Community and voluntary groups, businesses and tourism interests all across the county have been successfully working with our LEADER staff in bringing forward project ideas and are being supported in making LEADER funding applications. But those interested in getting their projects funded are advised to act fast, as this is the final year for funding allocations of the current LEADER programme and demand is very high.”

Below are some of the projects who successfully accessed LEADER funding and put their plans into action under the current programme.



Applicant: Brehon Brewhouse Ltd

LEADER Grant Amount: €79,157
(50% of cost)

Brehon Brewhouse Ltd availed of funding to grow their business through the purchase of a bottling plant and kegging line. This has allowed them to achieve critical mass in terms of their production capacity. www.brehonbrewhouse.ie



Applicant: Carrickmacross Lace Co-operative Society

LEADER Grant Amount: €15,607
(50% of cost)

This group received funding support to assist with the fit out of the Carrickmacross Lace Gallery. The improved facilities will create greater awareness of this unique traditional handcraft. www.carrickmacrosslace.ie



Applicant: North East Quad Sport Ltd

LEADER Grant Amount: €66,990
(50% of cost)

North East Quad Sport availed of funding to upgrade elements of their activity centre through the purchase of new equipment (for use by children and adults). The business also received support for enhanced marketing activities to promote their Centre to a wider audience. www.irishcountryquads.com



Applicant: Clones Community Forum Ltd

LEADER Grant Amount: €9,332.73
(75% of cost)

Clones Community Forum were funded to establish a folk museum in the Cassandra Hand Centre in Clones. The museum tells the story of the Famine in the Clones area through the use of models, film, information panels and the opportunity to dress up in period costumes.



Applicant: The Down Syndrome Centre NE

LEADER Grant Amount: €14,700
(75% of cost)

The Down Syndrome Centre North East received funding to fit out the reception, family room and multi-purpose room at their Centre in Carrickmacross. This has assisted the group in providing services, information and support to individuals with Down Syndrome and their families. www.facebook.com/downsyndromecentrenortheast/



Applicant: Clontibret Development Association

LEADER Grant Amount: €119,588
(75% of cost)

This local group developed an all-weather community astro-turf pitch with floodlighting to enable all ages and ability levels in the Clontibret area and its hinterland to be involved in outdoor activities that will support their wellbeing and inclusion.



Applicant: Dundalk Salmon Anglers Association

LEADER Grant Amount: €3,877
(90% of cost)

With grant assistance from both Monaghan and Louth LEADER, these fishermen conducted an advisory survey of parts of the River Fane and a feeder stream of Lough Muckno which would highlight any issues of concern, e.g. causes of pollution, advice on ecological improvements, habitat enhancement and promotion of biodiversity.



Applicant: Drumlin Trails Bike Hire

LEADER Grant Amount: €13,168.93
(50% of cost)

Drumlin Trails Bike Hire availed of funding to purchase 10 new electric bikes and related safety equipment to offer a bike hire and local bike tours business in the Emyvale / Glaslough area. www.drumlintrails.com



Time is running out, so if you have a project idea which you think might be viable, contact a member of our LEADER staff at Monaghan Integrated Development on 042 9749500. They will be delighted to discuss your project idea with you and to advise if it is eligible for funding under the LEADER Local Development Strategy for County Monaghan. Alternatively, you can visit the Monaghan Integrated Development website on www.midl.ie to complete an Expression of Interest form and e-mail it to us at LEADER@midl.ie.

As a guide to the types of projects for which LEADER grant aid is available, a summary of the Monaghan Local Development Strategy is below.

<p>Economic / Enterprise Development & Job Creation</p> <p>Rural Tourism - Supporting Tourism Projects to the value of €1.22 million into the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">specialised and budget accommodation (e.g. caravan and camping sites and glamping)Development of adventure tourism, leisure amenities and visitor attractions (e.g. angling infrastructure, walking/cycling trails, activity centres) including assistance with festivalsSupport for utilisation of old buildings for tourism and visitor attractions (e.g. feasibility studies, business plans, conservation plans for protected structures, as well as capital funding)Development and marketing of tourism accommodation, including B&Bs, self-catering, <p>Enterprise and Broadband - Invest €1.95 million in support for new start-up and expansion of SMEs, including social enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Capital support for new start-ups and expansion of SMEs (e.g. development of premises, new equipment, marketing plans, branding)Capital support and training for social enterprisesSupport for the development of handcraft, artisan foods and farm diversificationSupport for heritage towns, as well as arts and community infrastructure in our townsSupport for community ICT training and facilities (currently open as a time-limited call)	<p>Social Inclusion</p> <p>Basic Services - Invest €1.68 million supporting the provision & upgrading of community facilities & infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support the provision and upgrading of community facilities / infrastructure (currently open as a time limited call)Invest in training and mentoring programmes and pilot initiatives to support community development, volunteerism and information disseminationInvest in training and skills development programmes targeted at groups who are hard to reachFunding for initiatives and training events to assist groups identify and address issues of social exclusion in their communities <p>Rural Youth - Invest €237,500 in provision & upgrading of youth facilities and training and support programmes for rural youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support the provision of youth facilities / infrastructure, additional equipment and resourcesSupport youth training initiatives to equip young people with skills to increase their employment opportunities or engage in the labour marketSupport youth initiatives that build the capacity of young people to be active in community development and leadership and develop support networks	<p>Rural Environment</p> <p>Water Conservation and Protection of Biodiversity - Invest €491,000 in a mix of awareness raising/ capacity building & practical/innovative projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support initiatives which raise awareness of the importance of water resources and that value and conserve these resources (e.g. water conservation plans, training, water quality research and feasibility studies)Support new innovative capital projects that support the protection, improvement and sustainable use of water resourcesSupport initiatives that raise awareness of the importance of protecting biodiversity, and that advocate best practice and innovationSupport the practical implementation of biodiversity projects that conserve, protect, sustain and restore our natural habitat <p>Renewable Energy - Invest €114,000 to raise awareness of renewable energy and assist potential development / adoption of new technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support programmes which target awareness raising and capacity building in renewable energyAssist community groups and enterprises to develop and implement renewable energy technologies within their organisationsPotential projects could include sustainable energy alternatives, including biomass heating, solar power, wind turbines and community based heating systems
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Monaghan Local Action Group (LAG) is administering the LEADER RDP 2014-2020 in County Monaghan for the Department of Rural and Community Development and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. The County Monaghan Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is operating as the LAG for the County. Monaghan Integrated Development the Local Development Company for County Monaghan is the implementing partner and Monaghan County Council is the lead financial partner



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The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas