

Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

Feb – Mar 2021



The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Limerick 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 Limerick County Council and Limerick PPN in partnership with The Wheel.

www.wheel.ie

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The Arts Council Co-funding Award 2021 (Creative Europe Co-operation Projects)

The primary purpose of the award is to enable Irish organisations who have secured funding for artistic activities under the Co-operation Projects strand of the Creative Europe Culture Sub-Programme 2014-2020 to apply for co-funding.

Funding will be considered to support those elements of Irish arts activities that align with the objectives and priorities of this award.

This award is only open to Irish arts organisations that have received an offer of funding, either as Lead Co-ordinator or Partner, under the Co-operation Projects strand of the Creative Europe Culture Sub-Programme in 2020.

The objectives and priorities of this award align with the Arts Council's strategy, Making Great Art Work 2016-2025 and are:

Projects that recognise the value of international practice and relationships for both the applicant organisation and for individual artists

Projects that demonstrate the promotion and development of good practice in the area of audience development along with deepening and growing public engagement;

Projects that contribute to ensuring the arts sector is skilled, resourceful and committed to its own renewal.

How to Apply

Applications from non-arts organisations will be eligible only where an Irish arts organisation has been identified as a participant in the project and where Arts Council support will be used for the benefit of the arts partner's Irish activities. Applications for a Co-funding Award for Co-operation Projects must be made in the same calendar year in which an offer of funding is received from the EACEA.

Deadline: 10 Dec 2020

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

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Community Water Development Fund 2021

LAWPRO launched its Community Water Development Fund 2021 on Saturday 28 November at the annual seminar of the Irish River Trusts and Catchment Community Groups – Communities Caring for Water. Demand for this fund has increased year on year since its inception in 2018 and it is exciting to announce that the fund has been increased to €360,000 in 2021, up from €225,000 in 2020.

Communities Caring for Water took place online this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, an upside to these new ways of meeting up is that 236 people were able to attend the event. The speakers were mainly from community groups and local Rivers Trusts, with contributions from LAWPRO, The Rivers Trust.

The Community Water Development Fund supports communities in progressing water related projects and initiatives, delivering benefits locally whilst also helping to meet the objectives of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland and the wider EU Water Framework Directive. This Fund is open to all community and voluntary groups to assist in the protection and management of water quality, both locally and in the wider catchment. This can include the development of a catchment partnership or River/Lake Trust, and delivery of local projects to protect and improve water quality in a local waterbody. This Fund will enable communities to get more involved in the management of their local water environment, delivering multiple benefits for present and future generations. The fund is administered by the Local Authority Waters Programme on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Types of projects considered for funding will include:

Capital projects such as restoration/habitat conservation/natural flood mitigation measures; fish passage projects; invasive species control, etc.

Projects that promote public awareness/education and events such as biodiversity days, surveys, training workshops, surveys and plans, water conservation initiatives; Citizen Science, etc.

General amenity such as beach clean, improving amenity areas, bird watching facilities, etc.

Grants awarded will range from €500 to €5,000; up to €10,000 and up to €25,000.

How to Apply

Full details (including Community Water Officer contact details and application forms) available here: <http://watersandcommunities.ie/community-water-development-fund/>

Deadline: 9 Feb 2021

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COSME: Innovation Uptake and Digitalisation in the Tourism Sector

The general objective of this Call is to boost the uptake of digitalisation and innovation by tourism SMEs through transnational cooperation and capacity building.

The action aims at:

reinforcing transnational and cross-border cooperation, in particular integration of tourism businesses and stakeholders in transnational and inter-regional innovation ecosystems to enable smart and sustainable growth of tourism SMEs;
fostering SMEs' capacity and skills to improve their use of new digital technologies, resulting in new business models in tourism;
fostering innovative solutions for improving tourism management and the tourism offer through cooperation within the tourism ecosystem, including public-private partnerships
The specific objective of the action is to develop and put in place transnational and cross-ecosystem support schemes to build capacity for digital transformation, innovation and smart tourism solutions by SMEs in the tourism ecosystem.

Types of Activities

A transnational consortium/network of public and private stakeholders (including business incubators, accelerators and business support organisations providing business support to SMEs and start-ups cooperating with providers of travel technologies, data processing and similar services, digital solutions, research and education institutes, professional associations) will act as an intermediary organising specific activities for tourism SMEs in different COSME countries.

The consortium will organise and provide direct support to companies to build their capacities to develop and implement new, innovative approaches services and operations with the help of digital technologies, but will also facilitate cross-border/transnational cooperation to foster peer to peer learning as well as to exchange knowledge and good practices in boosting the uptake of digitalisation, innovation and new technologies in tourism.

Additional details are provided in the Call and in the Guidelines for Awarding Financial Support to Third Parties (Tourism SMEs).

Eligibility

Eligible applicants must be fully or partly public or private bodies; private bodies must be properly constituted and registered under national law.
Proposals may be submitted by the following applicants. The following is a list of non-exhaustive types of legal persons that may apply:

- non-profit organisations (private or public);
- non-governmental organisations;
- business support organisations. Such business support organisations could include a business incubator/accelerator, lab, innovation hub, university or educational institution, research centres and any other relevant organisation with a proven capacity and experience in running business support activities directly to SMEs
- public authorities and public bodies at national, regional or local level and their networks or associations at European, international, national, regional and local level, or organisations acting on behalf of a public authority, responsible for or active in the fields of tourism, economic affairs, industry, business support or related fields;
- international organisations;
- private and profit making entities including micro, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) active in tourism and business support;
- chambers of commerce and industry;
- training and educational institutions, including universities and research centres active in tourism and business support.
- Natural persons are not eligible.

Linked third parties, i.e. legal entities having a legal or capital link with applicants, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation (also referred to as 'affiliated entities'), may take part in the action as applicants in order to declare eligible costs.

Only applications from legal entities duly established in the following countries are eligible:

- EU Member States;
- countries participating in the COSME programme pursuant to Article 6 of the COSME Regulation.
- For British applicants: Please be aware that following the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement* on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, the references to natural or legal persons residing or established in a Member State of the European Union are to be understood as including natural or legal persons residing or established in the United Kingdom. UK residents and entities are therefore eligible to participate under this call.

Eligible Consortia

In order to be eligible, a proposal must be submitted by a consortium composed of:

- (a). a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 members/partners - different legal entities.
- (b). covering at least 5 eligible countries - as listed under section 6.1.
- (c). minimum one (1) but not more than two (2) public authorities and bodies, as defined under point 6.1.

(d). minimum one (1) business support organisation, as defined under points 6.1 and 8.2.

Each consortium/network will directly support (including financial support) in total a minimum of 60 tourism SMEs from a minimum of three (3) eligible countries. Additional details are provided in the Call and in the Guidelines for Awarding Financial Support to Third Parties (Tourism SMEs).

The project's duration must be between 25 months and 36 months.

The team must also include a project manager and at least one tourism expert.

Budget

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at EUR 8 000 000.

The maximum grant per project will be EUR 1 000 000.

The Agency expects to fund 8 to 11 proposals.

The grant is limited to a maximum reimbursement rate of 75% of the total eligible costs.

The Agency reserves the right not to distribute all the funds available.

Submission of Proposals

The deadline for electronic submission is 11 February 2021, 17:00 hours (Brussels time).

The link to the submission system is available on the Funding and Tenders Portal.

Please refer to the Guide for Applicants (listed below) before commencing the electronic submission.

Questions/Answers

Potential applicants should address questions related to the content of this call by e-mail to

EASME-COSME-TOUR-INNO@ec.europa.eu

Only questions sent to this functional mailbox will be answered. Answers will only be published periodically and within a reasonable period of time on this page. Last questions to be answered are those, which will be submitted at least 7 days prior to the closing date of this call.

How to Apply

Full call and application details available here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/section/cosme/cos-tourinn-2020-3-04-innovation-uptake-and-digitalisation-tourism-sector>

Deadline: 11 Feb 2021

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The Arts Council - Touring and Dissemination 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.

Applications are invited for proposals seeking funding to support touring and dissemination of work across a range of artforms and art practices. This scheme is designed to support the touring and dissemination of work starting between May 2021 and December 2021.

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is open to applications from organisations and individuals. Applications which demonstrate collaboration / partnership between networks, consortia or other collective groupings of presenters are encouraged, particularly where these indicate a high degree of engagement with audiences and collaboration with the producing entity or artists. Applications will also be expected to take account of possible restrictions and plan accordingly.

Applicants in receipt of Strategic / Arts Centre / Partnership funding are ineligible for this round, with the exception of organisations that previously applied to the cancelled Advanced Planning 2021 round. Applicants in receipt of other Arts Council funding are eligible to apply, provided it is clear that the touring or dissemination activity for which funding is sought is additional to those activities for which Arts Council funding has already been offered. Tours must begin between May 2021 and December 2021.

Objectives and priorities of the scheme – all artforms and art practices.

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is designed to support touring and dissemination of work across a range of artforms and arts practices. In offering this scheme the Arts Council aims to support:

- Proposals that are of high artistic quality
- Tours that generally have a strong audience focus
- A geographical spread of tours that take into account Covid-19 constraints. Priority will be given to tours that limit their need to travel extensively – e.g. tour a production or event around several locations in one city or local area
- A range of genres/practices in each artform
- Tours of various scales (limitations on scale brought about by Covid-19 restrictions should be taken into account, and large-scale productions should include a rationale)
- Applications that show that all those involved in the proposal (makers, producers, arts centres, etc.) agree their roles with regard to artistic and marketing issues and to risk sharing. This is particularly important in the context of Covid-19 restrictions when limited audiences, longer runs and constraints on performers and staff are key issues.

- Applications that include a contingency plan outlining alternative arrangements should Covid-19 restrictions prevent the original plan from being carried out.
- Applications that include a guarantee that commitments to artists will be met, even in the event of cancellation
- Applications that provide evidence of an effective and appropriate producer role.

Eligibility

Eligible Artforms / Practices: Architecture, Arts participation, Circus, Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Street Arts & Spectacle, Theatre, Traditional Arts, Visual Arts, Young People, Children and Education (YPCE).

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is open to applications from organisations and individuals. Applications which demonstrate collaboration / partnership between networks, consortia or other collective groupings of presenters are encouraged, particularly where these indicate a high degree of engagement with audiences and collaboration with the producing entity or artists.

Applicants in receipt of other Arts Council funding are eligible to apply, provided it is clear that the touring or dissemination activity for which funding is sought is additional to those activities for which Arts Council funding has already been offered.

Funding Levels

In applying for funding under the Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme, you are required to submit budget details relating to your project.

The maximum amount you may request is the difference between the proposed expenditure and the proposed income you indicate in the budget.

Proposed expenditure should include all fees, wages, technical costs, promotion and publicity costs, administrative costs, etc.

Proposed income should include what you expect to receive from other funders, box-office receipts, programme sales, etc. It is also important to reflect all in-kind support in both income and expenditure, so reflecting the full and true value of your proposal.

How to Apply

Visit the Arts Council website for full application details.

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/funds/Touring-and-dissemination-of-work-scheme/>

Deadline: 11 Feb 2021

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Culture Ireland Grants

Culture Ireland promotes Irish arts worldwide. We create and support opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues.

Purpose of Awards

Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, accommodation and subsistence.

Culture Ireland considers applications for all forms of the arts as defined in the Arts Act 2003: “arts means any creative or interpretative expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and includes, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture, and includes any medium when used for those purposes”.

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- Application must be in respect of a Irish professional artist/s or arts organisation
- Application must be in respect of an art form defined under the Arts Act 2003
- Only international events are supported (i.e., outside the island of Ireland)
- The event must be accessible to an open public audience and fees must be payable to the artist/s or arts organisation
- Funding support is limited to travel and travel related costs
- Grants are only payable to the person/organisation named on the initial application

Applications deemed eligible are assessed in line with the following criteria:

- Artistic quality of work and track record of artist/s or arts organisation
- Financial and operational viability of the event (including fees and level of support from presenter/venue/other partners)
- Profile of international venue/festival
- Proven capacity of applicant, artist/s or arts organisation to present work internationally
- Wider promotional and media impact

What does Culture Ireland mean by artistic quality?

Artistic quality can be defined as work that is ambitious, excellent and original, connects to audiences and has been presented nationally to critical acclaim. It should be noted that the

assessment of the artistic quality of the proposed work is made using knowledge, experience and specialist advice.

Examples of eligible applications include:

- Theatre, circus and dance performances by professional companies
- Film-makers presenting films at key international film festivals
- Performances by professional or professionally-led musicians and ensembles
- Visual artists/galleries exhibiting at internationally recognised art fairs/galleries
- Readings by writers/poets in English or Irish or otherwise at international literary festivals
- Please note that because of the competitive nature and context of each grant round, limited funding and a large number of applicants, eligibility and compliance with criteria for assessment alone does not guarantee that you will receive grant funding.

Examples of ineligible applications include:

- Events which have already taken place
- Research, opportunities, study or professional training
- Production Costs
- Residencies
- Bursaries
- Workshops/Conferences
- Amateur events
- Work by non-professional artists
- Events of a competitive nature.

How to Apply

Application forms and further information can be accessed on the Culture Ireland website:
<http://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/schemes/regular>

Deadline: 15 Feb 2021

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Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund: Developing and implementing local integration strategies through multi stakeholder partnerships

Integration is a multi-sectoral issue that requires the mobilisation of many stakeholders encompassing different aspects of society. The coordination and timely intervention of these stakeholders is key for an early start of the integration process, as well as for its success. As integration takes place mostly at local level, it is particularly important to coordinate the interventions of different stakeholders through locally focused strategies and plans. The development and implementation of these strategies and of related actions should be based on a comprehensive and integrated approach. It should also encompass an effective consultation and cooperation involving third-country nationals (TCNs) wherever possible, in order to take into account their views and experiences.

In this context, the European Commission has already put in place the Urban Agenda Partnership[1] on the inclusion of migrants and refugees, an innovative multi-level governance platform between cities, national governments and the European Commission, as well as the Urban Academy on Integration, which promotes learning and exchanges between cities, regions and national authorities[2].

Under the 2018 AMIF work programme, the European Commission has also funded eight projects promoting the swift integration of migrants through local and regional networks exchanging knowledge and best practices in all relevant areas of integration[3]. Moreover, other transnational AMIF projects have developed local integration strategies, including in cities, which lacked experience in this area[4].

Objectives

The objective of the topic is to facilitate the development and implementation of multi-stakeholder local integration strategies encompassing different aspects of the integration process. Consequently, proposals should aim at improving socio-economic inclusion and sense of belonging for migrants in local communities. Moreover, as the exchange of good practices and knowledge across the EU serves these particular objectives, proposals that include improving transnational cooperation between relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of local integration strategies are encouraged.

Actions

Local integration strategies can be developed by local authorities in urban or suburban areas, small towns or rural areas.

The scope of the local integration strategies should be defined on the basis of and taking into account the local needs, context and administrative structure of communities.

Regarding their content, the local integration strategies do not need to cover all aspects relevant to a comprehensive integration policy; however, they should provide for a relevant local integration framework to tackle pertinent integration challenges, such as housing, integration in the labour market, exchanges between newcomers and the local population, sport and culture.

The proposals should include one or more of the following actions (non-exhaustive list):

- Consultation activities for the design of the local integration strategy;
- Trainings, workshops and mutual learning activities;
- Technical assistance and peer review from members of the partnership for setting up and implementing a local integration strategy;
- Transfer of knowledge activities between members of the partnership;
- Awareness raising activities and events;
- Creation of tools or platforms to facilitate the dissemination of know-how and best practices.
- Proposals may include other actions beyond those listed above; however, they should clearly demonstrate how actions would serve to achieve the objectives outlined above.

Development of the strategies and implementation of the related actions should be based on a comprehensive approach through effective consultation and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, such as local and regional authorities, national public authorities, economic and social partners, employers, social economy actors and civil society organisations, including migrant associations and local communities for the benefit of their views and experiences.

It is not required that all actions foreseen in the local integration strategy are implemented during the lifetime of the project, however, proposals should implement some of them.

Outcomes

Proposals should focus on contributing to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- Established sustainable framework at local level for discussion on the development and the implementation of a local integration strategy;
- Replicable good practices and a methodology for the development and implementation of a local integration strategy that can inspire other local actors across the EU;
- Improved transnational cooperation between active stakeholders in local integration strategy;

- Improved socio-economic inclusion and a sense of community at a local level for migrants involved in the project;
- Increased exchange of experiences, information and best practices on integration at local level;
- Concrete integration projects and measures implemented at a local level as a result of the exchange of information and experiences between partners of the project.

Further considerations applicable to this topic

- The European Commission would welcome proposals involving applicants from more Member States than the minimum number identified in the eligibility criteria.
- The European Commission would welcome proposals with broad geographical scope engaging applicants from diverse regions across the EU.
- The proposed consortium should directly involve local and regional authorities as applicants or co-applicants.
- The consortium should include relevant key partners such as local and regional authorities, national public authorities, economic and social partners, employers, social economy actors, and civil society organisations, including migrant associations and local communities.
- Proposals should devote specific attention to migrant women and children, especially of those in potentially vulnerable situations, as well as to members of religious or ethnic minorities who could face discrimination or disproportionate obstacles to societal integration.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/amif-2020-ag-call-01>

Deadline: 16 Feb 2021

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Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund: Promoting complementary pathways for people in need of protection and their further integration

The UNHCR estimates that 1.44 million refugees worldwide will be in need of resettlement in 2021. Resettlement places are crucial for vulnerable refugees. The European Commission along with many governments and international organisations recognise the need to increase their resettlement numbers both at the EU level and globally. Nevertheless, current resettlement numbers remain limited worldwide. Only 57 500 places were available in 2020 worldwide, of which almost 30 000 were pledged by EU Member States. Considering the increasing need for durable solutions, it is essential to provide, in addition to resettlement, safe and legal pathways to the EU for people in need of protection.

At the international level, the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the General Assembly of the United Nations on 19 September 2016, and the Global Compact for Refugees, adopted in December 2018, called for expanding legal pathways for refugees so that they can become systemic and globally available. The UNHCR Three-Year Strategy (2019-2021) on Resettlement and Complementary Pathways has set ambitious goals to develop complementary pathways in addition to resettlement.

Complementary pathways cover a wide range of programmes that all aim to provide safe and legal admission and lawful stay in any EU Member State for people in need of international protection, taking into account their specific needs and in some cases their skills and competences.

Complementary pathways can be implemented through making existing legal migration channels more accessible to people in need of protection by building on their motivations and talents. They can help families to reunite with their close family members and facilitate labour mobility and student admissions to universities in the EU for people in need of protection.

To develop complementary pathways, NGOs, the private sector and international organisations need to cooperate closely with national authorities of the Member States to make existing legal migration channels more accessible to people in need of international protection. They are also called upon to develop new, innovative humanitarian admission programmes that create additional places for vulnerable refugees.

Swift integration of newcomers into host societies is essential to make complementary pathways a success for all. All relevant stakeholders must work together to achieve this objective. In that respect, community sponsorship models are particularly valuable.

Objectives

The objective of the topic is to lead to the creation of new places for legal admission and an effective integration of people in need of international protection by designing and implementing complementary pathway programmes which would:

- Facilitate their enrolment in European universities;
- Facilitate access to work-related residence permits for individuals with relevant skills for the EU labour market;
- Enable legal and safe family reunification for the beneficiaries of international protection residing in the EU by providing assistance and support;
- Promote new initiatives or improve existing ones led by locally-established actors in the receiving country, e.g. civil society organisations, diaspora communities, local authorities, etc. carried out in cooperation with relevant authorities to establish community sponsorship programmes for the purpose of humanitarian admission and other complementary pathways.

The Commission would particularly welcome proposals that design and implement new programmes. Proposals that significantly expand the scope and number of places available under already existing programmes and building on the lessons learned of the initial programme will also be welcome.

Actions

Proposals should include one or more of the following actions (non-exhaustive list):

- Activities to address the barriers to legal pathways for people in need of international protection
- The development of programmes for the admission and subsequent integration of people in need of international protection in the Member States, including through tailor-made pre-departure and post-arrival measures;
- Activities to mobilise local support and build strong partnerships between key stakeholders, such as national and local authorities, local communities, employers, unions, higher education institutions, students, diasporas and other private sponsors.

Taking into account the transnational aspect of the topic, actions should also foster joint activities between partners in different Member States, such as:

- Activities to enable peer to peer learning between Member States building on the knowledge of experienced Member States using online activities to limit costs,
- Activities to develop or adapt common tools and guidebooks taking into consideration existing material;

- Activities to foster joint actions in the country of first asylum where people in need of international protection are identified to benefit from the programme, such as joint outreach activities and common information sessions about legal pathways opportunities;
- Activities to develop a transnational European network of practitioners.

To ensure the feasibility of their proposals, applicants should consult relevant national authorities at the proposal preparation stage and report on the results of this consultation process accordingly in their proposals.

Proposals are recommended to involve people in need of international protection in the design, implementation and evaluation of the programme.

Outcomes

Proposals should focus on contributing to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- Higher number of people in need of international protection benefiting from a complementary pathway to the EU and benefiting from pre-departure assistance and post-arrival integration measures;
- Strengthened support at the local and national level for the development of complementary pathways, particularly through building effective partnerships between relevant stakeholders;
- Enhanced dissemination and exchange of experiences, knowledge and practices on complementary pathway programmes across the EU, through the creation of networks where feasible.

Further considerations applicable to this topic

- The European Commission would welcome proposals involving applicants from more Member States than the minimum number identified in the eligibility criteria.
- The European Commission would welcome proposals with broad geographical scope engaging applicants from diverse regions across the EU.
- The proposed consortium should include relevant key partners for the achievement of the proposed objectives such as academic institutions, the private sector, civil society organisations, economic and social partners, international organisations and diaspora communities.
- Proposals should describe how they started to engage with relevant public authorities in the Member States concerned in order to gain their support for planned actions. The direct involvement of relevant Member States' authorities concerned as applicants or co-applicants would be particularly favoured.

- Proposals should ensure specific attention to women in need of international protection, especially those in potentially vulnerable situations.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/amif-2020-ag-call-04>

Deadline: 16 Feb 2021

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Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund: Migrant children's transition to adulthood

Children constitute a large share of the migrants arriving to Europe: in 2019, from 123,700 migrants who arrived to the EU via the Mediterranean routes, 27% were children, often unaccompanied by family or adults responsible for them. 7.1% of children applying for asylum in the EU-27 in 2019 were unaccompanied, standing for 14,100 asylum applications. The majority of unaccompanied children were boys (85%), and two-thirds were aged 16 to 17 (9200 people) about to reach the age of maturity. It is indeed a common feature across the EU that the majority of the unaccompanied children registered as present on their territories are close to reaching the age of 18.

When an asylum applicant, refugee or migrant child reaches the age of 18, several legal protection measures and guarantees offered up until then cease to be available. Very frequently, unaccompanied children who turn 18 must immediately leave the specialised care facility, where they were accommodated as children. They immediately face difficulty in securing proper accommodation, if public support or third-party guarantees are not available for contracting on the real estate market. At the same time, young adults abruptly lose the benefit of guidance and support from their representative or guardian, whose legal mandate is then discontinued. In some jurisdictions, migrant children who have not obtained international or subsidiary protection or a humanitarian permit may have a difficulty to regularize their stay after turning 18. This may in turn impede any continued education or training, and respectively, their access to the labour market.

A 2014 study commissioned by the Council of Europe and the UNHCR identified several specific areas where transition to adulthood requires support, including psychological impact, specific guarantees in the asylum procedure, family reunification, access to education and vocational training, access to accommodation, health care and information.

The 2017 Communication on the protection of children in migration identified serious gaps in the protection offered to migrant children in various areas and set out recommendations on how to address those. The Commission highlighted that migrant children need continued support to facilitate their transition into adulthood – support that should be initiated prior to reaching maturity and continue after turning 18 years old. The 2017 Communication maintains its relevance and importance, particularly in light of the forthcoming Pact on Migration and Asylum and the ongoing reform of the Common European Asylum System.

Applicants are invited to take note of the following publications and further bibliography therein referenced:

- European Commission (2017): Communication on the protection of children in migration, COM (2017) 211 final.

- 18th European Week of Cities and Regions, 9 October 2019: Local strategies to support transition to adulthood.
- Council of Europe and the European Commission (2017): “Young Refugees’ Transition to Adulthood Literature Review and Policy Brief”.
- UNHCR and Council of Europe (2014): Unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking and refugee children turning eighteen: what to celebrate?
- Fundamental Rights Agency (2019): Integration of young refugees in the EU: good practices and challenges.
- Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons. (2014): “Migrant Children: What Rights at 18?”
- Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (2016): “The issue of transition of unaccompanied minor refugees to adulthood should be addressed, Recommendations by young refugees”.
- Objectives

The objective of the call is to stimulate and support the exchange of good practices and knowledge-sharing amongst various relevant actors - in particular public administrations and institutions, international organisation, private organisations and citizens (non-exhaustive list) - providing support to unaccompanied migrant children during their transition to adulthood.

This topic is not aimed at capacity-building for institutionalised care systems, or research on transition to adulthood and forms of supporting it.

Actions

Proposals should include actions aimed at increasing the exchange amongst relevant actors of good practices, and enhancing knowledge across the EU on supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood, in particular:

- Conferences, workshops, seminars, thematic meetings, study visits,
- Exchange programs,
- Developing training modules that can be further shared for other similar actions in the future, including outside the scope of the financed program,
- Providing training developed under the program or in other contexts to the chosen beneficiaries of the program – public and/or private actors who provide support to unaccompanied minors to ease their transition towards adulthood.
- The list above is not exhaustive or cumulative, and proposals may include other actions beyond those listed above. Proposal should clearly lay down how the actions will serve to increase the exchange of good practices and to enhance the knowledge across the EU on supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood.

Good practices, training /and any other relevant activities for supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood referred under this topic should relate to one or several areas where transition to adulthood requires support, such as for example psychological impact, specific guarantees in the asylum procedure, family reunification, access to information, access to education and/or vocational training, access to accommodation and health care.

Proposals should ensure that the public actors who are relevant for the proposed actions are consulted on the design and implementation of the proposed actions, as to ensure that they will derive the maximum benefit of the actions therein proposed. These actors are in particular child protection agencies, ministries/authorities for children or social affairs; social protection; children's ombudspersons; social services responsible for: housing, labour market integration, higher education and vocational training; health and mental health; counselling and psychosocial support; caregivers' associations, civil society organisations; academia, etc.

Outcomes

Proposals should focus on contributing to the achievement of the following outcomes:

Increased exchange of good practices and 'know-how' for supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood;
Reinforced offer of trainings, exchange programs, study visits and other relevant activities on supporting the transition of unaccompanied migrant children to adulthood to the benefit of the relevant public and private actors.
Further considerations applicable to this topic

Proposals should demonstrate adequate design of the monitoring and evaluation component in the project implementation phase. Proposals should present methodologies and metrics that are appropriate for measuring progress of the actions, which should involve quantitative and qualitative indicators.

For the benefit of design, implementation and dissemination of the results the project, proposals are recommended to include in the consortium relevant partners from the national, regional and local levels.

Proposals should build upon the results of previously funded projects where relevant, such as in particular:

- The Daphne Toolkit,
- Commission grants managed by Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers by and in particular for projects on the rights of the child.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/amif-2020-ag-call-06>

Deadline: 16 Feb 2021

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Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund: Address assistance, support and integration of third country national victims of trafficking in human beings

One of the priorities under the 2017 Communication "Reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions" ("2017 Communication") is to provide better access to and realise the rights of the victims of trafficking in human beings. Ensuring that funding matches anti-trafficking policy is a cross-cutting priority, taking particular account of the gender dimension of the phenomenon, high-risk groups, as well as high-risk sectors.

Victims of trafficking in human beings are found in asylum application systems and organised criminal groups abuse asylum procedures, notably "to legalise both theirs and their victims' status". Other documents relevant in that context should also be considered, such as reports published by the EU agencies, in particular those addressing trafficking for sexual exploitation, as well as the high-risk groups and sectors concerned. These reports include Frontex Risk Analysis 2018, Europol 2018 report on child trafficking, Fundamental Rights Agency 2019 guide to enhance child protection focusing on victims of trafficking, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) 2018 report on Gender-specific measures in anti-trafficking actions.

The outcomes and findings of the upcoming European Commission Third progress report, the results of the latest EU-wide data collection, as well as the Study on Reviewing the Functioning of National and Transnational Referral Mechanisms, which is one of the key actions of the 2017 Communication (all expected to be published in last quarter of 2020) are also relevant for the objectives of this topic.

COVID-19 pandemic has created challenges affecting disproportionately the most vulnerable. The crisis has exacerbated people's vulnerability to trafficking in human beings, including women and children[8].

Objectives

Under the EU legal and policy framework addressing trafficking in human beings, this topic aims at strengthening the actions of relevant stakeholders in the context of the implementation of the EU Anti-trafficking Directive.

Consequently, the topic aims to contribute to the enhanced integration of the third-country nationals (TCN) victims of trafficking in human beings and to the objectives of the 2017 Communication and particularly to the following ones:

- Facilitating the early identification of third-country national victims of trafficking in human beings, including in the context of asylum procedures;
- Providing appropriate assistance and support to victims of trafficking in human beings considering their specific needs based on their personal circumstances and such as their age and sex, and the physical and psychological consequences of the form/s of exploitation they have been subjected to;
- Facilitating durable solutions for the integration of third-country national victims of trafficking, including children, in the host society, that take into account the individual needs of the victims and prevent re-trafficking;
- Facilitating durable solutions for the safe and sustainable voluntary return of third-country national victims of trafficking that build upon appropriate risk assessments and prevent their re-trafficking.
- In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the proposals should duly take into account the impact of the pandemic on the integration of TCN victims of trafficking in human beings, including in relation to their early identification, assistance and support, especially in relation to the special needs of the victims.

The main objective of this topic does not include undertaking research as a key action.

Actions

Actions are expected to be justified in relation to the integration of TCN victims of trafficking in human beings.

Concrete transnational assistance and support measures, including with respect to health and psychological support, to victims of trafficking in human beings, taking into account their personal circumstances such as whether they are pregnant, their health status, their sex, age or a disability that they may have, as well as the physical or psychological consequences of the form of exploitation they have been subjected to (e.g. pregnancy, psychological trauma, physical injuries), while aiming at enabling and facilitating their integration in the host society.

As part of the abovementioned transnational assistance and support measures, actions can include more specific measures directed for the benefit of TCN victims of trafficking, including, amongst others: education, language training, vocational training, apprenticeship programmes; job placement services, skills enhancement, workplace training and mentoring, and entrepreneurship training.

Initiatives for setting up and improving transnational cooperation by facilitating exchanges of experiences and best practices among relevant actors, such as law enforcement, judiciary, immigration and asylum authorities, civil society organisations and other services, or international organisations for:

- The early identification, assistance, support of thirdcountry national victims of trafficking in human beings, for their integration, and within the context of their safe and assisted voluntary return when relevant;
- Facilitating and implementing durable solutions for child victims.

Sharing and exchanging experiences, information, knowledge and best practices on integration of TCN victims of trafficking in human beings and disseminate the results.

Taking into account the challenges in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the assistance, support and integration of TCN victims of trafficking in human beings, actions can include initiatives via online or other technological means, to the extent that they contribute to the objectives of the call.

Proposals should clearly focus on TCNs who are victims of trafficking in human beings[10]. Proposals should demonstrate how a comprehensive, victim-centred approach will be adopted, concretely presenting the foreseen gender-specific and child-sensitive elements of the implementation at all stages (from project design in line with the EU legal and policy framework via the different project activities and in the final outcome and/or impact as relevant).

Proposals should demonstrate a sound methodology and practical implementation measures. Activities such as background research and the mapping of existing materials should be very minor components of the proposals and where they are included a solid justification is needed, unless clearly indicated otherwise.

As this topic does not aim to enhance the capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate detailed data and statistics, the scope of data collection should be limited to the sole purpose of justifying the need for the foreseen actions and presenting the expected impact of the project.

Any training and/or practical tools should have as an overarching objective to make the system work better to improve positive impact on the lives of the victims.

Whenever relevant, proposals can include the creation of links with victims' countries of origin, with a view for example to facilitate durable solutions for the safe and sustainable voluntary return of TCN victims of trafficking and prevent their re-trafficking.

Outcomes

Proposals should focus on contributing to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- Improved identification, situation and integration of TCN victims of trafficking in human beings in those contexts, e.g. cities/regions/rural areas, and high-risk sectors, such as agriculture and hospitality, addressed by the proposal;

- Improved transnational cooperation between local and regional authorities and civil society for the identification, integration, as well as voluntary and safe return of third-country national victims of trafficking and for finding durable solutions for child victims;
- Developing practical approaches, tools and guidelines, by building on results of past projects when relevant and appropriate.

Further considerations applicable to this topic

This topic aims to fund targeted, practical projects ensuring maximum tangible and demonstrable benefits and impacts, including aiming at achieving concrete and direct impact and benefits on the lives of the victims, in cooperation with relevant authorities and civil society and other actors.

Proposals are expected to take into account the results of previously EU funded projects in relation to trafficking in human beings, such as those for which information is available:

Study on Comprehensive policy review of EU funded anti-trafficking projects;
Past and ongoing projects' descriptions can be found on EC anti-trafficking website.
Where relevant proposals should ensure synergies and complementarities with other programmes implemented in countries of origin and transit in a view to avoiding duplication.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/amif-2020-ag-call-05>

Deadline: 16 Feb 2021

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Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund: Promoting the participation of migrants in the design and implementation of integration policies

In recent years, the European Commission has opened a space for discussion and consultation of civil society organisations, in particular through the European Migration Forum, as part of the increasing importance of open and inclusive policy and law-making.

Building on the pilot action “European Migrant Advisory Board” (2018-19)[1], the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission set up a European Commission expert group on the views of migrants to advise the European Commission on policies in the field of migration, asylum and integration of migrants[2].

The European Commission Action Plan on the integration of third-country nationals from 2016[3] stresses that the involvement of third-country nationals (TCNs) in the design and implementation of integration policies is essential to improve their participation and their integration outcomes.

Indeed, increasing refugee and migrant participation in the design and implementation of integration policies is crucial for developing effective policies that are tailored to the needs of its main beneficiaries. Actively involving migrants, asylum applicants and refugees and promoting their participation in consultative and decision-making processes that concern them, can contribute to their empowerment and long-term integration into society.

It is thus clear that there is a need to support the establishment of structured and formalised ways to consult migrants regularly on policies that directly concern them. In recent years, consultative bodies of migrants at local, regional and national level have been established in several Member States; even so, important differences in the degree of direct involvement of migrants in the definition and implementation of integration policies still exist across the EU. In some Member States, migrants are involved in the design of migration, asylum and integration policies through consultative bodies at local, regional and national level, while in other Member States formal ways to consult them are still lacking. Therefore, cooperation between countries with different levels of experience can be particularly effective in this area. Furthermore, promoting the active participation of migrants in consultative and decision-making processes can contribute to their empowerment and long-term integration into society.

Objectives

The objective of this topic is to promote refugee and migrant participation in the design and implementation of integration and related policies at local, regional, national and European level.

Actions

Proposals should include one or more of the following actions (non-exhaustive list):

- Support the setting up of councils or consultative bodies of migrants at local, regional, national and EU level in close cooperation with public authorities;
- Develop innovative consultation mechanisms for migrants in policy areas that concern their inclusion and participation in host societies, e.g. education, health care, employment, housing;
- Promote the exchange of experiences between local, regional and/or national public authorities about the involvement of migrants in the design of integration policies and their implementation;
- Enhance capacity building for public authorities at local, regional or national level for efficiently consulting and involving migrants in the design and implementation of policy areas that directly affect them.
- Proposals may include other actions beyond those listed above; however, they should clearly demonstrate how actions would serve to achieve the objective outlined above.

Outcomes

Proposals should focus on contributing to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- Increased participation of migrants in decision-making processes at local, regional, national and European level in the field of integration or in policy areas that are particularly relevant for integration, e.g. education, health care, employment, housing;
- Increased involvement of migrants in the implementation of policies in the field of integration or in policy areas that are particularly relevant for integration, e.g. education, health care, employment, housing, etc. at the local, regional and/or national level;
- Increased capacity of local, regional and/or national authorities to effectively consult migrants on policies that directly affect them.

Further considerations applicable to this topic

The European Commission would welcome proposals with broad geographical scope engaging applicants from diverse regions across the EU.

The proposed consortium should include key actors for the achievement of the proposed objectives, namely refugee and migrant organisations as well as local, regional and/or national public authorities.

Proposals should ensure specific attention to migrant women and children, especially if in potentially vulnerable situations, as well as to members of religious or ethnic minorities who could face discrimination or disproportionate obstacles to societal integration.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/amif-2020-ag-call-03>

Deadline: 16 Feb 2021

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Charlemagne Youth Prize

Aged 16-30 and working on a project with a European dimension? Apply for the 2021 Charlemagne Youth Prize and get rewarded for your project to further develop your initiative.

The European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation of Aachen award the Charlemagne Youth Prize every year to projects run by young people with a strong EU dimension. Applications for 2021 open on 9 November 2020 and run until 1 February 2021.

The prize

The three winning projects will be chosen from 27 projects nominated by national juries in all EU countries. The first prize is €7,500, second prize €5,000 and third prize €2,500.

Representatives of all 27 national winning projects will be invited to the Charlemagne Youth Prize award ceremony in Aachen in May 2020.

The rules

Projects must: meet the following criteria in order to qualify:

- promote European and international understanding
- foster the development of a shared sense of European identity and integration
- serve as a role model for young people living in Europe
- offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community

If you have any questions, email ECYP2021@ep.europa.eu

How to Apply

Visit the Prize website here for full guidelines:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charlemagneyouthprize/en/2020.html?webaction=view.acceptCookies>

Deadline: 22 Feb 2021

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Emigrant Support Programme

The Emigrant Support Programme is a tangible expression of the Government's support of, commitment to, and interest in the global Irish community. It aims to strengthen the international Irish community and its bond with Ireland.

Through this programme the Government wants to fund projects that will have a clear and identifiable impact on supporting and building global Irish communities.

The Irish Abroad Unit in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade manages and coordinates the programme in partnership with Ireland's Embassies and Consulates abroad.

Since its inception in 2004, the Emigrant Support Programme has assisted over 530 organisations in 36 countries with grants totalling over €190 million. Grants have ranged from small amounts for grass-roots groups, to major allocations awarded to voluntary and community organisations operating on a large scale.

How to Apply

You should apply to the Emigrant Support Programme using the online application form only.

Full details available here: <https://www.dfa.ie/global-irish/support-overseas/emigrant-support-programme/>

Deadline: 24 Feb 2021

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St Stephens Green - Trust Traveller Accommodation Grant Programme

St Stephen's Green Trust (SSGT) has a strategic goal of supporting the provision of culturally appropriate, secure, quality accommodation for Travellers by: strengthening organising and campaigning; improving awareness and attitude towards the need for change; strengthening solidarity and improving the policy and legislative framework for the provision of accommodation.

The grant programme has re-opened for a limited time to organisations with projects or programmes focused on the outcomes listed below. We are interested in work which contributes to these outcomes and adds knowledge and learning to what works. While we know the provision of services for Traveller accommodation is crucial and urgent, our funds seek longer-term focuses - community organising, advocacy, activism and supporting the voice of Travellers to effect change. We are open to funding direct costs of the organising and advocacy and one-off pieces of research or other time-limited projects which add value to the overall goal. It does not have to be a new project but may add value to current work or builds on previous work.

Outcome 1: strengthened support through organising and campaigning: we are interested in work to support activist groups (particularly young people) to hold local and national government to account for the under-provision of accommodation[1], using rights-based approaches. This may include support for broad-based coalitions of national and regional organisations to mobilise around an agreed campaign to achieve the right to accommodation.

Outcome 2: improved awareness of and attitude towards need for change in how accommodation is being delivered: work which results in duty bearers (local authority management, politicians and others) acknowledging the need for change and acting accordingly; work which leads to increased awareness of the particular challenges and obstacles to the provision of accommodation among specific target groups and where media and other analysis on housing and homelessness is more likely to refer to the particular issues facing Travellers.

Outcome 3: Strengthened alliances: work which leads to a greater number of Traveller and non-Traveller 'champions for change' and improved relationships between stakeholders, building solidarity and alliances.

Outcome 4: improved policies, legislation and change to current practice: work which leads to an increased body of evidence to inform changes in policy and practice and where local and national structures charged with the delivery of accommodation are operating more effectively; work which supports change to legislation, policy and structures to better support the delivery of accommodation.

How to Apply

SSTG has a two -step process and the first stage is an expression of interest in which the group outlines what it wants to do. More detailed information will be required if the group is invited to proceed to Step 2. The Expression of Interest form (see link below) should be filled out and emailed to SSGT by Friday 26 February 2021.

Grant levels will vary from an average of €3,000 to €5,000 for small pieces of research, learning and activism to a maximum €15,000 to €18,000 for work having a greater impact. We can consider multiannual funding. We will prioritise work which cannot be funded from other sources. We fund core costs and/or project or programme costs.

Enquiries can be made to Orla O’Neill, 085 854 6698 or orla@sstg.ie.

Completed forms should be sent to: info@sstg.ie. You will receive an acknowledgement of your application within 7 working days – please contact us if you don’t receive it.

Further information about SSGT and this programme is available at www.sstg.ie

Deadline: 26 Feb 2021

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Foras na Gaeilge Festivals Scheme

The Festivals Scheme will be open to appropriate local groups to give them an opportunity to develop arts festivals or elements of festivals being run and implemented through the medium of Irish or which Irish language arts are a central part of them between 01 June and 31 December 2021.

This scheme is aimed at festivals which aim to foster and promote the Irish language, the Irish language arts, the indigenous arts and Irish language heritage through Irish or bilingually, as an integral part of the festival, and to provide a stage for the Irish language community, to the wider community and to the arts sector.

How to Apply

Visit the Foras na Gaeilge website to download application forms:

<https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/?lang=en>

Deadline: 26 Feb 2021

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Christian Brothers Edmund Rice Trust Fund

To mark the beatification of their founder in 1996, the Christian Brothers in Ireland established a Trust Fund to respond, in the spirit of Blessed Edmund Rice, to the challenges facing Christianity in the modern world. The fund is managed by a Board of Trustees in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust. The Trust is a registered charity.

The annual income from the fund is available to promote the objectives of the Trust. These objectives include helping individuals and groups in the pursuit of projects which are in accordance with the objectives of the Trust and which are deemed worthy by the Trustees.

Among the projects it may assist are:

- The alleviation of poverty
- The training of teachers, parents, youth leaders or others engaged in the provision of education, leadership or development
- Research into educational disadvantage, school effectiveness, youth leadership and religious development of young people
- Educational facilities

APPLICATIONS

Applications are invited each year between January 1st and February 28th. Applications received after the closing date of February 28th are not considered.

Applications must be presented on the official application form available from the Secretary at the address below.

Applicants are requested to give serious consideration to the enclosed Rules Governing Funding, giving special attention to Rules 9,10 and 11.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The Trustees meet in May each year to review applications received by the Trust. The applicants are advised of the Trustees decision in June. Successful applicants will receive funding in September and the funds received are to be applied from that September to June of the following year. Exceptions may be approved when circumstances are deemed deserving.

REPORTS

An Annual Report form, available from the Trust, should be completed and submitted to the Trustees for their information in June each year for funding received in the previous year

As part of this report, a detailed breakdown of how the funding was used should include the different items of expenditure, together with invoices and receipts, the total expenditure, and the balance in hand.

RULES GOVERNING FUNDING

- Projects must be deemed by the Trustees to conform fully to the objectives of the Trust.
- The Trust has strict a policy whereby it will only provide funding to groups/organisations with a child and vulnerable adult safeguarding policy. The Trust will not consider applications from any group/organisation which does not have such a policy in place.
- The decision of the Trustees, regarding funding for any project, shall be final.
- Funding from the Trust will be made available in the form of a donation which does not have to be repaid. However, if for any reason, after receipt of funding from the Trust, the implementation of the project becomes impossible, the Trustees shall be made aware of this immediately and they may require the return of whatever portion of the donation to the project that remains unexpended.
- Any change in the details of the project, as submitted to the Trustees, must be made known to them immediately.
- The Trustees must be informed immediately if funds, other than those already specified in the original application, later become available to finance the complete project or any section of it. This may have implications for ongoing funding.
- The exact amount of funding received from the Trust must be acknowledged immediately to the Trustees. Where foreign exchange is involved, the acknowledgement must state (1) the exact amount received, in the currency in which it is received and (2) the equivalent in the local currency.
- A payment schedule will be decided by the Trustees.
- The Trustees require annual reports in June each year for funding received in the previous year. Failure to submit year end reports will impact the consideration of future funding applications.
- The financial section of the year-end report should detail the financial aspects of the project, including all income and expenditure. All project-related records and documents, including receipts for expenditure, invoices, vouchers and bank statements, must be retained for a minimum period of seven years, in accordance with standard accounting practices.
- The Trustees have the right, at their discretion, to nominate a representative to visit the project in order to check progress and/or substantiate financial reports and records.
- If applicants do not object, the Trustees may use information relating to the project in any statements by them concerning the operation of the Trust.

How to Apply

Download application form here: <https://www.wheel.ie/sites/default/files/media/file-uploads/2021-01/Application%20form%202021-22%20revised.docx>

Deadline: 28 Feb 2021

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Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

The Fund will consider grants for the conservation of any threatened or poorly known animal, plant or fungus species.

Its focus is global and eligibility for grants will extend to all plant, animal and fungi species conservation efforts, without discrimination on the basis of region or selected species.

The Fund intends to be as flexible and accommodating as possible when reviewing applications, and to take into account as many different factors as is reasonable when assessing the merit of a suggested project. To support this and to try to streamline the application process, the review process is kept comparatively simple.

Grants will be awarded based on their ability to meet criteria pre-determined by the Species Fund, and are for maximum of \$25,000 for each project.

Criteria

Conservation status: The Fund was established to support species conservation work, and so if your project is not about an endangered species it is probably not worth your while submitting an application.

The Fund will use the IUCN Redlist (www.iucnredlist.org) as the primary guide to the conservation status of a given species, although documented variations for sub-species, distinct populations and sub-populations will be taken into account. For those species not assessed through the IUCN Redlist we welcome other methods of assessment and the submission of quantitative data to confirm a species status. Generally, the Fund gives priority to those species facing a high threat of extinction (with an emphasis on Endangered and Critically Endangered species), as well as those which are listed as Data Deficient or unlisted but are suspected as highly threatened. Please ensure that the conservation status mentioned in the application is correct and cross-referenced to a website or publication. It might be of use to consult with the relevant IUCN/SSC Specialist Group if you are in doubt or would like some guidance.

Please note that applications with clearly incorrect conservation status and no justification will NOT be considered for funding.

Content: Text provided in an application should be kept concise and clear, with clearly stated quantitative goals, aims and methods. When writing an application, please bear in mind that there is only so much text which the Advisory Board and the Fund's board of directors are capable of reading. Priority will be given to those projects that support the professional development of young conservationists.

In situ conservation: Generally, the Fund is primarily interested in providing support to in situ conservation work in the field (such as survey work and data gathering, direct action, recovery management, training and the like), focusing on the species in its natural habitat. However, the importance of ex situ work (genetic analysis, workshops, ex situ populations etc) is also recognised, and so a few grants may be given to projects which focus on ex situ conservation work in certain circumstances.

Core costs: The Fund will not contribute to the core running costs of an organisation or administrative overheads, and yet does recognise that sometimes support salaries, stipends, per diems and project related living costs can be a vital part of in situ conservation work.

Species: Generally, the Fund would prefer to support projects which focus on a single species, but it also recognises that in some geographic and taxonomic circumstances it makes more sense to group a number of species.

Grants for continuation: The Fund is happy to provide continuation support for a project which had previously been supported, which is now completed and for which the Fund has received all required reporting by the time of the respective submission deadline.

External review: In some cases the Advisory Board and/or the Fund's board of directors may ask for an application to be passed on for additional review, which may add to the response time.

How to Apply

The MBZ Species Conservation Fund will TEMPORARILY change the primary focus of its small grants for the next two rounds of grant giving (application deadlines of 31st October, 2020 and 28th February, 2021). Grants will now be awarded to support the core operational costs of local, grassroots, species conservation organisations, which are struggling financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a result face personnel or financial constraints in conducting species conservation work in 2021.

Visit the Fund website to learn more before submitting an online application:

<https://www.speciesconservation.org/grants/criteria>

Deadline: 28 Feb 2021

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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.

A pilot activity is an “intervention”, namely an activity addressing a contextual societal challenge affecting young people at local level. It should be based on innovation or on replication of best practices for example. These activities should have clear links to and an impact on the local context, contribute to the Council of Europe youth programme (please refer to the current priorities), have a clear youth work dimension and be based on non-formal education principles.

Criteria

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

- Activities addressing challenges affecting young people at local level. What the EYF expects is that you highlight a specific challenge/concern affecting young people at local level based on real needs, and propose ways of tackling the issue with a view to finding solutions.
- NGOs should be very concrete and specific when introducing the local context, the situation of young people, their challenges and needs. It should be clear how their proposed activity will help respond to these challenges at local level.
- Activities should be based on innovation or on replication and have clear links to and an impact on the local context.
- What is an innovative activity? Examples could be using new approaches, methodologies and/or tools in different contexts based on the specific needs of the target group. Show us what innovation means for you!
- What is an activity based on replication? An example could be taking as a basis a good practice of a project that has taken place in one particular setting, and adapting it to another cultural setting or with a different target group based on the needs and specific context.
- Activities should aim to initiate change even if this might not be immediately visible.
- The EYF is clearly expecting that youth projects have 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 duration of a pilot activity should not exceed six months.

- The maximum grant allocated is €15 000 in 2021. Contrary to international activities, the EYF can cover the real total costs of the activity up to this amount.

Themes for 2021

Within the 2020-2021 priorities, the Joint Council on Youth has defined more specific focus themes for pilot activities to be supported by the European Youth Foundation in 2021.

When assessing applications for pilot activities taking place in 2021, 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.

Gender

Special attention will be given to applications integrating a gender perspective. This should be clearly explained in the grant application. Gender perspective does not mean having an equal number of female and male participants. You should try to develop your project looking through different gender glasses, taking into account the needs of young women and men. More information on gender: www.coe.int/equality and the EYF gender perspectives web page developed having in mind youth NGOs.

How to Apply

Non-governmental youth organisations must be registered before being able to submit an application.

For further criteria and registration, please visit the EYF website:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/how-to-apply>

Deadline: 28 Feb 2021

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Sports Capital Programme

The Sports Capital Programme is the primary vehicle for Government support for the development of sports and physical recreation facilities and the purchase of non-personal sports equipment throughout the country.

Its objectives are to:

- assist voluntary and community organisations, national governing bodies (NGBs) of sport, local authorities and Education and Training Boards and schools to develop high quality, accessible, safe, well-designed, sustainable facilities in appropriate locations and to provide appropriate equipment to help maximise participation in sport and physical recreation
- prioritise the needs of disadvantaged areas and groups (such as people with disabilities) in the provision of sports facilities
- encourage the sharing of sports facilities by clubs, community organisations and national governing bodies of sport
- With the evolving COVID-19 situation we are aware many sporting clubs and organisations are facing disruption. Our aim in the Sports Capital Programmes Division is to continue to support you and we encourage you to continue to contact us to advance your project.

We will continue to do all that we can to respond as quickly as possible to any queries that you might have but as resources are diverted in response to the challenge posed to the nation by COVID-19 the level of service that we provide may be affected.

Your understanding in this regard is appreciated. We will remain flexible in our response as the situation develops but would advise that if you are having difficulty contacting us by phone it would be best to raise any query you have by email and we will get back to you as quickly as possible

How to Apply

The first step in obtaining a grant is to register on the department's online system. The Ministers encouraged any clubs which are not already registered to do so now. Clubs can now register on the department's online system at www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie. Once registered, all applications must be made on the same website.

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

Deadline: 1 Mar 2021 (registration by 15 Feb).

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BAI Sound & Vision 4

Sound & Vision 4 is a funding scheme for television and radio programmes, funded through the television licence fee.

Scheme Basics

- The Scheme is financed from the Broadcast Fund which comprises 7% of the annual net receipts from television license fees.
- The BAI has been assigned the responsibility of administering this fund.
- The BAI Archiving Scheme is also financed from the Broadcast Fund.
- The BAI will generally allocate funding using a funding rounds system.
- For each round, the BAI determines the closing time and date; the types of applications that can be submitted and the amount of funding available.

Scheme Objectives

- Develop high quality programmes based on Irish culture, heritage and experience;
- Develop these programmes in the Irish language;
- Increase the availability of programmes referred to above to audiences in the State;
- Represent the diversity of Irish culture and heritage;
- Record oral Irish heritage and aspects of Irish heritage which are disappearing, under threat, or have not been previously recorded, and;
- Develop local and community broadcasting.

To achieve these objectives, the Scheme offers grant funding to new television and radio programmes which deal with the themes of:

- Irish culture, heritage and experience;
- Improving adult or media literacy;
- Raising public awareness and understanding of global issues impacting on the State and countries other than the State; and/or
- Any of the above in the Irish language.

How to Apply

Visit the BAI website to download the full guidelines and application details:

<https://www.bai.ie/en/broadcasting/funding-development-3/sound-vision-4/>

Deadline: 4 Mar 2021

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Social Innovation Fund - Social Enterprise Development Fund 2021

The Social Enterprise Development Fund is a €3.2 million Fund being delivered from 2018 – 2022. The fund was created by Rethink Ireland in partnership with Local Authorities Ireland and funded by IPB Insurance and the Department of Rural and Community Development through the Dormant Accounts Fund. IPB Insurance is an Irish-owned general insurance company which protects and supports their local authority members and their communities across Ireland.

The objective of the fund is to find and back social enterprises that add to the social and economic fabric of their community by way of social impact.

The fund will provide critical support to the most innovative and impactful social enterprises across Ireland, helping them to:

- Increase their social impact
- Increase their traded income
- Create more jobs
- Develop long-term, effective and sustainable solutions.

What is a Social Enterprise?

Social enterprises are organisations whose mission is to have a positive effect on society.

Social enterprises are at the heart of facing the greatest social challenges in Ireland. They are professional and experienced, and use business skills and clever thinking to bridge the gaps in our society. The money they make from their work is used to grow what they do so that they can reach all the people in society who need their help.

Social enterprises are innovating every day by inventing and developing solutions to Ireland's most pressing social issues. They are creating meaningful jobs, tackling inequalities and supporting community development. We believe there is a need to foster and invest in these social enterprises to allow them to grow and spread their solutions throughout the country.

What Does the Fund Offer?

In 2021, the fund offers (up to) 16 Awardees:

1. Cash grants
2. Places on the Accelerator Programme

For the second time, we are also going to offer the best social enterprise in each Local Authority where no social enterprise won a cash grant a place on our Genesis Programme.

1. Cash grants

In 2021, the fund will support up to 16 social enterprises with cash grants:

- Two social enterprises will receive a cash grant of € 50,000 each
- Two social enterprises will receive a cash grant of € 30,000 each
- Two social enterprises will receive a cash grant of € 20,000 each
- Up to ten social enterprises will receive a cash grant of € 10,000 each.

2. The Accelerator Programme

All successful applicants will win a place on Ireland's only National Accelerator Programme specifically designed for social enterprises. The Accelerator Programme is designed to equip the social enterprises with the tools and techniques to expand their business skills and deepen their impact within their communities and across the country.

It provides training from best-in-class experts across the private, nonprofit and public sector. Training is provided across a range of functions including impact measurement and management, financial management, stakeholder discovery, business modelling, pitching, storytelling and more. The Accelerator Programme also includes business supports tailored to the needs of each organisation such as theory of change, strategic planning and implementation and market research.

By joining the programme, organisations will also gain access to a peer network of the best social enterprises in Ireland.

A minimum of three winners will come from each of the urban, town and rural categories.

Chance to get further investment

At the end of the Accelerator Programme, all successful social enterprises will have the opportunity to pitch for a share of an additional €100,000.

This further investment will be awarded to the social enterprises that demonstrate the greatest potential for future impact and growth.

The Genesis Programme

The Genesis Programme will provide support to social enterprises who do not receive a cash grant. The attendees for the programme will be selected across Ireland, ensuring that the Social Enterprise Development Fund offers support to a social enterprise in every Local Authority area. The Genesis Programme will be an intensive two-day workshop that will focus on building

the skills and knowledge needed to develop a sustainable social enterprise and to be successful in future funding opportunities.

Eligibility

We invite applications from social enterprises that:

- Have a clear social mission that addresses a critical social issue
- Generate income from goods or services
- Are already up and running
- Reinvest any surplus into achieving their mission
- Have a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. companies limited guarantee
- Are separate from the Government and state agenciesHave their main impact in the Republic of Ireland
- Have not already completed a multi-year fund with Rethink Ireland.

Fund Criteria

Key criteria

The key criteria that applicants will need to demonstrate are:

- How does the social enterprise impact a critical social issue
- How the social enterprise is (or has the potential to be) a sustainable business generating traded income from goods or services

Advantageous criteria

The applications will also be assessed on how well they demonstrate that the social enterprise:

- Is innovative in an Irish context
- Has the potential to scale or replicate in Ireland
- Has the potential to create additional jobs

Other criteria

The Social Enterprise Development Fund will accept applications from:

- Social enterprises, as defined above
- Social enterprises that sit within larger not-for-profit organisations, such as charities and voluntary organisations

How to Apply

Full details available here: https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/social-enterprise-development-fund-2021/

Deadline: 4 Mar 2021

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Foras na Gaeilge Summer Camp Scheme

Foras na Gaeilge is providing funding for appropriate Summer Camps through Irish for young people (3 to 18 years of age):

- which aim to strengthen the Irish language through a mix of activities;
- that are not residential camps;
- which will last 5 days;
- which will run;
- which will last at least 4.5 hours each day.

This is a nonprofit scheme to keep the camp fees low for the young people.

How to Apply

Visit the Foras na Gaeilge website to download further guidelines:

<https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/?lang=en>

Deadline: 5 Mar 2021

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Rethink Ireland - Education Innovation Fund 2020 - 2023

Supporting innovations that tackle educational disadvantage in Ireland.

COVID-19 is a massive disruption to Ireland's education system. It exposes already vulnerable people to further educational disadvantage. It widens inequality and makes educational opportunities even harder to reach. Now is the time for swift action.

This is why Rethink Ireland has created the Education Innovation Fund 2020 – 2023. The Fund seeks to improve equal access to education and promote economic empowerment.

The Education Fund is a €4.5 million Fund which will support up to 10 projects. We created the Education Fund with the support of the Department of Rural and Community Development (via the Dormant Accounts Fund). We will match funds raised by applicants and we will provide cash grants and a variety of business supports.

This Fund has three strands:

1. Transitions in Education

The pandemic affects people making 'transitions in education'. For example, students sitting their Leaving Certificate this year experienced increased anxiety.

Making a transition in education can include; starting early learning care and school; moving from primary to secondary school; and moving to further education, training and employment.

This strand also welcomes projects using the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

2. 21st Century Models and Methods of Education

A 21st-century education gives learners the skills they need to succeed. It also helps them to grow their confidence in practising those skills. It teaches skills such as motivation, creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and social-emotional learning in an educational setting.

This strand welcomes paradigm-changing approaches to primary and secondary education.

3. Reversing the Effects of Poverty on Educational Outcomes

It is well-documented that poverty affects educational disadvantage. People living in poverty face more stress and anxiety during this period of uncertainty and high unemployment. Educational guidance at this critical time can have a lasting impact on employment opportunities in the future.

This strand will focus on projects that tackle educational disadvantage. It welcomes projects that provide holistic support to marginalised groups of people on their education journey. It will support projects which address the intersectionality of educational disadvantage through early intervention, all the way through to adulthood.

What does the Fund Offer?

Rethink Ireland matches philanthropic funds raised* by successful applicants to provide:

- A 50% cash 'uplift' on funds raised*
- A strategic non-financial supports package to help organisations expand and deepen their impact
- A place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme
- Project performance and impact management
- Access to Rethink Ireland's networks.

* Applicants must provide evidence to verify the private funding has been secured.

Funding Requirement

You will be required to provide a 'Donor Letter of Commitment' when submitting your application.

The minimum commitment accepted is €20,000 and the maximum commitment accepted is €200,000. The period for this commitment must be more than 2 years.

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

How the funding process works:

- These private funds are paid to Rethink Ireland annually
- Rethink Ireland provides evidence of committed donor funds to Government
- Government releases funding to Rethink Ireland
- Rethink Ireland provides an uplift of 50% on the donor funds and makes a grant to the successful applicant
- For example: If an applicant raises €60,000 in private funds over 3 years (€20,000 per year), Rethink Ireland will provide an uplift of €30,000 (€10,000 per year). The total Rethink Ireland cash grant will be €90,000 over 3 years (which is €30,000 per year).

Please note, the Rethink Ireland Board will decide how much money to award successful applicants. This may be less than the amount requested. The amount awarded to each applicant will depend on how many organisations are selected.

Eligibility

We invite applications from organisations that support children, young people and adults who are socially excluded, marginalised or living in poverty. Organisations will also be working to mitigate educational disadvantage in Ireland.

Projects that support the following target age groups are all eligible to apply to this Fund:

- Pre-school population (0-4 years)
- Primary (5-12 years)
- Secondary (13-18 years)
- Young adults (19-24 years)
- Adults (25-64 years)

The Fund will especially focus on projects that:

- work to reduce educational disadvantage
- encourage innovative ways of overcoming educational disadvantage
- address systemic obstacles in education
- fill current gaps in education support across the lifespan.

For this reason, we particularly welcome projects which support:

- members of the Traveller community
- Roma people
- people experiencing homelessness.

Criteria

Rethink Ireland Criteria

- The project must address a critical social issue – in this case, educational disadvantage
- The project proposed must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must have potential and a desire to scale or replicate in Ireland (it may also have potential internationally, but this is not a requirement)
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way
- The project must be based on the island of Ireland and make its main impact in the Republic of Ireland
- Applicants must come from an entity that has a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a school, charity, social enterprise, voluntary organisation or Higher Education Institution

Education Fund Criteria

The project must indicate progress along, or retain a position on, the National Framework of Qualifications or Early Learning and Care.

The project must address educational disadvantage in a manner that is new, or that complements, or adds to, the existing innovations in The School Excellence Fund DEIS (Department of Education and Skills), the Department of Children and Youth Affairs' Let's Get Ready Programme and the Tusla Education Support Services.

Strand 1. Transitions in education

Criteria

Projects must support marginalised people going through educational transitions, such as:

- moving from home to early learning and care services
- moving from early learning and care services to primary school
- moving from primary school to secondary school
- moving from secondary school to tertiary education
- moving from education to employment, inclusive of adult education, upskilling, and reskilling projects (including Recognised Prior Learning projects).

Advantageous Criteria

Projects which encourage collaboration across sectors

Strand 2. 21st Century Models and Methods of Education

Criteria

Projects should meet one or more of the criteria below:

- Projects that focus on providing '21st-century skills' such as creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration
- Projects that are trialing emerging educational practices, such as innovative learning strategies and alternative assessments.

Advantageous Criteria

Projects which encourage collaboration across sectors

Strand 3. Reversing the Effects of Poverty on Educational Outcomes

Criteria

Projects should meet one or more of the criteria below:

- Projects which support interventions that provide academic, social and community support to improve outcomes for people experiencing disadvantage
- Projects which advocate for system change within education settings to maximise educational attainment and quality early education.

Advantageous Criteria

Projects that employ a holistic approach to intersectional education supports
Projects which encourage collaboration across sectors

Which projects cannot apply?

- Projects seeking funds for capital items such as buildings, vans, renovations, or equipment
- Projects where research is the primary activity
- Projects promoting or aligned with a political party
- Projects that only accept participants of a particular faith or religious denomination
- Projects where the main impact is outside the Republic of Ireland
- Projects led by people under 18 years of age
- Projects that do not seek to advance equality in Ireland.

Which applicants cannot apply?

Applicants under 18 years of age

Commercial companies

Rethink Ireland staff, directors and their immediate family members.

How to Apply

Full guidelines and application details are available here:

https://rethinkireland.ie/current_fund/education-innovation-fund-2020-2023/

Deadline: 8 Mar 2021

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World Habitat Awards

The World Habitat Awards were established in 1985 by the Building and Social Housing Foundation as part of its contribution to the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

The World Habitat Awards competition has been run by World Habitat in partnership with UN-Habitat since 1985. In that time some of the world's most remarkable and innovative housing projects have received international recognition for their work. In 2021, we will be presenting Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards to the most outstanding projects and programmes.

The two GOLD Award-winning projects receive:

- a trophy (presented at a global event) in recognition of their work to develop and deliver good practice in housing. We will work with our winners to ensure all events are COVID secure. World Habitat meets travel and accommodation costs for a project representative to attend the awards ceremony;
- prize money of £10,000; and
- follow-up support from World Habitat through our exChange programme
- Silver and Bronze Award-winning projects receive a certificate and the opportunity to partner with World Habitat in the promotion of their initiatives.

Eligibility

We want to hear about projects from around the world that:

- focus on affordable and adequate housing;
- have taken action to address the climate emergency;
- are in progress or have been completed in the last ten years;
- are taking steps to promote diversity, equality and inclusion; and
- have been designed and/ or delivered in close collaboration with the residents/ local community

How to Apply

Read the full guidelines and apply online at the Awards website:

<https://world-habitat.org/world-habitat-awards/how-to-enter/enter-online/>

Deadline: 15 Mar 2021

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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.

Eligibility

Which organisations may apply?

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 has two grant categories:

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

Large grant applications should be towards specific projects, research or equipment rather than running costs. Organisations may make one application for a meeting and can apply for a standard or a large grant. The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly.

What Support is Available?

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.
- Home adaptations, walk in showers, accessibility adaptations to bathrooms, access ramps, non-slip flooring, stair lifts.

- Respite breaks at a therapeutic centre.

We do not accept applications directly from members of the public. The Hospital Saturday Fund will only correspond with the supporter organisation and not the individual. If you are an individual in need, please approach a suitable organisation to make the application on your behalf. We are unable to take calls from the individual applicant or potential applicant. Applications for individuals can be submitted at any time.

How to Apply

Full guidelines and access to online applications are available here:

<https://hospitalsaturdayfund.org/apply-for-a-grant/#1560017195992-cf4b9003-7ebc>

Deadline: 23 Mar 2021

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The Arts Council - Creative Places Award

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 lead applicant for the Creative Places Award can be a local authority, an arts organisation or a community development organisation. Whichever is the lead applicant; they must collaborate with and include (at least) both other organisation types as partners to encourage a sustainable grassroots approach to creativity and local arts development. It will create new opportunities for local communities to decide, design and take part in brilliant arts experiences in the places where they live.

We will be seeking proposals with an asset driven approach focusing on what a place has, that can be built upon and developed rather than what it lacks. The approach will be inclusive and diverse and rooted in socially engaged practice and community development principles. It will build on existing cultural strengths and be led by community participation and ideas and supported by artists.

Applicants can apply for the Creative Place Award or Research and Development Award. You must be a local authority, an arts organisation or a community development organisation in order to apply.

1. Creative Place Award

This award will be multi-annual and awarded over three years. The award covers the appointment of a Creative Places Coordinator and a programme budget. The maximum you can apply for is €150,000 per annum.

2. Creative Place Research and Development Award

This award is a one-off award, which can be drawn down over 18 months. The award covers research fees and consultation costs. The maximum you can apply for is €40,000.

How to Apply

Download the full guidelines and application details here:

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Creative-Places-Award/>

Deadline: 23 Mar 2021 (opening)

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LIFE Programme Grants

The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action created in 1992. The current funding period 2014-2020 has a budget of €3.4 billion.

LIFE has a budget of €3.4 billion for 2014-2020. Every year a call for LIFE project proposals is launched around April. Following competitive selection, awards are made that are typically in the range of €1-5 million for projects with durations of 3 to 5 years.

The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects with European added value.

The LIFE programme is divided into two sub-programmes, one for environment (representing 75% of the overall funding available) and one for climate action (representing 25% of the funding available).

Any entity registered in the EU can make a proposal for LIFE projects under the sub-programmes for environment and climate action. In contrast to other funding programmes LIFE projects are very flexible in terms of how they are set up. You can decide if you want to run a project on your own, or if you prefer to join forces with partners from your own or another country.

The following areas are relevant to charities who are considering applying to the LIFE programme.

Nature and biodiversity

The environment sub-programme funds nature conservation projects in particular in the areas of biodiversity, habitats and species. It provides action grants for best practice, pilot and demonstration projects that contribute to the implementation of the EU's directives on birds and habitats, the EU's biodiversity strategy to 2020, and the development, implementation and management of the Natura 2000 network.

Projects receive a co-funding of up to 60%. The co-financing rate can be up to 75% if at least half of the total estimated project costs are used for actions to improve the conservation status of priority habitats or species listed in the EU's birds and habitats directives.

Environment and resource efficiency

LIFE co-finances projects in the environmental sector in particular in the areas of air, chemicals, green and circular economy, industrial accidents, marine and coastal management, noise, soil, waste, water, and the urban environment. The programme provides action grants for pilot and demonstration projects to develop, test and demonstrate policy or management approaches. It

also covers the development and demonstration of innovative technologies, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EU environmental policy and law, as well as best practices and solutions. The European Commission is particularly looking for technologies and solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale, during the project duration.

Projects receive a co-funding of up to 55%.

Environmental governance and information

The programme supports projects in the areas of awareness raising, environmental training and capacity building, legislative compliance and enforcement, knowledge development and public and stakeholder participation. It co-finances action grants for information, awareness and dissemination projects that aim to promote awareness raising on environmental matters. This includes cooperation platforms and knowledge sharing on sustainable environmental solutions and practice.

Projects receive a co-funding of up to 55%.

How to Apply

Current calls / deadlines:

LIFE 2020 Call for Proposals from NGOs on the European Green Deal

The European Green Deal is the EU growth strategy that aims to transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, sustainable and competitive economy that leaves no one behind where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use.

Amid the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic, civil society as whole and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in particular are suffering a blow to their capacity to take actions and to contribute to the profound transformations needed to achieve a successful and just transition towards a sustainable future.

In the framework of the LIFE Programme, the LIFE 2020 Call for Proposals from NGOs on the European Green Deal (NGO4GD) is launched to reinforce the capacity of NGOs acting at Member States' level to mobilise and strengthen civil society participation and contribution to the implementation of the European Green Deal.

Please consult the Guidelines for Applicants for further details and use the technical and financial application forms of the NGO4GD Call for Proposals to apply.

Deadline for applications: 31 March 2021.

Full details here: <https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/section/life/life-2020-call-proposals-ngos-european-green-deal-ngo4gd>

Deadline: 23 Mar 2021

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Interreg IVB Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme

The Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme 2014-2020 aims to expand the regions' horizons, building on concrete outcomes and enabling the programme area to be a first class region to live, study, work, visit and invest. Projects under this call should look at ways in which cooperation can effectively help address the multiple challenges posed by this COVID-19 crisis across the NPA programme area.

The general priorities of the NPA programme are:

- Using innovation to maintain and develop robust and competitive communities
- Promoting entrepreneurship to realise the potential of the programme area's competitive advantage
- Fostering energy-secure communities through promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage.

COVID-19 Call

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, six themes have been identified where joint collaborative efforts could be beneficial:

- Clinical aspects: Comparing the different response measures taken by the respective countries, map the rate of infections and observe differences in comparison to national and local COVID strategies; e.g. in rural vs urban areas
- Health and wellbeing: The impact of self-isolation on people and their mental health – elderly people and other vulnerable groups who already suffer isolation will be impacted even worse from this situation, but there is a wider effect on the entire population which shall be investigated
- Technology solutions: What e-health solutions already exist and what should be put in place? How can technology be brought to those people who need it and/or don't know how to use it? What are the technologies with the lowest threshold? How can we fast track innovation?
- Citizen engagement/ Community response: Small peripheral communities are more self-sufficient, what lessons can they share?
- Economic impacts: What will be the impact on the public health system now and next year? In what ways have our societies and economies been transformed already? And how will they be transformed in the medium and long term?
- Emerging themes: project ideas that fit in the rationale of the call, but do not fall within the themes outlined at the time this Call has been opened. Considering that the situation is constantly developing and that new relevant themes might appear at a later point in time, the Programme will consider applications falling under this category, that reflect a change in the situation or an aspect which has been disregarded.

- An Umbrella project will be funded to ensure overall coordination of the thematic projects.

Projects are expected to make an overview of and analyse the state of the COVID-19 crisis, as well as successful and less successful practices in the NPA area relevant to the chosen theme and the geographical context, to be able to make recommendations for future actions, policy responses, etc.

Eligibility & Programme Detail

(as long as required)

Eligible partners include:

- National, regional and local authorities
- Regional and local development agencies, chambers of commerce
- Universities, colleges, higher education, research institutions
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- Sectoral agencies and business support organisation
- Voluntary sector organisations
- Other relevant organisations contributing to the development of the programme area
- Micro, and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Ensuring the correct mix of transnational partners in a project is crucial to achieving genuine transnational cooperation and successful results. In general, all partners should have the capacity and knowledge in the project subject area to participate fully and to deliver the products and/or services.

For main projects, at least three eligible project partners from three different programme partner countries are required, of which one must be from an EU Member State. In addition, all partners need to have the administrative and adequate resources required to participate in a transnational projects. Furthermore, all partners are required to provide supporting documents required by the MA, Joint Secretariat, First Level Controllers, or auditors.

How to Apply

Current Call: Clustering Call

The Clustering Call for project applications is open from 15th January to 31st March 2021. The Monitoring Committee will decide on Clustering Call applications on 8th June 2021.

Scope of Clustering projects

Clustering projects are small projects that combine 2 or more previously successful or ongoing projects. The Clustering call offers a unique opportunity to diversify and to capitalise on outputs and results; further integrating results as well as disseminating their impacts. Thus, reaching a wider group of stakeholders with project outputs, supplementary learning and capacity building.

The clustering projects are encouraged to:

- explore transferring of project outputs to other organisations, sectors and/or regions, for example disseminating result and outputs beyond their ongoing or completed project activities.
- maximize the transnational impact of existing outputs on local level end users or widening the preparedness for transnational cooperation to other beneficiaries, for example by organising collaboration initiatives that connect end users across regions.
- increase the awareness of the transnational added value and the potential of transnational cooperation. The establishment of a lasting network could be one such activity for example.
- use complementary skill sets to focus on improving the uptake of project outputs.
- gain critical mass to inform decision makers.
- all projects are expected to make special efforts to include end users, and underrepresented groups such as young people and indigenous peoples.

Project Budget Indicative total ERDF budget of up to 153.846 EUR plus non-Member State budget, at the regular intervention rates of programme partner countries.

Lump sum grant Maximum ERDF grant of 100.000 EUR plus Non-Member State grants.

Note: Partners from Scotland and Northern Ireland should apply for ERDF co-financing.

Full info here: <https://www.interreg-npa.eu/for-applicants/clustering-call/>

Deadline: 31 Mar 2021

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ESTHER Ireland Grant 2020 - 2021

The scope of ESTHER grants has evolved from previous years, based on more than five years of learning from Irish-South health partnerships, including internal and external evaluations in 2017. This round of grants reflects the current global and Irish context with COVID-19 and lessons learned from the pandemic. It also responds to the directions and priorities of the Government's International Development Policy, A Better World, which was published in 2019.

As with previous calls, this round of grants has two categories. Band 1 grants are to support new partnerships, and Band 2 grants are to support established partnerships. ESTHER Ireland welcome applications from partnerships involving different types of health institutions, including hospitals, primary care services, public health units, education and training organisations, universities, and Government health departments.

NGOs are generally not eligible for ESTHER grants as they don't fulfil the criteria of an institutional health partnership. While they may follow partnership principles, their model is usually that of implementing projects rather than peer-to-peer working through a twinning arrangement.

Band 1: New Partnership Grants

Irish health organisations and institutions are eligible to apply for a Band 1 grant to facilitate the development of a new link or partnership with a counterpart organisation or institution in a low-or middle- income country.

In the context of this programme, we consider a new partnership to be one that has recently started to work together or has not yet started working together but has taken preliminary steps. It should demonstrate a commitment to adhere to the ESTHER principles of Quality of Partnerships.

Intended outcomes from activities implemented under this scheme could include formalising an agreement such as an MOU between partners or developing a shared vision and action plan.

Grants must be spent within 12 months of disbursement.

The ceiling for Band 1 grants is €8,000.

Criteria Band 1

Higher priority is given to partnerships in countries with official Government links through Irish Aid and/or the HSE:

- Irish Aid key partner countries providing bilateral support to the health sector (Mozambique, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Liberia)

- Other Irish Aid key partner countries (e.g. Zambia, Malawi, Uganda)
- Countries in which HSE is engaged with through formal agreements (e.g. Mozambique, Sudan, Zambia, Sierra Leone)
- Coherent with objectives of Irish Aid development policy, A Better World
- Grant funding should achieve value for money. Having co-funding is considered an advantage.
- Successful partnerships should be willing to produce a case study.
- Band 2: Established Partnership Grants
- Applications are invited from Irish health institutions and organisations engaged in established health partnerships. We consider an established partnership to be one that has been working together for more than a year and has been formalised, such as through a Memorandum of Understanding. Partnerships must demonstrate clear evidence of quality of partnership, such as receiving ESTHER Accreditation for Quality of Partnership.

Partnerships may apply for grants to:

- Implement small scale innovations or pilot projects
- Undertake activities that strengthen the working relationship between the partners (e.g. exchange visits, stakeholder meetings, communication systems)
- Build capacity within the existing partnership to enable it to initiate and implement projects and programmes (e.g. skills building workshops)

Criteria Band 2

- Partnerships should demonstrate a clear theory of change for how they will improve health services and health outcomes. Change pathways may include one or more of a range of interventions areas such as education, training, mentoring, exchange visits, technical support, service quality improvement and research.
- Higher priority is given to partnerships in countries with official Government links through Irish Aid and/or the HSE:
- Irish Aid key partner countries providing bilateral support to the health sector (Mozambique, Ethiopia, Tanzania)
- Other Irish Aid key partner countries (e.g. Zambia, Malawi, Uganda, Sierra Leone)
- Countries in which HSE is engaged with through formal agreements (e.g. Mozambique, Sudan, Zambia)
- Preference is given to partnerships with greater potential to achieve impact:
- Aim to strengthen the capacity of health institutions to address local health priorities and unmet health service needs
- Contribute to health systems strengthening and universal health coverage
- Contribute to and support the COVID-19 response in partners' countries.
- Coherent with Irish Aid development policy, A Better World

- Grant funding should achieve value for money. Having co-funding is considered an advantage.
- Successful partnerships should be willing to monitor their partnership using the ESTHER Pilot Effect Tool and produce a case study.

The ceiling for Band 2 grants is €10,000.

How to Apply

Full details and guidelines available here: <https://www.esther.ie/how-to-get-involved/esther-ireland-grants/>

Deadline: 31 Mar 2021

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EYF Grants Annual Work Plan 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.

Within the strategic approach or global action plan of an organisation (what the organisation would like to achieve in the year(s) to come), you are asked to identify a coherent set of activities/elements to be submitted to the EYF. It should be in line with what you do and want to achieve, but it should also be in line with the work, priorities and principles of the youth sector of the Council of Europe.

Each activity/element should contribute to the aim of the work plan and the accomplishments of the work plan as a whole should contribute to the global purpose of the organisation. The work plan does not need to reflect the whole strategy of your NGO; it can be one element of it only.

The different activities of a work plan have to contribute to achieve the objective of the work plan as a whole and have to be interconnected.

It is useful to look at the "flow" of the various actions chronologically: individual activities are linked to each other, feed off and feed into each other (content-wise, through the participants and/or multipliers, towards one common result).

Material production or preparatory meetings should not be included as separate activities. They should be included in the activities they are contributing to.

The maximum grant allocated is €50 000. The grant awarded for an annual work plan is paid in three instalments: 60% when the signed contract is sent to the EYF by post and the conditions in the contract (if any) are met, 25% upon receipt of the interim report and the remaining 15% upon receipt of a satisfactory activity and financial report.

The following criteria are a requirement for annual work plans:

- Composed by several activities (international/other); at least one international activity;
- Clear flow/link between activities: interconnected;
- Each individual activity contributes to the overall objectives of the work plan;
- Link with priorities, missions and vision of the CoE youth sector;
- At least one third of co-funding for international activities;

- A gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole process.
- Importance is also given to a non-formal education approach in your projects.

What kind of activities can be included?

International activities

A work plan cannot be a set of very small activities or material production only. A work plan needs to have a "European dimension" and this means it should still contain international activities (at least one).

Remember the criteria of international activities (see link): 4 nationalities represented in the team, a gender and geographical balance among participants (minimum of 7 nationalities).

You should find co-funding for the international activities. The EYF will not be able to cover more than two-thirds of the total cost of the international activities calculated together (i.e. the two-third rule will not apply to each separate international activity).

Other activities

"Other activities" can be included such as campaigns, study visits, series of workshops, "mobile" activities (activities which involve travel).

Examples of activities that can be included in a work plan as an "other" activity.

Preparatory meetings, research, needs analysis should be linked to an activity in the work plan, not an activity in itself. Material production should be the "result of" or part of the "follow up of" an activity and not an activity standing on its own.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be included as separate activities in a work plan. These are covered by an EYF structural grant. If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after an international activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

Aim and objectives of an annual work plan

You will be asked to provide the objectives of each activity of the work plan and also the objectives and the aim of the work plan as a whole. The objectives of each individual activity should contribute to achieve the overall objectives of the work plan.

You need to show the relevance of the set of activities submitted to the EYF within the medium or long-term development of the organisation, but also show how this contributes to the priorities, mission and vision of the Council of Europe.

Gender perspective criteria included in all EYF grants

Special attention will be given to applications integrating a gender perspective. This should be clearly explained in the grant application. Gender perspective does not mean having an equal number of female and male participants. You should try to develop your project looking through different gender glasses, taking into account the needs of young women and men. More information on gender mainstreaming www.coe.int/equality and our gender mainstreaming page developed having in mind youth NGOs.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

- International youth NGOs;
- International networks of youth NGOs.

How to Apply

Non-governmental youth organisations must be registered before being able to submit an application.

For further criteria and registration, please visit the EYF website:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/annual-work-plan>

Deadline: 1 Apr 2021

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EYF Grants International 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.

What is International Activity?

International meeting of young people or youth leaders in Europe which contribute to the work of the youth sector of the Council of Europe in topic, methodology and with a clear European dimension.

The following hard criteria are a requirement for an international activity:

- Participants must represent at least 7 Council of Europe member states*;
- It has to be run by an international team (4 nationalities represented in the project team);
- 75 % of participants under 30 years old;
- A gender and geographical balance must be ensured;
- A gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole process.
- Importance is also given to a non-formal education approach in your projects.

Until now, four working days were considered as a minimum duration for an international activity based on the principles of non-formal education/learning. However, in order to adapt to NGOs' needs, the EYF will no longer consider this duration as a hard criterion. Nevertheless, the EYF will continue to assess grant applications on the basis of their merit and the quality of the programme provided. NGOs applying for activities lasting less than four days will have to convince the EYF that the activity is based on a non-formal education approach.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be supported as a one-off international activity. These are covered by an EYF structural grant. If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an international activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after the activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

The maximum grant allocated is €20 000. The EYF will cover up to two-thirds of the total real costs of the activity. NGOs need to find additional resources to cover the remaining one-third.

Gender perspective criteria included in all EYF grants

Special attention will be given to applications integrating a gender perspective. This should be clearly explained in the grant application. Gender perspective does not mean having an equal number of female and male participants. You should try to develop your project looking through different gender glasses, taking into account the needs of young women and men.

More information on gender mainstreaming www.coe.int/equality and our gender mainstreaming page developed having in mind youth NGOs.

What costs are covered by the grant?

Participant's travel, accommodation and food are covered. Also trainer/expert fees, production of material and renting of rooms and equipment. Volunteer time can be included up to a maximum of 10% of the total budget.

The volunteer cannot be paid (travel, accommodation, food can be covered) but the monetary value of the volunteers's contribution can be included in expenditure and income. A more detailed explanation can be seen in the Volunteer time recognition

Eligibility

- International non-governmental youth organisations can apply on their own;
- International networks of youth NGOs can apply on their own;
- Regional networks of youth NGOs can apply on their own;
- National non-governmental youth organisations can apply if the activity is prepared in partnership with at least 3 other national NGOs or networks from different countries or with at least 1 international NGO or network.

How to Apply

For further criteria and registration, please visit the EYF website:
<http://www.coe.int/web/european-youth-foundation/how-to-apply>

Deadline: 1 Apr 2021

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Culture Ireland Grants

Culture Ireland promotes Irish arts worldwide. We create and support opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues.

Purpose of Awards

Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, accommodation and subsistence.

Culture Ireland considers applications for all forms of the arts as defined in the Arts Act 2003: “arts means any creative or interpretative expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and includes, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture, and includes any medium when used for those purposes”.

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- Application must be in respect of a Irish professional artist/s or arts organisation
- Application must be in respect of an art form defined under the Arts Act 2003
- Only international events are supported (i.e., outside the island of Ireland)
- The event must be accessible to an open public audience and fees must be payable to the artist/s or arts organisation
- Funding support is limited to travel and travel related costs
- Grants are only payable to the person/organisation named on the initial application

Applications deemed eligible are assessed in line with the following criteria:

- Artistic quality of work and track record of artist/s or arts organisation
- Financial and operational viability of the event (including fees and level of support from presenter/venue/other partners)
- Profile of international venue/festival
- Proven capacity of applicant, artist/s or arts organisation to present work internationally
- Wider promotional and media impact

What does Culture Ireland mean by artistic quality?

Artistic quality can be defined as work that is ambitious, excellent and original, connects to audiences and has been presented nationally to critical acclaim. It should be noted that the

assessment of the artistic quality of the proposed work is made using knowledge, experience and specialist advice.

Examples of eligible applications include:

- Theatre, circus and dance performances by professional companies
- Film-makers presenting films at key international film festivals
- Performances by professional or professionally-led musicians and ensembles
- Visual artists/galleries exhibiting at internationally recognised art fairs/galleries
- Readings by writers/poets in English or Irish or otherwise at international literary festivals

Please note that because of the competitive nature and context of each grant round, limited funding and a large number of applicants, eligibility and compliance with criteria for assessment alone does not guarantee that you will receive grant funding.

Examples of ineligible applications include:

- Events which have already taken place
- Research, opportunities, study or professional training
- Production Costs
- Residencies
- Bursaries
- Workshops/Conferences
- Amateur events
- Work by non-professional artists
- Events of a competitive nature.

How to Apply

Application forms and further information can be accessed on the Culture Ireland website:

<http://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/schemes/regular>

Deadline: 1 Apr 2021

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Additional Resources

Visit The Wheel's COVID-19 information hub, including essential funding information and key sector updates, including extensive Returning to the Workplace Safely resources: www.wheel.ie/covid-19-info-hub

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

1. Fundraising Guidance Library

- [Fundraising Essentials](#)
- [Applying to Grant Makers](#)
- [Fundraising From The Public](#)
- [European Funding](#)

2. 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 and we'll get back to you shortly. www.wheel.ie.

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