



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Sligo.

Sligo PEACEPLUS

**Co-designed
Local Community
Peace Action Plan**

2021-2027



The Programme is a funding partnership between the European Union, the Governments of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive and will be administered by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Table of Contents

Executive Summary Sligo County PEACEPLUS Action Plan 2021-2027	4
Complementarity across themes – a key objective.	8
Section 1: The Proposed Project (Peace and Reconciliation Action Plan)	9
Overview of Thematic Actions	9
1.1.1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation Projects	10
1.1.2: Thriving and Peaceful Communities Projects	32
1.1.3: Celebrating Cultures and Diversity – Projects	65
Results, Outputs and Outcomes	82
Section 2 - Strategic & Policy Context	83
Plan Development	83
Partnership and Membership	83
Approach to Co-design	84
Strategic Context Overview	85
Section 3: The Co-Design Process	86
Stages of the Co-design Process – aims, actions and results	86
Stakeholder Engagement & Consultation to Develop Co-Design Action Plan	87
Online Survey	91
Gantt Chart of the activities in the Co-Design Process.	92
Sligo County's Socio-economic Profile	93
Key Service Providers	96
Needs Analysis	97
Key Beneficiaries of Action Plan Projects	100
Section 4: Project Options Considered and Preferred Options	101
Table 1: Final List of Projects	108
Section 5: Budget & Financial Projections	109
Annual Projections For Each Indicative Action by Theme	109
Local Community Regeneration and Transformation Budgets	109
Thriving and Peaceful Communities Budgets	110
Celebrating Cultures and Diversity Budgets	111
Budget and Income Statement	112
Assumptions	113
Section 6: Risk Analysis (Risks, Uncertainty & Constraints)	114
Section 7: Horizontal Themes – Sustainable Development and Equality	117
Horizontal Themes	117
Equality	127
Section 8 - Management Arrangements (Project Delivery, Resourcing and Governance)	129



Delivery Plan Gantt Chart	129
Main Partners	130
Procurement	130
Key Risks	130
Governance	130
Project Management Structure:	130
Role of the LCDC:	130
Role of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership:	131
Staffing Structure	131
Staff Accommodation	133
Quality Management Arrangements & Coherence	133
Section 9: Communications (and Marketing) Plan	135
Sligo County Council - PEACEPLUS Communications Plan Communications Outputs	139
Crisis Communications Plan	141
Section 10: Monitoring and Evaluation	143
Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy	143
Monitoring Techniques	144
Establishing Baselines for Evaluation	144
Data Collection	145
Data Analysis	146
Post-Project Delivery Evaluation and Sustainability	146
Exit Strategy	147
Declaration	156
Appendices	157
Appendix 1: Strategic Context - Summary and analysis of documents considered for Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan.	158
Appendix 2: Details of Sligo PEACEPLUS Online Survey and analysis of responses.	171
Emerging findings from online survey	175
Appendix 3: Long-list of project ideas	185
Appendix 4 – Local Govt. Procurement Guidelines	199
Appendix 5 – Abridged Job Descriptions	203



Executive Summary Sligo County PEACEPLUS Action Plan 2021-2027

The strategic objective of the Sligo County Council Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan under thematic area *1.1, Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities* is

To unite communities by helping them rebuild and learn from a difficult past. Community groups will grow stronger, work better and for longer together, and have spaces for everyone to share.

Sligo County Council has been allocated €3,603,788 under the new PEACEPLUS programme. To secure this funding, the council has developed a PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local community Peace Action Plan which includes a range of projects under the three core themes:

- Local Community Regeneration and Transformation
- Thriving and Peaceful Communities
- Building respect for all cultural identities

The Action Plan aims to consolidate the key issues related to peacebuilding through various project and programme ideas identified through an extensive and inclusive co-design consultation and engagement process taking onto account a wide range of perspectives. An overview of the projects selected as part of the Sligo is set out below including the resources needed to implement actions.

Theme 1.1.1, Local Community Regeneration and Transformation:

Capital investment projects are spread across County Sligo including rural and urban areas. Projects will transform key buildings and outdoor space to provide focus and opportunity for diverse interaction, creative expression, economic development, and exploration of history and heritage. The projects' innovative reshaping of existing spaces for new purpose promote sustainability, provide universal access, and encourage inclusion.

Project Title	Result	Resources/ Partners
Land of Art's Desire:	Regeneration of dockside building to provide accessible creative space for young people, thereby increasing opportunities, interaction and cultural and diverse understanding.	Branching Out CLG
PAZMÁS – The Armada Across Seas and Borders	Development of new community tourism, heritage and history project to increase levels of cross community interaction, mobility and understanding of shared heritage.	Spanish Armada Ireland, collaboration Local Authorities across PEACEPLUS region.
Celtic Connections	Transformation of near derelict heritage building in Ballymote to provide focal point for cross-border and cross-community understanding and economic development.	Ballymote Community Council
Dromore West Digiversal	Supporting inclusivity and universal access in rural west Sligo through: multi-sensory room for disabled people and intergenerational use and; reconfiguration of the main public space to maximise integration activities.	Dromore West Council Committee West Sligo Young at Heart Club

Theme 1.1.2, Thriving and Peaceful Communities:

The projects under this theme reflect the needs identified through co-design. They represent the stepping stones communities want to have in place in order to reach local goals relating to the practice of Peace and Reconciliation, social inclusion, collaborative action, local economic development, the environment, and the circular economy.



Project Title	Results	Resources/ Partners
The GFA for Gen Z: Project Lighthouse	Enhanced understanding of what the Good Friday Agreement means to people born around and since 1998. Project delivered on a cross-border and cross-community basis	Hawks Well Theatre, Sligo: John Hume Foundation.
Cross- Border Friendship Tournament	Youth engagement in good relations across PEACEPLUS region through soccer.	Youth soccer organisations in PEACEPLUS Region
Men's Sheds Exchange	Cross-border and cross-community interaction, enhanced understanding and sustainable relationships.	Men's Shed groups on both sides of the border.
Tuning into Social Inclusion	Cross-border and cross-community interaction between young people through music.	Music Generation - Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board
Digital PEACEPLUS	Intergenerational and socially inclusive use of digital skills to address diversity and inclusion.	Youth, Active Age and community groups.
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	Shared skills and understanding of our one planet and sustainability at local and PEACEPLUS region level.	Local and Cross-border communities. Agricultural, forestry, marine and education sector. Sligo County Council.
We Can Fix It	Providing practical social inclusion through supporting the circular economy and principles of sustainability.	Local communities and expert advice e.g., Zero Waste, Environmental Protection Agency

Supporting Local	Targeted support based on identified needs to provide skills to address social inclusion and local community capacity. This programme is intrinsic and linked to other investment areas of Sligo PEACEPLUS Plan.	Participants from other Sligo PEACEPLUS Programmes.
------------------	--	---

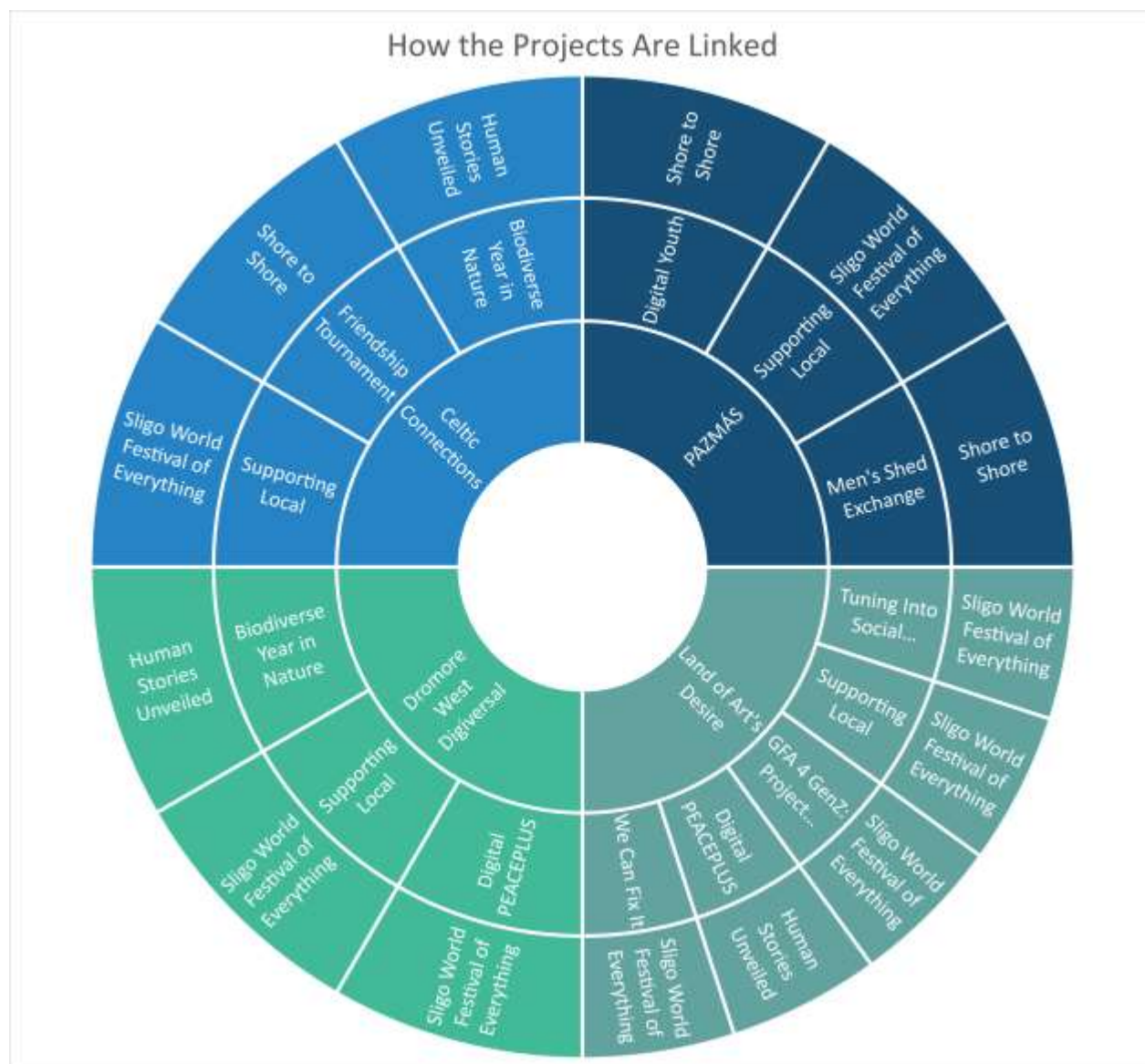
Theme 1.1.3, Celebrating Cultures and Diversity:

Sligo PEACEPLUS co-designers asked that every activity available be used to find shared meeting points between separate communities through mutual enjoyment and participation. This has resulted in an ambitious suite of projects that run concurrently and interlinked over the duration of the Plan's implementation.

Project Title	Results	Resources/Partners
Human Stories Unveiled	Challenge and reduce prejudice and bias and foster understanding and inclusion through the telling and exposition of stories through many mediums.	Facilitation to gather, manage, support and direct participants in mediums used. Community engagement.
The Sligo World Festival of Everything	Instil confidence in sharing and interacting with different modes of cultural expression. Promote parity of esteem and understanding of others within communities and beyond.	Community and facilitating partners to manage projects. Buy-in of festivals and events to support exposition.
Shore to Shore History and Heritage	Cross-border, cross-community, and culturally diverse shared understanding of history – our own, the others' and where heritage converges.	Communities within the PEACEPLUS region. Access to historical resources.

Complementarity across themes – a key objective.

To achieve best value for money and contribute to the Horizontal Principles underpinning PEACEPLUS¹, complementarity between projects has been a strategic objective of developing this plan. This is illustrated in simple terms below:



¹ Horizontal Principles of PEACEPLUS: Sustainable Development; Non-discrimination and Equality between Men and Women; Equal Opportunities.

Section 1: The Proposed Project (Peace and Reconciliation Action Plan)

The following section outlines the projects under Sligo's Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan. This includes, the programme idea, duration and indicative budget, partners, participants, beneficiaries, SEUPB results and outcomes, and alignment with key strategies.

Overview of Thematic Actions

Theme 1.1.1, Local Community Regeneration and Transformation

Capital investment projects spread across County Sligo including rural and urban areas. Projects will transform key buildings and outdoor space to provide focus and opportunity for diverse interaction, creative expression, economic development, and exploration of history and heritage. The projects' innovative reshaping of existing spaces for new purpose promotes sustainability, provide universal access, and encourage inclusion.

Theme 1.1.2, Thriving and Peaceful Communities

The projects under this theme reflect the needs identified through co-design. They represent the stepping stones communities want to have in place in order to reach local goals relating to practice of Peace and Reconciliation, social inclusion, collaborative action, local economic development, the environment, and the circular economy.

Theme 1.1.3, Celebrating Cultures and Diversity

The Sligo PEACEPLUS co-design process asked that every means available be used to find cultural meeting points between different communities through mutual enjoyment and participation. The result is an ambitious suite of programmes that run concurrently and interlinked over the duration of the Plan's implementation.

To achieve best value for money and contribute to the Horizontal Principles underpinning PEACEPLUS², complementarity between projects has been a strategic objective of developing this plan, as illustrated above.

² Horizontal Principles of PEACEPLUS: Sustainable Development; Non-discrimination and Equality between Men and Women; Equal Opportunities.

1.1.1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation Projects

***Theme Objective:** transformation and re-imaging of individual or collective areas within a community in a manner which challenges initial perceptions and increases levels of shared pride.

***Total Theme Budget:** €1,081,200 - €1,441,600 (30-40% max)

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Land of Art's Desire	24 months build € 280,413	Branching Out	250 95/5 split Minimum of 20 hrs contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people Newcomer communities Local community Older adults (intergenerational) Families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace and Reconciliation Social Cohesion Learning & Development Cultural expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan September 2018 County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022

Programme Overview

This regeneration of The Nest provides a city-centre space for workshops serving organisations and projects on a not-for-profit basis. It supports youth development, fosters creativity, promotes cultural diversity and community cohesion. Beyond catering to young people, the creative space will also serve as a hub for intergenerational and social inclusion.

Development of multifunctional workshop and exhibition spaces provides capacity for diverse artistic disciplines. From traditional arts like painting and sculpture to cutting-edge areas such as digital arts and sound production, this project provides opportunity for showcasing different and shared perspectives, stories, and insights with the broader community. Stakeholder and co-designers identified the location as a safe and collaborative environment where people can engage in a range of artistic pursuits. With access to professional-grade facilities and guidance from experienced mentors, participants are empowered to confidently express themselves and contribute meaningfully to the cultural fabric of the community.



Project activities under 1.3 will take place during the programme period on completion of build. These include recording podcasts, rehearsals, costume production, etc.

Rationale

This project develops a secure community arts hub in Sligo Town where people, especially the young and/or marginalised, can collaborate on projects. The co-design process identified the need for creative spaces driven by the community. Stakeholders and co-designers identified local challenges - anti-social behaviour, lack of youth engagement, and facilities – that could be addressed by having this community arts space available and open. Additionally, they were keen to see projects that would enhance city amenities and promote community cohesion. Successful development of such a space was viewed as contributing to personal growth and wellbeing of participants, and a sense of personal and community pride.

On completion, the Nest will provide at cost facilities for rehearsal and production and offer a variety of programmes and activities that support cultural diversity and expression. This project seeks to promote peace, tolerance, and social cohesion within the Sligo community. It supports good mental health and well-being of individuals within the community and combating antisocial behaviour.

Smart Objectives

- Development of a dynamic creative space in Sligo, providing a transformative experience for marginalised and young people, adults, families, and community groups.
- The new space will be used for programmes in the other two strands of this PEACEPLUS Action Plan.
- Collaborate with local architects and artists to design an aesthetically pleasing and multi-purpose community arts space that reflects the cultural diversity and creativity of the community.



- Develop a detailed project timeline with specific milestones, aiming to complete the construction of the creative space within 18 months from the project start date.
- The development includes flexible areas that can be adapted for workshops, exhibitions, rehearsals, and performances to accommodate the diverse needs of the programmes.
- Implement a tracking system to monitor the number of workshops, exhibitions, rehearsals, and performances conducted in the shared space.
- Establish partnerships with local community groups - youth, elderly, new communities, disabled people, LGBTQIA+ - to facilitate and promote collaboration and diversity.
- Collaborate with local media to promote the project and its events, aiming to increase community awareness and engagement.

Outputs

- A space to deliver a diverse array of workshops for community arts collaboration resulting in interactions, sharing and sustained new relationships across communities.
- Events that bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds, encouraging positive interactions and building relationships as a foundation for lasting peace.
- Storytelling initiatives that share personal narratives related to conflict, healing, and reconciliation, fostering empathy and understanding.
- An exhibition space showcasing vibrant creations, providing a platform for artists to share perspectives, stories, and insights with the broader community.
- Opportunities to engage in interdisciplinary activities, encouraging exploration and the broadening of creative horizons.
- implement skills-sharing programmes, fostering collaboration between people of different ages and backgrounds within the community.
- Enhanced community awareness through local partnerships - community organisations, schools, media, etc. - promoting inclusivity and encouraging diverse participation.



- Tracking mechanism for participant satisfaction, usage patterns, and ideas for future improvements, contributing to the success of similar projects in the future.
- Hosting of regular community events, fostering social interaction, community bonding, and a sense of pride in the shared creative space.
- Adoption of eco-friendly practices in construction, including the use of sustainable materials and energy-efficient systems.

Title	Duration and Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
PAZMÁS – The Armada Across Seas and Borders.	30 months € 267,929	Spanish Armada Ireland Local Authorities: Causeway Coast and Glens, Derry City and Strabane District, Donegal, Leitrim Portballintrae Heritage Society	500 95/5 split Minimum of 20 hours contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities of Grange, Cliffoney, Mullaghmore. Tourism sector across Northwest ROI and NI. Children and Young People- History and Heritage groups. 	<p>Gathering people from different communities through learning about the past. Opportunities for future collaboration.</p> <p>Exploration of the impact of conflict then and now.</p> <p>Increased understanding of the Spanish Armada's impact in Ireland and on the local population in Sligo.</p> <p>Opportunities for cross community and cross border initiatives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Sligo Tourism Strategy 2018-2023 Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023

Programme Overview

Over 400 years ago, a tragic event struck the coast of Sligo, as three Spanish galleons (La Lavia, Santa María de Visón and La Juliana) were wrecked off County Sligo at Streedagh beach. The wreckages lost over a thousand men and make up three of the 26 wrecks that happened all along the Wild Atlantic Way. The PAZMÁS initiative explores and commemorates the historical significance of the Spanish Armada in Ireland. This project promotes cross-community understanding, historical awareness, and socio-economic development by uncovering the rich history of the Spanish Armada in Ireland and its lasting impact on local communities.

The Spanish Armada Visitor Centre is located in the Old Courthouse building in Grange. It is popular with visitors investigating the region's Armada heritage and is located on the central spine of the Wild Atlantic Way. However, the building is small, and requires renovation, modernisation, and expansion. With investment, this facility will attract visitors from both sides of the border and will help develop future opportunities for continued partnership with Spain and its people, many hundreds of thousands of whom visit Ireland every year.



Comprising of 2 distinct elements, this project aligns seamlessly with the objectives of PEACEPLUS, weaving together innovation, community engagement, and tourism development.

Element 1: Interactive Immersive Experience

The creation of an innovative interactive immersive experience at the visitor centre. This immersive experience, leveraging state-of-the-art Artificial Reality/Virtual Reality (AR/VR) hardware and bespoke content, will provide visitors with a captivating exploration of Sligo's Armada history. In a unique collaboration, Element 1 will also facilitate link with local schools and community organisations, to offer them tailored opportunities to delve into the historical narratives of the Armada.

Key Features:

- Innovative use of technology promoting local and regional economic development.
- Integration of interactive elements within the immersive experience, promoting active participation and learning – students and communities.
- Educational programmes to deepen understanding of the Armada's historical significance for all.
- The immersive experience supplements element 2 of the project.

By connecting with community organisations and education facilities, Element 1 contributes directly to PEACEPLUS objectives by nurturing a sense of shared history, fostering cross-generational understanding, and promoting inclusivity.

Element 2: Visitor/Heritage Trail

The second element focuses on local and regional economic development through the creation of a visitor trail across and in collaboration with local authorities on both sides of the border having shared Armada Heritage. This trail serves as a cultural and historical journey, will attract visitors and build and enhance links with neighbouring counties.

Key Features:

- Development of a uniform visitor trail showcasing cultural and historical landmarks, attracting visitors and promoting regional tourism.
- Installation of informative signage along the trail, fostering a deeper connection with local history and heritage.
- Collaboration with neighbouring counties to establish cross-regional links and encourage a broader exchange of cultural experiences.

Element 2 aligns with PEACEPLUS objectives by promoting cross-community connections, encouraging economic growth through tourism, and fostering mental health and wellbeing. The visitor trail becomes a shared space for individuals from different backgrounds, fostering a sense of shared history and space, unity and understanding.

This project is a multifaceted initiative that combines education, community engagement, and tourism development. By bridging historical narratives with modern technologies, the project aims to leave a lasting legacy of peace, unity, and holistic well-being in the region.

Rationale

Co-design revealed a shared vision to address pivotal issues: boosting tourism, developing existing historical and heritage sites, and fostering opportunities for diverse communities to come together. This resulting project strategically aligns with the requirements of Co-design, with PEACEPLUS, and Sligo County Council objectives of community enrichment, cultural preservation, and economic growth.

71% of survey respondents felt that it was extremely or very important that the Action Plan included transformation of areas of Sligo. Furthermore, 80% felt that it was extremely or very important to include history and heritage related projects in the Plan. Responding to this need, the project introduces an immersive experience and a curated visitor trail, designed for locals and visitors alike. The focus on tourism aims to stimulate the local and regional economy and establish Armada heritage as a cultural and historic attraction that brings visitors back and forth across the border.

Also highlighted through co-design was the untapped potential of existing historical and heritage sites in Sligo, prompting a call for initiatives to breathe new life into these cultural assets. In response, the immersive experience focussed on the Armada's history actively contributes to the development of Sligo's historical narrative. Additionally, the enhanced trail spotlights landmarks, inviting visitors to explore and appreciate the cultural heritage ingrained in the region.

Furthermore, the community expressed a desire for initiatives that facilitate connections among diverse community members, fostering unity and understanding. The co-designed project, featuring educational outreach programmes and collaboration with local schools and community organisations, serves as a conduit for building bridges among different backgrounds. The visitor trail, which links with 4 local authorities on both sides of the border, creates shared spaces, encourages interaction and enhances community cohesion.

The project strategically aligns with Sligo County Council policies including heritage preservation, tourism promotion, and community engagement. Collaborative actions with Spanish Armada Ireland strengthen ties between local initiatives and broader national frameworks. In conclusion, the

project is proactive and collaborative: it will leave a legacy of unity, enriched heritage, and economic vitality within the PEACEPLUS region and in line with the aspirations of the community and the strategic vision of Sligo County Council.

Smart Objectives

- Enhance the existing Spanish Armada Visitor Centre for locals and visitors.
- Develop an Interactive Immersive Experience at the Visitor Centre
- Develop a curated visitor trail showcasing cultural and historical landmarks.
- Install informative and uniform signage along the trail to deepen visitors' connection with local history and heritage.
- Collaborate with Spanish Armada Ireland in the co-design and implementation of the project.
- Attract tourists from both sides of the border through an expanded and upgraded Spanish Armada Centre.
- Engage schools and community organisations in educational programs, fostering a deeper understanding of the Armada's historical significance.
- Collaborate with the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to establish cross-regional links.
- Foster opportunities for growth and partnership with Spain, leveraging the project's appeal to Spanish visitors.

Outputs

- An expanded and upgraded Spanish Armada Centre.
- New activities at the Centre, increasing its popularity and attracting visitors from both sides of the border.
- A new visitor trail that provides opportunities for residents and tourists.
- A new and innovative interactive immersive experience at the Spanish Armada Visitor Centre.
- Partnerships with local schools and community organisations for tailored educational programmes.
- AR/VR technology being utilised to expand the reach of educational initiatives and enhance engagement.
- Development of partnerships with neighbouring councils.



This project links to Shore to Shore history and heritage project proposed under Theme 1.1.3. Cross-border exchange with Glens Coast and Causeway and Derry City and Strabane District Councils already discussed.

Title	Duration and Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Celtic Connections	33 months €366,826	Ballymote Community Council Ballymote Heritage Ballymote Soccer FC	300 annually 95/5 split Minimum of 20 hours contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community Children and young people Older adults Tourists- Scotland and Northern Ireland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Awareness Cross-Border and Cross-community Interaction Economic Development. Learning & Development Community Cohesion Heritage Preservation Peace and Reconciliation Social Cohesion Shared space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision County Sligo Tourism Strategy 2018-2023 Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023

Project Overview

The vision of this project is to set up a museum at a conservation building in Ballymote. The Brother Walfrid Museum would be named after the founder of Celtic Football Club, Brother Walfrid, who was born and raised in Ballymote. Using this connection, the museum provides opportunities to explore cross-community interaction and a catalyst for economic development.

Background: Andrew Kerins was born in Ballymote, County Sligo, in May 1840. At the age of 15, he went to Scotland looking for a job in the railway industry. Later, he joined the Marist Brothers, a Catholic religious order dedicated to educating young people, especially those from impoverished backgrounds. Now known as Brother Walfrid, he set up soccer teams and charity football matches to raise funds for the poor. Most famously he founded Celtic Football Club in Glasgow, Scotland in 1887, choosing "Celtic" to symbolise the deep connections between Ireland and Scotland.



Celtic Football Club played their inaugural match at the newly constructed Celtic Park in May 1888. This friendly match against Rangers culminated in a 5-2 victory for Celtic, witnessed by 2,000 spectators. The team sported white shirts adorned with a green collar and a Celtic cross in green and red on the right breast. In 2004, a monument of Brother Walfrid was unveiled in Ballymote by the chairman of Celtic Football Club and the former Sligo Rovers, Sligo Senior Gaelic footballer, Irish international and Glasgow Celtic player, Assistant Manager and Manager of Celtic, the legendary Sean Fa in 2004.

Brother Walfrid's work extended beyond football as he became a lifeline for impoverished communities. This project will provide a poignant reminder of the profound impact one person can have when driven by empathy and a real desire to uplift those less fortunate.

The creation of the Brother Walfrid Museum will have a significant positive impact on the community. It will be a centre for inspiration and education, providing a concrete link to Glasgow's long tradition of compassion and philanthropy. The establishment of this museum will make a substantial contribution to the local community's cultural and educational landscape. It provides opportunities for cross-border and cross-community interaction and understanding.

It affords locals a chance to learn more about their own community's history. Visitors would learn about the difficulties experienced by Irish immigrants in Glasgow in the late 19th century and the revolutionary nature of Brother Walfrid's projects. The museum would inform visitors about the lasting importance of charity and social responsibility through exhibits and displays, motivating them to take an active role in their society.



- The museum would attract visitors and history enthusiasts, bolstering the local economy. The museum will serve as a focal point for community events, workshops, and educational programmes, fostering a sense of unity and pride among residents.
- The Dispensary Building in Ballymote will be developed to host the museum. This building is historically significant and is centrally located. , experts in different departments of the Council recommended it and it was the most feasible. Development here contributes to the sustainability of Ballymote's status as a Heritage Town and prevents this building from falling into dereliction.

Through the co-design process conversations have happened with Rangers Academy based in Northern Ireland who expressed their interest in participating in these events.



Link to Cross-Border Friendship tournament under Theme 1.1.2. with opportunities for participating teams from across Sligo and Northern Ireland to visit and learn about the story of Brother Walfrid. Rangers F.C. Academy in Northern Ireland has expressed interest in participating in these events.



Linked to Supporting Local Project under Theme 1.1.2: capacity building to develop local members from the community to become ambassadors and tour guides for the museum so that it will be sustainable and community driven.



Linked to Shore to Shore history project under Theme 1.1.3

Rationale

Through co-design, it became clear that the people of Sligo were eager to honour Brother Walfrid and his unwavering support for the less fortunate. Furthermore, they envisioned this project as an opportunity for exploring and debunking sectarianism, as well as bolstering economic development and local and regional pride. Born in Ballymote, Brother Walfrid dedicated his life to uplifting the disadvantaged, ultimately establishing the iconic Celtic FC when he was in Scotland. This historical connection provides a unique opportunity.

Intriguingly, this project aligns seamlessly with the broader objectives of the PEACEPLUS programme, which actively seeks to develop positive cross border relationships. Its geographical location, and unique focus make it an easy and attractive destination for Northern Ireland residents. Moreover, its connection with Celtic Football Club, offers potential to foster strong connections with Scotland, further expanding its reach and impact.

Smart Objectives

- Establish a Brother Walfrid Museum plan by engaging a team of local historians, experts, and members of the local community.
- Renovate the Dispensary building as a suitable museum/ visitor experience.
- Collaborate with architects and construction firms to ensure that the museum's physical structure aligns with historical accuracy and accessibility standards.
- Host a public unveiling event with key stakeholders, ensuring media coverage and community awareness of the museum's development.
- Collaborate with local schools to create curriculum-aligned educational materials, organising workshops for students and others.
- Establish partnerships with local historical societies and cultural organisations to enhance the accuracy and relevance of educational content.
- Organise community events at the museum annually, covering local heritage, history, and the significance of Brother Walfrid's charitable work.
- Develop relationships with community organisations in Northern Ireland and Scotland, such as the Celtic Foundation and Rangers Academy in Northern Ireland.

- Incorporate PEACEPLUS messaging and branding into museum materials, events, and collaborations, reinforcing the project's alignment with broader peace-building goals.

Outputs:

- Comprehensive Brother Walfrid Museum Plan developed by a team of local historians, experts, and community members.
- Documented historical timeline, thematic exhibits, and educational programmes.
- Architectural plans ensuring historical accuracy and accessibility standards reviewed and approved.
- Public unveiling event organised with key stakeholders, local dignitaries, and media representatives.
- Media coverage of museum in local newspapers, TV, and online platforms, generating community awareness.
- Curriculum-aligned educational materials developed in collaboration with local schools.
- Workshops organised and delivered for students and community groups, showcasing the relevance of Brother Walfrid's legacy.
- Partnerships established with local historical societies and cultural organisations.
- Collaborative efforts result in enhanced exhibits and educational content.
- Annual schedule of community events organised, covering local heritage, history, and Brother Walfrid's charitable work.
- High community participation rates in events, fostering a sense of unity and pride.
- Partnerships established with community organisations in Northern Ireland and Scotland.
- Integration of PEACEPLUS messaging and branding into museum materials, signage, and promotional materials.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Dromore West Digiversal.	18 – 24 months €221,613	Dromore West Community Council West Sligo Young at Heart Club	250 per annum 95/5 split Minimum of 20 hours contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with sensory disabilities. • Their families. • Young people. • Community groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced accessibility: facilities will have improved physical and digital accessibility features. • Skills development: participants will acquire employable skills through training programmes. • Social inclusion: reduces social isolation and improves mental wellbeing. • Employment opportunities: increase in skills and confidence, leading to increased employment rates within this demographic. • Community awareness: promoting a more inclusive and empathetic community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023

Programme Overview

Dromore West Community Centre was built in 1983 and although considerable work has been undertaken in the area surrounding the building - Astro Turf pitch, Children's playground, and a sensory garden - internal developments have not progressed at the same rate. The Centre is home to many groups such as:

- Windmill Players Drama Group (the annual plays receive a full house every year over 4 nights and have been so successful that the windmill players have taken such plays on tour around the country.)
- West Sligo Young at Heart Club (caters for all abilities and genders and currently has over 50 members aged 31 to 91, undertaking a variety of activities over 3 days.)
- Dromore West Men's Shed
- The One Voice Music and Vocal Academy
- Tireragh CCE
- The One Voice Choir

The Community Centre currently hosts events such as:

- An annual drama production by Windmill Players
- St. Patrick's Celebration after the St. Patrick's Day Parade
- A Christmas Concert by Tireragh CCE
- West Sligo Young at Heart Club Christmas Dinner
- Pieta's Darkness into Light Event
- Summer musical by The One Voice Music and Vocal Academy
- Annual Family Fun Day Family

This project supports and expand the way the groups that currently use the facilities, and its use by the wider community supporting social and economic generation in the area. It consists of two parts: 1) sensory area 2) upgrading technology.

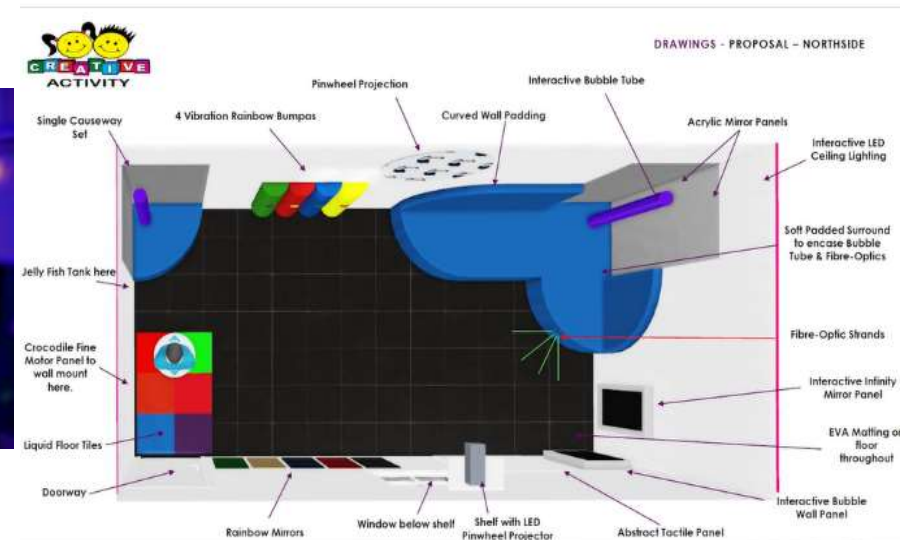
Project Delivery:

- **Phase 1 - Establishing a dedicated sensory room within Dromore West Community Centre.**

The Centre has a Sensory Garden since 2021. While this has been of great benefit, it is weather dependant: some people with sensory disabilities can find even a gentle breeze disturbing. A need for a dedicated sensory room has been established. This innovative space will provide a tranquil and therapeutic environment to improve the physical and emotional well-being of individuals, particularly those facing sensory difficulties, while fostering community inclusivity and support. This project addresses the limitations of the existing sensory garden by creating an indoor space that caters to a wider range of needs and preferences.

Agreement has been secured to place a structure on the Centre's grounds. For safety and accessibility, access will be provided during usual times of Centre activity. For out-of-hours access, a keypad code will be provided to registered users, enhancing security, convenience and flexibility.

Images below showcase potential designs.



Phase 1 SMART Objectives:

- *Establish a Sensory Room:* structure placed on the Centre grounds.
- *Enable enhanced Sensory Processing:* Space designed to help individuals improve their sensory processing abilities, including visual, auditory, and tactile processing, along with enhancing fine and gross motor skills.
- *Create a calm and relaxing environment:* Sensory room will de-escalate stress and prevent physical and emotional outbursts among users.
- *Integration of Sensory Room with Centre's existing video and sound system:* Controlled access to events and establish a strong connection between the sensory room and the community centre, encouraging users to gradually participate in other community activities.
- *Ensure a diverse User Base:* Sensory room catered to a wide range of individuals, including those with Autism, Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, and other sensory-related issues, irrespective of age, ensuring inclusivity for the entire community.


By addressing the limitations of weather-dependent outdoor spaces, this project promotes well-being, community integration, and improved quality of life for all community members. Additionally, it aligns with the Health Service Executive's remote patient care initiative, making healthcare services more accessible to the community.

- **Phase 2 - Upgrading technology.**

The Dromore West Digiversal project aims to revolutionise use of the Centre by upgrading its technology infrastructure, providing high-speed internet connectivity, audio-visual broadcasting equipment, and comprehensive training. This programme is driven by the success of online concerts held during the COVID-19 lockdowns, which reached a diverse audience including members of the diaspora. Building on this success, the programme seeks to address several pressing issues while fostering a sense of community, inclusion, and empowerment.

This will involve, converting the WC at the wings of the stage into a secure storage space for IT equipment. Additionally, transition year students have been identified as users of the tech equipment and agreement has been secured ensuring that the intended beneficiaries are actively engaged and committed to responsible usage.

Phase 2 SMART Objectives:

- *Revamp Stage and Backstage Areas:* Improve safety and accessibility in the stage and backstage areas to enable participation by all.
- *Upgrade Technology Infrastructure:* Implement state-of-the-art audio-visual and broadcasting equipment to facilitate live streaming of community productions, concerts, plays, and events.
- *Facilitate High-Speed Internet:* ensuring reliable high-speed internet connectivity, eliminates digital divides and enables online activities, remote learning, and access to essential services.
- *Training and Skills Development:* Offer comprehensive training to community members in the use of technology, including seniors and people with disabilities, fostering digital literacy and skill development.
- *Extend technology training to local schools:* providing student learning on technology use, content creation, and event transmission. 
- *Potential for translation software:* This will break down language barriers, making community events and information accessible to non-English-speaking residents.



Link to Digital Youth Project under Theme 1.1.2.

The Dromore West Digiversal Project represents a transformative approach to community development, bridging gaps in access, skills, and inclusivity. By upgrading technology infrastructure and fostering inter-generational collaboration, this project empowers people, enriches the community's cultural tapestry, and ensures that no one is left behind in the digital age. Through technology, the community becomes more united, inclusive, and better equipped for the future.



Project Sustainability:

To address maintenance and replacement costs due to depreciation over time, as well as future additions to tech equipment, a small percentage of ticket fees from broadcasted events will be allocated towards the ringfencing funds as part of a strategy of sustainability for PEACEPLUS.

Rationale

The development of facilities at Dromore West Community Centre supports users with sensory disabilities. It will provide for enhanced social inclusion and universal access to facilities. The wider project improves employability, creates social cohesion and promotes disability awareness. It supports and expands the use of shared space at Dromore West and social and economic development of the area.

Project Benefits of a dedicated sensory room within Dromore West Community Centre are:

- **Community Inclusion:** fostered by ensuring that people with sensory difficulties have access to a supportive environment locally.
- **Improved Well-being:** The sensory room provides users with a safe and calming space for sensory processing and emotional regulation.
- **Enhanced Quality of Life:** The integration of the sensory room with the centre's activities enhances quality of life for all community members, making events accessible and enjoyable.
- **Reduced Travel and Expense:** eliminates long journeys to distant sensory facilities, reducing travel-related stress and expenses.
- **Support for Healthcare Services:** The sensory room can facilitate remote healthcare consultations, making healthcare services more accessible.

Project Benefits of technology upgrades within Dromore West Community Centre are:

- *Community Unity:* by providing a space for people to gather and connect both in-person and virtually.
- *Digital Inclusion:* Eliminating barriers to technology access ensures that all community members benefit from online services and activities, reducing isolation among the aging population.



- *Empowerment:* Training opportunities provide CE workers, community, and students with new employment prospects and personal growth.
- *Cultural and Diversity Celebration and Preservation:* through live-streaming of cultural celebrations, Irish stories, and projects capturing the community's history and blending of cultures, creating a richer and more inclusive community.
- *Inter-Generational Collaboration:* fostering mutual learning and skills development between young and old. Collaboration between local technical schools and older generations to enhance digital skills, empowers students through supporting those less familiar with technology.
- *Diaspora Engagement:* The diaspora remains connected to their roots, participating in community events, cultural celebrations, family events, and important milestones regardless of their location through live streaming and recording capabilities.

Project Outputs:

- *Placement of dedicated sensory room in Dromore West, equipped with sensory tools and technologies e.g., sound systems & tactile surfaces.*
- *Universal Access enhancements (revamped stage and backstage area)*
- *Technology infrastructure upgrade and high-speed internet connectivity – inc. integration of sensory room into centre's video and sound systems, enabling controlled screening of events for more inclusive and enjoyable experience.*
- *Broadcasting infrastructure set up for virtual participation, e.g., to broadcast productions from drama society to members unable to attend.*
- *Training and skills development for community members, including seniors and disabled people. This will involve digital literacy workshops and skill development workshops to enhance technology proficiency.*
- *Educational opportunities via technology training programmes extended to local schools.*

1.1.2: Thriving and Peaceful Communities Projects

<p>*Theme Objective: To build the capacity of local organisations through cross-community collaboration; develop new community leaders and enhance the capacity of existing leaders and volunteers to promote and facilitate peace and reconciliation; and to enable cross community interaction and collaboration across a broad range of areas of mutual interest.</p> <p>*Total Theme Budget: €1,081,200 - €1,441,600 (30-40% max)</p>						
Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
<p>GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse.</p> <p>Exploring what the Good Friday Agreement means to people under 25 through arts and media on cross-border basis.</p>	<p>18 months</p> <p>€ 202,331</p>	<p>Hawk's Well Theatre</p> <p>John & Pat Hume Foundation</p> <p>Millenium Forum Theatre in Derry/ Londonderry</p>	<p>1030</p> <p>30 Cultural Champions</p> <p>1000 participating through interactive 3-hour performances and workshops</p> <p>80/20 split</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and young people aged 18-25 years old from Sligo and Derry/ Londonderry Members of the creative industry- local artists, musicians, filmmakers, and writers. Young people from newcomer communities. LGBTQIA+ community. Disabled people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater understanding of impact of Peace and Reconciliation. Shared perspectives of the journey from conflict to PEACE and history of the Good Friday Agreement. Strengthened Cross-Border and Cross-Community connections. Long-term cultural and artistic legacy promoting peace and understanding among younger people. Resources and materials- available for years to come. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025 Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2023 – 2028

Project Overview

“What is the process of peace for the generation born after the Good Friday Agreement?”

This dynamic and transformative project brings young people aged 18-25 together across borders and communities to explore this question. The participants will have minimal or no prior experience in cross-community work. The project's goal is to foster understanding, dialogue, and peacebuilding through creative engagement. By using a two-phase approach, the project provides a platform for participants to explore their identities, understand each other's perspectives, and contribute to a more unified and peaceful society.

The project will provide a legacy of understanding of the Good Friday Agreement, educational content, formation of new meaningful relationships, and skills acquisition.

Phase 1 - THIS IS ME - Walk a Month in My Shoes: Participants (Cultural Champions) will engage in a cross-border exchange project, residing in each other's communities for two weeks each. Guided by renowned peacebuilding artists, participants will delve into the principles, biases, fears, and superstitions that shape their lives, resulting in a deep understanding of identity and perspective, aptly named "This is Me."

The group will connect with local peacemakers, educators, community workers, climate activists, and politicians to gain insights into identity, conflict, and contemporary societal issues. They will also develop a scripted, devised, and rehearsed public presentation performance, addressing conflict in their generation, and offering a roadmap for peace in a post-Good Friday Agreement era.



Phase 2 - THIS IS US: Between the two phases, appointed artists will create a piece of writing influenced by the Cultural Champion Circle's experiences. This writing will lead to a public presentation performed in each county and broadcast globally, with an expected audience of 100k plus

viewers. Due to existing networks, it is anticipated this will be viewed internationally. Creative Production Teams will guide Cultural Champions through professional practice rehearsals. The final public performance will celebrate culture, promote understanding of differences, and examine collective principles of living.

Measurement of Engagement and Impact: The project will measure engagement and impact through various means:

- Attitudinal change assessments through baseline questionnaires.
- Audience discussions following public performances.
- Monitoring interactions and engagement through the digital educational pack.
- Tracking the evolution of participants' perspectives and relationships through the documentary film.
- The project will encourage positive community relations change and promote acceptance, empathy, tolerance, and understanding among participants and broader audiences.

Rationale

We recently passed the 25th anniversary of The Good Friday Agreement (GFA), signed in 1998. The GFA marked an historic turning point in the Northern Ireland conflict, bringing an end to decades of violence and division. It is vital to engage the next generation in understanding its significance and ensuring its endurance. The co-design process highlighted that children and young people are not aware of the history of Ireland and Northern Ireland. This project uses the power of arts and media in conveying complex ideas and emotions, making them ideal tools for conveying the GFA's importance to young people.

The project is a collaborative effort led by the Hawks Well Theatre in Sligo, the Millenium Forum Theatre in Derry/ Londonderry, and the John and Pat Hume Foundation. These organisations have a strong track record of peacebuilding and cultural initiatives. The project management team, consisting of experts in art and peacebuilding, will work closely with two core artists from the North and South, as well as a Cognitive Behavioural

Therapist/Wellbeing specialist, to facilitate the creation of art through peacebuilding. This collaborative effort will result in the development of a practical manual, a public showcase presentation, an educational pack, and a documentary film.

Smart Objectives

- Establish Comprehensive Project Management team including documentary filmmakers, artists, and peacebuilding experts.
- Implement recruitment drives for participants from Sligo and Derry/Londonderry.
- Announce Cultural Champion Circle profiles and commence audience engagement within the first five months, ensuring representation from each targeted region.
- Develop a digital educational pack during, using the documentary film for bite-sized assets for schools throughout the island.
- Conduct Peace Camps, providing participants with cross-community experiences and skills development.
- Showcase public presentation performances in each participating county. These serve as a platform for sharing participants' experiences and perspectives, fostering positive community relations.
- Conduct a thorough post-project evaluation, measuring attitudinal changes, audience discussions, and tracking participant perspectives and relationships.
- Share the educational packs, including the documentary film and digital assets, for ongoing use in schools, promoting acceptance, empathy, tolerance, and understanding.
- Conclude project on International Day of Peace in September 2025, leaving a lasting impact on participating young individuals and the communities they represent.

Outputs:

- Cross-Border Cultural Exchange- The project will facilitate two exchanges, each lasting two weeks, involving participants from Sligo and Derry City and Strabane District. These exchanges will provide opportunities for young people to explore each other's communities, learn about their lives, and foster mutual understanding.
- Educational Workshops- Throughout the project, educational workshops will be conducted to equip participants with the skills and knowledge necessary for cross-community work, peacebuilding, and artistic expression.
- Skills Development- Participants will receive expert training in various artistic disciplines, including public speaking, writing, acting, voice production, movement, and visual art. These skills will empower them to effectively express themselves and contribute to the project's artistic components.
- Documentary Film- A documentary film will be created to capture the entire process of the project, from the initial stages to the final public presentations. This film will provide a visual record of the project's evolution and its impact on participants. The documentary will be premiered in the local cinema in each area and also shared through social networks.
- Digital Educational Pack- The documentary film will be used to create bite-sized digital assets that will form part of a digital educational pack. This pack will be made available for use in schools throughout the island, promoting discussions on acceptance, empathy, tolerance, and understanding among young people.
- Public Showcases- The public presentation performances will be showcased in each participating county, reaching an estimated 100,000 individuals through a live and online broadcast, including both public and school audiences. These showcases will serve as a platform for sharing the participants' experiences and perspectives.



Link to Sligo World Festival of Everything under Theme 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Cross-Border Friendship Tournament	24 months € 109,600	Sligo Leitrim Youth and Schoolboys/girls League Football Association of Ireland Irish Football Association Rangers Soccer Academy NI.	800 participants 30 hours per participant 80/20 cross community split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young People- Boys and girls under the age of 18 years old on both sides of the border and from different backgrounds. Local Communities- promoting dialogue and understanding. Strengthen community bonds and contribute to a culture of peace and cooperation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-Border and cross-community friendships. Breaking down stereotypes and prejudices Contributing to social cohesion. Conflict Resolution Skills. Community and local economic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision NI Executive Draft Programme for Government 2021 County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022

Project Overview

The Sligo Cross-Border Friendship Tournament is an ambitious project designed to cultivate peace, unity, and friendship among young boys and girls in Sligo and neighbouring Northern Ireland. Centred around soccer/football, with prospects for expanding into additional sports, this tournament serves as a medium for creating a secure and inclusive space. Here, participants can forge relationships, break down barriers, and develop a sense

of shared identity through the transformative power of sports. The impact spreads beyond players to their parents and families as they watch games and have informal opportunities to develop long lasting relationships.

This concept, designed to foster peace and reconciliation, aligns seamlessly with the EURO 2028 football tournament which will be hosted in the Republic of Ireland and UK. With its emphasis on inclusivity and collaboration, the project serves as a prelude to EURO 2028. By bringing together diverse communities and providing a shared space for cultural exchange, the cross-border initiative lays the groundwork for the spirit of camaraderie that is essential to major international football events.

Participants and Teams

- Four teams from both Sligo and Northern Ireland at each age group, amounting to 24 teams annually.
- The tournament will engage 384 participants per year.
- Each team will be accompanied by two adults or coaches, resulting in 16 adults per year.

Pre-tournament

An events manager will be appointed to recruit participating teams in Sligo and Northern Ireland by linking in with the relevant soccer organisations - FAI, Sligo and Leitrim League, etc. Participating teams will take part in sport and good relations training workshops prior to the tournament starting. The good relations workshops will be delivered by external facilitators and will explore racism, sectarianism and hate crime in sport. The participants will also be provided with workshops on leadership, communication, mental health, and teamwork. These workshops will be hosted digitally prior to the teams travelling to Sligo for the week of the tournament and then on the weekend of the tournament they will host face to face workshops. Capacity building training will be provided for local volunteers from teams/ clubs in Sligo to ensure that there is a legacy and project will be sustainable after this PEACEPLUS funding finishes.

Tournament

Teams will take part in a round robin style tournament, hosted in Sligo and overseen by local referees. The tournament provides opportunity to include cultural celebrations (music and food) as part of the week. Local people can get involved in volunteering during the week and potentially with local football teams after the tournament.

Rationale

Sports have a unique ability to bring people together, transcending cultural, political, and social divides. Given the history of conflict in the region, it is crucial to create opportunities for young people to interact, understand each other's perspectives, and form lasting friendships. The Cross-Border Friendship Tournament leverages the power of sports to promote reconciliation and unity among the youth, ultimately contributing to a more peaceful future. Throughout co-design, sport and leisure was highlighted regularly as great tool to untie people. The Friendship Tournament idea originated from a targeted engagement session.

Through the consultations and survey there was an appetite for activities for young people that bring them together and provide them with opportunities to learn about others. 74% of survey respondents felt that it was extremely or very important. During the co-design phase there were conversations with the FAI who noted this appetite. The events manager will be in post for the delivery of this project, but the aim is that volunteers from local clubs will develop a capacity to continue running the tournament after the PEACEPLUS funding finishes.



Link to Brother Walfrid Museum under Celtic Connections, Theme 1.1.1. Participants can visit the museum meaning that there are further opportunities to learn about the history and heritage of the area.

Smart Objectives

- Facilitate Cross-Border Integration by bringing together young boys and girls from Sligo and Northern Ireland through an annual tournament, fostering cross-border friendships and unity.

- Deliver good relations workshops prior to the tournament each year.
- Recruit 12 teams from Sligo each year and 12 teams from Northern Ireland to participate (a mix of male and female teams).
- Create an Inclusive Sporting Environment centred around soccer/football, promoting inclusivity and providing opportunities for participants to develop a sense of shared identity.
- Extend the positive impact beyond players to parents and families attending the games, offering informal opportunities for relationship-building during the tournament.
- Promote understanding and break down barriers by conducting pre-tournament workshops addressing issues such as racism, sectarianism, and hate crime in sports, emphasising leadership, communication, mental health, and teamwork.
- Provide capacity-building training for local volunteers, ensuring a sustainable legacy beyond the PEACEPLUS funding period. Equip local volunteers with the skills to continue the project's impact.
- Boost volunteering - Actively involve local communities in the tournament, encouraging their participation during the week. Strengthen community bonds and create a sense of ownership. Local referees to officiate the tournament matches, enhancing community participation.
- Incorporate cultural celebrations, including music and food, into the tournament week to enhance the overall experience and promote cross-cultural understanding among participants.

Outputs:

- An annual soccer/football tournament taking place over two consecutive years with 24 teams, featuring four teams from both Sligo and Northern Ireland at each age group, fostering cross-border friendships and unity.
- Creation of a safe venue which, provides opportunities for participants to develop a shared identity and promoting inclusivity within the sporting community.
- A project that impacts the players and parents and families attending the games, creating informal opportunities for relationship-building during the tournament week.

- Workshops addressing racism, sectarianism, and hate crime in sports. Emphasising leadership, communication, mental health, and teamwork to promote understanding and break down social barriers among participants.
- Capacity-building training for local volunteers, ensuring the project's sustainability beyond the PEACEPLUS funding period. Equipping volunteers with skills to continue the impact of the Friendship Tournament.
- Community engagement that involves local communities in the tournament, encouraging participation in volunteering opportunities during the week. Strengthen community bonds and foster a sense of ownership among residents.
- A tournament that incorporates cultural celebrations, including music and food, into the tournament week to enhance the overall experience and promote cross-cultural understanding among participants.
- Opportunities for local people to volunteer during the tournament, fostering community engagement. Additionally, involving local referees to officiate matches, enhancing community participation in the sporting event.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Men's Sheds Cross-Border Exchange:	24 months €61,428	Cliffoney Men's Shed Groundwork Northern Ireland Irish Men's Shed Association (all island)	150 25 participants per trip (2 trips per year) 2 pre-trip workshops 48 hours minimum 80/20 split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of Men's Sheds in Sligo Members of Men's Sheds in Northern Ireland Older adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The forming of cross-border and cross-community relationships, fostering unity and trust. Social support and improved mental health outcomes. New knowledge and skills increasing self-esteem and employability. Conflict resolution principles. Reduced social isolation Promoting inclusivity. Promote positive mental health and wellbeing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision NI Executive Draft Programme for Government 2021 County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals February 2022 Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

Project Overview

Originating in Australia during the 1990s, Men's Sheds made their way to Ireland in 2009, and today, there are over 200 of these invaluable community spaces across the island. These sheds play a pivotal role in combating loneliness and isolation, providing a safe place where men can come together, engage in meaningful conversations, connect and be creative.

This project develops cross-border and cross-community interactions among Men's Sheds members. It facilitates new connections, sharing of best practices, and encourages future collaborations on a cross border basis. The project links Men's Shed's in Sligo and Northern Ireland to set up a regular calendar of exchange visits, occurring twice a year, bringing different Men's Sheds communities together.

It highlights the positive influence of Men's Sheds in promoting mental health resilience and their pivotal role in community cohesion. These interactions offer a unique opportunity to create relationships among people from diverse backgrounds, fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie that transcends traditional divisions.



Project Structure:

Pre-Trips/ Visits: Participants engage in preparatory sessions, specifically designed as good relations workshops, leading up to the scheduled exchange visits or trips. These workshops will explore aspects of culture, facilitate open discussions on peace-building. Through providing an environment conducive to dialogue and cooperation, participants will gain insights into diverse cultural perspectives and develop the skills and mindset necessary for promoting peace and understanding in an intercultural context.

1. Exchange Visits (weekend trips)

- Experienced facilitators coordinate exchange visits, allowing Men's Sheds members in Sligo and Northern Ireland to interact.
- During these visits, participants will work collaboratively on projects, exchange insights into best practices, and share their journeys in community development.
- Cultural and natural landmarks are used to explore diversity in host areas, e.g., Carrowmore Megalithic Cemetery, Sligo, which is older than Stonehenge.

2. Workshops:

- Each exchange visit includes workshops hosted by the Men's Shed group in the host location.
- These workshops focus on practical skills that can be shared among communities, such as gardening, traditional craftsmanship, or woodworking, thus enhancing the participants' skill sets and enriching their shared knowledge base.

3. Men's Sheds and Culture:

- As an integral part of exchange trips, members from the host Shed will showcase aspects of their cultural heritage.
- This may include storytelling, music, or culinary traditions, providing a platform for groups to engage in discussions about community issues, local history, and conflict resolution strategies.

Rationale

This ambitious project brings men from diverse backgrounds together, offering them the opportunity to explore and appreciate different cultures. Through exchange visits and workshops, the project nurtures trust, promotes open dialogue, and facilitates the growth of mutual understanding. Co-design in Sligo highlighted that Men's Sheds are an excellent way of supporting mental health and well-being of their members. Incorporating a cross-border element into this initiative enhances relationships with our counterparts in Northern Ireland.

By providing a platform for men to come together, share experiences, and celebrate diversity, the Men's Sheds Exchange Project aims to create a positive environment where men can flourish both personally and socially. This initiative not only serves as a means of self-improvement and skill acquisition but also as an opportunity to foster unity and stronger connections among men from Sligo and Northern Ireland.


The enduring legacy of the Men's Sheds Exchange Project lies in the lasting partnerships it forges throughout the exchange journey. This project seeks to nurture relationships that extend beyond 2027.

Smart Objectives

- Develop cross-border connections by facilitating and strengthening cross-border interactions among Men's Sheds participants from Sligo and Northern Ireland through a regular calendar of exchange visits, occurring twice a year.
- Coordinate experienced facilitators to lead exchange visits, enabling Men's Sheds in Sligo and Northern Ireland to collaboratively work on projects, share best practices, and exchange valuable insights into community development.
- Delivery of good relations workshops prior to trips/ exchanges.
- Showcase the natural environment and beauty of Sligo during exchange visits, emphasising cultural landmarks to enrich the experience for visitors from Northern Ireland.
- Conduct workshops during each exchange visit (for 150 participants during the project), focusing on practical skills such as gardening, traditional craftsmanship, or woodworking. This enhances participants' skill sets and contribute to an enriched shared knowledge base.
- Integrate aspects of cultural heritage into exchange trips: the host Men's Shed to showcase storytelling, music, or culinary traditions. This provides a platform for engaging discussions on community issues, local history, and conflict resolution strategies.
- Highlight the positive influence of Men's Sheds in promoting mental health resilience. The project contributes to the well-being of participants by fostering open dialogue, trust, and mutual understanding.

- Emphasise the pivotal role of Men's Sheds in enhancing community cohesion, creating a positive environment for men to flourish both personally and socially.
- The project strengthen connections and unity among men from diverse backgrounds. The forging of lasting partnerships that extend beyond 2027 provides a legacy of positive cross-border understanding and cooperation.

Outputs:

- Enhanced cross-border collaboration among Men's Sheds groups.
 - Delivery of good relations workshops prior to, and during the visits/ exchanges.
 - Improved mental health and well-being of project participants.
 - Strengthened community cohesion and inter-group relations.
 - Increased awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures.
 - Established and maintained a regular calendar of exchange visits, with at least two visits occurring annually.
 - Facilitated exchange visits led by experienced coordinators to ensure effective collaboration and sharing of best practices.
 - Conducted workshops during each exchange visit, focusing on practical skills (gardening, traditional craftsmanship, or woodworking) for 150 participants over the project duration.
 - Integrated aspects of cultural heritage into exchange trips, allowing for the showcase of storytelling, music, or culinary traditions.
 - Case studies highlighting the positive influence of Men's Sheds in promoting mental health resilience.
-  Link to We Can Fix It, Theme 1.1.2. Potential link to Shore to Shore and Sligo World Festival of Everything, under 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Tuning into Social Inclusion: Cross-border and cross community music project for young people.	18 months €107,605	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB)	200 30 hours of contact time minimum 80/20 split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children and young people. Newcomer communities Local communities. Musicians and composers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-Border and Cross-Community relationships. Sustainable local and cross-border partnerships that last after PEACEPLUS. Youth development Understanding of cultural diversity Community cohesion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals Feb. 2022 Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2023 – 2028 SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 NI Executive Draft Programme for Government 2021 County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023

Project Overview

Tuning into Social Inclusion is a cross-border project that unites children from diverse backgrounds through music. It leverages existing resources through creating meaningful partnerships between youth music groups on both sides of the border. The project consists of workshops, including music composition, conducted in four groups, of primary and post-primary age groups. These workshops serve as an introduction to music composition for participants. Each group will benefit from a minimum of 30 hours of direct contact time, with a target audience of at least 200 young people. The participants will have high-quality access to expert performers, composers, and local specialists. The workshops culminate in joint performances – Sligo and Northern Ireland – including an original music composition, *The PEACEPLUS Suite*.

By making these resources available to young individuals, the project facilitates the development of strong relationships that will endure into the future, contributing to a peaceful and thriving community. Moreover, it strengthens local and cross-border partnerships in a meaningful manner, supporting the overarching objectives of PEACEPLUS. **Note:** Recruitment of participants may take place through schools, however this is not a schools project.

Rationale

The project presents an innovative opportunity for cross-border interaction of young people through music. It seeks to foster inclusivity, bridge gaps between communities, and lay the foundation for a cohesive society. Meaningful partnerships will be forged between groups on both sides of the border. By using existing resources and sharing best practices, the project empowers children and young adults and creates connections that contribute to the fabric of a peaceful and thriving community.

Smart Objectives

- Establish collaborative partnerships between community organisations and schools on both sides of the border.
- Music composition sessions delivered across 4 groups from Sligo and Northern Ireland.
- Foster relationships to promote mutual understanding and cultural exchange among children and young people.
- Facilitate workshops, providing children and young adults with high-quality access to professional performers, composers, and local specialists.
- Offer educational opportunities that broaden their understanding of music and its role in fostering inclusivity.
- Conduct music composition workshops in four group, involving both primary and post-primary age-groups.
- Provide a minimum of 30 hours of direct contact time for each participating group, engaging a target audience of at least 200 young people.
- Utilise the universal language of music to bring together children and young people from diverse backgrounds.
- Promote inclusivity and bridge understanding between communities through collaborative musical activities.
- Develop a sustainable model that maximises available resources, ensuring long-term impact and value for money.

Outputs:

- A series of composition workshops - introductory composition workshops in all four groups, adapting content as required. Potential performance groups will be identified within these settings.
- Creation of a young composer mentoring scheme - a mentoring project will be delivered in Sligo and Northern Ireland to support composers.
- Cross border composition- the creation of a cross border composition inspired by the lives of the children and young people involved in the project.
- Productions- the successful delivery of productions in Sligo, and Northern Ireland.
- Development of long-term cross border relationships.



Links to Land of Arts Desire, Theme 1.1.1. Potential links to GFA4GenZ, Digital PEACEPLUS, Theme 1.1.2 and Sligo World Festival of Everything, 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Digital PEACEPLUS	18 months €167,678	Youth Groups in Sligo. Communities NW Friends of Autism Active Age Groups	150 Participants 95/5 split 30 minimum contact hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young People • Older adults. • Newcomer communities. • Disabled people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills development- cutting edge skills in digital technology and traditional skills of communication and team working. • Cultural and diversity awareness • Community cohesion through work with other communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sligo Culture & Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 • Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2023 – 2028 • Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025 • Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (2018)

Project Overview

Digital PEACEPLUS harnesses the potential of digital skills - animation, broadcasting, filmmaking, podcasting, games development - to brings people from diverse communities together through digital content creation. This project relies on proactive social inclusion and promoting intergenerational collaboration. It builds capacity in key areas: enhancing cultural awareness, promoting intergenerational activities, developing skill sets, and engaging in cross-community activities. Through structured digital skills development, participants gain new talents and engage with new people. Together, they will create innovative content that reflects their new relationships - videos, animations, podcasts, games, etc. Participants develop a greater voice. Everyone is welcome to take part and contribute to the program's overall journey, regardless of age, background, or prior experience.

Rationale

In today's digital age, leveraging common interests in digital media presents a unique opportunity to bridge divides and promote inclusivity among communities with diverse backgrounds. The Digital PEACEPLUS project recognises that digital skills empower individuals and serve as a conduit for cultural exchange, social understanding, and employment opportunities. The idea of engaging children and young people using digital technology came from the public focus groups and ideas submitted from community groups.

Project Structure - Phase 1

Participant Recruitment and Community Engagement

- Launch a targeted marketing campaign using social media, local newspapers, and community bulletin boards to attract potential participants.
- Host information sessions and open houses to introduce the project to interested individuals and encourage sign-ups.

Needs Analysis

- Conduct individual interviews and surveys with registered participants to assess their specific digital skills needs and interests.
- Analyse the gathered data to tailor the digital skills workshop curriculum to meet the participants' requirements.
- Identify any additional support or resources required by participants, such as access to digital equipment or transportation assistance.

Forming Project Teams

- Based on the needs analysis and participants' interests, create diverse project teams - from different backgrounds, generations, ability.
- Team-building activities and icebreakers to foster a sense of camaraderie and collaboration among team members.
- Workshops in Online Safety, Digital literacy and Digital citizenship.
- Assign team roles and responsibilities, ensuring that each member has a defined role within their project team.

Engage with Local Community Organisations

- Establish partnerships with local community organisations, schools, and youth centres for resource sharing and collaboration.
- Host meetings and workshops with community leaders to introduce the project's goals and seek their input and involvement.
- Identify local guest speakers, mentors, and cultural facilitators to enrich the project's content and cultural exchange activities.

Project Structure - Phase 2

Digital Skills Workshops

- Commence digital skills workshops - animation, film production, broadcasting, game making - based on the needs identified.
- Conduct regular progress assessments to ensure participants are mastering the skills taught.
- Encourage peer learning and collaboration among participants within the workshops.

Intergenerational Activities

- Organise collaborative digital projects that involve young people and older adults working together to create meaningful digital content.
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of intergenerational activities on participants' relationships and understanding.

Digital Media Project Initiation & implementation

- Form project teams to initiate collaborative digital media projects that reflect the diversity of participants.
- Provide project teams with access to necessary equipment and resources.
- Facilitate brainstorming and project planning sessions to define project objectives and milestones.
- Facilitators support project teams throughout the production phase, offering technical assistance and guidance as needed.

Project Structure - Final Phase- Showcase and Resource Sharing

Showcase of Digital Resources Produced

- Host public showcase event to present completed digital media projects. Participants share their experiences and celebrate their achievements
- Invite community members, stakeholders, and project partners to attend the showcase.

Sharing Resources with Local Community Groups

- Collaborate with local schools to integrate the digital resources created by participants into their curriculum.
- Host workshops and training sessions for local community groups to introduce them to the digital content produced and encourage its use for educational and cultural purposes.
- Establish a digital library or online platform where the resources can be accessed and shared with a wider audience, ensuring the longevity of the project's impact.

Smart Objectives

- Launch a targeted marketing campaign to attract a diverse group of participants through social media, local newspapers, and community bulletin boards, resulting in a diverse range of participants for the project.
- Complete a training needs analysis (TNA) by conducting individual interviews and surveys with registered participants to assess their digital skills needs and interests, with a goal of identifying at least three key areas for customised digital skills workshops.
- Create diverse project teams based on the needs analysis, actively recruiting including members from different backgrounds and generations, and facilitate team-building activities to establish strong collaboration.
- Establish partnerships with at least three local community organisations, schools, or youth centres, involving them in the project's goals and activities, fostering a sense of community ownership.
- Deliver digital skills workshops covering animation, film production, broadcasting, and game development for 150 participants.

- Organise minimum of three collaborative digital projects involving young people and older adults, with a focus on enhancing relationships and understanding. Measure impact through participant testimonials and feedback.
- Organise a public exhibition showcasing completed digital media projects, with a target of 100 attendees, including community members, stakeholders, and project partners. Collect participant feedback and measure the perceived impact on community cohesion.
- Conduct at least three workshops for community groups and establish a digital library or online platform for sharing resources, ensuring long-term accessibility and impact.

Outputs:

- Delivery of a successful marketing campaign to attract a diverse range of participants for the project.
- Completion of a TNA to identify their training needs for the project.
- Delivery of team building activities for the project teams.
- Creation of 3 partnerships with local schools, community organisations or youth centres.
- Series of digital skills workshops covering animation, film production, broadcasting and game development.
- Three collaborative digital projects involving both young people and older adults.
- Public showcase of digital media content produced.
- Digital library of resources that can be shared with schools and community groups.



Links to Land of Arts Desire and Dromore West Digiversal, Theme 1.1.1. Potential links to GFA4GenZ, Tuning into Social Inclusion, Theme 1.1.2 and Sligo World Festival of Everything, 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	30 months € 66,083	Community groups and gardens, farming and sectors, Coillte, ATU Sligo, Sligo PPN, Heritage and Biodiversity Officers, Sligo County Council.	85 Contact Hours: Min 40 hours per annum 95/5 split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members of all ages, families, and community organisations. Community groups and other voluntary organisations – Tidy Towns, Men's Shed, Sports groups, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empowered communities. Cross community interaction and collaboration, enhancing peace and reconciliation. Promotion of biodiversity-friendly and sustainable practices. Well-being Sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Development Plan 2021-2030 National Waste Mgt Plan 2023 County Sligo Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030 Sligo Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision European Green Deal

Project Overview

This project is designed to empower communities and build capacity related to sustainability and the natural world. In a two-pronged approach, local community groups are facilitated to observe their local biodiversity through the seasons over two years. This view of the biodiversity on their doorstep is supported by thematic visits and workshops appropriate to the season.

At the same time, tailored training will be delivered that supports people to impart their understanding of local biodiversity and conservation with communities. When ready, these participants will work with the groups observing a year in nature, gaining experience and confidence. These participants will become a resource to groups across Sligo and beyond.

Over the seasons of two calendar years this project builds capacity in communities to understand, protect and enhance local biodiversity for sustainability and heritage and economic reasons as stated through the co-design process. It promotes individual wellbeing and local environmental responsibility and serves as a platform for cross-community collaboration and leadership development in the pursuit of peace and reconciliation.

Project structure:

Each season over 2 years groups monitor and observe a selected site in their own area. This is in addition to the thematic workshops below.

1. Spring – Connecting to Nature.

Groups will be facilitated to observe the changing of the season locally. Workshops in foraging and planting will offer practical knowledge. Focus on the benefits of eating in-season food - supports local agriculture and offers health benefits.

2. Summer – Marine Life and Microplastic Awareness.

Examining marine life, ocean conservation and sustainable practice. Visiting the coast near them to learn about sustainable fishing practices and ocean health that impacts the fish we eat. Experience ocean conservation through a coastal beach cleanup.

3. Autumn – Farm to Fork: A sustainable Future.

Looking at the food production cycle, sustainable agriculture, responsible food sourcing, and healthy eating habits. Visits to local sustainable and organic farms. Focus on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles in the food industry with guest speakers providing insights on how food choices can align with ESG

Project structure:

Concurrently

Months 1 -3: Recruitment of participants and identification of locales for development of project.

Months 4- 6: 12 weeks of course work including site visits.

Months 7 – 18: In the community:
Course graduates support communities on structured basis and over 12 months. This is in tandem with evaluation of training and identification of further needs.

goals, emphasising the importance of responsible consumer choices. Exploring the link between food choices and the environment.

4. Winter – Community Harmony through Food.

- 1.) *Then and Now: Food Through the Generations*: Through storytelling and demonstrations, older participants will share food memories and traditional cooking techniques with younger participants, exploring the evolution of eating habits and cooking methods over time.
- 2.) *Global Flavours and Diverse Cuisines*: Celebrating global culinary traditions through cooking demonstrations and workshops. This will enable participants to gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity within their community, promoting understanding and inclusion.

Months 19-30: Consolidation:

Redeveloped course is provided to second round of participants. In turn, these provide additional capacity to communities in understanding, protecting and enhancing local biodiversity.

Rationale

Through co-design, community groups asked for better understanding of their environment and conserving biodiversity. The project encourages a whole community approach as well as building capacity for communities and individuals in protecting and enhancing local biodiversity. It provides skills in protecting and enhancing local biodiversity and provides communities with the tools to develop their own biodiversity plans. It promotes peace and reconciliation by building one planet awareness and provides for intergenerational and cross-community interaction and collaboration.

SMART Objectives

- Organise activities i.e., guided tours, themed workshops, storytelling sessions, cooking demonstrations to connect participants with nature, promote sustainable and eco-friendly life choices and decision making, and promote awareness of different cultures.
- Develop a comprehensive curriculum/ interactive and tailored course, outlining key learning objectives and practical learning activities.
- Advertise and recruit participants ensuring gender, age, background, and community representation.

- Complete 40 hours of contact time per annum, balancing practical and theoretical learning.
- Promote biodiversity awareness and community engagement - hands-on learning.
- Achieve a minimum 80% participant satisfaction rate, measured via post-training evaluations.
- Evaluate project and update training and content where necessary.
- Increase understanding and awareness of environmental issues and solutions.
- Collaborate with local sustainable businesses i.e., local farmers and sustainable food companies.
- Engage participants in marine conservation.

Outputs:

- Awareness and learning of environmental issues, natural heritage, and sustainable practices.
- Increased community engagement
- Positive environmental impact
- Site visits organised as part of the project
- Community inclusivity, reduced social isolation
- Community events organised as part of the project



Link to Sligo World Festival of Everything under Theme 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
We Can Fix It	33 months € 49,980	Foyleside Repair Café, Rediscovery Centre, Ballymun, Men's Sheds, Active Age Groups.	42 participants Contact Hours: Min 30 hours per annum 95/5 split.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups Families Tidy Towns and Clean Coasts. New communities Socially excluded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Inclusion Greater awareness of sustainability. Participants acquire new skills. Participants benefit from social support and interaction with repair colleagues and clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Development Plan 2021-2030 National Waste management Plan 2023 County Sligo Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030 Sligo Climate Action Plan 2023 Sligo LA Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 Sligo 2030- One Voice One Vision

Project Overview

Participants in local areas are supported in capacity and training to run repair cafes in their local areas. This uses existing skills to promote interaction within communities and encourage move to circular economy through repair of small items rather than disposal. Based on existing models, a client (the public) may only bring items that can be carried and must wait and engage with people while their item is being repaired. Where possible, people are encouraged to watch and learn for small repairs.

Repairs that are too extensive or that would take more than 10-20 minutes are not undertaken. Rather, the item's owner would be encouraged to bring item to a professional with the expertise. A database of such tradespeople would be built up during this process thereby avoiding displacement

and promoting the local economy. Unused items requiring repairs e.g., laptops, could be donated and redistributed to community groups in need if successfully repaired. As part of this project, two best practice visits to Foyleside and Ballymun would take place to learn from successful models and enhance the effectiveness of local repair cafes. Participant volunteers would receive additional training, e.g. sewing machine maintenance, basic safety, to top-up their skills.

Rationale

This project promotes interaction, contributes to a sustainable community, and enhances social capital and wellbeing. By fixing household goods otherwise destined for landfill, repair cafés also play a vital role in reducing waste and CO2 emissions. This project promotes sustainable behaviours and collaboration between the repairer and the client. Encouraging teamwork as part of the repair process means that individuals are taught the value, easiness, and fun of mending. As people see this in practice, repair becomes a more viable option before recycling or throwing away, and this can help in developing long-term sustainable behaviours.

The relational aspect of the cafes helps build norms such as reciprocity and trust. The set-up and collaborative approach bonds like-minded repairers and help people integrate into the community if they are new to the area. They can form a bridging mechanism, reaching across diverse sub-communities who might not otherwise interact. These forms of interaction build empathy and break down barriers.


Fixing household goods can help counter long-term environmental angst in addition to the immediate tangible benefits. Repairers develop their own skills and help facilitate the development of client's abilities, exemplifying the power of 'having a go' at something yourself. This helps foster confidence for clients to attempt repairs on their own. The repair cafés become an informal learning space. They focus on positive, practical, and communal action and a positive approach to change.

SMART Objectives

- Train and support 42 participants in local areas to run repair cafes, using existing skills and promoting community interaction.
- Two best practice visits to Foyleside and Ballymun to promote cross-border relationship building and supporting skill-sharing and development.
- Create a database of local skills tradespeople through the project.
- Repair and distribute donated items requiring repair to community groups in need
- Provide a minimum of 30 contact hours per participant annually, ensuring comprehensive capacity and training support for running repair cafes.
- Promote understanding and benefit realisation of circular economy and skill sharing.

Outputs:

- Additional capacity and skills for repairers in the community
- Intergenerational and cross-community interaction
- Promotion of environmental awareness and sustainability in communities.
- Additional awareness and use of community spaces.

 Links to Men's Shed Exchange, Theme 1.1.2 and Sligo World Festival of Everything, 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Supporting Local	12 months €21,398	Sligo PEACEPLUS Projects under Theme 1.1.1 Participants from other Sligo PEACEPLUS Projects.	60 participants Contact hours: 12 hours per participant. 95/5 split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New community members • Local community members and groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-community collaboration and interaction. • Development of new community leaders. • Enhancing capacity and skills of existing leaders and volunteers. • Promoting peace and reconciliation by building understanding, addressing cultural diversity, and reducing social divides. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 • NI Executive • Draft Programme for Government 2021 • County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 • Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals February 2022 • Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

Project Overview

This project focuses on supporting communities in social inclusion, community-building, and achieving long-term community goals. It is seen as a necessary add-on on to Sligo PEACEPLUS Theme 1.1.1 projects, and after community-inclusive events e.g., Sligo World Festival of Everything. The project incorporates proactive social inclusion and capacity building.

Supporting Local is designed to foster community cohesion. The project will be highlighted during ongoing co-design and the delivery of other projects to ensure visibility and awareness. This will encourage participants to identify community needs, identified through insights gained from taking part in other elements of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Plan. In summary, this project tailors support based on insights from other PEACEPLAN elements, addressing specific requirements identified in the community e.g., because of the capital building in Ballymote, the local community may need capacity building support to welcome people to the new Dispensary Building – demonstrating the significance of the Supporting Local project.

The Project's design is dependent on training needs analysis for skills development based on local economic and social needs analysis. As a buy-in project, active participation and engagement from community members is ensured. Needs identified through participation in Sligo PEACEPLUS will be addresses where possible. The aim is to secure ongoing community building, local community and economic development and proactive social inclusion.

Key areas of the Supporting Local project *may* include:

- **Training:** Community leaders receive training to develop and maintain positive outcomes through programme.

Examples:

- Land of Arts Desire and Dromore West Digiversal may want policy to ensure social inclusion and diversity in activities;
- Celtic Connections may want practical support in guiding visitors and addressing sectarianism should it arise.
- **Pairing:** Matching volunteers to support and welcome new community members based on common interests, language, and cultural background.
- **Support:** Ensure ongoing support for community leaders. This may include, but is not limited to educational resources, guidance, training refresh workshops, and opportunities to engage and socialise with other volunteers. This will ensure people feel valued and supported in their role.

SMART Objectives

- Train 60 community volunteers as per needs identified particular to their local area.
- Provide practical advice on social inclusion for all and promoting community cohesion through all local groups.
- Share educational resources and organise training workshops for a diverse group of volunteers to ensure leadership development
- Increase participation in community events and activities (involving community leaders and new community members), fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose.

Rationale

This project encourages interaction, dialogue, and support between people of diverse backgrounds ultimately leading to a more integrated and inclusive Sligo. It acknowledges the need (identified through co-design) to embrace cultural diversity within local communities, promote inclusivity and reduce cultural and social divides. It responds to the need for strengthening the capacity of local community groups and ensuring the incorporation of new and unheard members of the communities. Ultimately, the project supports other areas of investment of Sligo PEACEPLUS, it serves as a vehicle to welcome individuals of diverse backgrounds, it nurtures new community leaders, and supports more inclusive and representative volunteers and participants.

Outputs:

- Trained Community Ambassadors
- Greater inclusivity/reduction in social division within communities
- Leadership Development
- Inclusive Leadership



Links to Land of Arts Desire, PAZMÁS, Celtic Connections, and Dromore West Digiversal, Theme 1.1.1. Potential links to Men's Shed Exchange and We Can Fix It, Theme 1.1.2 and Sligo World Festival of Everything, 1.1.3.

1.1.3: Celebrating Cultures and Diversity – Projects

***Theme Objective:** To build, improve, and sustain relationships between and within communities by addressing issues of trust, prejudice, and intolerance.

***Total Theme Budget:** At least €720,800 (20% minimum)

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Human Stories Unveiled:	33 months € 214,397	Conflict Legacy incl. Tus Nua	150 300+ actively engaging with content of project. 90/10 split 30 hours of contact time minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marginalised groups. • Older Adults • Young adults • Local artists and creative professionals. • Community groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Cultural Awareness • Reduced Prejudice and Stereotyping • Community Cohesion • Publications- the project will document its impact throughout. • Community Development and engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • NI Executive Draft Prog. for Government 2021 • County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 • Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 • Sligo Socio-Economic Statement Feb. 2022 • Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

Project Overview

Human Stories Unveiled is an innovative storytelling project consisting of three impactful elements under a unified theme. This project seeks to break down societal barriers and foster understanding through genuine human interaction. The project consists of 3 distinct parts:

1. Human Library;
2. What's the Story?
3. Quiet Conversations.

Rationale

Through the co-design process, a genuine thirst was expressed for deeper understanding of the diverse communities coexisting in Sligo. This project is conceived as a powerful response to this collective desire for understanding and empathy. It addresses a profound challenge of our times: prejudice and bias. The project elements provide safe and inclusive platforms where individuals from all walks of life and backgrounds can interact. By engaging in candid conversations and sharing their personal stories, people offer a window into their experiences, their identities, and the richness of their perspectives. The “readers” and project audiences through engagement with the conversations, images, stories, in turn become active participants.

The aim of the project is to foster a more inclusive community in Sligo, one where people not only coexist but thrive together. By promoting genuine understanding and connection among its residents, this initiative contributes to the development of a harmonious and peaceful environment.

The distinct elements of the project are outlined below.

1. Human Library

Pre-Project- Information & Cultural Awareness: Given the ground-breaking nature of the Human Library concept, facilitators will undertake training with the Human Library Organisation. In turn potential “human books” will be provided with a comprehensive introduction to concept. Everyone involved needs to understand the mechanics, objectives, and potential impact of the project. Queries, reservations, or uncertainties, must be addressed comprehensively to create an environment where all participants feel safe, comfortable, and well-informed, ensuring that taking part is a positive and enriching experience. Cultural awareness training will be provided for all participants. This will be vital to ensure that participants of the project feel comfortable and have shared understanding of boundaries before the project starts.

Human Library Sessions

Eight Human Library sessions will be hosted over 30 months. Individuals with diverse backgrounds, life experiences, and identities become "living books." Participants can "read" these living books to engage in open and honest conversations, thereby breaking down stereotypes, prejudices, and fostering empathy. These sessions will be held face to face in safe and inclusive spaces across Sligo.

Aftercare: Support for "Book" volunteers is essential. Research and direct conversations with previous Irish hosts and the Human Library Organisation has informed this project element. Venues will be secure and have trained security staff. Professional counselling support will be available to participants and a debrief session will take place after each event for evaluation and monitoring of structures and inform next event.

Smart Objectives

- Deliver information sessions to familiarise organisers and potential participants with the Human Library process, clarify objectives, and highlight possible impacts including empowering and positive experiences.
- Promote inclusivity and cross-community understanding by connecting cultural communities in Sligo and surrounding areas through Human Library events. Engage diverse cultural groups to encourage cooperation and shared experiences, contributing to a more peaceful society.
- Ensure participant preparedness and comfort by achieving 100% attendance at cultural awareness training sessions conducted before the Human Library opens. These sessions inform the Human Library process, set clear boundaries, and create a conducive environment for positive engagement.
- Coordinate 8 x Human Library sessions. Create safe and inclusive spaces for face-to-face conversations, breaking down stereotypes, fostering empathy, and promoting open and honest dialogues to enhance understanding and inclusivity.
- Initiate reflection after each Human Library event, gathering feedback from participants. Establish a structured feedback system for Books and Readers to identify areas for improvement and adjustments, ensuring best results for the Human Library's impact.

Outputs:

- Information session- An information session held for potential participants prior to the project beginning.
- Human Library Sessions featuring diverse "living books."
- Cultural Awareness Training- Curriculum and materials for cultural awareness training sessions.
- Community Engagement Activities - Panel discussions and storytelling events.

2. What's the Story?

Human Stories Unveiled further extends its reach through "What's the Story?". This project element uses illustrative mediums - writing, presentation, podcast recording, talks, film, photography - to explore people's experiences of conflict, movement, and resettlement. Smart objectives include facilitating participants expression, documenting a minimum of 50 personal stories, conducting expert talks, and public exhibition. This multifaceted approach amplifies the impact, promoting dialogue, understanding, and positive change.

The Project will act as a catalyst for dialogue, understanding, and positive change, leveraging the arts to draw attention to and promote understanding of the diverse narratives that shape communities in Sligo County.

Documenting stories.

What's the Story? focuses on documenting stories. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in various creative methods, emphasising self-expression and narrative exploration. This will be achieved through facilitation and training in storytelling through writing and prose; photography; video documentary and editing; podcasting.

SMART Objectives

- Facilitate participant expression through workshop and discussions to include conflict, mitigation, and resettlement narratives.
- 105 participants taking part in the writing, photography, video filming and podcasting.
- Conduct a minimum of three expert talks/panel discussions, engaging a diverse audience to promote understanding of migration, conflict resolution, and potential climate-induced displacements.
- Organise an art exhibition featuring at least 20 visual representations e.g., photography, paintings, capturing the diverse emotions and challenges faced by individuals and communities.

Outputs

- Development of new creative skills of writing, podcasting, and photography.
- Documented stories, preserving community experiences.
- Visual art exhibition capturing the diverse emotions and challenges faced by communities.
- Hardback publication recording photography and prose content resulting.

3. A Quiet Conversation

"Quiet Conversations" takes a unique focus on former participants from the Troubles era, addressing groups including Loyalists, Republicans, Gardai/RUC-PSNI, and Irish Army/British Army-UDR. The project stages a carefully planned progression – from identifying potential participants to facilitating engagements within and across groups. Trained practitioners guide participants through stages of storytelling, with the aim of promoting individual and collective healing. The culmination involves a social/cultural event in Sligo, where selected individuals share their stories in a managed dialogue, reflecting on the past, present, and hopes for the future.

Trained practitioners and interlocutors will facilitate telling of stories and manage the engagements within groups and across groups.

Culmination is envisaged as a social/cultural event in Sligo, open to an invited public, where selected individuals tell their stories, reflect on what happened then, since then, and what their hopes for the future are. This could take the form of a Managed Dialogue with interaction with the audience.

Smart Objectives

- Identify and establish contact with a minimum of 5 potential participants from each of the four groups (Loyalists, Republicans, Gardai/RUC-PSNI, Irish Army/British Army-UDR). Use sensitive outreach methods to ensure participation from individuals willing to share their stories.
- Successfully engage with individuals from each sub-group through one-on-one consultations and information sessions. Facilitate open discussions about the project's goals, addressing any concerns, and ensuring participants' voluntary involvement at every stage.
- Bring individuals from each sub-group together for facilitated conversations and storytelling sessions. Achieve a positive and constructive environment for sharing experiences and perspectives. Ensure that each sub-group feels comfortable before progressing to joint engagements.
- Facilitate joint sessions involving all four sub-groups, ensuring the progression is contingent on participants' confidence, willingness, and perceived benefits. Encourage constructive dialogue and understanding, fostering positive interactions among individuals with profoundly different perspectives.
- Develop a detailed plan for the social/cultural event in Sligo, outlining logistics, participant roles, and thematic focus. Collaborate with selected individuals to refine their stories, ensuring a balanced representation of experiences, reflections on the past, present, and hopes for the future.
- Successfully execute the social/cultural event in Sligo, ensuring the participation of invited public. Create an atmosphere conducive to reflection, understanding, and dialogue. Capture the reflections of selected individuals on their experiences, fostering empathy and promoting the project's overarching goals of individual and collective healing.

Outputs

- A list of potential participants from each of the four groups (Loyalists, Republicans, Gardai/RUC-PSNI, Irish Army/British Army-UDR) through community outreach, interviews, and referrals.
- Delivery of one-on-one consultations and information sessions with individuals from each sub-group, establishing a trusting relationship.
- Facilitated conversations and storytelling sessions for each sub-group, creating a positive and constructive environment.
- Joint sessions involving all four sub-groups, ensuring a step-by-step progression based on participants' confidence and willingness.
- A detailed plan for the social/cultural event in Sligo, specifying logistics, participant roles, and thematic focus.
- Delivery of a social/cultural event in Sligo, ensuring the participation of the invited public.



Linked to Sligo World Festival of Everything under Theme 1.1.3.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Give It a Swirl - The Sligo World Festival of Everything	€ 447, 098 36 months	Target Groups Community leaders and volunteers Artists and performers. Residents New communities	510 direct participants At least 1020 engaging and interacting with events. 90/10 split 30 hours of contact time minimum per annum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People of Sligo town and county. • Performers and artists • Sligo tourism and events • Cross-border and cross-community opportunities to participate, attend and share their culture. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased appreciation for diverse cultures and traditions. • Community groups will benefit from opportunities to showcase their groups. • Growth in tourism and employment opportunities. • New relationships built between people from different communities. • Skills acquisition for participants and audience. • Social inclusion and development of community support networks. • Large scale showcase event for culmination of Sligo PEACEPLUS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 • County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 • Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 • Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals February 2022 • Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

Project Overview

Give It a Swirl – the Sligo World Festival of Everything is a ground-breaking and ambitious project designed to harness the rich potential of cultural expression - music, song, dance, drama, fashion, food, crafts, etc. - to bring together people from diverse backgrounds. As suggested by its title, the project seeks to actively engage the public in trying out elements of different culture, e.g., sean-nós singing or African drumming; try on a sari or taste a seaweed salad. The project strategically links strands of this PEACEPLUS Action Plan. Participants will share their skills, knowledge and experience, and stories with others.

The project connects different cultural communities in Sligo and beyond. It requires cooperation, understanding, and cross community interaction by actively involving diverse groups and promoting understanding via shared experiences. PEACEPLUS values and goals are delicately woven throughout the *Sligo World Festival of Everything*, resulting in a colourful tapestry of intercommunity connections and cross-cultural learning.

This project commits to proactive inclusion of participants from marginalised groups, including Travellers, new communities, and LGBTQIA+ individuals; they have an essential role in the project. To achieve this, a multifaceted approach that begins with inclusive marketing and outreach strategies will be used. Collaboration with local organisations, cultural centres, and community leaders will be crucial to foster connections and build trust within these communities. As with all projects in the Plan, accessible, safe and inclusive spaces must be used for workshops, and resources provided for individuals who may need special accommodations. Disadvantage – economic, social, educational, physical – cannot be a barrier to participating in the *Sligo World Festival of Everything*. The goal is to celebrate diversity, foster inclusivity, and ensure that everyone can share in the joy and cultural richness our festivals offer, regardless of their background or identity.

The project will be delivered in a phased approach:

Phase 1 (Identify and Capacity Building)

- *Identify and recruit participants*: engage participant groups, ensuring representation from various cultural backgrounds and communities.

- *Themes and Events Exploration:* Collaboratively explore themes and potential events, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the cultural landscape and the unique contributions each element can make.
- *Project Needs Assessment:* Conduct a thorough assessment of project needs, covering logistical requirements, resource allocation, and participant support. Identify and provide any capacity building required.

Phase 2 (Support and Event Implementation)

- *Event Creation Support:* Support for the creation of events for the participants themselves, ensuring that each element is effectively represented and aligns with the overarching festival theme.
- *Individualised Events:* Implement individual events tailored to each group's preferences, either in their natural settings or purposefully selected venues.
- *Logistical Assistance:* Facilitate venue coordination, equipment procurement, and participant communication, to guarantee the seamless execution of events.

Phase 3 (Collaboration with Existing Events)

- *Synergy:* Support the integration of the *Sligo World Festival of Everything* events into existing festival structures.
- *Diversity:* Utilise the diversity of participating groups to enhance and complement other ongoing festival events, creating a dynamic and enriched cultural experience.

Phase 4 (Culmination Event):

- *Culmination in the Sligo World Festival of Everything:* Bring together the collective efforts and creative expressions of all participating groups in a grand culmination event. This final festival will provide individuals and groups with opportunities to showcase their cultural expression and

sharing developed through all of the projects involved in this theme of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan. Audience members will be encouraged to try out activities showcased.

- *Celebrating Diversity*: Celebrate the culmination event as a testament to the power of the arts in fostering cross-cultural understanding, unity, and the celebration of diversity within Sligo and its surrounding areas.

Rationale

Throughout co-design, consultees consistently emphasised the power of festivals and events in uniting people, particularly through shared interests such as food, film, music, drama, dance, and more. Through the public survey, 79% of respondents felt that it was extremely or very important that the Action Plan included community events, a massive 95% of respondents felt that it was key to include joint events that involved organisations from different backgrounds. The essence of these festivals and events lies in the recognition that promoting cross-cultural understanding is pivotal for nurturing peace and harmony within our diverse communities.

Using creative arts and cultural expression, the project aims to dismantle societal barriers, foster tolerance, and celebrate the tapestry of diversity within Sligo. It acknowledges that art and culture possess the unique ability to transcend language and background, creating a common ground where individuals can engage in meaningful dialogue and build connections that bridge divides.

The *Sligo World Festival of Everything* is an innovative project to actualise these objectives. Its inclusivity and versatility across various art forms—be it culinary arts, cinema, music, theatre, or dance—provide an ideal canvas for facilitating cross-cultural interactions. This festival showcases the beauty of cultural diversity and encourages active participation and appreciation of traditions from around the world.

Smart Objectives

- Successfully deliver the *Sligo World Festival of Everything* which includes participants from all areas of this thematic strand of the Action Plan.
- Foster unity and cultural integration by harnessing the transformative power of music, singing, dance, writing, food, fashion, crafts, podcasts, film, forum theatre, and drama, bringing individuals from diverse backgrounds together.
- Identify and proactively engage participant groups, ensuring diverse representation from various cultural backgrounds and communities.
- Facilitate capacity-building initiatives to empower participants, equipping them with the skills and resources necessary for active and meaningful involvement.
- Conduct a thorough assessment of project needs, covering logistical requirements, resource allocation, and participant support to ensure a holistic and well-prepared approach.
- Provide comprehensive support for the creation of events, ensuring effective representation of each artistic element that aligns with the overarching festival theme.
- Implement individual events tailored to each group's preferences, either in their natural settings or purposefully selected venues.
- Utilise the diversity of participating groups to enhance and complement other ongoing festival events, creating a dynamic and enriched cultural experience.
- Bring together the collective efforts and creative expressions of all participating groups in a grand culmination event within the *Sligo World Festival of Everything*.
- Connect different cultural communities in Sligo and beyond, encouraging cooperation, understanding, and cross-community interaction.
- Actively involve diverse groups and promote understanding through shared experiences, ensuring cross-border and cross-community relationships and reinforcing PEACEPLUS objectives.
- Implement a multifaceted approach, including inclusive marketing and outreach strategies, collaborating with local organisations, cultural centres, and community leaders.

- Ensure events are accessible to participants from marginalised groups.
- Celebrate diversity by fostering inclusivity, creating safe spaces, and providing opportunities for all to share the cultural richness offered by the festivals.
- Utilise creative arts and cultural expression to dismantle societal barriers, foster tolerance, and celebrate the tapestry of diversity within Sligo.
- Acknowledge the unique ability of art and culture to transcend language and background, creating a common ground for meaningful dialogue and connection-building across divides.

Outputs:

- Successful delivery of a festival that provides people from different backgrounds the opportunity to showcase and share their cultures.
- Engagement with hard-to-reach groups.
- Opportunities for public participation in and learning from festival events.
- Development of relationships between people from different backgrounds.
- Marketing campaign to build awareness of events.
- Capacity building within projects.
- Cultural workshops and educational materials for attendees. Community dialogue sessions, forums, and discussion panels.
- A festival designed by the local community to address their needs.
- Events that bring together individuals from different backgrounds.



Potentially linked to all other project activities in Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan.

Title	Duration & Indicative budget	Partners	Participants	Beneficiaries	SEUPB results and outcomes	Alignment with Key Strategies
Shore to Shore: Uncovering History & Heritage	33 months € 92, 770		40 participants 95/5 split Minimum of 40 contact hours per participant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community leaders/ volunteers. • Bordering regions. • Residents of Sligo • Community groups • Local historians, storytellers and artists. • Local businesses. • Tourists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of cross-border and cross-community partnerships. • Increased sense of cultural and heritage awareness. • High levels of community involvement. • Traditions, customs and folklore actively conserved. • Enhanced learning opportunities and creation of educational materials. • Opportunities for local economic development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCC Corporate Plan 2020-2024 • Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 • County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023 • Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 • Sligo Socio-Economic Statement, Feb. 2022 • Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

Project Overview

This project explores Sligo's multifaceted heritage and places it in the context of the island of Ireland and links to the heritage, culture and myths of Sligo and its new communities. Using Sligo's history, culture, and folklore, the project seeks to enhance our understanding of the past and present, support communities, and provide opportunities for local economic development.

Phase 1: Maritime Heritage and Mystical Tales.

- Introduce Sligo's maritime heritage, focusing on the sea shanty tradition along the entire coast of Ireland.
- Explore local folklore related to the sea, including tales of legendary figures like Finn McCool and the mystical Giants Causeway.
- Interviews with locals sharing their stories, creating a vibrant tapestry of maritime cultural heritage.

Phase 2: History Uncovered.

- Delve into Sligo's history, uncovering oral histories and stories related to the Irish Civil War.
- Examine the impact of historical events on local communities, emphasising that we understand the past to build a harmonious present.
- Incorporating perspectives from different communities, highlighting diversity, and resolving conflicts through shared narratives.

Phase 3: Mythical Landscapes and Placenames.

- Explore the intertwining of mythology and placenames in Sligo, connecting the dots between ancient tales and geographical landmarks.
- Feature stories of Diarmuid and Grainne, bringing the region's mythical past to life. Emphasising the role of folklore in shaping local identity. Link to cross-border mythological sites.

Phase 4: Economic Development through Tourism.

- Showcase the project's impact on the local community by highlighting economic opportunities generated through tourism.
- Reflect on how the exploration of history and folklore contributes to a more inclusive and cohesive community. Engaging with local businesses, artists, and cultural initiatives that have thrived because of the program.

Phase 5: Key Insights and Future Exploration.

- Summarise the key insights gained from the project.

- Encourage people to visit Sligo, experience its rich history and folklore firsthand, and contribute to the ongoing dialogue of preserving and celebrating local heritage.
- Teasing future episodes or initiatives that continue the exploration of Sligo's history, culture, and mythology.

Rationale

The co-design process highlighted Sligo's relationship to the sea and that history and heritage could be used to explore how we view ourselves. Our myths and legends provide an all-island link to communities in Northern Ireland and beyond. Furthermore, other cultures have myths and legends and folklore that could be explored for difference and commonalities. Sharing and learning about each other's history was seen as a key way to break down barriers and provide a point of intersection and understanding between different communities.


In response to the online survey, 80% felt that it was extremely or very important to include history and heritage related projects in the Plan. Co-design asked for initiatives that facilitate connections among diverse community members, fostering unity and understanding. This project responds to this ask by engaging diverse communities through exploration of history, heritage, folklore and mythology.

SMART Objectives

- Increase awareness of Sligo's maritime cultural heritage.
- Promote cross-border collaborations and relationships.
- Enhance local economy by increasing visitor numbers.
- Deliver educational workshops for locals and visitors.

Outputs

- Exhibits and interactive activities celebrating maritime traditions, folklore and mythology.

- Mythology workshops delivered by experts. These will include stories on Finn Mc Cool, Diarmuid agus Grainne and other local legends.
 - Enhanced access to resources for community historians.
 - Development of cross-border and cross-community collaborations and relationships: Northern Ireland and within Sligo.
 - Promotional material for tourism.
-  This project links to PAZMÁS and Celtic Connections projects under Theme 1.1.1. and Cross-border exchange with community in Glens Coast and Causeway area already discussed.

Results, Outputs and Outcomes

The Sligo PEACEPLUS strategy is guided by the anticipation of achieving results, outputs, and outcomes within the context of the three themes. These factors were considered when determining the priority of issues and crafting the action plans, as outlined below.

Local Community Regeneration & Transformation	Thriving and Peaceful Communities	Building Respect for all Cultural Identities
Output: Dec. 2027: 1300 participants engaged Halfway: By Apr. 2026: 0 participants engaged ³ .	Output: Dec. 2027: 2457 participants engaged ⁴ Halfway: Apr. 2026: 1229 participants engaged	Output: By Dec. 2027: 700 participants engaged ⁵ Halfway: Apr. 2026: 350 participants engaged
Budget: € 1,136,780 (31.54%)	Budget: € 786,102 (21.81%)	Budget: € 754,266 (20.93%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing levels of shared pride. Holistic transformation of public spaces encompassing physical, social, and cultural aspects. Creating vibrant community hubs. Promoting local art and culture. Creating a cohesive community. Fostering a stronger sense of identity and belonging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating cooperation and partnership between diverse local groups to work together towards common goals. Providing training, resources, and support to strengthen local groups, to better serve their communities. Fostering an inclusive environment. Increase the sharing of knowledge, expertise, and resources among local groups to optimise collective impact. Promoting unity, understanding and cooperation among different community groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging inclusivity and respect for all. Establishing positive and lasting relationships, collaboration and partnership, among diverse communities. Fostering trust and understanding between different cultural and ethnic groups. Creating safe spaces to address issues of intolerance and discrimination. Increased awareness and appreciation of cultures and traditions within and between communities.

³ Capital Projects: these projects will be just reaching completion by interim point.

⁴ & ⁵: Participant numbers refer to direct participants in projects. This figure does not include numbers participating in final project outcomes. These are estimated to be 2 people for every direct participant.

Section 2 - Strategic & Policy Context

The PEACEPLUS Action Plan for County Sligo was developed through a collaborative and inclusive process overseen by Sligo County Council. The following sections outline how the Plan has been developed, the Partnership and its membership, and the approach to co-design.

Plan Development

Sligo County Council initiated the establishment of the PEACEPLUS Partnership Board - a subcommittee of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) to oversee the development and implementation of the PEACEPLUS Plan for County Sligo. This process involved nominations from the LCDC's four pillars: Elected Members, Statutory Bodies, Social Partners (Geographic, Community Representatives, Environments, Civic Society), and Social Partners representing PEACEPLUS target groups. Comprising of 16 representatives from diverse backgrounds, the PEACEPLUS Partnership Board provides a comprehensive representation of geographic and target groups. An introductory meeting held on February 2023 allowed 12 out of the 16 Board members to meet in person, providing an opportunity to understand past PEACE Projects and receive an overview of PEACEPLUS aims, the co-design process, and the role of the Partnership. By providing insights into past PEACE Projects, the meeting facilitated a shared understanding of historical context and lessons learned. Furthermore, the meeting outlined the requirements of PEACEPLUS, including its aims, objectives, and anticipated outcomes. The discussion on the co-design process during the meeting underscored the collaborative nature of the Plan's development. Clarifying the roles and expectations of the PEACEPLUS Partnership Board in this co-design process aligned its members in their collective mission.

Partnership and Membership

The PEACEPLUS Partnership for Sligo County was established to drive forward the production and management of the Action Plan. As stated above, the PEACEPLUS Partnership consists of 16 representatives, including Elected Members, Statutory Bodies, and Social Partners from both geographic and target groups of the LCDC as below:

Pillar 1 - Elected Members	Pillar 2 - Relevant Statutory Bodies
<p>Cllr. Dara Mulvey, Ballymote-Tubbercurry</p> <p>Cllr. Declan Bree, Sligo-Strandhill</p> <p>Cllr. Dónal Gilroy, Sligo-Drumcliff</p> <p>Cllr. Paul Taylor, Ballymote-Tubbercurry</p>	<p>Patricia Garland, Health Service Executive</p> <p>Mary Brodie, Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board</p> <p>Maeve Whittington, TUSLA/CYPSC (Youth & Social Services)</p> <p>Brian Flynn, Sligo County Council Executive Member</p>
Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership	
Pillar 3 - Social Partners - Geographic, Community Representatives, Environment, Civic Society	Pillar 4 - Social Partners - PEACEPLUS Target groups 75/underrepresented groups
<p>Aidan Doyle, Sligo Chamber (Business)</p> <p>Kathleen Henry, Irish Farmers Association</p> <p>Pat Fallon, ICTU (Trade Unions)</p> <p>Fintan Kennedy/John Feerick, Sligo LEADER</p>	<p>Liam Boland, Ballymote GAA (Sport/Community)</p> <p>Stephen Conway, Tus Nua (Conflict Legacy/Community)</p> <p>Tara Dolan Mbongue, Aremoja Women's Group (Migrant Women/ Community)</p> <p>Trish Fallon, Havin a Laugh (Mental Health/Community)</p>

Approach to Co-design

The approach to co-design involved collaboration between the PEACEPLUS Partnership and the community, emphasising inclusivity. The introductory meeting served as a platform for members to gain insights into previous projects and understand the co-design process. The focus was on developing the Sligo Local Action Plan through collaborative efforts, with future meetings set to confirm dates and discuss/agree on the draft Terms of Reference, aiming to engage various stakeholders in shaping the PEACEPLUS plan, reflecting a commitment to community involvement and partnership building. The next section will discuss the co-design process in greater detail.

Strategic Context Overview

As part of formulating this Local PEACEPLUS Plan, several significant strategic documents have undergone review, and their priorities duly considered in the development of this strategy.

Key Strategic Documents

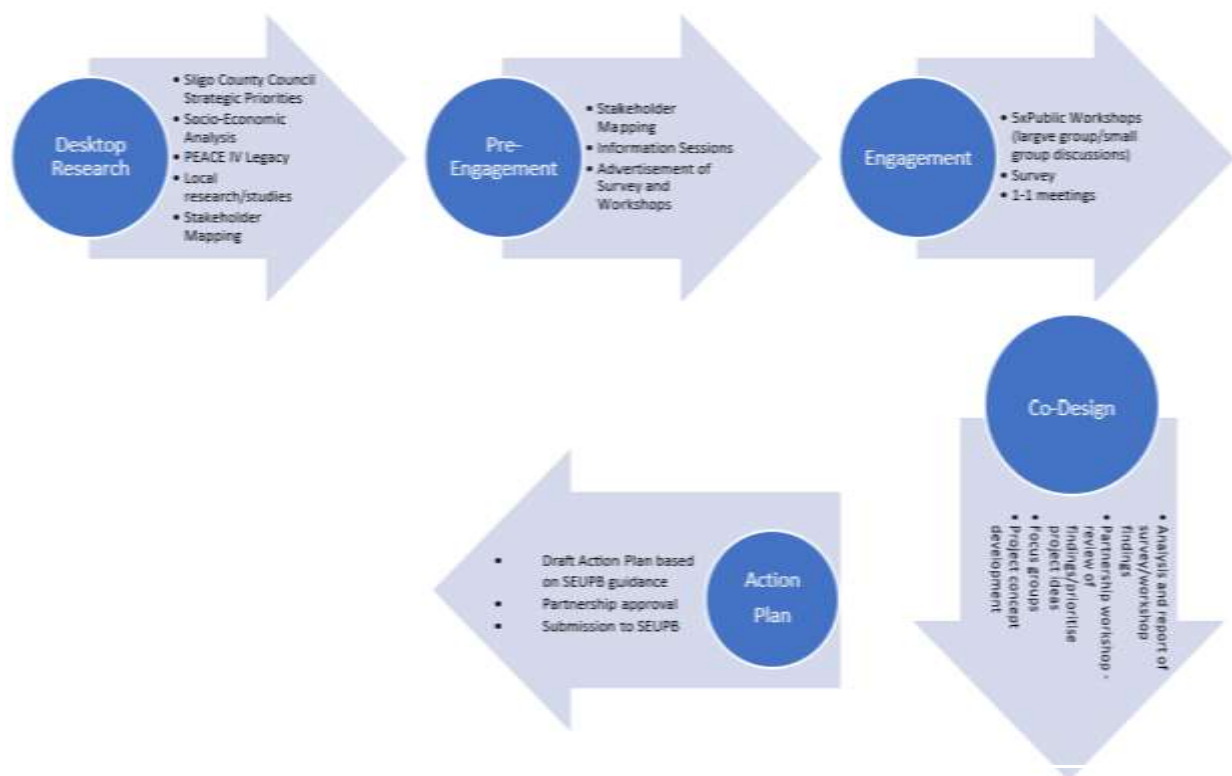
- Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024
- Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021
- Programme for Government
- Diaspora Strategy for County Sligo 2019-2024
- Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan September 2018
- County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023
- Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022
- Sligo East City, Cranmore and Environs Regeneration Masterplan 2016
- Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals February 2022
- Europe 2020 strategy
- Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (2018)
- Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025
- Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2023 – 2028
- Children and Young People's Plan 2024 – 2026
- Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025

For a comprehensive summary of these documents and how the proposed project fits with these initiatives, please see [Appendix 1](#) for the strategic context summary and analysis of documents considered for the Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

Section 3: The Co-Design Process

Stages of the Co-design Process – aims, actions and results

The development of Sligo's PEACEPLUS Action Plan involved several key stages, each crucial for achieving sustainable, inclusive, and cross-community partnerships and community ownership of the Action Plan. These stages included: Desktop Research, Pre-Engagement, Engagement, Co-Design, And Action Plan. Each stage consisted of KPIs and clear objectives and priorities for monitoring and evaluating progress and ensuring effective communication and coordination throughout the process. By systematically following these stages, the PEACEPLUS Action Plan was developed.



The aims of the co-design process for Plan development were centred on fostering inclusivity, community engagement, and cross-sector collaboration. The strategic stages outlined above were meticulously structured to facilitate these objectives. Key actions included targeted stakeholder engagement to ensure diversity and inclusion, public information sessions, and comprehensive co-designed consultations involving workshops and individual meetings. An online survey added an additional layer of public participation. As a result, the co-design process successfully enabled transparent and collaborative communication of project ideas



and ensured a robust understanding of community needs. This allowed for the development of an impactful and relevant PEACEPLUS Action Plan for Sligo County.

Stakeholder Engagement & Consultation to Develop Co-Design Action Plan

In the period prior to Public Co-design Consultations, survey and facility for written submissions, a process of pre-engagement was undertaken at local level to raise awareness of the funding project and the Co-design process. This pre-engagement phase comprised of targeted contact with groups and a public information campaign including promotion and advertising, and a series of public information events.

Contact with groups representing the following community sectors was established on 27th January 2023:

- Women
- Children and Young People
- Older People
- Disabled People
- Travellers
- New communities
- LGBTQIA+
- Conflict Legacy
- Minority faiths

The initial contact aimed to establish first contact meeting to outline Investment Area 1.1 Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan, the thematic areas and discussion of how these groups could be involved in the Co-design process. A distribution list of 27 direct email contacts in Sligo and the wider Northwest was set up for this purpose. These were supplemented by contact with agencies and organisations and promotion advising availability to meet through Sligo Public Participation Network (575 member groups).

This resulted in ongoing contact and discussion with at least one group from the sectors above and subsequent engagement with the co-design process through direct attendance at sessions, response to survey, and/or providing a written submission.

Follow up phone calls were made with groups that did not respond and emails communicating ongoing process of co-design and inviting engagement were issued throughout the period through to deadline of 26th May 2023 for survey and written submissions.



Public Information Sessions on Sligo Co-designed Local Community Peace Action

Plan took place as follows:

Date	Time	Venue	Location	Consultation type
Monday 20 th March 2023	5pm – 7pm	Northside Community Centre	Sligo F91 N778	Public Information Session
Tuesday 21 st March 2023	7pm – 9pm	Dromore West Community Centre	F26 T9F9	Public Information Session
Thursday 23 rd March 2023	5pm – 7pm	Ballymote Library	Ballymote F56 FT59	Public Information Session
Thursday 30 th March 2023	5pm – 7pm	Tubbercurry One Stop Shop	Tubbercurry F91 Y328	Public Information Session
Saturday 1 st April 2023	11am – 1pm	Community Café, Old Schoolhouse, Ballinafad	Ballinafad F52 A028	Public Information Session
Thursday 6 th April 2023	5pm – 7pm	Cliffoney Community Hall	Cliffoney F91 DP71	Public Information Session
Wednesday 12 th April 2023	1:15pm – 2pm	Online via MS Teams	N/A	Public Information Session
Wednesday 12 th April 2023	7pm – 9pm	Avalon Centre	Sligo F91 RF78	Public Information Session

Following the information sessions, the Public Co-Designed Consultations to develop the Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan commenced on 2nd May 2023.

The process of consultation and engagement involved a series of well-publicised public meetings and focused workshops which were advertised widely through press releases, the Councils website, the Council's community database and social media channels, and local community networks. These events occurred on the following specified dates:

Date	Time	Venue	Location	Consultation type
Tuesday 2 nd May 2023	6:30pm-8:30pm	Cliffoney Community Hall	Cliffoney, F91 DP71	Workshop
Wednesday 3 rd May 2023	11:00am – 1:00pm	Council Chamber, City Hall	Quay Street, Sligo, F91 PP44	Workshop
Wednesday 3 rd May 2023	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Teach Laighne, Tubbercurry	Tubbercurry, F91 Y328	Workshop
Thursday 4 th May 2023	11:00am – 1:00pm	Council Chamber, City Hall	Quay Street, Sligo, F91 PP44	Workshop
Thursday 4 th May 2023	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Northside Community Centre	Sligo, F91 N778	Workshop



Co-design in Action, Tubbercurry 30th May 2023.

The meetings and focus groups were facilitated by Third Sector Connect and Council Staff. At the meetings, comprehensive details regarding the anticipated outcomes, outputs, and overall impact of the new PEACEPLUS Programme were shared.

Participants were provided with presentation outlining all key information.

Subsequently, a consultation workshop focusing on each of the three core themes was conducted. Participants were encouraged to identify any ongoing concerns that persist within the Sligo County area.

In addition, a variety of individual meetings and communications were conducted with the following key informants and project ideas shared.

- Globe House Direct Provision Centre 1-1 individual meeting, 18th May 2023
- Havin A Laugh 1-1 individual meeting, 11th May 2023
- Cranmore Mentoring Project 1-1 individual meeting, 19th May 2023



- Northside Film 1-1 individual meeting, 11th May 2023
- Sligo County Council key staff 1-1 individual meeting, various dates, May 2023
- Sligo Disabled People's Organisation 1-1 individual meeting, 22nd May 2023
- Sligo Rovers 1-1 individual meeting, 11th May 2023
- Tus Nua 1-1 individual meeting, 3rd May 2023
- Autism Friendly Sligo Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Ballymote Community Council Correspondence, 29th May 2023 Submission
- Cairde and Traveller Support Group Correspondence, 31st May 2023 Submission
- Church Army Sligo Centre of Mission Correspondence, 23rd May 2023 Submission
- Cliffoney Men's Shed Correspondence, 25th May 2023 Submission
- Climate Action Sligo County Council Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Disabled People's Organisation Sligo Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Dromore West Council Committee, 29th May 2023 Submission
- Foróige Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Music Generation Sligo Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- North West Parents & Friends Association Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Concert Band Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Cycling Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Northside and Sabona Correspondence, 29th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Rovers Football Club Correspondence, 25th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Sports and Recreation Partnership Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Volunteer Centre Correspondence, 29th May 2023 Submission
- Sligo Woodland School Correspondence, 29th May 2023 Submission
- Spanish Armada Ireland Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission

- The Neurology Support Centre Correspondence, 26th May 2023 Submission
- Visual Artists Ireland Correspondence, 17th May 2023 Submission
- Representative of Yeats Society Sligo, 20th May 2023 Submission

Significantly, as a direct outcome of these correspondences, a *total of 32 individual project* ideas were submitted, underscoring the commitment to inclusivity and community input.

Online Survey

Further complementing the engagement and consultation process, an online survey was also created and published on the Sligo County Council website, facilitated by Pinnacle Growth Group, Third Sector Connect, and Council Staff. The survey opened on 19th April 2023 at 3pm and closed 26th May 2023 at 11:59pm.

Detailed analyses of survey responses including respondent demographics, identification of local area needs under PEACEPLUS Themes, prioritisation of actions, suggested actions, and identification of barriers to participation may be found in [Appendix 2](#).

Gantt Chart of the activities in the Co-Design Process.

	2023												2024		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Promotion of IA 1.1 via emails, phone and one-to-ones															
Public Information Sessions (x8)															
Partnership Meeting to Approve Consultation/Survey Content															
Public Survey															
Public Consultations (x5)															
One to One Meetings with community organisations (x7)															
One to One meetings with key Sligo County Council staff															
Project Submissions via email (32 received)															
Presentation of Findings to Partnership															
Working Group Meeting															
Co-design of Shortlisted Projects/ meetings with community groups															
Development of projects/ action plan															
Meeting with SEUPB															
Approval of Action Plan from Partnership															
PEACEPLUS Partnership Meetings															

Sligo County's Socio-economic Profile

The overview below presents a concise summary of the Socio-Economic Profile of Sligo⁶, utilising the best available data with data sourced from CSO Census 2022.

Demographics

As of the 3rd April 2022 census, the recorded population of Sligo County area was 70,198, which accounts for 1.4% of the national population, of which 34,529,365 (49.2%) were male and 35,669(50.8%) were female.

This consisted of:

- 15,243 children aged 0-16 years
- 2,752 people aged 17-19 years
- 7,331 people aged 20-29 years
- 8,396 people aged 30-39 years
- 10,117 people aged 40-49 years
- 9,102 people aged 50-59 years
- 8,283 people aged 60-69 years
- 5,985 people aged 70-79 years
- 2,989 people aged 80 years and over.

Within Sligo County, 21.71% % of the population were aged under the age of 16 and 24. 58% were aged 60 and over.

Ethnicity and Community Background

Considering the resident population within Sligo County Council District on the significant date of Census Day (2022):

- 80.6% identified as White Irish; 0.6% were White Irish Traveller; 7.2% were Other White; 1.06 % were Black or Irish Black; 1.26% were Asian or Asian Irish; Figures for Other or Not Stated are not yet available.
- 91% indicated that they had an Irish nationality and 2.31% had a British national identity. Other national identifies included: Polish (1.62%), Lithuanian (0.3%).

⁶ <https://www.sligococo.ie/2030/Socio%20Economic%20Statement.pdf>

- There were 418 Travellers in Sligo in Census 2022, compared with 386 in 2016 (+8%) and equating to 0.0064% of usually resident population of Sligo. This is slightly lower than National percentage, 0.00648%
- 73% belong to or were brought up in the Catholic religion down from 81% in 2016. All the other Christian religions together accounted for 5.83% of Sligo's population with 3.54% being members of the Church of Ireland All other religions accounted for a total of 2.4% with 18.17% having no religion or not stated.

Health

The respondents of Sligo on Census Day (2022) considered factors such as self-stated general health as follows:

General Health	Male	Female
Very Good	52.9%	52.5%
Good	29.9%	30.3%
Fair	9.6%	9.7%
Bad	1.5%	1.5%
Very Bad	0.3%	0.3%
Not Stated	5.8%	5.6%

Housing and Accommodation

On Census Day, occupancy status of permanent dwellings in Sligo County area was:

- 53.3% of households were owner occupied down from 76.4% in 2016
- 6.3% of all housing stock were holiday homes
- 11.3% were vacant dwellings
- 13.14% of homes were rented from private landlords, up on 12.08% in 2016

Employment, Occupations and Commuting Sligo

Summary results indicate that on Census Day 3rd April 2022, in Sligo County the working age* population was: 56,825.

Of these, almost 30,400 (53.52%) were at work. This was an increase of 17% (from the more than 26,000 people recorded as working in Census 2016).

* The term 'working age' refers to the population aged 15 years and over.



Almost 2,800 people were unemployed in the county in April 2022. This was considerably lower than the 2016 figure of more than 4,200 people (a decrease of 34%). The unemployment rate was 8% compared with 14% in 2016.

There were almost 11,300 retired people in Sligo, up 22% since Census 2016. There was a 10% increase in the number of people who were unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability to 2,801 people. The number of people looking after their home/family fell by 20% to almost 2,900.

The labour force participation rate was 58% in Sligo compared with 61% nationally. Among females the rate was 54% while for males it was 63%.

Most people in work in Sligo were in full-time employment, with nearly 22,300 people in this category, compared with almost 4,900 who were working part-time.

Where People Worked

Human Health and Social Work Activities sector accounted for the largest number of workers in the county at almost 4,600. Manufacturing was the next largest, with just over 3,600 workers followed by Wholesale and Retail Trade with almost 3,500 workers.

Sligo had the joint lowest proportion of the daytime population who were also residents, at 37%. Almost 8,600 people commuted to the town for work.

Working From Home

A new question was included in Census 2022 asking people whether they ever worked from home and if so, for how many days per week. There were almost 30,400 people at work in Sligo in April 2022. Of these, almost 18,800 (62%) never worked from home, while more than 8,200 (27%) people worked from home at least some of the time. Of those working from home, almost 2,200 people did so for five days per week, with 1,550 doing so for one day and 1,367 for two days each week.

Level of Education (Summary results)

The number of people with a third level qualification in County Sligo rose from almost 16,600 in 2016 to just under 21,000 in 2022. This was a rate of 44%, just below that at national level (45%). There were 509 people in the county who held a PhD, which was 1% of all PhD holders in the country.

Almost 12,700 people, or 27% of all those aged 15 and over, had completed their full-time education at upper secondary level. This was up from almost 12,100 people in 2016.

A further 6,247 people in the county in Census 2022 (13% of all those aged 15 and over) had completed their education at lower secondary level, compared with 6,312 people in Census 2016 who indicated they had done so. More than 446,000 people nationally had completed their education at lower secondary level (13%).

Almost 4,500 people aged 15 and over had completed their education at primary level or had no formal education (10%). This was down from nearly 5,800 people in 2016.

Age Completing Education

The average age at which people completed their full-time education increased in all counties between Census 2016 and Census 2022. In Sligo the average age rose from 19.9 years to 21 years. Nationally the average age went from 19.9 years to 20.8 years.

Key Service Providers

Analysis of key service providers in the area, key decision makers, and the resources under the theme.

Sector	Provider
Education:	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board Atlantic Technology University Sligo
Health and Social Services:	Health Service Executive TULSA – The Child and Family Agency
Youth Services	Foróige CYPSC Sligo, Children and Young People's Service Committees North Connaught Youth & Community Services Sligo Comhairle na nÓg

Needs Analysis

The foundation of any impactful action plan lies in a thorough understanding of the specific needs and challenges within the community it aims to serve. In the context of Sligo's PEACEPLUS Action Plan, a locally based needs analysis was formed via a combination of research and stakeholder engagement to ensure tailored projects which provided relevant solutions and positive impact.

Theme 1.1.1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation	
Key Areas for Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing new infrastructure and facilities for new community services. • Projects to enhance existing infrastructure and facilities to improve existing community services. • Economic and social development activities. • Utilising existing space better • Projects focused on conservation and protecting the environment. • Education and skills development
<p>The drivers and underlying causes of the identified areas for development in Sligo are multifaceted. The need for developing new infrastructure and facilities for community groups and services stems from the growing demands of an evolving population and the requirement to accommodate the needs of new communities. Additionally, the higher percentage of people aged 65 and above in County Sligo (18.38%) compared to the national average (15.08%) highlights a necessity for developing infrastructure and facilities tailored to the needs of an ageing population. Economic and social development activities are required to uplift and sustain local economies, fostering a resilient and thriving community. The desire to utilise existing space more efficiently results in the challenge of maximising resources and maximising the use of already available resources to meet community needs.</p>	

Theme 1.1.2:	Thriving and Peaceful Communities
Key Areas for Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects linked to breaking down barriers. • Youth development activities bringing young people together. • Promotion of health and environmental education. • Integration of migrants, Travellers, and asylum seekers into the local community. • Improving accessibility and inclusion. • Public Safety and Health & Wellbeing. • Improving sustainability • Intergenerational engagement. • Building capacity e.g., community leaders and volunteers. • Projects linked to tailored support and interventions e.g., Mental health and inclusive learning • Educational and skill development projects • Raising awareness/ celebrating diversity.
<p>The identified key areas for development demonstrate a need to foster inclusivity, remove societal barriers and promote wellbeing. Existing underlying causes include current social and cultural divides that hinder community cohesion and harmony. There is a need to bridge gaps between different community groups, build understanding and promote activities for future collaboration. Particularly, the integration of under-represented groups such as migrant, Traveller, disabled people, signifies a dedication to diversity and social integration, and creating environments that are welcoming and accommodating to all.</p> <p>The commitment to fostering inclusivity and breaking down barriers is informed by a demographic landscape characterised by a diverse population. The rise in dual Irish citizens to 1993 and the presence of non-Irish citizens at 9% highlight the increasing diversity and a need to focus on inclusivity and cross-culture understanding. Furthermore, the age distribution with 20.41 % of the population under 16 and 24.58% aged 60 and over, suggests intergenerational dynamics that necessitate targeted initiatives. Overall, the key development areas identified are dynamically shaped by the evolving demographic and socio-economic landscape.</p>	

Theme 1.1.3: Celebrating Cultures and Diversity	
Key Areas for Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To address residual fear and separation among communities segregated by the border and/or religion during the troubles in Northern Ireland. • Media and arts representation. • Opportunities for young people from a different traditions, cultural, background of political opinion. • Tackling discrimination. • Promoting cross-cultural understanding and building respect for diverse cultural identities. • Improving inclusivity for migrants/diverse groups in communities. • Community engagement opportunities to foster a sense of belonging. • Celebrating culture and building respect for all cultural identities.
<p>The identified key areas for development under the theme 'Celebrating Cultures and Diversity' stem from historical, social, and cultural factors that have influenced the community. The separation among communities in Sligo, and communities in Ireland and Northern Ireland which were segregated by borders and differing religious affiliations, point to a lasting impact of historical divisions. These divisions have created a need for intentional efforts to promote cohesion and unity.</p> <p>The focus on improving inclusivity for migrants and diverse groups reflects a response to County Sligo's evolving demographic landscape, ensuring that all residents feel welcomed, included and valued. Furthermore, the desire for community engagement opportunities and activities focused on building respect for all cultural identities stem from a recognition of the value of diverse perspectives in shaping a vibrant and inclusive community.</p>	

Key Beneficiaries of Action Plan Projects

The challenges and key areas for development addressed in Sligo's PEACEPLUS Action Plan have varied impacts of different segments of the community.

Particularly, vulnerable demographics, including migrants, LGBTQIA+ individuals, disabled people, Travellers, minority faith communities, and those in new communities are central to the Action Plan. As are those most affected by historical conflict legacies and its divisions. By prioritising these groups, the Action Plan ensures inclusive and targeted initiatives that address unique needs and promote equality and social cohesion. The aim is to ensure that the benefits and positive impacts of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan reach those who have been historically marginalised.

Section 4: Project Options Considered and Preferred Options

This chapter of the Action plan delves into the comprehensive process of evaluating and selecting project options for inclusion in the PEACEPLUS Action plan. It provides a detailed account of the options considered, the criteria employed in determining the preferred choices, and the subsequent elaboration of selected actions and activities.

The PEACEPLUS Partnership convened at regular intervals throughout this rigorous process, with each stage characterised by the provision of informative materials highlighting the key themes and potential projects that had emerged from the focus groups, public surveys, targeted engagement sessions, and online submissions. This data was compiled into an extensive list of potential projects. This initial list of ideas underwent a review by Council Officers to ensure their alignment with the overarching goals of PEACEPLUS, verify the absence of duplication with other local projects, and confirm their eligibility under investment area 1.1. This refined long-list was then presented to the PEACEPLUS Partnership for their input.

To further refine and prioritise the projects, the Partnership established a working group. This group engaged in a workshop alongside Council Officers and Consultants, who jointly assessed the projects under each theme. In preparation for this collaborative effort, members were provided with the long-list of projects under each theme in advance to allow for thorough review. The document accompanying this exercise detailed the areas targeted for development, comprehensive project descriptions, potential barriers, or comments for each project, as well as insights from relevant stakeholders. See [Appendix 3](#) for full long-list.

The day of the workshop began with a comprehensive review of the process, ensuring that all participants were well-informed and aligned with the objectives. Members of the PEACEPLUS Partnership were then tasked with individually grading each project across seven distinct categories, with ratings ranging from 0 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority). Additionally, members had the opportunity to highlight projects that they felt particularly passionate about above others. Below is a table of the seven categories used for assessment:

Relevant	How closely does this project idea align with the overarching theme and address issues identified during the co-design phase?
Peace	Will the project contribute to a lasting peace in the region?
Prosperity	To what extent does the project foster economic development in the area?
Social Inclusion	Will the project enhance social inclusion and cross-community integration?
Equality	Does the project ensure accessibility to all community members and align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?
Feasible	Is the project realistically achievable?
Legacy	Will the PEACE project leave a meaningful and lasting legacy in the community?



Members of Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership at City Hall, Sligo. April 2023

Following the collation of project scores, the feedback from the working group was assembled and subsequently presented to the wider PEACEPLUS Partnership for their valuable insights. After extensive deliberations and additional discussions, recommendations were put forward to the Partnership, advising against the further pursuit of certain projects. These decisions were made in light of the challenges and obstacles identified in both the conceptualisation and implementation of these projects.

Being outside the scope of PEACEPLUS 1.1 criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEACE Train • Counselling Services (Theme 4.3) • Harbours and Piers - on advice from Sligo County Council staff re ownership and management and funding. • Derelict and vacant properties and sites - on advice from Sligo County Council staff re ownership, insurance, management, and funding.
Duplication of existing resources and displacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genealogy standalone project - County Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Centre • Supports for Autism and disabled to transition to workplace (EmployAbility CLG) • Special Education provision • Streets and estates maintenance. Bus shelters. • Helping Hand Volunteer Programme
Excessive budget required to deliver idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-housing • Pop-up pool • Building sports facilities – basketball, soccer pitch, running tracks, redevelopment of Sligo Sports Complex.
Planning/development/ownership challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Centre • St. Crumnathy's Cathedral
Where work is already in progress or alternative core funding exists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Electric charging points • Town Centre First and public realm works at Tubbercurry and Strandhill respectively. • CLÁR, Measure 1 supports sensory gardens, Multi-Use Games Area, outdoor gyms and enhancement of walking/running tracks. • Public transport app. • Funds for training of staff in statutory bodies • Language and integration classes • Engagement of Salaried position • Upgrading community hall facilities for sustainability • Exam stress supports.

As project development evolved, two more suggestions were removed from list with agreement of Partnership (Meeting 8/11/2023) as they were not meeting standard and criteria required for PEACEPLUS Programme: the Treaty of the Trees; the Yeats People Bridge. Furthermore, a capital project relating to parks in County Sligo was found to cost in considerable excess of Programme budget and was withdrawn from consideration by proposer, Feb. 2024.

Once consensus was reached, the Partnership granted approval to disregard these ideas and to further develop the others. This list of projects and a brief description are presented below.

Local Community Regeneration and Transformation

Project	Description
Land of Art's Desire	Creative space used as workshop, exhibition, rehearsal and performance space targeting young people.
PAZMÁS – The Armada Across Seas and Borders	Explore project relating to Spanish Armada Ireland at Grange and potential expansion including Cliffoney, Mullaghmore, etc.
Celtic Connections	Ballymote connection to Brother Walfrid of Celtic FC. Potential for one of two available spaces to be renovated to museum/interpretive space. Linked to project that would animate the space under Celebrating Cultures and Diversity.
Dromore West Digiversal	Explore development of facilities at Dromore West Community Centre to support users with sensory disabilities – old and young. This incorporates upgrade and provision of tech equipment that would support development of employable skills and increase social inclusion through broadcasting.

Thriving and Peaceful Communities

Project	Description
The GFA for Gen Z: Project Lighthouse	Exploring what the Good Friday Agreement means to people under 25 through arts and media on a cross-border basis.
Cross-Border Friendship Tournament	Exploration of sports tournaments for girls and boys (U15/U17/U19) from both sides of the border. Proposed as soccer. Explore opportunities for additional sports.
Men's Sheds Exchange	Enabling cross-community interaction and providing social support opportunities through project of exchange visits and sharing with Men's Sheds network in Northern Ireland.
Tuning Into Social Inclusion	Cross-border and cross community music projects for young people – Partner opportunity with Music Generation Sligo. (Projects using music also in Celebrating Cultures and Diversity)
Digital PEACEPLUS	Using projects that provide digital skills (animation, film, broadcasting, game making, etc.) and capitalise on common digital interests to bring together people of diverse backgrounds. Opportunities for capacity building in cultural awareness, intergenerational work, employability and cross-border. (Can be linked and support projects under Celebrating Cultures and Diversity)
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	Communities engage in workshops focused on cycle of growth, connection to nature and field to fork. Social inclusion, field to fork process – can be linked to Celebrating Cultures and Diversity. Includes capacity in biodiversity Train the Trainer and Ocean Awareness. Horizontal Principle of Sustainability and wellbeing and mindfulness. Intergenerational and cross-community.
We Can Fix It	Interaction and sharing skills through exploration of circular economy. Activities encouraging sustainability and re-learning fix it skills.

Supporting Local	Capacity and Inclusion: explore support of local ambassador project that incorporates new and otherwise unheard members of communities to play a role as local ambassadors for visitors and new arrivals.
-------------------------	---

Celebrating Cultures and Diversity

Project	Description
Human Stories Unveiled	Using the Human library concept and photography to explore identity and diversity and facilitate cross-cultural learning and exchange. Good opportunity to incorporate cultural awareness training and explore how what is learned impacts day-to-day actions in community groups. This project expanded in development to include Quiet Conversations, writing and podcasting.
The Sligo World Festival of Everything	Widespread and repeated expression given to using Food, Film, Music, Dance, Costume, Drama, Traditional Crafts, etc. for cross-cultural learning and interaction. Projects to support these and facilitate the exchange. Potential to link events, 2025-27 to culmination in Festival taking place across Sligo and beyond in 2027. (Could link capacity training for same under Thriving and Peaceful Communities).
From Shore to Shore	Exploring innovative links, including cross-border, that support local economic prosperity through maritime cultural, folklore and mythology, to promote tourism for communities across Sligo, e.g. sea shanty tradition along entire coast of Ireland, Finn McCool, Diarmuid agus Grainne and the Giants Causeway, etc. Project/s exploring history – oral, placenames, Irish Civil War, mythology and folklore – to illuminate our understanding of Sligo today, resolving conflict, incorporating difference and diversity.



Council staff and consultants actively engaged with organisations and individuals who submitted project ideas through the different channels. This collaborative effort involved detailed development, incorporating specific budgets, participant numbers, anticipated outcomes, and project outputs.

During this detailed developmental phase, certain projects were identified as unfeasible due to budgetary excess, misalignment with expectations, or the submitting organisation's inability to partner effectively. Additionally, a strategic assessment revealed synergies among some projects, prompting a decision to consolidate and amalgamate them into larger, more impactful programme. Throughout this phase, Partnership members were kept informed.

Through these discussions, the final list of projects featured in the action plan emerged. These were approved by the PEACEPLUS Partnership on 14th February 2024. Section 1 of this action plan provides detailed insights into each project, encompassing their objectives, budgets, and expected outcomes.

See [Table 1: Final List of Projects](#) below



Table 1: Final List of Projects

Local Community Regeneration and Transformation	Thriving and Peaceful Communities	Celebrating Cultures and Diversity
Land of Art's Desire	The GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse	Human Stories Unveiled
PAZMÁS – The Armada Across Seas and Borders	Cross-Border Friendship Tournament	The Sligo World Festival of Everything
Celtic Connections	Men's Sheds Exchange	Shore to Shore
Dromore West Digiversal	Tuning Into Social Inclusion	
	Digital PEACEPLUS	
	A Biodiverse Year in Nature	
	We Can Fix It	
	Supporting Local	
Overall Budget: € 1,136,780	Overall Budget: €786,102	Overall Budget: € 754,266
Participants: 1300	Participants: 2497	Participants: 700

Section 5: Budget & Financial Projections

Annual Projections For Each Indicative Action by Theme

Local Community Regeneration and Transformation Budgets

Programme	Budget (Detailed)	
Land of Arts Desire	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 30,713
	Equipment Costs	0.00
	Investment (Capital) Costs	€ 249,700
	Grant request for project	€ 280,413
PAZMÁS	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 63,000
	Equipment Costs	€ 30,000
	Investment (Capital) Costs	€ 175,441
	Grant request for project	€ 267,929
Celtic Connections	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 50,907
	Equipment Costs	€ 40,000
	Investment (Capital) Costs	€ 275,919
	Grant request for project	€ 366,826
Dromore West Digiversal	External Expertise & Services Costs	0.00 ⁷
	Equipment Costs	€ 37,500
	Investment (Capital) Costs	€ 184,113
	Grant request for project	€ 221,613
TOTAL		€1,136,780⁸

⁷ Sligo County Council Executive Engineer will provide expertise and oversight. Installation of procured and contracted investment items required for this project is included in cost of items.

⁸ €1 out due to rounding



Thriving and Peaceful Communities Budgets

Programme	Budget (Detailed)	
GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse (Full Partner)	Staff Costs	€ 27,217
	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 169,064
	Equipment Costs	€ 6,050
	Grant request for project	€ 202,331
Cross-Border Friendship Tournament	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 104,680
	Equipment Costs	€ 4,920
	Grant request for project	€ 109,600
Men's Sheds Exchange	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 54,450
	Equipment Costs	€ 2,978
	Grant request for project	€ 61,428
Tuning Into Social Inclusion (Full Partner)	Staff Costs	€ 16,288
	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 89,897
	Equipment Costs	€ 1,420
	Grant request for project	€107,605
Digital PEACEPLUS	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 98,700
	Equipment Costs	€ 68,978
	Grant request for project	€ 167,678
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 54,450
	Equipment Costs	€ 7,823
	Grant request for project	€ 66,083
We Can Fix It	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 44,842
	Equipment Costs	€ 5,138
	Grant request for project	€ 49,980
Supporting Local	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 18,420
	Equipment Costs	€ 2,978
	Grant request for project	€ 21,398
TOTAL		€ 786,102



Celebrating Cultures and Diversity Budgets

Programme	Budget (Detailed)	
Human Stories Unveiled	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 203, 729
	Equipment Costs	€ 10, 668
	Grant request for project	€ 214, 397
Sligo World Festival of Everything	External Expertise & Services Costs	€ 405,680
	Equipment Costs	€ 41,419
	Grant request for project	€ 447,099
Shore To Shore	External Expertise & Services Costs	90,694
	Equipment Costs	€ 2,076
	Grant request for project	€ 92,770
TOTAL		€754, 266

Total Budget

	Totals	%
Programme Management Costs	€926,640	25.71%
1.1.1. Local Community Regeneration and Transformation	€1,136,780	31.54%
1.1.2. Thriving and Peaceful Communities	€786,102	21.81%
1.1.3. Celebrating Cultures and Diversity	€754,266	20.93%
Subtotal	€3,603,788	100%

Budget and Income Statement

		Exp	Inc	Exp	Inc	Exp	Inc	Exp	Inc	Exp	Inc	
		Up to 2023		2024		2025		2026		2027		Balance
Mgmt Budget	Staffing	€ 71,361	€ -	€ 133,546	€ 161,144	€ 190,949	€ 195,583	€ 200,636	€ 198,651	€ 201,601	€ 242,715	€ -
	Ext Expt and Services	€ 25,235	€ -	€ 24,681	€ 43,607	€ 25,784	€ 25,508	€ 25,784	€ 25,784	€ 25,784	€ 32,369	€ -
	Equipment costs	€ 1,279	€ -	€ -	€ 1,279	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
	Total	€ 97,875	€ -	€ 158,227	€ 206,030	€ 216,733	€ 221,091	€ 226,420	€ 224,435	€ 227,385	€ 275,084	€ -
1.1.1	Staffing	€ -	€ -	€ -								€ -
	Ext Expt and Services	€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 71,334	€ 53,501	€ 64,632	€ 66,308	€ 8,654	€ 24,812	€ -
	Equipment costs	€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 46,950	€ 35,213	€ 53,750	€ 52,050	€ 6,800	€ 20,238	€ -
	Investment Costs	€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 457,849	€ 343,387	€ 379,905	€ 399,391	€ 46,906	€ 141,882	€ -
	Total	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 576,133	€ 432,100	€ 498,287	€ 517,749	€ 62,360	€ 186,932	€ -
1.1.2	Staffing	€ -	€ -	€ 10,876	€ -	€ 32,629	€ 43,505		€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -
	Ext Expt and Services	€ -	€ -	€ 70,585	€ -	€ 320,391	€ 310,878	€ 201,296	€ 231,070	€ 50,041	€ 100,365	€ -
	Equipment costs	€ -	€ -	€ 2,165	€ -	€ 29,738	€ 24,469	€ 61,865	€ 53,833	€ 6,516	€ 21,982	€ -
	Total	€ -	€ -	€ 83,626	€ -	€ 382,758	€ 378,852	€ 263,161	€ 284,903	€ 56,557	€ 122,347	€ -
1.1.3	Ext Expt and Services	€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 276,446	€ 207,334	€ 175,026	€ 200,381	€ 248,632	€ 292,389	€ -
	Equipment costs	€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 24,749	€ 18,562	€ 14,394	€ 16,983	€ 15,020	€ 18,618	€ -
	Total	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ -	€ 301,195	€ 225,896	€ 189,420	€ 217,364	€ 263,652	€ 311,007	€ -
	Annual Totals	€ 97,875	€ -	€ 241,853	€ 206,030	€ 1,476,819	€ 1,257,938	€ 1,177,288	€ 1,244,450	€ 609,953	€ 895,370	€ -
								Total Exp	€ 3,603,788	Total inc.	€3,603,788	

Assumptions

- In General** Expenditure has been assumed on expenditure incurred actually and based on project needs and completion. Income has been assumed at 75% of q Annual cost plus remaining 25% of previous year where applicable and balancing amount in 2027. This is based on quarterly claims and financial reports being three months in arrears.
- Mgt Budget** Total costs up to date of application estimated at €117,800. simplified costs will apply to first €100K of this with remainder being claimed thereafter. All other expenditure based on needs of plan, with claims on quarterly basis as above
- Theme 1.1.1** Land of Arts Desire will be 75% complete 2025, fully complete 2026. PAZMÁS 50% completion over 2025 and 2026. Celtic Connections will reach 33% completion 2025, another 50% in 2026 and full completion (17%) by 2027. Dromore West Digiversal: 50% completion in years 2025 and 2026.
- Theme 1.1.2** Staffing of Partner Projects, Tuning in For Social Inclusion and GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse, will commence and complete 25% in 2024 with remaining 75% undertaken in 2025.
Projects will progress at following percentage over years of Plan: GFA4GenZ and Tuning in for Social inclusion, 25% in 2024 and 75% in 2025. C-B Friendship, 50% each in 2025 and 2026; Men's Sheds, 10% in 2024, 40% each in 2025 and 2026, 10% in 2027; Digital PP 25% in 2025 with remainder in 2026; A Biodiverse Year, 25% in 2025, 50% in 2026 and 25% in 2027; We Can Fix It, 25% in years 2025 and 2027, 50% in 2026; Supporting Local, 100% in 2027.
- Theme 1.1.3** Projects incur expenditure at following rates over years 2025 - 2027: Human Stories Unveiled, 25% in 2025, 50% in 2026 and 25% in 2027; Sligo World Festival of Everything, 50% in 2025 and 25% in years 2026 and 2027; Shore To Shore, 25% in years 2025 and 2026 and 50% in 2027.

Section 6: Risk Analysis (Risks, Uncertainty & Constraints)

Risk	Description	Risk Owner	Impact	Impact Description	Probability/ Likelihood	Mitigation Strategy Required
Financial	Unexpected financial limitations or delays could hinder the delivery of the Action Plan.	Sligo County Council	High	If financial limitation occurred due to factors such as increased costs, it could cause operational disruption, timeline delays and resource allocation issues.	Medium	This will be mitigated through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • robust financial planning and regular financial monitoring. • Budget of for 10% optimism bias on Capital Investment. • Use of clear financial protocols for budget management.
Operational	Resistance or lack of support from community groups.	Sligo County Council	High	Lack of support from community would render Action Plan ineffective: causing stakeholder disengagement, community division; and reputational damage.	Low	This Plan was developed via-co-design having significant input from community groups throughout its creation. This communication will continue through Action Plan implementation to ensure this risk is mitigated.

Political	Shifts in political priorities at a local or national level could impact the continuity and support for the Action Plan.	SEUPB Sligo County Council	High	A shift in political priorities could bring significant policy and regulatory changes to be become familiar with.	Low	To mitigate this there will be a continuous monitoring of political situations. Additionally, there will be development of relationships with local authorities.
Operational	A shortage of skilled professionals to deliver the Action Plan.	Sligo County Council	High	A shortage of skilled professionals could result in project delays, quality compromises, increased workload on existing staff, budget overrun and overall risk of project failure.	Low	This will be mitigated through targeted talent planning and acquisition and significant training and development to ensure all staff are skilled and of the desired quality.
Operational	Unforeseen events such as a pandemic or other crisis, could disrupt the implementation time and resource availability.	Sligo County Council	High	Another pandemic would cause significant delays, the unavailability of resources and action plan becoming ineffective.	Low	Should a pandemic occur the government guidance will be followed aligned with the objectives of the action plan to ensure the minimisation of deviation from the action plan.

Operational	Creep of Project scope and budgets	SCC	Low	If creep of project scope and budgets occurred it would result in timeline delays, Resource Overallocation and Stakeholder frustration	Low	The Plan and projects are clearly defined and scoped. Additionally, budgets are be set. The scope and budgets will be consistently reviewed to ensure alignment. Contingency planning will also be utilised.
Financial	Unexpected Economic Downturn		High	If there was an unexpected Economic Downturn there would be significant budget constraints which could lead to resource scarcity, project delays and stakeholder uncertainty.	Low	Should an economic downturn occur effective mitigation strategies will be in place such as scenario planning and financial contingency planning. This complimented with regular financial monitoring and adaptability will ensure effective mitigation of this risk.



Note: Specific Risk Registers will be a requisite of each project element under tendering.




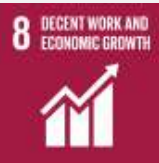


Section 7: Horizontal Themes – Sustainable Development and Equality








Horizontal Themes




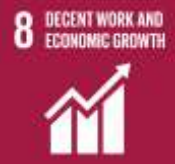




The Sligo County Council PEACEPLUS Action Plan is committed to aligning with the principles and objectives of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This alignment was a key part of the planning process, thoughtfully integrated into the co-design phase, and the subsequent selection of projects and programmes by the PEACEPLUS Partnership. The overarching goal of this Action Plan is to promote peace, prosperity, and community development, which resonates profoundly with the spirit of the SDGs. Through its strategic focus, the Action Plan seamlessly relates with various Sustainable Development Goals. The table below highlights each project and the SDG/ SDG's that it aligns with.










PROJECT	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	
Land of Art's Desire		The project empowers young people by providing workshops, exhibitions, and creative activities that contribute to their personal development and essential life skills.
		By creating an inclusive creative space for young people, this project promotes gender equality, providing equal opportunities and resources, addressing gender disparities in creative fields.
		Project's emphasis on skills development and creativity contributes to economic growth by nurturing talents of young people: potential employment opportunities in the creative sector.
		The project aims to foster a sense of community cohesion and inclusivity, which directly aligns with the goal of reducing inequalities and promoting social cohesion.
		The creation of a safe and accessible creative space that serves cultural expression, learning, and collaboration, contributes to the development of sustainable and inclusive communities.









	<div>  <p>The project actively promotes peace and social cohesion by providing a platform for understanding, empathy, and collaboration among community members.</p> </div> <div>  <p>Fostering partnerships between different community groups, particularly intergenerational, promotes sharing of skills and experiences, contributing to the objective of global partnerships for sustainable development.</p> </div>
PAZMÁS	<div>  <p>The project's goal to explore and commemorate the history of the Spanish Armada provides an educational platform that enhances historical awareness. Through educational projects and the Spanish Armada Visitor Centre, it contributes to the goal of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project aims to renovate, modernise, and expand the visitor centre, thereby enhancing the infrastructure and appeal of the local community.</p> </div> <div>  <p>By promoting cross-community understanding and historical awareness, the project contributes to SDG 16, which emphasises the importance of peaceful and inclusive societies.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project envisions growing partnerships with Spain and its people, who visit Ireland regularly. This aligns with strengthening global partnerships to achieve sustainable development.</p> </div>
Celtic Connections	<div>  <p>Establishing the Brother Walfrid Museum, creates a venue that amplifies historical awareness. Through immersive museum experience and educational programmes, the project contributes significantly to the goal of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project is a commitment to sustainability. It enhances the local infrastructure and enriches the cultural appeal of the community.</p> </div>





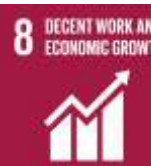


	<div data-bbox="359 203 507 349">  </div> <p>Emphasising cross-community understanding and historical appreciation, the "Celtic Connections" project plays an important role in advancing SDG 16. By fostering an environment of shared history and inclusivity, the project contributes to the broader objective of creating peaceful and just societies.</p> <div data-bbox="359 517 518 669">  </div> <p>The project's vision extends beyond Sligo, seeking to cultivate partnerships in Northern Ireland and Scotland. This strategic collaboration aligns with the essence of SDG 17, which advocates for strengthened global partnerships to collectively achieve sustainable development goals.</p>
<p>Dromore West Digiversal</p>	<div data-bbox="359 815 518 976">  </div> <p>The project involves the provision of tech equipment that supports development of employability skills in students. By creating an inclusive space, the project promotes inclusive education and skill development for individuals with sensory disabilities.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1072 518 1234">  </div> <p>Supporting the development of employable skills, the project will support young students and disabled people gain access to employment opportunities, in turn, promoting economic growth.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1308 528 1473">  </div> <p>The project focuses on increasing social inclusion through means including- development of a sensory room, broadcasting, and technology. By improving accessibility and opportunities for young people, elderly individuals and disabled people, it helps reduce inequalities and promotes inclusivity.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1637 518 1798">  </div> <p>The project enhances the facilities at Dromore West Community Centre. The creation of a safe, accessible, inclusive community space serves the broader community by providing a venue for learning, personal development, and collaboration, contributing to the development of sustainable and inclusive communities.</p>

	<div data-bbox="359 194 518 353">  </div> <p>The project actively promotes peace and social cohesion by providing a platform for inclusivity and collaboration among community members.</p> <div data-bbox="359 409 518 568">  </div> <p>The project fosters partnerships between different community groups, particularly activities designed to be inclusive of disabled people and/or intergenerational. This promotes sharing of skills and experiences, contributing to the broader objective of global partnerships for sustainable development.</p>
<p>The GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse</p>	<div data-bbox="359 712 518 871">  </div> <p>By providing a platform for young people to explore identity and engage in creative expression, the project indirectly supports mental health and well-being, promoting positive mental states and personal growth.</p> <div data-bbox="359 949 518 1108">  </div> <p>Through workshops, skills development, and the creation of a digital educational pack, the project empowers young people in peacebuilding skills and artistic expression, contributing to the goal of quality education for all.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1232 518 1391">  </div> <p>The project aims to bridge divides and reduce inequalities by fostering mutual understanding and empathy among participants from diverse backgrounds.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1447 518 1606">  </div> <p>By encouraging participants from different regions to engage in cross-border exchange projects, the project promotes connections and understanding between communities.</p> <div data-bbox="359 1662 518 1821">  </div> <p>The primary aim is to promote peacebuilding through cross-community engagement, fostering dialogue, and understanding among young people from diverse backgrounds.</p>


	 <p>The collaborative nature of the project, involving multiple theatre organisations and experts, highlights the significance of partnerships in achieving sustainable development objectives, directly supporting SDG 17.</p>
Cross-Border Friendship Tournament	 <p>By encouraging young people to participate in sports and promoting mental health and well-being workshops, the project supports the well-being of participants.</p>
	 <p>Pre-tournament workshops and discussions offer opportunities for participants to learn about leadership, communication, and conflict resolution.</p>
	 <p>The project, through its tournaments, has the potential to boost tourism and bring new visitors to Sligo each year, potentially creating job opportunities and contributing to the goal of decent work and economic growth.</p>
	 <p>The project's focus on cross-border friendship and inclusion helps reduce inequalities by bringing together participants from diverse backgrounds and fostering mutual understanding. It aligns with the goal of reducing inequalities and promoting social cohesion.</p>
	 <p>The project enhances the appeal of Sligo as a destination by hosting a prominent annual tournament, fostering community engagement, and promoting cultural celebrations.</p>
	 <p>The project's primary goal is to promote peace and unity by bringing together young participants from both sides of the Irish border.</p>
Men's Sheds Exchange	 <p>The project aims to improve the mental health and well-being of its participants, aligning with the goal of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.</p>


	 <p>By offering practical skills workshops, the project contributes to quality education by empowering participants with valuable skills and knowledge.</p>
	 <p>The project promotes inclusivity by bringing together men from diverse backgrounds and encouraging open dialogue.</p>
	 <p>The project enhances community cohesion by nurturing relationships and understanding among participants: creating sustainable, inclusive, and resilient cities and communities.</p>
	 <p>By fostering cross-border collaboration and partnerships among Men's Sheds groups.</p>
Tuning into Social Inclusion	 <p>By offering training, workshops, and access to professional musicians and composers, the project promotes quality education for children and young people, particularly in the realm of music and cultural understanding.</p>
	 <p>The project's goal of uniting children and young people from diverse backgrounds aligns with reducing inequalities and promoting social cohesion.</p>
	 <p>Through the universal language of music, the project aims to build bridges between communities.</p>
	 <p>The project forms partnerships with schools and community organisations across the border.</p>
Digital PEACEPLUS	 <p>The project empowers participants by enhancing their digital skills and knowledge.</p>

	<div>  <p>By involving individuals from diverse backgrounds and generations, the project promotes gender equality, offering equal opportunities to all, regardless of age, background, or experience.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project supports inclusivity by bringing together individuals from various backgrounds, promoting cultural awareness, and enhancing cross-community relationships.</p> </div> <div>  <p>It aims to create a sense of unity and shared purpose within Sligo's diverse communities, contributing to creating sustainable, inclusive, and resilient cities and communities.</p> </div> <div>  <p>Through fostering cross-community relationships, open dialogue, and trust, the project aligns with the goal of achieving peaceful and inclusive societies.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project seeks to engage with local community organisations, schools, and youth centres, establishing partnerships for resource sharing and collaboration.</p> </div>
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	<div>  <p>Building capacity in communities to understand, protect and enhance local biodiversity, and providing environmental education aligns with the goal of promoting quality education and lifelong learning opportunities.</p> </div> <div>  <p>Through engaging a diverse group of participants, the project promotes a whole-community approach to biodiversity protection whilst addressing the goal of reducing inequalities within the community.</p> </div> <div>  <p>The project's focus on voluntary organisations and community groups directly contributes to the SDG 11 goal by working towards making cities and communities more sustainable.</p> </div>

		<p>The project's emphasis on sustainable practices aligns with SDG 13. By empowering communities to understand and protect their local environments, the project contributes to climate resilience.</p>
		<p>With a focus on marine life, ocean conservation, and the negative impacts of microplastics, the project directly aligns with SDG 14 by raising awareness about the importance of ocean health.</p>
		<p>By focusing on biodiversity conservation and enhancement, the project contributes directly to SDG 15.</p>
		<p>By fostering cross-community interaction and collaboration related to local nature, the project encourages the development of strong and inclusive institutions.</p>
<p>We Can Fix It</p>		<p>The project encourages participants to learn and practice skills from one another. The repair cafes facilitate learning spaces where individuals can enhance their practical skills, contributing to the development of a skilled community.</p>
		<p>By encouraging skill sharing, the project contributes to the development of local community members and fosters a sense of economic inclusivity.</p>
		<p>The repair cafes are community spaces promoting collaboration and skill sharing. This will contribute to the overall enhancement of local communities.</p>
		<p>By promoting a circular economy through repair cafes, the project provides opportunities to reduce waste, strongly align with SDG 12.</p>

	 <p>The project encourages collaboration between community groups and organisations, promoting cross-community activities.</p>
Supporting Local	 <p>By providing leadership development opportunities, ambassador training and ongoing support, participants can gain valuable skills and knowledge, fostering inclusive leadership and learning within the community.</p>
	 <p>The project's emphasis on supporting and welcoming people from diverse backgrounds contributes to SDG 10 by promoting inclusive and reducing divisions within communities.</p>
	 <p>Through ambassador training, the project aims to create a shared sense of purpose and belonging within communities, promoting sustainable community development.</p>
	 <p>By supporting people from diverse backgrounds and focusing on training community ambassadors, the project facilitates building strong and inclusive institutions at community levels.</p>
Human Stories Unveiled	 <p>By bringing together diverse communities and fostering open conversations, the project contributes to reducing inequalities and promoting understanding among different social groups.</p>
	 <p>Through artistic expression, the project contributes to creating awareness about community experiences, promoting dialogue, and building a sustainable and inclusive community in Sligo.</p>
	 <p>The project aims to create an environment that fosters understanding and breaks down stereotypes, contributing to the promotion of peace and justice within the community.</p>

<p>The Sligo World Festival of Everything</p>	<div data-bbox="360 203 534 378"> <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p>  </div> <p>By providing educational opportunities and resources, the project contributes to quality education, fostering skills development and empowering participating groups.</p> <div data-bbox="360 405 534 580"> <p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p>  </div> <p>The commitment to inclusivity, especially towards marginalized groups, contributes to promoting gender equality and ensuring equal opportunities for participation.</p> <div data-bbox="360 629 534 804"> <p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p>  </div> <p>The emphasis on diverse representation and engagement works towards reducing inequalities by providing a platform for various communities to actively participate and share their cultural expressions.</p> <div data-bbox="360 864 534 1039"> <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>  </div> <p>The project aims to build a more sustainable and inclusive community by fostering connections, understanding, and collaboration among diverse cultural groups.</p> <div data-bbox="360 1077 534 1252"> <p>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p>  </div> <p>The culmination event promotes peace and unity, contributing to the development of a harmonious community, aligning with SDG 16's objectives.</p> <div data-bbox="360 1290 534 1464"> <p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>  </div> <p>Building partnerships and collaborations is crucial for the success of the project, promoting shared goals and collective efforts towards sustainable and inclusive festivals.</p>
<p>Shore to Shore</p>	<div data-bbox="352 1525 531 1704"> <p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p>  </div> <p>The project contributes to SDG 8 by aiming to enhance the local economy through increased tourism, with a focus on promoting Sligo's rich history.</p> <div data-bbox="352 1749 531 1928"> <p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>  </div> <p>By engaging with local communities and businesses, the project will promote inclusivity and a deeper understanding of Sligo's history, contributing to sustainable development.</p>

		<p>The project's exploration of Sligo's history contributes to SDG 16 by promoting understanding, diversity, and unity.</p>
--	---	---

Equality

Central to this PEACEPLUS Action Plan is the advancement of equal opportunities among:

- Persons with varying religious beliefs, political opinions, racial backgrounds, ages, marital statuses, and sexual orientations.
- Both men and women, without discrimination.
- Persons with a disability or without.
- Persons with dependents and those without dependents.

The Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan is committed to mainstreaming the principle of equality, as highlighted by the comprehensive co-design process which ensured meaningful consultation with key target groups. The diverse range of projects included in the Action Plan reflects this commitment. Projects under *Local Community Regeneration and Transformation* such as "Land of Art's Desire," "PAZMÁS – The Armada Across Seas and Borders," and "Dromore West Digiversal," aim to create inclusive spaces and opportunities that support individuals of all abilities, fostering social inclusion and addressing employable skills development.

Under *Thriving and Peaceful Communities* projects like *GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse*, *Cross-Border Friendship Tournament*, and *Men's Sheds Exchange* further exemplify dedication to equality. These initiatives not only explore the Good Friday Agreement's significance for younger people but also promote cross-community interaction and support opportunities for diverse groups through exchange programmes.



Within *Celebrating Cultures and Diversity* the projects delve into exploration of community experiences, oral history, and diverse narratives. These projects actively contribute to understanding and resolving conflicts, incorporating differences, and promoting diversity in Sligo.

The Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan anticipates a positive impact on equality of opportunity for those engaging and affected by the proposed projects. By addressing social inclusion, community engagement, and diverse cultural expressions, the projects aim to create opportunities that transcend traditional boundaries. Efforts will continue to be made to engage with hard-to-reach groups during the plan's implementation further underscoring the commitment to promoting equality.

Moreover, the proposed projects are expected to contribute significantly to promoting good relations between people of different religious beliefs, political opinions, or racial groups. Project elements like *The Human Library* provide platforms for cross-cultural learning, fostering understanding, and building bridges between communities.

In conclusion, the Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan not only outlines a comprehensive and inclusive co-design process but also ensures that the proposed projects actively contribute to equality, social inclusion, and the development of a thriving and peaceful community in Sligo.



Section 8 - Management Arrangements (Project Delivery, Resourcing and Governance)

Delivery Plan Gantt Chart

Operational Action Plan	2024												2025												2026												2027											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Approval of Action Plan from Partnership																																																
Submission of Application																																																
Drafting tenders and consolidating Partner arrangements																																																
Partnership Meetings																																																
Annual Reports																																																
Financial control reporting (monthly)																																																
Issue Capital Tenders																																																
Evaluate Capital Tenders																																																
Issue Capital Contracts																																																
Capital Works																																																
Contract Management and Project Monitoring																																																
Issue Non-Capital Tenders																																																
Evaluate Non-Capital Tenders																																																
Issue Non-Capital Contracts																																																
Quarterly Reports and Claims (SEUPB)																																																

Main Partners

Only two projects within the Sligo Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan will involve Partner Delivery:

Project	Partner	Reasoning
GFA 4 Gen Z: Project Lighthouse	Hawk's Well Theatre, Sligo. Charity Status, having Board of Directors.	Best placed in terms of Director expertise, track record, understanding and relationships to deliver proposed project.
Tuning Into Social Inclusion	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education & Training Board – Music Generation. Local department of public body.	Music Generation have experience, pathways, understanding and resources to deliver proposed project as well as experience managing previous PEACE and EU funding programmes.

Procurement

All other projects will require external procurement, and this will be carried out in accordance with EU, SEUPB, Local Government Procurement guidelines and limits, whichever is the most strict.

See [Appendix 4](#) for current Local Government Procurement Procedures, timelines and Limits.

Key Risks

Outlined above in Section 6.

Governance

Project Management Structure:

At the LCDC meeting of the 28th July, 2022 members agreed the format for the PEACEPLUS Partnership (a subcommittee of Sligo LCDC) to oversee operational matters in the development and implementation of the PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan. It further agreed to commence seeking nominations for membership of Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership from relevant bodies of the 4 pillars identified by the funder SEUPB. See p. 84 for Pillars and Members.

Role of the LCDC:

It was agreed that Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership, reporting to the LCDC would be the overall decision-making body in relation to the PEACEPLUS Programme, focussing on:



- Oversight and feedback Role.
- Monitoring.
- Receipt of reports and input into key decision making where requested by the Sub- committee.

Role of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership:

The Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership was formed to oversee development and implementation of Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan and related decisions.

- Formation of Plan and key decisions required to enable quick response to funders
- Appropriate Project selection and decisions around appropriate method of project delivery e.g partnership delivery or tender.
- Formation of reports back to LCDC and issuing of recommendations
- Overseeing tender selection process.

Staffing Structure

The LCDC and PEACEPLUS Sub-Committee is serviced and administered by Staff from the Community and Economic Development Department of Sligo County Council.

- The Director of Service for Community, Economic Development and Planning is the Chief Officer of the LCDC.
- The Senior Executive Officer is the Section Head for The Department of Community and Enterprise.
- An Administrative Officer from within the section will be line Manager to PEACEPLUS General Manager as part of a wider brief. This person holds the Authorisation for all expenditure undertaken from the PEACEPLUS job code and oversees the responsibilities and work of the PEACEPLUS Manager.
- The PEACEPLUS Manager will be responsible for the general management of the Programme and has previous experience of community development and Peace Programme management. The PEACEPLUS Manager has responsibility for overall development and implementation of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan including but not limited to:
 - Communications – general and with all stakeholders
 - Ensuring compliance with Grant regulations

- Liasing with contractors
 - Managing the procurement of services.
 - Managing public and community meetings,
 - Planning and project management,
 - Facilitation, leadership and communication
 - Report writing and record keeping
 - Preparation of EU returns and financial reporting.
- An Executive Engineer will be allocated to the Sligo PEACEPLUS team on 50% basis to support implementation of capital investment projects including drafting, issue and evaluation of tenders, liaising with contractors, ensuring compliance with standards.
 - A Clerical Officer will be assigned to the PEACEPLUS team on a full time basis. This person, as well as providing general administrative support including finances and reporting, will have responsibility for collation and recording of all Monitoring and Evaluation data related to implementation of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan.
 - Council Finance Team: The wider Council Finance Team will assist in
 - An advisory capacity in the production of financial reports
 - Process payments
 - Reconcile bank account
 - Provide advice on audit and other financial matters such as taxation.

The general duties of the allocated grades assigned to team roles in developing and executing PEACEPLUS are outlined in detail in [Appendix 5](#). The panel for all grades assigned to PEACEPLUS ensures that the pre-requisite skills are in place. The experience of the overseeing staff, PEACEPLUS Manager is outlined in this application and previous experience of managing funding of this nature and strategy development is outlined.

All staff are subject to performance monitoring with stated outputs through Individual Performance Development Plans (IPDP): this includes the monitoring of personal Development Plans which set out clear individual goals, linked to the deliverables in the operational team plan, which includes the delivery of the Sligo PEACEPLUS action Plan and all of its deliverables. These IPDPs feed into the wider



Integrated Performance Management (IPM) model. This model links individual performance to Department Operational Plans and Annual Service Delivery Plan, to the Corporate Plan. Each Department updates the IPM monthly through mandatory meeting. The PEACEPLUS Plan is a key deliverable in the Community Section's IPM and PEACE team attend broader monthly Community & Economic Development IPM meetings. This ensures linkage and coherency in the delivery of the Programme to broader programmes.

Staff Accommodation

Located in a designated hub within the Department of Community & Economic Development, City Hall with all facilities needed for implementation of Programme including desk space, meeting space etc.

Quality Management Arrangements & Coherence

The project management and staffing structure ensures effective partnership management and integration into existing governance structures as set out in the Local Government Reform act 2014. Sligo County Council will fully manage programme delivery, and compliance.

Responsibilities include:

- Financial, control, reporting, expenditure verification
- Ensuring outcome delivery and accountability
- Legislative governance & compliance
- Submitting consolidated and regular progress reports to SEUPB
- Complying with Internal and external communication
- Establishing a partnership agreement
- Strategic oversight, monitoring & evaluation requirement.

In terms of quality assurance, the Plan Implementation will take place in the context of local authority regulations and the following routine tasks and associated reporting mechanisms in place for the PEACEPLUS team. These include but are not limited to:

- Regular Meetings of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership – at least 4 per annum by agreed Terms of Reference.
- Regular meetings of the LCDC – at least 7 per annum.
- Monthly and quarterly Sligo County Council Management Reports specifically including Sligo PEACEPLUS activities and indicators.
- Quarterly capital budget expenditure reports including PEACEPLUS.

Internally, the PEACEPLUS Team will have scheduled monthly progress meetings with actions, due dates, and person/s responsible listed for update at next meeting. This will include monitoring of finances.

Responsibilities of PEACEPLUS team staff are outlined above and in [Appendix 5](#).

Section 9: Communications (and Marketing) Plan

A comprehensive communication plan has been developed to effectively promote the aims, objectives, and accomplishments of Sligo County Council PEACEPLUS Project, along with the financial support received from the European Union (EU) through the European Regional Development Fund, to a broad and diverse audience.

Our Objective:

To effectively share information about the Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan and its associated projects. This will involve reaching key target groups, creating awareness, and fostering engagement among diverse stakeholders. The overarching goals are to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and community ownership of the projects, thereby maximising the positive impact on the community.

Specific objectives are listed below:

- Raise awareness of the Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan and its projects among the public, local communities, and relevant stakeholders.
- Promote inclusivity, ensuring PEACEPLUS project information reaches and engages diverse community groups, including women, children and young people, older people, people with disability, Travellers, new communities, LGBTQIA+ and others, fostering inclusivity in project participation.
- Encourage participation by motivating individuals and community organisations to actively participate in the PEACEPLUS projects, workshops, and consultations, promoting a sense of community ownership.
- Build understanding and communicate the aims of each project under the Local Community Regeneration and Transformation, Thriving and Peaceful Communities, and Celebrating Cultures and Diversity themes, fostering a deep understanding of the initiatives.
- Encourage collaboration and partnership-building among local organisations, community groups, and stakeholders by drawing attention to opportunities for involvement and mutual benefits.
- Communicate the long-term sustainability, legacy, and enduring positive impact on the community for each project.
- Establish a feedback mechanism, fostering a two-way communication flow and ensuring the ongoing relevance and effectiveness of the projects.

- Enhancing awareness and highlighting the financial support extended by the European Union via the European Regional Development Fund, administered by the Special EU Programme Body (SEUPB).
- Showcasing the achievements of Sligo County Council PEACEPLUS Partnership to various stakeholders, including Elected Members, Local MLAs, Statutory Bodies, Community/ Voluntary Groups, Residents, and Collaborating Councils/ Organisations.
- Establishing and maintaining effective communication channels between the PEACEPLUS Partnership, including Elected Members, Statutory Bodies, and Social Partners, and the Managing Authority, SEUPB.
- Actively supporting communication between the PEACEPLUS Partnership and Project Promoters.
- Encouraging and facilitating communication between project promoters and the local communities throughout Sligo County Council.
- Improving communication between Council departments to ensure greater awareness and recognition of Sligo County PEACEPLUS Programme.
- Ensuring consistency in the communication methods and messaging employed by the PEACEPLUS Programme.

Methodology:

The communication and marketing strategy for the Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan employs a comprehensive approach to ensure the successful distribution of information and engagement of diverse stakeholders. Using a mix of traditional and digital channels, including social media, press releases and community events, we aim to create a broad reach. A dedicated webpage on the Sligo County Council website will serve as a central hub for information dissemination. Continuous monitoring and evaluation will be conducted through feedback mechanisms and analytics, enabling real-time adjustments to the strategy to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. This methodology ensures a dynamic communication and marketing plan that adapts to the evolving needs of the community, fosters sustained awareness and engagement, and participation in the PEACEPLUS projects, as well as highlight the achievements and benefits of the projects for the community.

Target Groups:

- Local community: Residents of Sligo County, community groups and or organizations.
- Project Participants: Individuals and groups involved in specific projects under Local Community Regeneration and Transformation, Thriving and Peaceful Communities, and Celebrating Cultures and Diversity themes.
- Local Stakeholders: Business owners, local authorities, schools, cultural organisations, and community leaders.

Person(s) Responsible:

- Project Coordinators: Oversee overall communication strategy and implementation.
- Event Coordinators: Responsible for event-related communications.
- Contractors, corporate services, and the partnership have a role to play in supporting the implementation of the communications plan.

Marketing Techniques:

Over the course of implementation, we will use the following marketing channels to market the Action Plan and its associated projects.

Webpage	
Purpose of channel	To capture data from prospects for Project participants. Promote a CALL TO ACTION at every touch point on the website to engage people on the project (or workshops). Capturing customer data and email address to use for promotional marketing of the workshops and project.
Metrics to measure success	Google Analytics is a widely used and proficient web analytics service that provides statistics and basic analytical tools for search engine optimization (and marketing purposes). It monitors website traffic and activity. Key Performance Indicators can be derived with Google Analytics activity, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visitors per month - participant signups per month

Marketing technology required	Eventbrite for event registration and to link with all other marketing channels in the promotion of project and workshops
-------------------------------	---

Social Media (platforms include Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube)	
Purpose of channel	To promote awareness of the project to its core target markets, which is enabled by tactical social media and paid advertising. All social media communication will direct people to webpage.
Metrics to measure success	Ad performance results will enable metrics to value to ROI in the form of; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Website clicks and referral uptake per month to webpage signup page - An increase of followers and engagement of the project launch on council platforms

Press	
Purpose of channel	Sectoral press will enable widespread and targeted awareness of project within the B2B sector, engaging those both offline and online. Drives awareness of PEACEPLUS and projects, directing people to webpage for further Information.
Metrics to measure success	Google Analytics and Google Alerts will track all mentions and links from online media following press activity with chosen partners. The number of shares and likes can be monitored on the press partners platforms.

The comprehensive communications and marketing plan outlined below aims to ensure effective communication, engagement, and visibility for the projects, creating a positive impact on the community.

Sligo County Council - PEACEPLUS Communications Plan

Communications Outputs

Output/Activity	Detail	Frequency/Schedule	Additional
Communications Lead	PEACEPLUS Manager Tracy Ferguson T: 071 91 14422 E: tferguson@sligococo.ie		PEACEPLUS Team E: peaceactionplan@sligococo.ie
Web page	Dedicated webpage for PEACEPLUS Programme on Sligo County Council website www.sligococo.ie/peace	Created 09/03/2023. Revisions: 16 th May, 19 th July, 15 th Sept., 27 th Oct. and 10 th Nov. 2023. Updates will be scheduled as Programme activities advance.	Webpage includes PEACEPLUS and SEUPB logos. Opt-in feature for sign up to e-mail database to be included on web page.
Social Media	Postings to Sligo County Council Facebook, X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn pages	Target of 4 posts per month per (min) social media channel on commencement of project activity.	Tagging of SEUPB on Facebook & Twitter posts Use of #PEACEPLUS and #SEUPB hashtags and links to web.
Marketing Materials	Roller banner stand/leaflets	Two roller banner stands initially (March 2023)	Inclusion of PEACEPLUS & SEUPB logos
Ezine	Ezine with updates to be e-mailed to interested parties	2 per year	Subscription to Ezine opt in via web page

Newsletter	Hard copy newsletter	2 per year	Included as downloadable PDF on Web page
Launch event	Event to launch PEACEPLUS Programme activities in Sligo	Q1 2025 (provisional)	Plan event in contact SEUPB and accountable departments (RoI & NI)
Closing event	Event to mark closure of PEACEPLUS Programme and promote outputs	Q3/4 2027 (provisional)	Plan event in contact SEUPB and accountable departments (RoI & NI)
Press Release	Write and issue press release at key stages	2 press releases per annum (min) during Programme Activity 2025-2027	Recognition of PEACE funding, role of accountable Depts. and SEUPB to be included.
Signage	Installation of correct signage and plaques at Shared Space	1 sign during construction works phase and 1 plaque acknowledging PEACEPLUS funding	Sign and Plaque to be designed with proofs to be reviewed by SEUPB
Internal/ Stakeholder Awareness	Make stakeholders and Council staff aware of the PEACEPLUS Programme	Provision of regular updates to C&E Section, LCDC meetings and wider Council staff	Internal Sligo County Council communication channels to be used where relevant.
Monitoring of Communications	Monitor and record press and media coverage and advertising and online impressions/reach per item.	Over duration from March 2023	

Crisis Communications Plan

Potential Crisis	Pro-active – Prevention	Re-active - Response	Additional Notes
Promotional materials produced with no/incorrect PEACE/EU/ SEUPB logos	Proofing of all promotional materials at draft stage. Send to SEUPB Communications Team for proofing/comments/approval	NA	<p>Amy Rodgers Communications Officer, SEUPB Direct line: + 44 (0) 28 90184459 Mobile: +44 (0) 7710 700330 E-mail: amy.rodgers@seupb.eu</p> <p>SEUPB Communications Team communications@seupb.eu</p> <p>Special EU Programmes Body 7th Floor The Clarence West Building 2 Clarence Street West Belfast BT2 7GP</p>
Absence of PEACE/SEUPB/EU/Accountable Departments recognition in press release/ezine/newsletter/leaflets/ web page	Proof of draft text to be forwarded to SEUPB Communications Team prior to issuing/printing	NA	
Negative coverage of Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme in print media		Obtain copy of article, discuss and plan response of Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme and Sligo County Council in conjunction with SEUPB	
Negative coverage of Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme on radio/TV		Review clip of media, discuss, plan response of Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme and Sligo County Council in conjunction with SEUPB	



Offensive or defamatory posts in response to Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme posting on social media (Facebook/Twitter)		Sligo PEACEPLUS Team reserve the right to delete messages that are considered to be offensive or defamatory in nature. Sligo PEACEPLUS Team also reserve the right to block the sender of such messages and/or posts	
Spokesperson for Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme fails to mention/acknowledge PEACEPLUS/EU/SEUPB during interview	Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme Communications Lead will brief and prepare spokesperson in advance of interview		
Partner Deliveries or Tender Deliveries fail to acknowledge/recognise PEACEPLUS in outputs/communications	Sligo PEACEPLUS Programme Team will brief Partner Delivery and Tender Delivery agents on communications protocol at commencement of appointment		

Section 10: Monitoring and Evaluation

This section of the Action Plan outlines the arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the Action Plan. The process will be led by the PEACEPLUS Manager and PEACEPLUS Partnership, the overall aim of the process will be to ensure that projects and programmes are on target and to identify the success of the overall plan and the projects and programmes included.

The PEACEPLUS Manager is experienced in PEACE programmes having worked on them since 1995. The PEACEPLUS Manager will continuously oversee and assess the entire Action Plan and its respective programmes and projects. To maintain a consistent and effective monitoring process, all funded projects will receive standardised requirements for monitoring and evaluation activities. A standardised set of tools will be created and distributed to all projects to guarantee correct recording and reporting on monitoring data at key stages during project implementation. Assistance will also be provided to delivery agents to ensure their alignment with this procedure.

The monitoring techniques employed during project delivery will involve regular assessments at crucial stages, with interim targets serving as checkpoints for progress evaluation. The Secretariat will be responsible for the analysis of collected data. The insights gleaned from this analysis will play a pivotal role in informing project delivery adjustments and improvements, ultimately optimising the collective impact of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy

To ensure the effective tracking and assessment of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan throughout its delivery, a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation strategy has been developed. This strategy encompasses various key elements to provide a thorough understanding of progress against the outlined outputs and results.

Monitoring Techniques

During project delivery, a combination of qualitative and quantitative monitoring techniques will be employed. This will include regular progress reports to the PEACEPLUS Partnership, visits to projects and programmes by members of the Partnership and Council Officers, and stakeholder feedback sessions. These methods will offer an understanding of both tangible and intangible aspects of the programmes and projects included in the Action Plan.

The monitoring process of the Action Plan will incorporate a dual approach, utilising both qualitative and quantitative methods to comprehensively evaluate project progress. Qualitative monitoring will involve an exploration of the Action Plan's impact, capturing the intricacies of community dynamics, cultural shifts, and the qualitative experiences of participants. This will include methods such as interviews and focus group discussions.

Quantitative monitoring will be employed to measure the Action Plans outputs and outcomes objectively, details of these can be found in Section 1. Indicators such as participant engagement, budget allocation, and the achievement of specific milestones will be quantified to offer a clear, measurable understanding of the Action Plans success in Sligo. The combination of these approaches will ensure a holistic evaluation that not only quantifies tangible results but also captures the qualitative nuances crucial for understanding the depth and sustainability of the Action Plan. An Annual Report will be produced each year and shared with key stakeholders.

Establishing Baselines for Evaluation

To facilitate a comprehensive and meaningful evaluation of the Action Plan, a solid foundation will be established through the identification and documentation of baselines. This result indicator target for “persons from different communities engaged in the Action Plan’ is 3,604, which will contribute to the overall target of this Investment Area which is 110,000. These baselines will serve as reference points, providing a snapshot of the environment prior to the delivery of the programmes and projects. These baselines will include various topics relevant to the Action Plans

objectives, including community engagement levels, and existing inter-community relationships.

Numerical data such as the current number of engaged participants, budget allocations, and the state of public spaces will be recorded. This quantitative baseline will form the basis for assessing the tangible outputs and outcomes of the Action Plan over time.

Qualitative baselines will capture the aspects of community development. This will include perceptions of cultural identity, existing levels of trust among diverse groups, and the community's sense of pride and belonging. These baselines will be established through interviews, focus groups, and community consultations.

The combination of quantitative and qualitative baselines will enable a comprehensive understanding of the Action Plans starting point. This, in turn, will serve as a benchmark for evaluating the impact and effectiveness of the Action Plan throughout the project lifecycle.

Data Collection

A mix of primary and secondary sources will be used for the data collection process. Primary sources will include direct observations, surveys, and interviews with participants and stakeholders. Secondary sources will include participant registers, financial reports, and other relevant records. As noted above, training will be provided to contractors on the data collection process, and they will be provided with standardised templates that have been created. This data will be collected at key stages throughout the delivery of the Action Plan. Regular intervals, aligned with project milestones, will serve as benchmarks for progress assessment. Interim targets will be used to measure incremental achievements, allowing for timely adjustments and improvements.

Importantly, the monitoring and evaluation process will adhere to principles of equality. Data recording will be inclusive, considering factors such as gender, religion/community background, disability, ethnic group, age, marital status, sexual orientation, and persons with dependents. This commitment fulfils a statutory

obligation to promote equality of opportunity and good relations, ensuring the inclusivity of PEACEPLUS.

Data Analysis

The PEACEPLUS Manager will be responsible for collecting this data from contractors and the overall analysis of the collected data. They will employ both quantitative analysis for numerical data and qualitative analysis for subjective insights. The aim will be to identify challenges and assess the overall impact of the program. The insights obtained through data analysis will play a pivotal role in informing project delivery. Identified trends and areas for improvement will be communicated to the Partnership and contractors. This feedback loop ensures a responsive and adaptive approach to challenges and opportunities, facilitating continuous refinement of project strategies.

Post-Project Delivery Evaluation and Sustainability

Upon the completion of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan, a robust post-project delivery evaluation will be conducted to assess the legacy of the projects and programmes undertaken. This evaluation will go beyond immediate outputs and outcomes, delving into the lasting effects on local communities, cultural identities, and inter-community relationships. Data collected during the project will be revisited and compared with post-implementation conditions to measure the enduring success of community regeneration efforts. Additionally, stakeholder feedback and reflections from participants will be gathered to capture qualitative insights on the long-term influence of the programme. Efforts will be made to document best practices, lessons learned, and recommendations, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and ensuring that the positive transformations delivered by the PEACEPLUS Action Plan endure well beyond its official conclusion.

By integrating these monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, the PEACEPLUS Action Plan demonstrates a commitment to transparency, accountability, and a responsive approach to the dynamic challenges inherent in community regeneration and peace-building initiatives. This adaptive strategy ensures that the program remains aligned with its objectives and delivers meaningful and sustainable outcomes for the communities it serves.

Exit Strategy

A key consideration for the PEACEPLUS Partnership during the creation of this action plan was the importance of sustainability. This encompasses diverse aspects, ranging from the establishment of facilities managed by community organisations to the implementation of programmes equipping community leaders with knowledge and skills. These programmes and projects are strategically designed to ensure the development of thriving and peaceful communities. The table below discusses the exit strategy for each programme, highlighting how it also connects to the overarching County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030. This approach underscores a commitment not just to the short-term impact but to the self-sufficiency of the communities involved.

PROGRAMME	Exit Strategy
LAND OF ART'S DESIRE	<p>Regular community events hosted in the creative space will foster social interaction, community bonding, and a sense of pride. These events will continue to bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds, encouraging positive interactions as a foundation for lasting peace.</p> <p>By strategically integrating the project into local plans, and fostering collaborations, <i>The Land of Art's Desire</i> aims to leave a legacy, providing a secure and transformative space for the community's creative expression and development that is led by a local community group.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
PAZMÁS	<p>The transformation of the Spanish Armada Visitor Centre and walking trail establishes a foundation for long-term success.</p> <p>Spanish Armada Ireland will continue to utilise these resources to sustain educational programmes and the Visitor Trail. Additionally,</p>



	<p>the immersive VR/VR experience will create a digital legacy, expanding educational outreach efforts even without direct physical presence. Empowering Spanish Armada Ireland to lead future programmes ensures the continuation of community engagement and tourism development efforts.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Celtic Connections	<p>The exit strategy for the Brother Walfrid Museum project involves establishing the museum into the cultural fabric of Ballymote. The initial step would be engaging a team of local historians, experts, and community members to create a comprehensive museum plan, ensuring historical accuracy and community relevance. It will be important to develop partnerships with local schools, historical societies, and cultural organisations to continually deliver workshops, and exhibits. Collaborations with community organisations in Northern Ireland and Scotland will provide avenues for sustained cross-border relationships, aligning with the broader objectives of the PEACEPLUS programme. The project will be led by a team of ambassadors who are upskilled through the Thriving and Peaceful Communities strand of the Action Plan.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Dromore West Digiversal	<p>To ensure the long-term use and positive impact of the Dromore West Digiversal Programme maintenance protocols for the sensory</p>

	<p>room and upgraded technology will be established. Furthermore, a transition of project ownership to the local community will be facilitated, building local capacity, and promoting ongoing community engagement. This will also include building local capacity through training sessions and documenting essential information for knowledge transfer. By following this exit strategy, the programme will continue to empower the community to independently manage and benefit from the sensory room and technological upgrades long-term.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 2- Sustainable Environment</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
The GFA for Gen Z: Project Lighthouse	<p>The exit strategy for Project Lighthouse will revolve around ensuring a sustained and widespread impact. To perpetuate the knowledge and skills acquired during the project, a practical manual will be developed, serving as a guide for local educators and community leaders. The establishment of an Alumni Network will create a supportive community among past participants, fostering ongoing collaboration and dialogue. The distribution of the digital educational pack, featuring the documentary film and educational assets, to schools across the island will further embed the project's values of acceptance, empathy, tolerance, and understanding. By implementing these measures, Project Lighthouse aims to leave a legacy of positive community relations.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p>



	<p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Cross- Border Friendship Tournament	<p>The exit strategy for the Sligo Cross-Border Friendship Tournament aims to ensure a sustainable and enduring impact on community relations and youth development. Capacity-building training for local volunteers will strengthen the project's legacy, equipping them with skills to continue the positive impact. Community engagement strategies, such as involving local communities in volunteering opportunities, cultural celebrations, and referee roles, aim to sustain the sense of ownership and inclusivity instilled by the tournament. The Sligo Cross-Border Friendship Tournament seeks to leave a legacy of enhanced community relations, youth empowerment, and continued cross-border collaboration by encouraging local community organisations and sports clubs to take on the future running of the tournament.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Men's Sheds Exchange	<p>The exit strategy for the Sligo Men's Sheds Exchange Programme is centred on the development and consolidation of relationships built throughout the project. Educational resources, including documentation of best practices and success stories, will be compiled, ensuring that the knowledge gained during the programme remains accessible for future Men's Sheds initiatives. By implementing these measures, the Sligo Men's Sheds Exchange Programme aims to leave a legacy of enduring relationships, shared learning, and strengthened cross-border connections among Men's Sheds participants.</p>



	<p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Tuning into Social Inclusion	<p>The exit strategy for the Tuning into Social Inclusion Programme revolves around cultivating collaborative partnerships between schools and community organisations on both sides of the border, fostering relationships that promote mutual understanding and cultural exchange among children and young people. By providing extensive engagement through training sessions, workshops, and composition workshops in selected schools, the programme aims to equip participants with a profound understanding of music's role in fostering inclusivity. The initiative utilises the universal language of music to bring together diverse backgrounds, ensuring collaborative musical activities serve as bridges of understanding between communities. The development of a sustainable model, a young composer mentoring scheme, and the creation of a cross-border composition inspired by participants' lives contribute to the legacy of the programme.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Digital PEACEPLUS	<p>The exit strategy for the Digital PEACEPLUS Programme is centred on the enhancement of participants' skills acquired during the programme. The acquisition of digital skills, encompassing animation, film production, broadcasting, and game development, empowers participants with innovative capabilities that extend beyond personal development. These skills become valuable</p>

	<p>assets that participants can leverage to contribute meaningfully to their own progress, the advancement of their community groups, and the betterment of the wider community. The enduring impact of the digital projects executed through the programme serves as a legacy, leaving a creative imprint on the Sligo community.</p> <p>Additionally, the establishment of partnerships with local schools further solidifies this legacy, fostering a sustained connection that continues to benefit both participants and the broader community in the long run.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
A Biodiverse Year in Nature	<p>As structured activities and training programme phase out, a closing event will celebrate the achievements and contributions made by participants. Networking opportunities and partnerships developed with local stakeholders throughout the programme will foster ongoing collaboration. To support the continuation of sustainable, community-driven initiatives after the programme, acquired resources will be provided to community groups, including best practice and a documentation of programme success stories. A thorough programme evaluation, documentation of achievements, and participant feedback will take place to recognise the impact/ benefits of the programme. This will ensure the programme's lasting positive impact on participants and the wider community. Ongoing partnerships with environmental organisations and stakeholders will be encouraged.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p>



	<p>Smart Pillar 2- Sustainable Environment</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
We Can Fix It	<p>As the formal duration of the We can Fix It programme ends, emphasis will be placed on ensuring the ongoing success of the repair cafes within each community. A careful selection process will identify 'champions' i.e., individuals within each participating community who demonstrated strong commitment to the programme's objectives. These individuals will be encouraged and supported to coordinate and oversee the continuation of the repair café initiatives. To support this transition, necessary resources and guidelines will be provided to this leadership team, this will include a database of skilled tradespeople. An evaluation of the programme, where participant feedback will be collected, will support ongoing improvements post-programme i.e., best practices, lessons learned, key insights from repair cafes, and recommendations to inform future decision-making. With such support and knowledge-transfer, communities will be equipped to continue the positive impacts of the repair cafes, ensuring a legacy of empowered communities.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 2- Sustainable Environment</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Supporting Local	<p>The exit strategy for this programme will ensure a smooth transition and sustainability plan is in place to secure the support and positive impact generated by the programme is continued, promoting long-term benefits. A closing event will take place to</p>



	<p>acknowledge the hard work of community ambassadors and encourage participants to continue their leadership and community outreach work. A programme evaluation, documentation of lessons learned and success stories, will support participants to continue to work towards/promote community cohesion and inclusion. With this exit strategy in place, the programme will leave a legacy of inclusive leadership, cultural awareness, and reduced social division in Sligo, contributing to a more thriving and peaceful community.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Human Stories Unveiled	<p>The exit strategy for this programme is designed to leave a lasting impact on the community, fostering a culture of understanding and empathy. The sessions will be held to connect cultural communities, contributing to a more peaceful society. The digital <i>Humans of Sligo</i> book and exhibition will provide a legacy to the participants' journeys, showcasing the diverse stories shared during the programme. The second programme, <i>What's the Story?</i>, will conclude with a documented collection of personal stories, preserving community experiences. The art exhibition, featuring visual representations, will serve as a powerful testament to the diverse narratives that shape communities. The exit strategy for <i>Quiet Conversation</i>" will involve carefully identifying and engaging potential participants from different groups linked to the Troubles era who will continue to share their stories. All organisations involved in this project will also have opportunities to participate in the <i>Sligo World Festival of Everything</i>.</p>

	<p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
The Sligo World Festival of Everything	<p>The exit strategy for this project is a sustainable approach focused on lasting impact. It prioritises the acquisition of new skills by participants through tailored workshops, ensuring a continued learning process. The programme places a strong emphasis on relationship development, fostering connections through networking sessions and community directories. As the programme progresses to support and event implementation, the goal is to empower community groups to organise their own events with ongoing logistical assistance. Long-term relationships will be cultivated through community platforms, forums, and interest-based groups formed during the festival.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
Shore to Shore: Heritage & History	<p>This exit strategy is designed to ensure a seamless transition by empowering local champions and signposting key resources. The programme's legacy focuses on fostering community-led initiatives, sustainable tourism practices, and nurturing lasting partnerships. Continuous monitoring and support resources will ensure the programme's legacy, contributing to a sustained social, cultural and economic impact in Sligo.</p> <p>Link to County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p>




	<p>Smart Pillar 1- Sustainable Economy</p> <p>Smart Pillar 4- Smart Living</p> <p>Smart Pillar 5- Smart People</p> <p>Smart Pillar 6- Smart Governance</p>
--	--

Declaration

PEACEPLUS PROGRAMME - AUTHORISATION FORM

I can confirm all sections of the application are fully authorized by a Director/CEO or equivalent.

	Please complete:
Lead Partner Organisation	Sligo County Council
Name of Director/CEO or equivalent	Dorothy Clarke
Position in Lead Partner Organisation	Director of Services, Planning, Community and Economic Development & Borough District of Sligo Municipal District
Signature:	



Sligo County Council
Comhairle Chontae Shligigh

Sligo.LCDC



The Programme is a funding partnership between the European Union, the Governments of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive and will be administered by the Special EU Programmes Body

Appendices

Appendix 1: Strategic Context - Summary and analysis of documents considered for Sligo PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

Strategy	Main Relevant Priorities	Relevance to the Action Plan
Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020-2024	<p>Our mission statement is “To maximise economic, social, cultural and community development, to harness Sligo’s potential as smart city/community, deliver efficient and cost-effective services in a democratic, sustainable and transparent manner in partnership with local communities, voluntary and statutory agencies.”</p> <p>There are 9 key objectives of the corporate plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Employment & Economic Activity (Economic Development) – maximise opportunities for job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and economic development in the county to ensure maximum employment across a broad range of economic activity. ● Social Inclusion & Poverty - To promote a culture of inclusion and diversity socially, culturally and economically in all our activities so as to eradicate disadvantage, alienation, isolation and poverty within the county. ● Education & Training (Lifelong Learning) - To support individuals and marginalised target groups experiencing educational disadvantage to participate fully, engage with and progress through life-long learning opportunities. ● Climate Change & Environment - To promote principles and best practices of a sustainable environment and to maintain Sligo’s clean, green image as are environmentally friendly county in all its aspects. ● Health & Wellbeing (Quality of Life) - To place “quality of Life” / “health and well-being” principles at the heart of all our activities and to ensure that Sligo is a place that will continue to be respectful of people of all ages, abilities, genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities and religious beliefs. 	<p>The Corporate Plan demonstrates a strong community building, empowerment, and good relations focus under the below objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Inclusion & Poverty – aiming to promote a culture of inclusion and diversity socially, culturally, and economically. ● Health & Wellbeing – increasing quality of life being respectful of people of all ages, abilities, genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, and religious beliefs. ● Democratic and Participative Representation and Accountability – ensuring engagement with communities and citizens in relation to our activities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Democratic and Participative Representation and Accountability - To ensure the highest level of accountability in the Council and relevant and appropriate engagement with communities and citizens in relation to our activities. ● Sustainable and Inclusive economy - To develop a sustainable and inclusive economy by working in partnership with our communities and key local agencies in accordance with the National Planning Framework. ● Smart City and County - Promote a socially inclusive smart city and county vision that will facilitate the delivery of quality jobs in a sustainable and innovative environment. ● Support for voluntary groups - Provide continued support for local community and voluntary groups to build their capacity and resilience around the vital services they provide. Continue to support the local Volunteer Centre. Implement the delivery of action from the National Volunteering Strategy. Promotion of interagency groups and committees. 	
Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021	<p>The Plan sets out the vision for Sligo, the vision behind the Sligo brand, which is for a smart, sustainable, and socially inclusive Sligo; one that cherishes its vibrant communities, protects and celebrates its unique environment and rich culture, and is a champion of innovative growth and development.</p> <p>There are 6 goals of the plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Economy and Employment - Sligo will be a Regional Growth Centre that drives sustainable economic activity and employment throughout the region and increases the population across the county. ● Smart Sligo - Sligo will become a smart county and a leader in the utilisation of smart technology through partnership with educational and commercial third parties. 	<p>The Sligo LCDC Local Economic and Community Plan has a strong focus on social inclusion and building vibrant communities in line with PEACEPLUS' objective of Local Community regeneration and transformation, Thriving and peaceful communities and building respect for all cultural identities.</p> <p>These particular aims are achieved through the below goals:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Climate Action - Sligo will be a proactive county in addressing climate change and a model of best practice in climate action with sustainability central to all areas of life. ● Vibrant Communities - Sligo will be a healthy and equitable society that supports its vibrant communities and champions active inclusion. ● Heritage and Tourism - Sligo will celebrate its exceptional heritage, creative sector, and realise its tourism potential in a sustainable manner. ● Collaboration & Innovation - A collaborative and innovative Sligo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vibrant Communities – through enhancing the economy, employment, quality of life and town centres. ● Heritage and Tourism also enables cultural expression and builds relations within the community. ● Collaboration & Innovation increases civic participation.
NI Executive Draft Programme for Government 2021	<p>The outcomes in the Programme for Government Framework present a picture of the kind of society we want to see. An inclusive society in which people of all ages and backgrounds are respected and cared for and in which we all prosper. A society which has no barriers to prevent people from living fulfilling lives. The Outcomes apply equally to everyone, and no one is excluded.</p> <p>The key outcomes are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Our children and young people have the best start in life. ● We live and work sustainability – protecting the environment. ● We have an equal and inclusive society where everyone is valued and treated with respect. ● We all enjoy long, healthy, active lives. ● Everyone can reach their potential. ● Our economy is globally competitive, regionally balanced and carbon-neutral. ● Everyone feels safe – we all respect the law and each other. ● We have a caring society that supports people throughout their lives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People want to live, work and visit here. 	<p>This programme aligns closely with the PEACEPLUS programme Theme 1 in particular increasing inclusion and thriving communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have an equal and inclusive society where everyone is valued and treated with respect.

<p>Diaspora Strategy for County Sligo 2019-2024</p>	<p>The 'Diaspora Vision' for Sligo is Sligo to be a compelling destination where our Diaspora return or engage to Live, Visit or Invest.</p> <p>The strategic outcomes sought are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development and delivery of a Sligo narrative that helps build the sense of belonging for Sligo people everywhere. • The building of long-term, two-way relationships with the Diaspora so that they can be provided with support from Sligo and they in turn promote Sligo abroad. • Greater engagement with the Diaspora so that they increasingly visit, invest in and/or return to Sligo. • More joined-up thinking, integration and collaboration between those working with the Diaspora. • This vision aligns with the new Sligo Branding process to promote Sligo across the 3 streams of live / invest / visit and will link with the Diaspora on the portal Sligo.ie. 	<p>This again is relevant to the PEACEPLUS programme particularly increasing co-design and collaboration to build and integrate community through developing a "sense of belonging" for the Sligo Diaspora. This encourages positive relations and increases cultural expression for the Sligo region everywhere.</p>
<p>Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan September 2018</p>	<p>The aim of the Action Plan is to:</p> <p>"Enhance the image and setting of this historic city through the enhancement of its streets and spaces, conservation of its built heritage, encouraging people to explore, businesses to flourish and creating a vibrant street scene."</p> <p>The guiding principles are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put people first. Design spaces for people. 2. Simplify the streetscape. 3. Ensure consistency in design and use of materials. 4. Create memorable and identifiable spaces where people want to be. 5. Protect and enhance Sligo's character and heritage. 	<p>Local community regeneration and capacity building are priority areas within the PEACEPLUS programme, this Action Plan supports these objectives. In particular designing spaces with a "Put people first" approach and designing spaces to be flexible and suitable for multiple uses will lead to the development of new and inclusive shared spaces that increase service capacity. Further to this, protecting and</p>

	<p>6. Design spaces to be flexible and suitable for multiple uses.</p> <p>7. Resist overdesign.</p> <p>8. Ensure that all public realm improvement projects / works support the proper functioning of the city centre.</p>	<p>enhancing Sligo's character and heritage facilitates cultural expression.</p>
<p>County Sligo Development Plan 2017-2023</p>	<p>The overarching vision of the development plan is "County Sligo will be an enterprising, creative, inclusive and resilient place, which values and celebrates its unique environment, rich culture and heritage, and where the wellbeing of current and future generations is central to everything we do."</p> <p>The areas covered in the Development plan cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development • Housing • Community Facilities • Heritage • Transport and mobility • Environmental infrastructure • Environmental quality • Energy and telecommunications • Town and village design • Development management standards 	<p>The PEACEPLUS programme's objectives are closely related to those laid out in the Development Plan. Specifically seeking to increase inclusion, capacity and enrich culture. Areas such as Community Facilities, Heritage and Transport & Mobility specifically address these objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development and facilitation of an effective social infrastructure network is important in the promotion of Sligo as a county which offers a good quality of life, where social inclusion and community participation are regarded as necessary prerequisites to sustainable development. • Heritage protection is an integral part of Sligo's sustainable development and includes landscapes, countryside, archaeological sites and the built environment of towns and villages.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development Plan policy aims to integrate transport and land use in order to provide a sustainable framework for economic and social development. The peripheral location of County Sligo requires a strong transportation network, in order to allow Sligo City to perform its important regional role, which is essential to the competitiveness and vitality of the county.
Sligo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022	<p>Our vision is for a smart, sustainable, and socially inclusive Sligo; one that cherishes its vibrant communities, protects and celebrates its unique environment and rich culture, and is a champion of innovative growth and development.</p> <p>The three key strategy areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative Place - Culture, heritage, outdoor environment and the scenery of County Sligo offers huge potential to create many different and compelling experiences of interests to support placemaking and revitalising our town centres. Creative Economy – the cultural and creative industries and creative economy will be supported and developed to create sustainable job creation and employment and build Sligo as an innovative and successful regional growth centre. Creative Communities – Creativity and culture play a central role in building vibrant communities and promoting social inclusion and wellbeing through participation and engagement. 	<p>The Culture and Creativity Strategy aligns closely with the PEACEPLUS programme in particular in building positive community relations through artistic expression by showcasing diverse cultures and increasing cultural expression.</p>

<p>Sligo East City, Cranmore and Environs Regeneration Masterplan 2016</p>	<p>The Vision for Regeneration outlines three key elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Strategy – The social plan is based on a life-cycle approach with a focus on the needs of children and young adults, people of working age, older people and the overall community looking at the following areas - Education and learning, Employment and training, Health and well-being, Family support, Community safety and housing management, Income adequacy, Sport and recreation. • Economic Strategy – The economic strategy aims to strengthen the local economy and to create wealth by tackling unemployment and promoting job creation. It aims to support local people to become more entrepreneurial and to address the barriers that can prevent people from accessing job opportunities. It aims to challenge and change perceptions of the area to stimulate investment in the area. • Physical Strategy - Provide quality spaces for community facilities, Improve access to quality amenities and open spaces, Improve housing quality and opportunity in the area, Improve quality of roads, streets and urban spaces, Improve access and links, Get the most out of the vacant and potential sites in the area, Develop and promote historical assets in the area and Explore option for sustainable energy. 	<p>The Regeneration Masterplan directly links to the PEACEPLUS strategy. In particular, the social and physical strategies highlight the need to focus on all age groups in the community giving inclusive access to all to social and recreational activities. In addition to providing the spaces to build relations and celebrate heritage.</p>
<p>Sligo Socio-Economic Statement incorporating Vision and High-Level Goals February 2022</p>	<p>Our Vision is for a smart, sustainable, and socially inclusive Sligo; one that cherishes its vibrant communities, protects and celebrates its unique environment and rich culture, and is a champion of innovative growth and development.</p> <p>The key goals of this statement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sligo will be a Key Regional Growth Centre that drives sustainable economic activity and employment throughout the region and increases the population across the County. 	<p>There is significant synergy between the Sligo Socio-Economic Statement and the PEACEPLUS programme. The below goals align closely with the PEACEPLUS' aims to enhance cross-community relations and build thriving communities celebrated reflecting the broad range of cultures present.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo will become a smart county and a leader in the utilisation of smart technology through partnership with educational and commercial third parties. Sligo will be a proactive county in the fight against climate change and a model of best practice in climate action with sustainability central to all areas of life. Sligo will be an inclusive, healthy, and equitable society that supports its vibrant communities. Sligo will celebrate its rich cultural heritage and realise its tourism potential. A collaborative and innovative Sligo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sligo will be an inclusive, healthy, and equitable society that supports its vibrant communities. Sligo will celebrate its rich cultural heritage and realise its tourism potential. A collaborative and innovative Sligo.
Europe 2020 strategy	<p>Three priorities are at the heart of Europe 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart growth – developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation. Sustainable growth – promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy. Inclusive growth – fostering a high-employment economy delivering economic, social and territorial cohesion. 	<p>The Europe 2020 strategy is relevant to the successful delivery of the PEACEPLUS programme as it is through inclusive growth that economic, social and territorial cohesion is attained building thriving and peaceful communities in the long-term.</p>
Project Ireland 2040: National Planning Framework (2018)	<p>Within this framework, the ambition is to create a single vision, a shared set of goals for every community across the country. These goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compact Growth – All our urban settlements contain many potential development areas, centrally located and frequently publicly owned, that are suitable and capable of re-use to provide housing, jobs, amenities and services, but which need a streamlined and coordinated approach to their development, with investment in enabling infrastructure and supporting amenities, to realise their potential. Enhanced Regional Accessibility - A co-priority is to enhance accessibility between key urban centres of population and their regions. This means ensuring that all regions and 	<p>Within the National Planning Framework, the goals of Strengthening Rural Communities and Enhanced Amenities and Heritage feed into the PEACEPLUS programme's objectives by reducing rural isolation and increasing participation in the local community. In addition, ensuring a well-designed public realm with flexible spaces will increase capacity building providing crucial spaces for cross-community activities. Developing heritage projects and</p>

	<p>urban areas in the country have a high degree of accessibility to Dublin, as well as to each other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities - In addition to the natural resource and food sector potential as traditional pillars of the rural economy, improved connectivity, broadband and rural economic development opportunities are emerging which offer the potential to ensure our countryside remains and strengthens as a living and working community. • Sustainable Mobility - We need to progressively electrify our mobility systems moving away from polluting and carbon intensive propulsion systems to new technologies such as electric vehicles and introduction of electric and hybrid traction systems for public transport fleets, such that by 2040 our cities and towns will enjoy a cleaner, quieter environment free of combustion engine driven transport systems. • A Strong Economy, supported by Enterprise, Innovation and Skills - Creating places that can foster enterprise and innovation and attract investment and talent. It can be achieved by building regional economic drivers and by supporting opportunities to diversify and strengthen the rural economy, to leverage the potential of places. Delivering this outcome will require the coordination of growth and place making with investment in world class infrastructure, including digital connectivity, and in skills and talent to support economic competitiveness and enterprise growth. • High-Quality International Connectivity - This is crucial for overall international competitiveness and addressing opportunities and challenges from Brexit through investment in our ports and airports. • Enhanced Amenities and Heritage - This will ensure that our cities, towns and villages are attractive and can offer a good quality of life. It will require investment in well-designed public realm, which includes public spaces, parks and streets, as well as 	<p>programmes under this framework aligns with the PEACEPLUS programme by facilitating cultural expression.</p>
--	---	---

	<p>recreational infrastructure. It also includes amenities in rural areas, such as national and forest parks, activity-based tourism and trails such as greenways, blueways and peatways. This is linked to and must integrate with our built, cultural and natural heritage, which has intrinsic value in defining the character of urban and rural areas and adding to their attractiveness and sense of place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Transition to a Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Society - Achieving transition to a competitive, low carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. New energy systems and transmission grids will be necessary for a more distributed, renewables-focused energy generation system, harnessing both the considerable on-shore and off-shore potential from energy sources such as wind, wave and solar and connecting the richest sources of that energy to the major sources of demand. ● Sustainable Management of Water, Waste and other Environmental Resources - Ireland has abundant natural and environmental resources such as our water sources that are critical to our environmental and economic well-being into the future. Conserving and enhancing the quality of these resources will also become more important in a crowded and competitive world as well as our capacity to create beneficial uses from products previously considered as waste, creating circular economic benefits. ● Access to Quality Childcare, Education and Health Services - Good access to a range of quality education and health services, relative to the scale of a region, city, town, neighbourhood or community is a defining characteristic of attractive, successful and competitive places. Compact, smart growth in urban areas and strong and stable rural communities will enable the enhanced and effective provision of a range of accessible services. 	
--	---	--

Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025	<p>The ambition for 2025 is to reduce the national consistent poverty rate to 2% or less of the population and to make Ireland one of the most socially inclusive States in the EU. There are 7 high-level goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend employment opportunities to all who can work. • Ensure work pays – fair pay, fair conditions for workers. • Provide income security for older people. • Support families - reduce child poverty. • Reduce poverty among people with disabilities – help them to maximise their ability. • Build inclusive communities – encourage active citizenship. • Ensure that all people have access to quality services. 	<p>There is significant overlap in The Roadmap to Social Inclusion and the PEACEPLUS objectives particularly in building inclusive communities and encouraging active participation. A community development approach is crucial to the successful delivery of the PEACEPLUS programme.</p>
Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young people 2023 – 2028	<p>Our vision is to make Ireland the best small country in the world in which to grow up and raise a family, and where the rights of all children and young people are respected, protected and fulfilled; where their voices are heard and where they are supported to realise their maximum potential now and in the future.</p> <p>The five national outcomes that we want for all our children and young people are that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing - The aims are that all children and young people are physically healthy and able to make positive health choices, have good mental health, have a positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health, and that their lives are enriched through the enjoyment of play, recreation, sports, arts, culture and nature. • Are achieving their full potential in all areas of learning and development - to ensure that all children get the best foundation in learning and development, have social and emotional wellbeing, and are engaged in and achieving in education. 	<p>A long-term developmental approach is to be taken to working with children and young people who are marginalised/disadvantaged in the community with the aim of building sustained, meaningful and purposeful contact between individuals and groups of different backgrounds.</p> <p>The fifth national outcome that all children and young people are connected, respected and contributing to their world supports PEACEPLUS' theme 1 to build relations and a thriving community in the long-term results.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are safe and protected from harm - all children and young people have a secure, stable and caring home environment; that they are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation; that they are protected from bullying and discrimination; and that they are safe from crime and anti-social behaviour. • Have economic security and opportunity - all children and young people are protected from poverty and social exclusion; that they are living in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities; that they have opportunities for ongoing education and training; and that they have pathways to economic participation, entrepreneurship, fulfilling employment and independent living. • Are connected, respected and contributing to their world - all children and young people have a sense of their own identity, are free from discrimination and are part of positive networks of friends, family and community; furthermore, that they are civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious, and are aware of their rights as well as being responsible and respectful of the law. 	
European Commission – European Green Deal	<p>The European Green Deal is a comprehensive array of policy initiatives, primarily aimed at propelling the EU towards a green transition and accomplishing climate neutrality by 2050. This strategy aims to establish a fair and thriving society, while also nurturing a modern and competitive economy. By adopting a holistic and cross-sectoral approach, the Green Deal recognizes the interdependence of diverse policy domains in contributing to the overarching climate-focused objective. This document includes measures spanning climate, environment, energy, transport, industry, agriculture, and sustainable finance, the European Green Deal presents a unified strategy to concurrently address these pivotal dimensions of sustainability. Through fostering collaborative actions to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, advocating for renewable energy sources, and nurturing eco-friendly innovation, the EU aspires to lead the</p>	<p>The EU Green Deal aligns with the PEACEPLUS programme and Action Plan as both aim to create a future that is sustainable, resilient, and harmonious. Through tackling economic, environmental, and social obstacles, these activities collaboratively strive to foster a society that is both resilient and cohesive. In the context of the Sligo Local Action Plan, the enhancement of our surrounding natural environment, and environmental education programmes will help</p>

	global crusade against climate change. The Green Deal mirrors the EU's dedication to a more ecologically aware and resilient future, underscoring the significance of cooperation among member nations, enterprises, and inhabitants in the pursuit of a greener and more flourishing Europe.	develop a more peaceful and thriving community.
European Commission – Territorial Agenda 2030	The Territorial Agenda 2030, formulated by the European Commission, is a strategic framework that defines the vision for advancement and territorial integration within the European Union up to the year 2030. Endorsed by member states and regions of the EU, this agenda aims to establish a co-ordinated approach to territorial progress, ensuring equitable expansion and sustainable advancement across the entire continent. The Territorial Agenda 2030 confronts a spectrum of challenges, spanning urban-rural disparities, demographic transformations, and climate fluctuations, by fostering collaboration and synergy among diverse regions. Through the advocacy of comprehensive and locally tailored policies, the agenda aims to elevate the living standards of all EU inhabitants, generate prospects for economic growth, and fortify territorial resilience.	A key focus of this agenda is promoting a Healthy Environment—striving for enhanced ecological well-being, and climate-neutral urban and regional resilience. This includes supporting the advancement of nature-centric remedies alongside establishing interconnected green and blue infrastructure networks that seamlessly interlink ecosystems and safeguarded regions within spatial planning, land administration, and other policy frameworks. Add more detail dependant on projects selected.

Appendix 2: Details of Sligo PEACEPLUS Online Survey and analysis of responses.

Further complementing the engagement and consultation process, an online survey was also created and published on the Sligo County Council website, facilitated by Pinnacle Growth Group, Third Sector Connect, and Council Staff. The survey opened on 19th April 2023 at 3pm and closed 26th May 2023 at 11:59pm.

Section 1, questions 1-10, on the online survey included demographic questions to provide context for subsequent questions and responses. Data showed the following.

- 43.6% of respondents were male and 46.2% of respondents were female. A minority, 5.1%, preferred not to say; and 5.1% preferred to self-describe. Only one respondent, 2.6%, did not answer. The majority of respondents, 89.7%, were from a White ethnic group and 2.6% are from a Black ethnic group. A small number, 7.7% of respondents did not complete this question.
- Most respondents, 30.8%, were aged between 55 and 64. The breakdown further illustrated that 23.1% were aged 35-44 years and 23.1% were aged 45-54 years. The age bracket of 65-74 years accounted for only 7.7% of the respondents. Finally, 5.1% of respondents were aged 25-34 years, 5.1% of respondents were aged 75 +, and 5.1% of respondents did not complete this question.
- The vast majority of respondents, 59.0%, indicated they were from a Roman Catholic background and 7.7% identified as being brought up in a Church of Ireland background. A considerable percentage of respondents, 20.5%, answered no religion whilst 5.1% of respondents chose not to answer this question and 2.6% preferred not to say. A small percentage of respondents, 5.1%, chose other with one respondent specifying that they were brought up 'Wiccan.'
- The majority 84% of respondents indicated that they did not consider themselves to be a disabled person and 5.1% indicated they had. Additionally, 5.1% preferred not to say and a further 5.1% did not answer this question.
- The majority 66.7% of respondents were in full-time work, 15.4% indicated that they were retired, and 2.6% stated that they were in part-time work. A small percentage, 10.3%, answered other and 5.1% chose not to answer the question.
- Most respondents, 69.2%, were heterosexual. The remainder included, 7.7% who were Bisexual, 2.7% Gay or Lesbian and 10.3% who preferred not to say or did not answer.



Age

Under 18	19-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 +	Prefer not to say
1	0	2	9	9	12	3	2	2

Gender

Male	Female	Prefer not to say
17	18	4

Disability

Yes	No	Prefer not to say	Did not answer
2	33	3	1

Racial Group

White - Irish	33
White - Irish Traveller	0
White - Roma	0
Any other white	2
Black - African	1
Black - Any other background	0
Chinese	0
Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi	0
Any other Asian background	0
Arabic	0
Mixed	0
Did not answer	3

National Identity

Irish	35
British	1
Lithuanian	0
Polish	0
Ukrainian	0
Romanian	0
Latvian	0
Brazilian	0

Spanish	0
Italian	0
France	0
German	0
Other EU	0
Rest of the World	0
Did not answer	3

Religious Belief

No religion	8
Roman Catholic	23
Church of Ireland	3
Muslim (Islamic)	0
Orthodox Christian	0
Presbyterian	0
Apostolic of Pentecostal	0
Hindu	0
Prefer not to say	1
Other - Wiccan	1
Did not answer	3

Organisation Membership (Multiple Selected)

Adult Group	5
Arts/culture Group	2
Business Owner	3
Community/Voluntary Organisation	21
Disabled Person's Group	0
Elected Member	1
Ethnic Minority Group	1
Ex-prisoner	1
Faith-based Group	2
LGBTQIA+ Group	0
Military/Police veteran	1
Resident of Sligo	20
Social Enterprise	2
Sports Club	3
Victims and Survivors	0

Youth Group	3
Other	2
Did Not Answer	0

Sexual Orientation

Bisexual	3
Gay or Lesbian	1
Heterosexual	27
Prefer not to say	4
Did Not Answer	4

Employment Status

Full time at work	26
Part time at work	1
Looking after home/family	0
Looking for first job	0
Retired	6
Student	0
Unable to work due to sickness or disability	0
Unemployed having worked previously	0
Other	4
Did Not Answer	2

Local Electoral Area

Tubbercurry Ballymote	7
Sligo Drumcliff	18
Sligo Strandhill	13
Did Not Answer	1

Public awareness of the co-design/consultation phase, which plays a pivotal role in fostering inclusivity, transparency, and collaborative decision-making among diverse stakeholders, was effectively promoted by utilising an extensive array of multifaceted communication channels, including but not limited to,

- Dedicated webpage for PEACEPLUS on www.sligococo.ie/peace ;
- advertising through local press and radio;
- posters at libraries and venues;
- online registration for workshops through Eventbrite;

- a social media campaign on Sligo County Council Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook accounts; and
- targeted email campaigns through Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership, LCDC, Sligo County Council Elected Members, Sligo County Council staff, Sligo PPN network and PEACEPLUS database reaching over 1000 recipients.

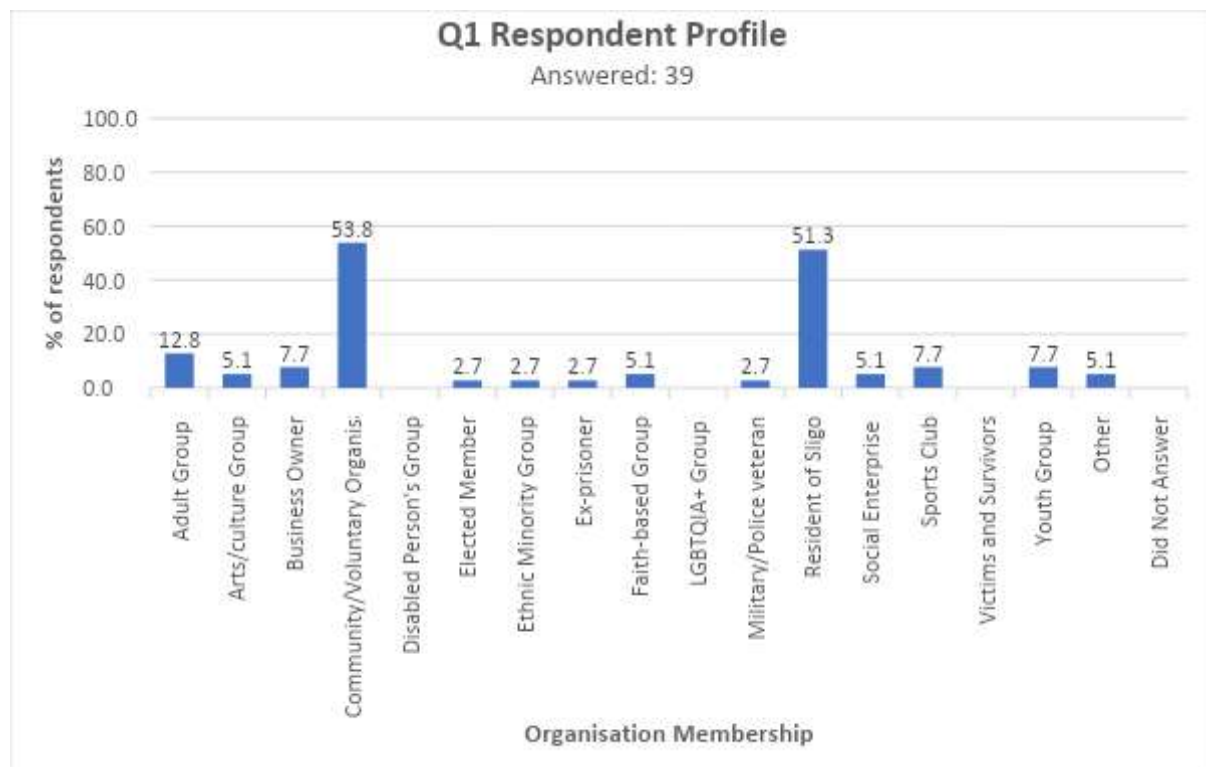
Emerging findings from online survey

The online survey was conducted within Sligo County Council Area and involved participation from various segments of the public, including residents, businesses, community groups, representatives, and leisure organisations.

The survey encompassed a comprehensive set of 27 questions. The first 10 questions centred on demographic factors, crucial for generalising survey findings to the broader population. Questions 11 to 19 focused on gathering respondents' perspectives on peace building priorities for the area and their involvement with PEACE Programmes. The remaining questions, 20 to 27, specifically focused on PEACEPLUS thematic strands and project ideas.

Below, an analysis of the received responses is presented.

Of the 39 people who took part in the survey across Sligo County area, 51.3% identified as Sligo Residents, 53.8% were members of a Community/Voluntary Organisation and 12.8% were members of an Adult Group. A small percentage (7.7%) of the 39 respondents were Business Owners, Sports Club and Youth Club members respectively, 5.1% were members of Art/Culture Groups, Faith-Based Groups and/or Social Enterprise Groups, whilst 2.7% of respondents were Elected Members, Ethnic Minority Group members, Ex-Prisoners and/or Military/Police Veterans. Finally, 5.1% of respondents were members of other groups.



Respondents were then asked where they came from in the Sligo County Area. The table below presents the data on the origin of respondents by electoral districts:

Local Electoral Area	Percentage of Respondents
Tubbercurry Ballymote	17.9%
Sligo Drumcliff	46.2%
Sligo Strandhill	33.3%
Did Not Answer	2.6%

Overall, 43.6% of respondents were male and 46.2% of respondents were female. A minority, 5.1%, preferred not to say; and 5.1% preferred to self-describe. Only one respondent, 2.6%, did not answer. 89.7% of respondents came from a white ethnic background, with 2.6% coming from a black ethnic background and 7.7% that did not answer.

Most respondents, 30.8%, were aged between 55 and 64. The breakdown further illustrated that 23.1% were aged 35-44 years and 23.1% were aged 45-54 years. The age bracket of 65-74 years accounted for only 7.7% of the respondents. Finally, 5.1% of respondents were aged 25-34 years, 5.1% of respondents were aged 75 +, and 5.1% of respondents did not complete this question.

The vast majority of respondents, 59.0%, indicated they were from a Roman Catholic background and 7.7% identified as being brought up in a Church of Ireland background. A considerable percentage of respondents, 20.5%, answered no religion whilst 5.1% of respondents chose not to answer this question and 2.6% preferred not to say. A small percentage of respondents, 5.1%, chose other with one respondent specifying that they were brought up 'Wiccan.'

Previous Participation in PEACE Programmes

Most respondents stated that they have not had previous involvement in the PEACE Programmes (56.4%) and 5.1% of respondents were unsure. However, 38.5% of respondents stated that they have been involved in PEACE Programmes previously.

Those that had participated previously enjoyed the following:

- The opportunities to meet and understand people from different cultures
- Building tolerance and respect across communities
- Meeting shared goals and seeing results
- Increasing cross-border interactions
- Collaboration between community groups
- Learning new skills

Areas that they did not enjoy included:

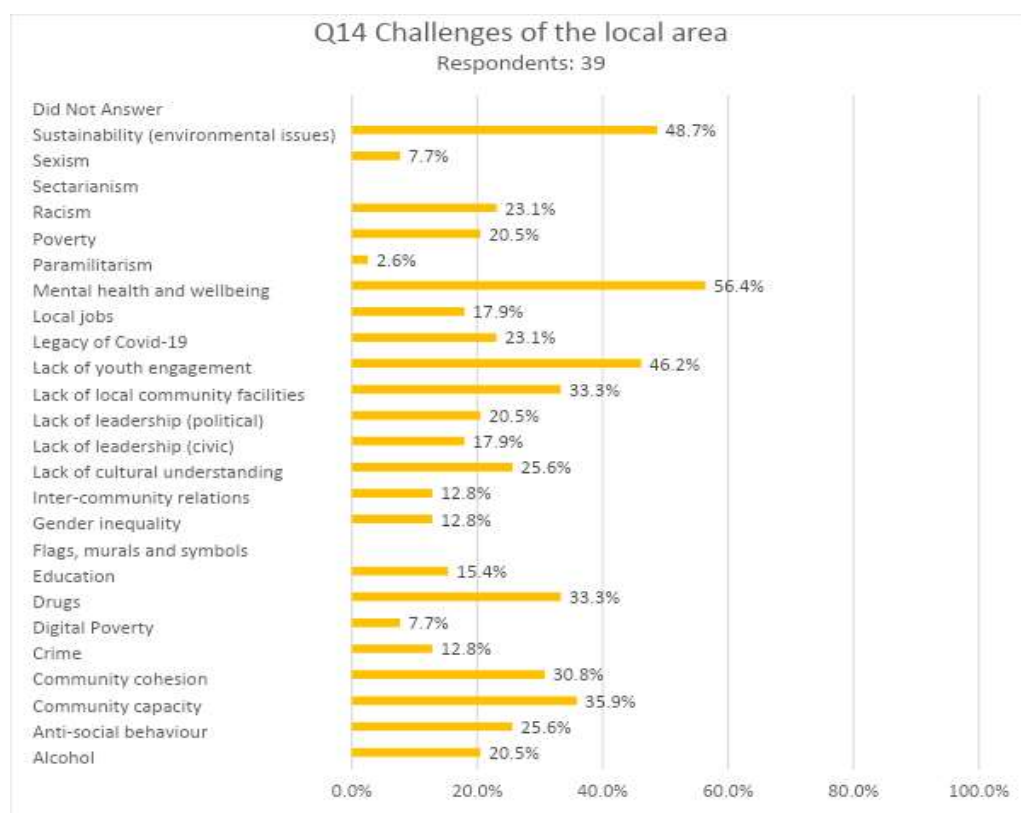
- Paperwork and administration work involved
- The struggle to get participants

Views on positive features of the local area

We asked respondents to describe the positive features of their local area. Respondents felt that the Environment/Landscape (56.4%) and the Sense of Community (53.8%) were the top positive features. Other positive features identified included Local Services and Amenities making up 30.8% of answers, Heritage and Culture (20.5%), Transport / Accessibility (15.4%), Economic Opportunities (12.8%), and Safety (7.7%).

Challenges of the local area

The respondents were then asked what they believed the current challenges were that faced Sligo County. Most respondents (56.4%) felt that Mental Health and Well-being were the biggest challenge, 48.7% selected Sustainability as one of the challenges faced and 46.2% answered a lack of youth engagement. Other challenges listed highly were Community capacity (35.9%), Lack of community facilities (33.3%), Drugs (33.3%) and Community Cohesion (30.8%).



Further to the areas identified above, respondents also commented that Sligo County faces the following challenges:

- Lack of outreach and access for marginalised groups to community services
- Cost of living crisis
- Lack of access to transport and the public infrastructure required (e.g., cycle lanes)
- Violence against women
- Derelict buildings
- The integration of refugees into the local community
- Support and footfall in local businesses
- Loneliness and social isolation particularly for rural communities

Priorities for future PEACEPLUS programmes

Respondents were asked to comment on what priorities their local area has that PEACEPLUS should focus on. They identified the below:

- Youth engagement
- Fostering cross-border links between North and South of Ireland
- Inclusivity of the local community
- Enhancing community spaces and amenities
- Improving transport links (e.g., cycle lanes, walkways, electric charging stations etc.)
- Creating new job opportunities and Skills development.
- Reducing gender inequality and violence against women
- Investing in tourism and social events (e.g., Music Festivals, Wild Atlantic Way)
- Community support for marginalised groups
- Protecting the environment and supporting green initiatives
- Improving public safety
- Increased cross-community engagement to break down barriers.

We asked respondents to rank the key priorities of PEACEPLUS based on how important they believe they are to support their local community. The results are as follows (1 – most important and 6 – least important):

1. Building peaceful and thriving communities
2. Supporting a sustainable and better community
3. Empowering and investing in youth
4. Healthy and inclusive Communities
5. Building and embedding partnership and collaboration
6. Delivering economic regeneration

Constraints to participation in PEACEPLUS programmes

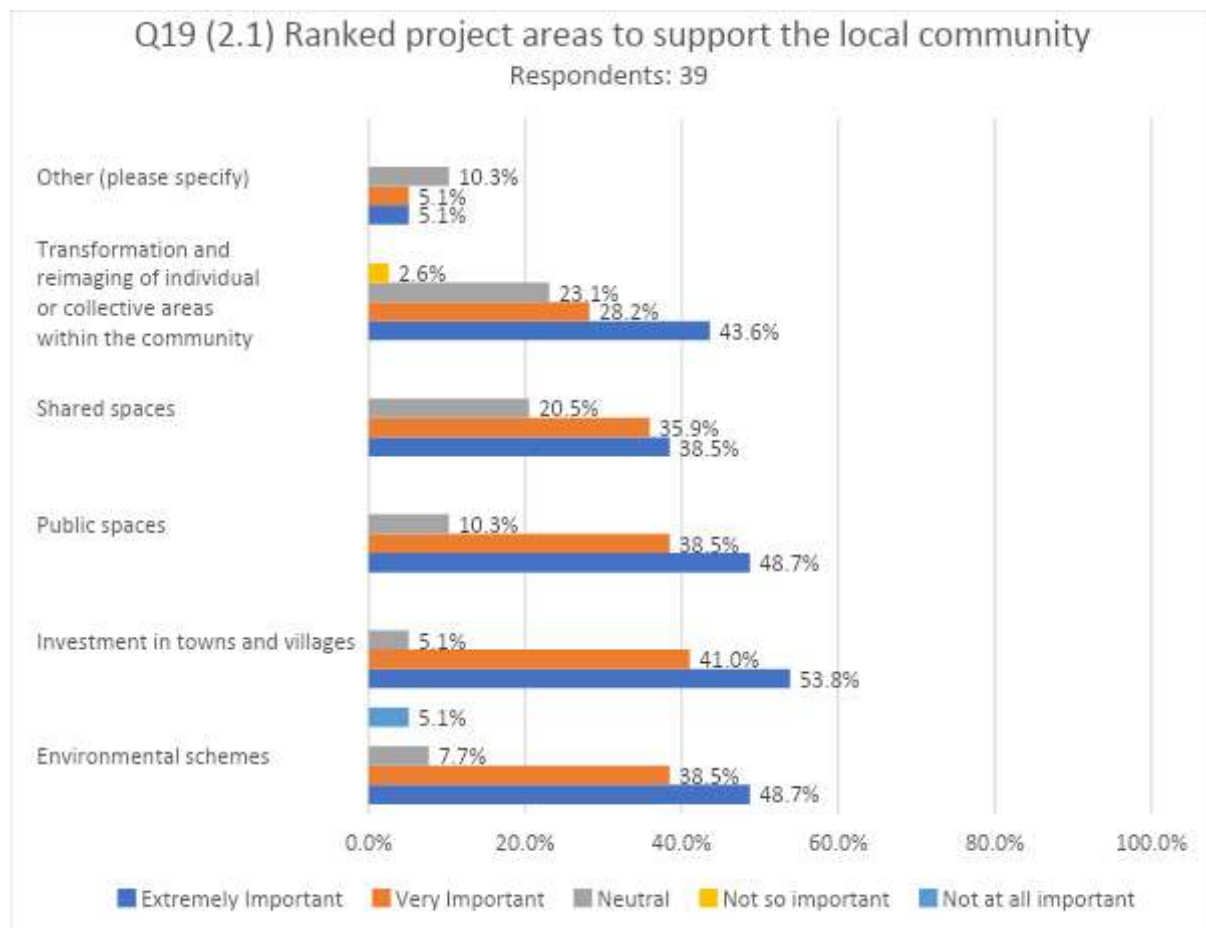
Respondents selected Time and commitment (69.2%) as the largest constraint to participation in PEACEPLUS programmes and a large percentage of participants, 46.2%, also viewed Cost as a prominent constraint. Other answers included, Political and cultural constraints (23.1%), Travel (17.9%), Digital Poverty (10.3%) and Language and Literacy (5.1%). A significant number, 12.8% of respondents, selected other reasons. These comments included administration, micro-management, stigma, lack of understanding of the programme and unwillingness to participate as constraints.

Cost	46.2%
Digital poverty - lack of skills and/or internet	10.3%
Language and literacy	5.1%
Political and cultural	23.1%
Time and commitment	69.2%
Travel	17.9%
Other	12.8%

Transforming and regenerating physical spaces

We asked respondents to rank from 'Not at all Important' to 'Extremely Important' the following projects falling under the Transforming and Regenerating Physical Spaces within the community theme. Answers were as follows:

- 53.5% of respondents identified 'Investment in towns and villages' as extremely important
- 48.7% stated 'Public spaces and Environmental schemes' as extremely important projects.
- 43.6% of respondents selected that 'Transformation and reimagining of individual or collective areas within the community' was an extremely important project type under this theme.
- 38.5% selected 'Shared spaces' as an extremely important project area.
- 5.1% of respondents selected 'other projects as extremely important which included Sports and Cultural activities, Disability Accessibility and Safety for Women'.
- Other areas identified by respondents (5.1%) as very important were 'exploring the development of Transport Apps' and 'Community Groups' under this theme.

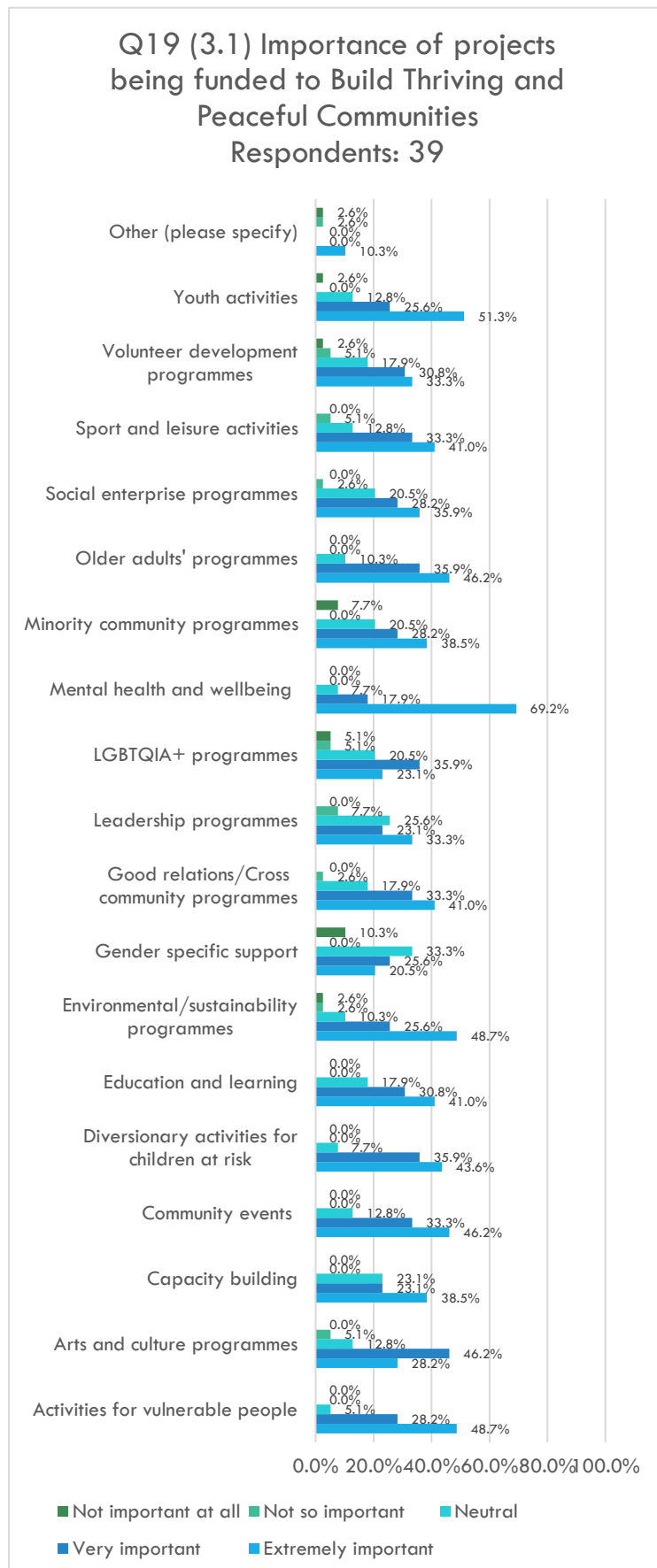


Project Ideas for Local Community Regeneration and Transformation

We then asked respondents to comment on what a local community regeneration and transformation

project would look like in their local community. Below is a list of some of the ideas suggested:

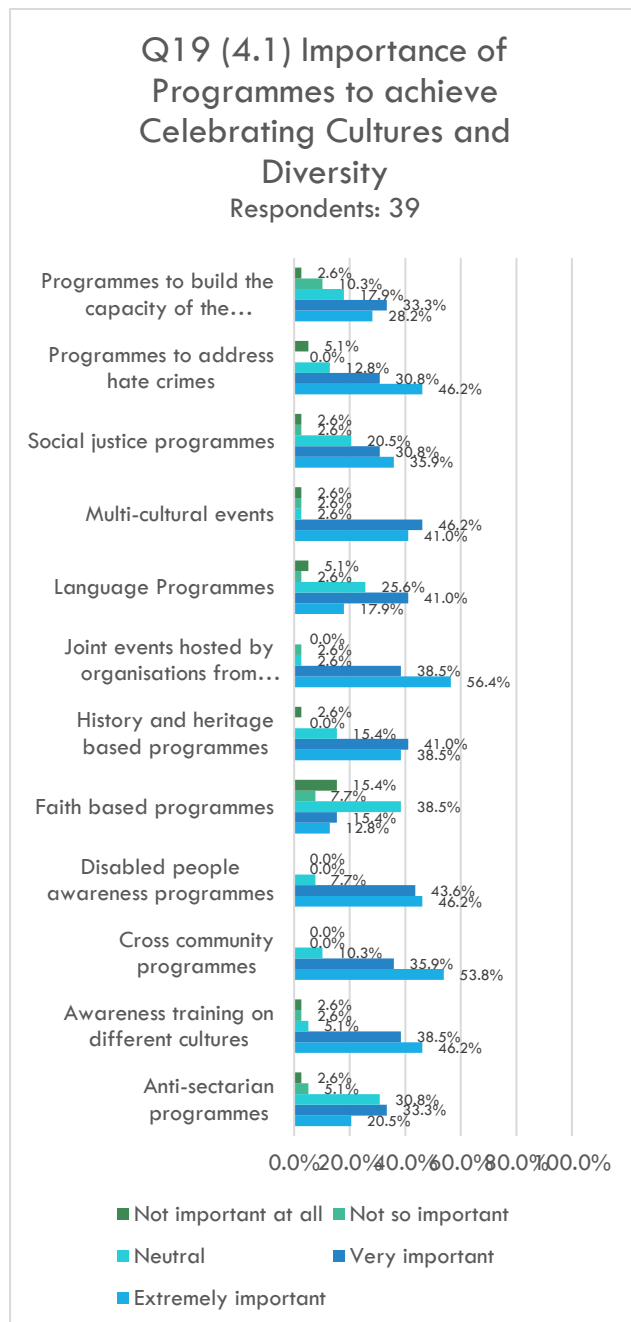
- Community-driven youth clubs
- Development of a traditional folk orchestra
- Affordable transport options
- Regeneration of the town centre and derelict buildings
- Investment in green spaces and street cleaning
- Development of marine facilities and boat park
- Reinvigorating local print media and radio stations



Building Thriving and Peaceful Communities

Most, 69.2% of respondents selected Mental Health and Wellbeing as an extremely important programme area to receive funding to build thriving and peaceful communities. A large percentage, 51.3% ranked Youth activities as extremely important to achieving this theme and 48.7% chose Activities for vulnerable people and Environmental/sustainability programmes respectively. Further areas that ranked highly on the extremely important categories were Community events (46.2%),

Diversionary activities for children at risk (43.6%), Education and learning (41%), Good relations/cross-



community programmes (41%), and Capacity Building and Minority Community Programmes (38.5%).

Other project areas identified to achieve this theme included Educating men/boys about violence towards women, development of marine services, cohousing, skills development surrounding the circular economy and digital/online addiction services for the youth.

Specific project ideas for a Peaceful and Thriving Community in Sligo County

We then asked respondents to comment on specific project ideas they see as relevant to Sligo County achieving a Peaceful and Thriving Community:

- Supporting voluntary and youth clubs and increasing community support staffing
- Community festivals and social events
- Supporting the local Highstreet
- Development of local heritage sites

Celebrating Cultures and Diversity

Most, 56.4% of respondents stated that 'Joint events hosted by local organisations from different cultural backgrounds' are extremely important to Sligo County to Celebrate Cultures and Diversity. A large percentage of participants, 53.8% ranked 'Cross community programmes' as extremely important to achieving this theme and 46.2% listed 'Programmes to address hate crimes', 'Disabled people awareness programmes' and 'Awareness training on different cultures' as extremely important.



Specific project ideas to Celebrate Culture and Diversity

Respondents commented that the following project ideas would Celebrate Culture and Diversity:

- Folk Festivals
- Wild Atlantic Shanty Festival
- Innovation, Arts and Culture programmes
- Diversity Festival (food)
- Development of the Men's Shed
- Digital youth hub
- Multicultural sports events

Additional Comments for the creation of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan

Respondents commented that increasing support for educational establishments would increase the opportunities to twin with those in Northern Ireland and that promoting tourism particularly when compared with other counties along the Wild Atlantic Way would increase the prosperity of Sligo County. Additional comments include to address the "Childcare Crisis" in Sligo County and to embed addressing Climate & Biodiversity emergencies in the creation of the Action Plan.

Respondents also commented how consulting with young people on the development of the PEACEPLUS plan could help increase participation and requested Transparency in the award process and the outcome, as well as to ensure consultation with minority community groups. It was also stated in the additional comments to clearly define Peace to ensure those consulting on this process understand the goals.

The table below is based on the Survey Results only.

Areas for Development	Project Ideas
Transforming and regenerating physical spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-driven Youth Clubs • Economic and Mental Health support for the youth • Development of a Traditional Folk Orchestra • Space for sports programmes and academies • Affordable transport programs • Development of local parks i.e., running track, more bins, maintenance services • Regeneration of the town centre • Creation of more green spaces, parks and gardens • Repurposing of derelict buildings into community spaces • Creation of a community centre in Ballymote • Development of marine facilities and boat park • Reinvigorate local papers and radio



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate the public on shopping local and the development of an app to support this • Collaboration between different local groups to develop strategic plans • Increasing cycling routes • Community café • Integration of community groups with those in Northern Ireland • Development of a community centre • Improved lighting on pathways • Improving Sustainable Energy Communities • Brother Walfrid Sports Facility
Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support voluntary clubs and increase staffing i.e., Foroige • Development of facilities for young people to take part in cultural and sports activities • Increased education on multi-culturalism • Schemes to encourage more females in sport • Cleaning up of rivers and estuaries • Community festivals and social events • Development of Rosses Point Boat Park • Losume.org local high street initiative • Cohousing • Community choir support • Asset-based community development • Upgrade of the Hall at Banada Abbey for cross-community interaction • Oral history project for Clifffoney • Mapping local walking trails • Community mentoring schemes i.e., Men's Shed • Farm to Fork Journey/ Festival • Cross-community youth event • Community gardens • Mental health programmes • Intergenerational support programmes i.e., helping an elderly neighbour • Digital Youth Hub



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy Co-ops, repair and reuse facilities. • Increasing sports facilities • Skill share programmes • Development of childcare facilities e.g., Banada Hall
Celebrating Cultures and Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEACE flag Adopted Soldier project • Folk Orchestra linking up with musicians and bands from Northern Ireland • Multi-sport facilities to encourage cross-community engagement • Folk Festivals • Wild Atlantic Shanty Festival • Innovation, art and culture programmes in schools • Local uber type program for young people to encourage engagement • Multicultural festival i.e., food, music and displays • Music, food or water-based events to support newcomers to the local area • Men's Shed partnering with network in Northern Ireland for trips and events • Cross-community sports event

Appendix 3: Long-list of project ideas

The below illustrates the basic project ideas that emerged from the Sligo PEACEPLUS Co-Design Process. This data includes all co-design consultation workshops/ engagement (i.e., survey data, written submissions, emails, and 1-1 interviews). All ideas were subject to further examination of feasibility against requirements of PEACEPLUS Programme, costs, ownership, planning, duplication, displacement, and implementation. Inclusion reflects their suggestion during the co-design phase, it does not imply eligibility.

Areas for Development / problem being addressed	Local Community Regeneration and Transformation Project Ideas
Developing new infrastructure and facilities for new community services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Centre for all facilitating mentoring new migrants, language classes, cooking classes and cross-culture events (Sligo) • Creative Space used as a workshop space, gallery space, rehearsal and performance space targeting all young people (0-24yrs) (Sligo) • Digital youth hub for young people out of school to engage with their community and minority groups/individuals (mobile or onsite at the CRIB, Sligo town) • Rest stops i.e., village coffee shop/ community café/ charging points (Cliffoney) • Potential for sustainable tourism development at Barytes Mill in Horseshoe/ Ballintrillick (Ballintrillick) • Community Hall Health and Wellbeing Hub (Co. Sligo – suggestions inc. Sligo Strandhill) • Community centre and modern playing facilities (Ballymote) • Build a trainline from Sligo to Derry called the PEACE Line with artwork on carriages by local artists • Toy library • Cohousing/ community-led housing • 24-hour unisex, accessible public toilets with changing space (Sligo) . • Development of local Sligo Strandhill park to include running track and Astro pitch that can be used by all sports/local schools over the winter period when grass pitches not available <p><i>Projects specific to creating recreational spaces and amenities that promote outdoor activities and leisure pursuits:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens/ polytunnel/ picnic areas – cross-community, transgenerational (Co. Sligo – suggestions included: Sligo Drumcliff, Sligo Strandhill) • Sensory Garden accommodating blind, visually impaired and particular benefit to autistic people (potential to include into the Peace Park Sligo) (Tubbercurry) • Develop the Fairgreen into a park or playground (Sligo) • Outside play area for the community that is inclusive and cognisant of cultures and difference. This involves training for community groups in the development and concept of plan in urban and rural areas (Cliffoney) (Potential for cross-border partner) • Outdoor community space for activities for young people (8- to 16-year-olds) and the elderly including art, dance, music, swimming, cycling and physical activities (Tubbercurry) • Build an outdoor gym at the soccer club (Tubbercurry) • A running track and an Astro pitch that can be used by all sports/local schools over the winter period when grass pitches not available (Sligo) • Build basketball arena • Pop-up / portable pool
Projects to enhance existing infrastructure and facilities to improve existing community services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-develop St Crumnath's Cathedral in Achonry as a shared space with history and connection to Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic communities (Achonry) • More bus shelters (Co. Sligo) • The creation of multi-sports facilities for the population situated in the North Western part of Ireland. • Develop a Sensory room in Dromore West Community Centre to help individuals with sensory difficulties to improve visual auditory and tactile processing as well as fine and gross motor skills. • Autism friendly/sensory provision at playgrounds with a safe fenced area to cater for children with a tendency to elope (e.g., Doorly Park)

- Regenerate and transform public spaces and buildings that are inclusive through universal design making these accessible to everyone (Sligo)
- Renovate, modernise, and expand the Spanish Armada Visitor Centre i.e., include a walkway to Streedagh beach to draw tourists from both sides of the border and increase cultural connection to Spain (Grange)
- Develop/ renovate buildings/facilities for childcare (Tubbercurry) (Banada Hall – near 4 primary schools and centrally located)
- Creation of more green spaces, parks and gardens
- Upgrade Foróige the CRIB facility (Sligo)
- Regeneration of the town centre to encourage cultural events (Sligo)
- Upgrade existing community hall facilities to make them warm and inviting (Sligo Drumcliff)
- More bins for rubbish, more poop scoop bins (Co. Sligo)
- Maintenance of the estates (Co. Sligo)

Projects specific to enhancing recreational spaces and amenities that promote outdoor activities and leisure pursuits:

- Enhance football park (phase 1: new dressing rooms/disabled people's access, phase 2: training pitch, wellbeing walking track) (Cliffoney)
- Enhance the existing PEACE garden (Mullaghmore) (Tubbercurry)
- Enhancement of community gardens (Cliffoney)
- Develop Rosses Point Boat Park (Rosses Point)
- Develop Sligo Sports Complex (Sligo)
- Regenerate existing pier and old pier (commercial/ tourism/ recreational) (Sligo)

Economic and social development activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Cliffoney Community Forum focal point (Cliffoney) • New ideas/approaches to renew confidence in indigenous businesses and support local highstreet. • Develop environment i.e., highest waterfall/ highest freestanding rock/ Benbulbin/ Horseshow (Sligo) • Develop sensory space/ parks (Tubbercurry) • Development of a local marine facility and boat park to stimulate local tourism redevelopment given the setbacks it has had with covid and accommodation shortages. • Enhance the Men's shed through increasing joint activities north and south of the border/ develop programme/ cross-border twinning with Men's Shed network in NI e.g., trips to major visitor centres/ attractions that explain other points of view (Cliffoney) (Sligo Drumcliff)
Utilising existing space better	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts Programme/Shared Creative Space – i.e., use Ulster Bank building, or access to gallery spaces e.g., Hyde Bridge (cultural building), Hamilton Gallery (commercial space), empty shop units used for artist studios (Sligo) • Open area in Strandhill – new civic space (Strandhill) • Community centres for youth/older people – use derelict spaces (Co. Sligo) • Conversion of derelict properties for other uses, especially 'habitat for humanity' like community activities (Co. Sligo) • Develop the Hall at Banada Abbey as a centre for cross-community interaction/ to allow provision of additional projects (Banada) <p><i>Projects specific to recreational spaces and amenities that promote outdoor activities and leisure pursuits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better use of gardens & parks i.e., interactive/ music/ picnic tables/ sensory gardens/ sculpture garden/trail (Co. Sligo) • Vacant lot at High Street, Sligo that backs onto Market yard would make a good garden, green space or women's shed (Sligo)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Urban Recreational Spaces at Caltragh, Ballytivnan and Forthill i.e., hosting community fun days, gathering information on local needs and upgrading. Resources required would include equipment, transport, food, clothing and community outdoor space for all (Sligo).
Projects focused on conservation and protecting the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland projects – plant new trees/plants (Northside) • Clean up of rivers and estuaries (Co. Sligo)
Improving efficient and sustainable transportation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling routes (linking the villages of Mullaghmore, Cliffoney, and Grange) • Link cycle routes i.e., Eurvelo routes/ kingfisher groups • Accelerate the provision of protected cycle lanes, advanced bike lights at junctions, and bus services, as well as increasing speed restrictions and removing areas of on-street parking. • Better signage and development of walking trails/ enhancement of forest walks (Cliffoney) • Initiatives that promote active travel and a positive climate impact (reducing emissions) (Co. Sligo)
Education and skills development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music performance programmes for children (aged 7-17) i.e., music composition workshops in four schools with local experts or performers (Co. Sligo) • Provide transition supports for young people with autism leaving school in Sligo to engage in education, training, and employment (Co. Sligo) • Develop/ learn new skills in work experience - include members of the Traveller community and other non-Irish families living in the county (Co. Sligo) • Offer the Decider Skills Programme to front-line workers who deliver supports and programmes to children and young people in building resilience (Co. Sligo) • Support groups, webinars, podcasts, seminars, awareness raising and information raising to support Dads in their parenting role - delivered by health professionals (Co. Sligo) • Cooking programmes for teens providing more information on food combinations and its connection to stress and wellbeing (Co. Sligo)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership programmes i.e., Foroige "Leadership of Life" (Co. Sligo) • Community Mentoring programmes i.e., history, technology, food, festivals etc (Co. Sligo) • Mentoring programme inc. communication, advocacy, community development, team building (in Achill). Graduates then recruit within their own communities (Co. Sligo) • Educate the public on shopping local and the development of an app to support this.
--	---

Areas for Development / problem being addressed	Thriving and Peaceful Communities Project Ideas
Projects linked to breaking down barriers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Library projects i.e., engage in conversation with someone who you would not normally. • Drama groups – community interaction • Cross-border music composition project e.g., led by Music Generation Sligo • Workshops where the travelling community and artists will explore cultural ideas and themes to co-design events. These events could take the form of performance, exhibition, film, talks, creative writing. • Forum theatre for conflict resolution i.e., training for groups in communities culminating in a performance piece and script. This can be delivered in the group's own community then toured and performed at festival/cultural event. Groups continue and develop work. • Cross-border run/walk from Sligo into NI/ other counties in PEACEPLUS region i.e., relay. • Programme on finding common goals for new communities/ Travellers/ older communities/ disabled peoples/ migrants. • Good relations/ cross-community programmes. • Community walking groups. • Community choir supporting minority community events to get each side to understand one another. • Conflict resolution training. • Silent voices – book/project where different groups give their perspectives.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community research and document how the 'troubles' affected the local area/community (positives and negatives)
Youth development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine public media: Local papers and Radio to encourage engagement of young people. Promotion through schools and services to support attendance at programmes about access, transport, cultural appropriateness. Programme to tackle peer pressure concerns of young people. Programme to explore what GFA means to people under 25 years. Community driven youth clubs.
Promotion of health and environmental education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Year in Nature i.e., two workshops each season focusing on, growing seasons and connection with nature at that time (trees cycle in the year, plants, food, animals, bees, insects, cooking). Field to fork process and bringing community together to celebrate this. Cross-community environmental programme i.e., Native Woodland programmes, educating people on the environment and ecosystem. Adventure weekends i.e., holistic family activities, yoga Project that maps the areas of woodland and cross-border links Oral history project for Cliffoney and a map the local trails. Community renewable energy co-ops, community allotments and Repair & Reuse facilities. Formation of Sustainable Energy Communities to increase initiatives. Support delivery of exam stress programmes.
Integration of migrant, Travellers and asylum seekers into the local community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intergenerational/ inclusive water-based activities programme - Swimming activities i.e., lessons for local asylum seekers and migrants to increase water confidence (potential partners – Swim Ireland, Sligo Sports and Recreation Partnership, Ukrainian/Russian translated worship for those from a non-orthodox Christian background achieved through technology, translated materials (Church Army)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for new communities to learn about Irish culture and history. • Support projects in the Cairde Sligo Arts Festival programme (over 3 years) e.g., standing ground (exhibition of stopping places used by Travellers in Sligo), Exposure (a photographic exhibition), The Pavee Performance (evening celebrating traveller artists) and Travellers in Literary History reading.
Improving accessibility and inclusion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Trikes for disabled people to hire in and around Sligo town (similar to Bolt e-Bikes offered). • Social Justice, Disability Awareness and Cross Community programmes/events. • Upgrade technology supporting the Dromore West Community Centre stage and backstage area, as well as provision of high-speed internet equipment, with audio, visual and broadcasting equipment to enable people with mental or physical disabilities to take part online. • Development of an app to provide information on Bus Eireann, Irish Rail and the Local Link transport so young people may be able to avail of transport. • Host a "Stop and chat," drop-in session for those living alone, and parents/carers with babies/toddlers (using Church Army space on Mail Coach) • Activities for vulnerable people • Workshops creating art with disabled people around their lived experience in Sligo that could be exhibited in the Model. • Sports programmes that involve the visually impaired/ include wheelchair users • Workshops and wellbeing programmes to support and assist elderly people. • LGBTQ+ programmes/ activities • Training for groups on how to drive and facilitate inclusion/ cultural awareness training • Voluntary clubs for vulnerable young people and the development of these in every community. • Joint project between Sligo Rovers women's team, Merville girls football teams/ St Marys LGFA/ the local schools/ ATU to promote girls in sport and enhance facilities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local uber type programs can enable younger drivers and social engaging patrons, to connect or solve logistical issues for each other. Exercise equipment for disabled people. Free access to local sports pitches/ Astro pitches for sporting group clubs. Educate in local schools on the importance of shopping local, or implications of not. <p><i>Projects specific to fostering a culture of learning and acceptance:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating community projects and educating the public about the social model of disability through disabled people's rights workshops. Autism support group for young people to meet in person twice weekly with modules on communication, stress management and nutrition and healthy living. Recruiting and training businesses, community groups, schools and the public sector for Sligo Town to attain Autism-Friendly status through a co-designed initiative. Recreational and social supports for young adults (18+) with a learning disability or autistic spectrum disorder to engage with a group of similar aged young people to learn practical skills.
Public Safety and Health & Wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes to combat intimidation and the use/misuse of concealed weapons keeping young people safe. Engage a Coordinator to support young people and their families who experience domestic violence and to signpost them to services, programmes and support. Community nutrition and wellbeing programmes e.g., cooking programmes for teens providing information on food combinations and its connection to stress and wellbeing. Wellbeing and mindfulness podcast Activities for vulnerable people and cross-community programmes/events on mental health and well-being. Mindfulness and wellbeing programmes for older personas inc. workshops targeting rural and urban community groups.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm to Fork journey/ festival. • Development of CHIME model for personal recovery in communities.
Improving sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing significantly the Electronic car charging ports around the central square in Tubbercurry.
Intergenerational engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergenerational workshops • Fix it groups – all ages interact and build knowledge and new skills. • Intergenerational drama clubs that put on shows/plays • Coffee mornings • Volunteer programme for youth to support elderly neighbours, i.e., IT assistance, mow the lawn, pick up leaves. • Training programmes building cultural awareness delivered by young people for adults i.e., on topics like using digital media.
Building capacity e.g., community leaders and volunteers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer succession training • Building the capacity of local sports organisations through cross community collaboration, developing new community leaders and enhancing the capacity of existing leaders and volunteers to promote and facilitate peace and reconciliation. • Local craft skills – Cliffooney lace, basket making, boat building • Sligo Community Mediation • Supporting Tubbercurry Connect group which includes 40 different nationalities. • Leadership programmes for under 35's • Leadership to get an integrated public transport system in place. • Professional development support in communities to deliver projects.
Projects linked to tailored support and interventions e.g., Mental health and inclusive learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ocean awareness programme • Support programmes for parents and carers • Special Educational Needs programme for disabled children i.e., Gallagher House • Mental health and wellbeing programmes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book including positive mental health stories • Project of female genital mutilation (FGM) awareness, recruitment of survivors, validation of recovery – potential partner, Adikwa.
Educational and skill development projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for groups to develop strategic plans/ strategies. • Governance training for groups • Education around Circular economy • Training for groups on how to use technology • Biodiversity workshops – train the trainer. • Animation training i.e., training people to use software to tell their stories • HR/ Governance training for volunteers • Digital skills for elderly and disabled people's groups • Identify historical buildings/ areas within the community then mark these areas/buildings with signage/plagues.
Raising awareness/ celebrating diversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events that use food, film, drama, dance to bring people together and raise awareness of diversity. • Celebration weekend/day/evening to showcase all diverse cultures now existing in local and greater South Sligo area e.g., indoor/outdoor concert that would allow new cultures to present aspects of their individual lives (proposed venue – Banada Abbey Hall)

Areas for Development / problem being addressed	Celebrating Cultures and Diversity Project Ideas
To address residual fear and separation among communities who were segregated by the border and by religion during the troubles in Northern Ireland.	<p><i>Education-type projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of enduring links between Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland, based on communities in Co. Down/ Armagh where Yeats' family were born and various communities South of the border. School children: participate in shared at projects. Adults: invited to put their shared connections with the Yeats family at the centre of a project to create sustainable culturally and economically mutually beneficial links. • Talks in relation to jail/ breaking out of jail/ hunger strikes- available for the public to attend. • Commemorative/ Remembrance events with seminars and workshops to educate others. • Opportunity to run events with military veterans (British Military Veterans/ Irish Military Veterans). • Counselling around the legacy issues of the conflict organising lectures/ seminars.
Media and arts representation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration between bands from both Ireland and Northern Ireland to perform together at festivals such as Fleadh Cheoil. • Cross border orchestra and percussion with Music Generation Sligo. • Establishment of a traditional folk music orchestra incorporating members north and south of the border. • Link musicians from marching band tradition in North with musicians from existing folk orchestra then have a joint performance. • Enhancement of the folk orchestra, Geantraí an Iarthair, that comprises 45+ musicians with members from counties Sligo.
Opportunities for young people from a different tradition, cultural, background of political opinion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross border Friendship soccer tournament for U15/U17/U19) inviting teams from the North Down- similar to the Milk Cup. • Young people from diverse backgrounds work together on shared projects using digital interests / programmes / common language to break down barriers and build relationships.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Ambassadors and Mediators i.e., undergo training to hold a series of youth conversations where young people from different backgrounds and countries share concepts and expressions of culture with each other through volunteer work.
Tackling discrimination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training a theatre group including disabled actors and facilitators to deliver theatre that brings issues of discrimination to the audience for discussion and resolution. • Poets/ writers from all parts of the community to discuss and share stories.
Promoting cross-cultural understanding and building respect for diverse cultural identities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing academy programmes which result in increased levels of understanding and integration of minority communities, including newcomer families. • People who have moved from war-torn countries telling their stories. • Global Kitchen with Cookery classes and food tasting for multicultural attendees. • Cross-border storytelling i.e., coffee mornings for a range of nationalities (Americans, Israelis, Germans and more). • Diversity Festival inviting all the diverse groups in the community with stalls/exhibits, and/or provide entertainment /run workshops/ provide food in the new Queen Maeve's Square. • Folk festivals where different cultures can share their foods, music, traditions etc. • Storytelling projects to learn of the potential of climate change to driving significant immigration to Ireland and to understand why someone has chosen to move to Ireland.
Improving inclusivity for migrants/diverse groups into communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration and language classes led by trained integration officers. • Supporting Ukrainian families to feel more welcome (languages).
Community engagement opportunities to foster a sense of belonging.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free training, classes, and gatherings in food, film, dance, football, and social events to showcase video work with social time incorporated to allow participants to bond. • Social media and virtual connection groups • Bringing groups together through surf-school, birdwatch groups, walking groups, concerts, weekend tours.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound/ music weekend • Cultural exchange events • Fix It Fridays • Sailing/ training for people of all backgrounds i.e., Community boat training programmes, Sailing courses for young people. <p>Investing in tourism and social events e.g., Wild Atlantic Shanty Festival/ Wild Atlantic Way and addressing the lowest numbers for tourism along all the counties of the wild Atlantic way with the least developed facilities.</p>
Celebrating culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brother Walfrid themed social event in Ballymote and upscaling of commemorations celebrating the strong links between Scotland & Northern Ireland / create an area dedicated to his work for disadvantaged people. • History of Irish. Civil war, people don't know history- interact with school • Classiebawn and link to Mountbatten/ King Charles • Ancestry searching and geneology training - many links to families in NI/ UK/ US • Local townland names and history • Capture oral history • Finn Mc Cool and Grainne- Folklore and Trails • Retreat to Sligo - structured day of tours followed by cultural evening • Cultural sessions in schools (food and language sessions) • Camera club- faces of the community (similar to Humans of New York book) • Build on adopted solider and PEACEFLAG projects • Landscape photography

Appendix 4 – Local Govt. Procurement Guidelines

Sligo County Council Procurement Procedures based on Contract Value						
** As first option Buyers shall always use existing SCC contracts or Central Arrangements (OGP, LGOPC, etc) where suitable - DPER Circular 16/13 refers						
	Amount (excl. of VAT)	Procurement Requirement	Rule	Requirement **	Approvals	Records & Documents
Goods and Services	€1- €500	Price Check	Local	Purchasers are required to check the price of goods/services prior to submitting an order	Recommendation of Budget Holder	Note of Price Check
	€501- €5,000	Quotations	Local	Quotation confirmed in writing or by email from one or more reputable suppliers (best practice is to seek a minimum of 3 quotes). [Lowest Price or MEAT]	Recommendation of Budget Holder	Supplier Quotations and AP1 Form
	€5,001 - €25,000	Quotations	Local	Written quotations based on RFQ sought from three or more reputable suppliers. [Lowest Price]	Recommendation of Budget Holder subject to Spend Approval limits	LG RFQ + Quotations and AP1 Form
	€25,001 - €50,000	Quotations	Local	Written quotations, based on RFQ, sought from three or more reputable suppliers. [Lowest Price]	Chief Executive Order	LG RFQ + Quotations + Tender Report / AP1 and CE Order
	€50,001-€215,000	eTenders	National	Open Procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	LG RFT, etenders Notices, Opening Protocol, Tender Report and CE Order
	>€215,000	eTenders (OJEU)	EU	Adhere to Regulations (SI 284 of 2016) Advertise in OJEU Choice of procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	OGP RFT, OJEU Notices, Opening Protocol, Tender Report, CE Order and Reg 84 Report

Sligo County Council Procurement Procedures based on Contract Value						
** As first option Buyers shall always use existing SCC contracts or Central Arrangements (OGP, LGOPC, etc) where suitable - DPER Circular 16/13 refers						
	Amount (excl. of VAT)	Procurement Requirement	Rule	Requirement **	Approvals	Records & Documents
Works & Related Services	€1-€1,000	Price Check	Local	Purchasers are required to check the price of works prior to submitting an order	Recommendation of Budget Holder	Note of Price Check
	€1,001 - €5,000	Quotations	Local	Quotation confirmed in writing or by email from one or more reputable suppliers (best practice is to seek a minimum of 3 quotes). [Lowest Price or MEAT]	Recommendation of Budget Holder	RFQ + Quotations and AP1 Form
	€5,001 - €25,000	Quotations	National	Written quotations, based on RFQ, from three or more reputable suppliers. [Lowest Price or MEAT]	Recommendation of Budget Holder subject to Spend Approval limits	RFQ + Quotations and AP1 Form
	Services: €25,001 - €50,000 Works: €25,001 - €50,000	Quotations	National	Written quotations based on RFQ inc BoQ from five or more competent contractors. [Lowest Price or MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Cw/MF Docs + Supplier Quotations + Tender Report and CE Order
	Services: €50,001-€215,000	eTenders	National	Open Procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Cw/MF Docs + etenders Notices + Opening Protocol + Tender Report and CE Order
	Works: €200,001- €5,382,000	eTenders	National	Choice of procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Cw/MF Docs, etenders Notices, Schedule of Tenders Tender Report, and CE Order
	Services: >€215,000 Works: >€5,382,000	eTenders (OJEU)	EU	Adhere to Regulations (SI 284 of 2016) Advertise in OJEU Choice of procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Cw/MF Docs, OJEU Notices, Opening Protocol, Tender Report, CE Order and Reg 84 Report

	Amount (excl. of VAT)	Procurement Requirement	Rule	Requirement **	Approvals	Records & Documents
Concessions	<€25,000	Direct Invitation	Local	Written offers based on request for Expression of Interest issued to potential operators	Recommendation of Budget Holder subject to Agresso Approval limits	Operator Bids, Assessment Report and Approval
	>€25,000	eTenders	National	Above threshold – choice of procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Tender Docs, etenders Notices, Tender Report and CE Order
	>€5,382,000	eTenders (OJEU)	EU	Adhere to Regulations (S.I. No. 326 of 2017) Advertise in OJEU Choice of procedure [MEAT]	Chief Executive Order	Tender Docs, OJEU Notices, Tender Report and CE Order
** As first option Buyers shall always use existing SCC contracts or Central Arrangements (OGP, LGOPC, etc) where suitable - DPER Circular 16/13 refers						

It is **the responsibility of the Budget Holder** to ensure that all purchases or contracts have been procured in an appropriate and compliant manner.

Only in exceptional cases of urgency shall a commitment be made for goods, services or works in the absence of obtaining quotations/tenders in advance and the exceptional reasons shall be documented on file.

Requisition Approvers are responsible for ensuring the correctness of Product Codes, Quantity & Unit Price prior to approving Requisition Requests in AGRESSO

Public Sector Procurement – Guiding Principles

Competition – a competitive process generates better value for money

Openness – it is government policy to open up opportunities to win public sector contracts, especially to the SME sector

Transparency – fair procedures and accurate records are critical because public sector expenditure is open to scrutiny from audit and under Freedom of Information requests

Proportionality – The type of competitive process should be in keeping with the size and characteristics of the contract to be awarded

Aggregation

Individual transactions cannot be viewed in isolation. Buyers must have regard to the typical or projected spend by the LA on the particular category of goods/service/works during the calendar year or over the term of the contract whichever is longest, when determining how best to go to the market. For spend on areas such as hire and leasing, or for professional services where contracts have no fixed term, the estimated contract value is calculated on the basis of the monthly value multiplied by 48.

References

OGP Public Procurement Guidelines	http://ogp.gov.ie/guidelines-and-support-sub-menu-guidelines-goods-and-services
Capital Works Management Framework	http://constructionprocurement.gov.ie
etenders Portal	http://etenders.gov.ie
Supplygov Portal	https://www.supplygov.ie
Office of Government Procurement	http://ogp.gov.ie
Circular 05/23	52806691-09ff-4b26-91c9-57f1efc3eb0a.pdf (www.gov.ie)
Circular 16/13	http://etenders.gov.ie/Media/Default/SiteContent/LegislationGuides/14.%20Circular%201613.pdf
LG Templates for Goods & Services	SCC Intranet - Purchasing & Procurement
OGP Templates for Goods & Services	http://ogp.gov.ie/templates-2

Sligo County Council Procurement Timelines

Quotations	Receipt of Expressions of Interest	Receipt of Quotations
Direct Invitation	N/A	3-14 days
OGP / LGOPC /SCC Frameworks	Receipt of Expressions of Interest	Receipt of Tenders
Supplementary RFTs	N/A	as per Framework Rules
National Tenders	Receipt of Expressions of Interest	Receipt of Tenders
Open Procedure	N/A	21 days (minimum)
Restricted Procedure	21 days	21days (minimum)
Above EU Threshold Tenders	Receipt of Expressions of Interest	Receipt of Tenders (2014 Directives)
Open	N/A	35 days 30 days (if electronic tenders permitted) 15 days (if preceded by suitable PIN)
Restricted	30 days (minimum)	30 days 25 days (if electronic tenders permitted) 10 days (if preceded by suitable PIN)
Competitive Procedure (<i>with negotiation & innovative partnerships</i>)	30 days (minimum) 15 days minimum (<i>if preceded by suitable PIN</i>)	30 days 25 days (if electronic tenders permitted) 10 days (if preceded by suitable PIN)
Competitive Dialogue	30 days (minimum) No reduction for PIN	No explicit time limit for initial/subsequent tenders

Sligo Co.Council Requisition Approval Limits		
	Approver Grades:	Approval Limit per order:
Group 1	Assistant Engineer Staff Officer Senior Staff Officer Senior Executive Technician Clerk of Works Co. Veterinary Officer Civil Defence Officer	€15,000
Group 2	Executive Engineer	€40,000
Group 3	Administrative Officer Senior Executive Engineer Co.Librarian Senior Executive Scientist Resident Engineer	€70,000
Group 4	Senior Executive Officer Senior Engineer Head of LEO Chief Fire Officer Head of Information Systems	€150,000
Group 5	Director of Services	€1million
Group 6	Chief Executive	N/A
* Analagous posts have same approval levels		

Only approved officers can enter into commitments on behalf of the Council, subject to certain thresholds, within their area of responsibility.

No Commitments to be entered into unless

- (a) Financial provision has been included in the Budget, or
- (b) Departmental sanction has been obtained in writing, or
- (c) Chief Executive's approval has been obtained in writing
- (d) Procurement procedures have been complied with.

Payments over **€60,000** (including VAT) to Consultants require approval of the Chief Executive

Purchase of Machinery from the Machinery Expenses A/C requires the approval of the Chief Executive

Appendix 5 – Abridged Job Descriptions

Sligo County Council



GENERAL INFORMATION

Sligo County Council is the Authority responsible for Local Government in County Sligo. The corporate headquarters are located at County Hall, Riverside, Sligo, and there are three Municipal Districts [Borough District of Sligo (Sligo/Strandhill), Municipal District of Sligo (Sligo/Drumcliffe) and Municipal District of Ballymote-Tubbercurry]. Sligo County Council has 18 elected members and approximately 460 staff. The Chief Executive of Sligo County Council is Mr. Martin Lydon and the Cathaoirleach is Cllr. Gerard Mullaney.

Sligo County Council provides a diverse range of services across a large geographic area. Key services areas include Housing, Planning, Local Enterprise Office, Community and Economic Development, Transportation, Motor Taxation, Water, Environment, Emergency Services along with Libraries and the Arts. These operations are supported by internal services which include ICT, Corporate, Finance and Human Resource functions.

Senior Staff Officer PEACEPLUS

Duties/ Job Tasks and deliverables.

The duties of the post are to give to the Local Authority and

- a) the Local Authorities or bodies for which the chief executive is Chief Executive, and
- b) to any other Local Authority or body with which agreement has been made by the Local Authority or by any of the authorities referred to in sub paragraph a) under the general direction and control of the Chief Executive, or of such other employee as the Chief Executive may from time to time determine,

such appropriate services of an administrative, supervisory, or management nature as may be required by any Local Authority or body herein before mentioned in the exercise and performance of any of its powers, functions, and duties, and to exercise such powers, functions, and duties as may be dedicated to you by Chief Executive from time to time, including the duty of servicing all committees that may be established by any such Local Authority or body. You will, if required, act for employee of a higher level if qualified to do so.

Key Duties and Responsibilities of the post are:

1. To be responsible for the management and administration of a section or sections within the Council, including the management and supervision of staff.



2. To support your line manager to ensure work programmes are implemented to deliver on the Council's corporate and operational plans, including planning and prioritising work and allocating resources.
3. To develop and maintain productive working relationships, including providing information and assistance when required.
4. To act as a key point of contact and liaison in relation to all operational matters for the service delivery section or sections for which they are responsible.
5. To research, analyse and communicate information on specific issues and policies as appropriate, including compiling, preparing and presenting reports, presentations, correspondence etc.
6. To represent the Local Authority and committees and at meetings and to report on progress in their respective section or department as required.
7. To provide support and administrative assistance in the delivery of projects as required.
8. To be involved in the day-to-day financial management of capital and operational expenditure in the section or department.
9. To identify opportunities for improvements in the service delivery within the relevant area of responsibility.
10. To implement and manage change management initiatives within the relevant area of responsibility.
11. To manage and supervise employees and supporting roles, including assigning and scheduling duties and workload, providing ongoing support and handling day-to-day issues.
12. To ensure compliance with all organisational policies and procedures within their area of responsibility and to provide assistance in the understanding and interpretation of policies and procedures to employees in their area of responsibility and to customers and other stakeholders, as appropriate.
13. To participate in corporate management activities and responsibilities appropriate to the grade.
14. To be in compliance with Health and Safety legislative requirements, policies and procedures, and safe systems of work.
15. To deputise for the line manager or equivalent as required.
16. To undertake any other duties of a similar level and responsibility as may be required or assigned from time to time.

Duties Specific to PEACEPLUS:

- To develop and implement Co-designed Local Community Action Plan 2021-2027 funded by SEUPB subject to application.
- Plan, promote and manage information and co-design consultations to develop and implement projects for Plan.
- Manage associated financial reporting and budgets for associated capital job code with accuracy and in timely manner ensuring claims processed correctly and regularly.



- Manage and coordinate all project communications including but not confirmed to Internal and External Reporting, Press and Public Relations, Social Media and Annual reporting.
- Coordinate Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership Meetings and associated communications – minutes, agendas, updates, actions, etc.
- Develop and maintain relationships with stakeholders and target groups in community, Sligo County Council, other bodies and agencies locally, nationally, and Cross-border.
- Manage procurement in compliance with Sligo County Council, National, and EU rules. Strictest rule applies.
- Manage contracted projects to ensure project progress and participant monitoring and targets are met in timely and efficient manner and with value for money considerations.
- Manage clear and concise communications to Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership, LCDC, Sligo County Council Mgt Team, SEUPB, general public, stakeholders, internal staff, etc.

This position is Grade VI, Senior Staff Officer. Current Salary Scale as of 1st Oct. 2023: ⁹: € 53,345 – 54,618 – 56,168 – 59,086 – 60,828 – LSI 1 62,994 – LSI 2 65,172

Executive Engineer

1. Education, Training, Experience, etc.

Each candidate must, on the latest date for receipt of completed application forms:

- (a) hold an honours degree (level 8 in the National Framework of Qualifications) in engineering;
- (b) have at least five years satisfactory relevant engineering experience;
- (c) possess a high standard of technical training and experience; and
- (d) possess a high standard of administrative experience.

⁹ Subject to increases under [Public Service Agreement 2024-2026](#)

DUTIES

The duties of the employment are to give to:

- (a) Sligo County Council under the control of the Chief Executive or his nominee and
- (b) To any other local authority or body with which an agreement has been made by the local authority,

Under the general direction and control of the Chief Executive, or of such other employee as the Chief Executive may from time to time determine, such appropriate services of a technical, management, administrative, executive, supervisory, advisory and ancillary nature as may be required by any local authority or body hereinbefore mentioned in the exercise and performance of any of its powers, functions and duties, and to exercise such powers, functions and duties as may be delegated to him or her by the Chief Executive from time to time, including the duty of servicing all committees that may be established by any such local authority or body. The holder of the employment will, if required, act for an employee of a higher level, if qualified to do so.

The principal duties may include but are not limited to the following:

- Implementation of engineering programmes in the areas of transportation, water, housing, recreation and amenity, community and economic development, environment, and other services;
- Implementation of projects in areas such as those detailed above;
- Supervision and contract administration of construction/operations/maintenance works;
- Managing a direct labour/engineering/administrative workforce;
- Preparing budgets and ensuring that works are implemented within allocated budgets;
- Ensuring that staff are trained and operate within the relevant skill sets;
- Maintaining and proactively developing a culture of Health & Safety in the workplace;
- Ensuring compliance with Health & Safety Legislation and Regulations and Sligo County Council's Health & Safety systems;
- Ensuring works are implemented in compliance with all relevant legislation and regulations concerning procurement, planning etc.;
- Ensuring an efficient and effective response to all stakeholders;
- Representing the Council at meetings with staff, elected members, community/general interest groups, businesses and residents;
- Such other duties as may be reasonably assigned from time to time.

Specific to PEACEPLUS:

Duties specific to project management for Sligo PEACEPLUS projects under Theme 1.1.1, *Local Community Regeneration and Transformation*, and in addition to the above will include:

- Oversight of capital investment projects approved by SEUPB for Sligo PEACEPLUS.
- Tendering for works in compliance with relevant EU and national law, as well as their own organisational rules where applicable. As per PEACEPLUS Programme Manual, the stricter rule always applies.
- Excellent record -keeping of such procurement for monitoring and audit purposes.
- Supervision and contract administration of construction, operations, renovation, installation works for Sligo PEACEPLUS approved capital investment projects.
- Liaison with Co-design stakeholders of relevant projects during and throughout works programme.
- Continuous liaison with Sligo County Council PEACEPLUS personnel for financial and project monitoring purposes and reporting to SEUPB and internal and external stakeholders.

3. SALARY

The salary shall be fully inclusive and will be as determined from time to time. Holders of the office shall pay to the local authority any fees or other monies (other than their inclusive salary) payable to or received by them by virtue of their office or in respect of services which they are required by or under any enactment to perform.

The current salary scale¹⁰ for the post is:

€55,519 - €57,540 - €59,560 - €61,583 - €63,607 - €65,628 - €67,652 - €69,665 - €71,698 - €73,713 – LSI 1 €76,038 – LSI 2 €77,176

Salary for the post shall be in accordance with existing practice as set out in relevant circulars. Starting pay for new entrants will be at the minimum of the scale.

¹⁰ Subject to increases under [Public Service Agreement 2024-2026](#)

Clerical Officer (Grade III)

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Clerical Officer is a key support position within the Council providing a comprehensive general administrative and clerical support to a section or department.

The Clerical Officer works as part of a team to meet work goals and objectives and to deliver quality services to internal and external customers. The duties of a Clerical Officer are varied and can involve assignment to different parts of the organisation or different areas of work. The work of the Clerical Officer requires that employees in the role function in a flexible manner and work effectively together as a team to deliver required outcomes or outputs. The Clerical Officer is expected to carry out their duties in a manner that enhances public trust and confidence.

Desirable Skills & Experience

The ideal candidate will demonstrate:

- Knowledge and understanding of the functions of a local authority.
- Understanding of the role of a Clerical Officer.
- Relevant administrative experience and clerical skills.
- Strong customer service ethos.
- Experience of working as part of a team.
- Knowledge and experience of operating ICT systems.

Duties

The duties shall be such clerical/administrative and secretarial as may be assigned to the employee from time to time by the Local Authority and shall include the duty of deputising for other employees of the Local Authority when required and such duties as may be assigned to them in relation to any other area of the Local Authority.

Key Duties and Responsibilities of the post are:

1. To participate in and support the work of the section or department to ensure that work programmes are delivered in accordance with the operational plans.
2. To communicate and liaise with team members, supervisors, members of the public and others in relation to operational matters in their section or area of work.
3. To prepare reports, correspondence and other documents as necessary.
4. To provide a comprehensive administrative and clerical service as required.
5. To ensure high levels of customer services, responding to queries and requests for information in a professional courteous and timely manner.
6. To support and participate in all change management initiatives within their area of work or the wider organisation.
7. To support and assist team members as required.

8. To participate in corporate activities and responsibilities appropriate to the grade.
9. To be in compliance with Health and Safety legislative requirements, policies and procedures and safe systems of work.
10. To deputise for the line manager or equivalent as required.
11. To undertake any other duties of a similar level and responsibility, as may be required, or assigned, from time to time.

Duties specific to Sligo PEACEPLUS will include:

- Providing administrative support to: the PEACEPLUS Secretariat, Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership and any other Sub Committee or Working Group that may be established.
- Update and maintenance of participation monitoring records on SEUPB Database.
- To assist in monitoring project spend and work to ensure spend targets are met.
- Ensure that all project monitoring return deadlines are met.
- Assistance with verification of financial claims/invoices submitted and follow up on queries.
- Update and maintenance of hard copy financial records.
- Update and maintenance of payments Agresso database.
- Update and maintenance of financial records on SEUPB Database
- Assist in the preparation of documentation to trigger payment of claims as submitted to SEUPB in liaison with the PEACEPLUS Manager and Administrative Officer, to ensure prompt payment of all claims.
- Ensure that all project financial return deadlines are met.
- Assist Prepare accurate SEUPB quarterly financial reports for approval by PEACEPLUS Manager and Administrative Officer
- Assist Prepare budget/cash flow projections as and when required
- Assist and play a key support role in Convene meetings, prepare agendas, record minutes and undertake follow ups from the Sligo PEACEPLUS Partnership and any associated subgroups as required.
- Managing incoming & outgoing post/correspondence/e-mails
- To participate in staff and team planning meetings
- To be responsible for personal health and safety and aware of the health and safety of others.
- To perform any other duties which may be assigned by the PEACEPLUS Partnership from time to time.

Salary

The salary shall be fully inclusive and will be as determined from time to time. Holders of the office shall pay to the local authority any fees or other monies (other than their inclusive salary) payable to or received by them by virtue of their office or in respect of services which they are required by or under any enactment to perform.

Current Salary Scale¹¹

€ 27,896 – 29,611 – 30,035 – 30,891 – 32,143 – 33,397 – 34,651 – 35,561 – 36,594 – 37,789 – 38,638 – 39,825 – 41,019 – 43,265 – LSI 1 44,860

¹¹ Subject to increases under [Public Service Agreement 2024-2026](#)