



Dublin Rural
LEADER
Growth, Sustainability & Inclusion

A SUBMISSION ON BEHALF OF DUBLIN
RURAL LEADER



1. Submission in Brief

- > The LEADER Programme is a key rural development tool for supporting the economic, social and environmental development of rural communities, by providing the resources necessary for rural communities to support their own development and create capacity at local level.
- > For thirty years the LEADER Programme, delivered by Local Development Companies has maximised the drawdown and impact of EU funds, to create jobs in rural areas, and develop rural communities in keeping with the LEADER approach and evaluated as very successful by EU institutions.
- > The aim of the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 as identified in the draft CAP Strategic Plan is to continue to support a community led local development (CLLD) approach to rural development by animating and funding initiatives that emerge at a local level to address local challenges and needs.
- > Ireland's CAP SWOT analysis and Needs Assessment identified several challenges in rural Ireland for which the LEADER approach can assist with the delivery of Government objectives. These include the need to support private enterprises and communities to improve quality of life and economic activity in rural areas; and the need to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland with a focus on social inclusion and climate change mitigation.
- > Representing 1.8% of Ireland's total CAP Budget, an indicative Budget of €180 million has been allocated for LEADER 2023-2027. The Budget for the 2007-2013 Programme stood at €425 million (€85 million annual average) with the successor Programme that operated from mid-2016 to 2020 reduced to €250 million (€50 million annual average).
- > A further cut to €180 million is now proposed for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 (€36 million annual average), and when examined on a year-by-year actual basis marks another significant reduction of almost 40% (not allowing for the effect of inflation in real terms) in the funds available for the delivery of important rural enterprise, tourism, job creation, and community-led projects the length and breadth of the country.
- > ***Dublin Rural LEADER calls for the allocation of a sustainable minimum of €389 million (€77.8 million annual average) for the LEADER***

Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and maintain enterprise in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities, as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

2. Dublin Rural LEADER Proposals

Dublin Rural LEADER calls on the Department of Agriculture Food & Marine and the Department of Rural & Community Development to:

- > Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

- > Ensure a sustainable Budget for each Local Development Company at local level to ensure the efficient delivery of the LEADER Programme 2023-2027

3. About Dublin Rural LEADER

Dublin Rural LEADER provides funding to enterprises and community groups throughout the rural areas of Fingal, South Dublin County and Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown for projects that are selected by the Local Action Group (LAG).

The Dublin Rural Local Action Group (LAG) was established to deliver the LEADER element of the Rural Development Programme for the period 2016-2021 in the Dublin rural region. The Dublin Rural LAG geographical area encompasses the rural areas which surround the city of Dublin on three sides and is comprised of rural parts of the local authorities of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, and South Dublin, all within the County of Dublin. The Dublin LAG consists of local representatives across the three local authority areas from both the public and private sector. Dublin Local Action Group has the overall responsibility for the delivery of the Dublin Rural LEADER programme.

Fingal LEADER Partnership CLG are the Implementing Partner and first point of contact for information and enquiries about the programme and Fingal County Council are the Financial Partner.

The Dublin Rural LAG successfully delivered the 2014-2020 LEADER programme supporting 91 projects across rural Dublin to the total value of €5,149,385. The LEADER programme in Dublin is vital to the rural communities. During the Transition programme the LAG have widened their geographic catchment to support more areas and doubled the population of which can avail of LEADER funds.

A decrease in funding for the next programme would be detrimental to these rural communities and a step backwards for rural Dublin.

4. What does a reduced LEADER Budget mean?

The continued erosion of the LEADER Budget will:

- > Deprive rural communities of critical capacity building supports and funding for vital enterprise, tourism, and community-led development (more than 5,000 projects supported in the most recent Programme period). Weaker communities and particular groups will be left behind including our youth, women, older people as well as the many social enterprises which LEADER has been able to support to date.
- > Call into question the Government's capacity to deliver on ambitions outlined in its National Rural Strategy – Our Rural Future which are specifically linked to the LEADER approach.
- > Hinder the Covid19 recovery in rural areas denying enterprises including farmers and farm families of critical funding opportunities and their ability to mitigate the effects of COVID19 and Brexit .
- > Inhibit the capacity of rural communities to deliver climate mitigation and biodiversity projects.
- > Curtail the delivery of complementary schemes such as PEACE, the Walks Scheme, the Rural Social Scheme, the Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme. EIP and LIFE programmes etc.
- > Undermine the future viability of Ireland's rural based Local Development Companies.

5. Purpose of LEADER 2023-2027 (Draft CAP Strategic Plan)

The aim of this intervention is to support a community led local development (CLLD) approach to rural development by funding initiatives that emerge at a local level that aim to address local challenges and needs. Ireland's SWOT analysis and Needs Assessment identified several challenges in rural Ireland for which the LEADER intervention can provide assistance. These include the need to support private enterprises to create rural jobs and communities to improve quality of life and economic activity in rural areas; and the need to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland with a focus on social inclusion and climate change mitigation. The

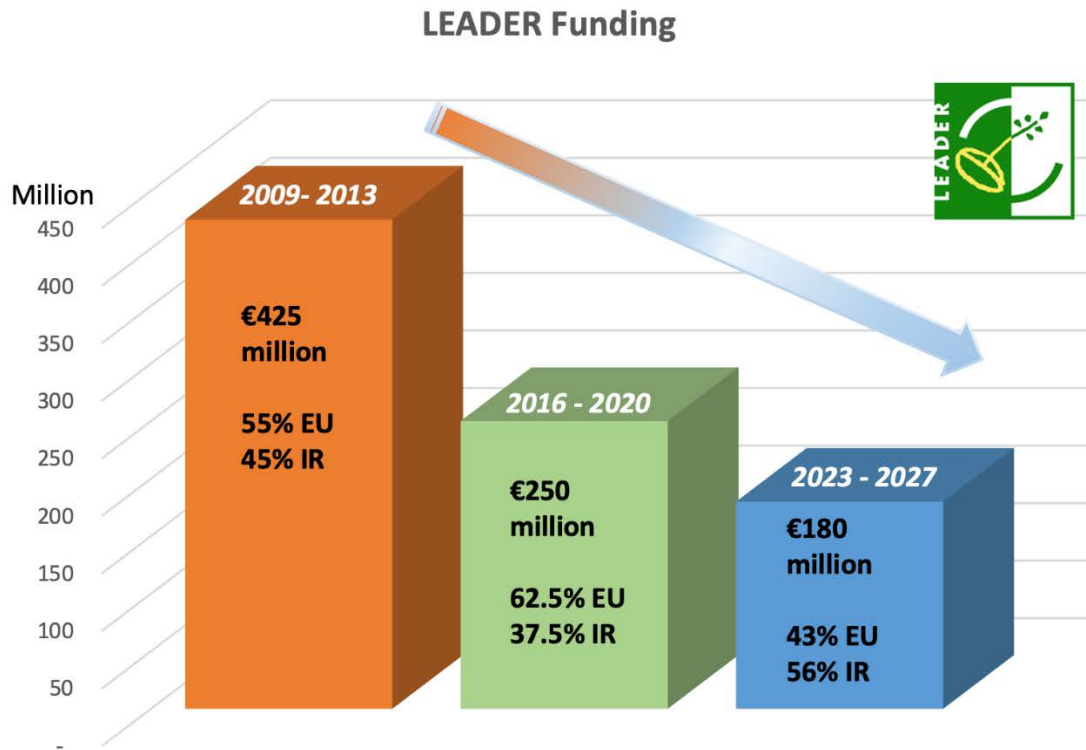
LEADER Programme is a key rural development tool for supporting the economic and social development of rural communities, by providing the resources necessary for communities to support their own development and create capacity at local level.

The indicative high-level LEADER themes are as follows:

- Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation
- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion

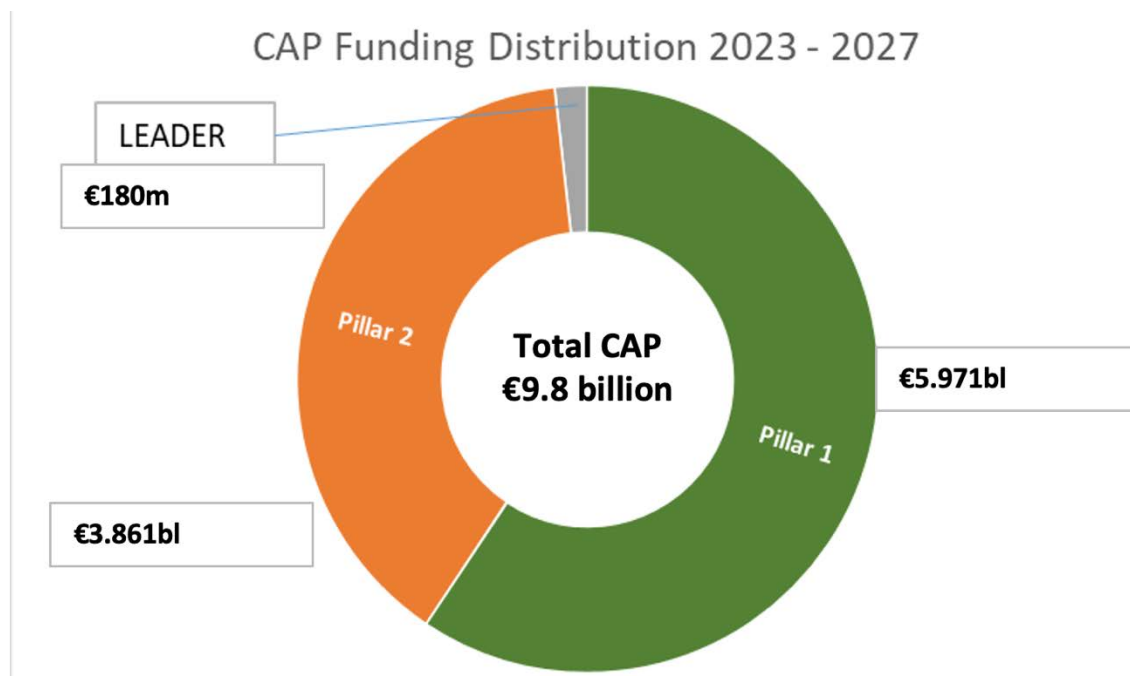
6. LEADER FUNDING 2007-2027

Programming Period	Total Programme Allocation	Average Annual Allocation
2007-2013 (delivered 2009-2013)	€425,000,000	€85,000,000
2014-2020 (delivered 2016 to 2020)	€250,000,000	€50,000,000
2021-2022 (Transitional)	€ 70,000,000 (plus exchequer funding as requested)	€35,000,000
2023-2027 (indicative budget)	€180,000,000	€36,000,000
<i>2023-2027 (Minimum Required)</i>	<i>€389,000,000</i>	<i>€77,800,000</i>



7. LEADER 2023-2027 Indicative Allocation analysed

The EU budget agreement provided for a total CAP funding for Ireland of €7.5 billion over the 5 year period from 2023 to 2027. The funding is split between Pillar 1 (Direct Payments and Sectoral Interventions - €5.9billion) and Pillar II (Rural Development - €1.56billion). The allocation for the national exchequer to co-fund the Rural Development element of the CAP Strategic Plan (CSP) of €2.3bn has been agreed. This will bring the total funding for the CSP to €9.8bn and to €3.86bn in respect of the Rural Development component of the plan. Pillar II measures include LEADER interventions to be delivered by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



Funding will be phased over the 2023-2027 period in line with the requirements of intervention design and the annual national budgetary process.

In accordance with Article 92(1) of the draft CAP Strategic Plan regulation, “At least 5% of the total EAFRD contribution to the CAP Strategic Plan as set out in Annex XI shall be reserved for LEADER. The maximum permissible Exchequer co-funding rate for the next LEADER programme will be 80%”.

The indicative €180m financial allocation for LEADER over the 2023-27 period will consist of €77.9m (43.28%) funding from European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) with the remainder funded by the National exchequer. This equates to 1.8% of Ireland’s total CAP Budget.

Notwithstanding the increased national exchequer funding for the overall CAP Programme 2023 to 2027 there is a significant cut in LEADER funding for rural areas with the proposed allocation for the Programme falling from €425 million for the 2007-2013 Programme to just €180 million for the 2023-2027 programming period. Furthermore the co-funding element of 56.72% falls well short of the 80% permissible under EU regulation. Increasing the co-funding rate to the maximum

allowable rate affords the Government the opportunity to deliver a sustainable LEADER Budget of €389 million for the period 2023-2027.

8. Summary and Recommendation:

- ***Dublin Rural LEADER calls for the proposed exchequer co-funding element of 56.72% in the 2023-27 LEADER period to be increased to the permissible 80% under EU regulation, to halt and reverse the detrimental erosion of LEADER Programme Resources both nationally and in Rural Dublin.***
- ***Dublin Rural LEADER calls for the allocation of a sustainable minimum of €389 million (€77.8 million annual average) for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and maintain enterprise in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities, as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.***

Signed on behalf of Dublin Rural LEADER

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

[Redacted contact information]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: submission
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 09:55:14

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To whom it may concern

Please see below our submission

Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Le Cheile Family &
Community Centre,



From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Leader Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 10:46:57

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A Chara

Please provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER

Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

This is essential to support community based initiatives.

Regards

[REDACTED]





Glenbeigh Community Council Ltd



8th December 2021

Re - Cuts to LEADER Programme Funding

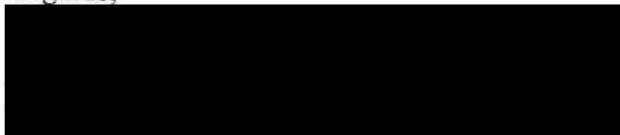
Dear Minister



We here in Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry, have previously received Leader Funding in the past for Projects in the community. Without such vital funding, those projects would most definitely not go ahead as we would not as a community group be in a financial position to do so. I am hereby imploring you to take note of the following and give it your utmost attention it deserves, thank you.

‘Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.’

Regards,



Glenbeigh Community Council Ltd/ Glenbeigh Tidy Towns.



A SUSTAINABLE LEADER
PROGRAMME 2023-2027



1. Submission in Brief

- > The LEADER Programme is a key rural development tool for supporting the economic, social and environmental development of rural communities, by providing the resources necessary for rural communities to support their own development and create capacity at local level.
- > For thirty years the LEADER Programme, delivered by Local Development Companies has maximised the drawdown and impact of EU funds, to create jobs in rural areas, and develop rural communities in keeping with the LEADER approach and evaluated as very successful by EU institutions.
- > The aim of the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 as identified in the draft CAP Strategic Plan is to continue to support a community led local development (CLLD) approach to rural development by animating and funding initiatives that emerge at a local level to address local challenges and needs.
- > Ireland's CAP SWOT analysis and Needs Assessment identified several challenges in rural Ireland for which the LEADER approach can assist with the delivery of Government objectives. These include the need to support private enterprises and communities to improve quality of life and economic activity in rural areas; and the need to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland with a focus on social inclusion and climate change mitigation.
- > Representing 1.8% of Ireland's total CAP Budget, an indicative Budget of €180 million has been allocated for LEADER 2023-2027. The Budget for the 2007-2013 Programme stood at €425 million (€85 million annual average) with the successor Programme that operated from mid-2016 to 2020 reduced to €250 million (€50 million annual average).
- > A further cut to €180 million is now proposed for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 (€36 million annual average), and when examined on a year-by-year actual basis marks another significant reduction of almost 40% (not allowing for the effect of inflation in real terms) in the funds available for the delivery of important rural enterprise, tourism, job creation, and community-led projects the length and breadth of the country.
- > ***NTDC calls for the allocation of a sustainable minimum of €389 million (€77.8 million annual average) for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to***

drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and maintain enterprise in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities, as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

2. ILDN Proposals

NTDC in line with ILDN calls on the Department of Agriculture Food & Marine and the Department of Rural & Community Development to:

- > Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

- > Ensure a sustainable Budget for each Local Development Company at local level to ensure the efficient delivery of the LEADER Programme 2023-2027

3. About ILDN

NTDC is a member of the Irish Local Development Network (ILDN), the national representative body for Ireland's 49 Local Development Companies (LDCs). The network's members are active in every County, City, and Parish in Ireland delivering integrated community, enterprise and social services based on the bottom-up community-led approach.

ILDN members deliver a large number of programmes including LEADER in Rural areas. LEADER is a keystone in the bridge that continues to link rural enterprises and communities to the future of sustained economic and social development of rural areas as it has done over the last 30 years. Because of its pivotal role in Rural Society, it complements the delivery of Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP), Rural Social Scheme, Tús, Local Employment Services, Jobs Clubs, the Outdoor Recreation Programme, the Walks Scheme, Community Services Programme, Back to Work Enterprise Allowance, Social Farming, Ability, Social Prescribing and supports for Social Enterprises.

Each of our member LDCs are unique and with small focused competent teams provide services that reflect the needs of their communities. Beyond the core programmes listed, LDCs also deliver national and European initiatives that enhance the development of their communities through enterprise, training, activation, education, health and community supports.

Our LDCs operate in rural, urban and island communities of all population profiles and densities supporting 173,000 individuals and over 15,000 community groups annually. Through their social inclusion work our members endeavour to reach out to all people who require extra support in the face of deprivation, unemployment, and exclusion.

ILDN as a representative body supports members through coherent policy development, research, HR support, networking, knowledge transfer, procurement, and Garda vetting. Increasingly ILDN is seen as the voice for volunteer-led, community-based LDCs who understand and service the needs of all our Communities across the Country. LDCs are fully accountable to all government and

EU funders, through robust governance structures as well as rigorous audit and inspectorate regimes, including the CRO and the Charity Regulator.

Irish Local Development Network represents the 35 members who deliver the LEADER Programme nationwide. Since its launch in 1991, the LEADER programme has helped rural communities across the European Union to actively engage and direct the local development of their areas, through community-led local development. Ireland is widely regarded as the birthplace and flagbearer of LEADER for over three decades

4. What does a reduced LEADER Budget mean?

The continued erosion of the LEADER Budget will:

- > Deprive rural communities of critical capacity building supports and funding for vital enterprise, tourism, and community-led development (more than 5,000 projects supported in the most recent Programme period). Weaker communities and particular groups will be left behind including our youth, women, older people as well as the many social enterprises which LEADER has been able to support to date.
- > Call into question the Government's capacity to deliver on ambitions outlined in its National Rural Strategy – Our Rural Future which are specifically linked to the LEADER approach.
- > Hinder the Covid19 recovery in rural areas denying enterprises including farmers and farm families of critical funding opportunities and their ability to mitigate the effects of COVID19 and Brexit .
- > Inhibit the capacity of rural communities to deliver climate mitigation and biodiversity projects.
- > Curtail the delivery of complementary schemes such as PEACE, the Walks Scheme, the Rural Social Scheme, the Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme. EIP and LIFE programmes etc.
- > Undermine the future viability of Ireland's rural based Local Development Companies.

5. Purpose of LEADER 2023-2027 (Draft CAP Strategic Plan)

The aim of this intervention is to support a community led local development (CLLD) approach to rural development by funding initiatives that emerge at a local level that aim to address local challenges and needs. Ireland's SWOT analysis and Needs Assessment identified several challenges in rural Ireland for which the LEADER intervention can provide assistance. These include the need to support private enterprises to create rural jobs and communities to improve quality of life and economic activity in rural areas; and the need to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland with a focus on social inclusion and climate change mitigation. The LEADER Programme is a key rural development tool for supporting the economic and social development of rural communities, by providing the resources necessary for communities to support their own development and create capacity at local level.

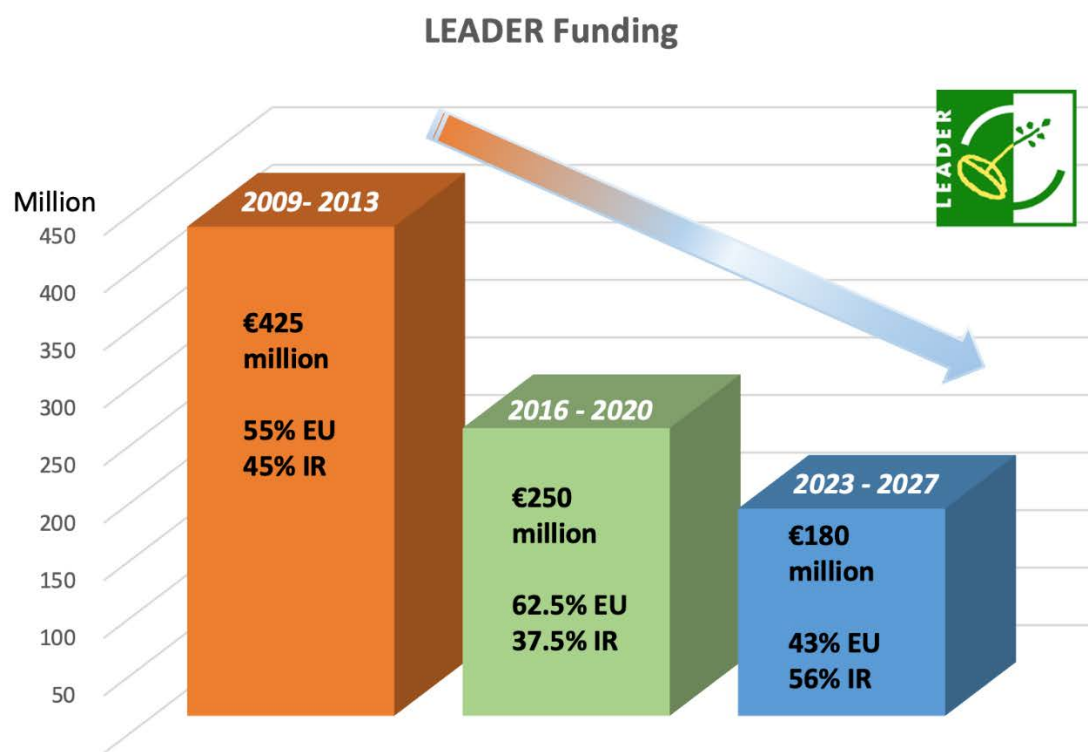
The indicative high-level LEADER themes are as follows:

- Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation
- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion

The allocation of an increased budget as per the ILDN request to €389m for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 is critical to Ireland achieving its climate change targets. The indicative high-level LEADER theme of Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation, has on the ground been a difficult theme to both animate and deliver. Animation difficulties were due particularly to LEADER rules/budget on animation and Covid-19 restrictions. Increased uptake under this theme by rural communities will also increase awareness and in turn put additional community pressure on farmers in their decision making re climate change, this in addition to their CAP subsidy inducements. ***NTDC requests that the capital grant percentage be raised from 75% to 90% for community projects only under the Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation theme.***

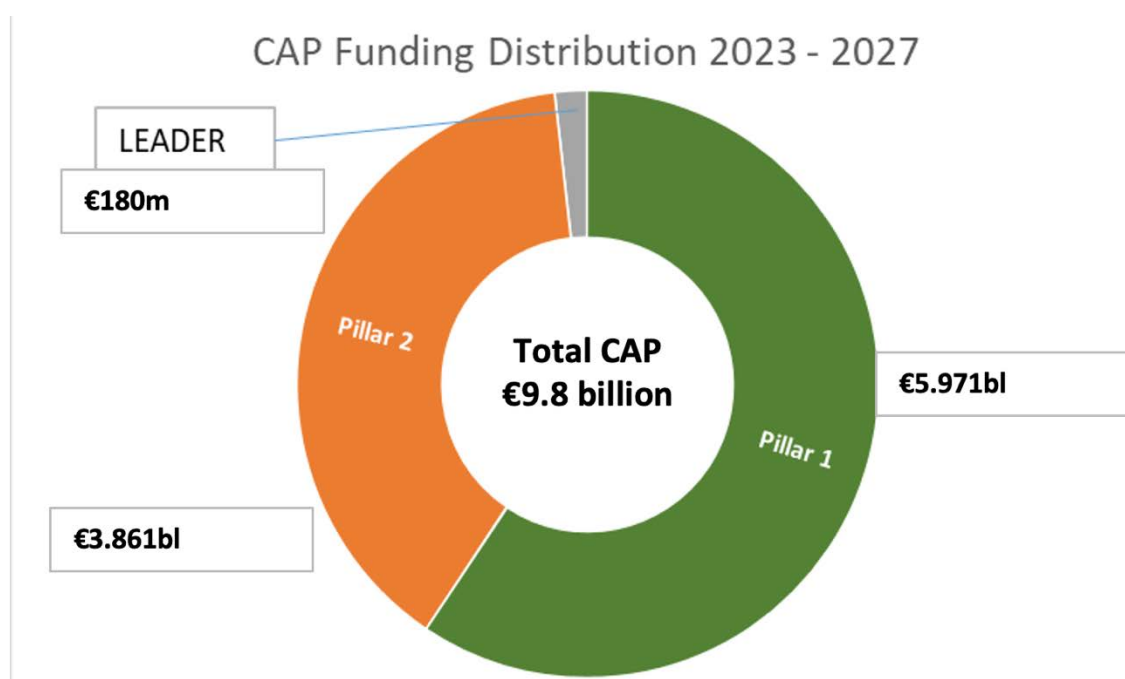
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<i>2023-2027 (Minimum Required)</i>	<i>€389,000,000</i>	<i>€77,800,000</i>



7. LEADER 2023-2027 Indicative Allocation analysed

The EU budget agreement provided for a total CAP funding for Ireland of €7.5 billion over the 5 year period from 2023 to 2027. The funding is split between Pillar 1 (Direct Payments and Sectoral Interventions - €5.9billion) and Pillar II (Rural Development - €1.56billion). The allocation for the national exchequer to co-fund the Rural Development element of the CAP Strategic Plan (CSP) of €2.3bn has been agreed. This will bring the total funding for the CSP to €9.8bn and to €3.86bn in respect of the Rural Development component of the plan. Pillar II measures include LEADER interventions to be delivered by the Department of Rural and Community Development.



Funding will be phased over the 2023-2027 period in line with the requirements of intervention design and the annual national budgetary process.

In accordance with Article 92(1) of the draft CAP Strategic Plan regulation, "At least 5% of the total EAFRD contribution to the CAP Strategic Plan as set out in Annex XI

shall be reserved for LEADER. The maximum permissible Exchequer co-funding rate for the next LEADER programme will be 80%”.

The indicative €180m financial allocation for LEADER over the 2023-27 period will consist of €77.9m (43.28%) funding from European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) with the remainder funded by the National exchequer. This equates to 1.8% of Ireland’s total CAP Budget.

Notwithstanding the increased national exchequer funding for the overall CAP Programme 2023 to 2027 there is a significant cut in LEADER funding for rural areas with the proposed allocation for the Programme falling from €425 million for the 2007-2013 Programme to just €180 million for the 2023-2027 programming period. Furthermore the co-funding element of 56.72% falls well short of the 80% permissible under EU regulation. Increasing the co-funding rate to the maximum allowable rate affords the Government the opportunity to deliver a sustainable LEADER Budget of €389 million for the period 2023-2027.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Future Leader Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:19:10

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To who it concerns,

Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Clar Lake Development Committee Claremorris

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: County Mayo Leader Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:19:47

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To Whom It May Concern:

Please provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:20:23

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- **Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”**

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:35:06

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As a small business in the west of Ireland, without startup Leader funding I would not be here.

I am now in business over 8 years thanks to the initial supports provided by Leader

Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

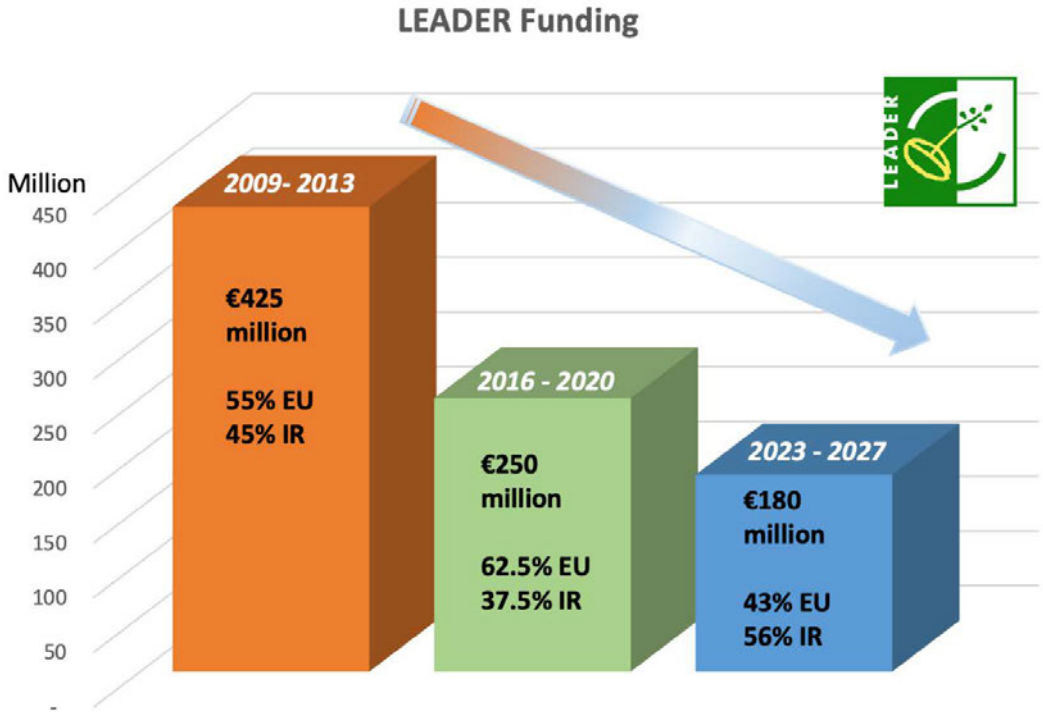
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From: [Redacted]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Budget
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:44:54
[Redacted]

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“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan”

As you will see from the graph below, LEADER funding has drastically reduced over successive programmes so it is important that this does not continue to be reduced. Communities are able to approach us with their ideas for developing and protecting their communities where other government bodies cannot step in or where other agencies of do not have as much funding or LEADER can offer.



Kind regards,
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Leader Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:52:53

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A Chara,

We are calling on the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine and the Department of Rural and Community Development to provide a sustainable budget of at least €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP Strategic Plan.

This was never more important than it is now, due to many factors, not least the impact of Covid and the need for a strong community fabric in Ireland post Brexit.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Claremorris Town Hall Theatre.

www.townhall.ie

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

THEATRE | CONCERT HALL | ARTS CENTRE | STUDIO

Clár Regional Centre Ltd. T/A Claremorris Town Hall, Claremorris, Co Mayo, Ireland. Eircode: F12 X4E3



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From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
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To whom it may concern

“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER [2023-2027](#) outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Clewboy Charters

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Newport business association Mayo](#)
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 11:57:55

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To whom it may concern

“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER [2023-2027](#) outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”

Kind regards,

Newport Business Association

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Cut in Leader Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:00:01

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Minister,

Valentia Island Dev Co is based in Valentia Island and has charitable status. We are promoting the development of our community and trying to create sustainable jobs to stem the tide of population decline, ageing population and declining numbers in our schools. We are promoting Valentia and The Transatlantic Cable along with The Government of Canada as a Transnational Unesco World Heritage Site. We are endeavouring to create a Digital Hub in the Cable Building where people can work remotely. We are also very much involved in other projects locally and have formed an Energy Coop to promote Hydrogen Production, Wind and Wave Energy etc. We are shocked, saddened and disappointed at the proposal to decrease the Budget for The Leader Programme 2023-2027. Leader has been the Lifeblood for Rural Communities especially in the Wild Atlantic Way and we now call on the Government to provide a sustainable budget of € 389 million for the Leader Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of Leader 2023-2027 outlined in the CAP strategic plan.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Valentia Island Dev Co Limited by Guarantee

From: [Claremorris FRC](#)
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission to CAP Strategic Plan
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:07:14

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Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to make a submission to the CAP strategic Plan 2023-2027 on behalf of Claremorris FRC

- Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Claremorris Family Resource Centre
Mount street
Claremorris

[REDACTED]

Notice: This electronic message contains information (may contain files) from Claremorris Family Resource Centre which may be privileged or confidential. The information is intended to be for the sole use of the individual(s) or entity names above. If you are not the intended recipient be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information and/or files is prohibited. If you have received this electronic message in error, please notify us by telephone or e-mail (to the numbers or address above) immediately.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Programme -
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:11:49

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Please provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

[REDACTED]
Community Volunteer

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Leader Programme 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:13:03
[REDACTED]

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Hi There,

FYI.

A sustainable budget of €389 million would be provided for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

 South Tipperary
Development CLG



[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: FW: Leader Budget
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:15:58
[REDACTED]

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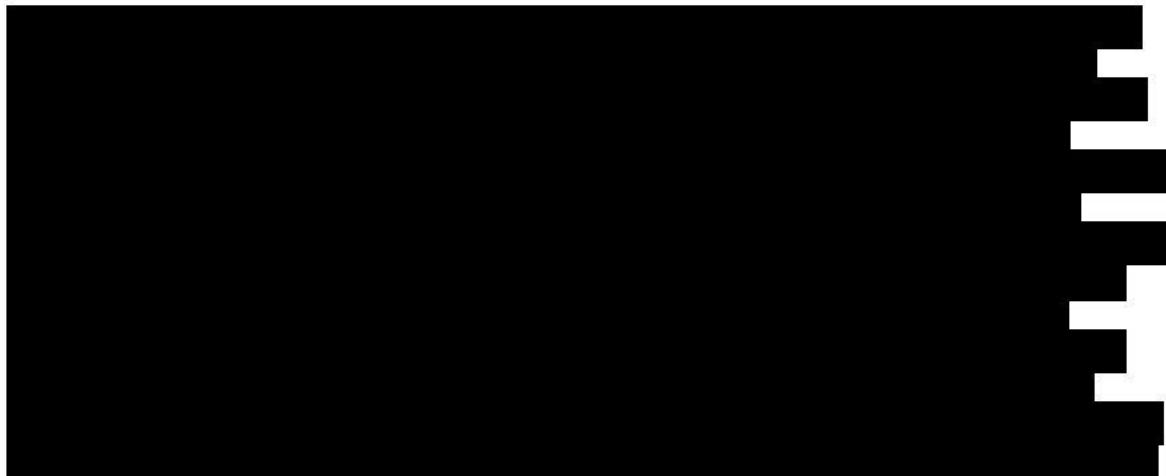
A sustainable budget of €389 million would be provided for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
South Tipperary Development Company
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



THE LOCAL ACTION GROUP FOR TIPPERARY





From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:16:35

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A chara,

It is with great regret that we in Louisburgh Community Futures read of the planned reduction of funds for LEADER being discussed at the moment.

There must be a provision of a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the CAP strategic plan.

Communities like ours depend on LEADER to help us get started on many projects which help in the development of our area.

We provide valuable support to the governments strategic plans in

1. Initiating mitigation initiatives such as putting measures in place to Decarbonize our environment.
2. Helping to educate our fellow community members how we can help reduce Carbon emissions and also
3. To help improve the water quality in our local rivers.

Reducing funding to LEADER will stop all of these initiatives from happening and it is obvious we need more action in these areas, not less.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] LCF

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Funding 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:19:23

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Dear Sir/Madam,

We request that you **“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”**

LEADER funding is absolutely essential for rural communities in Ireland.

Thank you.

Your faithfully,

[REDACTED]
Mulranny GreenPlan Group
Mulranny
Co. Mayo
Ireland.
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Funding 2023 - 2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:25:25

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Dear Sir/Madam,

As a citizen living in rural, Co. Mayo, I request that you **“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”**

LEADER funding is absolutely essential for rural communities in Ireland.

Thank you.

Your faithfully,

[REDACTED]
Muiranny
Co. Mayo
Ireland.
[REDACTED]

MAYO CELTIC HOLIDAYS LTD



To whom it concerns

Submission by Mayo Celtic Holidays Ltd.

Mayo Celtic Holidays LTD has been a recipient of LEADER funding in the past. I wish to make a submission.

“Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive ‘bottom-up, community-led’ investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.”

Yours Sincerely

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address line]

Enterprise House, Aiden Street, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo. F12 ED34

EMAIL: tourism@ird-kiltimagh.ie. WEBSITE: www.ird-kiltimagh.ie

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Common Agricultural Policy Funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:26:06

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Dear Sirs,

We, as a company have benefited from funding from the Leader Programme and feel that without this we would have faced output reductions and possibly redundancies due to old outdated equipment. The funding has enabled us to purchase a new oven and slicer for our local bakery. Funding is required for companies to enable them to invest in better and more sustainable practises which in turn will help the government to achieve its targets. Without this funding, companies in Mayo will struggle to achieve what the Government needs from us to achieve sustainable climate change.

Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:26:14

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Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: Disasterious Cuts to Leader funding
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:26:33

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Please provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

[REDACTED]

Moorehall project / Carnacon Dev Association

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Programme 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:27:00

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[REDACTED]
Minister for Agriculture Food & Marine

[REDACTED]
Minister for Rural & Community Development

Dear Ministers,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Community development is mainly rewarding, interesting, enjoyable and educational work. It is also difficult, and sometimes frustrating, requiring barrels of diplomacy and patience. Much like your own jobs, I suspect. But in the main, one does it, because it must be done, can be done, and is worth doing.

In my experience, the glue that binds the whole thing is the Leader Programme. It is not just a grant giving programme, it's a development programme where project officers help the group / individual with confidence and increase skills. The Leader Programme and those who administer it are beacons on the rural landscape.

It is vitally important that this programme is not only maintained, but enhanced.

A huge part of our infrastructure, as well as our commercial and cultural organisations, have been instigated by the support of the Leader Programme. Therefore, I appeal to you to provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, to enhance the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: CAP 2023-27
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:28:03

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To whom it may concern, a sustainable budget, of a minimum €389 million, should be provided for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan. [REDACTED]



South Tipperary Development Company [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Leader Programme 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:42:56

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In support of the great work of the SWMDC and the leader programme does for rural communities we would like you to **Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.**

[REDACTED]

6A Páirc Ghnó Chorr Lorgan,
Corr Lorgan, Bóthar Bhéal Átha na nEach,
An Cabhán, Co. An Chabháin,
Éire. H12 DP86



6A Corlurgan Business Park,
Corlurgan, Ballinagh Road,
Cavan, Co. Cavan,
Ireland. H12 DP86

Consultation on the draft CAP Strategic Plan – A Sustainable LEADER Programme for Cavan 2023 – 2027.

Introduction

Cavan County Local Development the organisation designated as the Implementing Partner under the 2014 - 2020 LEADER Programme for County Cavan currently fulfil the same role under the Transitional LEADER Programme. The 2014 - 2020 programme was due to commence nationally in 2014 but as with previous LEADER Programmes there was a two year lead in time before programme commencement. Therefore, going forward this submission for clarity will refer to the 2014 – 2020 LEADER programme as the 2016 -2020 LEADER programme. During this 5 year period the National Budget was €250 million while the allocation for County Cavan over the course of the programme was €9,022,285.84 excluding successful applications made under the Cooperation Measure totalling €533,871.40 and the Food Measure totalling €228,428.92. Therefore, the total funding committed to Cavan under LEADER was €9,784,586.16.

The Department of Agriculture Food & Marine proposed budget allocation for LEADER 2023 – 2027 is €180 million with the EU contribution of €77.9million (43.29%) to be co funded by the Irish Exchequer with a further €102.1 million (56.71%). However, it must be noted that Member states can co-fund the LEADER budget up to 80% of the actual euro allocation that LEADER is allocated. If this was achieved, then the Irish Exchequer contribution would be increased to €311.60 million resulting in a total budget of €389.5 million for LEADER 2023 -2027. Please see the table below to illustrate this.

	<u>Proposed Amount</u>	<u>Current Co-funding %</u>	<u>Potential @ 80% cofunding</u>
EU contribution of 5% of Pillar II	€77.9m	43.29%	€77.9 M (20%)
Irish Exchequer (<i>max 80%</i>)	€102.1m	56.71%	€311.6 M (80%)
Total	€180.0m	100%	€389.5 M (100%)

Submission

The Board of Cavan County Local Development the Local Development Company for County Cavan are seeking that the Department review their proposed allocation which would be a significant reduction over the programme period compared with the 2016 -2020 programme and consider increasing the Irish Exchequer contribution to the full 80% allowable which would result in a significant investment in rural Ireland. *(Please see below)*

2016 -2020 LEADER Programme annual allocation €50 million (€250 million)
Department of Agriculture Food & Marine proposed LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 annual allocation €36 million (€180 million)
2023 – 2027 Cavan County Local Development are proposing a National LEADER Programme annual allocation of €77.9 million (€389.5 million) and €9,784,586.16 minimum allocation for Cavan over the same period.

To ensure a sustainable and viable allocation for County Cavan the Board of Cavan County Local Development are further seeking that the funding allocation for Cavan would not fall below its previous 2016—2020 total allocation of €9,784,586.16. The 2016 – 2020 funding for Cavan was allocated in full and the below sets out the case for sustaining this allocation as a minimum for the 2023 – 2027 programme period.

Environment

While significant work has been undertaken to date to build capacity and awareness of the LEADER Environmental themes and the Government’s Climate agenda further and sustained engagement with businesses and communities is required to encourage innovative and high impact projects particularly given the rise in construction inflation, concerns around the pay back periods of renewable energy retrofits and hesitancy around the investment needed for effective biodiversity action. A sustainable and properly funded LEADER programme for county Cavan can have a significant role to play in achieving national environmental and climate objectives.

Under the 2016 – 2020 LEADER programme €871,948.57 was committed under the Environmental theme. Please see Appendix 1 for further detail on how the LEADER programme is developing capacity within the county.



Hard to Reach Communities

The LEADER programme prioritises the need to reach ‘Hard to Reach Communities’ therefore a designated animation budget is required to stimulate activity and build capacity among this cohort to generate viable projects and overcome the technical elements of the LEADER programme.

- Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Co. Cavan is Marginally below average -3.91%
- According to the most recent CSO data on August 29, 2021 Estimated Number of Persons on the Live register or benefitting from Pandemic Unemployment Payment, Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme or Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme in county Cavan was 8,287 persons.
- The Impact of BREXIT and COVID on businesses and communities is only starting to be felt within the county. LEADER can be a significant resource to tackle the negative impacts of both.

Significant Investment Grant Programme

Periodically there are a wide variety of community grants available from different funding streams however these tend to be smaller in nature (<€25,000 per project) compared with LEADER. LEADER is the primary programme that fills the space between those smaller community grant programmes and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF). It must also be stated that the animation work that LEADER undertakes in communities helps to build the capacity of those communities to apply for funding from the other various funding streams that are available to them.

Under the theme of Enterprise one example points to the National Food Measure were €228,428.92 was successfully drawn down for a range of food projects across the county. The farm to fork food economy is very important in county Cavan and the LEADER programme is considered a viable funding platform for those enterprises.

Investment in Adequate Administration & Animation

An adequate administration budget is required to sustain the corporate LEADER knowledge that exists within the implementing partner organisation. In Cavan this totals over 55 years of service spanning the various previous LEADER programmes and is critical to ensuring a high quality service is being delivered to businesses and communities across the county in preparing often very complex and highly administrative applications. Furthermore, the experienced front line staff delivering the LEADER programme in Cavan have often been a significant source of advice, guidance and learning for all stakeholders both at LAG and Departmental level.



Return in Investment

An investment in capital projects in county Cavan under LEADER results in a financial return to the Irish Exchequer through direct and indirect taxation (VAT) and stimulates economic activity locally building new or enhancing existing infrastructure while sustaining and creating employment in a rural county.

Job Creation

Job Creation under the LEADER 2016 -2020 and Transitional programme to date is as follows:

Full Time Created/Sustained	87 Male	19 Female
Part Time Created/Sustained	15 Male	22 Female
Seasonal Created/Sustained	2 Males	1 Female
FTE	95.35 Male	28.9 Female

An investment in the LEADER programme in Cavan is an investment in job creation therefore resulting in an annual payback to the Irish Exchequer through income taxation. Please note the figures above only relate to completed Businesses or Social Enterprise Projects and do not include those jobs created to support the construction of community/enterprise projects or projects that have yet to drawdown their final LEADER claim payment. Jobs have also been created over time as a result of LEADER investment in enterprise projects however this information is also not collected.

Conclusion

To conclude the Board of Cavan County Local Development are seeking that the proposed budget figure of €180 million for LEADER 2023 – 2027 is reconsidered and that the full exchequer contribution allowable up to 80% is applied which would yield a significant investment for rural Ireland of €389.5 million. The current proposal is a reduction from €50 million per year which was under LEADER 2016 – 2020 to €36 million per year under the proposed LEADER 2023 – 2027 programme. It must be reiterated that the previous LEADER programme was due to commence in 2014 but did not commence until 2016 despite being titled as LEADER 2014 - 2020. This submission in relation to the national budget is in line with fellow members of the Irish Local Development Network the representative body for Local Development Companies.

Finally, for county Cavan to have a viable and impactful LEADER programme and given the demand for the programme locally the minimum budget allocation of €9,784,586.16 is required to ensure that businesses and communities can overcome the future challenges brought about by Climate Change, BREXIT and COVID 19. The submission for a Cavan allocation of €9,784,586.16 is in line with our partners Cavan LAG and Cavan County Council.



Appendix 1 – Building Environmental Capacity

Under the 2016 – 2020 LEADER and the Transitional LEADER programme a series of training initiatives have been implemented to assist with developing the capacity of the community to undertake environmental and climate action initiatives with LEADER and other public funds. These actions have borne fruit by developing a number of environmental projects which will act as examples of good practice for other communities to follow under future LEADER programmes.

A series of four separate LEADER funded training programmes throughout Cavan were delivered by Cavan County Local Development (the Implementing Partner) as an ‘Introduction to biodiversity’ in 2019. The main purpose of the training was to enable participants to apply learning to protecting and enhancing biodiversity in their local area. The programme attracted 84 participants who primarily were from the community and voluntary sector. There is a greater need to provide further support to the community to acquire skills, knowledge and capacity to undertake environmental projects which can be supported through LEADER. **These applicants will need considerable animation support, as they mostly are newly established groups without experience or track record in accessing LEADER or public funds.**

Separate to the above training programmes Cavan County Local Development have appointed a trainer/facilitator to deliver 3 Pilot LEADER funded ‘Community based Climate Change Adaption’ training programmes in County Cavan. To date 2 of these pilot programmes have been delivered successfully during the period of the current pandemic with 43 participants. The primary objective of this training is to provide basic knowledge that can enable participants to develop **climate change adaption, mitigation and community based solutions** that could be eligible for funding under LEADER programmes. These comprehensive training programmes have instigated citizen engagement and resulted in the formation of new volunteer led, Cavan Climate Action network. It is clear from these initiatives that further animation support will be required to assist these groups/individuals to develop the capacity to access LEADER support.

A significant Biodiversity Cooperation Training Programme has been approved by the Department for delivery in Cavan, West Limerick and South/West Cork with a budget of €805,722.36. The proposed Biodiversity Co-operation Project Wild Works is designed to deliver a co-ordinated approach to biodiversity conservation and promotion on an inter-territorial basis through the development of an innovative, scalable and sustainable approach. The inter territorial partnership is designed specifically to achieve a scale of action whilst benefitting from the combined experience to date of the project partners.



This training focused Co-operation project will involve experiential (outdoor classroom) and immersive learning to enhance e-Learning. The Wild Works Project will be launched in January 2022.

To conclude a properly resourced LEADER programme for 2023 -2027 will continue to advocate the Sustainable Development Goals and will in turn work to promote and champion the Climate Action Plan 2021. In order to achieve this aim, budgetary resources are required to animate and deliver a Climate proofed LEADER programme in 2023 to 2027.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER Budget
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:52:04

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To Whom it Concerns

A sustainable budget of €389 million would be provided for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

South Tipperary Development CLG; Outreach Centre, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Head Office Unit 2C, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Clogheen Road, Cahir, Co. Tipperary, E21 HV20

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Protection and Prevention



Wash



Cover



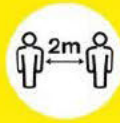
Avoid



Clean



Stop



Distance



South Tipperary Development Company is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital; Company Registration No. [REDACTED]; Charitable Status No: [REDACTED]; Registered Charity Number [REDACTED].

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 12:53:18

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Provide a sustainable budget of €389 million for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 to drive 'bottom-up, community-led' investment to create and sustain employment in rural Ireland, provide funding in the rural environment and support climate change mitigation initiatives in rural communities as well as the identified high-level ambitions of LEADER 2023-2027 outlined in the draft CAP strategic plan

Regards

[REDACTED]

Skyport Engineering
Unit7 | Section B | Westport Industrial Park | Westport | Co. Mayo | Ireland.

[REDACTED]



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From: [REDACTED]
To: [CAP Strategic Plan](#)
Subject: LEADER 2023-2027
Date: Wednesday 8 December 2021 13:00:18

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Good afternoon,

[REDACTED] I have personally witnessed the benefits of the LEADER programmes since their inception. Benefits which have impacted strongly in favour of both rural areas and towns in the county. The fact that the budget for Mayo has been reduced from c. €5.5 million(2007-2013) to a proposed c.€1.78 m for 2023-2027 is poor recognition of the continuing or increased needs of the county and of the colossal voluntary input contributed over the years in Mayo.

An increase to at least the funding levels of the former programme is needed.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]