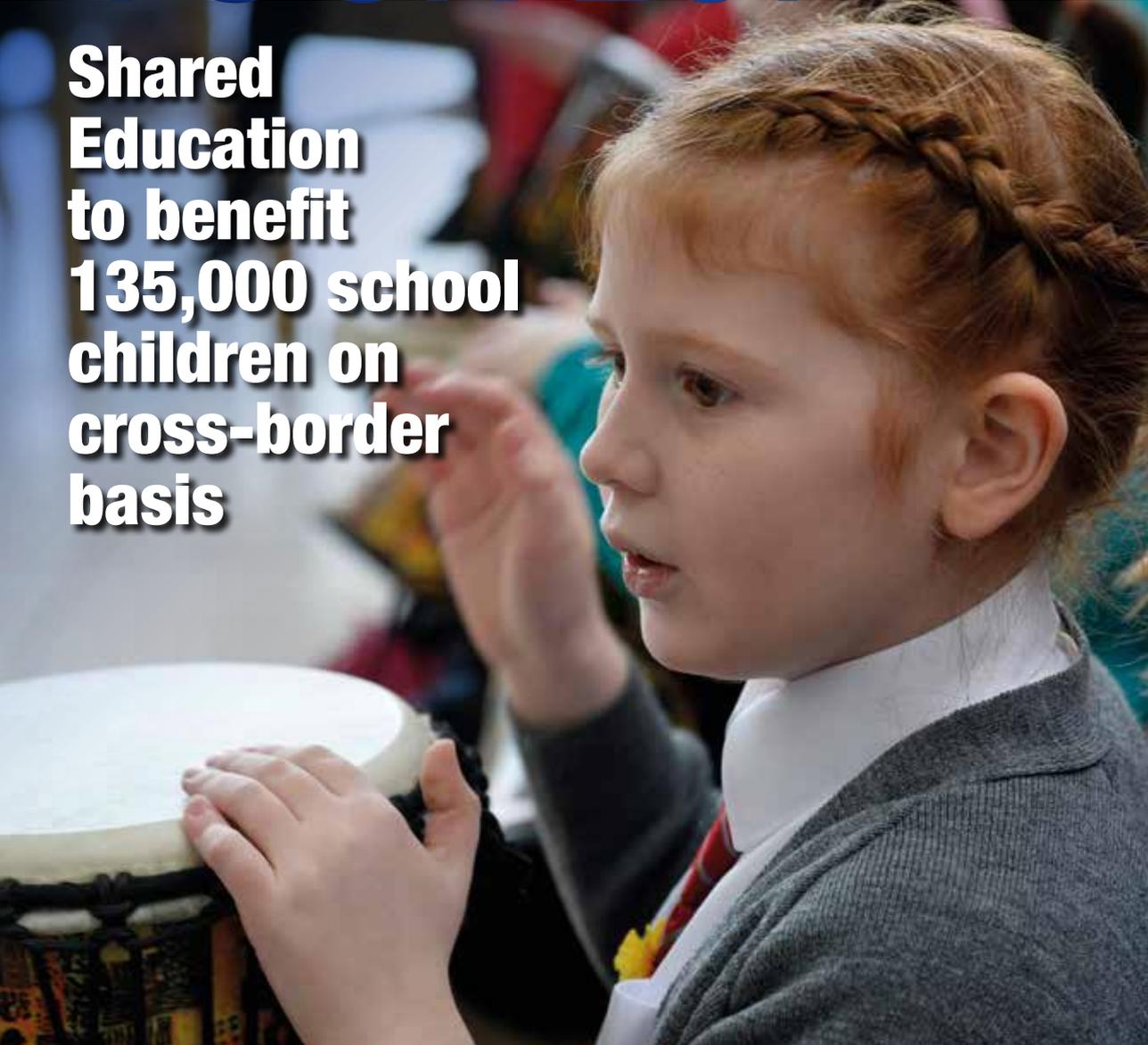


# YOUR EU!

An update on the European Union's PEACE and INTERREG Programmes  
Summer 2018

**Shared  
Education  
to benefit  
135,000 school  
children on  
cross-border  
basis**





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The Special EU Programmes Body is a North/South Implementation Body sponsored by the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in Ireland. The Body was established on 2 December 1999, under the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland (8 March 1999), which created the implementing bodies.

The Special EU Programmes Body's principal role is to provide the Managing Authority and Joint Secretariat functions for the PEACE IV and INTERREG VA Territorial Co-operation Programmes (2014-2020). It also has a signposting and supporting role for projects wanting to engage with the INTERREG VB Transnational and INTERREG VC Inter-regional Programmes.

Your EU! ISSN:1750-6700 Published by the Special EU Programmes Body  
[www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)

To submit ideas, stories and photographs for the next issue, please e-mail [communications@seupb.eu](mailto:communications@seupb.eu) For additional copies of Your EU! or to be added to the database to receive an electronic copy contact us by e-mail at [communications@seupb.eu](mailto:communications@seupb.eu)

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This magazine is printed by Impro Printing Ltd.

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# Welcome to the Summer Edition of Your EU!

**Welcome to the summer edition of Your EU. We have launched a large number of projects across Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland over the past few months.**

Our projects were invited to take part in several exhibition showcase events, including one in the Dundalk Institute of Technology, as part of the All-Island Civic Dialogue and the other in the Houses of the Oireachtas, Dublin. At the end of June five of our projects were invited to a State dinner organised by An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar in honour of the EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.

We were also invited to give evidence at the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly on the impact that the PEACE and INTERREG Programmes are having in this region.

Collectively these events allowed us to present to a number of important dignitaries and parliamentarians across the UK and Ireland the transformative benefits that the funded projects are delivering. You can read more about the exhibitions on pages 10 and 11.

We are also progressing well in the current programming period, with a large number of projects officially

launching, including the INTERREG VA North West Greenway project, which will create almost 30 miles of new cross-border greenway, helping to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging commuters to leave their cars at home.

Under the PEACE IV Programme we helped to launch the Victims and Survivors Service project, which will support the health and well-being of over 17,000 victims and survivors of the troubles/ conflict on a cross-border basis.

Also launched was the PEACE IV funded 'Crossing Borders, Breaking Boundaries project' which will tackle the racism experienced by EU and non-EU migrants along the Border of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

As always, in this edition we have an update on the progress of the INTERREG VB / VC Programmes. To date we have helped 62 Northern Ireland based partners access funding under these programmes, with €14.67m ERDF committed to these partners.

Looking to the future, I am encouraged by the recent announcement on the draft European Budget for post-2020,



which included a specific reference to the intention to fund a new cross-border programme after the UK leaves the EU.

The new programme will, of course, be subject to the on-going Brexit negotiations and would form part of the future UK/EU relationship.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy this edition of Your EU and I would welcome your feedback or comments on its content.

**Gina McIntyre**  
**Chief Executive,**  
**SEUPB**

# Children and Young People to Benefit from PEACE IV Funding

**Research has highlighted that from a very early age, children internalise the cultural and political views of their own community. This can lead to a continuation of distrust and division which is passed from one generation to the next.**

In an effort to support children and young people (aged 14 – 24 years), approximately €37.6m of the PEACE IV Programme has been specifically allocated to enhance their capacity to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society.

Such is the emphasis on supporting young people that a specific new brand name was developed. Called 'Peace4Youth' it will support ten innovative and youth-led cross-border projects, as well as one quality and impact body. This body will provide training and signposting for the staff from the ten delivery projects.

Match-funding for this part of the PEACE IV Programme has been provided by The Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in Ireland.



## **AMPLIFY**

**EU Funding Value: €4.7m**

**This youth-led initiative will engage with 960 marginalised and vulnerable young people (aged 16-24 years) across the 11 Council areas of Northern Ireland and in the six Border Regions of Ireland. It will target areas of deprivation as well as polarised urban and rural communities.**

The project will bring about transformational positive change, providing young people with coping mechanisms and a sense of belonging.

### **Lead Partner: Youth Action Northern Ireland**

Project Partners: YouthAction Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland Youth Forum, Foróige, Youth Work Ireland, Patrician Youth Centre, Youth Work Ireland - Monaghan, Youth Work Ireland Louth.



**TRANSFORMATIVE  
EDUCATION FOR  
POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS  
(TRANSFORM)**

**EU Funding Value: €2.4m**

**The project will be delivered to approximately 600 young people through a youth work approach using non-formal learning environments and tools for change.**

Personal Development, Good Relations and Citizenship themes will be the fundamental elements of the programme.

It is anticipated that all participants will gain volunteering experience, will participate in a traditional sporting event different to their own and will take part in a cultural/arts event tackling issues of sectarianism, racism and discrimination.

**Lead Partner: YouthLink NI**

Project Partners: Royal Mencap Society and Youth Initiatives NI.



**JOURNEYS**

**EU Funding Value: €5.1m**

**The project will engage with marginalised young people from a range of backgrounds including: Not in Education, Training or Employment (NEET); Looked After Children; young offenders and those affected by paramilitary activity; mental health issues and addiction.**

It will involve 813 young people aged 14–24 from areas in Belfast, Limivady, Cavan and Monaghan. Through a broad range of activities, including thematic workshops, residentials and community based projects, it will develop young peoples soft skills and respect for diversity.

**Lead Partner: Springboard Opportunities Ltd**

Project Partners: Roe Valley Residents Association, Cavan & Monaghan Education and Training Board, Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Foras na Gaeilge, Ulster-Scots Agency, Belfast Central Mission, MACs Supporting Children & Young People, The Welcome Organisation, Queens University Belfast, Christian Brothers' School (Belfast), Hazelwood Integrated College, Belfast Model School for Girls, Belfast Boys Model School, Burnfoot Community Development Association, Benbradagh Community Association, Glack Community Association, Greysteel Community Enterprise (Vale Centre), Teach na nDaoine Family Resource Centre, Belfast Area Partnership, Little Flower Girls School, St Patrick's College, Bearnageeha.

# North West Cross-Border Greenway in Receipt of EU Funding

The North West of Ireland is celebrating €14.85m of INTERREG VA funding to deliver new cross-border greenways across three key border crossings which, once developed, will contribute to an overall greenway network of c.126.5km in the North West. Upon completion, the project will deliver 46.5 km (29 miles) of new cross-border greenway that will help reduce carbon emissions by encouraging commuters to leave their cars at home.

A greenway is a network of safe, traffic free routes connecting communities to all kinds of destinations for commuting, everyday journeys or leisure and recreation.

The project is the largest of three separate greenways to be funded under the EU's INTERREG VA Programme, including the 22km Ulster Canal greenway, linking Co. Monaghan and Co. Armagh and the 10.1km Carlingford Lough Greenway, linking Newry to Carlingford.

The Permanent Secretary for the Department for Infrastructure NI, Peter May, recently spoke about the importance of the greenway, commenting: "This project fits exceptionally well with the sustainable travel agenda of the Department and is an excellent example of cross-border cooperation



**Pictured (l-r) are: Mr John Kelpie, Chief Executive, Derry City & Strabane District Council; Mr Peter May, Permanent Secretary, Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland; Mr Gordon Clarke, National Director, Sustrans; Councillor Maoliosa McHugh, Mayor of Derry City & Strabane District Council; Mr Shane Ross T.D., Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport; Ms Gina McIntyre CEO of the SEUPB; Councillor Gerry McMonagle, Cathaoirleach, Donegal County Council and Mr Seamus Neely, Chief Executive, Donegal County Council.**

and partnership between Derry City and Strabane District Council and Donegal County Council."

"Encouraging greater use of active travel is a draft Programme for Government commitment and the development of greenways has an important role to play in achieving this."



The new North West Greenway Network will comprise of three routes:

**ROUTE 1:** Derry~Londonderry-Buncrana

**ROUTE 2:** Muff-Derry~Londonderry.

**ROUTE 3:** Lifford-Strabane.

Match-funding for the project has been provided by the Department for Infrastructure in Northern Ireland and the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in Ireland.

# Shared Education Project to Benefit 135,000 Cross-Border Pupils

**In the last edition of Your EU we announced that €35.3m had been assigned by the EU PEACE IV Programme to help promote 'Shared Education'.**

One of the two successful projects under this funding award was the €29m CASE project (Collaboration and Sharing in Education).

Delivered in partnership between lead partner The Education Authority Northern Ireland and Léargas Ireland, the project will enable 280 schools and 135,000 pupils to take part in shared education through local partnerships on a cross-sectoral and cross-border basis. In addition, 2,000 teachers will be trained to facilitate and deliver at least 30 hours of shared education for pupils involved.

Discussing the project Gavin Boyd, CEO of the Education Authority, noted: "The CASE project provides opportunities for pupils and staff from schools of different management types, and in some cases different jurisdictions, to engage in collaborative and meaningful learning experiences."

"The reconciliation element in Shared Education is of vital importance to our society, but this CASE project is also designed to deliver positive educational

outcomes. There is a strong focus on the sharing of professional expertise, making better use of limited resources and community engagement."

Speaking at the launch was Jim Mullin, Executive Director of Leargas, who noted: "As is internationally recognised now, knowledge alone will not provide sufficient solutions for the world that the future generations need. What is required are soft skills, teaching team work, independent thinking, values, trust, collaboration.

"Collaboration and Sharing in Education (CASE) provides an opportunity for students to garner these skills in practical ways. This is a feature in a number of schools initiating their collaboration, including those featured in the exhibition area this

morning. We can only hope for a better future when this programme of Shared Education impacts on thousands of students and teachers embed its principles into their work."

Also speaking at the launch event was Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, who stated: "This funding will give school children an opportunity to have meaningful, sustained contact with young people from a different community background. By learning to understand and accept each other it will equip them with the skills and confidence required to break the cycle of intolerance which exists in our society."

Match-funding for the project has been provided by the Department of Education in Northern Ireland and the Department of Education and Skills in Ireland.



**Children taking part in the recent launch event of the CASE project in the Market Place Theatre, Armagh.**

# Over 41,000 Cross-Border Benefit from New Healthcare

**Whilst the general health of people has been improving, evidence indicates that health inequalities remain across Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and Western Scotland.**

Too many people still die prematurely or live with conditions they need not have. These inequalities are closely related to levels of deprivation and other factors.

Under the previous INTERREG Programme (IVA) a cross-border partnership worked together to help improve the health and well-being of the border populations by working across boundaries and jurisdictions.

Known as 'CAWT' (Co-operation and Working Together) the cross-border health and social care partnership

comprises of five partner organisations: the Health Service Executive in Ireland, the Southern & Western Health and Social Care Trusts, the Health and Social Care Board and the Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland.

Aided by INTERREG IVA funding, the partnership delivered 12 large-scale projects, benefitting approximately 53,000 patients and creating & implementing 121 new services.

The new INTERREG VA Programme hopes to build upon this success, allocating approximately €62.35m to innovative healthcare projects. Approximately €30m of this budget has been awarded to the CAWT Partnership to help deliver a number of projects.

Your EU recently spoke to CAWT's

Chief Executive, Bernie McCrory, to learn a little more about these projects and this partnership.

**Bernie tell us a little bit about your history with the CAWT Partnership**

"I joined as Chief Officer in 2006 and I'm responsible for leading and developing cross-border health and social care provision between Northern Ireland and Ireland. Working across both jurisdictions, and in close collaboration with the five CAWT partner organisations, I help deliver opportunities and new ways to improve cross-border health and social care services."

**The Partnership was formed in 1992 and has made a real difference to people's lives on both sides of the border. What's your thoughts on CAWT's development?**

"There has been so much progress since the early days. CAWT in 2018 is very different to CAWT in 1992! It is now a mature partnership with a clear strategy and a strong governance structure."

"At the heart of the partnership is the involvement of hundreds of health and social care managers, staff and clinicians from both jurisdictions, who will continue to drive our future direction and activities in order to meet the needs of our service users."



# Patients to re Projects



## **If you were to meet a friend for coffee, how would you describe the four projects currently being delivered?**

“Each one of the projects is distinct but are complementary to each other. We plan to secure in excess of 41,000 beneficiaries over the four year project implementation period for the four CAWT-led projects; Acute Hospital Services, Mental Health Recovery (Innovation Recovery), Children’s Services (MACE – Breaking the Cycle) and Population Health (Community Health Sync).”

“Across all four projects there is a real focus on early intervention and prevention, promoting the health and well-being of hundreds of communities, with particular focus on those from rural locations with limited access to health care services. In addition CAWT is a project partner in the Scottish-led mPower project which is enabling older people to live well, safely and independently in their own homes through social and digital connectivity – so really quite busy but a pleasure

to be delivering and continuing to improve lives.”

## **How is European funding helping the CAWT Partnership?**

“It has made public services more accessible to border populations; it has provided the opportunity to share resources and costs to achieve economies of scale; it has given us the scope to trial new methods of delivery of care to patients and clients; it has enabled greater patient mobility and facilitated health professionals to work across jurisdictions.”

“In many instances previous EU funded initiatives have since been continued as mainstream services, either in full or partially. It has also made us work beyond the boundaries of our own organisational structure, for example up to 50 community / third sector organisations were key partners in the planning and implementation for



many of the projects under the previous INTERREG IVA funded ‘Putting Patients, Clients and Families First’ project.”

“EU funding supports projects that can break down the barriers associated with borders and that can improve the delivery of essential health and social care services. With the help of such funding, the CAWT Partnership provides both practical and strategic support to enable cross-border and an all-island collaboration, becoming the ‘bridge builder’ where necessary.”

## **For more information on the current CAWT projects visit:**

[www.cawt.com/acute](http://www.cawt.com/acute)

[www.cawt.com/mace](http://www.cawt.com/mace)

[www.cawt.com/irecovery](http://www.cawt.com/irecovery)

[www.cawt.com/mpower](http://www.cawt.com/mpower)

[www.cawt.com/go/coh-sync](http://www.cawt.com/go/coh-sync)

# SEUPB Showcase Programmes at All-Island Civic Dialogue Event

**The SEUPB was delighted to be able to showcase the PEACE IV and INTERREG VA Programmes at the fourth plenary All-Island Civic Dialogue event on Brexit at the Dundalk Institute of Technology.**

It was a fantastic opportunity to be part of such a prestigious conference and proved an extremely successful day in terms of showcasing the impact and strength of the Programmes to some key influential dignitaries including Michel Barnier, European Chief Negotiator; Helen McEntee, Minister of State for European Affairs; Paschal Donohoe, Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform and Heather Humphreys, Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation.

Taking part on the day were a number of PEACE IV and INTERREG VA project exhibitors who helped represent the type of work that has been supported by the European Union over the past two decades.

The conference, which was attended by over 400 delegates, was introduced by An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar T.D. and saw a day of discussion on the Brexit negotiations, with breakout sessions analysing the post-Brexit future from a business and social perspective.



**European Chief Negotiator, Michel Barnier, joins Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, to learn from PhD student Shruti Kulkarni just how the €7.7m INTERREG VA 'BREATH' project is tackling the killer lung disease COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).**



**Seán McDonnell informs European Chief Negotiator, Michel Barnier, and Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform, Paschal Donohoe, about his involvement in the 'Youth Network for Peace' project, currently in receipt of over €1m from the EU's PEACE IV Programme.**

# SEUPB at Leinster House

**In May the SEUPB delivered an exhibition in the Houses of the Oireachtas, Dublin, which featured a number of funded projects under the PEACE IV and INTERREG VA Programmes.**

The exhibition provided the perfect opportunity to highlight the impact of the EU-funded programmes, which over the last quarter of the century have invested approximately €3bn in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland in support of the process of peace building and reconciliation.

It followed on from the showcase exhibition in the European Parliament Brussels in late 2017, and the recent All Island Civic Dialogue event on Brexit in Dundalk.

The exhibition was sponsored by the Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann, Seán Ó Fearghaíl and also featured a special panel discussion in the afternoon, where a selection of PEACE IV and INTERREG VA projects were able to discuss the significance of EU funding.

Among the TD's and Senators who showed their support for the work of the projects was the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Simon Convey.



**The Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann, Seán Ó Fearghaíl listens to Martin McMullan from Youth Action Northern Ireland explain the regional PEACE IV funded 'Youth Network for Peace' project.**



**Audience members hear from a range of PEACE IV and INTERREG VA projects on the importance that EU funding has had.**



**The exhibition in Leinster House follows in the footsteps of previous exhibitions in the European Parliament in Brussels and in the Dundalk Institute of Technology as part of the All Island Civic Dialogue event on Brexit.**

# SEUPB Delivers Communication Workshops

The SEUPB recently ran a series of communication workshops for funded PEACE IV and INTERREG VA projects across Belfast, Derry-Londonderry, Dungannon and Dundalk.

The workshops provided useful communication and PR information and also served as a means for projects to meet the SEUPB team, as well as networking with one another.



Every workshop co-ordinated by the SEUPB has a particular focus and this time around the theme was social media.

Andi Jarvis, from Eximo Marketing, delivered a very insightful and inspirational speech, helping projects to analyse and understand the power

of social media to enhance the reach and engagement of their projects.

A brainstorming session allowed for comparisons with other organisations and the identification of methods for improvement in the delivery of their communication plans.



**PEACE IV and INTERREG VA projects learning all about social media and how best to use it within their projects.**

# New Sporting Project Launches

**Sport Uniting Communities, a new PEACE IV funded project recently held a very special launch event at Queen's University's Malone Playing Fields, involving sporting representatives from across Irish Football, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby.**

The project will utilise sport to promote positive relations and cultural diversity between approximately 17,000 individuals of differing backgrounds, particularly across the religious divide, resulting in a change in perception and sustained relationships.

The project is a collaboration between the Irish Football Association, Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby and will be supported by the Football Association of Ireland in the counties of Cavan, Monaghan and Donegal.

Sport Uniting Communities will work to challenge the misconception that individual sports are for specific communities and will work to create a legacy in sport by; mentoring 180 clubs to become inclusive and welcoming community hubs, managing 360 volunteers through a development programme and training 180 young people through a Youth Leadership Programme.



**Sport Uniting Communities will utilise sport to promote positive relations and cultural diversity between almost 17,000 individuals of differing backgrounds.**

As part of the launch players from a range of sporting teams including; the Northern Ireland Under 19 ladies; Ulster Ladies Gaelic Football Colleges All – Star; Ulster Rugby; Dungannon and Syrian teams, had the opportunity to participate in a range of 'Have a Go' activities in each of the three sports.

Speaking ahead of the launch event Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, reflected: "Using a shared interest in sport to break down barriers, this project will overcome prejudice and promote positive relations between people of different backgrounds and cultures.

It represents an experienced cross-border partnership that will reach out to many of the more marginalised sections of our society to help promote inclusivity."

Match-funding for the project has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.

# Victims and Survivors Service PEACE IV Project

**The Victims and Survivors Service recently held a special launch event in celebration of its £13.4m funding award from the PEACE IV Programme, which will support the health and well-being of over 17,000 victims and survivors of the troubles/conflict on a cross-border basis.**

The project will target hard-to-reach and marginalised individuals and communities that have suffered as a result of the Troubles/Conflict.

Since the project has commenced the VSS has developed a network of health and well-being caseworkers

and advocacy support workers based within the community and voluntary sectors across the region, who support victims in their local communities and deliver services and support where it is needed most.

Speaking at the launch event CEO of the VSS, Margaret Bateson said: “The programme has been underway since 2017 and already a significant amount of work has been undertaken to adopt a new and innovative needs-based approach to delivering bespoke services that support the unique and individual needs of victims and survivors.”

“The new programme will look at how victims and survivors can be supported through a range of services, with a specific focus on improving health and well-being.”

Also speaking at the event was Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, who stated: “The PEACE Programme, since its inception in 1995, has provided support to the victims and survivors of the troubles and conflict. This has been an integral part of each PEACE programme and is reflective of a genuine desire to fund the important work required to help alleviate the suffering caused to citizens in this region.”

“The support that has been provided under the current PEACE IV Programme recognises that victims and survivors are an extremely diverse group with very unique and complex needs. This funding will be used to develop a number of important new services that will improve their health and wellbeing including a resilience building and advocacy support programme,” she continued.

Match-funding has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.



**Pictured at the launch of the Victims and Survivors Programme are (l-r): Chair of the Victims and Survivors Service, Oliver Wilkinson; CEO of the VSS, Margaret Bateson and CEO of the SEUPB, Gina McIntyre.**

# €14m of INTERREG VA Funding to Improve Water Quality

**The €14m INTERREG VA funded 'Donegal Catchment CARE' project will bring together eight cross-border partners to restore water quality in three important cross-border river catchment areas including: River Blackwater, River Finn and the Arney River.**

A healthy water catchment can provide high-quality drinking water and support livelihoods such as agriculture, recreational angling and water sporting activities. It can also support local ecosystems so plants, animals, fish and insects that depend on having healthy water can thrive and flourish.

The Catchment CARE project will include studies on how best to tackle water quality and it will also provide a platform for cross-border engagement and knowledge sharing between community, governance, policy and scientific shareholders.

There will be actions to improve the quality of the rivers through restoration works to land bordering river areas, as well as to the rivers themselves. Further actions will enhance the capacity of shareholders to contribute to this programme of improving water quality. There are also plans to install 51 boreholes across the region to monitor water quality.



**Donegal Catchment CARE project board members celebrating the launch of the €14m INTERREG VA funded project which will improve water quality in the River Blackwater, River Finn and the Arney River.**

Outlining the importance of the funding, Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB said: "This project represents a unique cross-border partnership that will provide a platform for knowledge exchange between universities, local councils and scientific organisations."

"It will lead to a tangible improvement in water quality and contribute towards compliance with the EU's Water Framework Directive. The project will also deliver upon a number of core outputs within the EU's INTERREG VA Programme that have been designed to both protect and enhance our precious biodiversity on both sides of the border."

Led by Donegal County Council, the project's partner organisations include Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Agri Foods & Bioscience Institute, the Loughs Agency, Ulster University, the British Geological Survey and Geological Survey Ireland.

Match-funding has been provided by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in Ireland.

# PEACE IV Council Action Plans Launch

**In the Autumn edition of Your EU we reported on a number of launch events under the Council lead Local Authority Actions Plans.**

Match-funding for the Local Authority Action Plans has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department for Rural and Community Development in Ireland.

**Donegal County Council** will help deliver 19 initiatives that will build on the positive work already achieved in Donegal under the previous PEACE III Programme. The 19 interventions and initiatives will play an important role in reinforcing progress towards a more peaceful and stable society.



**19 initiatives, including the development of a multi-sports training facility, will be delivered under Donegal County Council's Action Plan.**

## Belfast City Council

Communities across Belfast will benefit from funding which will help improve the lives of children and young people, build positive relations and shared spaces across the city. Projects will include the use of new technology to challenge young people's attitudes, the development of young leaders and arts & heritage projects to explore peace, culture and diversity.



**Making some noise at the launch of Belfast City Council's PEACE IV Programme are (l-r): Councillor Tim Attwood, Deputy Chair Shared City Partnership; Lord Mayor, Nuala McAllister; CEO of the SEUPB, Gina McIntyre and Grainne Killeen, Director of Good Relations, NI Executive Office.**

## Louth County Council

Louth County Council's Action Plan will, among other things, engage with over 1,000 young people aged between 10 and 24 years across five separate projects; create a permanent World War I memorial space and deliver a positive relations programme to over 1,000 individuals.



**Pictured at the launch of the Louth County Council PEACE IV Action Plan are (l-r): Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB; Cathaoirleach Councillor Colm Markey, Louth County Council and Joan Martin, CEO Louth County Council.**

# Ulster University Leads on €8.2m Cross-Border Collaborative Research Centre to Improve Cardiovascular Care

**A new €8.2m INTERREG VA project, known as ECME (The Eastern Corridor Medical Engineering Centre) will create a cross-border centre of research excellence within the field of cardiovascular medicine, transforming cardiac care within the region.**

Cardiovascular (heart and circulatory) disease causes more than a quarter (26%) of all deaths in the UK; equating to 435 deaths per day or one death every three minutes. In Ireland this figure is slightly higher at approximately 30%.

ECME is a cross-border partnership between Ulster University, Southern Health and Social Care Trust Cardiac Research Unit, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Dublin City University, University College Dublin and the University of Highlands and Islands.

Researchers from these organisations will create better models of heart disease care and develop new medical grade wearables and remote monitoring systems to improve clinical outcomes and patient experience.

Speaking at the official launch of the project Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, said:



**Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB, is joined by the ECME Project Management Board in celebration of the INTERREG VA funding award.**

“This is a project which has the potential to positively transform the lives of thousands of people and their families across Northern Ireland, the border region of Ireland and Western Scotland.”

“By increasing the levels of cross-border Research and Innovation within the Health & Life Sciences sector, there is the opportunity to create a strong economic impact, and this is one of the core objectives of the INTERREG VA Programme.

The project has great potential in improving how cardiovascular disease is treated on a cross-border basis,” she continued.

Match-funding for the project has been provided by the Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland and the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation in Ireland.

# Promoting Migrant Rights with New PEACE IV Project

**Crossing Borders, Breaking Boundaries; a €1m project supported under the PEACE IV Programme; will tackle sectarianism, discrimination, racism and exploitation experienced by EU and non-EU migrants along the Border Region of Ireland and Northern Ireland.**

The project will support the labour market integration of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) workers in the agricultural, food processing and services sectors in Donegal/Derry, Cavan/Armagh and Monaghan/Newry-Down, securing their rights and conducting research.

Speaking at the launch Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB said: "This project will help meet some of the core objectives of the EU's PEACE IV Programme by encouraging members of all the communities represented in the region to understand, appreciate and interact with each other.

"It will tackle the sectarianism, racism and exploitation experienced by both EU and non-EU migrants and encourage greater levels of positive cross-community and cross-border engagement across the region," she continued.



**Pictured at the launch are (l-r): Kevin O'Doherty, Irish Congress of Trade Unions; Eoin Reidy, Irish Congress of Trade Unions; Councillor Darren Cosby, Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon County Council; Edel McGinley, Migrant Rights Centre Ireland; Gina McIntyre, CEO of the SEUPB; Nat O'Connor, Ulster University; Jennifer Hamilton, Ulster University and Stephan Smith, Community Intercultural Programme.**

The project is a cross-border collaboration between the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland (MRCI), Community Intercultural Programme (CIP), Irish Congress of Trade Unions Northern Ireland (NIC ICTU) and Ulster University (UU).

Match-funding has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development in Ireland.

# INTERREG VB / VC Updates

## Get Ready for Calls for Applications under the Interreg Transnational Programmes

**To date over €14m ERDF has been committed to Northern Ireland partners under the Interreg VB Transnational and VC Interregional Programmes.**

A total of 62 Northern Ireland partners have been approved under the four Interreg VB and Interreg VC Programmes across 50 projects. Northern Ireland based partner organisations lead nine of these projects which focus on a range of challenges and opportunities including economic development, climate change mitigation, renewable energy technologies, tourism products and sustainable transport.

There remains opportunities for organisations to apply for funding within these collaborative transnational programmes.

### **Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) Programme – 6th Call**

The 6th Call under the NPA Programme is open and will close in November 2018. The terms of reference for the Call is available to view on the programme website: <http://www.interreg-npa.eu/>

The Programme is inviting applications under a number of priority areas including; using innovation to maintain and develop robust and competitive communities, and promoting entrepreneurship to realise the potential of the programme area's competitive advantage. It will also invite projects

which have a focus on fostering energy-secure communities through the promotion of renewable energy & energy efficiency and by protecting, promoting and developing cultural and natural heritage.

In addition to the main call closing in November, a **Preparatory Project Call** remains open on a rolling basis. Applicants can apply for funding under this call to develop their project application ahead for the main call. Further information is available on the programme website or by contacting the Regional Contact Point in Northern Ireland, Declan McGarrigle on 02890 266678 or via email: [declan.mcgarraige@seupb.eu](mailto:declan.mcgarraige@seupb.eu)

### **North West Europe Programme – 8th Call**

The eighth call for project proposals is open until the **22nd of November 2018**. The programme is looking for transnational cooperation initiatives that can deliver concrete results for the North-West Europe area. Since the beginning of the new programming period in 2014, 56 projects have been approved

(21 on Innovation, 17 on Low Carbon and 18 on Resource & Materials Efficiency) and 17 project proposals are currently under development in step 2. The programme has already allocated €189 million and there is still €184 million available for new projects. There will be local and transnational events until the call opening to give you the opportunity to learn more about the programme and develop your project idea into a successful application. For more information go to [www.nweurope.eu/](http://www.nweurope.eu/)

### **NW Europe Programme - Project Ideas Lab in Paris, France on the 2nd of October**

A project ideas laboratory will be held in Paris on the 2nd October and will be a unique opportunity to develop your project application. It is the perfect occasion to network, find partners, meet the INTERREG NWE team and get useful tips for submitting a successful application in November 2018. To register: <http://www.nweurope.eu/news-events/events/register-now-project-ideas-lab-transnational-event/>



# Programme Summaries and SEUPB Contacts

## PEACE IV

The €270m PEACE Programme 2014-2020 is a unique Structural Funds programme aimed at reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.

The Programme's key objectives are:

- Shared Education
- Children & Young People
- Shared Spaces & Services
- Building Positive Relations

The eligible area for the Programme is Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland (counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo).

### For further information on the PEACE IV Programme contact:

Joint Secretariat Omagh,  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 8225 5750  
E: omagh@seupb.eu or Belfast,  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9026 6660  
E: info@seupb.eu

## INTERREG VA

The €283m INTERREG Programme 2014-2020 has been designed to address many of the developmental problems which are exacerbated by the existence of borders, in order to build upon opportunities for enhanced economic and social development across the region.

The Programme's key priorities are:

- Research & Innovation
- Environment
- Sustainable Transport
- Health

The targeted eligible area is Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland (Counties Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Louth, Monaghan, and Sligo) and western Scotland (Lochaber, Skye & Lochalsh, Arran & Cumbrae and Argyll & Bute, Dumfries and Galloway, East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland, and South Ayrshire).

### For further information on the INTERREG VA Programme contact:

Joint Secretariat,  
Monaghan.  
Tel: + 353 (0)47 77003  
E: monaghan@seupb.eu or

Caroline Coleman, National Contact Point for Scotland, Scotland  
Europa, 150 Broomielaw,  
Atlantic Quay, Glasgow G2 8LU.  
Tel: +44 (0) 141 228 2202  
E: Caroline.Coleman@scotland.co.uk

## INTERREG VB Transnational Programmes

The SEUPB has a role supporting the development of projects submitted to any of the INTERREG VB/VC Programmes.

These programmes are:

### The Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) Programme

This €56million ERDF programme aims to help peripheral and remote communities in the northern regions of Europe to develop their economic, social and environmental potential.

The programme area involves parts of Finland, Ireland, Sweden, Scotland, Northern Ireland – in cooperation with the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and Norway. The SEUPB is the Regional Contact Point for Northern Ireland.

### The North West Europe Programme

This €396 million ERDF programme aims to help make this new region more competitive, environmentally friendly and cohesive by improving access to more and better jobs, enhancing the environmental qualities of the region, improving accessibility and ensuring that cities and rural areas are attractive and sustainable. The programme area is France, the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland Luxembourg, Belgium, and Switzerland. The SEUPB works in an advisory and signposting role.

## The Atlantic Area Programme

The programme aims to achieve progress on transnational co-operation that is geared towards cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage. The programme region covers all of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and those regions within Portugal, Spain, France and the UK that border the Atlantic Ocean. The SEUPB works in an advisory and signposting role.

## INTERREG EUROPE Programme

The €359 million ERDF INTERREG VC Inter-regional Programme is aimed at local and regional authorities. It focuses on the identification, analysis and dissemination of good practices by public authorities in order to improve the effectiveness of regional and local policies. Co-operation projects are eligible across all 28 EU states, plus Norway and Switzerland.

### For further information on VB and VC Programmes, contact:

Declan McGarrigle at the SEUPB Belfast office:  
Tel: + 44 (0) 28 9026 6678  
E: declan.mcgarraige@seupb.eu

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