



# PEACE PLUS

## Youth Sector



# PEACE PLUS Programme



The PEACE PLUS Programme is a **€1bn investment** in the social, economic and environmental development of Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland.

It comprises **six themes**, which encompass **21 individual investment areas**.



# Youth Sector and PEACE PLUS



***Investment in our young people is essential to ensure the long-term peace and prosperity of the Programme area.***

Many have grown up in predominately single identity areas and attended single identity schools, resulting in limited, if any opportunity to develop relationships with those from different community, cultural and political backgrounds.

PEACE PLUS will invest in ways in which young people can engage in cross community and cross border activities, which both enhance their lives and contribute to greater community cohesion.

# Youth Sector and PEACE PLUS



- Therefore, PEACE PLUS includes a dedicated Theme: **Empowering and Investing in Our Young People (€110m)**
- This comprises three individual investment areas:
  - **3.1 Shared Learning Together Programme €45m**
  - **3.2 PEACE PLUS for Youth Programme €45m**
  - **3.3 Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing €20m**
- There are other investment areas within PEACE PLUS, which although not exclusively for the Youth Sector, will provide significant opportunities for sectoral involvement (**Themes 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6**).

## 3.1 Shared Learning Together Programme €45m



The **Shared Learning Together Programme** will provide direct, sustained contact between children from all backgrounds through collaboration between early childhood settings, schools and youth organisations, to promote good relations and enhance children's skills to contribute to a cohesive society.

The design builds upon the learning and experience derived from the PEACE IV Shared Education Programme. It will ***facilitate the education together of those of different religious beliefs***, including reasonable numbers of both Protestant and Catholic children and young persons; which is secured by the working together and co-operation of two or more relevant education providers.

# 3.1 Shared Learning Together Programme €45m



## Supported actions will include:

- Shared Learning Together Programmes in early years settings, incorporating the principles of the ‘Sharing from the Start’ model and a focus on the wider family; and those in the formal education sector to increase the number of schools participating in shared education;
- Programmes which will help end the cycle of educational disadvantage;
- Digital based approaches which will contribute to the development and sustainability of shared education partnerships;
- Awareness raising programmes outlining the benefits of shared and integrated education;

# 3.1 Shared Learning Together Programme €45m



## Supported actions will include:

- Youth to youth Shared Learning Together programmes in the non-formal education sector;
- Programmes which develop youth work capacity on a cross border basis; and
- Collaborative initiatives which enable stakeholders from all education sectors to further develop approaches to shared learning.

## 3.2 PEACE PLUS Youth Programme

### €45m



The **PEACE PLUS Youth Programme** is a targeted capacity building programme for young people aged 14-24 years, who are disadvantaged, excluded or marginalised, have deep social and emotional needs and are at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, violence or paramilitary activity.

The Programme is outcomes focused across a number of key areas including ***good relations, personal development, citizenship and employability.***

## 3.2 PEACE PLUS Youth Programme

### €45m



### Supported actions will include:

- Targeted programmes for young people, which use a range of mediums to deliver the PEACE PLUS Youth Programme intervention model to include:
  - *Mentoring based on the core critical relationship, incorporating “one good adult” approach;*
  - *Social action projects including those involving volunteering;*
  - *Cultural exchanges and visits;*
  - *Sports/physical activities (adventure/outdoor pursuits);*
  - *Environmental themed initiatives including regeneration projects;*
  - *Work placements, work taster sessions and other world-of-work activities;*
  - *Entrepreneurial and social economy themes Short courses leading to qualifications*
- Earlier intervention i.e. 14-16 years, in instances where this could prevent early disengagement from education and is complementary to mainstream provision.

## 3.3 Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing €20m



The **Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme** will support additional, non formal provision activity involving cross community and cross border multi-agency collaborative approaches, which will lead to improved understanding of youth mental health issues and the sharing of best practice to improve related interventions.

In addition to mental health, supported projects will also focus on the ***social, emotional and environmental wellbeing of young people*** and building their capacity. The Programme will make a considerable contribution to peace and reconciliation through the development of ***enhanced emotional resilience*** in our young people.

## 3.3 Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing €20m



### Supported actions will include:

- Additional, non formal youth mental health and wellbeing initiatives on a cross community and cross border basis;
- Programmes which provide young people with opportunities to make a meaningful contribution to project design, including the creation of youth advisory groups;
- Programmes which incorporate innovative approaches to the proven mentor led model and facilitate peer mentoring support;
- Programmes which incorporate the innovative use of digital resources, including social media platforms, applications and podcasts;

## 3.3 Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing €20m



### Supported actions will include:

- Training for key youth workers, which builds their capacity to better support children and young people's emotional resilience and good relations;
- Programmes which incorporate innovative approaches to youth mental health and wellbeing focused education and development;
- Peace and reconciliation focused youth leadership programmes; and
- Programmes which instil young people with the confidence to improve wellbeing within their communities and act as agents of change, building peace for future generations.

# Youth Sector and PEACE PLUS



PEACE PLUS includes other investment areas which not exclusively for the Youth Sector, provide significant opportunity for sectoral involvement as follows:

THEME	INVESTMENT AREA
<b>1: Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities</b>	<b>1.1 Co-designed Local PEACE Action Plans</b>
	<b>1.2 Empowering Communities</b>
	<b>1.3 Building Positive Relations</b>
	<b>1.4 Re-Imaging Communities</b>
<b>2: Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation</b>	<b>2.3 Programme Area Skills Development</b>
<b>4: Healthy and Inclusive Communities</b>	<b>4.1 Collaborative Health and Social Care</b>
	<b>4.2 Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion</b>
<b>5. Building a Sustainable and Better Connected Future</b>	<b>5.1 Biodiversity, Nature Recovery and Resilience</b>
<b>6: Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration</b>	<b>6.2 Managing and Forging Relationships Between Citizens</b>

# Theme 1: Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities



INVESTMENT AREA	YOUTH SECTOR ALIGNMENT
<b>1.1 Co-designed Local Community PEACE Action Plans (€90m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will enable the creation of Local PEACE PLUS Partnerships across all parts of the Programme area to co-design PEACE Action Plans.</li> <li>• will <i>support local projects, including those with a children and young people focus</i>, providing opportunities for engagement for suitable Health Sector organisations.</li> </ul>
<b>1.2 Empowering Communities (€30m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will support the delivery of <i>people-to-people projects by local Community &amp; Voluntary Sector organisations, including those with a children and young people focus</i> through the provision of a small grants programme.</li> </ul>
<b>1.3 Building Positive Relations (€30m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will present opportunities for Community &amp; Voluntary Sector organisations with the capacity to deliver <i>large, strategic peace and reconciliation projects, including those of targeting children and young people</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>1.4 Re-Imaging</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will support the <i>development of new and transformed existing spaces into shared environments</i> for use by all <i>including those with</i></li> </ul>

# Theme 2: Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation



INVESTMENT AREA	YOUTH SECTOR ALIGNMENT
<b>2.3 Programme Area Skills Development (€35m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• will support <i>area-based approaches to address existing and emerging skills requirements, including those within the Youth Sector.</i></li></ul>

# Theme 4: Healthy and Inclusive Communities



INVESTMENT AREA	YOUTH SECTOR ALIGNMENT
<b>4.1 Collaborative Health and Social Care (€80m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• will support the development of innovative community-based health care interventions, which complement statutory provision (including social enterprise models).</li><li>• will include a <i>focus upon children's mental health provision and health and well-being issues</i>.</li></ul>
<b>4.2 Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion (€50m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• will fund a range of initiatives designed to <i>redress the level of social isolation within rural areas</i> for people of all ages, including children and young people.</li><li>• will include <i>increased delivery of family and community services focused on health and wellbeing</i>, providing a range of opportunities for involvement by Youth Sector organisations.</li></ul>

# Theme 5: Building a Sustainable and Better Connected Future



INVESTMENT AREA	YOUTH SECTOR ALIGNMENT
<b>5.1 Biodiversity, Nature Recovery and Resilience (€15m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• will focus upon biodiversity and nature protection.</li><li>• will include education initiatives and activities which <b><i>provide opportunities for young people to get involved in climate action initiatives.</i></b></li></ul>

# Theme 6: Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration



INVESTMENT AREA	YOUTH SECTOR ALIGNMENT
<b>6.2 Maintaining and Forging Relationships between Citizens (€20m)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• will finance <i>smaller projects that forge and maintain social and civic cohesion on a cross border basis.</i></li><li>• will provide opportunities for <i>cross border initiatives led by Youth Sector organisations.</i></li></ul>

# PEACE PLUS Public Consultation



The purpose of the public consultation is to provide citizens, and other key stakeholders, with an opportunity to share their views on the content and administrative arrangements of the PEACE PLUS Programme, findings from the Equality Screening exercise and the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The consultation started on **Wednesday 10 March 2021** and will end at 5pm on **Wednesday 12 May 2021**.

Information regarding how to respond to the Public Consultation can be found at:

<https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>