



LEADER 2014-2020 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY SUMMARY

Background

Wexford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Wexford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was established on 7th July, 2014 by resolution of WCC under S49 A(1) of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 “for the purposes of developing, co-ordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development”. As the Local Action Group (LAG) it is responsible for implementing the LEADER Local Development Strategy (LDS), making decisions on actions funded through the LDS and managing the funding allocated to the LDS. The membership is as follows:

Chairperson	Councillor Tony Dempsey	Farming Pillar	John Joe Kavanagh
Vice-Chairperson	Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan	Business Pillar	Madeleine Quirke
WCC Elected Members	Councillor Tony Dempsey Councillor Anthony Donohoe Councillor Michael Sheehan	Community & Voluntary Sector	Mary Hamilton Pat Rath Sean Quirke
Chief Executive WCC	Tom Enright	Environmental Pillar	Karin Dubsy
Local Enterprise Office (LEO)	Tom Banville	Wexford Local Development	Brian Kehoe
State Agencies	Liam Daly – Department of Social Protection Kevin Lewis – Wexford Waterford Education Training Board Derval Howley – HSE	Social Inclusion Sector	Susan Murphy Ann Shannon
Wexford Council of Trade Unions	Dave Morris		

Wexford County Council (WCC)

Wexford County Council is the lead Financial Partner and has administrative and financial responsibility for the implementation of the LDS and the management of LAG operations generally.

Wexford Local Development (WLD) WLD is the Implementing Partner for the Programme and will deliver the majority of project and animation related actions associated with the implementation of the LDS, from the issuing of calls for proposals up to, and including, the final submission of project recommendations to the Evaluation Committee, and the LCDC.

Local Development Strategy Area

The area covered by the Local Development Strategy is all of County Wexford, including Wexford Town.

Aim of LEADER 2014-2020

“To promote Social Inclusion, Poverty Reduction & Economic Development in Rural Areas”.

LEADER 2014-2020 Funding Allocation

The LEADER Programme has a budget allocation of **€7,580,105**.

The following types of support will be considered to assist the actions identified below i.e. Capital, A&D, Training and Marketing.

LEADER 2014-2020 Themes, Sub-themes and Actions

The budget is divided between the themes, subthemes and actions as outlined below. Targets are also included in terms of potential employment and the number of individuals and community groups to be supported through training and other supports.

Theme 1 - Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation - Budget Allocation €4,882,00	
Sub-Theme: Rural Tourism. Objective 1.1 – To support the rural tourism sector in County Wexford to continue to be a key driver for economic growth. Budget €1,970,000. Job Creation Potential: 68 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Jobs Projected & 49 FTE Jobs Sustained.	
Action 1.1a	Develop the Heritage, Garden, Walking and Crafts trails under the <i>Wexford Trails</i> brand and support the establishment of new trails such as Food, Marine, Eco and Activities.
Action 1.1b	Assist the development and growth of three new and seven existing innovative, niche tourism businesses.
Action 1.1c	Support the diversification of FI approved accommodation to include glamping sites, serviced campervan parks and tourist hostels.
Action 1.1d	Support four FI approved accommodation providers to develop ancillary facilities specifically catering for niche markets such as anglers and walkers.
Action 1.1e	Support and develop three existing and three new marine tourism businesses, including both coastal and river based.
Action 1.1f	Develop three existing and three new activity/adventure tourism businesses such as cycling, angling or equestrian.
Action 1.1g	The establishment or further development of two eco-tourism businesses.
Action 1.1h	Support collaborative approaches to the marketing of tourism in County Wexford.
Action 1.1i	Assist the further growth of four heritage tourism businesses and the establishment of three new heritage tourism businesses.
Action 1.1j	Design and deliver training in Arts / Heritage Tourism / Activity / Eco Tourism / Festival Management and Familiarisation training for frontline staff.
Action 1.1k	Facilitate and support networking and co-operation between Independent tourism operators.
Action 1.1l	Engage expertise to train and upskill the members of new and existing tourism trails under the Wexford Trails Brand to include training in the three cross cutting objectives.

Sub-Theme: Enterprise. Objective 1.2 – To develop the employment base in County Wexford by supporting sustainable, innovative enterprises. Budget €2,202,000. Job Creation Potential: 90 FTE Jobs Projected & 88 FTE Jobs Sustained.	
Action 1.2a	Support twenty new niche/innovative micro and small businesses as a result of A&D, capital and/or marketing grant supports.
Action 1.2b	Support twenty niche/innovative micro and small businesses to further enhance their viability and sustainability.
Action 1.2c	Support six farm households through Research & Development (R&D) and/or capital grants to diversify into niche non-agricultural enterprises, including social farms.
Action 1.2d	Design and deliver Farm Diversification training.
Action 1.2e	Support the development of five existing and five start up enterprises in the creative industries sector.
Action 1.2f	Support the development of ten new innovative artisan food and drinks businesses through capital and training supports.
Action 1.2g	Support ten existing innovative artisan food and drinks businesses to further develop.
Action 1.2h	Support the development of four social enterprises including community enterprise centres.
Action 1.2i	Support the development of two community shops.
Action 1.2j	Facilitate and support networking and co-operation programmes amongst rural businesses.
Action 1.2k	Engage technical expertise to train and upskill promoters as required in the food, social enterprise and creative industry sectors to include training in the three cross cutting objectives.
Sub-Theme: Rural Towns. Objective 1.3 – To assist rural communities and towns in County Wexford to become more attractive environments in which to live and visit. Budget €600,000. Support provided to 15 Community Groups and Training provided to 20 Community Group Representatives.	
Action 1.3a	Support fifteen rural communities/towns to allow them to improve the visual appearance and develop their environs.
Action 1.3b	Design and deliver training in Urban and Village Renewal Planning for communities.
Sub-Theme: Broadband. Objective 1.4 – To assist small scale community socio economic initiatives towards the development of Broadband and its usage. Budget €110,000. Support provided to 20 Community Groups and Training provided to 200 individuals.	
Action 1.4a	Enable twenty community facilities to have access to Wi-Fi and IT facilities.
Action 1.4b	Deliver training in rural areas to encourage a higher internet usage.

Theme 2 - Social Inclusion - Budget Allocation €4,882,00

Sub-Theme: Basic Services Targeted at hard to Reach Communities. Objective 2.1 – To support rural communities to have access to a range of high quality social and recreational facilities. There will be a particular focus on disadvantaged communities and areas that lack such facilities.

Budget €2,045,105. Support provided to 40 Community Groups and Training provided to 320 Community Representatives.

2.1a	Support twenty communities to develop and/or upgrade community centres in their areas incorporating best practice in energy efficiency.
Action 2.1b	Support the development of ten community walking trails and the development of one new flagship walking trail. Support the collective marketing of walking trails in County Wexford.
Action 2.1c	Support the development of five community playgrounds and two adult outdoor gyms.
Action 2.1d	Support the development of one flagship outdoor recreational facility.
Action 2.1e	Support four projects to preserve or develop the unique arts and culture of the county.
Action 2.1f	Deliver a range of training supports for communities to include Community Leadership and Capacity Building for Communities.
Action 2.1g	Design and deliver a range of tailored training programmes for individuals and groups to include employability training (soft skills); traditional skills (e.g. thatching, dry stone wall building); ICT training for older people.
Action 2.1h	Facilitate the provision of a range of capital supports to complement the type of training initiatives in action 2.1g.
Action 2.1i	Engage technical expertise to upskill promoters as required supporting the implementation of actions under this objective to include Energy Efficiency (cross cutting objectives), Trail Development, Arts and Culture.

Sub-Theme: Rural Youth. Objective 2.2 – To help young people reach their full potential in society.

Budget €273,000. Support provided to 200 young people and Training provided to 80 young people.

Action 2.2a	Support the development of Youth facilities (including Youth Cafés).
Action 2.2b	Design and deliver bespoke training programmes for young people to include Youth Entrepreneurship; Youth Development (Personal and Communication skills); Multimedia and Arts based training and ICT.

Theme 3 - Rural Environment - Budget Allocation €380,000

Sub-Theme: Protection and Sustainable use of Water Resources. Objective 3.1 – To develop initiatives that protect and sustain best use of water resources.

Budget €40,000. Support and Training provided to 20 Community Groups.

Action 3.1a	Deliver training and capital supports to promote the sustainable use of water resources to include water recycling, rain water harvesting and use of grey water.
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Sub-Theme: Protection and Improvement of Local Biodiversity. Objective 3.2 – To support biodiversity initiatives that protects and improve the environment.

Budget €140,000. Support and Training provided to 20 Community Groups.

Action 3.2a	Deliver capital supports to promote the sustainable use of biodiversity. Support twenty communities through biodiversity measures and environmental improvements, including parks, nature corridors, community gardens and allotments.
Action 3.2b	Deliver a range of bespoke training programmes for communities to encourage and enable a range of biodiversity initiatives.

Sub-Theme: Development of Renewable Energy. Objective 3.3 – To support the use of renewable energy for enterprise development.

Budget €200,000. Job Creation Potential: 12 FTE's Jobs Projected and 8 FTE's Jobs Sustained.

Action 3.3a	Support four new and existing renewable energy related businesses.
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