

The LEADER Food Initiative

WLD is seeking calls for proposals under the LEADER Food Initiative

This initiative aims to support new and existing food and beverage producers to address emerging challenges through investment in areas such as:

- 1. Market development**
- 2. Competitiveness**
- 3. Innovation.**

Support for food producers, may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Artisan, Micro and Small food producers (up to 50 employees)**, including those with a focus on collaborative proposals, aimed at production quality and market issues;
- **Regional product development**, including a focus on marketing distinctive local foodstuffs;
- **Marketing and processing** for strategically identified sectors, including honey and apple processors;
- **Improved marketing, product quality and business skills** through support for innovative collaborative processes and so address challenges to co-operation identified in studies on facilitating short supply chains e.g. entry barriers, the need for shared understanding, skills/training, and marketing and business skills deficits.

Projects must be:

- in the areas of (1) market development, (2) competitiveness or (3) innovation and must be in line with the objectives of **the LDS for Wexford***;
 - Project applicants must be Artisan, Micro or Small food producers and registered as a food producer with the relevant Competent Authority as per Regulation (EC) No 852/2004;
- OR**
- If the applicant is not a food business, the project must deliver benefit to artisan, micro and small food producers.

Eligible Costs:

- the construction, acquisition or improvement of immovable property;



- the purchase of new machinery and equipment;
- intangible investments such as the development of computer software and the acquisition of patents, licences, copyrights or trademarks; and,
- second-hand equipment

Grant Aid Rates LEADER Food Initiative		
	Maximum Rate of Aid	Maximum Grant
Capital Equipment	75%	€200,000
Capital Works	75%	€200,000
Analysis & Development	75%	€30,000
Training	100%	€200,000

Minimum Grant under the LEADER Food Initiative is €5,000

Objectives of Wexford LCDC Local Development Strategy

- Joint initiatives to support the marketing of Wexford food
- Support towards the regional branding of products indigenous to the county
- Support towards the development of one strategically located food incubation centre in the county
- Project applications will be considered for approval on a first come/first served basis
- Speak to the Project Officer in your area for more information.

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