

RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)

| Category A - 1st Announcement of Grants | | | | | |
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| Project Title | Location | County | Lead Applicant | Description | RRDF Funding |
| The Yeats Trail | Yeats Trail | Sligo | Sligo County Council | Despite his long association with Co. Sligo, there is little available locally to highlight the connection between Yeats and Sligo. This Project will rectify this by constructing a cultural heritage trail, called the “Yeats Trail”, covering 15 locations in Co. Sligo. It includes 90 new signs marking out the trail, 15 interpretation boards, seating, a dedicated Website and an App. This project will make a significant contribution to the growing tourism industry in the region and ensure that tourists stay for longer. | €500,000 |
| gteic Hubs | Béal a' Mhuirthead | Mayo | Údarás na Gaeltachta | The provision and redevelopment of 8 Enterprise/Digital Hubs at 6 locations (Belmullet, Gweesalia, Aughleam, Achill, Tourmakeady and Greanaí/Ballina) in Co. Mayo (2 facilities in both Belmullet and Achill). The hubs in Aughleam, Gweesalia, Achill and Belmullet will have a specific focus on business clusters in Irish Language development, sports, marine and creative industries, respectively. There will also be pilot projects in e-health, loneliness and communications at the sites. A new facility will be built in Béal an Mhuirthead (along with an extension to an existing site), with redevelopment and refurbishment works occurring at other sites. This forms part of the <i>gteic</i> Gréasán Digiteach na Gaeltachta project, which is a network of 30 innovation and digital hubs to be developed by Údarás na Gaeltachta in locations throughout Ireland’s Gaeltacht Area. The project will contribute to the delivery of jobs and enterprise growth and assist in community development in the areas concerned. | €795,062 |
| gteic Hub An Spidéal | An Spidéal | Galway | Údarás na Gaeltachta | This project will deliver a dedicated enterprise and digital and incubation space totalling 750sq. metres in Spiddal, in which recently established and medium-size enterprises in the creative sector can interact with one another, share resources and experience, and draw on integrated supports provided through the Creative Enterprise West. The Digital/Incubation Hub will be housed on the same campus as a number of media enterprises, and will create networking opportunities and connections for a wide range of media businesses in the region. The project expects to deliver both direct and indirect job creation and support the establishment of start-ups in the sector, as well as deliver training and skills programmes. | €548,887 |

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| Emo Court | Emo, Emo Court | Laois | Office of Public Works | This project will deliver a major upgrade of the Emo Court Estate, which will celebrate 25 years in public ownership in 2019. This Gandon-designed house was the seat of the Earls of Portarlington. The development will include the opening of the first floor to the public, which will provide a “walk-in-the-shoes” experience documenting the house’s 20 th century history. There will also be an event and exhibition space, enhancements to the grounds, and the basement will house a recreation of an 18 th century kitchen. The objective is to create a “must-see” tourist attraction for the region which will benefit the nearby rural community. | €1,200,000 |
| Swan Park | Swan Park, Buncrana | Donegal | Donegal County Council | Swan Park was gifted to the public in 1965 by Harry Percival Swan, a noted industrialist, historian and folklorist. It became a major tourist attraction for the town of Buncrana, and was awarded a Certificate of Excellence by Trip Advisory in 2015. A once in a century flood in 2017 devastated the park, resulting in its closure. The project will restore Swan Park and enhance facilities for the public. It aims to drive economic development through increased visitor numbers. | €1,728,042 |
| Great Southern Greenway Limerick | Abbeyfeale, Newcastlewest, Rathkeale, Ardagh | Limerick | Limerick City and County Council | This project will expand the Great Southern Greenway Limerick, converting the old railway into a greenway. The project involves resurfacing 37.5Km and building a new tunnel at Barnagh, and the realignment of the junction at Rathkeale. The Great Southern Greenway Limerick is being developed as a key driver of economic development for the towns of Abbeyfeale, Rathkeale and Newcastle West. It will also improve the quality of life for local residents in surrounding areas, improve accessibility, and enhance and protect the local environment. | €2,724,657 |
| Cootehill Industrial Estate | Cootehill | Cavan | Cavan County Council | This project involves the construction of an access road and services into an underdeveloped industrial estate in Cootehill to allow its future expansion. It includes the construction of a roadway, and provision of electricity, water, gas, lighting and broadband. Cootehill is situated on the border between Cavan and Monaghan and is the primary industrial location on that border. This project will significantly contribute to the development of businesses in the area creating employment opportunities and enhancing the attractiveness of the area as a place to live. | €867,174 |
| Glenbrohane Local Hub | Glenbrohane | Limerick | Ballyhoura Development CLG | This Project seeks to significantly enhance the range of services to local residents and businesses. The vision is to create a social enterprise hub which will provide employment opportunities, address rural isolation and create a tourist attraction. The Project involves the innovative conversion of an old public house into a community facility housing a cafe and shops for local crafts and produce. It will also provide a “Men’s Shed”, office and meeting rooms. | €626,369 |

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| Ennistymon Innovation Centre | Ennistymon | Clare | Clare County Council | This project involves the creation of a 'Multi-Service Innovation Centre' in a currently unused building (9,000 sq. ft.) in Ennistymon in North Clare. The centre will provide for private enterprise; public services; and tourism information. Services envisaged include: Broadband Hub: Business will have access to a hot-desk facility with high speed broadband connectivity. This Broadband Hub is one in a series of Hubs being developed by Clare County Council as part of the Clare Digital Strategy. Incubation Units and Office Space: A number of incubation units will be provided. A range of services will be available from the main office space with information relating to local tourism; employment opportunities, enterprise, training and supports, community development. Intervention programmes with socially disadvantaged sectors will also operate from the Centre. Family Resource Centre: Community groups and clients of family support services will have access to a range of services including counselling for children and adults, homework clubs (specially designed for minority groups living in the community i.e. Travellers & Syrian children), Youth activities, Adult education courses, parenting and family support programmes. It is envisaged that this infrastructure will contribute to the overall sustainability of the community in North West Clare. It is expected that the centre will lead to job creation and contribute to the economic and community development in the area. | €1,023,300 |
| gteic Gaoth Dobhair | Gaoth Dobhair | Donegal | Udaras na Gaeltachta | The project is located in Gaoth Dobhair business park in Derrybeg. The project will provide 1,725 msq of mixed business office space with fibre broadband. It builds on the development of an existing state owned facility which provides community facilities (childcare, art gallery and community library), situated on the first floor of the building. This project involves the development of the second floor of the building with modern workspace facilities. It will provide shared administration, development, training and meeting facilities. It is expected that the hub will support enterprise and job creation. | €1,500,000 |
| Kinsale Library Project | Kinsale | Cork | Cork County Council | This project involves the relocation of Kinsale library to a heritage building owned by Cork County Council. The existing library is in rented accommodation which is too small for its needs. The new building, which will require major restoration and fit out, is larger and ties in with larger regeneration plans to develop further social housing and car parking in the vicinity of the building. The building is a listed building so funding will also help with its preservation. The larger library will allow for greater access, more membership/visitors and events to take place. Services will also now be made available outside of the normal working works through the Open Libraries programme. | €2,157,375 |

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| National Centre of Excellent for Surfing | Strandhill | Sligo | Sligo County Council | The project involves providing funding for a National Centre of Excellence for Surfing. Located on the Wild Atlantic Way, Strandhill is one of Ireland's popular surfing destinations. The centre will consist of a total over 500 sq. meters of space over two floors and 107 sq. meters of outdoor covered space. The centre will provide facilities for the surfing community of Strandhill and visitors who come for surfing or other tourist activities. Fáilte Ireland provided over €1m towards the build of the new centre, which was announced in October 2018. Funding contributed from the RRDF will ensure that the project is fully fitted out to state of the art standard. The centre will act as a national attraction as a tourism and information hub, provide an interpretative display of the history of surfing in Ireland, act as a central meeting point for local tourism businesses, provide changing, storage and shower facilities for local and visiting surfers and surf schools and cater for those providing advanced surfing training. Expected benefits include increased number of tourism visitors and spend to the region and increased employment. | €615,752 |
| Valentia Trans-Atlantic Cable Station | Valentia Island | Kerry | Kerry County Council | This project will restore the Valentia Trans-Atlantic Cable Station and re-purpose it as a museum and business innovation. The proposal is to develop a museum/visitor experience on the history of the trans-Atlantic cable on the ground floor and an Innovation Hub, led by Trinity College's Internet of Things testbed, 'Pervasive Nation', on the first floor, befitting Valentia's "first mover" role in global communications. The project is one of international significance and appeal given Valentia's unique role in the history of telecommunications and innovation since the mid-1850s. The Cable Station is part of the Ensemble of Trans-Atlantic Cable Sites being considered for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List. | €1,270,000 |
| Borris Railway Viaduct | Borris | Carlow | Carlow County Council | This project will link the Borris Railway Viaduct to the amenities of Borris town and give a safe circuit for walkways thorough the beautiful vistas the viaduct and local roads provide. The Viaduct is 800 metres in length and over 50 metres above the North Leinster Heritage Drive and the River Mountain. The unique facility can be used for walking, cycling and other appropriate activities which will be attractive to both locals and visitors. The refurbishment of the Viaduct will be an important addition to the current recreation/amenity offering in Borris and the broader Blackstairs Region. It will also be a new significant improvement in the visitor experience infrastructure in the county. | €654,820 |

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| Callan Town Regeneration | Callan Town | Kilkenny | Kilkenny County Council | This project has two aspects which ties into the ongoing regeneration of Callan town. The first aspect involves the creation of a 1.6km public access off-road and footpath through an area that includes a heritage Motte and Bailey that will act as a public amenity for local people and an attraction for visitors. The project will create wheelchair accessible pedestrian access from the centre of Callan town to Camphill community (which includes able and disabled persons) where development of an inclusive neighbourhood is being pursued. The second aspect is focused on the upgrade of an amenity area in the town, Fair Green park, which involves the upgrade of a playground, provision of an age active recreation area, resurfacing and landscaping works. The aim of this park regeneration is to make the area a more attractive place to live and work in to support local business and community development. | €561,750 |
| Murroe Community Hub | Murroe | Limerick | Ballyhoura Development CLG | This is a community driven project which involves the construction of a two storey, 2,467 sq.m multi-purpose building for the community of Murroe-Boher and its surrounds. The building will include a large hall for sports and community events, a scout den, meeting rooms, an office, changing facilities, showers and bathrooms, and space for a community café. This is the third phase of an ambitious larger Murroe Town Park Project to develop public space for sporting and recreational activities on a 6 acre site. The multi-purpose building builds on the previous construction of an all-weather pitch, multi-access walkway, and will complement the development of a skate park expected to begin construction in early 2019. In addition, it will act as a 'smart campus' offering free fibre broadband access for the community and hot desk facilities for local business people. The aim of the project is to put in place social infrastructure which meets the needs of the community. It is expected to boost economic and social activity in Murroe by drawing footfall into the village, creating employment opportunities, and enhancing the attractiveness of the area as a place to live. | €3,816,451 |

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| Residential Education Centre | Tullycross, Renvyle | Galway | Western Development Commission | This project will build a new Residential Education Centre in Tullycross by developing a building and upgrading its current stock of thatched cottages to create a Global Learning and Digital Hub. The Residential Centre will have the capacity to cater for an average of 40 students and professors. It will contain a 50-seat auditorium; Wi-Fi enabled learning hub/library; group study and breakout rooms; video conferencing facilities; a conference room and a coffee dock. In addition, the centre will provide hot desking and co-working space for businesses to a commercial standard. The internal study abroad market is well established in Tullycross with demand from US colleges exceeding capacity. This project will address this demand and also target the corporate retreat and personal wellness markets to leverage the location's advantages as a rural area. The project will create jobs, encourage village renewal and capitalise on the rural strengths of the landscape heritage and culture in a way the innovatively stimulates economic activity and supports the sustainable development of the area. | €1,728,000 |
| Indoor Sports Facility | Claremorris | Mayo | Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG | This project involves the construction of a 150x100m Air Dome with a height of 26m in Claremorris. The dome will provide year round indoor facilities to ensure the continued focus on sports as a cornerstone of rural communities. The facility, one complete, will be fully available for community use and open to other sports. | €2,100,000 |
| Totals | | | | | €24,417,639 |