



Information Note

LEADER Co-operation and LEADER Food Initiative budgetary update

The LEADER Policy & Operations Unit wishes to advise all LAGs and their Implementing Partners that applications for funding approval continue to be invited for:

- 1) the €10 million LEADER Co-operation funding allocation; and
- 2) the €15 million LEADER Food Initiative funding allocation.

Please see the LEADER Co-operation and LEADER Food Initiative budgetary updates below:

1) LEADER Co-operation budgetary update

Value of budget approved

To date, €4.1 million of the €10 million LEADER Co-operation funding budget has been approved by the Department. This €4.1 million approval relates to i) Preparatory Technical Support Co-operation projects, ii) Full Co-operation projects and iii) the Administration and Animation costs permitted for those Full Co-operation Projects.

Value of project applications awaiting approval on the LEADER IT System

In addition, there are currently over €2.8 million worth of Co-operation projects at various stages of the application process recorded on the LEADER IT System. This equates to €3.5 million when the permitted 25% Administration and Animation costs are included.

Note

As you are aware, the Department considers projects for LEADER Co-operation funding approval on a first-come-first served basis, where all the required fully completed documentation and information is submitted. Projects with incomplete documentation and information submitted will **not** be considered for Departmental approval. Therefore, it is recommended that when LEADER Co-operation projects are approved by the LAGs, they are submitted with **all** the required documentation and information to the LEADER Policy & Operations Unit (cooperation1420@dracd.gov.ie) for consideration as soon as possible and before the Budget is exhausted.



The Department will **not** consider any Co-operation project for approval until it has received **all** the required completed documentation and information from **all** the project's Irish Partner LAGs.

Any queries on LEADER Co-operation should be e-mailed to cooperation1420@dracd.gov.ie.

2) LEADER Food Initiative

Value of budget approved

To date €4.0 million of the €15 million LEADER Food Initiative funding has been approved by the Department for projects and the Administration and Animation costs permitted for those projects.

Value of project applications awaiting approval on the LEADER IT System

In addition, there are currently almost €1.0 million worth of LEADER Food Initiative projects at various stages of the application process recorded on the LEADER IT System. This equates to €1.25 million when the permitted 25% Administration and Animation costs are included.

Note

As you are aware, the Department considers projects for LEADER Food Initiative funding approval on a first-come-first served basis, where all the required fully completed documentation and information is submitted. Projects with incomplete documentation and information submitted will **not** be considered for Departmental approval. Therefore, it is recommended that when LEADER Food Initiative projects are approved by the LAG, they are submitted with all the required completed documentation and information to the LEADER Policy & Operations Unit (food1420@dracd.gov.ie) for consideration as soon as possible and before the Budget is exhausted.

Any queries on the LEADER Food Initiative funding should be e-mailed to food1420@dracd.gov.ie.

LEADER Policy & Operations Unit.

09 July 2020