Media Release

Friday, 10th October 2025

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Minister Calleary Announces €20.5 Million for 30 Landmark Rural Regeneration Projects Nationwide

- ***Multi-million-euro investment to bring ambitious rural regeneration and economic development projects to full readiness***
- ***Strong focus on heritage, tourism and enterprise projects to increase economic activity***
- ***Plans will combat dereliction, increase the vibrancy of our towns and villages***
- ***Projects will include the transformation of heritage buildings, former cinemas, courthouses and vacant buildings into creative studios, visitor centres, museums, libraries and community spaces***

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, has today (10th October 2025) announced funding of over €20.5 million for 30 landmark regeneration projects in rural communities across the country.

The funding, under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF), is being invested in projects that will rejuvenate town centres, drive economic growth, increase town footfall, combat dereliction, develop pedestrian zones and boost tourism in rural Ireland.

The announcement was made by the Minister today at the official opening of the Shackleton Experience in Athy. The museum, funded under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund, is dedicated to the extraordinary life of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton, who was born just outside Athy.

Examples of projects which have received funding approval include:

- €971,000 for the regeneration of Roscrea including a multi-use community facility public realm enhancements in the town centre
- €780,000 for Moate town centre enhancement including public realm works will include improved parking, provision of universal access, streetscape enhancement and landscaping.
- €1,000,000 to develop Rosslare Sustainable Tourism Experience to develop the inter-connection between Rosslare Harbour and Rosslare Strand, a new civic and recreation plaza for Rosslare Harbour and other public realm works.€870,000 for the 'Swinford Urban Realm Project' to facilitate development of a new public space for town markets and local festivals.
- €772,000 to develop a conservation management plan and business case to refurbish 'The Old Steam Mill' in Skibbereen as a famine story and exhibition centre.
- €558,000 to for 'Rosses Point Community Boat Park' in Sligo to help develop Sligo's tourism, recreational and maritime industries.

A full list of the successful projects is available on gov.ie: here.

Announcing the funding for the 30 projects, Minister Calleary said:

"I am delighted to announce the successful projects selected from applications to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. This €1 billion Fund was established under Project Ireland 2040 to deliver the targeted investment necessary to ensure that rural Ireland continues to grow and prosper and deliver on balanced regional growth that is in everyone's interests."

The Minister continued.

"In 2025, we continue to roll-out unprecedented levels of investment in rural Ireland – making our towns and villages better places to live, work, raise a family and run a business. Today's announcement confirms our strong commitment to supporting our rural communities both economically and socially.

"The projects being invested in today represent the huge ambition that underpins 'Our Rural Future' and will have a truly transformational impact right across the country. When complete, these projects will leave a lasting difference on these locations for generations to come, benefitting tens of thousands of families in Rural Ireland."

The Minister concluded.

"We have had a phenomenal level of interest in the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, with applications of an excellent standard, and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all those who were successful.

"For those who have been unsuccessful, my department will provide feedback to enable them to prepare for the next call".

The successful projects announced today are for RRDF Category 2 Projects. 'Category 2' RRDF projects are intended to provide funding to allow Project Leads undertake and complete the initial planning, design and technical works required to of any large-scale project. This sees potential, large scale RRDF projects developed to a stage allowing for greater certainty regarding scope, cost and delivery timelines to apply for further funding under a 'Category 1' RRDF application.

ENDS

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Notes for editors:

Rural Development Investment Programme

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht's Rural Development Investment Programme includes a number of integrated funding interventions:

- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

- Town and Village Renewal Scheme
- CLÁR
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme
- Local Improvement Scheme
- LEADER
- Walks Scheme

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund was established to deliver on the National Strategic Objective in the National Development Plan 2018-2027 of Strengthened Rural Economies and Communities and is also calibrated to deliver on the objectives of Our Rural Future, the Government's 5-year strategy for rural development. The Fund is administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

The Fund provides investment to support suitable projects in towns and villages with a population of less than 10,000, and outlying areas.

Calls for applications to the Fund are sought under two categories. Category 1 relates to projects with all necessary planning and consents in place and are ready to proceed, while Category 2 relates to projects that require further development and enabling initiatives to become ready for Category 1 status.

The successful projects being announced today relate to Category 2.

To date, the Fund has provided €593 million for 243 projects across Ireland, for projects costing a total of €791 million.

Full details of are available here.

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

The expanded Department is now known as the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

The Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD leads the Department and is supported by the Minister of State with Responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Jerry Buttimer TD.

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Eisiúint Meáin

Dé hAoine, 10 Deireadh Fómhair 2025

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe
agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Department of Rural and Community
Development and the Gaeltacht

Fógraíonn an tAire Calleary €20.5 milliún
do 30 tionscadal Athnuachana Tuaithe

- ***Infheistíocht ilmhilliún euro chun tionscadail uaillmhianacha athnuachana tuaithe agus forbartha eacnamaíochta a thabhairt chun ullmhachta iomláine***
- ***Cuirtear béim láidir ar thionscadail oidhreachta, turasóireachta agus fiontraíochta chun gníomhaíocht eacnamaíoch agus deiseanna fostaíochta inbhuanaithe fadtéarmacha a mhéadú***
- ***Rachfar i ngleic le foirgnimh thréigthe sna pleananna, cuirfear beocht inár mbailte agus sráidbhailte agus cabhróidh siad le daoine a mhealladh go tuath na hÉireann***

- ***Áireofar ar na tionscadail claochlú foirgnimh oidhreachta, iarphictiúrlanna, tithe cúirte agus foirgnimh folamh ina stiúideonna cruthaitheacha, ionaid chuairteoirí, músaeim, leabharlanna, fiontar, agus spásanna pobail***

Inniu (an 10 Deireadh Fómhair 2025) d'fhógair an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD, maoiniú níos mó ná €20.5 milliún do 29 tionscadal athnuachana suntasach i bpobail thuaithe ar fud na tíre.

Déanfar an maoiniú faoin gCiste Forbartha Athnuachana Tuaithe a infheistiú i dtionscadail a dhéanfaidh lár na mbailte a athnuachan, a thiomáinfidh fás eacnamaíoch agus líon na ndaoine i mbailte, a rachaidh i ngleic le foirgnimh thréighthe, a fhorbróidh críosanna coisithe agus a threiseoidh turasóireacht faoin tuath in Éirinn.

Rinne an tAire an fógra inniu ag seoladh oifigiúil Éispearais Shackleton i mBaile Átha Í. Tá an músaem, atá maoinithe faoin gCiste Forbartha Athnuachana Tuaithe, tiomnaithe do shaol iontach an taiscéalaí polach Ernest Shackleton, a rugadh díreach taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Í.

I measc samplaí de thionscadail a fuair ceadú maoinithe ón gCiste tá:

- €971,000 chun Ros Cré a athnuachan, lena n-áirítear áis phobail ilúsáide agus feabhsuithe ar an réimse poiblí i lár an bhaile.
- €780,000 le haghaidh feabhsúcháin ar lár bhaile an Mhóta, lena n-áirítear oibreacha ar an réimse poiblí, lena n-áirítear páirceáil fheabhsaithe, rochtain uilíoch a sholáthar, feabhas a chur ar an tsráid-dreach agus tírdhreachú.
- €1,000,000 chun Eispéireas Turasóireachta Inbhuanaithe Ros Láir a fhorbairt chun an nasc idir calafort Ros Láir agus trá Ros Láir a fhorbairt, plás cathartha agus áineasa nua do chalafort Ros Láir agus oibreacha eile ar an réimse poiblí.

1. €870,000 do 'Thionscadal Réimse Uirbeach Bhéal Átha na Muice' chun forbairt spáis phoiblí nua a éascú do mhargaí baile agus féilte áitiúla

- €772,000 chun plean bainistíochta caomhnaithe agus cás gnó a fhorbairt chun an Seanmhuileann Gaile i Sciobairín a athchóiriú mar ionad taispeántais agus scéalta faoin nGorta Mór.
- €558,000 do Pháirc Bád Phobal an Rois i Sligeach chun cabhrú le tionscail turasóireachta, áineasa agus muirí Shligigh a fhorbairt.

Tá liosta iomlán de na tionscadail rathúla ar fáil ar gov.ie **anseo**.

Agus é ag fógairt an mhaoinithe do na 30 tionscadal, dúirt an tAire Calleary:

"Tá áthas orm fógra a thabhairt faoi na tionscadail rathúla a roghnaíodh as na hiarratais a fuarthas mar fhreagra ar an nGairm ar Thograí is déanaí faoin gCiste Athnuachana agus Forbartha Tuaithe. Bunaíodh an Ciste €1 bhilliún seo faoi Thionscadal Éire 2040 chun an infheistíocht spriocdhírithe is gá a sheachadadh chun a chinntiú go leanfaidh tuath na hÉireann ag fás agus go seachadfaidh sí fás cothrom réigiúnach atá chun leasa gach duine."

Ar an dara dul síos, dúirt an tAire:

"In 2025, leanfaimid orainn ag cur leibhéil infheistíochta i dtuath na hÉireann i bhfeidhm nach bhfacthas riamh cheana – ag déanamh ár mbailte agus ár sráidbhailte níos fearr le maireachtáil iontu, le hoibriú iontu, le teaghlach a thógáil agus le gnó a reáchtáil iontu. Deimhnítear i bhfógra an lae inniu ár dtiomantas láidir chun tacú lenár bpobail thuaithe go heacnamaíoch agus go sóisialta araon.

"Léiríonn na tionscadail atá á n-infheistiú iontu inniu an uaillmhian ollmhór atá mar bhonn le 'Ár dTodhchaí Tuaithe' agus beidh tionchar fíor-chlaochlaitheach acu ar fud na tíre. Nuair a chuirfear i gcrích iad, fágfaidh na tionscadail seo difríocht bhuan ar na suíomhanna seo do na glúnta atá le teacht, ag dul chun tairbhe na mílte teaghlach i dTuath na hÉireann."

Mar fhocal scoir, dúirt an tAire:

"Léiríonn fógra an lae inniu críochnú an cheathrú gairm ar mhaoiniú faoin gCiste Athnuachana agus Forbartha Tuaithe. Tá leibhéal spéise dochreidte againn, le hiarratais den chéad scoth, agus ba mhaith liom an deis seo a thapú chun comhghairdeas a dhéanamh leo siúd ar éirigh leo.

"Dóibh siúd nár éirigh leo, cuirfidh mo Roinnse aiseolas ar fáil dóibh chun go mbeidh siad in ann ullmhú don chéad ghairm eile".

Is le haghaidh Tionscadail Chatagóir 2 atá na tionscadail rathúla a fógraíodh inniu. Tá sé mar aidhm ag tionscadail 'Chatagóir 2' maoiniú a sholáthar chun ligean do Cheannairí Tionscadail na hoibreacha pleanála, dearaidh agus teicniúla tosaigh a dhéanamh agus a chríochnú a theastaíonn d'aon tionscadal mórscála. Feiceann sé seo tionscadail féideartha, mórscála forbartha go dtí céim a cheadaíonn cinnteacht níos mó maidir le raon feidhme, costas agus amlínte seachadta chun iarratas a dhéanamh ar mhaoiniú breise faoi iarratas 'Chatagóir 1'.

CRÍOCH

Teagmháil:

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Nótaí don Eagarthóir:

Clár Infheistíochta Forbartha Tuaithe

Áirítear le Clár Infheistíochta Forbartha Tuaithe an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta roinnt idirghabhálacha maoinithe comhtháite:

- An Ciste Athnuachana agus Forbartha Tuaithe (RRDF)
- Scéim Athnuachana Baile agus Sráidbhaile
- CLÁR
- An Scéim Infreastruchtúr Áineasa Allamuigh
- Scéim Feabhsaithe Áitiúil
- LEADER
- Scéim na Siúlóidí

An Ciste Athnuachana agus Forbartha Tuaithe

Bunaíodh an Ciste Athnuachana agus Forbartha Tuaithe chun an Cuspóir Straitéiseach Náisiúnta sa Phlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2018-2027 maidir le Geilleagair agus Pobail Thuaithe Neartaithe a bhaint amach agus tá sé calabraithe freisin chun cuspóirí Ár dTodhchaí Tuaithe, straitéis 5 bliana an Rialtais maidir le forbairt tuaithe a bhaint amach. Tá an Ciste á riaradh ag an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta.

Soláthraíonn an Ciste infheistíocht chun tacú le tionscadail oiriúnacha i mbailte agus i sráidbhailte a bhfuil daonra níos lú ná 10,000 acu, agus i gceantair imeallacha.

Lorgaítear gairmeacha ar iarratais chuig an gCiste faoi dhá chatagóir. Baineann Catagóir 1 le tionscadail a bhfuil an phleanáil agus na toilithe riachtanacha go léir i bhfeidhm acu agus atá réidh le dul ar aghaidh, agus baineann Catagóir 2 le tionscadail a bhfuil gá le forbairt bhreise agus tionscnaimh a chumasú chun a bheith réidh le haghaidh stádas Chatagóir 1.

Baineann na tionscadail rathúla atá á bhfógairt inniu le Catagóir 2.

Go dtí seo, cuireadh €593 milliún ar fáil faoin gCiste do 243 tionscadal ar fud na hÉireann, le haghaidh tionscadal a chosnaíonn €791 milliún san iomlán.

Tá sonraí iomlána ar fáil anseo.

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta

Tugtar an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta ar an Roinn mhéadaithe anois.

Is é an tAire Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus na Gaeltachta, Dara Calleary TD, atá i gceannas ar an Roinn agus tacaíonn an tAire Stáit atá Freagrach as Forbairt Pobail agus Carthanachtaí, Jerry Buttimer TD, leis.

Tá an preasráiteas seo á fháil agat mar go bhfuil tú ar liosta meán na Roinne Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail faoi láthair.

Mura mian leat ríomhphoist den chineál seo a fháil ón Roinn a thuilleadh, is féidir leat díliostáil trí fhreagairt chuig an seoladh ríomhphoist seo leis an bhfocal "díliostáil" sa líne ábhair agus déanfaimid do sheoladh ríomhphoist a bhaint dár mbunachar sonraí.