



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

Good practice from a Member State. Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022

*The European Social Economy Summit – Social Economy
and Social Innovation as a motor of rural resilience.*

Richard Gavin

Department of Rural and Community Development, Ireland

27th May 2021



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Government of Ireland



National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022



Department of Rural and Community Development
gov.ie



To **support** Social Enterprise to **maximise** its social, societal and environmental **impact**

The Policy is based around 3 Objectives:



1

**Building
Awareness
of Social
Enterprise**

2

**Growing and
Strengthening
Social
Enterprise**

3

**Achieving
Better Policy
Alignment**

Supporting Social Enterprise at local level



- 49 Local Development Companies – Small Capital Grants for Social Enterprise
- Covid Regeneration Scheme
- LEADER and €1Billion Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Infrastructure



- **National Broadband Plan** - to deliver high speed broadband services to all premises in Ireland
- Over 500,000 premises including social enterprises
- Development of a **National Remote Working Hub Network** – Many are Social Enterprises.



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Our Rural Future

Rural Development Policy 2021-2025



Our Rural Future



- Represents the Government's vision for **sustainable, inclusive and thriving rural economies and communities**
- Addresses both **challenges and opportunities** for rural areas
- **Diversification of the enterprise base is critical**, which includes **expanding the rural social enterprise sector**

Our Rural Future – Role of Social Enterprise



- Deliver a suite of **new measures to support the development of Social Enterprises in rural areas** to increase their social, economic and environmental impact and contribute to job creation locally.
- Expand the use of **socially responsible public procurement contracts**, where feasible, which will incentivise the engagement of social enterprises and Circular Economy organisations.
- Develop a **pilot bicycle up-cycling initiative** to support employment creation, to harness the potential of investment in greenways and to support the development of the social enterprise business model.

Clár IDG, Mayo

Community Employment
Housing,
Home Retrofitting
Enterprise Centre
Remote Working Hub
Community Garden
Good Morning Claremorris -
telephone befriending service



The Cottage Tea Rooms, Loughmore

Community based shop and tearooms.

Selling local produce

Community Employment

Focal Point for community

Art and Crafts

Tourism Attraction



Dunhill Eco-Park, Waterford

Enterprise Centre **30 SMEs**

70 jobs

Education/Training

Community Employment

Café

Catering Service

Childcare

Remote Working Hub





**An Roinn Forbartha
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Department of Rural and
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Thank You



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**National Social Enterprise
Policy for Ireland**
2019-2022

