

South and East Cork Area Development Ltd. (SECAD)

The role of South and East Cork Area Development (SECAD) in Village and Area Enhancement

Ryan Howard

SECAD Village and Area Enhancement Seminar Little Island, 21st January 2010



East Cork Area Development established in 1995

- **Financial and non financial support – technical, training, capital investment, marketing, network support, business planning, mentoring**
- **Delivery of Rural Development (LEADER) and Social Inclusion type Programmes**
- **SECAD established in May 2007– one of 40 Integrated Local Development Groups post 2007**



Population Base of 148,000 – largest in Ireland

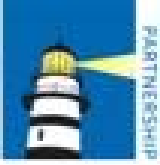
This represents 40% of Cork County (361,000)

Population increase in last 15 years

Ireland +20%

Co. Cork +28%

SECAD +44%



LEADER II

National Rural Development Programme (NRDP)

Local Development Programme

Local Development Social Inclusion Programme (LDSIP)

Interreg IIIB (NWE)

***Rural Social Scheme (RSS)**

***Millennium Partnership Fund (Education)**

***Rural Transport Programme (RTP)**

***Community Support Scheme (Salmon Hardship Fund)**

***Dormant Accounts Fund**

***Local and Community Development Programme**

***Rural Development Programme (2007-2013)**



1000 jobs – agri / tourism / enterprise

1000 people placed in employment

4 business incubator centres

500 community projects supported

9,000 received training and mentoring

Government / Local Authority Initiatives partnered at local level e.g. community playgrounds

Food fairs and Farmers markets promoted



SECAD's Strategic Rural Development Plan



***'Providing locally available mentoring,
tailored training
& networking
opportunities
for
entrepreneurs'***

**Economic
Development**



SECAD's Strategic Rural Development Plan



Economic Development

'Provide targeted capital investment to micro-enterprises at key stages in their development'





SECAD's Strategic Rural Development Plan



'Developing space to create and sell'



**Economic
Development**



SECAD's Strategic Rural Development Plan

**Community, Environment,
Heritage & Culture**

*'Invest in community
skills, volunteering
and culture'*

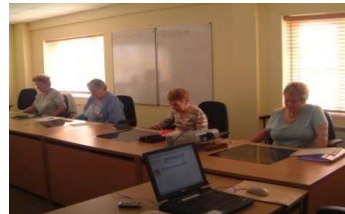




SECAD's Strategic Rural Development Plan

**Community, Environment,
Heritage & Culture**

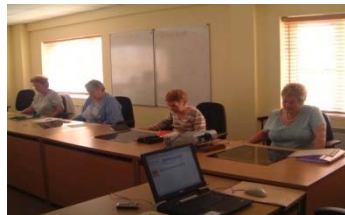
*'Support development,
use and impact of
community facilities &
amenities'*





‘Provide Capital grants to support enhancement of the natural and built environment. Recognise and put real value on voluntary effort’

Community, Environment, Heritage & Culture



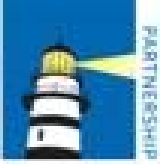


LEADER in operation in Ireland since 1990's

- *'Links Between Actions for the Development of the Rural Economy'*
- Established by the EU to off set the consequences of CAP reform
- 40 groups in Ireland post 2007

Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2007-2013

- Funding of €425m available
- Three fold increase on LEADER + / NRDP
- 55% funding from the European Union
- Axes 3 & 4 of the RDP (Diversification of the rural economy and Quality of Life in rural areas) to be delivered using the LEADER approach
- Rates and funding levels increase ie. 50% to a max. of €150k for private commercial projects, up to 75% to a max. of €150k for community



To encourage balanced enterprise and community development by:

Supporting the development of skills and capacity of communities

Supporting agricultural diversification eg. farm based enterprise units, garden allotments

Supporting new and expanding rural enterprise eg. market space, enterprise centres and specialist enterprise units, heritage culture history archaeology

Supporting basic services in rural areas eg. development of countryside recreation, trails, amenity space, arts and cultural facilities, upgrading of community centres

Supporting village renewal and development eg. enhancement of areas

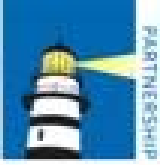
Supporting conservation eg. eco education, harbour and coastal clean ups, renewable energy

Supporting network development and collective marketing eg. tourism, food

Engaging in inter territorial and transnational activity

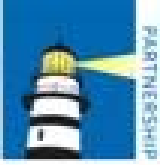
Rates of Grant Aid and Grant Ceiling ie. over a 3 yr period

| Project Type | Rate of Aid | Maximum |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Individual / Company | | |
| Capital / Other | Up to 50% | €150,000/€200,000* |
| Analys & Dev. | Up to 75% | €30,000 |
| Facilities/Equipment | Up to 50% | €150,000/€200,000* |
| <u>Community</u> | | |
| <u>Capital</u> | <u>Up to 75%</u> | <u>€150,000/€500,000*</u> |
| <u>Analysis & Dev.</u> | <u>Up to 90%</u> | <u>€30,000</u> |
| <u>Facilities/Equipment</u> | <u>Up to 75%</u> | <u>€150,000/€200,000*</u> |
| Training and Info. | | |
| Training Courses | Up to 100% | €150,000 |



The Application Process

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Initial Contact: | Meeting with SECAD staff and Project Visit |
| Application Form: | Submitted to SECAD. Acknowledgement letter sent |
| Assessment: | Application form, supporting documentation and eligibility assessed by SECAD staff |
| Evaluation Team: | Application evaluated by a voluntary group of people with experience in business, community development and other backgrounds. Recommendation made to Board of Directors |
| Board of Directors: | The Board makes the final decision on every project. The Board includes Voluntary Directors representing state agencies, local authority and local government, community and voluntary sector and social partners. Community reps are nominated by the community. |
| Decision: | If the applicant is successful they will receive a formal Letter of Offer and Terms and Conditions. The project can now commence. |



Completed Application Form

Eg. your background, qualifications and experience, background to the project, description of the proposed project, any innovative aspects, assessment of demand including market research undertaken, marketing plan, outline of costs, employment created / sustained, accounts (historic / projected)

Business / Community Plan

For all enterprise applications and larger scale community project applications

Financial Plan (incl. Accounts)

Eg. income and expenditure, cash flow projections etc. for new enterprises as well as audited accounts for existing enterprises. Larger scale community projects will also be required to provide financial projections etc.

VAT Status

A letter from the Revenue Commissioners stating that you are not registered

Quotations (for **each item** you wish to purchase). A Quotation Schedule must be completed.

The current thresholds for quotations are:

Up to €5,000 – 1 quote €5001-€50,000 – 3 quotes Over €50,001 – 5 quotes

These thresholds are due to change in 2009



Evidence of title / leasehold

(where required ie. capital projects)

Planning Permission or other approvals (where required)

A copy of these approvals should accompany your application

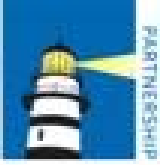
Tax Clearance Certificates

Over €10,000 in grant aid - a valid Tax Clearance Cert at time of payment
(applicant and product / service provider)

Up to €10,000, a statement outlining that the project promoters / service providers' tax affairs are in order

Five Year Rule

Anything grant aided must be available for inspection for at least five years after the grant has been received



Voluntary Time and Donations of Land / Buildings

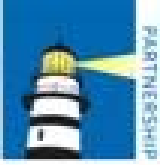
- **Volunteer time and other donations can be used as a contribution to your community project. Primarily to support projects that will improve 'Quality of Life' in an area.**
- **Must be outlined and agreed prior to the project commencing**
- **At least 10% of the matching contribution must be in cash**
- **Certification by qualified third party**

Rate: €25 per hour

Example: Building and Enhancement **€10,000**

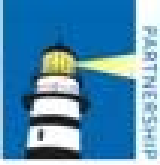
Could attract a grant of up to 75% or €7,500 if Volunteer time is not used in the 'delivery' of project;

or a maximum grant of €9,000 if volunteer time of at least 60 hours is used in the delivery of the project



Planning to enhance your community takes time

- **Consult within your community**
- **Gather information from relevant sources (local, statutory bodies etc)**
- **Agree a plan to be implemented within your area for a 5 year period**
- **Implement actions using local volunteers and resources**
- **Utilise you community plan as basis for funding application to relevant body (eg SECAD, Heritage Council, Cork County Council)...
If funding is required!**



Frances Burke & Nuala O' Connell

South and East Cork Area Development Ltd.

Midleton Community Enterprise Centre

Owenacurra Business Park

Knockgriffin

Midleton

Co. Cork

Tel: 021 4613432

Email: info@ecad.ie

Website: www.eastcork.com