Aquaculture Funding Guidance Sheets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUND</th>
<th>Ireland Wales Territorial Cooperation Programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acronym: n/a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fund synopsis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) INTERREG IVA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scale</td>
<td>Ireland and Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund amount</td>
<td>Overall value of the 2014-2020 programme €100 million (£75 million)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fund purpose**

**Overview**

The Ireland Wales Territorial Cooperation Programme aims to further develop Irish Welsh cooperation in the areas of employment, innovation, climate change and sustainable development.

The Programme builds on the success of the Ireland Wales INTERREG IVA Programme (2007 – 2013). The draft Ireland Wales Cooperation Programme 2014 – 2020 was submitted in September 2014 to the European Commission for formal negotiation. [Look here for more information about the eligible areas](#), including a map of the regions of relevance. The Cooperation Programme is a planning document that will show how the funding will be invested in the region through priorities based on social, economic and environmental analyses of the needs and opportunities of the region, and eligible areas of activity in line with European Commission and Council Regulations.

In line with the Europe 2020 strategy for sustainable jobs and growth, the Programme will have a stronger strategic focus in 2014 – 2020. Funding will be concentrated on a limited number of shared priorities, where the greatest added-value can be obtained through cooperation. The Programme will have a strong focus on the Irish Sea and will be structured around three Priority Axes:

- R&D and Innovation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Utilisation of Cultural and Natural Resources and Heritage

**Aims and objectives**

The Programme seeks to improve cross-border development by:

- Improving the overall economic, environmental and social well-being of the Ireland Wales cooperation area
- Achieving a more cohesive, balanced and sustainable development of the area
- Contributing to the greater competitiveness of the region, and that of the EU, in a globalised world
Priorities

For illustration purposes, the recent programme (2007 – 2013) had two priorities, each containing two themes. More detail on the 2014 – 2020 Programme will be available from WEFO shortly:

**Priority 1. Theme 1.**
Clusters; joint product development; technology transfer; entrepreneurial culture e.g. Irish Sea Marine Leisure Network.

**Priority 1. Theme 2.**
Skills enhancement; exchange of good practice; joint initiatives between schools/FE/HE; cross-border graduate placements e.g. sea trout project

**Priority 2. Theme 1.**
Publicity campaigns; developing renewable alternative energy sources; sustainable tourism; sustainable management and protection of habitats.

**Priority 2. Theme 2.**
Joint approaches to social inclusion; sharing good practice in innovation community regeneration; cultural heritage and linguistic initiatives.

The structure of the 2014 – 2020 programme will be finalised and publicised soon through the website.

Proposed supportable activities

There will be a number of general types of projects within each theme described above.

How it works

There will be a new application procedure for 2014 – 2020, but for comparison, the process for 2007 – 2013 was:

- Download the Programme documents
- Contact your local Development Officer – ongoing liaison is mandatory
- Submit an Expression of Interest form to register your project idea
- Develop a partnership with suitable organisations in Ireland/ Wales
- Working relationships – agree partner roles and assign a Lead Partner
- Agree your main project objectives
- Download the Application Form and guidance notes
- Complete the application form, and submit a draft to your Development Officer for feedback
- Ensure each partner has the required matched funding (min. 25% of project costs)
- Final check with the Development Officer teams
- Submit application form and appendices

Grant (the full UK grant will be confirmed in 2015)

Size of grant
The total fund is worth €100 million (£75 million), with €75 million (£59 million) coming directly from the ERDF.
### Restrictions
Projects need a Lead Partner to facilitate a more structured and effective approach to building and managing partnerships and projects. The Lead Partner will need to have the capacity to undertake the project, and manage it, on behalf of all the other partners. They will coordinate the drafting and completion of the application form. They will also have to draw up the Partnership Agreement that underpins the entire project and partnership. To qualify as a Lead Partner, organisations will have to demonstrate financial management competence and provide evidence of satisfactory Corporate Governance procedures.

### Match funding
This will be announced by WEFO shortly.

### Guide to eligibility

#### Overview
This link takes you to an overview of eligibility for the 2014 – 2020 period, including maps and sub-regions.

- National, Regional and Local Authorities
- Public and State Supported agencies
- Higher Educational Institutions, Colleges and Research Institutions
- Private Enterprises, Voluntary & Community/Third Sector (non-profit organisations in the context of the project)

#### Exceptions and restrictions
Please contact your Development Officer for more information about current exemptions and restrictions on funding.

#### Industry involvement
A strong partnership between compatible organisations is essential for the development of successful crossborder projects. The Development Officer team can help to locate a suitable partner and advise on moving from the initial project idea to making a full application.

Applicants are required to work on their proposals with the Development Officers in advance of making a full application. Applications that have not liaised with the Development Officer team will not be considered for funding.

#### Stakeholder involvement
Most projects will be based on partnerships across the borders of these two Member States.

### Contact details for applicants

#### Managing authority
The 2007 - 2013 Programme was managed by Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly of Ireland. For 2014-2020 the Programme will be led by the Welsh Government; WEFO being the Managing Authority. Operations Officers will be based in locations in Ireland and Wales - see more at: [www.irelandwales.ie](http://www.irelandwales.ie)

#### Contact details
Contact your local Development Officer here.

### Useful websites and where to go for other information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welsh European Funding Office</th>
<th>Ireland Wales Cooperation Programme 2014 – 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>Beginners Guide to EU Funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland Wales 2013</td>
<td>INTERREG IVA website for funding period 2007 – 2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>