



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Your County



## Message from Mairead McGuinness

Commissioner for Financial Services,  
Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union



**LEINSTER**



**MUNSTER**



**CONNACHT**



**ULSTER**



**Contact links & Phone numbers**

WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Your County

## Mairead McGuinness

Commissioner for Financial Services,  
Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union



Dear Resident,

Ireland's membership of the European Union has had a huge impact on our lives: from the use of a common currency to protecting our environment, from increased economic growth to tackling gender inequality, and from giving the country a stronger voice on the global stage to promoting social inclusion.

Communities, businesses, farmers, schools, universities and cultural organisations are just some of those who have benefitted from EU support across Ireland.

While we should never lose sight of the broader benefits of EU membership in terms of peace, prosperity and political stability, this report zooms in at a county level to illustrate just a few of the stories of how the EU has worked with partners to deliver positive results on the ground.

In many ways, these stories capture the essence of what EU membership means to people at a local level across the length and breadth of Ireland.

Yours faithfully

**Mairead McGuinness**

Commissioner for Financial Services,  
Financial Stability and Capital Markets





WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Your County



**LEINSTER**

**OFFALY**

**CARLOW** *Click to Download*

**DUBLIN** *Click to Download*

**KILDARE** *Click to Download*

**KILKENNY** *Click to Download*

**LAOIS** *Click to Download*

**LONGFORD** *Click to Download*

**LOUTH** *Click to Download*

**MEATH** *Click to Download*

**WESTMEATH** *Click to Download*

**WEXFORD** *Click to Download*

**WICKLOW** *Click to Download*



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

**Environment**



**Agriculture & Rural  
Development**

**Research and Innovation**

**Education**

**Social Inclusion**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Environment



**A climate change solution  
beneath our feet**

**Raised Bogs**

**Peatlands and People in Offaly**

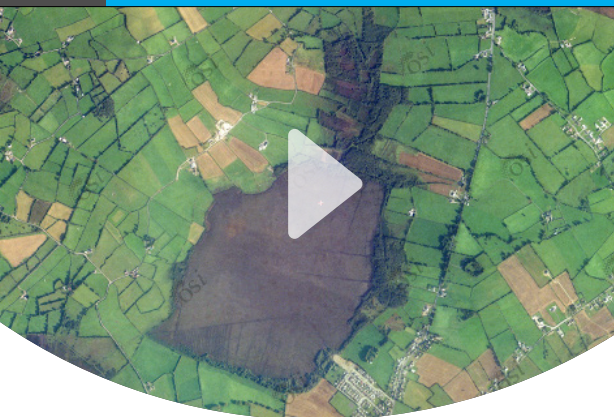
**Birr Outdoor Education Centre**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

**A climate change solution  
beneath our feet**



Ireland's raised bogs are among Europe's oldest near-natural ecosystems, dating back over 10,000 years. Protected under the EU Habitats Directive and backed by the EU LIFE programme, they are home to many rare and endangered flora and fauna, and they are Ireland's greatest carbon stores. Clara Bog Nature Reserve is one of the most important raised bogs in Europe.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Raised Bogs



County Offaly is rich with this natural resource that plays such an important role in carbon storage. Here are more examples of these bogs in Offaly.

Mongan Bog

**More:**

Moyclare Bog

**More:**

Raheenmore Bog

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Peatlands and People in Offaly



The European Commission is funding €10 million towards a project which will highlight the power of peatlands to effect significant climate action wins. Peatlands and People is a major national initiative, which will contribute to the long term implementation of Ireland's Climate Action Plan.

**More 1:**

**More 2:**





WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Birr Outdoor Education Centre



The Outdoor Education Centre in Birr has embraced sustainability and is encouraging Offaly communities to get involved. The centre inspires learning about local sustainable practices. The project was co-founded by the European Social Fund.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

**Agriculture & Rural  
Development**



**Support for Offaly Farmers**

**Saving the Hen Harrier**

**Post Covid-19 Vision**

**WIFI4EU in Offaly**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Support for Offaly Farmers



Irish Agriculture received EU support worth over €1.7 billion in 2020. In Offaly, basic payments to farmers alone amounted to almost €31 million in 2019, with an average payment of €11,548 per recipient.

[More 1:](#)

[More 2:](#)



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Saving the Hen Harrier



The Slieve Bloom Mountains are found on the border between Counties Offaly and Laois and it is now a Special Protected Area for the Hen Harrier. Much of the site is over 200 metres in altitude, rising to a maximum height of 527 metres at Arderin. The Hen Harrier Project is funded by the agricultural European Innovation Partnership (EIP-AGRI).

**More 1:**

**More 2:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Post Covid-19 Vision



Supported by the European Regional Development Fund programme a new initiative to help food and drink producers become more technically efficient is helping producers in Offaly. Participants will be introduced to research facilities as well as new markets at home and abroad.

**More 1:**

**More 2:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## WiFi4EU in Offaly



The WiFi4EU network in County Offaly was officially launched in October 2020 in the main square of Tullamore. 17 hotspots were deployed in the Tullamore Municipal District and an additional 50 hotspots followed. The project is funded through the EU, to promote access to Wi-Fi connectivity in public spaces in municipalities throughout Europe.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Research and Innovation

A graphic for Horizon 2020 featuring a glowing globe in the center, with light rays emanating from it. The text "HORIZON 2020" is written in a white, sans-serif font across the middle of the globe. The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of light dots.

HORIZON 2020

**Rethinking Coastal Defence  
Structures**

**Eco Project drives Green  
Economy**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Rethinking Coastal Defence Structures



An Offaly company, Banagher Precast Concrete Ltd, is involved in an EU funded project that is developing greener and more durable concrete and structures for use in marine structures and infrastructures.

**More 1:**

**More 2:**





WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Eco Project drives Green Economy



A new economic and environment partnership is expected to mobilise a new generation of green enterprise innovators and stimulate regional job creation in Offaly and the midlands. The EU supported Empower Eco project will create 100 jobs over the next two years.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Education



**Banagher College welcomes  
Erasmus Students**

**Singfest in Offaly**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Banagher College welcomes Erasmus Students



Parents and students of Banagher College prepared to open their doors to visiting students from the Netherlands, Portugal, Poland, Turkey and Slovakia as part of a project, co-founded by Erasmus+ Programme, that aimed to increase social awareness and skills about migration, diversity and culture.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Singfest in Offaly



Musicgeneration Offaly and Westmeath joined forces with students in Norway on an Erasmus+ exchange programme for choirs.

**More:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## Social Inclusion



**MenPower**

**Helping young people take a  
step in the right direction**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

## MenPower



An EU-funded Social Inclusion Community Activation programme run by Offaly Local Development Company for men who are in distress and affected by employment-related issues has received a national award for adult education that support health and wellbeing.

**More 1:**

**More 2:**



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

# Offaly

**Helping young people take a step in the right direction**



A project aimed at supporting young people in Offaly who are on disability allowances or have mental health/mild learning difficulties is being supported by the European Social Fund. The project aims to develop essential life skills for each participant on a one-to-one basis.

**More 1:**

**More 2:**





## THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION REPRESENTATION IN IRELAND

Europe House, 12-14 Mount Street  
Lower, Grand Canal Dock,  
Dublin D02 W710  
Tel: +353 1 6341111

### **Website:**

[www.euireland.ie](http://www.euireland.ie)



[Twitter - @eurireland](https://twitter.com/eurireland)



[Instagram - euireland](https://www.instagram.com/euireland)



[Facebook - EUIreland](https://www.facebook.com/EUIreland)

**EU funds, Irish Government website**

**EU funding opportunities**

**EU Funding and Tenders Portal**



**EUROPE DIRECT  
CONTACT CENTRE**

00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 • [europedirect.europa.eu](http://europedirect.europa.eu)

