



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Your County



Message from Mairead McGuinness

Commissioner for Financial Services,
Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union



CONNACHT



LEINSTER



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Contact links & Phone numbers

WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mairead McGuinness', written over a white background.

Mairead McGuinness

Commissioner for Financial Services,
Financial Stability and Capital Markets





WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Your County



CONNACHT



 **GALWAY**

 **LEITRIM** *Click to Download*

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Environment



**Agriculture & Rural
Development**

Research and Innovation

Social Inclusion

Culture



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Environment



Saving the Curlew at Lake Corrib

Learning about the deep blue sea

Fishing for Litter

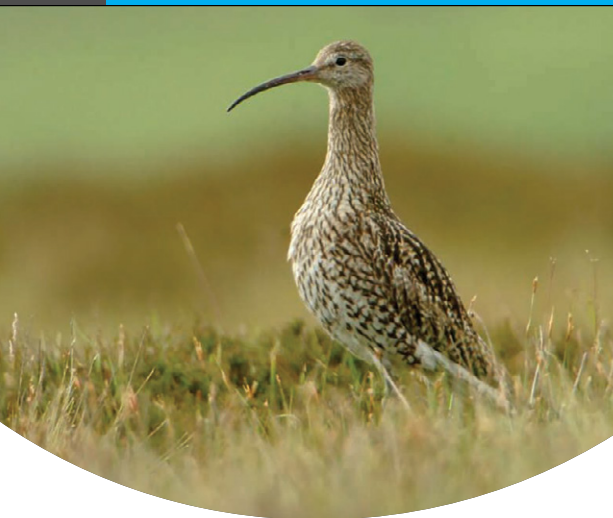
A climate change solution beneath our feet



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Saving the Curlew at Lake Corrib



Over the last 50 years, the loss of a suitable breeding habitat has seen the Curlew suffer widespread declines across Europe, but nowhere has this been more severe than in Ireland. However, an EU project is making a difference in known breeding sites in Lough Corrib, Co Galway.

More:



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Learning about the deep blue sea



A successful project led by NUI Galway has now expanded its reaches into the virtual classroom. The EU-supported ATLAS project has developed a range of free, open-access educational resources on issues and topics related to the Atlantic Ocean and specifically the deep sea.

More 1:

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Fishing for Litter



Fishermen in Ros a' Mhil are making a significant difference to sea pollution by landing an unusual catch. By participating in the Fishing for Litter project, a Clean Ocean Initiative supported by the EU, all trawlers in Ireland's main ports are encouraged to help clean our seas.

More:



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**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, they are home to many rare and endangered flora and fauna and they are Ireland's greatest carbon stores. Carrownagappul Bog is one of the best examples of a raised bog West of the River Shannon.

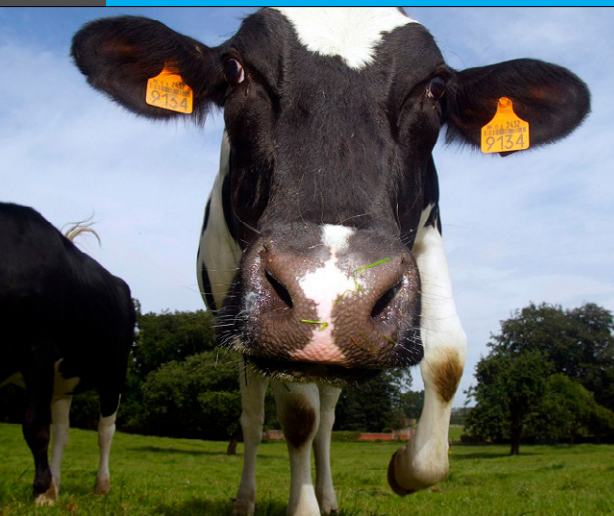
More:



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Agriculture & Rural Development



Support for Galway Farmers

Farming on the edge of Europe

**Conserving the Twelve Bens
Hill Farmers**

Maximising organic production

Saving the Hen Harrier

On the snail trail



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Support for Galway Farmers



Irish Agriculture received EU support worth over €1.7 billion in 2020. In Galway, basic payments to farmers alone amounted to over €87 million in 2019, with an average payment of €7,336 per recipient.

More 1:

More 2:



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Farming on the edge of Europe



The iconic Aran landscape draws visitors from all over the world, so protecting the beauty and the quality of the islands is of utmost importance. With EU support, local farmers are now preserving traditional island farming practices and helping to maintain the islands' significant natural and cultural heritage.

More:



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Conserving the Twelve Bens Hill Farmers



With EU support, this project aims to ensure the long-term economic viability of hill farming in the Twelve Bens/ Maumturks area by developing sustainable and innovative agricultural practices to restore, preserve and enhance the biodiversity of this unique area.

More:



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Maximising organic production



An EU-supported project in Galway is looking at maximising horticultural production and improving short supply chains for Ireland.

More:



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Saving the Hen Harrier



The Slieve Aughty Mountains extend southwards from just south of Lough Rea, County Galway to Scariff in County Clare. The peaks are not notably high or indeed pronounced; It has become a new haven for the Hen Harrier and has been designated as a Special Protected Area.

More 1:

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On the snail trail



A Galway farmer who has diversified and set up a snail farm won the 2019 Irish NEWBIE Farm Entrant Competition, funded by the EU.

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Research and Innovation

HORIZON 2020



**Stem cell therapy to treat
diabetic kidney disease**

**Preventing the development
of osteoarthritis**

Foresea project



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Stem cell therapy to treat diabetic kidney disease



Chronic kidney disease is marked by the gradual destruction of kidney tissue over time and is a major cause of sickness and death in the EU. A spin out company from National University of Ireland Galway is investigating how stem cells can be expanded to use in human trials.

More 1:

More 2:

More 3:



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Preventing the development of osteoarthritis



With EU funding, a National University of Ireland Galway team is researching the robotic production of stem cells for cartilage repair to prevent development of osteoarthritis.

More 1:

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Foresea project



In a bid to boost Europe's ability to generate renewable ocean energy, a new programme called Ocean Demo will provide funding for developers of marine renewable technologies to test their products or services in real sea environments.

More 1:

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Social Inclusion



Tuam Homework Club

**Fighting rural and social
isolation**

Galway Partnership



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Tuam Homework Club



**Social Inclusion &
Community Activation
Programme**

A collaborative effort by a number of social organisations in Galway came together with EU support to create a very successful project for disadvantaged children. Their success can be seen in this picture story.

More:



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Fighting rural and social isolation



EU social funds and strategies enable local organisations to tackle poverty and social exclusion through partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. The support leads to very personal success stories.

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Galway Partnership



Galway City Partnership and Pobal have come together with EU support to help disadvantaged people living in the city to fight poverty and social exclusion.

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Culture



Picture Palace brings independent films to Galway

Galway 2020

Make a Move with Galway Theatre Festival



WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

Galway

Picture Palace brings independent films to Galway



Galway Picture Palace has joined the 80+ organisations that work with Access Cinema, an organisation that provides audiences throughout Ireland with access to the best of Irish, world and independent cinema via their national network of non-profit and voluntary organisations. Funding through Creative Europe has enabled their success.

More 1:

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Galway 2020



Galway was European Capital of Culture in 2020. Due to the impact of COVID-19 the cultural programme was reimagined, with local and national artists and cultural organisations that won Galway the European Capital of Culture designation remaining at its core.

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WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR...

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Make a Move with Galway Theatre Festival



A project that acts as an incubator for contemporary European theatre will help develop the skills of production professionals throughout Europe. The project was launched in Galway and despite the pandemic, still managed to achieve many of its aims.

More 1:

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