

Your County



Message from Mairead McGuinness Commissioner for Financial Services, Financial Stability and Capital Markets Union





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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









Your County



Cork

Environment



Agriculture & Rural Development

Research and Innovation

Urban Development

Culture







Cork

Environment



Cork Farmer embraces the Green

Fishing for Litter

Marine waste turning into blue circular economy

Studying the environmental effects of wave energy

Cork University runs survey for offshore renewables





Cork

Cork Farmer embraces the Green



The loss of biodiversity in Ireland over the years has been potentially catastrophic, causing the deterioration of globally important habitats and species loss. Currently there are no legal obligations to improve biodiversity. With EU support, Cork farmer, Donal Sheehan, was stimulated to look into ways of regenerating biodiversity in dairying farming.





Cork

Fishing for Litter



Fishermen in Kinsale, Union Hall and Baltimore are making a significant difference to sea pollution by landing an unusual catch. By participating in the EU-supported Fishing for Litter project, all trawlers in Ireland's main ports are encouraged to help clean our seas.

More 1:



Cork

Marine waste turning into blue circular economy



A new initiative takes collecting marine litter a step further and is looking at ways of turning waste marine plastics into cash generating businesses. With EU support, fishermen from Castletownbere are exploring how to turn their litter into economic opportunities.



Cork

Studying the environmental effects of wave energy



Researchers in Cork University are working to the improve knowledge on the environmental effects and risks of wave energy. With EU funding, the project is looking at data around devices operating at sea and the possible impact of larger schemes.





Cork

Cork University runs survey for offshore renewables sector



The EU-backed SELKIE project has designed a detailed industry survey whose aim is to get essential direction on the development of offshore renewable energy innovation systems in Wales and Ireland. Cork University is conducting the survey in Ireland.

More 1:





Cork

Agriculture & Rural Development



Support for Cork Farmers

Maximising organic production

Saving the Hen Harrier







Cork

Support for Cork Farmers



Irish Agriculture received EU support worth over €1.7 billion in 2020. In Cork, basic payments to farmers alone amounted to almost €93 million in 2019, with an average payment of €12,097 per recipient.

More 1:



Cork

Maximising organic production



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



Cork

Saving the Hen Harrier



A mountainous range in west Cork has become a new haven for the Hen Harrier and has been designated as a Special Protected Area. The Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains Special Protected Area covers a substantial part of the Boggeragh/ Derrynasaggart Mountains.

More 1:



Cork

Research and Innovation



Tyndall Institute secures funding at three times the EU average

Combating Energy Poverty

Discovering European Research Night

Cork University investigates Irish and Armenian Christianity





Cork

Tyndall Institute secures funding at three times the EU average



The Tyndall National Institute in Cork has become one of the most successful institutes in Ireland for European funding after securing more than 100 Horizon 2020 awards, totalling over €56 million.





Cork

Combating Energy Poverty



Adequate warmth, cooling and lighting and the energy to power appliances are essential in a home. With EU funding, researchers in University College Cork are spearheading a project that that will work with energy poor households to improve their energy efficiency with low-cost measures.



Cork

Discovering European Research Night



Anyone interested in learning about the work of scientists had an opportunity in November 2020 to meet researchers virtually. Created by the EU, the event showcased the diversity of science and its impact on citizens' daily lives. It aimed to stimulate an interest among young people in research careers.

More 1:



Cork

Cork University investigates Irish and Armenian Christianity



With EU support, a project investigating early Armenian and Irish Christian identities (the easternmost and westernmost borders of Christendom) is underway in Cork University.



Cork

Urban Development



Crossing the Lee and all its T's

Massive development at Cork Harbour

Cork City Council and its European Partners







Cork

Crossing the Lee and all it's T's



With EU funding, a new bridge crossing the River Lee in Cork is providing a safe and attractive passage for pedestrians and cyclists, helping to make the city more liveable.



Cork

Massive development at Cork Harbour



As Ireland rapidly develops more routes to connect us to Europe, harbours in Cork have become more important. The European Investment Bank supported the development of the new Cork Container Terminal in Ringaskiddy.



Cork

Cork City Council and its European Partners



Cork City Council is engaged as a partner in several European Funded Projects. These projects help to accelerate social and economic innovation activities, enhancing Cork in a sustainable way.



Cork

Culture



Creating a safe and supportive space for artists

European support for Cork Midsummer Festival



Cork

Creating a safe and supportive space for artists



A niche print company in Cork is working with similar studios across Europe to facilitate artists who have experienced displacement. Cork Printmakers fine art printmaking studio is an artists' haven.

More 1:



Cork

European support for Cork Midsummer Festival



The annual Cork Midsummer Festival uses Cork city as its backdrop and inspiration. EUbacked Cork Midsummer Festival and Springboard (a community based family project that strives to ensure positive outcomes for children) are offering an Artist in Residency and Creative Enquiry with Traveller children and their families.





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