

## WHAT IS EUROPE DOING FOR... Your County



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





Kerry

### 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



## MUNSTER

## KERRY

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## Kerry

## Environment



Agriculture & Rural Development

**Research and Innovation** 

Tourism

Education

# Kerry

## Environment

Sustainable farming in the MacGillycuddy Reeks

Cape Clear Island cleans up

**Fishing for litter** 

# Kerry

### Sustainable farming in the MacGillycuddy Reeks



A voluntary agri-environmental project is open to all farmers living within the MacGillycuddy Reeks area. This project aims to improve the sustainability and support the economic viability of farming in the MacGillycuddy Reeks, which is designated by the EU as a Special Area of Conservation.

> More 1: More 2:

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## Cape Clear Island cleans up



Islands off the coast of Ireland are set to become more selfsufficient, prosperous and sustainable, thanks to a clean energy initiative. The Aran Islands and Cape Clear are amongst 26 islands across Europe taking part in an ambitious project to transition to clean energy sources.



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### **Fishing for litter**



Fishermen in Castletownbere and Dingle 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.



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### Agriculture & Rural Development



**Support for Kerry Farmers** 

Forging a success in Churchill

**The Pearl Mussel Project** 

Sustainable farming on the Aran Islands

## Kerry

## **Support for Kerry Farmers**



Irish Agriculture received EU support worth over €1.7 billion in 2020. In Kerry, basic payments to farmers alone amounted to over €67.7 million in 2019, with an average payment of €8,937 per recipient.

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Kerry

# Forging a success



The Forge Project in Churchill won one of the three awards in the 'Celebrating the impact of Leader on Rural Communities' search for Ireland's most popular rural development project. The Spa Fenit Community Council acquired a derelict forge and used EU Leader funding to restore the building as a tourist attraction.



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## The Pearl Mussel Project



With EU support, a project based in Kenmare is spearheading the protection of the endangered fresh water pearl mussel.

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### Sustainable farming on the Aran Islands



The biodiversity of the Aran Island was under threat as many farmers have been forced to abandon or reduce their farming activity, resulting in a serious decline in the condition of the valuable habitat types. An award winning EU-funded project has reversed this and is saving the islands' unique habitats.

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### **Research and Innovation**

## HORIZ N 2020

Listowel cheese maker enriches Selenium project

New Research and Development Hub in Kilorglin

Putting Irish companies at the forefront of the AgriTech industry

# Kerry

### Listowel cheese maker enriches Selenium project



Micronutrients are essential for maintaining a good human health, and although they are needed in only trace amounts, deficiencies reportedly affect 3 billion people worldwide. One of such micronutrients is selenium. An organic cheese maker company based in Listowel is helping EU researchers enrich diary products to help solve this problem.

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### New Research and Development Hub in Kilorglin



Irish-international fintech company, Fexco opened a new building in Killorglin, which houses its own Research Development and Innovation Centre. Part of the building was donated by Fexco to become the Hub. The Hub is a collaborative project between Fexco, Institute of Technology Tralee and Kerry County Council with EU support.

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### Putting Irish companies at the forefront of the AgriTech industry



The AgriTech Centre of Excellence is an initiative that has gained traction recently to address some of the challenges faced by Ireland's AgriTech Sector. With EU support, the centre offers a new and exciting approach to learning and development, through e-learning and virtual reality.

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## Tourism



### **EU 'Live' Project**

The Kerry Way App

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### Hidden gem wins Destination of Excellence Award



An EU-funded 3-year natural heritage tourism programme involving the creation of an ecomuseum (outdoor museum) will greatly complement the cultural heritage in Kerry by using natural heritage as a tourism asset.

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### The Kerry way App



Kerry draws on its proud storytelling tradition to make the most of its rich heritage through smart tourism. The EUfunded Kerry Way App can be downloaded for free and covers 7 stages of the Kerry Way walking route. It has a range of Points of Interest identified with photographs and information for the walker, as well as short stories from individuals living along the route.



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## **Education**

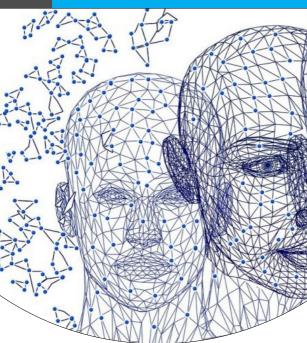


**Conquering bias in the** workplace

**Stories on Healthcare** 

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## Conquering bias in the workplace



Tralee Institute of Technology is involved in a European project that is helping local SME's to find new talent.

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### **Stories on Healthcare**



A European project that aims to humanise healthcare education through storytelling is currently underway at Tralee Institute of Technology.

More 1:



### THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION REPRESENTATION IN IRELAND

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