

What kind of projects should be considered?

The SEUPB Guidelines sets out clear parameters for delivery under each of Louth's three target areas;
Children and Young People

Shared Spaces and Services

Building Positive Relations

Projects should be practical, contribute to the programme's results and deliver the agreed outputs of the strategic objectives.

Specific Objective 2: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Good relations interventions, citizenship interventions and increase respect for diversity are the cornerstones for proposed projects. Enhancing the capacity of children and young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society is emphasised. The Peace action plans are asked to bring about positive change to young people in the age between 0-24 years who would benefit from good relations interventions (programme target 21,000).




Children and Young People: Indicative Actions

Guidelines note that indicative actions to be funded could include:

- Inclusive local community youth initiatives involving sport, arts, culture, language and the environment that promote positive relations through addressing issues of trust, prejudice and intolerance;
- Age appropriate actions that address sectarianism and racism;
- Youth centred initiatives that address anti-social behaviour;
- Creation of opportunities for young people from different tradition, cultural background or political opinion to meet and develop positive relationships;
- Youth leadership and citizenship programmes that build capacity for a shared society;
- Short-term diversionary activities at times of high community tension such as residential or sporting activity, where these form part of a longer term relationship building programme.

Children and Young People: Result indicators

The result indicators at programme level for the children and young people theme are:

-  An increase in the percentage of 16 year olds who socialize or play sport with people from a different religious community very often' from 43% to 50%, 'sometimes' 24% to 28%.
-  An increase in the percentage of 16 year olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago from 45% to 50%.
-  An increase in the percentage of 16 year olds who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time from 38% to 45%.

Specific Objective 3: SHARED SPACES AND SERVICES

The creation of a more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services. The Programme aims to bring about the following changes:

- New shared civic spaces that will be used by all sections of the community; this will involve changes in both attitudes and behaviour with a corresponding reduction in segregation.
- Existing civic spaces developed and managed in a manner that respects the rights, equality and diversity of all. The change will be reflected in how parades, flags, emblems, graffiti and other related issues impact on the public space.

The programmes will promote a number of actions:

- New spaces with a transformative effect on local areas;
- Developing the shared aspect of existing neighbourhoods, public spaces and buildings;

Projects may include activities that contribute to an enhancement of the environment in local communities e.g. the enhancement of existing urban infrastructure or natural spaces. In some cases, activities may include managing dialogue, reconciliation and capacity building between interface communities; leading to the creation of a shared vision and conditions where communities feel it is safe and appropriate to proceed with the removal of interface barriers in their area.




Shared Spaces and Services: Indicative Actions

Indicative actions for the *Shared Space and Services* Specific Objective might include:

- Programming initiatives designed to facilitate maximum and sustained levels of shared usage within these new developments;
- Public/Community partnerships and facilitation for programme activities for shared space;
- Protocol development programmes to facilitate greater collaboration between people and places;
- Regeneration activities to remove/replace sectarian graffiti, flags and emblems;
- Capital developments in both urban and rural settings which are and accessed by the whole community and treated as shared spaces welcoming and open to all.

Shared Spaces and Services: Result indicators

Three result indicators have been identified:

-  The percentage of people who would define the neighbourhood where they live as neutral; from 64%: always or most of the time to 68% and from 22%: sometimes to 26%.
-  The percentage of people who would prefer to live in a neighbourhood with people of only their own religion; from 20% to 16%.
-  The percentage of people who prefer to live in a mixed religion environment; from 71% to 75%.

Specific Objective 4: BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONS

The promotion of positive relations characterised by respect, and where cultural diversity is celebrated and people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.

- The Programme will provide opportunities for sustained, meaningful and purposeful contact between individuals and groups of different backgrounds in urban and more isolated rural areas and on a cross border basis. Through this contact the Programme will result in a reduction in isolation, polarisation, division, prejudice, sectarianism, racism and stereotypes between/among groups.
- The Programme will pay particular attention to minority groups and groups who traditionally have been marginalised in society so that opportunities will be created that allow for a greater degree of participation and integration in society. Building on the experience of previous programmes, the development of strong local partnerships will be supported.
- The development of cross border relationships will be encouraged and facilitated. The Programme will support actions to ensure the full participation of women in leadership and local initiatives. The Programme will also result in high level of engagement and inclusion of all target groups in reconciliation activities, through ensuring a balance between local and regional initiatives, including cross border initiatives.




Building Positive Relations: Indicative Actions

SEUP notes that Indicative actions could include:

- The development of strong inclusive civic leadership, including increasing the capacity of marginalised groups to participate in peace and reconciliation activities;
- Conflict resolution and mediation at a local level;
- Sport, arts, culture including Irish and Ulster Scots language and environment projects e.g. the enhancement of existing urban infrastructure or natural spaces that promote positive relations through addressing issues of trust, prejudice and intolerance;
- Projects to facilitate personal interaction between residents and groups from divided neighbourhoods;
- Events linked to the decade of commemorations that explore history in a sensitive manner and build mutual understanding.

Building Positive Relations: Results indicators

Three indicators have been highlighted:

-  An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics are better than they were 5 years ago from 45% to 52%.
-  An increase in the percentage of people who think relations between Protestants and Catholics will be better in 5 years' time from 40% to 48%.
-  An increase in the percentage of people who know quite a bit about the culture of some minority ethnic communities from 30% to 38%.

Themes: Additional information

In all cases, projects will be inclusive in nature and will ensure meaningful, purposeful and sustained contact between people of different backgrounds, and which have the capacity to change attitudes and behaviour. Initiatives should evidence a direct commitment to tackling real and complex issues, such as sectarianism and racism.

Who are the Target Groups?

All projects will involve people from diverse backgrounds. Cross-border activity will be supported and facilitated. The Programme will particularly support actions to facilitate the full participation of women in local initiatives and should also include targeting those groups particularly impacted by the legacy of the troubles/conflict, such as victims and survivors, those communities with social low capital, and those identifiable groups and networks dealing with specific legacy issues. For example, young and older people, women, the faith community, victims and survivors, those suffering from physical or mental disability arising from the legacy of violence, ex-prisoners, displaced persons and former members of the security forces.

How will projects be assessed?

A two stage assessment process will be used to determine the success of any application. The following criteria will be used to assess all applications:

1. The results and outputs of any application must be in line with the results and outputs of the Programme. (These will be detailed in the call for applications).
2. The Programme encourages cross-border co-operation, however projects can be implemented in one jurisdiction where they are aligned to the results and outputs of the Programme.
3. Applicants must be able to show evidence of good corporate governance and partnership arrangements.
4. Applications must have a high quality of project design in terms of pre-planning and implementation.
5. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that their project represents value for money. The project must contribute to sustainable development and equality.