

Cork County Council – EU Project Overview



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Cork County Council

19th March 2025
INTERREG NPA Visit



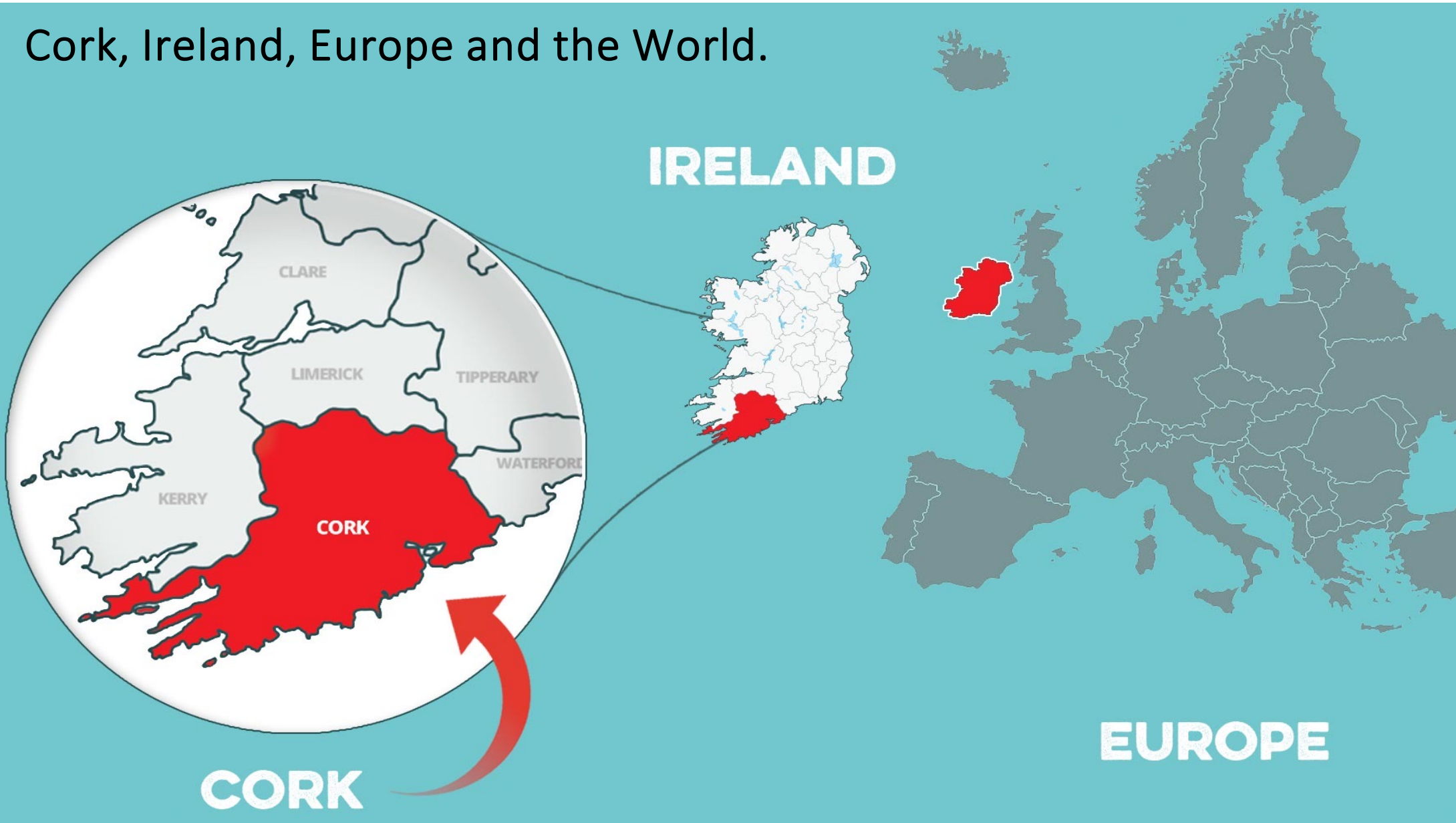
Context



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Cork, Ireland, Europe and the World.





Cork Key Facts

- **Ireland's largest County** - Population - (2022 Census) 581,231– including Cork City population of 222,000 (2022 Census)
- **1,100kms of coastline** – 19% of national coastline.
- **11% geographical area of ROI**
- **Cork International Airport** –2.7 million estimated by year end. **Connectivity to Hub Airports** in London, Amsterdam, and Paris.
- **Modern Infrastructure Connectivity**
- **Cork is home to 8 Islands** – 7 of which are inhabited

Cork County Council

- Cllr. Joe Carroll: Mayor of County Cork.
- Ms Moira Murrell: Chief Executive.

- Established 1899
- 55 Member Council

- 2,147 Employees
- 3 Divisions
- 8 Municipal Districts



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What do we do?



- Local Government - Representative Role
- A multi-purpose body responsible for delivering a broad range of services in relation to:
Housing, Roads, the Environment, Planning, Economic & Community Development, Recreation & Amenity Facilities, Fire Service and Traffic.
- **No** Police, Health, Education Role

Why Get involved!!!!!!!!!!!!



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EU Funding Streams for CCC (2021-2027)

Horizon

- ★ Horizon Europe
- ★ LIFE

INTERREG

- ★ INTERREG Europe
- ★ INTERREG NPA
- ★ INTERREG AA
- ★ INTERREG NWE

SME Competitiveness

- ★ COSME

Education & Research

- ★ ERASMUS +

Cultural Heritage

- ★ Creative Europe

Interreg  Co-funded by
the European Union

Northern Periphery and Arctic



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2021 – 2027 Priorities

11 objectives simplified and consolidated to 5:

- ★ **A Smarter Europe** – Research, Innovative and a Transformation to a Smart Economy.
- ★ **A Greener, Low-Carbon Europe** - Including Energy Transition, the Circular Economy, Climate Adaptation and Risk Management.
- ★ **A More Connected Europe** - Mobility and ICT Connectivity.
- ★ **A More Social Europe** - The European Pillar of Social Rights.
- ★ **A Europe Closer to Citizens** - Sustainable Development of Urban, Rural & Coastal Areas and Local Initiatives.



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Reasons for Co-Financed Projects

For the EU

- ★ Promote co-operation.
- ★ Promote social cohesion.
- ★ Testing the impact and effectiveness of proposed policy interventions.
- ★ Promote sharing of research, learning and experience.
- ★ Shared strategy to achieve goals and objectives.
- ★ Response to economic conditions and promote innovation, clustering and entrepreneurialism.
- ★ **EU will issue calls for very specific proposals.**



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Reasons for Participating in Co-Financed Projects for CCC

- ★ Projects align with our delivery of core services.
- ★ Projects help us to build capacity in new and existing areas e.g. Housing, Tourism, Clustering
- ★ Provide added value to existing services e.g. LEOs, SME Supports
- ★ Transfer of Best Practise and Learnings e.g. Energy Efficiency, Coastal Erosion, Tourism
- ★ Financial Support for Innovation and Economic Development e.g. Small / Medium Piloting projects
- ★ Support available for Financial / Programme / Project management
- ★ A champions is required.
- ★ Will there be a legacy?
- ★ Support strategic stakeholders. ✘



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Strategic Stakeholders

- ★ Third Level Institutes: UCC & MTU
- ★ Research Centres: Tyndall, Nimbus, MaREI
- ★ Clusters: Energy-Cork, Tech Industry Alliance
- ★ CARO and Climate Action Team
- ★ Cork Educational Training Board (CETB)
- ★ Provide Test Beds, Living Labs, Demonstrator Sites



Our Projects

Projects Completed (2014 -2022/23)

- ★ Elighthouse (INTERREG NPA)
- ★ Destination SME (INTERREG Europe)
- ★ Cutler (Horizon 2020)
- ★ ProtoAtlantic (INTERREG Atlantic Area)
- ★ Delta Lady (INTERREG Europe)

New Projects (2022 -20027)

- ★ AA-AGORA (HorEur)
- ★ BIOSENSEI (HorEur)
- ★ HYBES (INTERREG NPA)
- ★ Bauhaus Goes North (INTERREG NPA)
- ★ CDR Europe (INTERREG Europe)

New projects to Commence (2025)

- ★ QUEEN (INTERREG Europe)
- ★ PROSPERO (INTERREG Europe)

Current Applications

- ★ UPWELLING – (INTERREG Atlantic Area)



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Barriers



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Barriers to to the uptake of project outputs!!!!!!

- ★ **Lack of strong supporting strategic policy**
- ★ **Funding & Managing Expectation**
- ★ **Political/Policy change can lead to change of focus.**
- ★ **The urgent pushing out the important**
- ★ **The lack of a Champion (Internally and Externally)**
- ★ **Staffing change**
- ★ **Etc.....**



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Overcoming the Barriers

★ Two examples of success.

1. Energy monitoring Under INTERREG NPA
2. ICZM & Biodiversity Restoration under INTERREG Europe & Horizon

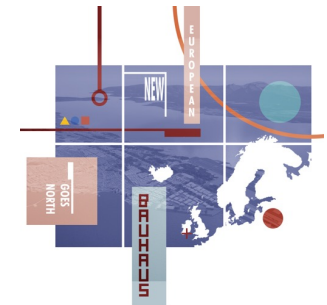
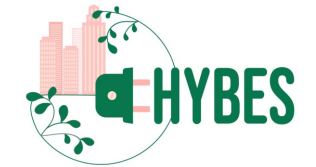
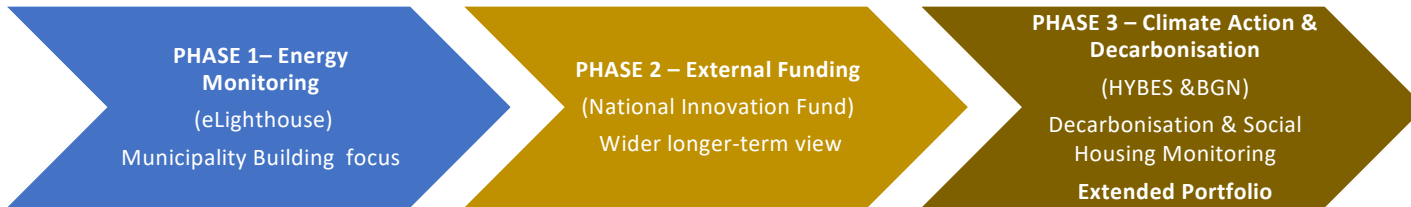


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Example 1: Energy Monitoring & Efficiency

- Expert Couplet (CCC & MTU) Informal arrangement in approx. 2012/13 (12 Years+)
- Formulate and influence energy monitoring Innovation leading to Climate action and Decarbonisation



Example 2: ICZM & Biodiversity Restoration



- Expert Couplet(CCC&UCC) Informal arrangement in 2001/02 (20 years +)
- Formulate and influence strategic policy – Mission Restore our Oceans & Waters



Networking



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ERRIN Network



Key Aims of the European Regional Research and Innovation Network

- ★ Facilitate collaboration and consortium building.
- ★ Facilitate capacity building in strategic areas of interest e.g. economic development, climate adaptation, clustering etc.
- ★ Strategic working groups to target collaboration.
- ★ Learning network to improve knowledge and understanding of EU programme calls and aims
- ★ Advice and assistance.



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Irish Regions European Office (IREO)



- ★ Focused on supporting members of the Committee of the Regions.
- ★ Facilitate study visits to Brussels, meetings with EU & Irish officials, MEPs and experts.
- ★ Facilitate opportunities to showcase Cork County Council at the EU (*Week of Regions and Cities; Green Week, Energy Week.*)
- ★ Information Briefings.



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EFFORTS



Mission of the European Federation of Fortified Sites:

- ★ Share expertise, promote cooperation and emphasise the significance of fortified heritage
- ★ Facilitate capacity building in strategic areas of interest e.g. economic development, climate adaptation, Tourism etc.
- ★ Use fortified heritage as a vehicle for environmental, social, economic and spatial development, contributing to the EU's goals in climate change adaptation.
- ★ Promote the preservation and re-use of fortified heritage
- ★ Develop opportunities for strengthening the intercultural and international dialogue to facilitate collaboration and consortium building



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'Explore Cork' app

A sustainable digital marketing tool to support the tourism sector.

- **Launched by Cork County Council in May 2021** to further digitisation of the marketing of Cork as a tourism destination **both domestically & internationally.**

DOWNLOAD THE EXPLORE CORK APP

Donerally Court **Kinsale** **Mizen Head**

DOWNLOAD THE EXPLORE CORK APP FOR YOUR VISIT TO CORK

A unique, one-stop-shop tourism app, featuring over 850 places to see and things to do in Cork, Ireland.

9:41
Explore Cork
by CO
RK

Rahmhaigh Gaasge
Choose English
Wahle Deutsch
Choisissez le Français

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A Cork County Council Initiative

WILD ATLANTIC WAY
IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST
Ireland's Hidden HEARTLANDS

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THANK YOU

DARRAGH O'SUILLEABHAIN

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGIC
PLANNING
CORK COUNTY COUNCIL**

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