

LEADER
€5,910
Grant aid

Sub-theme: Rural Tourism & Recreation

LEADER funding supported the purchase of equipment for hosting the Sligo Chess Tournament 2025, which contributed to rural tourism in Sligo.



LEADER
€6,278
Grant aid

Lusk Youth Podcast Project

Sub-theme: Rural Youth



Youth engagement project received LEADER support to purchase equipment for their social media podcasting.

Midland Karting

LEADER
€112,512
Grant aid

Sub-theme: Enterprise Development

LEADER support helped Midland Karting resurface the karting track and undertake maintenance works which will help them maintain and grow their customer base.



LEADER grant aid supports a broad variety of enterprises and community groups, the below list is a sample of project/applicant categories that are generally eligible for funding:

- Community centres
- SME support
- Sports/recreation facilities
- Feasibility studies
- Training
- Improved access to ICT
- Community gardens
- Tourism accommodation
- Food production
- Smart villages
- Bio and circular economies
- Social enterprises
- Festivals
- Solar panels
- Tourist attractions
- Farm diversification
- Marketing
- Biodiversity initiatives
- Youth clubs
- Playgrounds

LEADER funding checklist for promoters

Throughout the application process, project promoters must:

- ✓ adhere to the EU Regulations, 2023-2027 LEADER Operating Rules, and Local Development Strategy
- ✓ ensure compliance with all statutory requirements, e.g. procurement rules, local planning regulations, etc.
- ✓ inform the LAG of any unforeseen changes that arise with the approved project
- ✓ comply with information and publicity requirements for LEADER funded projects
- ✓ retain and provide all necessary documentation for inspections and/or audit purposes
- ✓ operate as funded for five years from the date of final LEADER grant payment
- ✓ remain in contact with the LEADER Project Development Officer



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Arna chomhchistiú ag An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta
Co-funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

**Ár dTodhchaí
Tuaithe**
Our Rural
Future



Ama chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by
the European Union

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

2023 - 2027
LEADER
Programme
Examples of projects



LEADER themes and sub-themes

The case studies and examples listed in this leaflet illustrate LEADER programme support to rural communities under the following themes and sub-themes:

Theme 1 - Economic Development and Job Creation

- The Green Economy
- Agricultural Diversification
- Rural Tourism & Recreation
- Enterprise Development
- Rural Food Production
- Social, Community & Cooperative Enterprises

Theme 2 - Rural Infrastructure & Social Inclusion

- Rural Infrastructure
- Accessible Services
- Optimising Digital Connectivity
- Rural Youth

Theme 3 - Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

- Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment
- Climate Change Capacity Building
- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

How to apply for LEADER funding

Prospective applicants should contact their Local Action Group (LAG) through its Implementing Partner (where applicable) to register an expression of interest and discuss the eligibility of a project proposal and the funding that may be available.

All information pertaining to LEADER, including LAG contact details, is available online:

www.gov.ie/LEADER



LEADER

Forbairt á stiúradh ag pobail áitiúla
Development led by local communities

Dooleys Wool



Location: Offaly

Sub-theme: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Received LEADER funding to purchase a new energy efficient wool baler that not only reduces the company's emissions but more efficiently wraps and ties the bales of wool.

LEADER
€72,910
Grant aid

LEADER
€31,482
Grant aid



Ben's Eggs

Location: Cavan

Sub-theme: Enterprise Development

Ben's Eggs supplies fresh free-range eggs directly to consumers using egg vending machines. LEADER funding was used to purchase four egg vending machines and one egg printer machine for this start-up business.

Old Carrick Mill

Location: Monaghan

Sub-theme: Rural Food Production

LEADER funding supported the purchase of a new filling unit that delivers greater output and reduces running costs of the distillery.

LEADER
€37,125
Grant aid

Garden Design Principles for Biodiversity Training

LEADER
€14,822
Grant aid

Location: Louth

Sub-theme: Climate Change Capacity Building

This course provided a structured approach to teaching garden design principles that promote biodiversity to participants over three evenings in three locations in Co. Louth. Each session included a mix of lectures, interactive activities, and group discussions to ensure participants gained practical knowledge and skills.



- ✓ Garden Design Basics
- ✓ Understanding Biodiversity
- ✓ The Role of Native Plants
- ✓ Analysing your Garden Space

Illies Community Development Association Renewable Power

LEADER
€14,386
Grant aid

Location: Donegal

Sub-theme: Sustainable Development of Rural Environment

The installation of solar panels on a community centre aligns with the objectives in Donegal for LEADER funding to support the upgrade and development of rural infrastructure to underpin environmental sustainability.

