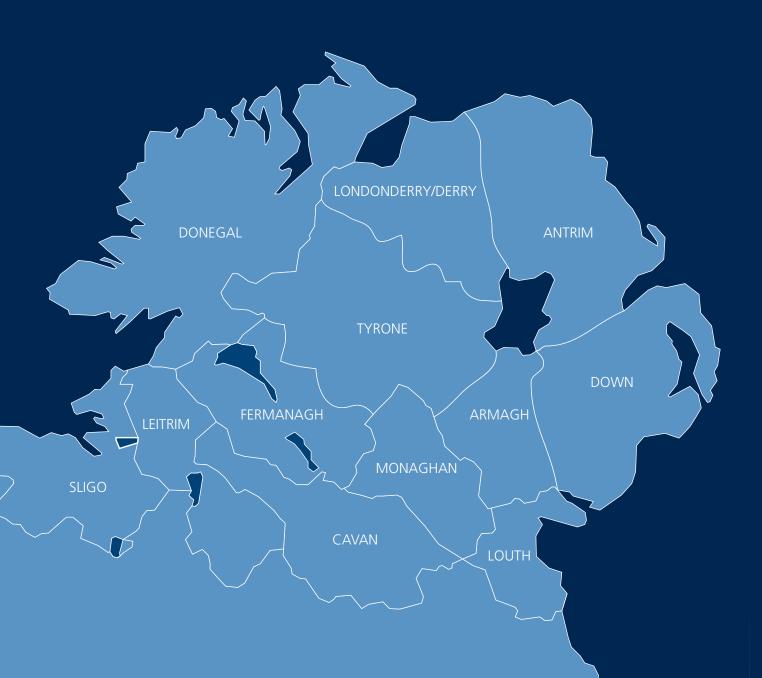




## Removing barriers to a lasting peace Annual Report & Accounts 2018

### OUR KEY PRIORITIES

Developing and funding initiatives that tackle segregation and promote integration to build a lasting peace in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties of Ireland.





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RIGHT: An interface on Lanark Way in West Belfast.

COVER: MAIN IMAGE: A PSNI landrover closes a road following a criminal incident.

SECONDARY IMAGE: A paramilitary mural situated in East Belfast. IIIIIIIIIII

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# Chairman's Foreword

While the year saw many challenges with the continued suspension of the NI Executive and the concerns for our projects around the issue of Brexit it has also been a year of many success stories and progress for the International Fund for Ireland.



The Fund continues to work with grassroots communities still living with the legacy of our past. This continues to be the focus for the Fund no matter what the challenge might be. Our Peace Impact Programme (PIP), Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) and Peace Walls Programme (PWP) have been a remarkable source of resilience and support over the last year.

Regrettably, ongoing uncertainty around Brexit and the lack of a governing Executive in Northern Ireland are putting pressure on a range of service provisions, which in turn affects communities across Northern Ireland, particularly those most deprived and isolated in society. A new sense of uncertainty is also being experienced within the border counties, unsure of how Brexit will affect its surrounding communities. We have already seen those opposed to reconciliation use Brexit as an opportunity to encourage paramilitary recruitment at a time when projects are working hard to provide peaceful alternatives. We must ensure that communities that display considerable leadership are supported so this does not occur. Partnership and collaboration are vital to ensure communities who have started on the path to peace do not get derailed.

Funding for many public services and projects in NI has been postponed or even cancelled due to the absence of a NI Executive. This has severely impacted on communities as local projects have struggled or wound up due to the loss of funding and it is local residents who are typically



left to continue reconciliation efforts. The Fund has been a consistent presence of community support for over 30 years. This current impasse highlights the continued need for the Fund, an independent international organisation, and its journey towards lasting peace. We cannot do this on our own. Support is needed from statutory agencies and Government to ensure the good work that these communities have undertaken is not lost.

Our projects have continued to progress and grow, paving the way for other communities to start their journey towards reconciliation and peace building. We have seen some incredible stories and inspirational peace makers in our projects over the last 12 months. Groups who have dealt with difficult issues and conflict, have engaged with each other to get a better understanding of each other's perspectives and find a way to live together.

Almost 50 years since the first Peace Wall was erected, there remains a significant number of physical structures acting as symbols of continued sectarian division and segregation within communities. The role of our Peace Walls Programme (PWP), now in its 7th year, is primarily to build community capacity and confidence in and between interface communities, aimed at reaching agreement around barrier alteration or removal. At present there are six PWP Projects and these have all made significant progress in opening a dialogue in their communities about the possible removal of barriers, something many within these MAIN: The Chairman of the Fund pictured at a recent Board Meeting in Limavady.

ABOVE LEFT: Stewart McClean, Project co-ordinator, Newtowncunningham Community Outreach Project welcomes Dr. Adrian Johnston, (left); Chairman of the International Fund for Ireland for the launch of a two-vear cross-border project based in the newly constructed Orange Hall, with Marv Moy, Programme Manager, International Fund for Ireland and Maurice Healy, Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

ABOVE RIGHT: The Chairman discusses the Fund with Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Simon Coveney TD at a Board Meeting in County Louth.



ABOVE: The Chairman engages with Jamie-Lee Mogey and Rodney Champion, both project leaders from a Peace Impact Programme based in Carrickfergus.

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areas would have previously struggled to imagine. We have seen projects make strides towards removing such barriers, working towards a better future despite some difficult tensions faced over the summer.

Our Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP), now in its third year, focuses on building resilience among vulnerable young people who have endured very difficult challenges in their lives. This gives these young people a range of skills and opportunities which allows them to take a positive and active role in their communities. I have been privileged to meet a number of young participants of this programme from right across Northern Ireland and border counties and have witnessed them not only succeed in a range of initiatives but speak openly about their experience – something they themselves would not have contemplated previously.

During the year the Fund has awarded funding to 40 PYDP projects; 28 in NI and 12 in the border counties.

The Fund's Peace Impact Programme (PIP) is aimed at transforming those communities who have not yet committed to reconciliation. In many cases this is due to specific sensitivities within the local community and requires both a knowledge of the area and an understanding as to what intervention will work for this community. The Fund's flexibility allows for a variety of interventions which is important to gain the trust and involvement locally. We have witnessed real progress in areas where PIP has been working. During the year, the Fund awarded funding to 19 projects; 14 in NI and five in the border counties. At present there are over 13,000 participants on the programme and 81% of these participants have reported an increased confidence since taking part. These are small steps, but neccessary in building engagement and reinforcing the belief that sustained reconciliation can be the norm.

During the past 12 months, the Fund has committed £11.4m/€12.8m to communities and we need to continue the task of progressing some of the most important reconciliation work in NI. Although the Fund is fully committed to continuing this work. We need a whole range of partners to get behind those making a difference and to support the work they are doing to help bring about a better life for their communities.

In this Annual Report, you will get to read first hand stories from some of our participants and projects, hearing how the funding has enabled them to make a real difference in their communities and lives. Their stories are powerful and give you a genuine sense of the impact of these projects.

The following are three examples of projects that have been working hard to tackle segregation and promote integration in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties of Ireland. Swanlinbar Development Association, funded through PIP, is using a range of sporting and leisure activities to bring people together and is making a significant impact on a cross-border community ABOVE: Participants and guests attend a project celebration event to hear more about the success and transformation of young lives through the Fund's PYDP Programme.



#### ABOVE: (L-R) Rachel Mullan-Carlin from Bogside and Brandywell Initiative (BBI) joins an event performer and Cllr John Boyle, Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council and Chairman of the International Fund for Ireland, Dr Adrian Johnston at the official Iaunch of the City's Winter Market.



where lives and community relations were seriously affected by the conflict.

Duncairn Community Partnership (DCP), funded through PWP has worked tirelessly to engage with the local community about the removal of physical barriers in North Belfast and the surrounding area. DCP are also testament to the need for partnership, working with the Department for Justice, NI Housing Executive and residents to look at the best options for all who live near these interfaces.

Edgarstown Residents Association is a PYDP project focusing on supporting young people who are at risk of engaging with criminals/paramilitaries in the Portadown area. The project deals with issues of drugs, alcohol abuse, mental health and gambling, working towards educating our young people; and giving them positive alternatives in life.

The Fund continues to play a valuable role in challenging all stakeholders responsible for reconciliation efforts across the Island of Ireland to meet their obligations. The Fund has been active in engaging with senior officials and Ministers highlighting the continued need for support in our communities. We have met with NI Secretary of State Karen Bradley MP and the Irish Tánaiste Simon Coveney TD to highlight the many community concerns that exist. We will continue this positive engagement in the coming year. I also recently met with the new US Consul General Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau and look forward to the continued



support of the Consul General and her colleagues for the work of the Fund.

We remain grateful to our international donors for their support and encouragement. We are particularly fortunate to have representatives from these countries serving as Observers at our Board Meetings, providing valuable insight and guidance.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the Joint Chairs and Members of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Committee for their guidance and advice; and the Secretariat, our Programme Managers, Managing Agents and partners for the extensive time that they devote to ensuring our work can make a meaningful difference.

Finally, this will be the last Annual Report of this current Board. I would like to extend my particular thanks to all of our Board Members for their vision, guidance and unwavering support for the work of the Fund. In particular, to Billy Gamble, Dorothy Clarke and Dr Siobhan Fitzpatrick CBE who will be leaving the Board in February 2019. Their passion for positive change and equality for everyone in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties of Ireland has been a hallmark of their work in the Fund. I thank them for their considerable impact on the advancement of these goals.

Finally, I would call on all partner organisations, political, business and community to come together in the coming months and collaborate to ensure our communities most at risk are provided with the vital support they need to prosper and grow. ABOVE LEFT: The Chairman engages with young participants attending a Peace Walls event in North Belfast.

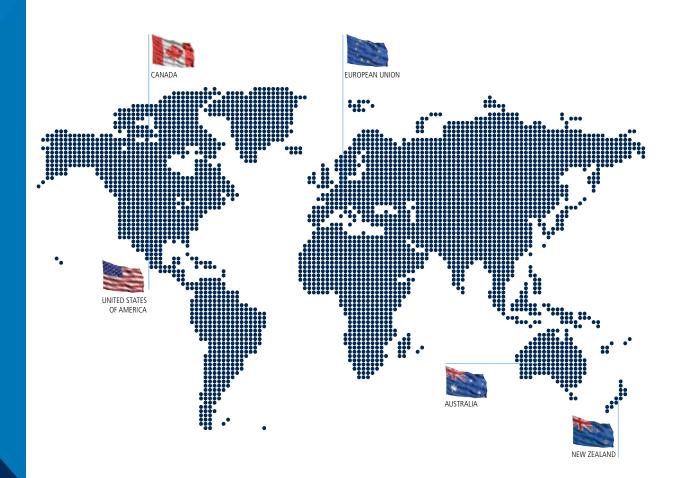
ABOVE RIGHT: Local project leaders from Co Donegal share their groups' experiences with the Chairman at the Fund's Board meeting in February 2018.

## The Board

The Board of the International Fund for Ireland is appointed jointly by the British and Irish governments. Representatives of the United States of America, the European Union, Canada, Australia and New Zealand attend meetings of the Board.

The United States of America, The European Union and governments of Canada, Australia, and New Zealand were represented this year by: Mr Dan Hynes and Ms Stella O'Leary, United States of America; Ms Tamara Pavlin, European Union; Mr Brian Doherty, Canada; His Excellency, Richard Andrews, Australia and His Excellency Sir Jerry Mateparae, New Zealand.

Pictured are (L to R back row) Mr Paddy Harte; Dr Siobhan Fitzpatrick, CBE; Mr Allen McAdam; Mr Billy Gamble; (L to R front row) Ms Dorothy Clarke; Dr Adrian Johnston, Chairman and Mrs Hilary Singleton. The International Fund for Ireland was established as an independent international organisation by the British and Irish governments in 1986. With contributions from the United States of America, the European Union, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, the total resources committed by the Fund to date amount to £740m and €927m.



### THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FUND ARE:

- to promote economic and social advance; and
- to encourage contact, dialogue and reconciliation between Unionists and Nationalists throughout Ireland.

\*THE STERLING/EURO CONVERSION RATE AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 IS APPLIED THROUGHOUT THIS REPORT



## Introduction

The Board of the Fund is appointed jointly by the British and Irish governments. It is assisted by an Advisory Committee comprising of officials appointed by the two governments.

The administration of the Fund is provided by a Secretariat, headed by Joint Directors General, based in Belfast and Dublin. A range of bodies act as Managing Agents for the Fund in Northern Ireland. In addition, the Fund has three Programme Managers, located across the southern border counties, who act as local contact points and assist prospective applicants to identify and develop proposals. They also monitor the ongoing operation of projects, providing assistance as necessary.

This Report, which covers the period 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018, is presented by the Board to the Government of the United Kingdom, the Government of Ireland, the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Fund's donors in accordance with Article 12 of the Agreement of 18 September 1986, as amended, by which the International Fund for Ireland was established. The Fund's Community Consolidation – Peace Consolidation Programmes cluster around four key areas: Peace Walls; Peace Impact; Personal Youth Development and Shared Education. All programmes are characterised by:

- a clear focus on reconciliation as the overriding objective;
- a focus on community transformation rather than conflict management;
- an emphasis on engaging with individuals and communities that have not previously, or only partially, participated in peace building and community development activities;
- an independent and credible approach with strong international backing;
- a cross-community, cross-border approach;
- a willingness to take risks on behalf of local communities;
- early support for community initiatives;
- co-operation with other funders and leverage of funds from other sources;
- a willingness to innovate and to break new ground in support of reconciliation; and
- a responsive approach to donor priorities.

ABOVE: A participant involved with Glasgowbury's PYDP funded 'I AM' (Inclusive Accessible Multimedia) project demonstrates the experience they have gained in recent months.

## Peace Walls Programme

Peace Walls are the most visual remaining symbols of division in Northern Ireland. Today, more than 100 barriers remain mostly in Belfast stretching a distance of 21km.

MAIN: The interface that separates Serpentine Road and Navarra place at Newtownabbey, North Belfast.

#### ABOVE:

Dr Frances Burns, Administrative Data Research Centre from Queens University Belfast, discusses recent research that focuses on the impact Peace Walls have had on resident's mental health.

Launched in January 2012, the Programme focuses on helping interface communities to bring about the conditions that can allow for the removal of Peace Walls. It provides a range of confidence and relationship building initiatives within and between interface communities to help residents arrive at a position where they feel it is safe and appropriate to discuss and consider the removal of Peace Walls in their area.

The programme is designed for communities that have expressed their willingness and readiness to begin building the levels of trust required before starting the process of engaging with statutory authorities about removing the barriers.

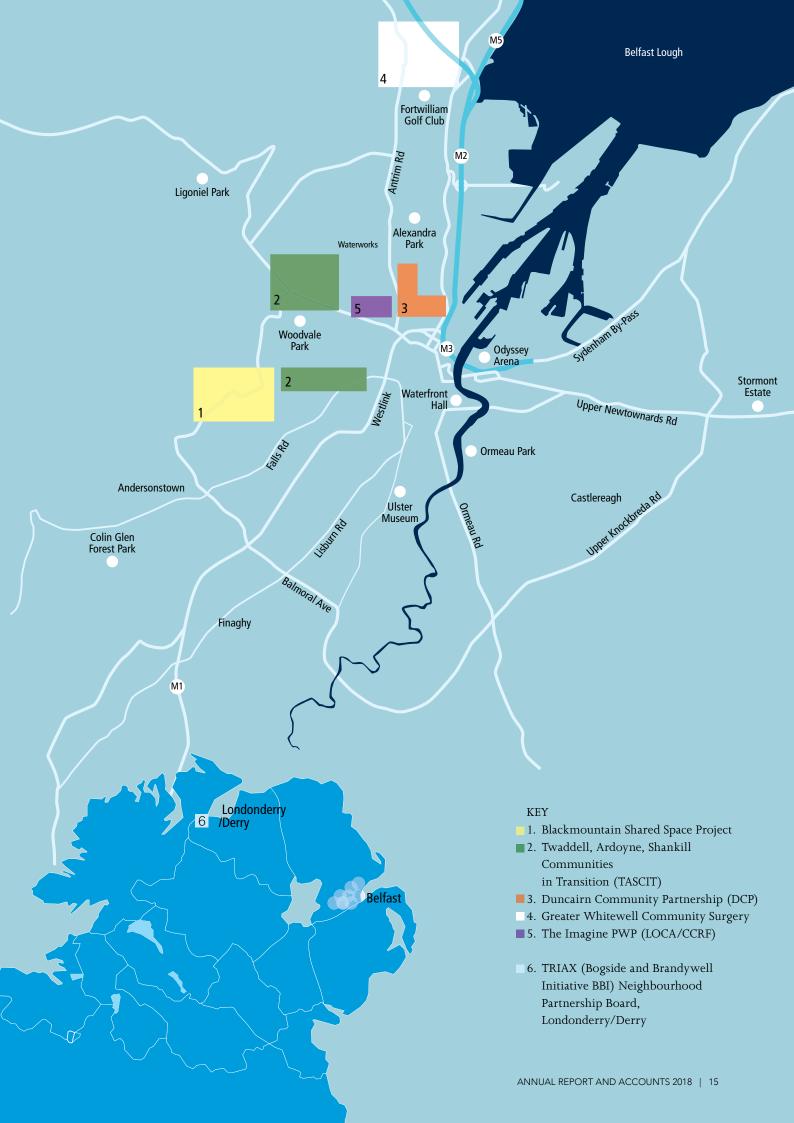
The programme, which was developed by the Fund following consultation with all the key stakeholders, is designed to be the first stage in a process leading to the physical removal of barriers. This includes assisting interface communities to lever financial and political investment from statutory authorities for any associated infrastructure and community regeneration needs when the barriers are removed.





ABOVE: IFI Board Member, Dr Siobhan Fitzpatrick, CBE (front centre) and guest panellists ( L to R) Alex Maskey MLA; Monica McWilliams; Kingsley Donaldson; Harry Graham; Councillor Noreen McClelland and Avila Kilmurray attend an International Peace Day debate in North Belfast examining the Peace Process 20 years on.

LEFT: Black Mountain Shared Space project participants Bernadette McGlade and Joanne Kerr pictured with IFI Board Member Billy Gamble at a celebration event at the Clayton Hotel, Belfast.



## Peace Walls Programme

The Peace Walls Programme is breaking new ground in interface areas and assisting communities to imagine life without barriers.



### BETWEEN JULY 2017 AND JUNE 2018

1670 People involved in site

People involved in site Engaged in **89 INTRA** specific consultations community events



community events







LIFE IN THE SHADOW OF THE PEACE WALLS

ACADEMIC RESEARCH COMPLETED OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS HAS INDICATED THAT:



Nearly **70% of** Troubles-related **murders** took place less than **500 yards** from interface barriers and almost **85%** of the killings occurred within **1,000 yards**.<sup>1</sup>



Each of the neighbourhoods with Peace Walls in Belfast, are in the top **10%** of the most socially and economically deprived electoral wards in Northern Ireland.<sup>2</sup>



There is a higher incidence of **mental health problems** for those living in closest **proximity to the walls**.<sup>3</sup>



There is a **correlation between the Peace Walls** and the local communities' ability to access services, **low levels of educational attainment** and **unemployment**.<sup>4</sup>

1. Shirlow, P. and Murtagh, B. (2006) Belfast – Segregation, violence and the city

- 2. Byrne, J. Gormley Heenan, C. and Robinson, G. (2012) Attitudes to Peace Walls
- 3. O'Reilly, D (2011) Give my head peace: psychotropic drug uptake around the 'peace lines' in Northern Ireland, Journal of Epidemiology
- and Community Health, Vol 65, Issue Supplement 2
- 4. Hall, M. (2010) Death by Postcode (Island Pamphlets No.94), Newtownabbey: Island Publications



## Twaddell Ardoyne Shankill Communities in Transition (TASCIT)

Representatives from the Twaddell, Ardoyne, Upper Ardoyne and Woodvale/Shankill Communities make up the TASCIT partnership which is committed to improving community confidence and help people develop relationships at a pace that suits them.

ABOVE: Local children enjoy TASCIT's family fun day, which had a range of activities to take part in. Forcing people to become friends doesn't work so TASCIT aims to improve community relations by using good communication, compromise and understanding to build relationships across traditional divides.

Over the last year improving community confidence, managing expectations and listening to people has helped make progress in areas of Belfast, which suffered greatly during the conflict.

Their staff work with both sides of the community and understand the hesitancy of some to engage with this challenging work. There needs to be time given to build trust and relationships.

Rab McCallum, TASCIT coordinator says: "Work takes place at different rates because we have different perspectives to consider." "For one community an issue might seem more of a challenge than for the other so we don't set the agenda, we articulate what communities are saying and try to negotiate to find a way forward."

"It often takes creativity and compromise to find a way through."

Good relations work is continuing on the Crumlin Road where a Peace Wall came down on the Nationalist side and, on the other side of the road in the Rosebank Street area, there are ongoing structural and environmental improvement changes too.

"An access gate being put into one of the openings in the current boundary wall has been delayed but we are hoping that work begins again shortly," Rab said.





"The gate will then be installed, and conversations about opening it up as a pedestrian access gate will begin to see if progress can be made in the coming year."

The lack of an agreed Aftercare Package for communities needs to be resolved by the Department of Justice (DoJ) so that more progress can be made on security issues associated with interfaces.

"Residents living beside Peace Wall structures need to feel safe in their homes if security grills are to be removed from windows or security structures reduced. An Aftercare Package would help allay fears and improve quality of life for those living with existing security structures."

In the absence of this or sufficient budget to enable progress, physical change has been slow. The project focuses then on confidence building, bringing people together through events, trips and documenting experiences.

IFI funding supports those who live closest to the structures where people want to see change. Securing additional funding beyond the immediate interface complements this Peace Walls work by developing wider understanding and engagement.

"Everybody hopes as we move forward that this work can be done collectively. We often have to consider four different perspectives on things. We then have to find a way of moving forward that doesn't make things even more divisive. We can't impose solutions."

Plans for the future include continuing to encourage positive engagement and working with people to make the time right for change.

Over the last year people have been stepping outside their comfort zones, seeing issues from the perspectives of the others, taking part in courses and committing to further interaction.

Rab adds: "If we'd had these conversations 30 years ago, we wouldn't have been where we were. These people have had very volatile relationships in the past but at least we are now talking about the creation of those divisions – these are challenging and difficult conversations but they are happening. All of that is very heartening to me.

"We constantly have people making reference to how their experiences with us have helped. We are seeing that generally. People are more relaxed."

"Physical change in areas is even better again, but it takes time and relationship building is vital to ensure this. It also takes the statutory bodies with responsibility for delivering change to be working with us – to step up to the plate. It can't be done without them." ABOVE LEFT: The brick wall that separated Nationalist and Unionists homes on Belfast's Crumlin Road was replaced with railings and landscaped greenery in 2016 as part of ongoing efforts to remove the physical divisions of the past.

ABOVE RIGHT: Building trust and understanding experiences from both communities is an important part of what TASCIT is trying to achieve through its work.



## Duncairn Community Partnership

Building relationships between communities living in interface areas has been taking place in North Belfast over the last year to the benefit of both communities.

Duncairn Community Partnership (DCP) is supported by the IFI's Peace Walls Programme, which works to help local residents reach a position where they are comfortable with dialogue around the removal of Peace Walls in their area.

DCP's manager Ciarán Shannon says the best way to measure progress is by attendance at events, which bring young people, senior citizens and families together across the traditional divides.

Attendance has been consistent for some events, growing in others and watching new relationships form and established relationships further develop has been evident, as the year has progressed. Recently a resident from Parkside, who had been at DCP's International Peace Day event, sadly passed away.

"Someone from Tigers Bay sent a card over with some money in it to the family. It's wee things like that that make it all worthwhile – those human stories," says Ciarán.

The International Peace Day event saw residents who live close to Alexandra Park gather and mix together for a tasty, sit down Sunday lunch.

"It sounds simple but it is all about getting relationships started, maintaining them, making people feel more comfortable in each other's company and then working to help them consider changes to the physical structures, which divide them. When the potential for change is tapped into, progress is made."

DCP is working with the Department of Justice (DoJ), the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and residents in North Queen Street who have agreed to remove a big, unsightly fence that was put up to protect houses during sectarian conflict of the past.

### ABOVE:

IFI Chairman, Dr Adrian Johnston; John Loughran, event Panel Chair and Duncairn Community Partnership's Manager Ciarán Shannon discuss the challenges and current provision around mental health in interface areas.





A challenge for the project is statutory agencies having different concepts of timescale to residents. There is a real danger of losing momentum if residents, such as at the North Queen Street site, agree to changes but bureaucracy and red-tape then mean fast-tracking delivery cannot take place. Often even small physical changes take two to three years to deliver, causing frustration for local residents, especially when the Agencies require further rounds of consultation on the same issues.

Every six weeks DCP's Programme Reference Group sees representatives meet up with council staff, church leaders, police, statutory bodies and others to see what we can do to move on.

Big achievements in two locations include North Queen Street and Parkside Gardens where there is agreement from residents to remove fences but delivery is slow and is out of the hands of the PWP groups who don't have the finances or the responsibility for physical changes.

Good progress, maybe 80% so far, Ciarán says, is happening in Alexandra Park, and at the Hillman Court barrier, there is an agreed visioning process to take to residents to transform that fence.

Seasonal holidays provide opportunities to reduce tensions and deliver even more cross-community work. Ciarán recalls a St Patrick's Day event for seniors from New Lodge, which is mainly Catholic and Tigers Bay, which is predominantly Protestant. The New Lodge residents did not want to upset Loyalist Tigers Bay residents by arriving into their area for the event dressed in green.

"New Lodge ones were being very sensitive and not wanting to upset people by wearing green," he said.

"There was some laugh when they went into the venue in Tiger's Bay and all the women there had green, white and orange bows around the place!"

Ciarán hopes work can continue with DoJ to speed up change of physical interfaces, with further progress to support communities for the long-term. It is challenging work often opposed by those who want the status quo to remain.

"A challenge for us is that there are still people on both sides who don't want to see positive change. They try to stymie the work we are doing but, for us, we just put our heads down and get on with it because residents deserve better." ABOVE LEFT: Kate Clarke from DCP enjoys a tea party dance that local residents from both Catholic and Protestant communities now regularly attend.

ABOVE RIGHT: Proposed changes to transform the fence at the Hillman Court Barrier, North Belfast.



### Imagine Peace Walls Project

Genuine relationships have been built up between North Belfast communities in the Lower Oldpark and Lower Cliftonville areas of the city over the last year.

ABOVE: Local women embarked upon a 10-week programme with architects to design an innovative 3D model, which looks at how the area could be redeveloped to benefit the whole community. Project coordinator Sarah Lorimer says the resident-led scheme to improve the appearance of the area is making great strides as it gives residents the opportunities to have their voices heard and develop Good Relations across the Peace Walls.

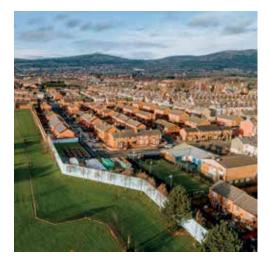
Since 2014, robust community consultation, relationship building and creating attitudinal change for the reduction, removal and declassification of interface barriers has been ongoing.

Engaging with the women and a youth project on a 10-week programme with architects regarding the redesign of a Peace Wall and buffer zone land and how that space could be used for community benefit has given hope.

"It is an innovative way of working. The 3D model of that will be showcased to the wider community to encourage debate around that," Sarah said. Sarah is also proud of the work on the Men's Shed initiative in the Cliftonville area. Previously unused land is being used for polytunnels and allotments and wood workshops.

Of course, all the interesting conversations are helping but over the last year Sarah believes not securing an agreement on the Aftercare Package to be delivered through the Department of Justice (DoJ) and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) around the safety and security of homes has been stalling a lot of their work.

In Rosevale Street, Aftercare Packages were agreed for nine homes following a barrier reduction of 1.2m. To date, the work has only been completed on one home. Work continues to try to secure the same for the other homes as was promised by DOJ in 2018. This would build confidence and potentially enable further barrier reduction in the area.



Work has also been undertaken by the group on a 'Consent' paper to agree what level of community buy-in would be required for changes to Peace Wall/barrier sites to proceed. Agreement by DoJ on this Consent/ Consultation process would provide a guideline for the project to work to.

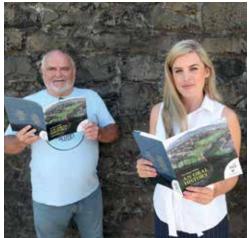
Sarah says: "Its absence makes physical change a totally arbitrary process which frustrates communities and is neither helpful nor constructive."

She also highlights a lack of pro-active political support, drive and involvement over the last year but is tackling this by being part of the North Belfast Peace Wall groups working collectively to try to draw in more politicians to discuss and support work on Peace Walls.

"We were one of the first Peace Wall projects to complete a community survey so we will monitor and seek evidence on attitudinal change in this next one."

Residents have told Sarah they appreciate being asked for their opinion about the future of their area and she can see that trust is being built.

Conversations that happen in the media and political circles are happening in communities and increasing contact is strengthening this. Project work and the benefits of the Girdwood Community Hub



right on the interface is seeing genuine relationships evolve.

The rusting yellow main Peace Wall barrier now painted sky blue is an example of the simple measures that can make all the difference. The view is better in the area, with the Rosevale site wall reducing from 2.4m to 1.2m demonstrating confidence within the communities.

"It still needs a lot further regeneration work but we will keep trying and keep raising the issues."

She adds: "We organised an oral history project about the lives of people over the last 30 years and it has given residents the opportunity to reflect on how difficult it was to live there during the conflict."

"The Peace Walls: An Oral History: Voices from those living in the Shadows of the Walls" - publication is also helping wider society have insight into the complexity of life on the interface and the vital work ongoing there. ABOVE LEFT: Recent drone images of Peace Walls that the Imagine project is working with in the North Belfast area.

ABOVE RIGHT: (L to R) Malachy Mulgrew and Sarah Lorimer, Imagine project coordinators launch 'The Peace Walls: An Oral History.' It encourages a wider dialogue around interface barriers.

## Peace Walls Programme

During this financial year the Fund has committed additional financial assistance to the following projects:

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH $\pounds$
Belfast City Council Area		
<b>Black Mountain Shared</b> <b>Space Project</b> Springfield Road Belfast Co Antrim	Increase community confidence and agreement towards Peace Walls/barrier removal and/or reduction.	6,216
<b>Black Mountain Shared</b> <b>Space Project</b> Springfield Road Belfast Co Antrim	The BMSSP vision is to play a lead role in transforming the Peace Walls structures across the Black Mountain area making positive life changes for local residents offering alternatives to those that have been most impacted by the conflict.	149,929
<b>The Imagine PWP</b> (LOCA/CCRF) Cliftonpark Avenue Belfast Co Antrim	Build on work already accomplished and use up to date information from the recent Peace Wall Attitudinal Survey to target the areas where change is most required and can be challenged and measured.	110,481
<b>Duncairn Community</b> <b>Partnership</b> Antrim Road Belfast Co Antrim	Build on the DCP work to date by strengthening the relationship between various stakeholders and broadening engagement to include more resident participation.	160,238
<b>TASCIT</b> Cliftonville Road Belfast Co Antrim	To encourage greater contact and dialogue between CNR/PUL communities on issues specific to Peace Walls.	180,003
Antrim	& Newtownabbey Borough Council Area	
<b>Greater Whitewell</b> <b>Community Surgery</b> Shore Road Newtownabbey Co Antrim	Work towards strengthening relationships between the various participants by creating inter and intra attitudinal changes required to complete the journey towards Peace Wall/ barrier removal/reduction.	109,607

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
Derry City & Strabane District Council Area		
TRIAX (Bogside and	The main Peace Wall is a key issue for both	110,931
Brandywell Initiative –	communities in the area with BBI aiming	
BBI)Neighbourhood	to focus on changing attitudes to examine	
Partnership Board	the potential for it to be seen as an area	
The Gasyard	boundary rather than a Peace Wall.	
Lecky Road		
Derry		
Co Londonderry		

## The Peace Impact Programme

The Peace Impact Programme (PIP) is designed to deliver real and positive community transformation through sensitive interventions in communities that have not previously, or have only partially, participated in peace building and reconciliation activities. Such interventions are critical to building a truly integrated, shared and peaceful society.

MAIN: PIP projects encourage communities to engage with one another and build better futures through a range of initiatives and events.

Above: Jim Prinay, Chairman of the Carson Project; Ivy Goddard, Project Director at the Inter Ethnic Forum; Mayor of Mid and East Antrim Borough Council ,Councillor Lindsay Millar and Jim McIlroy, Development Officer at the Carson Project launch a shared history festival for Ballymena town.

PIP works with communities to build sustainable peace and prosperity in areas suffering from high levels of economic and social deprivation, where there are low levels of engagement in peace building and where the Peace Process has delivered limited benefits. The programme places particular emphasis on engaging with disaffected and marginalised young people who are vulnerable to recruitment or attack by those opposed to the Peace Process.

## PIP Projects

During the financial year the Fund committed financial assistance to the following projects:

9. Creggan Enterprises Limited

10. Londonderry Bands Forum

11. Teach Na Failte Sperrins &

Glens (TnaF S&G),

Londonderry/Derry

ANTRIM 12. Carson Project (CP) and <u>Ultoniae</u> Cultural & Heritage

Larne

FERMANAGH

(CEL), Londonderry/Derry

(LBF), Londonderry/Derry

Society (UCHS), Ballymena

13. Factory Community Forum,

14. Turas Na nDaoine, Lisnaskea

### BELFAST

- 1. Markets Development Association (MDA), South Belfast
- 2. Reach Project, East Belfast
- 3. Intercomm, North Belfast
- 4. The ACT Initiative, West Belfast
- 5. The HUBB Community Resource Centre, North Belfast

#### TYRONE

6. Ealu, Dungannon

### ARMAGH

7. Regenerate, Portadown

#### LONDONDERRY/DERRY

8. James Connolly Cultural Youth Group (JCCYG), Londonderry/Derry

### DONEGAL

15. Newtowncunningh Community Outrea Programme, Newtowncunningh

### LOUTH

- 16. Omeath District Development Associationm, Omeath
- 17. Redeemer Family Resource Centre, Dundalk

### MONAGHAN

18. Clones Family Resource Centre, Clones

### SLIGO

19. Cranmore Community Co-operative Society, Sligo





In the last year, the Peace Impact Programme has expanded and intensified efforts to build sustainable peace and prosperity in areas where there have been low levels of engagement in peace building. Projects have developed innovative community-led solutions to address difficult issues linked to the legacy of conflict and many have successfully engaged with young people who are at risk of becoming involved in sectarian or anti-social activity.

ABOVE: The FUSE project launched in 2018 facilitates a positive transformation process to help people involved in or affected by antisocial and criminal behaviour in North Belfast.

# Peace Impact Programme

Launched in 2013, The Peace Impact Programme (PIP) has achieved significant success within communities where there has been limited or no previous participation in peace building activities.



experienced positive attitudinal change

of total participants are new



reported an increase in confidence

### KEY OUTCOMES OF PIP PROJECTS



Increased contact, dialogue, sharing and integration among project participants

Development of sustainable, exemplar community organisations



Underpinning of the Peace Process

### CHARACTERISTICS OF PIP PROJECTS





## Ulidia Training

Kenny Blair is helping working class Loyalists in Ballymoney, including ex-combatants, ex-prisoners and young people to improve their lives and in turn their community through the Ulidia Training project.

ABOVE: IFI Board Member Paddy Harte pictured with a participant who is involved in the social enterprise aspect of the project. It is funded by the IFI's Peace Impact Programme (PIP), which aims to deliver positive community transformation through sensitive interventions with those who may not have traditionally participated in peace building or reconciliation activities.

When one young participant attended an event with Ulidia Board Members he remembered where he recognised him from.

"One of the young fellas was looking at a Board Member. He realised the guy had actually arrested him for starting a riot!

"He knew he was a walking disaster. He said being involved in the project had given him purpose in his life. There is a mix of people involved including ex-police officers on steering groups with ex-prisoners.

"It's about everyone taking a look at what they have done wrong and ensuring another generation don't make the same mistakes." The five strands to Ulidia's bow are traditional skills, cultural programmes, events, restorative justice and social enterprise.

Participants are painting murals and Orange banners carried by Loyalist marching bands.

"It's an alternative to spraying graffiti," Kenny said.

"Reimaging, replacing controversial murals, with historical stuff and teaching young people."

Learning digital embroidery for flags, t-shirts, jackets and so on has provided employment through Ulidia Interest Productions with the aim of generating enough income to make the groups self-sufficient.

Loyalists are attending single identity and cross-community cultural celebrations and



taking part in Remembrance Services and other structured events.

The restorative justice aspect of the project sees Kenny and others try to provide solutions for conflicts in the community through mediation.

"We provide solutions to conflicts in the community; feuds, trying to alleviate fears and tensions around punishment beatings, threats to get out of the country and so on," he said.

"There is usually never a perfect resolution but if it saves people being hurt it's still better than what would happen."

Two people involved in Ulidia training have gained qualifications from Ulster University, with one going on to learn how to provide training.

Gold standard restorative justice training is delivered and work with the NI Housing Executive is ongoing to improve the community.

"We do a lot of preventative work, if tensions are high in an area, say during marching and bonfire season."

"What we have done through PIP is contact young people and educate them a bit and encourage them to organise family friendly events and kids fun days instead of industrial bonfires and boozing sessions."



Flags, bonfires, territorial disputes and parades present challenges but through education and dialogue Ulidia is trying to address these.

Another challenge is the relationship Ulidia has with the police and perhaps being seen by some as "a mouth piece for Loyalists."

"We are working on relationships. They are improving vastly and we are establishing trust. We are doing that with statutory agencies and Nationalist and Republican groups. We all want to see a better future."

Cross-community work is progressing and Ulidia is looking to further its outreach in other areas.

For this year the main achievement has been opening the social enterprise business, which helped participants improve their outlook in life.

Kenny adds: "We hope to eventually have three or four full-time workers."

"We know IFI was very impressed and it has been good for everyone to see where the funding is going and its benefits. We are also looking ahead to the future. We want to stand on our own two feet." ABOVE LEFT: Participants involved use a range of traditional skills including arts and crafts to create unique banners for marching bands.

ABOVE RIGHT: (L to R) Kenny Blair from Ulidia Training with IFI Board Member Paddy Harte and participant demonstrates what the project offers. To date, it has equipped more than 100 young people with a range of skills to boost their employability.



## Swanlinbar Development Association "Finding our Way" Project

Moving away from being an area suffering from the impact of conflict over many years, Swanlinbar is developing into a thriving crossborder community with a sense of hope for regeneration in the area.

ABOVE: Local residents take part in a furniture upcycling workshop in Swanlinbar. Swanlinbar Development Association (SDA) in County Cavan was set up back in 1994 to promote the development of the village and surrounding areas and to help groups, young and old, to develop mutual respect, tolerance and understanding.

The area was badly impacted by the conflict over many decades and now threats from Brexit have left people feeling anxious, community coordinator Sharon Howe explains.

"People are very unsettled," she said.

"We have lots of cross-border workers and businesses that straddle the border so there is the fear of the unknown. But the work of our group continues to improve the lives of others come what may." Sharon runs the 'Finding our Way' project in SDA's Trivia House, a beautiful, big, old Georgian building transformed into an area of neutrality so very close neighbours feel they can come for courses and events not attributed to any one side of the community.

It has emerged as a base and neutral community space used for a range of activities over the past year. The IFI funding has also strengthened the group's confidence and capacity to develop a social enterprise culminating in their recently opened coffee shop.

- "IFI funding has been huge for the area as previously there were few opportunities for integration with neighbours," Sharon said.
- "Work to build relationships with the Florencecourt area of Fermanagh, a



predominantly Protestant, Unionist area, has been challenging, but slowly we have managed to engage participants".

An increase in the number of people from across the bordering towns in Fermanagh feeling part of Trivia House is one area where SDA is succeeding.

Sharon says: "People never met before because they didn't have the chance to. Now friendships that have grown from similar interests such as in crafting and upcycling or attending community events are being maintained.

"People are saying they are comfortable about being here. In many ways in the past there just wasn't that opportunity. People were a mile or two apart but didn't know each other."

Engagement between Florencecourt Primary School and Scoil Mhuire National School has seen natural friendships develop. Children that have never had an opportunity to swim or ride a bike together have had their lives transformed. They have been learning skills such as map reading, problem solving, triathlon as well as a focus on personal health and wellbeing.

Seeing friendships develop is rewarding for Sharon and everyone in the house, so the opportunity funding brings to build on that can only be a positive.



"We are managing IFI funding and striving to bring other providers on board to try to ensure there is sustainability long-term."

The confidence of the committee has grown over the last year and they have big plans for the future. The coffee shop and solar panel projects have all been boosts, which have seen increased pride and interest in SDA. Feasibility plans are being developed to turn the house into a hostel, making use of an area of natural beauty to provide employment and tourists into the area.

"We are in the geo-park area, a fabulous area of Cavan, we are on the doorstep of the Stairway to Heaven.

"The long-term vision is to retain visitors."

Such activities are seen as a way to promote economic opportunity in the area and in turn see a return of people to live there. The project is an investment in a border community trying to rebuild and tackle feelings among those who feel forgotten, disillusioned and disheartened.

"We now have a really good sense of community and genuine relationships. Encouraging people to come to the area gives locals on both sides of the border genuine hope about regeneration." ABOVE LEFT: The project has become a real community hub bringing all age groups together through a range of family friendly events and activities.

ABOVE RIGHT: The IFI's support has played a key role in building friendships across the border and in the Swanlinbar area.



### Community and Restorative Justice Newry/Armagh

Repairing harm through restorative justice is at the core of Community and Restorative Justice Newry/Armagh's work. Its Digging Deeper Project coordinator Ewan Morgan says work creating structures and new ways of engagement throughout South Armagh is paying off.

#### ABOVE: The

Chairman joins a group of young people that the project has helped to teach new skills, access practical employment-related training courses and become positive influences within their community.

At the core of Community and Restorative Justice (CRJ) Newry/Armagh is early intervention and mediation schemes.

The project is supported through the IFI's Peace Impact Programme (PIP), which aims to reach out to communities where the Peace Process has delivered limited benefits. It also engages with marginalised youths who are more vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment.

Ewan says the community organisation, which is linked to the criminal justice system, is very proud to be accredited by the Department of Justice (DoJ) and has benefited hugely from working with the IFI over the last five or six years.

"Armagh has been neglected by all sorts of agencies over the years. That was recognised

by the IFI when they gave us funding."

Ewan says lack of trust and engagement with agencies, in particular the police, is an issue in places such as Newtownhamilton and Camlough so a Policing within the Community (PWTC) forum has been established to tackle this.

It is small steps but local inspectors and sergeants have been coming to neutral v enues to meet key stakeholders in urban and rural areas for what is described as critical engagement.

"Police now see it as a template to be used in other 'hard to reach areas'."

CRJ Newry/Armagh have organised a number of residentials and workshops over the last year



and worked with womens' groups too. Being a border constituency Brexit has been one topic focusing minds and drawing discussion from men, women and young people in the area.

"My eyes were opened as to how clued in young people were," Ewan said. "They spoke about EU citizenship, cross-border living and working and the risk of losing everything."

The flagship project in the Digging Deeper project - 'The South Armagh Community Council' - has just launched to create a positive impact on communities.

Challenges around building trust are ongoing with lots of honest, up front, discussions.

Ewan believes tackling problems along the way will be through improving understanding and by economic, cultural and social development of areas.

The forum is attracting local businesses and forming part of a "collaborative voice for South Armagh,which represents the entire community."

Ewan notes as well as the mainly Nationalist population there is a strong, vibrant Unionist community in South Armagh so work is ongoing to encourage more people to get involved by making them feel more comfortable to "put their toe in the water."

"My message is the forum will represent everyone through effective communication



and partnership. If you go on your own to make a point it may be listened to but if you go as a whole community it is hard for statutory or anyone else not to listen to it," he said.

There will be strength in numbers.

CRJ Newry/Armagh is organising a jobs fair, and encouraging young people to steer clear of what is known as the 'unregulated economy' in the border area.

"We are taking small steps to address that around areas likes washed diesel and illegal diesel plants. We are quietly working away in conversations with different people of influence to move people away from that."

Safer driving and safer tractor programmes that have also been rolled out have seen police comment on a noticeable change in driving attitudes in the area.

Conversations are also taking place with the disaffected and disassociated people in South Armagh.

"We sit with people one on one. Encouraging people, and bringing people information so they can have a more progressive outlook. If we reach people it can only be a good thing.

"We are very proud of what we are doing through the funding awarded by the IFI." ABOVE LEFT: This project has enabled some communities and individuals in the Newry/Armagh area to take part in peace building engagement for the first time.

ABOVE RIGHT: The newly formed South Armagh Community Council will tackle community issues head on and aims to have a positive influence in the local area.

### Peace Impact Programme

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
Antrim	& Newtownabbey Borough Council Area	
<b>Intercomm</b> Antrim Road Belfast Co Antrim	A conflict transformation programme. The project will engage with those furthest from the Peace Process, support local communities deal with contentious and security issues facing their areas. The project will deliver training and support to individuals targeted by the project.	241,798
Armagh City	, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Area	
<b>Regenerate Association</b> Address Park Portadown Co Armagh	The project will continue to work across 6 housing estates in the Portadown area to develop community cohesion and deal with the contentious issues within and across the estates. In the new round of funding Regenerate will take the lead role in the Mournview Estates project to allow for the group and area to improve capacity to deliver their local action plan.	216,799
Mic	l & East Antrim Borough Council Area	
<b>Carson Project</b> Queen Street Ballymena Co Antrim	The project will work primarily within the PUL communities in North and Mid Antrim and will target both marginalised communities and those who have not previously engaged in peace building or community development. The project will additionally provide capacity and skills training.	73,500
<b>Factory Community</b> <b>Forum</b> 164 Old Glenarm Road Larne Co Antrim	To deliver a community cohesion project which will include work with young people vulnerable to negative criminal elements in the area. Develop the role of women in the area to play a more meaningful role in their community. Develop an education and employment programme for young people, women and ex-combatants in the area.	178,548

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £	
	Belfast City Council Area		
Market Development Association Market Street Belfast Co Antrim	Markets is a project looking to engage those outside of the Peace Process in training and skills development as well as build capacity in the local area to deal with the growing contentious issues.	79,397	
<b>Reach Project</b> Newtownards Road Belfast Co Antrim	REACH is a project which will engage the RHC and wider community within East Belfast to deliver solutions to the tensions faced in the area and deliver bespoke training to REACH members as well as to the wider community.	115,313	
<b>The ACT Initiative</b> 140 Shankill Road Belfast Co Antrim	ACT will work across several areas including Banbridge, Dungannon, South Belfast, North Belfast and East Belfast to deliver a conflict transformation project and deal with issues facing young people and communities. The project will also develop a role for women across these areas to increase the role of women in peace building and community development.	397,326	
<b>The HUBB Community</b> <b>Resource</b> Centre St Aubyn Street Belfast Co Antrim	A conflict transformation project across key constituency groups in the York Road and Tigers Bay area. The project will focus on working with the UDA and UVF in the area to provide opportunities for them to have a more productive role in their community and to tackle criminality and the feuding within the groups. Support the development of community activism in the areas and give local people more of a confident role in delivering community cohesion.	184,464	

### Peace Impact Programme

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
Derr	y City & Strabane District Council Area	
<b>Creggan Enterprises Ltd</b> <b>(Unheard Voices)</b> Rath Mor Centre Derry Co Londonderry	The extended Unheard Voices Peace Impact project will create an outreach programme for women associated with other Peace Impact projects in Strabane and south Londonderry/Derry areas and continue to work with women from both main communities in Londonderry/Derry while also engaging in Co Donegal.	99,973
James Connolly Cultural Youth Group Co Unit 8b Lenamore Business Park Londonderry Co Londonderry	The project will engage with marginalised young people from Londonderry/Derry and Donegal and provide training, support and advocacy. The project will engage with the past and tackle issues around sectarianism and alternatives for armed violence.	76,540
<b>Londonderry Bands</b> <b>Forum</b> Hawkin Street Londonderry Co Londonderry	The project will enable the LBF to establish itself as a stand alone organisation. The project will continue to expand its education programmes, enhance the number of bands and participants involved in Capacity Building Programmes and cultural workshops and contribute towards the further development of NW Cultural Forum.	94,350
	Mid Ulster District Council Area	
<b>Ealu</b> Shamble Lane Dungannon Co Tyrone	A community transformation and peace building programme in east Tyrone and North Armagh addressing the legacy of the conflict and the issues it has created.	91,000
<b>Sperrins &amp; Glens Teach Na Failte</b> Main Street Bellaghy Co Londonderry	This extended project is based in Bellaghy and will continue to engage Republican/ Republican Socialist groupings and wider communities in peace building activity. The programme will develop and build the capacity of a volunteer base, provide training and services to the wider community.	94,900

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ne East 200,500 fied six e local upport work ers and pmmunity cultural, ing activity. d youth
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NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SOUTH €
Co Donegal		
Newtowncunningham Community Outreach Programme Newtowncunningham Orange Hall Main Street Newtowncunningham Co Donegal	Two year cross-border, cross-community programme of activities building an inclusive model of engagement between traditions and minority communities.	199,952
	Co Louth	
Omeath District Development Association The Dolmen Centre Omeath Co Louth	Two year cross community project to address the legacy of sectarianism and promote an understanding of truth, reconciliation, diversity and acceptance of difference.	184,515
<b>Redeemer Family</b> <b>Resource Centre</b> Ard Easmuinn Dundalk Co Louth	Community based project to support women to access training and education, to promote youth leadership in the community and to develop and promote a cross border cross community women's support programme.	167,056

### Peace Impact Programme

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SOUTH €
Co Monaghan		
<b>Clones Family Resource</b> <b>Centre</b> Technology Park Jubilee Road Clones Co Monaghan	Cross-community, cross-border community development and peace building project working with families and individuals, promoting reconciliation, mutual understanding and learning between communities.	194,800
	Co Sligo	
<b>Cranmore Community</b> <b>Co-operative Societ</b> y Acorn House 11-12 Devins Drive Cranmore Co Sligo	Cross-border cross-community programme of capacity building, peace building, employability training and youth development. The project will target young people, families displaced by the Troubles, women and the wider community.	66,187
<b>Cranmore Community</b> <b>Co-operative Society</b> Extension Acorn House 11-12 Devins Drive Cranmore Co Sligo	Cross-border cross community programme of capacity building, peace building, employability training and youth development. The project will build on previous work and continue to target young people, families displaced by the Troubles and the wider community who are dealing with the legacy of the conflict.	115,800



"We now have a really good sense of community and genuine relationships. Encouraging people to come to the area give locals on both sides of the border genuine hope about regeneration."

Sharon Howe, Project Coordinator of Swanlinbar Development Association's 'Finding Our Way', Peace Impact Programme Project.

ABOVE: Women from the surrounding areas attend a recent workshop in Swanlinbar, Co Cavan.

The Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) was launched in late 2015 within the Fund's Community Consolidation – Peace Consolidation 2016-2020 Strategy. The programme aims to help at risk young people build and develop life skills that foster good relations, build confidence and resilience and make them more employable.



MAIN: Projects under the PYDP Programme are tackling sensitive issues and transforming young people's lives.

ABOVE: Lettershandoney and District Development Group is a successful project addressing rural isolation and mental health through its Tús Nua initiative in the Co. Londonderry area.

The programme is unique in the way it engages and sustains contact with participants. Each PYDP project builds enduring relationships with young people and establishes highly personalised development plans tailored to the needs of the individual. The tiered nature of the programme and continued contact with project coordinators – even after completion of initial levels – means participants can progress or reconnect with the programme at different levels as circumstances change. In this sense, the programme adapts and adjusts to the needs of the individual providing personal guidance and encouragement as they develop. The PYDP seeks to connect young people aged 16-25 to personalised learning, skills and employment opportunities with a central focus on good relations and preparing young people for the world of work. It is interested in engaging young people that are vulnerable to polarisation/recruitment to organisations opposed to the Peace Process and face barriers to participation in mainstream provision.

## **PYDP** Projects

#### During the financial year the Fund committed financial assistance to the following projects:

#### BELFAST

- Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum, North Belfast
- 2. Orchardville Society Ltd, South Belfast
- Shankill Women's Centre, West Belfast
- 4. Springboard Opportunities Limited, North Belfast
- 5. St Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre, West Belfast
- 6. Workforce Training Services, West Belfast

#### LONDONDERRY/DERRY

- 7. Roe Valley Residents Association, Limavady
- 8. Causeway Rural & Urban Network, Coleraine
- Creggan Enterprises Ltd Lifehack Project, Derry Co Londonderry
- 10. HURT, Derry Co Londonderry
- 11. Leafair Community Association, Derry Co Londonderry

- 12. Lettershandoney & District Development Group, Derry Co Londonderry
- 13. St Columbs Park Reconciliation Trust, Derry Co Londonderry
- Glasgowbury Cornerstone Creative Hub, Draperstown
   Maghera Cross Community
- Link, Maghera 16. Sperrin Cultural Awareness
- Association, Magherafelt

#### ANTRIM

- 17. Ulidia Training, Ballymoney, Antrim
   18. Inter Estate Partnership,
  - Antrim

#### ARMAGH

- 19. Drumgor Detached Youth
- Work Project, Craigavon 20. Edgarstown Residents

#### TYRONE

21. Border Arts 2000, Castlederg 22. Strabane AYE, Strabane

Association, Portadown

- 23. Coalisland Training Services Coalisland
  - Association, Galbally

#### DOWN

- 25. Kilcooley Women's Centr Bangor
- 26. Clanrye Group, Newry

#### FERMANAGH

- 27. Fermanagh Rural
  Community Initiative,
  Enniskillen
- 28. Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association, Ballinamallard

#### CAVAN

- 29. Cavan Foróige YETI project, Cavan 30. Focus Family Resource
- Centre FUSE project, Killeshandra

#### DONEGAL

31. Donegal Youth Service, <u>Let</u>terkenny

- 32. Downstrands Family Resource Centre, Portry
- 33. Inishowen Development Partnership CHANCE project Buncrana
- 34. North West Alcohol Forum, Letterkenny

#### LEITRIN

5. North Connaught Youth & Community Service "New Beginnings", Drumshanbo

#### UTH

- 36. Ardee & District Community Trust, Ardee
- Foróige Drogheda "Turnin Point" project, Drogheda

#### MONAGHAN

38. Teach na Daoine, Monaghan39. Youth Work Ireland Monaghan, Castleblayney

#### SLIGO 40 Foróige Sl

40. Foróige Sligo YESS Project, Tobercurry

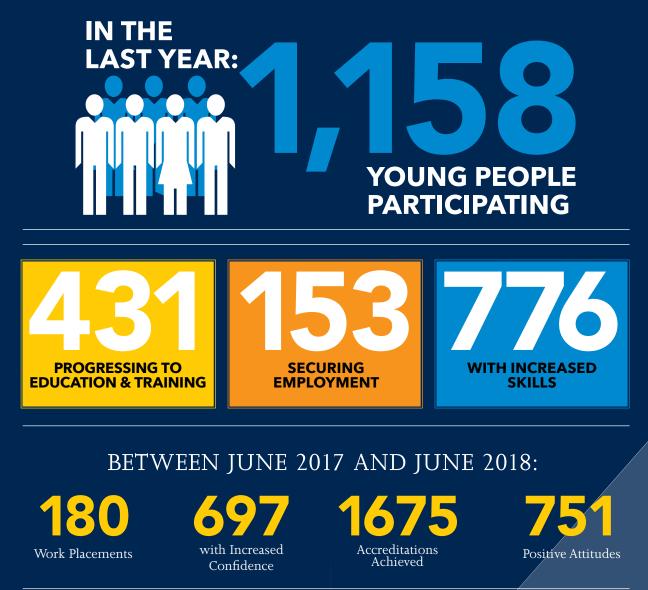




The Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) focuses on the needs of young people who are at risk of isolation, polarisation and/or recruitment to organisations opposed to the Peace Process. It enables each participant to take control of their own personal development through a multi-tiered approach that offers significant individualised support with community, social and economic elements.

ABOVE: Participants share their experiences with Mid-Ulster based PYDP project Glasgowbury, the I AM (Inclusive Accessible Multimedia). It empowers individuals to take better control of their lives by exploring cultural identity, personal development and employment opportunities.

Launched in November 2015, the Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) is designed to help young people build and develop life skills that foster good relations, build confidence and resilience and make them more employable.



### CHARACTERISTICS OF PYDP PROJECTS

PYDP engages 16-25 year olds that are vulnerable to polarisation and face barriers to participation in mainstream provision. It is designed to engage young people who may have:



Left education with no or low qualifications or who left the education system early



Been or currently are involved in substance abuse



Become affected by homelessness



Come from a difficult family background



Been in, or close to, the criminal justice system



Suffered from poor health including mental health issues



Mistrust of statutory institutions



Not participated in civic society in a positive manner



Come from communities with a negative view of their future



### Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association (FSCAA)

Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association (FSCAA) project officer John Quinn and outreach worker Darrell Law say the Personal Youth Development Programme (PYPD) is giving 16-25 year olds in rural communities a sense of belonging and self-worth.

ABOVE: Participants from the project on a field trip to Belfast exploring the Cupar Way Peace Wall.

Intensive one-to-one assistance combined with the opportunity to mix with peers is helping young people in rural areas, who have dropped out of education, training and employment, improve their confidence and skills.

Success, FSCAA say, is measured by the young people turning up to take part in the programme week after week, taking steps forward to learn, gain new skills and on many occasions employment.

IFI funding allows the project to support the young people help themselves to transform their own lives.

Over the last year tutors have been brought in to assist young people with literacy skills, including one young man who had the reading age of a Year 3 child. "He has improved so much," Darrell said.

"He has gained maybe 300-400 words he wasn't aware of before."

What might seem like small wins to some are life changers for others and make all the hard work of FSCAA and its 20 participants worthwhile.

Providing accredited training and practical assistance around CV building and job interviews has helped four young people into employment. There have been other countless examples of achievement over the last year.

One young man passed his driving test, another stopped finding himself before the courts as he stopped reoffending and another re-entered education to do a counselling qualification.



The young people have also been introduced to proper nutrition and exercise, plus experts sharing information on drug awareness and mental health issues. Residential trips, good relations work and cross-border activities have all been part of the mix over the last 12 months.

Challenges around alcohol and drug issues, learning difficulties, mental health concerns and involvement in crime remain but the FSCAA team is committed to "supporting the young people in whatever way we can," John says.

He loves the community aspect of his role, whether it's with older people, young people, sport, art or IT projects, he can see progress in all areas.

"I very much enjoy working with young people and trying to help them and point them in the right direction. Many of the young people have difficult family backgrounds so they look to us as adults offering a bit of support and stability."

Darrell too says the reward of his work is engaging the young people directly, "They want to know when they are next in," he adds.

"That is success to me and John."

Fourteen of last year's group have achieved accredited training, they made several industry visits, engaged with entrepreneurs



and saw for themselves examples of business people making a success in life through alternative routes to academia.

Personal and social development, gaining knowledge around cultural awareness, race and ethnicity, and peace and reconciliation, is helping improve self-worth while broadening understanding of others.

John and Darrell emphasise the importance of the spectrum of activities that allow the young people to fulfil their potential and how this holistic approach sees confidence levels soar, and in turn skill levels improve.

Talking to peers and building the confidence to interact with others is all part of tackling rural and social isolation among participants including the single parents in the group who have had limited opportunities to spend time with other teens or adults.

John is keen to build on the progress and reach out in ways that suit individuals.

"We are very happy with the IFI funding and the outcomes it is achieving. Some young people are making very small steps but we are successful with them all. We are making a difference to lives and really helping." ABOVE LEFT: Bringing people together is key for this group. They hosted a football tournament in summer 2018 for other PYDP projects to attend and compete.

ABOVE RIGHT: Darrell Law, FSCAA outreach worker and a project participant pictured at a cluster event that explored employment opportunities in the creative sector.



### Edgarstown Residents Association

Edgarstown Residents Association gives residents a platform on which to engage, participate and voice their ideas on shaping their community with the IFI's Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) support providing a focus on engaging with at risk young people.

ABOVE: The project encourages young people to engage with others and identify their own individual development needs. Coordinator Nigel Duke has worked in Portadown since 1987. He believes the Personal Youth Development Programme 'Changing the Landscape' project is a culmination of his life's work and with the assistance of the Edgarstown Residents Association Committee, the Rural Development Council (RDC) and IFI, the investment of time, money and resources in the people of Portadown is paying off in wonderful ways.

"It has been a game changer and a life changer for the young people, they are moving on from negativity to positivity, which is fantastic," says Nigel.

'Changing the Landscape' sees engagement across six Protestant housing estates.

Drugs are a big issue for the town, with a

particular impact on young people in terms of their self-belief and self-worth. Education is key to helping tackle issues of addiction to drugs, alcohol and also gambling.

"We have lost two to substance misuse or as we would say poor decisions and choices. There are very great highs in the project and very great lows and in the middle we have these young people trying to find themselves in the world."

Delivering training in good relations, personal development and employability has been vital to the lives of the young people taking part. Skills development is another way of improving outcomes for them whether that is through driving lessons, forklift lessons, or work experience placements with local painters, plumbers, builders and shops.



"We are giving them the opportunity to explore career choices. We have five young people who have gone to university," he said.

Nigel says being on the streets six evenings every week and going into schools is all part of the work they need to do. There are 24 spaces on the project for young people and to date they have worked with nearly 70 since January 2017.

He can see the young people growing in confidence and understanding and believes the project will make their lives better.

- "There is a big buy in from the young people," he remarks.
- "We can take young people who have absolutely no educational attainment at all and start from there.

We maybe had four GCSEs among 12 of them but we have seen many going on to study at University."

Taking an interest in the young people has paid off greatly. One-to-one mentoring and helping build up personal plans and discover their potential is hugely appreciated by those taking part.

"They very quickly realise they are someone and worth something. It gives them the confidence to go into an interview and say I



want this job, or I want to be on this course."

Among the achievements over the last year has been the transformation in one young participant who had been struggling to cope with life. From being in real despair, they have developed a sense of self-belief and confidence that led to taking up a place at university.

Nigel is all about giving young people a voice and place where their opinions are valued so they can feel confident about being leaders, about making a contribution and being valued as much as everyone else.

Team building exercises over the last year has allowed time and space to put building blocks in place to create real interventions in the young people's lives.

Nigel believes: "The project is changing lives and shaping futures 100%."

"One of the young lads in university had a very severe gambling problem. Thanks to the IFI running an event at Armagh City Hotel with former Gaelic footballer Oisin McConville, they pulled together a programme around the issue of gambling.

"The IFI is prepared to put on events that are really meeting the needs out there - it's just not paying lip service." ABOVE LEFT: 'Changing the Landscape' is having a positive impact on both participants and the wider community in Portadown.

ABOVE RIGHT: Young people involved in the project mark their achievements at a celebration event in the town.



### Focus Family Resource Centre

Addressing issues around social isolation and lack of opportunity in very remote and rural areas of West Cavan, has been key to tackling challenges faced by its young people including mental health concerns and substance abuse.

ABOVE: Participants pictured on a recent trip to Belfast to encourage conversations and boost confidence. The International Fund for Ireland's support through its Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) has been a lifeline to the young people of West Cavan who had limited facilities for their age group in an area still suffering from the legacy of the Troubles and from a lack of investment.

PYDP coordinator Cathy O'Reilly knows tackling rural isolation is important to give the young people access to opportunities, so the project has been busy working on a rural transport initiative, providing driving lessons and developing links with schools and community organisations.

Social isolation, difficult family relationships, mental health difficulties, anxiety and a general lack of hope, much of which can be attributed to a legacy of the Troubles, are issues being addressed by the centre on an ongoing basis. These are challenges that are compounded by a lack of transport and local opportunities. Working one-to-one with young people has seen them flourish over the last year and knowing that the IFI's investment in the community is long-term is enabling the centre to change lives.

Developing strong links to the Education and Training Board where courses are delivered has seen five of the latest intake enter further education in welding, nursing, caring work and emergency healthcare.

"We also have three of the cohort in full time employment so there is a lot of success there over the last year, which took a lot of focus," Cathy said.

"We struggled a lot because they were coming from such a wide area and their needs are so individual but following a lot of lobbying a volunteer driver initiative got off the ground to ensure young people could



get to their courses and appointments. This helped them gain skills and look to other opportunities.

Good relations training is an integral part of the project. Ensuring that the young people on the project gain a greater understanding and acceptance of the past and the different traditions on this island is important for their development. As part of the good relations training the group have undertaken trips to Belfast and elsewhere to experience different communities.

Social farming has been an excellent addition to the programme of activities. Young people have been going on 10-12 week placements, building confidence and experience on organic farms, learning to prepare meals from scratch and growing food in poly tunnels.

When problems around engagement after summer and Christmas breaks began to arise, the centre realised extra support was needed to stop people slipping into old habits.

A community support worker was brought on board to assist families more widely, which freed up Cathy's time to draw in other resources. A professional counselling service, which nearly all participants have availed of, has also been a massive aid to progress.

Cathy notices all the little changes being made to lives.



"One young person who was not being treated fairly by an employer has learned to read and write from scratch, completed a training course and got a properly paid full time job.

"It has made such a difference to his life. He now knows his rights and entitlements. He has come so far in the space of a year."

Other successes over the last year include young people passing their driving tests, one completing a law qualification and two young artists coming together with plans to open a gallery space.

"The young people are back into education and work and thinking long term which is great" Cathy said.

Participant's success was celebrated at an event in October and plans are afoot for cross-border work and linking in with projects in Belfast and Drumgore. ABOVE LEFT: The Belfast excursion involved a historical walking tour to share the city's culture and history through the years.

ABOVE RIGHT: Thanks to the strong support network in place, young people are turning their lives around.

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
Antrim	& Newtownabbey Borough Council Area	
<b>Inter Estate Partnership</b> Parkhall Shopping Centre Steeple Antrim Co Antrim	A structured youth intervention programme that aims to reduce young people becoming involved in anti-social activity and help address the alienation and disaffection in socially isolated and deprived communities.	82,000
Armagh City	, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council Area	
Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project Moyravety Community Centre Moyraverty Co Armagh	A structured youth based programme of personal development activities within the Brownlow area of Craigavon.	221,338
<b>Edgarstown Residents</b> Association 18/19 Union Street Portadown Co Armagh	A structured programme of personal development and skills training to support young people who reside in six areas in Portadown.	185,799
	Belfast City Council Area	
<b>Cliftonville Community</b> <b>Regeneration Forum</b> 185 Cliftonpark Avenue Belfast Co Antrim	A structured youth based programme covering three interface housing estates in North Belfast.	248,971
<b>Orchardville Society Ltd</b> 144-152 Ravenhill Road Belfast Co Antrim	The project will work with young people with multiple and complex barriers and develop their personal employability skills.	180,670
<b>Shankill Women's Centre</b> 151-157 Shankill Road Belfast Co Antrim	A structured programme of support offering a range of accredited training for 20 young people residing in the Shankill and Falls areas of Belfast.	282,523
<b>Springboard</b> <b>Opportunities Ltd</b> 7 North Street Belfast Co Antrim	'Catalyst' is a youth-led programme offering support and training in North and West Belfast.	273,341

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
<b>St Peter's Immaculata</b> <b>Youth Centre</b> St Peters Square North Albert Street Belfast Co Antrim	Changing Divis One Person at a Time is a structured programme of learning and support to 20 young people to help improve their social and life skills through a range of non-formal methodologies.	241,078
Workforce Training Services 88-120 Springfield Road Belfast Co Antrim	The project will focus on skills development, confidence and self-esteem building and respect for cultural diversity. It will support 14-16 year olds from targeted areas in West Belfast and Greater Shankill.	5,000
Causer	way Coast & Glens Borough Council Area	
Roe Valley Residents Association 13-14 Keady Way Limavady Co Londonderry	'Building Brighter Futures' is a structured youth based programme in Limavady and surrounding areas.	10,000
<b>Ulidia Training</b> Main Street Ballymoney Co Antrim	An individualised intervention programme offering good relations development, employment, educational and civic opportunities to young people living in four specific areas of the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Area.	289,697
<b>Causeway Rural &amp; Urban</b> <b>Network</b> 1 Brook Street Coleraine Co Londonderry	The BRAKE project targets 20 young people to provide a programme of support to help develop their good relations, resilience and employment skills.	202,402
Derry City & Strabane District Council Area		
<b>Border Arts 2000</b> Main Street Castlederg Co Londonderry	'Level Up for Work' is a youth focused programme of personal development activities and training opportunities in Castlederg, Newtownstewart and Victoria Bridge.	5,000

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
<b>Creggan Enterprises Ltd</b> Rath Mor Centre Blighs Lane Derry Co Londonderry	'Lifehack' is a structured youth based programme covering the Creggan, Bogside, Brandywell and Clooney and Lincoln Courts and surrounding areas of the Waterside.	171,330
<b>HURT</b> 14 Clarendon Street Derry Co Londonderry	Live to learn is a structured programme of training and support to 24 young people on a cross-community basis.	234,558
<b>Leafair Community</b> Association Skeoge House 60A Leafair Park Derry Co Londonderry	A structured youth based programme offering support and training in the Greater Shantallow area of Londonderry/Derry.	298,008
Lettershandoney & District Development Group The Community House 32 Lettershandoney Avenue Derry Co Londonderry	A structured youth based programme delivering training and support.	5,000
S <b>t Columb's Park Reconciliation Trust</b> 4 Limavady Road Derry Co Londonderry	A personal development and good relations youth focused programme that aims to build the capacity of marginalised young people in the wards of the Waterside Interface, The Diamond, Caw and Lisnagelvin.	78,781
<b>Strabane AYE</b> 39 Bowling Green Strabane Co Tyrone	The Strabane Youth Support Programme delivers a range of support that actively engages young people and develops their capacity, confidence, employability and skills.	195,209
	Ards & North DownCouncil Area	
<b>Kilcooley Women's Centre</b> Kilcooley Primary School Ganaway Avenue Bangor Co Down	The CATALYST project is designed to promote the personal wellbeing and social development of young people deemed most "at risk".	251,362

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH $\pounds$
Fern	' nanagh & Omagh District Council Area	
<b>Fermanagh Rural</b> <b>Community Initiative</b> Unit 3, 56A Tempo Road Enniskillen Co Fermanagh	A structured programme of training, development and support offering a range of training in good relations, personal development and skills development.	5,000
Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association Unit 9, Ballinamallard Enterprise Centre, Ballinamallard, Co Fermanagh	A structured youth based programme covering the rural areas in Fermanagh, including the wards of Ballinamallard, Kesh, Ederney and Lack, Irvinestown and Boho, Cleenish and Letterbreen.	217,063
	Mid Ulster District Council Area	
<b>Coalisland Training</b> <b>Services</b> 51 Dungannon Road Coalisland Co Tyrone	The Assist Youth Partnership Project provides empowerment, education and employment opportunities in Coalisland and surrounding areas.	269,863
Galbally Youth & Community Association Galbally Community Centre 36 Lurgylea Road Galbally Co Tyrone	'Game Changer' is a structured programme based on a person centred approach to learning for young people aged 16-25.	10,000
<b>Glasgowbury</b> Cornerstone Creative Hub 20a High Street Draperstown Co Londonderry	A structured youth based programme for those interested in pursuing a career within the creative industry across Mid Ulster.	128,038
Maghera Cross Community Link 49 St Lurach Road Maghera Co Londonderry	The Link Youth Achievement Project provides structured support offering personal development and skills building in Maghera and surrounding areas.	203,294

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	NORTH £
<b>Sperrin Cultural</b> <b>Awareness Association</b> 5A Union Arcade, Union Road Magherafelt Co Londonderry	A structured youth based programme focused on personal development, good relations, skills development and employment opportunities.	190,695
Newry	y, Mourne & Down District Council Area	
<b>Clanrye Group</b> Slieve Gullion Courtyard 89 Drumintee Road Newry Co Down	'Regener8' aims to equip and empower young people within the Newry and South Armagh area.	287,351
NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SOUTH €
	Co Cavan	
<b>Cavan Foróige YETI Project</b> Bridge St Centre Bridge St Cavan	Two year project which continues to support at risk 16-25 year olds to combat social deprivation and disconnect from the community, enabling progress into training, education and work.	226,472
<b>Focus Family Resource</b> <b>Centre</b> Portaliffe Centre Main Street Killeshandra Co Cavan	Providing an individual centric approach this innovative project continues to support at risk 16 to 25 year olds in the border region, in order to strengthen their connection and place in the community.	265,535
Co Donegal		
<b>Donegal Youth Service</b> 16-18 Port Road Letterkenny Co Donegal	Two year project targeting at risk young people to focus on acceptance, communication, anti-sectarianism, anti racism, diversity and inclusion.	319,386

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SOUTH €
Downstrands Family Resource Centre The Dolmen Centre Kilclooney Portnoo Co Donegal	One year project to support positive mental health and well-being in young people from isolated and disadvantaged areas.	82,529
Inishowen Development Partnership CHANCE project St Marys Road Buncrana Co Donegal	Intervention project targeting at risk young people offering skills training and personal development to allow participants progress into training, education or work.	99,858
North West Alcohol Forum Unit B, Enterprise Fund Business Centre Ballyraine Letterkenny Co Donegal	To engage with highly at risk young people to develop positive mental health, promote confidence, build resilience and enhance future prospects.	207,473
	Co Leitrim	
North Connaught Youth & Community Service "New Beginnings" project Youth Café Church St Drumshanbo Co Leitrim	Rural based project which provides a good relations focussed programme of personal development and supportive facilitation enabling development of at risk young people vulnerable to polarisation in the border region.	138,815
	Co Louth	
<b>Ardee and District</b> <b>Community Trust</b> Market Street Ardee Co Louth	A 24 month employment education & training programme for disadvantaged young persons in the Ardee and mid Louth region.	208,966

NAME/ADDRESS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SOUTH €	
<b>Foróige Drogheda</b> <b>"Turning Point" Project</b> Foróige Block 12D Joyce Way Parkwest Co Dublin	Two year project to help young people return to education and/or work by enhancing personal effectiveness and by developing resiliency and good relations.	131,083	
Co Monaghan			
<b>Teach na Daoine</b> 1 Oriel Way Monaghan Town Co Monaghan	Two year project which will continue to support young people on their journey to employment and more positive engagement with civic society.	163,213	
<b>Youth Work</b> <b>Ireland Monaghan</b> Child Wellbeing Centre Castleblaney Co Monaghan	Two year project to engage positively with at risk young people and promote civic engagement and employment opportunities.	200,819	
Co Sligo			
Foróige Sligo "YESS" Project Foróige Office Conlon House 5 Humbert Street Tubbercurry Co Sligo	Two year project targeted at 16-25 year old at risk young people caught in social deprivation and poverty to combat disconnect from their community.	264,157	



"I very much enjoy working with young people and trying to help them and point them in the right direction. Many of the young people have difficult family backgrounds so they look to us as adults offering a bit of support and stability."

John Quinn, Project Officer, Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association, which is supported through the PYDP Programme.

ABOVE: Participants from Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness on a recent trip to Cupar Way, Peace Wall in West Belfast.

# Shared Education Programme

Education remains one of the most divided areas of everyday life in Northern Ireland with more than 90% of pupils attending non-integrated schools. In the last decade, the International Fund for Ireland has been instrumental in developing groundbreaking initiatives that have not only delivered improved educational outcomes, but have also brought about more shared classrooms and shared learning in an otherwise separated schooling system.

MAIN and ABOVE: The Fund is committed to delivering strong outcomes for shared education.

Innovative shared education initiatives, supported by the Fund, provided the compelling evidence base that enabled legislators to enshrine shared education in statute [The Shared Education Act (Northern Ireland) 2016]. This has opened the way for statutory and other interventions to progress the shared education agenda.

The Fund is proud of the achievements that have made sharing a part of education delivery in every classroom in Northern Ireland. However, despite these progressive steps forward the Fund's work in this area is not finished. In the reporting period we have engaged with a range of stakeholders to motivate, encourage and challenge new thinking. We remain committed to exploring discreet and innovative interventions that build on our significant investment and add value to the outworking of the Executive's shared education priority.

## AMBIT

AMBIT is an annual study visit to the US, funded by the International Fund for Ireland, organised in partnership with the United States Consulate Belfast and managed by the Washington Ireland Program.

LEFT: The 2018 AMBIT delegation pictured on their trip to the United States.

More than 150 participants have benefitted from the innovative learning and networking experience offered by AMBIT to date. Each year, the programme selects 16 professionals from across Northern Ireland and the southern border counties of Ireland mainly from IFI supported projects. The group visit a range of exemplar projects in the US to explore a range of hard-hitting themes affecting communities, to learn from their experience and share good practice. The schemes are often located in some of the most deprived inner city areas. Themes and topics covered in recent years have included supporting young people at risk and communities dealing with division. These shared experiences of intervention with other organisations are then invested back into participant's fields of work that closely align with the Fund's interests. Many past participants have gone on to claim prominent roles in politics, civic life and community development and have gained a considerable base of expertise and influence.

This year marked the 15th AMBIT trip and it consisted of 12 community workers from Northern Ireland and four from the southern border counties. The 14-day programme included study visits in New York and Washington DC. Participants were able



ABOVE: (L-R) Joanne Shortall, AMBIT 2018; US Consul General, Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau; Billy Gamble, IFI Board Member and Kevin Conmy, Irish Joint Secretary of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Secretariat pictured at a recent celebration event. to explore US policy and practice aimed to improve outcomes for and promote the positive development of young people most at risk.

Each year, AMBIT provides a truly valuable experience for all involved and enables the sharing of delivery models, practises and experiences.

Highlights from 2018 included; experiencing innovative work around trauma with the 'Turnaround for Children' organisation, a briefing with the New York Police Department (NYPD) commissioner, visits to 9/11 Memorial and new World Trade Center and a meeting with the National Juvenile Centre in Washington D.C. Participants were also able to attend a number of high profile events hosted by the NI Bureau; Irish Embassy and Northern Irish and Irish political/ community leaders. Shirley Donegan shares her experience of this year's programme:

"I thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with Ambit 2018 and would recommend the experience to anyone who gets the chance.

"One of the parts I enjoyed the most was the opportunity to network with other youth and community workers and share practice. The connections and learning from each other was a great benefit and something that can be maintained after the trip.

"We had the opportunity to engage with a variety of innovative agencies and again share practice and gain a different perspective on issues that are universal within the field of youth and community work. The opportunity to discuss issues and work practices on a global scale is inspiring and motivating



and I returned from the trip with a new vigour. It also validated our own practices in comparison and it was great to see that we're doing excellent work on the island of Ireland with much more limited resources.

"The learning from the trip has been valuable both in my practice as a youth worker and Chairperson of a youth work organisation and as a youth work educator. The network of people that I now know through AMBIT is such a benefit both professionally and personally and I look forward to continued involvement with IFI and AMBIT."

AMBIT 2018 explored the theme of trauma, its impact and how to address the issue more effectively. Those involved have continued to work together in partnership to create new ways to examine the core areas of trauma; address the root cause by embedding practise into programmes, changing the lives of young people at risk with wrap around services and whole community approach and finally planning for a partnership led approach to achieve desired outcomes.

The trip helps to form an understanding of shared experiences, awareness of other approaches, builds confidence and boosts networking opportunities to encourage future collaboration. AMBIT remains an integral part of the Fund's work. It continues to progress with sharing learning from its programmes as well as working in partnership with policy makers and funding bodies at a local and international level. There is a need for the Fund to carry on its work and collaborate with those other organisations and regions who are ready to move beyond conflict and create a lasting peace.

## Accounts

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# Board Members' Statement

The full annual financial statements, from which this summary financial statement is derived and on which the auditors gave an unqualified opinion, were approved on 21 February 2019.

These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the International Fund for Ireland ("the Fund") because they do not reflect the performance of the venture capital companies, which are wholly owned subsidiaries of the Fund. For further information the full annual financial statements, the auditors' report on those financial statements and the Board Members' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from The International Fund for Ireland at either 28-32 Alfred Street, Belfast BT2 8EN or PO Box 2000, Dublin 2.

### Statement of Board Members' responsibilities in respect of the Annual Report and the Financial Statements

The Board Members are responsible for preparing the financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the International Fund for Ireland ("the Fund") and of the surplus or deficit of the Fund for that period. In fulfilling that responsibility, they have decided to prepare the financial statements in accordance with accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

In preparing those financial statements, the Board Members have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Fund will continue in business.

The Board Members confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The Board Members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Fund and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with best practice. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Fund and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board Members are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Fund's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By order of the Board

Dr Adrian Johnston Chairman 21 February 2019

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Board of the International Fund for Ireland

### **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Our opinion**

In our opinion, International Fund for Ireland's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Fund's affairs as at 30 September 2018 and of the Fund's loss and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law).

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report, which comprise: the income and expenditure account; the statement of total recognised gains and losses; the balance sheet as at 30 September 2018; the cash flow statement; the accounting policies, and the notes to the financial statements.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Independence

We remained independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

- the Board Members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Board Members have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Fund's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least 12 months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern.

### Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Board Members are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our

knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

### Board Members' Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Board Members' Report for the year ended 30 September 2018 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the Fund and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Board Members' Report.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT**

### Responsibilities of the Board Members for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Board Members' Statement in respect of the Annual Report and the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Board Members are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board Members are responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board Members either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

#### Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Fund's members as a body to enable you to fulfil your obligation to the Board to obtain an audit of the Fund's financial statements and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Board of the International Fund for Ireland (CONT)

## OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

### COMPANIES ACT 2006 EXCEPTION REPORTING

We conducted our audit in accordance with ISAs (UK & Ireland). An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of:

- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed;
- the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Board Members'; and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We primarily focus our work in these areas by assessing the Board Members' judgements against available evidence, forming our own judgements, and evaluating the disclosures in the financial statements.

We test and examine information, using sampling and other auditing techniques, to the extent we consider necessary to provide a reasonable basis for us to draw conclusions. We obtain audit evidence through testing the effectiveness of controls, substantive procedures or a combination of both.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

We draw attention to the fact that these financial statements have not been prepared under section 394 of the Companies Act 2016.

Martin Cowie (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Belfast 21 February 2019

# Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 30 September 2018

		Total tra	l transactions expressed in £ and €			
		2018	2017	2018	2017	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000	
Income	2	675	898	759	1,019	
Expenditure						
Approved projects	7	11,389	9,755	12,786	11,075	
Net administrative expenses	3	234	297	259	338	
Gain on disposal of fixed asset investment		_	2,343	—	(2,660)	
		11,623	7,709	1 <b>3,045</b>	8,753	
Excess of expenditure over income		(10,948)	(6,811)	(12,286)	(7,734)	
Movement in the Fund balance						
At 30 September 2017		15,352	22,161	20,105	28,327	
Exchange differences on retranslation at						
1 October 2017		(9)	2	(137)	(488)	
		15,343	22,163	19,968	27,839	
Excess of expenditure over income for the Year		(10,948)	(6,811)	(12,286)	(7,734)	
At 30 September 2018		4,395	15,352	7,682	20,105	

The amounts above relate to the continuing operations of the Fund. There is no difference between the excess of expenditure over income and its historical cost equivalent. Accordingly, no note of historical cost excess of expenditure over income has been prepared.

# Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses for the year ended 30 September 2018

	Total transactions expressed in £ and €			
	2018	<b>2018</b> 2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Excess of expenditure over income	(10,948)	(6,811)	(12,286)	(7,734)
Currency translation difference charged to the				
Fund balance	(9)	2	(137)	(488)
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year	(10,957)	(6,809)	(12,423)	(8,222)

The notes on pages 78 to 83 form part of the financial statements.

# Balance Sheet

as at 30 September 2018

		Total tra	insactions exp	ressed in £ and	l€
		2018	2017	2018	2017
	Notes	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Fixed assets					
Investments	4	5,791	5,791	9,256	9,256
Current assets					
Cash at bank and on deposit	11	11,672	18,850	13,102	21,400
Donor contributions due	5	583	568	654	644
Other amounts receivable	6	1	11	1	10
		12,256	19,429	13,757	22,054
Current liabilities					
Approved project expenditure outstanding	7	(10,833)	(7,092)	(12,161)	(8,052
Creditors	9	(2,819)	(2,776)	(3,170)	(3,153
		(13,652)	(9,868)	(15,331)	(11,205)
Net current assets		(1,396)	9,561	(1,574)	10,849
Net assets		4,395	15,352	7,682	20,105
Fund balance at 30 September 2018		4,395	15,352	7,682	20,105

Approved by the Board on 21 February 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Adria

Dr Adrian Johnston Chairman

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Siobhan Fitzpatrick Member of the Board

The notes on pages 78 to 83 form part of the financial statements.

# Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 30 September 2018

	Total transactions expressed in £ and €			
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Excess of expenditure over income	(10,948)	(6,811)	(12,286)	(7,734)
Adjustments for:				
Decrease /(increase) in donor contributions due	(15)	23	(10)	41
(Decrease)/increase in approved project expenditure outstanding	3,741	4,206	4,109	4,708
Decrease/(increase) in other amounts receivable	10	24	9	26
(Decrease)/increase in creditors and accrued expenses	14	65	17	73
(Gain)/loss on disposal of assets	-	(2,343)	_	(2,660)
Interest received	(89)	(98)	(99)	(111)
Exchange difference in opening balance	(15)	(19)	62	34
Net cash generated from operating activities	(7,302)	(4,953)	(8,198)	(5,623)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of fixed asset investments	-	-	-	_
Disposal of fixed asset investments	-	2,750	-	3,122
Interest received	89	98	99	111
Net cash from investing activities	89	2,848	99	3,233
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	(7,213)	(2,105)	(8,099)	(2,390)
Balance at 1 October 2017	18,850	20,880	21,400	24,199
Retranslation to current year exchange rates	35	75	(199)	(409)
Balance at 1 October 2017 retranslated to current year				
exchange rates	18,885	20,955	21,201	23,790
Balance at 30 September 2018	11,672	18,850	13,102	21,400

The notes on pages 78 to 83 form part of the financial statements.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of these financial statements consists of the accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland including Financial Reporting Standard 102. These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention. They are prepared in order to present financial information relating to the International Fund for Ireland ("the Fund") on a non-consolidated basis.

These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Fund because they do not reflect the performance of the Enterprise Equity venture capital companies, which are wholly owned subsidiaries of the Fund. For further information the full annual financial statements, the auditors' report on those financial statements and the Board Members' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from the Fund at either 28-32 Alfred Street, Belfast BT2 8EN or PO Box 2000, Dublin 2.

The full annual financial statements, from which this summary financial statement is derived and on which the auditors gave an unqualified opinion, were approved on 21 February 2019.

The principal accounting policies are set out below.

### Currencies

The Fund's transactions are effected in the currencies of each part of Ireland. The financial statements are presented in both currencies, each representing an aggregation of all of the transactions for the year in each part of Ireland translated at the respective exchange rates at the year end. Differences arising on the restatement, to the year end exchange rate, of monetary assets and liabilities (e.g. amounts due from funders, amounts due to projects and bank balances) at the start of the financial year are adjusted against the Fund balance, reported in the statement of total recognised gains and losses and accounted through reserves.

Non-monetary assets (e.g. equity or debt investments in subsidiaries) are not subject to retranslation at each year end. However, any foreign exchange gains or losses arising on the disposal of non-monetary assets are recognised in the income and expenditure account in the period that they arise.

### **Approved projects**

The Fund make grants to fund or assist in the funding of projects and to make or enter into arrangements which are designed to meet expenditure that promotes economic and social advance and to encourage contact, dialogue and reconciliation between Nationalists and Unionists throughout Ireland.

The income and expenditure account reflects the anticipated cost of projects approved in the year (after deduction of projects which did not proceed) and related administration expenditure. The projects approved in the year are considered as a hard commitment, which is defined as the grant sum payable over the life of a project on which we have a written contractual agreement with the applicant. Hard commitments are charged to the income statement in the year that the contracts are signed. Project approvals are shown on the balance sheet as a liability, the balance being reduced as payments to grant recipients are released.

### Loans

Funds disbursed to projects by way of loans are reflected in the total of the programme disbursements and are not included in the balance sheet. Any loan repayments received during the year are credited to the income and expenditure account.

### **Interest income**

The income and expenditure account includes interest credited to the bank deposit accounts during the year together with interest accrued, but not actually credited, at the year end.

#### Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at their purchase cost less any provision for diminution in value. Investment income is included in the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis.

#### **Income recognition**

Donor countries allocate funds on the basis of calendar years. The whole amount allocated is recognised in the financial year when it has been contractually allocated by the donor country.

### Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the process of applying the Fund's accounting policies, no significant judgements have been made. There are no key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation, that have a significant risk of raising a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

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	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
From donors after exchange rate adjustments				
United States of America (2018: US\$0.75m;				
2017: US\$0.75m)	576	562	647	638
UK Government (2018: £nil ; 2017: £0.25m)	-	249	-	282
Exchange rate adjustments	20	(20)	23	(23)
	596	791	670	897
Interest receivable	79	96	89	109
Miscellaneous income	_	11	_	13
	79	107	89	122
	675	898	759	1,019

The exchange rate adjustments relate to exchange gains and losses arising from the translation of US\$ and Euro denominated donor contributions. The exchange translation gains consist of £13k/€14k of realised gains and £7k/€9k of unrealised gains (2017:£19k/€22k of realised losses and £1k/€1k of unrealised losses). The extent to which any unrealised gain or loss is realised will depend on exchange rate movements up to the date of receipt of contributions due.

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)

## 3. NET ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Board Members' fees	86	90	96	102
Board Meetings	37	30	41	34
Consultancy and other fees	<b>190</b>	132	212	150
Auditors' remuneration	20	31	22	35
Travelling and subsistence	46	54	52	62
Postage, stationery, telephone and office	19	24	21	27
Promotional and advertising expenses	75	97	84	110
Miscellaneous	24	33	27	38
	497	491	555	558
Less: Contributions receivable from the Governments				
of the UK and Ireland in respect of an element of the				
above expenses	(263)	(194)	(296)	(220)
	234	297	259	338

### 4. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Unlisted investm	
	£'000	€'000
Cost		
At 1 October 2017	6,717	10,759
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 30 September 2018	6,717	10,759
Provision		
At 1 October 2017	926	1,503
Charge in year	-	_
At 30 September 2018	926	1,503
Net book value		
At 30 September 2018	5,791	9,256
At 30 September 2017	5,791	9,256

5. DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS DUE				
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
United States of America				
- 2015 (US\$0.01m)	7	7	8	8
- 2017 (US\$0.75m)	-	561	-	636
- 2018 (US\$0.75m)	576	_	646	_
	583	568	654	644
6. OTHER AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE				
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Bank interest receivable	1	11	1	10
	1	11	1	10

## 7. APPROVED PROJECT EXPENDITURE OUTSTANDING

The totals of the Fund's project disbursements in the year ended 30 September 2018 and the movements in approved projects outstanding are as follows:

	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Approved project expenditure outstanding				
at 30 September 2017	7,092	2,886	8,052	3,344
Foreign exchange re-translation	22	17	(66)	(48)
Approved project expenditure outstanding				
at 30 September 2017	7,114	2,903	7,986	3,296
Project approvals in the year	11,389	9,755	12,786	11,075
Project disbursements in the year	(7,670)	(5,566)	(8,611)	(6,319)
Approved project expenditure outstanding				
at 30 September 2018	10,833	7,092	12,161	8,052

### 8. CUMULATIVE APPROVED PROJECTS AND DISBURSEMENTS TO DATE

Cumulatively, the totals of the Fund's approved projects and project disbursements to date are summarised:

	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	<b>€'000</b>	€'000
Total approved projects to date	739,907	728,496	927,350	914,630
Less contributions to investment companies	(27,142)	(27,142)	(40,023)	(40,023)
	712,765	701,354	887,327	874,607
Total disbursements to projects and administration				
costs to date	(701,932)	(694,262)	(875,166)	(866,555)
Approved project expenditure outstanding				
at 30 September 2018	10,833	7,092	12,161	8,052

To date the Fund has approved total payments in respect of specific projects and administration costs to a total of £740/€927m (2017: £728/€915m) after deduction of approved projects which did not proceed.

The approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2018 reported in the balance sheet represents the unspent balance of the projects approved for which a claim for payment of grant has yet to be received.

### 9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER LESS THAN ONE YEAR

	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Accruals	82	81	96	92
Deferred income	66	53	74	61
Loan – IFI Financial investments	2,671	2,642	3,000	3,000
	2,819	2,776	3,170	3,153

### **10. LOANS**

The aggregate of euro denominated loans made by the Fund and outstanding at 30 September 2018 amounted to  $\notin$ 160k (2017:  $\notin$ 160k). The equivalent sterling value as translated at the relevant year end rate amounted to %142k (2017: %140k).

### 11. COMPONENTS OF CASH AT BANK AND ON DEPOSIT

	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Cash	11,672	18,850	13,102	21,400
	11,672	18,850	13,102	21,400

# Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)

# ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR AND OF APPROVED PROJECTS OUTSTANDING AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 (UNAUDITED)

	Approved projects outstanding at 30 Sept 2017	Retranslated at 30 Sept 2018	11	Project approvals and admin costs	, admin	
Expressed in £'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Building Foundations	9	-	9	105	(114)	_
Building Bridges	5	1	6	(6)	_	_
Peace Projects						
Peace Walls	325	-	325	824	(848)	301
Peace Impact	3,765	13	3,778	3,468	(3,568)	3,678
Personal Youth	2,988	8	2,996	6,998	(3,140)	6,854
Development						
	7,092	22	7,114	11,389	(7,670)	10,833
Expressed in €'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Building Foundations	10	-	10	118	(128)	-
Building Bridges	7	-	7	(7)	-	
Peace Projects						
Peace Walls	369	(4)	365	925	(952)	338
Peace Impact	4,274	(33)	4,241	3,893	(4,006)	4,128
Personal Youth	3,392	(29)	3,363	7,857	(3,525)	7,695
Development						
	8,052	(66)	7,986	12,786	(8,611)	12,161











The International Fund for Ireland was established as an independent international organisation by the British and Irish governments in 1986. With contributions from the United States of America, the European Union, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, the total resources committed by the Fund to date amount to £740m and €927m.

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