



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2022



INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

The Fund delivers peace and reconciliation work across the six counties of Northern Ireland and the six southern border counties as illustrated in the map.



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A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with light-colored, slightly wavy hair, smiling gently. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark tie. The background is dark and out of focus.

CHAIR'S FOREWORD

In this important year, as we reflect on the successes and challenges which the International Fund for Ireland has faced since the signing of the historic Good Friday/Belfast Agreement in 1998, we must also consider how we protect and strengthen the gains which were so hard won and to ensure that the next twenty-five years sees those communities which the IFI supports fully realise the dividends of the peace process.

The IFI can be proud of its many achievements but also recognises that significant challenges need to be addressed to achieve real peace and reconciliation on the island of Ireland.

Social and economic development were severely impaired by the violence and disruption of the conflict. Prior to the Agreement, the IFI was involved in a period of dialogue and engagement with a range of partners and focused on creating economic opportunities, particularly within disadvantaged areas, in an attempt to encourage dialogue and reconciliation between communities.



LEFT: IFI Chair pictured with Congressman Richard Neal and US Consul General Belfast, Paul Narain.

In 2022, local communities across Northern Ireland and the southern border counties faced significant obstacles which have challenged the IFI to continuously evaluate how it delivers on its commitment to facilitate a sustainable peace across the island of Ireland. The absence of the NI Executive and Assembly and subsequent lack of political decision making in Northern Ireland has further exacerbated these challenges, as has the ongoing uncertainty around the impact of Brexit, the future of the NI Protocol and the ongoing cost-of-living crisis.

In the last year, the IFI's programmes have included specialised interventions to divert young people away from the threat of paramilitary recruitment, delivering a range of accreditations to more than 3,200 young people with a further 528 supported into further education and training. This is at a time when local communities, and in particular, young people are particularly vulnerable to the dangerous influence of paramilitary groups who continue to prey on society.

Cross border relations are complex, as recently highlighted by a joint research project between The Irish Times and Arins which examined the political and personal relations across the island of Ireland. The continued threat of paramilitary activity and political and economic uncertainty will also play a key role in the future prosperity of the communities in which the IFI work and will feature prominently as each of the four IFI funded programmes adapt and deliver vital interventions and support.



BELOW: Chair pictured at a PYDP project event.

Public conversations on key issues such as the constitutional position of the island of Ireland and the ongoing impact of paramilitary activity in society shows an awareness that these matters are impacting people's lives and require engagement and further dialogue to understand further.

The IFI acknowledges that a key focus of many of the conversations relates to the impact which the conflict has had on communities, recognising that many are not yet in a position to fully embrace and support. Intergenerational Trauma continues to be a key feature and as an organisation, the IFI is committed to working in collaboration with partners to identify long-term solutions for individuals and groups who require tailored support and understanding.

With the potential of a prolonged period of political inactivity, it is vital that work on the ground with local communities continues, supporting those who are yet to reap the rewards the peace process.

BELOW LEFT: Bede Corry, New Zealand's High Commissioner to London pictured with IFI Chair on a peace barriers visit to North Belfast.

BELOW RIGHT: IFI Chair pictured with Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence.

BOTTOM: IFI Chair pictured at a project visit with An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD.



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: Stella O'Leary, Tom Foley, Mr Edward Reilly and Mr John Feehery, United States of America; Ms Joanne Knight, European Union; Mr Brian Doherty, Canada; HE Richard Andrews and Mr Robert Owen-Jones, Australia and HE Brad Burgess, New Zealand.

Paddy Harte – Chair



Mr Harte has been a member of the Board of the International Fund for Ireland since March 2015 and was appointed Chair in March 2019. He has more than two decades of experience and expertise in economic development and peace building work.

He is a former Board Member of the cross-border finance company Ulster Community Investment Trust (now Community Finance Ireland) and the Collins Institute think-tank. He has served on the boards of a number of economic development boards including chairing the very successful Donegal Gathering. He has also worked as a leadership coach with a coalition of cross-party MLAs at the William J Clinton Leadership Institute, Belfast.

Bernie Butler – Board Member



Mrs Butler is a successful business person in the Food sector, as the CEO and one of the founder members of the family run business Good4U with sites in Sligo and Tyrone. Bernie has been at the cutting edge of the food industry for the past 30 years.

In addition to being a Board Member of the International Fund for Ireland, Bernie serves her local community as a member of the Sligo Economic Forum. Other positions held by Bernie include: Chair of Fáilte Ireland North West, Chair of The Model, Sligo, one of Ireland's leading contemporary arts centres and well known art collections, Member of the Creative Sligo Initiative, and Board Member of St Angela's Food Technology Centre Sligo.

Anne Carr – Board Member



Mrs Carr has worked with women in grassroots communities. She was part of the Women Together Programme and also involved in the creation of Community Dialogue. Anne has also worked with the Women Without Borders organisation, facilitating a story sharing project in India, bringing together family members bereaved in the 2012 Mumbai attacks.

She has been facilitating and developing Community Dialogue's "Peace Process According to Women" project in partnership with Women's Information Northern Ireland. This project follows a reflection, acknowledgement and shared progress process.

In 2008 she received the Community Relations Council Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Community Relations.

Avila Kilmurray – Board Member



Dr. Kilmurray was a founding member of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition, she was involved in negotiations for the Good Friday Agreement. Currently, Avila is a Programme Manager with The Social Change Initiative, an international NGO working to strengthen civil society activism and advocacy in human rights, migration issues and peace building.

Avila was the Director of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, she also acted as Regional Coordinator of the Rural Action Project (NI) and was Development Officer with the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action; a founder member of the Foundations for Peace Network - a peer learning network of independent foundations working in conflict-affected environments and serves on the Board of the St. Stephen's Green Trust (Ireland). She is also a member of the Transition Assistance Practice Expert Group of IFIT that supports peace building initiatives on a global basis.

Sadie Ward-McDermott – Board Member



Mrs Ward-McDermott has been working in Education and Training for over 25 years. Sadie started her career as a teacher and then took a post with the Louth VEC (Vocational Education Committee) working as an Adult Education Officer.

Sadie is currently employed as Director of Further Education and Training with the Louth Meath Education and Training Board. This work encompasses working in partnership with other agencies, to deliver peace programmes alongside provision on behalf of Government in the following areas: Adult and Community education, programmes targeting young persons not engaged in education/training, training to enable up-skilling of current workforce, supporting employers to grow skills development in company, and Further Education Colleges.

Ross Mealiff – Board Member



Mr Mealiff has 35 years' experience in hospitality management and leadership. His skill set sees his involvement in all aspects of business including operations, finance and management. An effective communicator and motivator, Ross has been Owner and Managing Director of Kilmore Hotel Cavan since 2005.

He has a passion for voluntary work and has worked extensively with the GAA, Cavan Chamber of Commerce and Clones Credit Union. He also has 20 years of experience serving in local Government in Monaghan as an independent councillor.

Peter Osborne – Board Member



Mr Osborne has been involved in political engagement, policy, participation, dispute resolution and reconciliation. He leads Rubicon undertaking a number and range of audits, strategies, mediations and planning. Peter is chair of the regional board of Remembering Srebrenica; and chairs the ARK Advisory Board, a joint social policy initiative by Northern Ireland's two universities (QUB and UU).

Peter was an elected representative for 12 years during which time he was a delegate to the Forum for Peace and Reconciliation and to the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement process. He was a director of the Building Change Trust; led the founding of the Open Government Network; chaired the Community Relations Council and chaired the Parades Commission for Northern Ireland.

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 £760m and €946m.



OBJECTIVES

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 2022 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 2021 to 30 September 2022, 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 Connecting Communities Strategy clusters around four key programmes, which include: Communities in Partnership, Peace Impact, Peace Barriers and Personal Youth Development. 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;
- a responsive approach to donor priorities.

COMMUNITIES IN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

It has been clear for some time that Brexit is likely to have significant consequences for the island of Ireland. Borders are in danger of, once again, becoming a significant barrier, physically and psychologically, to harmonious relationships on these islands. The issues impacting border counties (north and south) are still evolving but it is likely they will represent significant challenges for Governments.

These issues pose the risk of individuals and communities becoming isolated and alienated. The IFI must continue to further its mission of encouraging contact and dialogue across this island. The IFI will work to ensure that the bonds of friendship, neighbourliness and partnership built over the past number of years continue to flourish.

Our Communities in Partnership Programme (CiPP) aims to embed cross-border co-operation. It seeks to build resilience in the face of uncertainty and friction, and support the development of local leadership.

In line with our strong belief that communities are best placed to design their own future, groups are encouraged to put forward initiatives that show innovation and creativity in addressing the challenges they face.

The first Projects under CiPP were approved at the June 2022 Board Meeting. Projects involved in the programme must meet two criteria; build genuine connections on a cross-border basis and provide meaningful benefit to the communities involved. These bring people together to serve their communities in imaginative ways such as:

- Using culture and the arts to create a space for people to deepen their understanding of the past and set a path for their future
- Launching initiatives that strengthen civic engagement thereby empowering communities to face difficult conversations and a path for their future
- Facilitating contact and discussion between diverse groups working on peace and reconciliation across the island
- Creating projects that engage and empower young people from both sides of the border
- Taking practical steps to improve people's social and material wellbeing
- Creating the conditions necessary for the development of social enterprise and innovation.

CiPP PROJECTS

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

- ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON
1. County Armagh Community Development, Armagh
- BELFAST CITY
2. Integrated Education Fund, Belfast
3. Politics In Action, Belfast
- DERRY CITY AND STRABANE
4. Bogside & Brandywell Initiative, Derry

- DONEGAL
5. Donegal Local Sports Partnership CLG, Letterkenny
- LOUTH
6. Community Finance Ireland, Ardee



CiPP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

Lead Partner Name/Address	Project Description	Financial Commitment*
ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON		
County Armagh Community Development Markethill, Armagh Co Armagh BT60 1PH	The project will create opportunities for people from grass roots communities to interact on a cross-border and cross-community basis engaging participants in workshops to tackle food poverty and supporting greater access to affordable and healthy foods at a local level.	£82,433
BELFAST CITY		
Integrated Education Fund Purdys Lane, Belfast Co Antrim BT8 7AR	The project which has a research element, provides an opportunity for small rural border areas to come together and look at issues which affect the sustainability of their towns and villages.	£99,551
Politics In Action 83 University Street. Belfast Co Antrim BT7 1HP	The project aims to amplify youth voices through cross-border cooperation. It will deliver a structured programme focused on critical thinking, leadership and activist skills bringing young people together to foster sustainable connections.	£99,574
DERRY CITY AND STRABANE		
Bogside & Brandywell Initiative Rath Mor Centre Blighs Lane, Derry Co Londonderry BT48 0LZ	The project will build the capacity of the partner organisations, through training and relationship building, awareness-raising activities and high-profile events with a focus on health, wellbeing, safety and environmental issues.	£100,000
DONEGAL		
Donegal Local Sports Partnership CLG Office No. 7, River Front House Pearse Road, Letterkenny Co Donegal	Delivery of a 'Community Activity Play' project that will benefit children and adults living in disadvantaged urban residential areas on each side of the border.	€115,000
LOUTH		
Community Finance Ireland 16 Ardee Business Park Hale Street, Ardee Co Louth A92 XN79	A Social Enterprise Capacity Building project for the border region, facilitating locally driven and owned sustainable enterprises.	€102,100

* These projects were approved in June 2022.

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.

RIGHT: PIP projects planning a conference to build confidence and leadership within PUL communities.



The PIP programme places particular emphasis on engaging with disaffected communities, these projects are critical to building a truly integrated, shared and peaceful society. 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 PIP programme strives to improve relationships and build cohesion between communities through creating the space for increased contact and dialogue, it supports projects to be more creative and innovative in their approach to dealing with contentious issues.

RIGHT: Guests pictured at a recent launch of a new PIP project in Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.



PIP PROJECTS

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

ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY

1. Dalaradia Cultural Historical Association, Newtownabbey

ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON

2. REGENERATE, Portadown

BELFAST CITY

3. Centre for Civic Dialogue & Development Ltd (CCDD), Belfast
4. INTERCOMM, Belfast
5. The ACT Initiative, Belfast
6. Twaddell Woodvale Residents Association (TWRA), Belfast

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS

7. Ulidia Training, Ballymoney

DERRY CITY AND STRABANE

8. Creggan Enterprises Ltd (Unheard Voices), Derry

9. North West Cultural Partnership – Bready & District Ulster Scots Development Association, Londonderry

10. Resolution North West, Londonderry

FERMANAGH AND OMAGH

11. Turas Na nDaoine, Lisnaskea

MID AND EAST ANTRIM

12. Carson Project, Ballymena
13. Factory Community Forum, Larne

MID ULSTER

14. Ealu, Dungannon
15. Sperrin Cultural Awareness Association, Magherafelt
16. Sperrins & Glens Teach Na Failte, Bellaghy

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN

17. Community Restorative Justice – Newry / Armagh, Newry

CAVAN

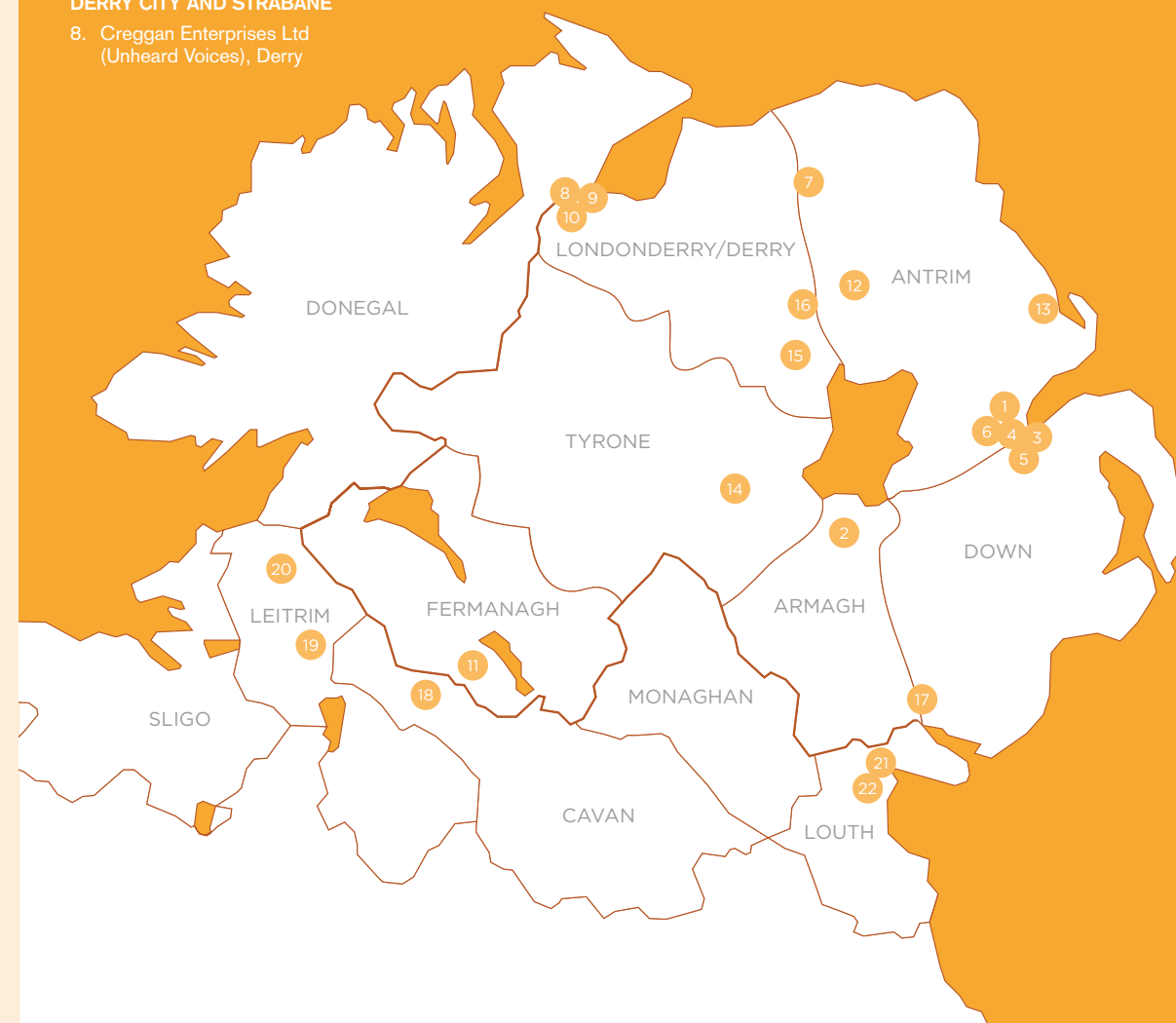
18. Swanlinbar Development Association, Swanlinbar

LEITRIM

19. Ballinamore Area Community Council, Ballinamore
20. North Leitrim Glens Development Co., Manorhamilton

LOUTH

21. Ait na nDaoine, Dundalk
22. Redeemer Family Resource Centre, Dundalk



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.

In the last reporting year:



19,036

NI people involved in capacity building, events and training



750

NI intra / inter cross-border relationships

1161

NI core and general events and activities



361

NI accreditations and qualifications received



OUR AIM: 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.



126

young people have participated in southern border counties



56

taken good relations training in southern border counties



9

have secured apprenticeships in southern border counties



41

have secured employment in southern border counties

SPERRIN CULTURAL AWARENESS ASSOCIATION (SCAA)



Sperrin Cultural Awareness Association (SCAA) developed a diversionary and support programme for young people in response to heightened unrest in the Loyalist community.

ABOVE: Young people involved in the Rangers mentorship Programme take part in a football tournament.



LEFT: Participants attended a prize giving ceremony at the end of the successful partnership with Rangers Football Academy.

The programme was designed to build mechanisms to reduce or remove anti-social behaviour during the tense summer marching season.

SCAA partnered up with the Rangers Soccer Academy to engage young people in a new mentorship programme. The attraction of Rangers FC saw dozens aged from 11-17 years sign up to spend their Friday nights learning new skills rather than roaming the streets.

The Project is mainly funded through the IFI's Peace Impact Programme but received a further grant of £10k through the IFI'S Diversionary Funding initiative, which offers critical support for projects who need to provide further intervention. The 16-week project with Rangers has been a huge success with up to 90 young people taking part.

SCAA Development Manager Darren Richardson says: "It is easy for young people who are vulnerable or marginalised to be manipulated coming up to the parading season.

"Using the Rangers 'brand' we wanted to support and mentor them whilst challenging them in a respectful manner by delivering football activity and education through workshops to explore the causes and consequences of racism, sectarianism and anti-social behaviour.

"We have had different people in delivering workshops, including the PSNI and football referees. We've also provided life skills training and education.

"Around 50 young people travelled to Ibrox to see a Rangers match and then took part in diversity themed workshops in Scotland."

While the aim of the project was to prevent vulnerable young people being exploited during times of tension and uncertainty in the PUL community, it also set out to equip them with knowledge in good relations and citizenship as well as provide personal development to improve their employability.

SCAA has been working at the heart of Protestant Unionist Loyalist (PUL) communities since 2007 helping to resolve disputes related to parades, raise mutual understanding of cultural traditions, engage with marginalised young people and help develop the communities.

Originally set up in Magherafelt, it has continued to grow over the years and today has over 300 volunteers working in seven hubs throughout Mid Ulster, Antrim and Co. Londonderry.

Working on the ground, the group has built trust with local PUL communities including paramilitary groups and ex-prisoners.

That hard earned trust, together with strong partnerships with statutory bodies, including the PSNI has seen SCAA become the support group for mediation when tensions run high.

In the past year the charity has been dealing with increasing discontent created by the uncertainty of the NI Protocol and the increasing focus on Irish Unity.

Darren says: "There is a feeling of neglect in the PUL community, and many don't see positive leadership. Misinformation is always prevalent which has also heightened tensions.

"Our focus is to get the community to be proactive instead of reactive and using our considerable outreach programme we can help to deal with conflict and tensions very efficiently.

"We have spent a lot of time building structures with statutory bodies, working together with a common purpose which we see as more sustainable.

"It is not about throwing money at a problem but equipping people with the knowledge and ability to deal with it themselves.

"I would be known for not giving people 'a hand out' but I have a 'hand up' approach which involves addressing your needs and giving you the skills to provide that sustainability."

Peace building is at the heart of SCAA's work and it has also been successful in helping transform a Co. Antrim Eleventh Night bonfire in Randalstown, which was perceived as contentious, into a more welcoming and inclusive community cultural festival.

Partnering with Northern Ireland Alternatives, who also work with communities to establish restorative justice, they have established the first Mid Ulster Restorative Practice Centre.

Instead of an event marred by sectarian chants and anti-social behaviour, this year the bonfire became an inclusive community day of fun and celebration. It is a model that the charity hopes to roll out to other areas in the future.

The devastating impact of the cost-of-living crisis is not just being felt by the communities SCAA works with, but also by the charity itself.

"Some of our volunteers, especially in rural areas, have had to take on second jobs or work longer hours to make ends meet which means they don't have the time to devote to us. Some who work in rural areas can't afford the fuel costs to get to us.

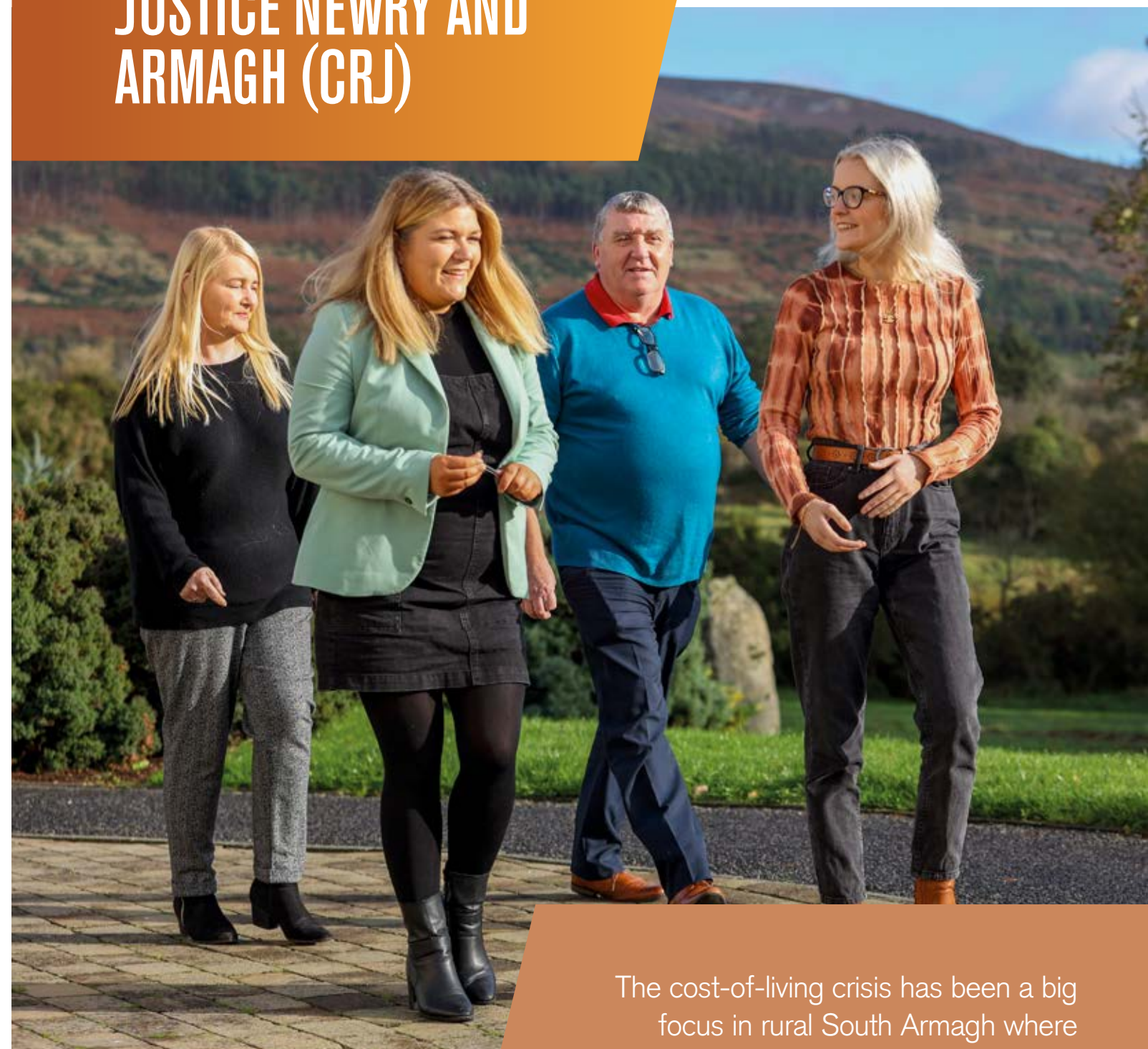
"There is no doubt that people will suffer this winter and we are currently looking at how we can signpost people to get help and also provide whatever support we can."

BELOW LEFT: SCAA Development Manager Darren Richardson delivering a presentation about the project.

BELOW RIGHT: Project participants take part in a workshop and discussion.



COMMUNITY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE NEWRY AND ARMAGH (CRJ)



The cost-of-living crisis has been a big focus in rural South Armagh where isolation is once again adding to the challenges in community outreach work.

ABOVE: The project delivers activity in rural South Armagh in the border region.



LEFT: The Project engages with a number of local partners including a Men's Shed in South Armagh.

Community Restorative Justice Newry and Armagh (CRJ) has been working hard to ensure that people are getting all of the Government support available to them. Transformative work has been going on through The Digging Deeper Project which has been funded by the IFI since 2014.

While food bank style 'pantries' have been springing up in towns across Northern Ireland in response to growing need, it is one of the challenges of this rural area that people don't have the advantage of being near to a town.

Project coordinator Mercedes Hunt explains: "The cost-of-living crisis has hit this area hard, and we've been working for a few months now to help people, mostly through welfare clinics to ensure they are getting any support they are entitled to.

"We've also been helping families to sort out school uniform and free school meal grants. Fuel poverty is a big issue because we are rural and people have to travel some distance to access services. Also, most people rely on home heating oil and are not connecting to the gas supply so they are not going to benefit from the price cap.

"Families have told us that to meet increasing costs they have been forced to reduce extra-curricular activities for their children because they can't afford them, or the travel costs involved. This has had a direct impact on mental health in young people post-pandemic."

CRJ has had a huge presence in the area since 1999 working across Newry, South Armagh and into the border communities. Once known as the most militarised area in Europe, the legacy of the conflict still causes barriers and difficulties for the communities here.

The Project has a strong focus on promoting peace and reconciliation, working closely with women, ex-prisoners, young adults and people who generally feel disengaged from their community, politics and the Peace Process.

Mercedes describes some of the unique challenges facing these rural border communities: "We can't ignore the fact that South Armagh is an area coming out of conflict, at one point it was the most militarised area in Europe.

"The legacy of the conflict still causes barriers and difficulties for people. The image of South Armagh in general is not a true reflection of the communities here. These outside perceptions cause a feeling of vilification which in turn decreases engagement with other communities and causes a lack of trust between people in the area and statutory agencies.



"Under investment from statutory and other funding bodies hits people financially and personally. The only consistent investment to peace in the region is through the IFI.

"People are also dealing with a lack of employment opportunities. Women with children find it difficult to maintain employment because of low childcare accessibility, combined with increasing travel costs, especially in rural areas. The communities are very close-knit and survive because of the strength of character of the people."

CRJ has been working with the communities on projects focused to bring people together and enable them to resolve some of the many issues affecting their quality of life.

Through the strong presence of the project, local people were able to contribute to the South Armagh Policing Review last year.

Over 500 members of the community engaged with the Review to express their views in the hope of bringing about change.

Mercedes says: "This was a huge achievement for Digging Deeper and shows that the community understands they are entitled to a certain level of service. It shows a shift in attitudes toward policing and access to a policing service.



TOP LEFT: Improving community engagement and understanding with those who feel disengaged is a core part of project delivery.

TOP RIGHT: The Project works hard to change negative perception and encourage more positive dialogue with statutory agencies.

"We followed this with an innovative and first-of-its-kind conference on cross border community safety and policing. One speaker Detective Superintendent John O'Flaherty raised the issue of how community safety apps and alerts are not collaborating on a cross-border basis.

"We were able to encourage members of the community who were somewhat disengaged to attend the conference and engage in the subject. This served as a platform to link some of the community members to academics and activists which enabled them to tell their stories and work together on moving forward. "

Working closely with statutory agencies on behalf of the border communities, CRJ has also created a platform for these agencies to collaborate on meeting the specific needs of South Armagh.

Recently they have been helping give women a voice through a cross-border group focused on encouraging civic engagement on issues directly faced by women in the communities.

The work has been making a real difference to the individual lives of participants as well as allowing the women to have a positive impact on the communities they live in.



BELOW LEFT: Project coordinator Mercedes Hunt pictured on right.

BELOW RIGHT: Participants involved in CRJ meet to chat and develop relationships with other local residents.

SWANLINBAR DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (SDA)



Swanlinbar Development Association (SDA) is a powerful example of the transformative impact the IFI's Peace Impact Programme (PIP) can make on a small rural border community.

ABOVE: SDA works with all ages in the community and delivers a range of activities including a weekly dance class.



LEFT: Heather Humphreys TD, Minister for Social Protection of Ireland, Brendan Fay, Clifford Kelly, Peter Mc Vitty, John Paul Feeley – all Cavan County Council Councillors; Tony Mc Govern Chairperson SDA & Terry Hyland Cavan Local Development Company officially open the hostel.

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

SDA has worked hard 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 IFI funded 'Finding our Way' Project, which works with all ages, is now based in SDA'S new Trivia House, a beautiful, big, old Georgian building, also originally funded by the IFI.

Renovation works were completed and a seven bed room hostel was officially opened March 26, 2022. This new base, which has been five years in the planning, provides a neutral community space which has been used for a range of activities over the past year.

The hostel welcomed its first guests in September 2021 who were visitors to The Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark. People have stayed at the hostel from as far away as Germany, demonstrating the positive economic impact that the hostel has brought to the village. In recent times, as a direct response to the war in Ukraine, the hostel is now a refuge for people fleeing that conflict.

Eighteen refugees from Ukraine arrived in May and a huge effort was made to help them settle in.

SDA Coordinator, Noel Maguire explains: "We have a couple of families with three generations, grandparents, parents and grandchildren. We have worked with other agencies to help them to register for social welfare, local doctors, dentists and schools.

"We provided translators, organised day trips and volunteer drivers to bring them to appointments. The local community donated clothes and we've helped them with different activities such as English classes, aerobics and baking.

"We have worked very closely with the local Church of Ireland, using their local parish hall to host IFI programmes and workshops along with activities for our Ukrainian visitors. It has been great to have been able to help."

The IFI project coordinator has supported the SDA to submit a number of successful applications for funding. This has enabled the hostel to take on four staff and it also secured finance for a village enhancement scheme.

The village suffered badly during the economic downturn with many businesses forced to close and their premises falling empty and into neglect. Finance has been secured for a village enhancement scheme which is now underway.



TOP LEFT: Marty Shannon, SDA; Noel Maguire Finding Our Way Co-ordinator; Tania Sweeney & Aidan Curry, SDA.

TOP RIGHT: Noel Maguire Finding Our Way Co-ordinator.

It will see the transformation of these downtrodden buildings in the heart of the village with 20 getting a new look, three murals created along with new art installations and window graphics.

Noel says so much more work has been achieved: "The IFI funding has strengthened the group's confidence and capacity to develop a social enterprise which was achieved in the opening of the hostel.

"We have also worked to build relationships across the border in Fermanagh, in particular within the PUL community.

"It has been challenging, but slowly we have managed to engage participants and built strong relationships locally with the Church of Ireland community, West End Community in Enniskillen and the wider Cleenish Community, during difficult times with Brexit and Covid 19 pandemic."

This included a scheme with two primary schools from both communities, Florencecourt Primary School in Co Fermanagh and Swanlinbar National School, where friendships have been developed among the children.

A successful soccer summer camp facilitated by FAI coaches gave young people from both communities the chance to learn new skills and build friendships with each other.

Cross-border cross-community women's and men's groups also built strong relationships and were able to tackle difficult conversations in a respectful manner.

The border communities have had challenges with Brexit and the NI Protocol which the Association has also been working hard to tackle.

"With no NI Protocol in place and the Stormont Government not sitting, people are worried about the future and what might happen. There are concerns that a border frontier might be re-introduced to replace the Irish Sea Border and there are fears that could mean custom checkpoints around Swanlinbar.

"For local people that loss of free movement could have a severe economic impact on cross-border trade locally as well as on tourism on Cuilcagh Mountain and on the hostel."

The cost-of-living crisis has also been a major concern.

Being a rural area extra transport costs for people, accessibility to services and ability to shop around for best value have all added to the daily pressures facing the community.

Noel adds: "People are really concerned about the impact of the cost of living as everything is nearly doubling in price but wages are static.

"With very little or no public transport, running a car is now a massive expense but essential for people to get to work. Home heating oil and food prices are increasing every week and inflation continues to rise.

"We are working with voluntary and statutory agencies to provide support for anyone struggling at the moment, signposting people and ensuring they are getting all the financial help available to them."

Tony McGovern, Chair of Swanlinbar Development Association concludes by speaking of the enduring legacy of the International Fund and the massive difference it has made at a grass roots level.

"The International Fund for Ireland supported us and this border community at a very difficult time; they placed their trust in us and they provided a platform that gave us the confidence to invest in our future."

PIP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY		
Dalaradia Cultural Historical Association 30 Whitehouse Park, Newtownabbey Co. Antrim BT37 9SQ	This project will deliver a community transformation programme which will address a range of local issues, including, replacing the visible manifestation of paramilitarism and working towards ending coercive control in the communities.	£72,926
ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON		
REGENERATE Address Park, Portadown Co Armagh BT62 3TP	To deliver a programme of capacity building across 5 PUL housing estates in Portadown. The work will tackle capacity issues, lack of a cohesive voice and intra and inter community relations.	£45,100
BELFAST CITY		
Centre for Civic Dialogue & Development Ltd (CCDD) Falls Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT12 6FB	To develop their model of intervention and mediation within the area of West Belfast, to engage with those communities who feel they have not benefited from or are removed from the Peace Process.	£24,152
INTERCOMM Antrim Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT15 5AA	A conflict transformation programme. The project will engage with those furthest from the Peace Process, support local communities deal with contentious issues facing their areas.	£87,727
The ACT Initiative 140 Shankhill Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT13 2DB	A conflict transformation project delivered through three key elements: Developing the Peace Building Capacity of Women, Conflict Transformation Interventions & Community Leadership.	£167,238
Twaddell Woodvale Residents Association (TWRA) Springboard Opportunities Ltd – Directions The Cabin, Twaddell Avenue Belfast, Co Antrim BT13 3LE	The programme will build partnerships at a local level, it will also seek to establish relationships on a cross-community and cross-border basis to ensure that tension factors can be identified early and addressed.	£55,220
CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS		
Ulidia Training Main Street, Ballymoney Co Antrim BT53 6AL	A conflict transition programme to address issues such as social justice, mediation around threats and feuds and promoting positive engagement in peace building and legacy issues.	£58,293
DERRY CITY AND STRABANE		
Creggan Enterprises Ltd (Unheard Voices) Rath Mor Centre Blighs Lane, Derry Co Londonderry BT48 0LZ	Quiet diplomacy. Establishment of a Critical Engagement Forum, Increased inclusion of women in peace building. Mediation, negotiation and relationship building with the PUL community.	£102,861

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
North West Cultural Partnership – Bready & District Ulster Scots Development Association 20-22 Hawkin Street The Fountain, Londonderry Co Londonderry BT47 6RE	To deliver a programme to support the PUL communities both Urban and Rural deal with contentious issues. To engage with Cross Border groups and network with other PUL and CNR groups in the North West Area.	£119,787
Resolution North West 55-59 Heron Way Waterside, Londonderry Co Londonderry BT47 6LE	Mediation and negotiation, challenging paramilitary control, core identity work, community development and cohesion-building.	£43,926
FERMANAGH AND OMAGH		
Turas Na nDaoine Eshnascreen, Knocks Lisnaskea Co Fermanagh BT92 5AR	The project will focus on building cross community engagement, developing social economy initiatives and working with disaffected young people both in Enniskillen and in the wider border area.	£34,727
MID AND EAST ANTRIM		
Carson Project Queen Street, Ballymena Co Antrim BT42 2BQ	The project works 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 provides capacity and skills training.	£48,762
Factory Community Forum 164 Old Glenarm Road, Larne Co Antrim BT40 1TS	To deliver a community cohesion project targeting young people vulnerable to criminal elements in the area. Develop an education and employment programme for young people, women and ex combatants in the area.	£83,874
MID ULSTER		
Ealu Shamble Lane, Dungannon Co Tyrone BT70 1BW	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.	£65,233
Sperrin Cultural Awareness Association Union Arcade, Union Road Magherafelt Co Londonderry BT45 5PS	This project will target both those who are involved in or support sectarian, anti-social or violent behaviour or activity as well as continuing to show leadership and support those on the transformation journey.	£60,428
Sperrins & Glens Teach Na Failte Main Street, Bellaghy Co Londonderry BT45 8HT	The core work of this project includes peer support for ex-prisoners, training and skills development and youth outreach, and a mediation and negotiation service to manage the issues causing tensions at a local level.	£24,438
NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN		
Community Restorative Justice – Newry / Armagh Ballybot House Cornmarket, Newry Co Armagh BT35 8BG	The project will increase community engagement and build positive sustainable peace and prosperity in areas suffering from high levels of economic and social deprivation.	£67,899

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
CAVAN		
Swanlinbar Development Association Trivia House Church Rd, Hawkswood Swanlinbar, Co. Cavan	West Cavan West Fermanagh capacity and peace building project focused on and delivered through an area based approach, bringing Protestant and Catholic Communities together in this Border Region.	€70,535
LEITRIM		
Ballinamore Area Community Council The Den Swanlinbar Road, Ballinamore Co. Leitrim N41 R522	A cross-community development project to provide skills and personal development training to support and create opportunities for learning and education, community transformation and peace building.	€39,312
North Leitrim Glens Development Co. The Glens Centre The New Line, Manorhamilton Co. Leitrim	A cross-border cross community programme of capacity building and community participation.	€83,548
LOUTH		
Ait na nDaoine 2 Grange Cl Muirhevnamore, Dundalk Co. Louth A91 X36X	A cross-border project to engage with residents, families and young people in the area to increase their involvement with community development and peace and reconciliation.	€92,647
Redeemer Family Resource Centre Demesne, 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.	€70,864

PEACE BARRIERS 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.

RIGHT: The transformation of a harsh Peace Wall on North Queen Street in Belfast has improved residents lives. They now have gardens and can access their house via the front door.



The Peace Barriers Programme (formerly known as Peace Walls Programme) was launched in January 2012. It 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.

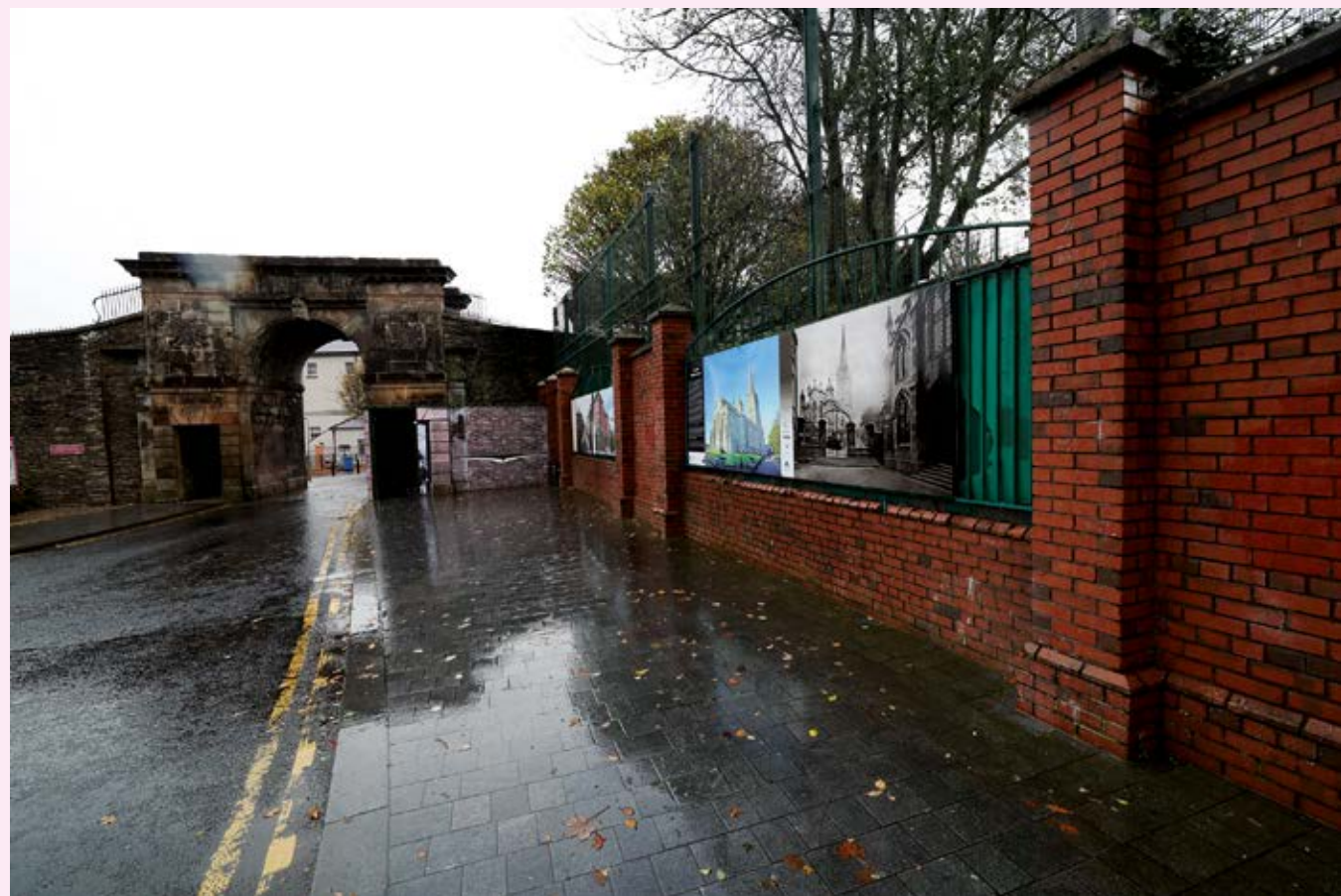


RIGHT: The Peace Wall that runs through the middle of Alexandra Park in North Belfast.

BELOW LEFT: A project celebration event held in Belfast City Hall with Belfast Lord Mayor, Tina Hall.

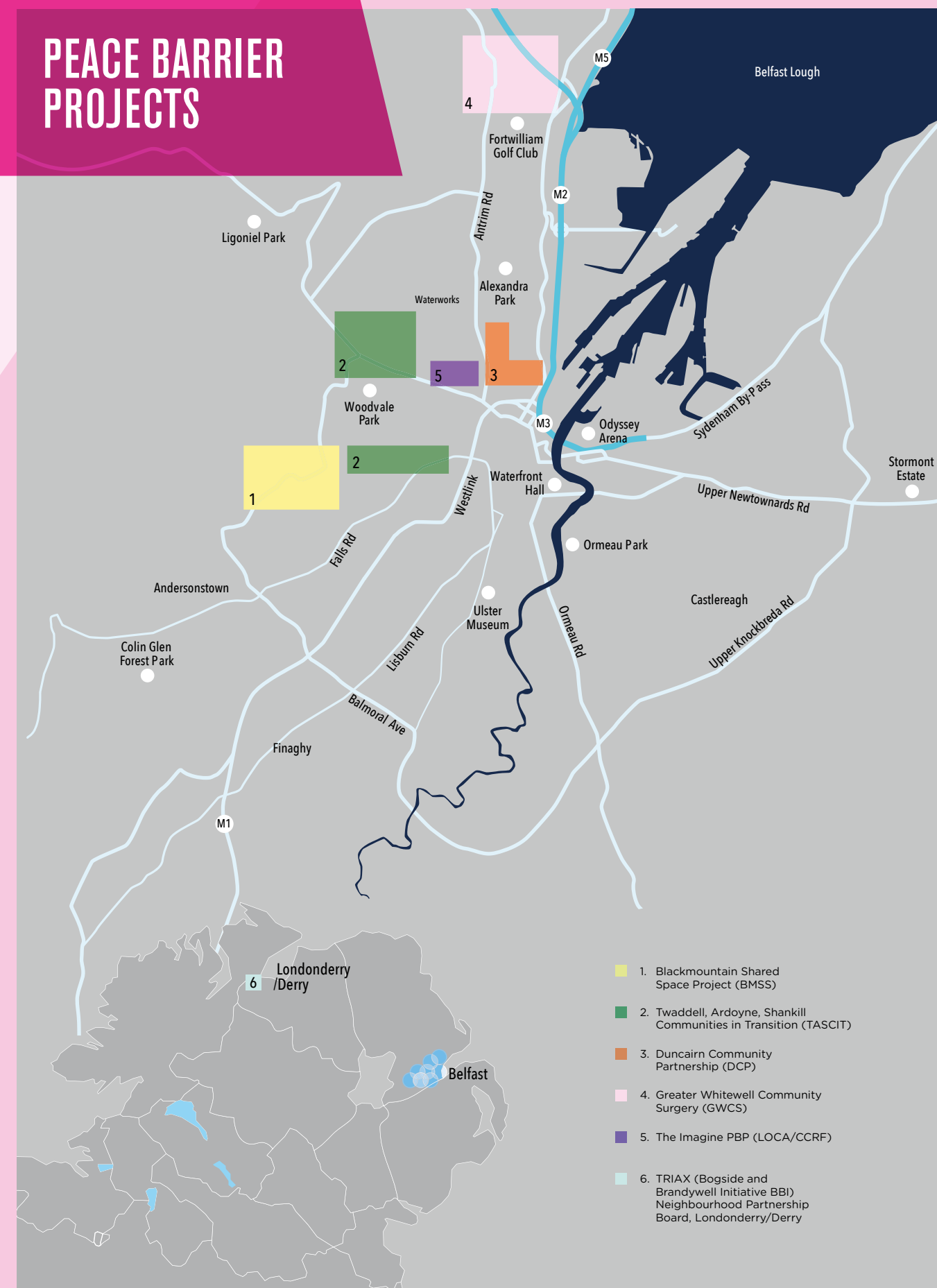


BELOW RIGHT: PBP projects discussion the impact of their work during a stakeholder visit with guests.

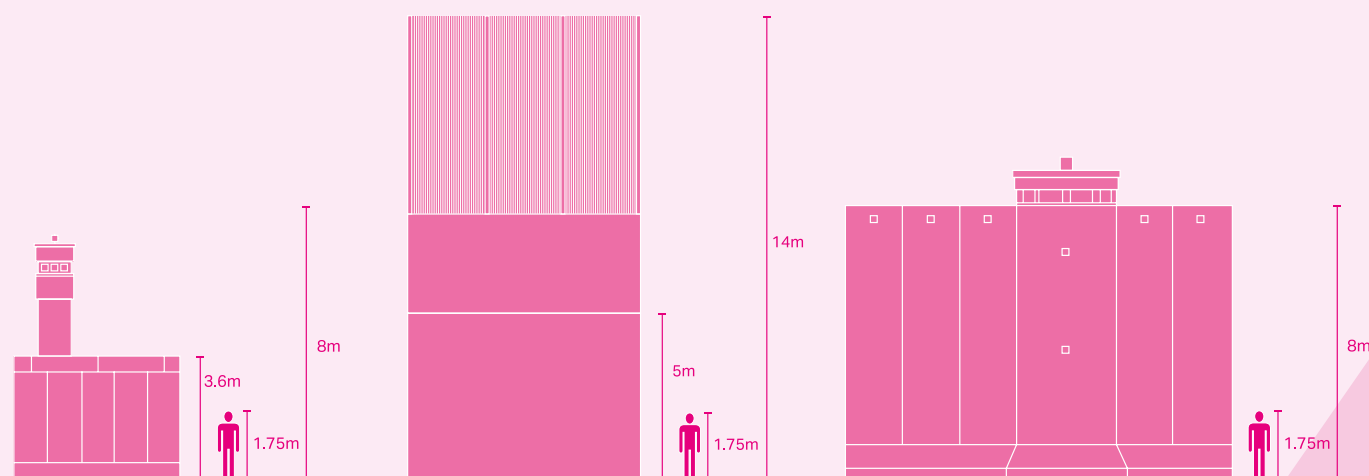


ABOVE: Bishops Gate interface in Derry/ Londonderry.

PEACE BARRIER PROJECTS



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



Berlin Wall

Cupar Way, Belfast

Palestine Wall

32
YEARS

53
YEARS

22
YEARS

In the past reporting year our Peace Barriers Programme has delivered:



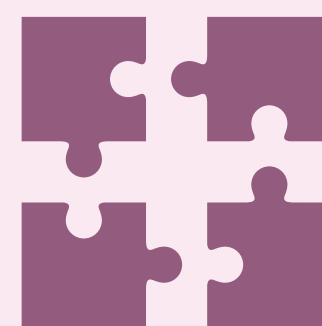
3338

residents have been involved in discussions

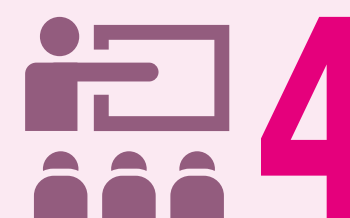


83%

of target group in favour of Peace Barrier removal / reduction / re-imaging 21/22



6
PROJECTS



44%

of the target group engaged in discussions focussed on Peace Barrier removal, reduction or change in 2021/22

OUR AIM: To develop and deliver a range of confidence and relationship building interventions within and between communities to help residents reach a position where they feel it is safe and appropriate to proceed with the removal of peace barriers in their area.



331

meetings with Agencies relating to Peace Barriers/Peace Building/Interfaces



177

inter-community events/activities/ discussions delivered



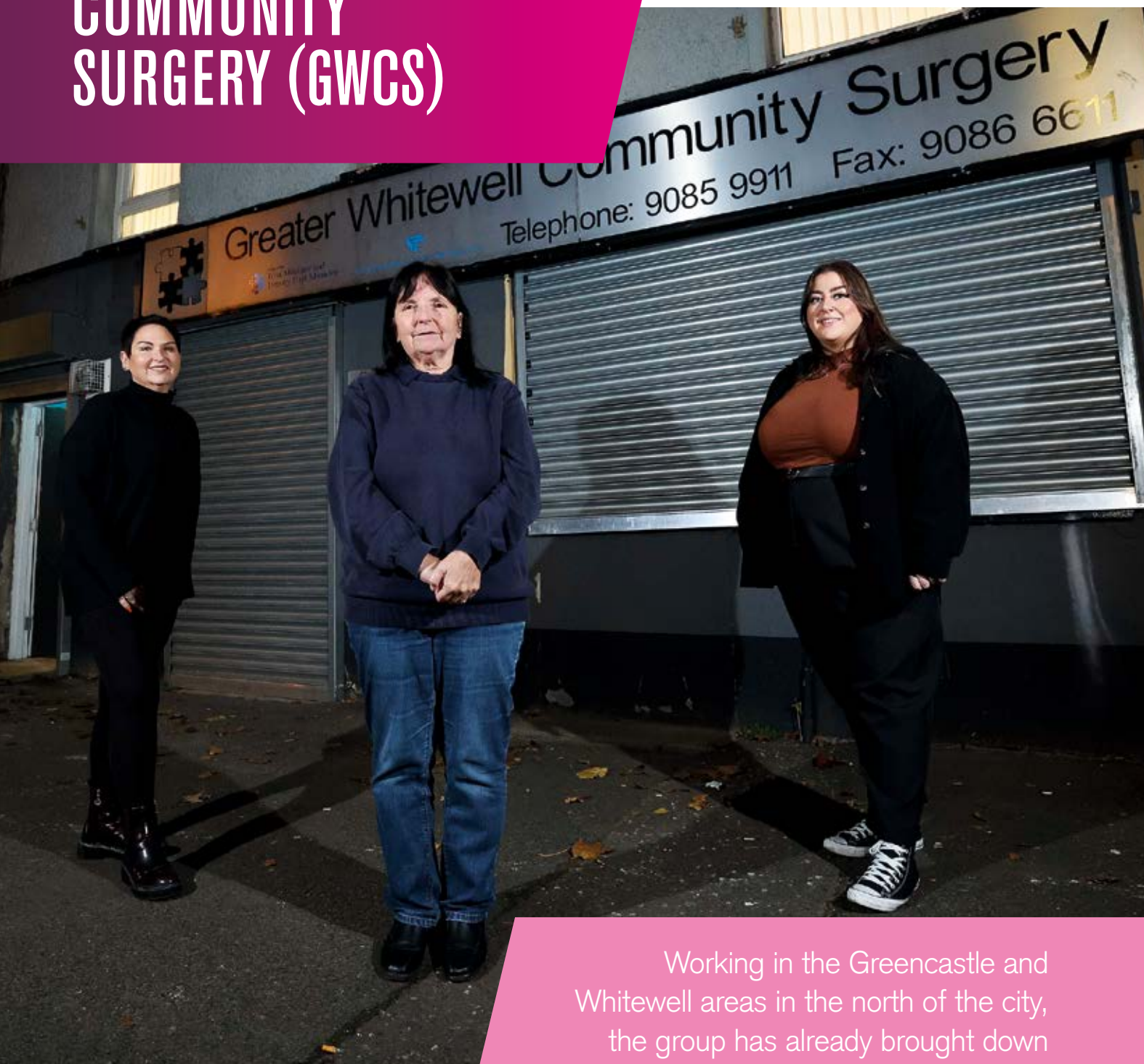
68
intra-community agreements were reached
inter-community agreements were reached



29

sites with agreements reached and/or ongoing talks for change

GREATER WHITEWELL COMMUNITY SURGERY (GWCS)



Working in the Greencastle and Whitewell areas in the north of the city, the group has already brought down significant physical barriers as well as overcoming emotional blocks which for years have kept communities apart.

ABOVE: Project Manager Geraldine O'Kane (centre) pictured with colleagues Cathy Rourke and Seriana Rourke.



LEFT: The development of a men's group has created further discussions around peace building and barrier removal.

Promoting good community relations, religious and racial harmony, plus equality and diversity is at the heart of the Surgery's work.

The benefits which flow from their efforts have been huge with both sides taking part in cross-community programmes helping to advance conflict resolution and reconciliation and also raising cultural awareness within and between communities in the area.

On the ground people feel more comfortable to move freely between each other's communities and there has been less flags erected in the area.

Greater Whitewell Community Surgery (GWCS) has been funded by the IFI Peace Barriers Programme since 2012. The aim is to develop and deliver a range of confidence and relationship building interventions within and between interface communities to help residents feel it is safe and appropriate to remove interfaces in their area.

Where Peace Walls once kept the two communities apart, now thanks to the work of GWCS, shared spaces bring them together.

However, it is highly sensitive work which involves ongoing good relations with many statutory bodies, Government and most importantly, the communities affected.

GWCS Project Manager Geraldine O'Kane explains: "It is all about getting people to talk and we have ongoing programmes for all age groups from three years up to 18, as well as a senior's group, a men's group, a women's group and a young women's group. They are all involved in ongoing discussions around peace building and barrier removal."

Without a community hub – something the GWCS is lobbying hard for – their good work can often be limited, due to something as simple as a room for meetings not being readily available. This hinders the opportunity to unite groups and keep momentum going.

Geraldine says: "Throughout the year, we have had to have many structural repairs to our premises and accept that it constrains many activities due to its layout. We don't have room to host our groups or programmes and have to try and get space elsewhere.

"We have engaged with Apex Housing Association and other agencies on a project at Ballygolan with the hope of establishing a new community facility that would be leased to GWCS as part of a new housing scheme there.

"Plans have been prepared and negotiations are ongoing. We see it as a shared community hub which no one takes ownership of, so it won't be a case of this is 'ours' or 'yours'.

"It would make a massive difference to our work.

"At the minute our programmes run in church halls or the local chapel hall, wherever we can find space. Often that requires weeks of notice beforehand which means often the momentum is gone.

"If we had our own rooms to run our programmes it would be so much easier."

The past year has also seen significant advancement in reaching people previously resistant to or unsure of what it would mean to take down the Peace Barriers beside them.

Geraldine explains: "Sometimes it can be just one person who is not on board and that can halt progress.

"This year we worked with a larger group of women who were originally reluctant to engage with us but are now in discussions on the Peace Barriers. We have now successfully negotiated that the Peace Wall gate at Serpentine Road/Navarra Place remains open to allow freedom of movement between communities for the first time.

"Some of the residents are now in agreement that the school fence at Hazelwood Primary School needs to be discussed with us at length. It is good to now see supportive attitudes.

"Our Community Development worker has successfully interviewed one resident on their attitudinal journey from a negative to a positive response on the Serpentine/Navarra barrier. This will help us to better approach negotiations at the remaining Peace Barriers."

In an area of high deprivation, the group has found itself at the very centre of the cost-of-living crisis. Phone calls asking for help with food, electricity and heating bills are now a daily occurrence.

Geraldine says: "People are terrified, they are sitting without gas or heating and it's not even really cold yet.

"They then are risking health problems with damp in their homes.

"Even families who are working and single parents who are on 16-hour contracts are struggling to pay bills. We have a lot of pensioners who can't afford to put their heat on. It is heart breaking. We are working with St Vincent De Paul and the food banks to do what we can to help those most in need.

"We are also running a weekly advice centre to support people to access any help that is available to them.

"People are already starting to despair about Christmas. We have young families who can't even think about paying for Christmas dinner never mind buying toys for their children. We are already preparing to provide food packs to the most in need over Christmas."

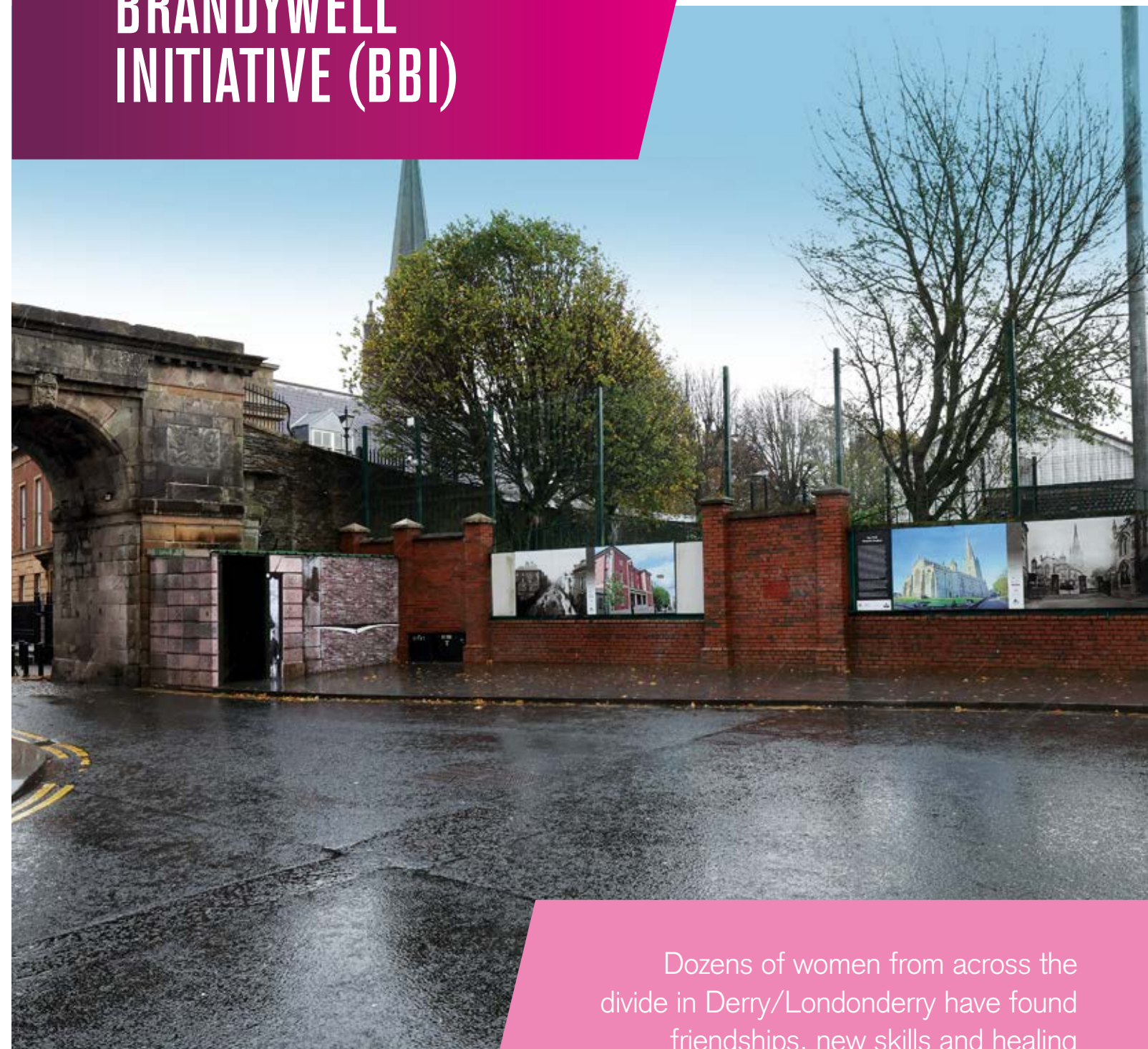
In the year ahead the group will continue its good work on delivering inter-community cultural and educational programmes for all ages as well as continue its relationship with outside agencies towards removal of the remaining Peace Walls in the area.



BELOW LEFT: Transformation of an interface at Navarra Place, North Belfast into a Play Park and Shared Space.

BELOW RIGHT: Engaging with residents regularly is key to the success of the project.

BOGSIDE AND BRANDYWELL INITIATIVE (BBI)



Dozens of women from across the divide in Derry/Londonderry have found friendships, new skills and healing through a series of projects that grew out of lockdown.

ABOVE: Artwork beside the Bishops's Gate interface in Derry/Londonderry.



LEFT: A guest speaker delivering a workshop to participants.

What began as a simple way of reaching out to isolated women during the pandemic has snowballed into a series of peace building projects led by the IFI-funded Bogside and Brandywell Initiative (BBI).

'Women, Words and Walls' has become a huge initiative which has spawned a video, a poignant new display on the Bishop Street Peace Wall, a stage play and a new Hens' Shed – a social hub bringing women from different communities together regularly for company and new activities.

BBI's Project Worker Rachel Mullan-Carlin explains how it all began: "Through delivering food parcels during lockdown we discovered some women were alone and very isolated.

"We started a weekly two-hour Zoom meeting every Thursday night to provide some social interaction and initially it was only for six weeks but it was so successful that it went on for 12 weeks.

"At first the women just talked about themselves and their lives but very soon they started to open up to discuss their experiences of the conflict. The facilitator of the Zoom calls recorded the conversations and put together a video which proved very powerful.

"We then got some of the women's quotes and put them on banners and boards which have gone onto the Bishop Street Fountain interface wall.

"In our experience getting people to open up and talk about the conflict requires a soft and gradual approach and it can take a long time of building up friendships and trust before they feel able to open up.

"The women on the Zoom calls felt comfortable with each other very quickly and talked about very personal stuff. Some of them had family members killed in the Troubles. It became almost like a group therapy session and there were tears sometimes as well."

From an initial group of around 12 women on Zoom, once restrictions lifted and they were able to come together in person, numbers quickly grew.

BBI developed writing workshops so that they could continue to build on the sharing of personal narratives and hard-hitting inter-community dialogue.

A Hens' Shed was also started to encourage others to get together. This new cross-community hub is now a thriving centre offering a range of programmes for over 120 women from a weekly walking group to yoga sessions and training workshops.

Members of the writing group, in conjunction with playwright Anne McMaster, penned a play entitled 'This is Us' which they then performed for members of the new Hens' Shed.



Kyra Reynolds, BBI Development Worker says: "The women were extremely nervous to begin with but they felt that their play and their words were being listened to and they really enjoyed it.

"We are now running an 'Epilogues' project as part of a follow up to the writing group, listening to various perspectives on the Troubles.

"Women who started at the beginning on the Zoom calls are now leaders for the new ones joining. It has been a very powerful experience for everyone taking part. Once the women break the barrier and start to talk about their experiences, you can see their confidence grow.

"It is almost like once they have gotten their story out it is a relief, like something they have been holding onto for a long time has suddenly been released.

"Epilogues provides women from different communities with the chance to share their experiences and listen to each other's opinions."

BBI's reach in community development is extensive and they have also been reacting to the cost-of-living crisis.

A 'social supermarket' has been set up in response to the struggles facing families with advice on benefits, mental health support, food parcels and practical help with energy bills.



TOP LEFT: A 'Women, Words and Walls' display takes pride of place on the Bishop Street Peace Wall.

TOP RIGHT: The Epilogues project encourages women from different backgrounds to share their personal experiences.

Based in a neighbourhood ranked among the top 10% most deprived in Northern Ireland, BBI works closely with other organisations and statutory bodies to help empower people both socially and economically.

Activities include community engagement, environmental improvement, community safety, and enabling local people to influence policy and decision makers, sustaining active citizens and improving facilities.

Environmental improvement has seen locals take pride in the appearance of their communities through the establishment of Tús Maith/Fresh Start (TM/FS).

TM/FS provides services such as grass cutting, gutter cleaning and rubbish removal at affordable prices while also providing training and employment for those carrying out the services.

A team also carries out workshops on the importance of protecting the environment in local schools.

Kyra adds: "BBI recognises that there is a strong correlation between socio-economic issues and intercommunity tension. We work to provide opportunities to everyone regardless of their cultural background, and to encourage cross-community working on shared issues, like that of the environment."



BELOW LEFT: The project works with many different groups including local schools.

BELOW RIGHT: The cross-community Hens' Shed offers weekly activities for over 120 women.

BLACK MOUNTAIN SHARED SPACE PROJECT (BMSSP)



People said it couldn't be done but in what was a major building block for reconciliation, two of Belfast's most polarised communities came together on the peace lines for Christmas 2021.

ABOVE: Work begins to dismantle a long standing Peace Wall in the Springfield area of West Belfast.



Left: The critical engagement programme has brought together residents to discuss each other's views on The Troubles.

Black Mountain Shared Space Project (BMSSP) ensured the peace barriers remained open so that the two sides could mix at a community Christmas market. The day long event saw Protestants and Catholics cross the divide to enjoy festive shopping at stalls set up by groups, charities and individuals from each community.

BMSSP Project Manager Seamus Corr explains just how significant the event was for the area: "This is something we have wanted to do since 2013 and we were always told it wouldn't happen.

"We agreed the gates at the Peace Walls at Springfield Road and Springfield Road needed to remain open for the event and had about 20 stalls provided by community organisations from both communities.

"It was extremely successful. We didn't count numbers but estimate that around 1000 people from both communities came, the majority of those attending were families with plenty of children enjoying themselves.

"It basically created an environment where both communities could put politics behind them and come together into a shared space.

"We had simple things like Santa's grotto and stalls created by local football teams and charities. Members of our women's group had a bakery stall and the local Men's Shed brought things they had made.

"For us there aren't enough opportunities like that, and we plan to do it again this year even bigger and better."

Shared space is so crucial to uniting the divided communities of West Belfast that BMSSP has been working hard to make it a reality for the past 13 years.

The IFI has helped BMSSP with its vision for a new hub to serve both communities. Located at a flashpoint site between Ballygomartin and the Springfield Road, it will be a welcoming, safe and accessible state-of-the-art building used to deliver cross-community programming.

On course for opening in December 2023, spirally building costs saw the project temporarily stalled this summer but thanks to a considerable effort by BMSSP and local political representatives additional funding was secured, and work is once again progressing.

BMSSP was set up in 2009 and is a cross-community partnership working to build relationships with people living on both sides of the Peace Wall in West Belfast. The group has achieved this through multiple community-based initiatives many of which have been funded by the IFI since 2013.



LEFT: An artist impression of how the new shared community hub will look, which is due to open in late 2023.



RIGHT: New social housing has been built on an interface on a peace line.

It is sensitive work, but BMSSP has reached some of the most vulnerable members of the communities in terms of conflict, legacy and poverty.

As a result, hundreds of people have crossed the peace line for the first time.

Current political issues such as the NI Protocol, talk of a border poll and a potential election in 2023 election all have impacted on the stability within the communities in recent months.

As well as its ongoing programmes, it falls to BMSSP to step in and calm tensions which can boil over often in these politically sensitive communities.

Seamus says: "In recent years, we have been involved in critical engagement around political topics with both communities. From the burning of buses and unrest around the NI Protocol in May 2021 to Irish signage being erected in a mixed area in June 2022, we worked hard behind the scenes to negotiate and help find solutions to issues affecting communities."

Another focus has been the men's critical engagement group funded by the IFI which has now entered phase three. Bringing together ex-prisoners and former combatants from both sides to discuss each other's views on the conflict has been a challenge in itself. However, with perseverance it has been a huge success.

"We have continued to develop the project as it has progressed. We found that getting men together weekly for challenging conversations was too much, so now every fortnight we do a walk and talk when they can reflect on the previous week's discussions.

"It has been extremely successful and recently we had an ex-Loyalist and ex-Republican prisoner and a former British Army soldier in the room giving a narrative on their role during The Troubles and how they see things in the future.

"People are having conversations with those they would have considered their enemies and whose views and opinions they would previously have been extremely hostile towards.

"Everything is on the table and everything can be discussed and worked through."

A similar scheme for young men aged 18-21 years has just got underway with the focus on engaging youth from both sides in outdoor pursuit activities followed by evening discussions led by BMSSP leaders.

Another huge achievement of the past year has been the recent completion of the Moyard development at Upper Springfield Road. A former rundown play park at an interface on the peace line, it had for years been a flashpoint for rival youths. After 10 years in the planning the finishing touches are now being put to a new development of much need social housing for the area.

PBP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
BELFAST CITY		
Black Mountain Shared Space Project Innovation Factory 385 Springfield Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT12 7DY	The Black Mountain Shared Space PBP's vision is the positive regeneration of the Black Mountain area through provision of Shared Space initiatives with peace barrier transformation for residents most impacted by the conflict.	£144,606
Duncairn Community Partnership Antrim Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT15 3BG	Duncairn Community Partnership promotes inter-community engagement between residents across a notorious interface and builds community confidence towards agreement for Peace Barrier removal or reduction.	£165,374
Greater Whitewell Community Surgery 878 Shore Road, Newtownabbey Co Antrim BT36 7DQ	Greater Whitewell Community Surgery focuses on strengthening inter-community relationships while working to develop the attitudinal change needed to enable peace wall barrier removal or reduction.	£92,031
Lower Oldpark Community Association & Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum (The Imagine PBP) 9-23 Avoca Street, Belfast Co Antrim BT14 6EN	The Imagine programme works on an inter-community basis to promote positive attitudinal change towards Peace Barrier removal or reduction. It also works to regenerate the area and promote shared space initiatives.	£85,731
TASCIT (Ardoyne, Upper Ardoyne, Twaddell, Woodvale and Lower Shankill Partnership) 123 Cliftonville Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT14 6JR	The TASCIT PBP works to transform Peace Barriers across the many interfaces in this complex area of Upper North Belfast. It promotes inter-community engagement, regeneration and positive life opportunities for residents.	£193,728
DERRY CITY AND STRABANE		
Bogside and Brandywell Initiative – BBI) Triax Neighbourhood Partnership Board The Gasyard Lecky Road, Derry Co Londonderry BT48 6NP	The BBI PBP delivers a broad range of intra- and inter-community engagement programmes for adults and young people across their interface area. This promotes understanding and breaking down negative perceptions of the 'other' and has enabled positive change to some barriers with ongoing consultations to reduce/remove others.	£79,534

PERSONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) was launched in late 2015 within the Fund's Community Consolidation – Peace Consolidation 2016 – 2020 Strategy.

RIGHT: A PYDP participant on work experience with a



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. 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 level – 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.

The Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP) enables each participant to take control of their own personal development through a multitiered approach that offers significant individualised support with community, social and economic elements.

RIGHT: Projects deliver a range of activity including workshops and mentoring



PYDP PROJECTS

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

ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON

1. Edgarnston Residents Association – Evolve Programme, Portadown

BELFAST CITY

2. Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum – YOLO (Youth Opportunities Learning Outcomes), Belfast
3. Duncairn and Limestone Utd., Belfast
4. EastSide Greenways, Belfast
5. NI Alternatives Ltd, Belfast
6. Springboard Opportunities Ltd – Directions, Belfast

CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS

7. Roe Valley Residents Association – Building Brighter Futures, Limavady
8. Causeway Rural & Urban Network – BRAKE, Coleraine

DERRY CITY AND STRABANE

9. Creggan Enterprises Ltd – Lifehack, Derry

10. Have your Tomorrows (HURT)

– Right Here Right Now, Derry

11. St Columbs Park Reconciliation Trust, Derry

12. Strabane AYE – Strabane Youth Support Programme, Strabane

FERMANAGH AND OMAGH

13. Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association, Ballinamallard

MID ULSTER

14. Coalisland Training Services – Assist Youth, Coalisland

15. Galbally Youth & Community Association, Galbally

16. Maghera Cross Community Link – Link Youth Achievement Project, Maghera

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN

17. Clanrye Group – Re-Gener8 Project, Newry

CAVAN

18. FOCUS Family Resource Centre – FUSE Project, Killashandra

19. Foróige Cavan – YETI, Monaghan

DONEGAL

20. Donegal Youth Service, Letterkenny

21. Inishowen Development Partnership, Buncrana

22. Milford & District Resource CLG, Milford

LEITRIM

23. North Connaught Youth & Community Services, Ballinamore

LOUTH

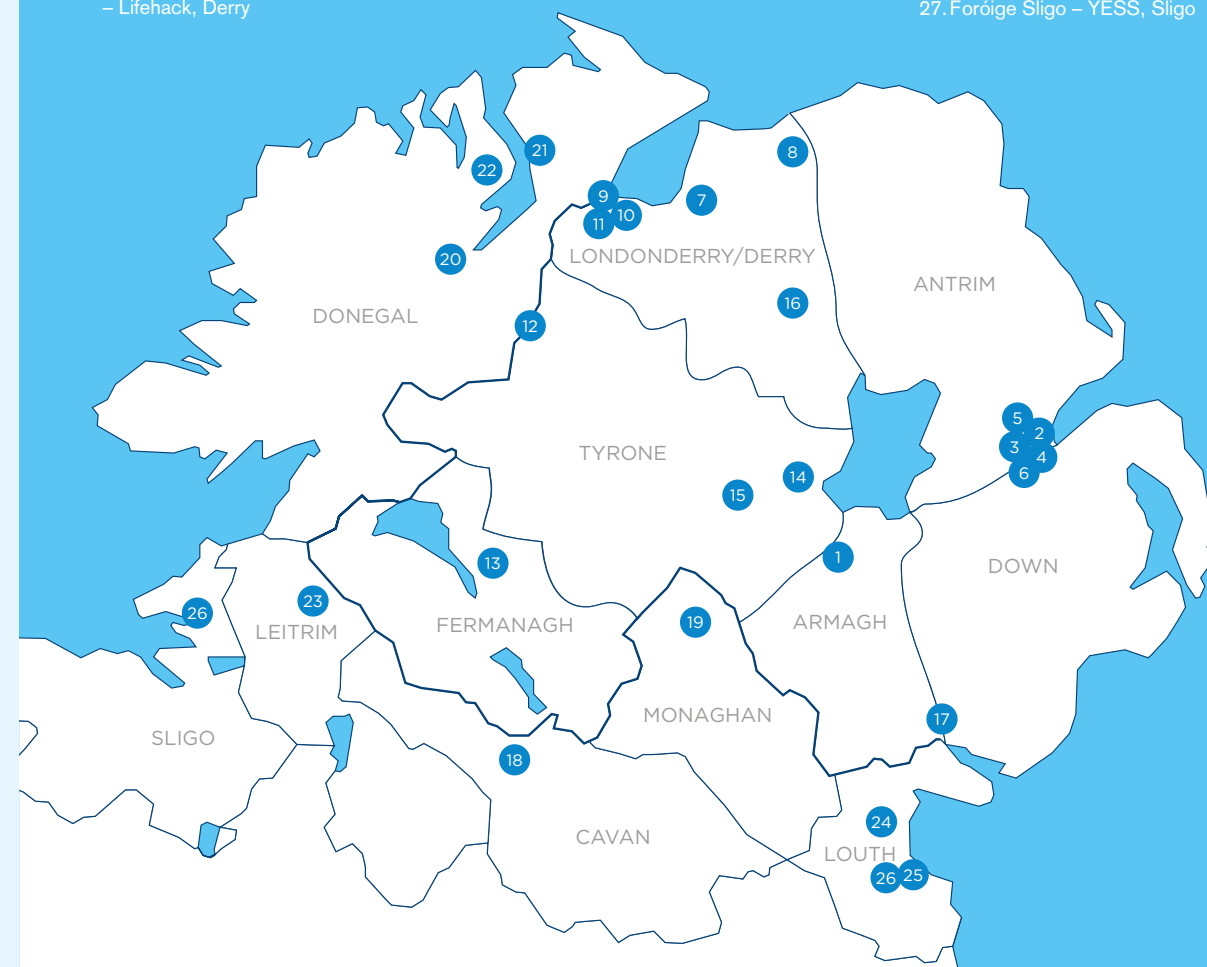
24. Ardee & District Community Trust, Ardee

25. Connect Family Resource Centre (Moneymore), Drogheda

26. Foróige Drogheda – Turning Point, Drogheda

SLIGO

27. Foróige Sligo – YESS, Sligo



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.

In the last reporting year:



659
young people
have participated



41
have progressed
to education
and training

765
accreditations achieved



22
projects in current
reporting period



OUR AIM: Helping at risk young people build and develop life skills that foster good relations, build confidence and resilience and make them more employable.



166
completed good
relations training



166
receiving employment
related training

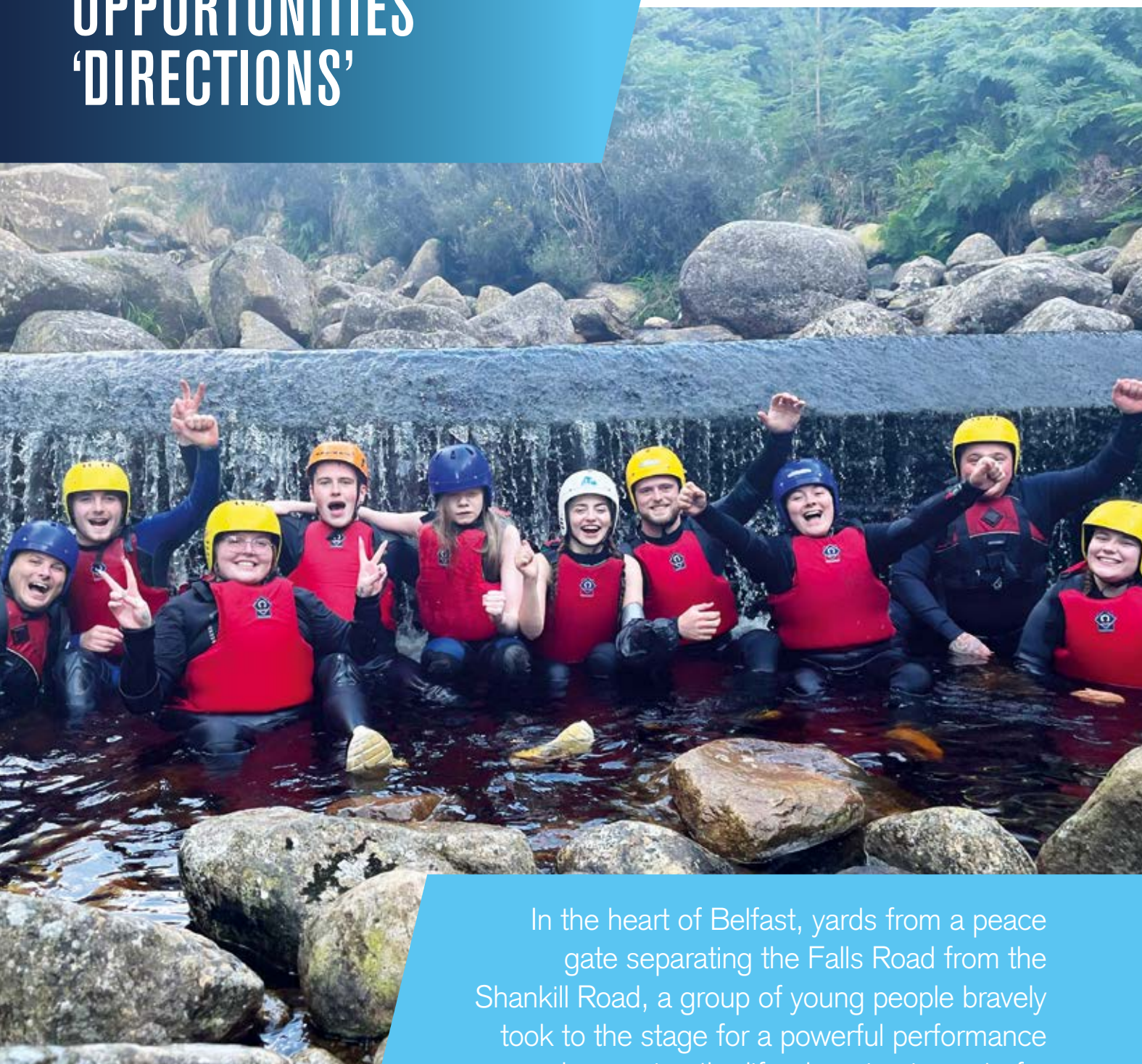


2
have secured
apprenticeships



84
have secured
employment

SPRINGBOARD OPPORTUNITIES 'DIRECTIONS'



In the heart of Belfast, yards from a peace gate separating the Falls Road from the Shankill Road, a group of young people bravely took to the stage for a powerful performance showcasing the life-changing impact of a project funded by the IFI's Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP).

ABOVE: Directions participants on a residential.



LEFT: IFI Chair Paddy Harte meets with participants at an interface in Belfast.

'Directions', which is facilitated by Springboard Opportunities, has already led to fundamental improvements in the lives of 16 participants.

In August, the young people used the medium of art to put on a performance which they called 'Our Lives Our Legacy' to show just how far they have come in a year.

Recorded video footage gave the audience a sense of the harsh reality of how The Troubles have impacted on the lives of these young people and their communities.

More than 60 people, including many stakeholders, then listened as one after another, the youths took to the stage to talk about the barriers and issues they have come up against.

Many of the young people come from complex backgrounds and carry significant trauma which is expressed through challenging behaviours. Some had struggled with mental health and expressed a vulnerability to paramilitary or criminal activity while all came to the project with no training or education and negative views of their future.

Participants shared the positive legacy they want to convey to future generations through the showcase, displaying an art piece representative of their development to date but more importantly it symbolised the power of what can be done when young people have a space to come together.

Directions has successfully created a space for participants to focus on personal development and good relations; citizenship and employability. Throughout this time they have participated in workshops which have explored bespoke informal training and accreditations.

Consequently 16 young people have completed Open College Network (OCN) in Personal Success and Wellbeing, Good Relations and nine have completed an OCN in Youth and Community work.

The Project didn't shy away from tackling key issues that had held the young people back from progressing in their lives.

Directions Project Coordinator, Sam McCaw explains: "We brought together young people from differing communities, some of whom had been involved with paramilitaries and even have had death threats.



TOP LEFT: Directions project during 'Our Lives our Legacy' performance.

TOP RIGHT: Artwork displayed during a recent showcase for the project.

"They all reside in segregated communities and one of the things we recognise is that the legacy of The Troubles continues to impact many communities. It's important that we put discussions around identity, ongoing impact and trauma at the forefront to enable meaningful peace and reconciliation.

"In doing so we weren't afraid to address the elephant in the room and help them to realise the benefits of a shared society and a shared future.

"We had two young mothers from different communities who we paired from the start as they had so much in common. One of them came from a family ingrained in paramilitaries and had never spoken to a Protestant before.

"From the very start they began to meet up with their children and formed a really strong friendship which we have no doubt they will maintain beyond the project.

"As a result of Directions, the young people now have an increased level of self-confidence, emotional resilience and have explored how they can contribute positively to their local communities with the skills they have acquired."

For the Springboard team it has been a privilege to see the young people's journey through Directions.

Not only has it helped 16 young people from across Belfast to build strong sustainable relationships with one another but this in turn has impacted positively on their families and communities.

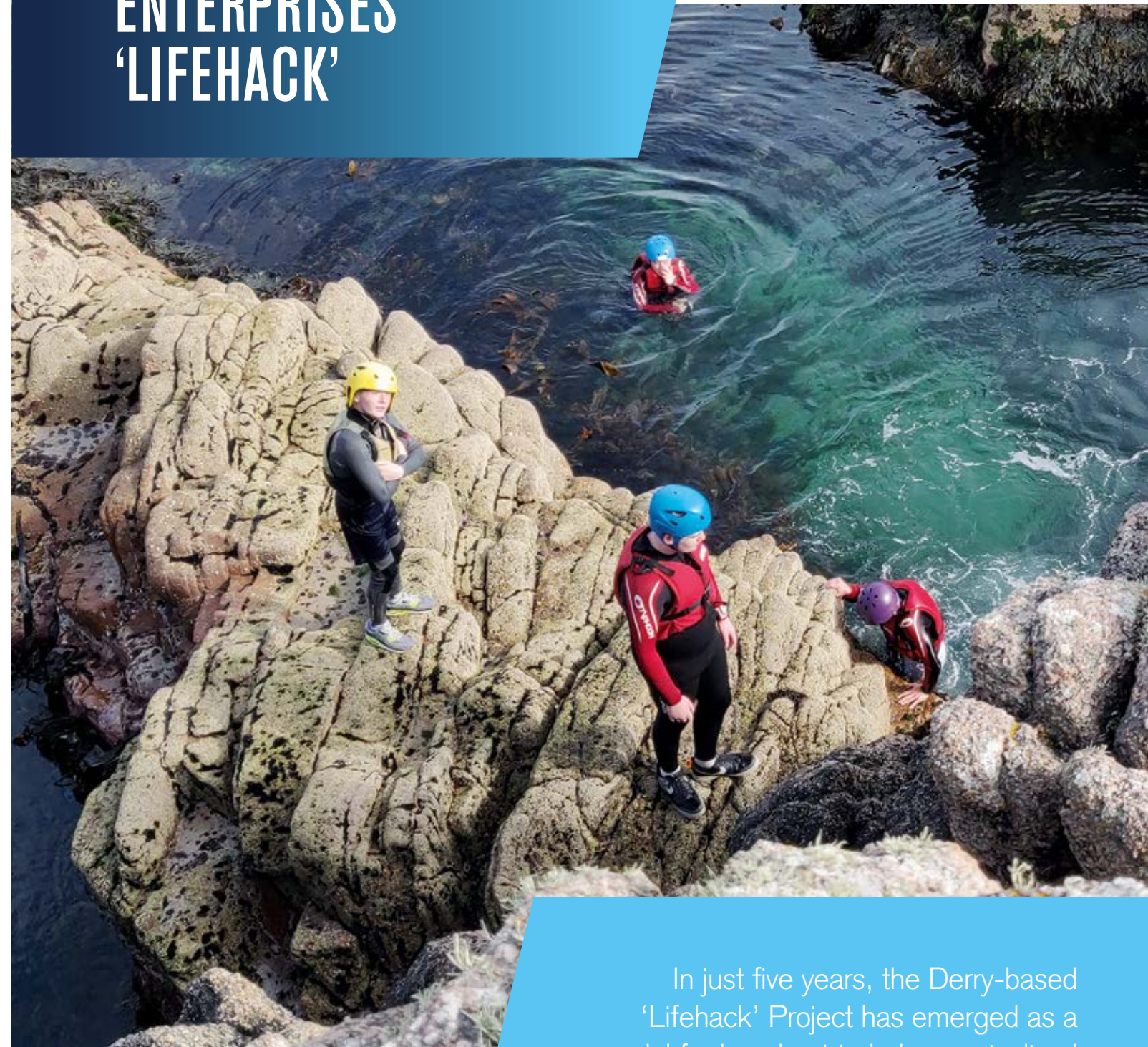
Looking to the future, Sam adds: "Progressing into year two we want them to develop a sense of autonomy so that they are equipped to go on to find themselves work or go into education or training when the project is over.

"The transformation so far in seeing these young people overcome personal trauma to look towards a new future has been amazing. PYDP projects are instrumental in creating a space where young people from divided communities can come together to work on themselves and create a shared future."



LEFT: A summer day trip for the project.

CREGGAN ENTERPRISES 'LIFEHACK'



In just five years, the Derry-based 'Lifehack' Project has emerged as a model for how best to help marginalised youths to turn their lives around.

ABOVE: Young people from the project take part in water sports activity.



LEFT: Participants show off their skills

It is much-deserved recognition for the dedicated team at Creggan Enterprises who from day one set out to tailor support to the very individual needs of each participant.

The IFI funds Lifehack through its Personal Youth Development Programme (PYDP). It includes developing good relations between communities, promoting personal and social development as well employment skills.

And while all of the above are helping to transform the lives of the 16–25-year-olds taking part, it is the very human approach by project coordinator Richie McRory and his team which is really helping to produce results.

Richie says: “We find that every young person who comes through the door will have significant challenges of their own. We try and tailor our approach to meet the needs of the individual.

“That might mean one-to-one help before the young person has the confidence to go into a group setting. We offer this as mentoring support and some of the youth might need additional help and we will signpost them to other services.

“Most will have dropped out of school and unemployment is massive. These young people have huge issues including mental health, self-harm, suicidal thoughts and substance use. We’ve worked with young people who have become parents in their teens, who have been sexually exploited or are under threat or have been excluded from their community.

“Often it is about building confidence first. Most are from areas where their parents experienced high levels of deprivation and the young people tend to bear the brunt of that.

“One of the hardest things is the hopelessness that a lot of them seem to feel. They come into the project with no aspirations or anything to look forward to. That can be really hard to deal with but it makes sense as their families didn’t have a lot of hope as there is a lack of opportunity in their communities.”

Once the young person has been mentored to a place where they feel they can fully participate, they are then put through a robust programme of self-development.

Lifehack primarily encourages each participant to make improved life choices.

This is done through a mix of accredited and non-accredited training alongside good relations workshops, team building exercises, creative technology projects and activities that focus on improving confidence, self-esteem and employability.

Based on the first floor of the Rath Mor Centre in Creggan, the project has become the go-to place for disaffected youth who often self-refer as well as referrals from outside agencies and statutory bodies.

For this reason, course numbers consistently far exceed those initially projected as Lifehack’s reputation for success spreads.

To date over 130 youths have completed the project, with 27 currently taking part.

The results are impressive. Statistics since April 2021 show that 46 young people completed good relations training, 47 took part in employment training, 29 walked away with accredited training, 17 embarked on work experience, while 12 went back to education, 23 secured full or part-time employment and one embarked on an apprenticeship.

Richie says: “Young people are getting chances here that they are not getting anywhere else. The change in them is massive and it has been life changing for most of them.

“We had one young woman who came in at 24 years old who couldn’t take a bus or queue in a supermarket due to social phobias and anxiety. She completed a range of courses and received robust 1-1 support. She now volunteers in a local charity shop giving back to her community.”

Looking forward to building on the success they have already achieved which has included working across both communities in Derry, Richie would like to see Lifehack rolled out as a model to other areas of need.

He adds: “Getting the funding from the IFI has helped us to grow and develop the project to what it is today. There is a lot of negative influence in the communities affecting young people.

“This is exacerbated by generational disadvantage and exclusion in the North West and failed economic development policies are a major factor, alongside intergenerational trauma.

“Sustainability is key and growing the project and promoting it as the best model and supporting other groups to establish that model is how we see the future.”



BELOW LEFT: The project organises a range of activity for young people including abseiling.

BELOW RIGHT: Participants during a workshop session.

INISHOWEN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (IDP)



In what is one of the most isolated, peripheral and rural communities along the border, Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP) is reaching and supporting young people “at risk”.

ABOVE: Garry Duffy, IDP CHANCE Advisory Representative pictured with participants on a day trip.



LEFT: Eileen Hegarty, IDP CHANCE Project Worker, Cllr. Rena Donaghy, IDP Board Member and Helen Nolan, IDP Chairperson pictured at an event.

As part of the IFI's Personal Youth Development programme, IDP has just recruited for its second CHANCE project – Creating Hope and Aspiration, Nurturing Change and Empowerment.

While based in Buncrana, this powerful project supports young people from across the Inishowen peninsula, an extensively rural area.

Due to geography and history, Inishowen as a peninsula, sits apart as a region within Donegal.

As a peripheral community area, it is designated as one of the most isolated and disadvantaged regions within the southern border counties.

Shauna McClenaghan Joint Chief Executive Officer says: “In an area like Inishowen, the ‘opportunity horizon’ for young people who are not in employment, education or training, is actually more likely to be in the wider ‘North West City Region’, which takes in a broader catchment than Donegal.

“This means that a ‘regional approach’ and a ‘cross-border’ focus are important in the context of exploring the opportunities that might be available to young people.

“Having this focus is also very important in the context of good relations work. People living in communities in Inishowen, for example, feel very much connected to the regional city on their doorstep.”

CHANCE first operated in 2018 with exceptional results. This latest phase began in earnest in April and will run for two years.

It is aimed at youth aged between 16 and 25 years and so far, IDP has engaged with and supported an additional nine participants this year with the hope of supporting adding more young people as time progresses.

“These are young people who have fallen through the cracks. Most will have left school with no qualifications and currently are not in training or employment. Many have mental health problems, addiction issues and some might be in trouble with the law. We are dealing with a whole gambit of issues.

“They are young people with no focus and no hope and the ones who are forgotten about and it's about giving them another chance.”



TOP LEFT: Tracy McRory, Musician/Composer, who performed a composition at the project's launch event.

TOP RIGHT: Andrea McLaughlin, completing an apprenticeship as a mechanic in Letterkenny.

To properly meet the individual needs of each participant CHANCE has been designed as a bespoke project.

Each individual will have their own personal development plan drawn up to suit their area of interest.

Initially, participants will benefit from a sensitive one-to-one mentoring approach, designed to identify any additional support they might need.

They then will engage with each other in group settings as well as taking part in a number of programmes run by the organisation including nutrition training, barista classes, personal fitness and ICT.

Shauna says: "It is a big journey for the young people and we get them to the point where they are looking at the road ahead and can see a future for themselves. When we get them into a group of their peers, they will do team building work and good relations training."

The Inishowen Peninsula, where the project is based, has had the added pressure in recent years of dealing with the "Mica" controversy.

Thousands of homes privately bought by families in the area are crumbling due to defective blocks that contain high levels of deleterious minerals which can absorb water and cause cracking to external and internal walls.

"People are living in crumbling homes and it is having a huge effect on families who are suffering mental health issues. This pressure transfers over to some young people. Living in defective homes has become a huge burden for families in our area. Some people are living with scaffolding inside their homes to hold the walls up. It affects so many people."

Added to this is the cost-of-living crisis which is being felt directly by so many young people.

Very much in its early stages, this next phase hopes to build on the success of the first CHANCE project.

Shauna adds: "It was a major success. We had 21 young people benefit from the first CHANCE project and between them 142 accreditations were achieved. We had 12 who went on work placements, three to third level education and 11 got jobs.

"We would just like to thank the IFI for the opportunity to work with these young people. We are very grateful as it is a really worthwhile project."



ABOVE: IFI Chair Paddy Harte, pictured with US Observers Stella O'Leary and Tom Foley.

PYDP FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

During this financial year the Fund provided financial assistance to the following projects:

PYDP Projects will deliver all or some of the following;

- Level 1 Good Relations and Personal Development
- Level 2 Skills and Social Development
- Level 3 Education and Employability Development
- Level 4 Community Champions over a two-year period

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON		
Edgarstown Residents Association – Evolve Programme 18/19 Union Street, Portadown Co Armagh BT62 4AD	Changing the Landscape will provide further support to a cohort of 15 at risk young people through one-to-one mentoring support, individual and group activities to help them increase their employment opportunities and/or progress onto further educational courses.	£34,155
BELFAST CITY		
Cliftonville Community Regeneration Forum – YOLO (Youth Opportunities Learning Outcomes) 185 Cliftonpark Avenue, Belfast Co Antrim BT14 6DT	To work with 15 at risk young people to help further develop their personal development and employability skills through intense one-to-one mentoring support and group training activities.	£62,453
Duncairn and Limestone Utd. 290 Antrim Road, Belfast Co Antrim BT15 5AA	The project will engage with 16 young people to deliver Levels 1 to 4 over a two-year period.	£68,612
EastSide Greenways 278 - 280 Newtownards Road Belfast, Co Antrim BT4 1HE	The project will deliver Levels 1 to 4 to two cohorts of 12 people.	£41,900
NI Alternatives Ltd 137 Agnes Street, Belfast Co Antrim BT13 1GG	The project will deliver Levels 1 to 4 to two cohorts of 12 people.	£44,800
Springboard Opportunities Ltd – Directions Lourene House 112-114 Donegall Street Belfast BT1 2GX	The project plans to recruit 15 at risk young people primarily targeting areas suffering high levels of economic and social deprivation and affected by sectarianism, racism, division and/or conflict. The project will deliver Levels 1 to 4 and as an OCN accredited centre developing bespoke accredited and informal training programmes.	£48,611
CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS		
Roe Valley Residents Association – Building Brighter Futures 13-14 Keady Way, Limavady Co Derry BT49 0AU	The Project will recruit 15 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver levels 1 to 3.	£82,910

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
Causeway Rural & Urban Network – BRAKE 1 Brook Street, Coleraine Co Londonderry BT52 1PW	The project will work with 15 at risk young people who are unemployed and not engaged in training or education. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£72,485
DERRY CITY AND STRABANE		
Creggan Enterprises Ltd – Lifehack Rath Mor Centre Blighs Lane, Derry Co Londonderry BT48 0LZ	The Lifehack project will continue to deliver Levels 1 to 3 (for a further year, two in total) to 15 young people many of whom are engaging at a significant level of involvement with non-state armed groups or in the radar of paramilitary groupings.	£74,555
Have your Tomorrows (HURT) – Right Here Right Now Clarendon Street, Derry Co Londonderry BT48 7ET	This project ‘Right Here Right Now’ will continue to deliver Levels 1 to 3 and plans to recruit 15 young people who are likely to be known to the criminal justice system and not in employment, education or training. The participants will not currently be engaged in any other programmes.	£83,150
St Columbs Park Reconciliation Trust Limavady Road, Derry Co Londonderry BT47 6JY	The Project will recruit 15 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver Levels 1to 3.	£95,720
Strabane AYE – Strabane Youth Support Programme Patrick Street, Strabane Co Tyrone BT82 8DQ	The Project will work with 15 disengaged and marginalised young people most at risk from criminalisation or punishment from armed groups, vulnerable to recruitment to armed organisations, opposed to the Peace Process and with little or no qualifications. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3	£72,603
FERMANAGH AND OMAGH		
Fermanagh Sports & Cultural Awareness Association Main Street, Ballinamallard Co Fermanagh BT94 2FY	The Project will recruit 15 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£67,715
MID ULSTER		
Coalisland Training Services – Assist Youth Dungannon Road, Coalisland Co Tyrone BT71 4HP	The Assist Youth Project will recruit 12 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£47,845
Galbally Youth & Community Association 36 Lurgylea Road, Galbally Co Tyrone BT70 2NX	The Game Changer project will work with 15 at risk young people, hard to reach, have been involved, or close to the criminal justice system, marginalised from society or not in education, employment or training. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£86,575
Maghera Cross Community Link – Link Youth Achievement Project St Lurach Road, Maghera Co Londonderry BT46 5EJ	The Project will recruit 15 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£61,700
NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN		
Clanrye Group – Re-Gener8 Project Slieve Gullion Courtyard Drumintee Road, Newry Co Down BT35 8SW	The Regener8 project will work with 15 young people not in education, employment or training, who are vulnerable to paramilitary recruitment and/or been in, or close to, the criminal justice system. It will deliver Levels 1 to 3.	£67,046
CAVAN		
FOCUS Family Resource Centre – FUSE Project Main St, Portaliff Glebe, Killashandra, 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.	€101,995

Name/Address	Project Description	Payments Made In FY
Foróige Cavan – YETI Ard Roe House, Glen Road, Tirkeenan, Monaghan	Training, education and employment programme aimed at vulnerable and at risk 16 to 25 year olds. The programme aims to develop a variety of skills including communication, social and teamwork skills to help divert young people away from anti-social behaviour.	€66,398
DONEGAL		
Donegal Youth Service 16-18 Port Rd, Letterkenny Co. Donegal F92 N2KC	A support programme targeting ‘at risk’ 16 to 25 year olds in South West Donegal; incorporating personal support, skills development, good relations, employment and training progression opportunities.	€56,629
Inishowen Development Partnership Saint Mary’s Road, Buncrana Co Donegal F93 PW61	The C.H.A.N.C.E Project (Creating Hopes & Aspirations Nurturing Change & Empowerment) is a personal development programme for young people from the Inishowen region of County Donegal. The project operates from Buncrana town, connects with and supports young people who are not in employment, education or training from across the Inishowen peninsula and the connected border region.	€31,961
Milford & District Resource CLG Enterprise House Market Square, Milford Co Donegal F92 P8YD	‘The M.Y.E. Future Project’ (Mulroy Youth Engagement) is a personal development programme for young people from the North Donegal area. The project operates from Milford town with outreach support work with young people at risk living in in extensively isolated and rural communities throughout North Donegal i.e., in the Mulroy Bay area and the Fanad Peninsula.	€15,000
LEITRIM		
North Connaught Youth & Community Services Ballinamore Community Centre Ballinamore, Co Leitrim	Located in the heart of the cross border community, the Ballinamore Youth Action Project (BYAP) is a programme will target 15 young people from an area that has suffered greatly from the Legacy of the Conflict. Working alongside the Peace Impact Programme funded Ballinamore Better Together project, this initiative will offer training and education opportunities for at risk young people and facilitate direct engagement with their counterparts in Co Fermanagh and the wider border region.	€15,000
LOUTH		
Ardee & District Community Trust Drogheda Road, Ardee Co. Louth	An employment education & training programme for disadvantaged young people in the Ardee and mid Louth region.	€125,627
Connect Family Resource Centre (Moneymore) 171 Moneymore, Drogheda Co. Louth A92 WE19	A personal development, training and education programme for young people from both sides of Drogheda town, which works closely with statutory services and other youth projects in the area.	€117,643
Foróige Drogheda – Turning Point Boomerang Cafe 62 Fair Street, Drogheda Co. Louth A92 HX40	A programme targeting hard to reach young people at pivotal points to support them to make meaningful and positive life changes. Encourages participants to engage them in training, further education and employment.	€47,263
SLIGO		
Foróige Sligo – YESS The CRIB Youth Project Rockwood Parade, Sligo	A programme targeting at risk 16 to 25 year olds to develop their personal effectiveness, develop resiliency and good relations to divert them away from anti-social behaviour. Enhance education, training and employability capacity and prospects for participants.	€60,071

AMBIT

The popular AMBIT (American Management and Business Internship Training) Programme has been successfully running for over 20 years. It is an annual outreach and capacity building initiative in the United States funded by the IFI, facilitated by the US consulate in Belfast and managed by the Washington Ireland Program (WIP).

ABOVE: AMBIT participant Adam Corner, PSNI Area Commander, South Armagh speaking at an event in Ballinamore, Leitrim.

RIGHT: During the trip, the AMBIT group gifted guests with pictures and books of interest to NI and sbc. Pictured right is Professor Yolanda Chavez Leyva.



It develops partnerships and encourages collaboration to support individual development as well as create an awareness of the IFI's work at a local and international level.

Individuals from Northern Ireland and the southern border counties, from a range of professional and community sector backgrounds, apply to take part. Many of those involved work with at-risk young people and in communities that continue to live with the legacy of The Troubles.

In March 2022, the AMBIT team visited El Paso, Texas before travelling on to Washington DC. Throughout the trip, collaboration was encouraged, and discussion themes included trauma, shared identities & the coexistence of multiple identities in divided societies.

This year, an unlikely friendship formed between two participants who soon found common ground in shared experiences of the Border region. AMBIT was the perfect opportunity to encourage positive dialogue around border communities.

Adam Corner is a PSNI Area Commander in South Armagh. He recently spoke at the launch of a county Leitrim PIP project in Ballinamore called 'Better Together – Níos Fearr Le Chéile'. The invitation came through fellow AMBIT participant, Máirín Martin, Chairperson, Ballinamore Area Community Council.

Until recently, it would have been impossible for a PSNI officer to attend an event in this area due to safety concerns. The launch was particularly significant as it marked the first time a PSNI officer spoke in an official capacity at a public function in Ballinamore.



RIGHT: AMBIT participants pictured during their US engagement.



LEFT: The AMBIT group pictured at a residential in Northern Ireland.

"I met Máirín during this year's AMBIT trip. She spoke passionately about her work in county Leitrim and her own experience growing up along the border, back when it was a lot different to today.

"During the trip we visited the Texas / Mexico border known as 'the scar'. It's an ugly and visible militarised border that stretches for miles – not even at the height of the conflict here was such infrastructure needed."

Adam's role involves working with polarised communities in South Armagh in a more progressive way, which he hopes will continue to build trust and reassure residents that the PSNI is there to help.

"I am engaging in a border area, dealing with a legacy of hurt to deliver a type of policing people haven't had before but deserve to receive. It's progressive and it's a difficult path which needs to be walked down with caution.

"Our work with other experienced professionals including An Garda Síochána shows how we can use information and collaborative working to police the border effectively around similar, shared issues such as organised crime and smuggling without the need for physical barriers.

He adds; "My AMBIT journey and knowledge of dealing with difficult issues along the border reminds me that everyone's lived experience is different, not everyone moves at the same pace when it comes to reconciliation, and we must all have an openness and willingness to understand.

Máirín believes that the AMBIT experience is vital for community workers as peace remains fragile on the island of Ireland.

"I was honoured to participate in this year's AMBIT programme and have made friends for life. Initially, I was very nervous, but Adam introduced himself and we soon learnt we had much in common. During our time in El Paso and Washington DC, Adam and I got the opportunity to engage in honest conversations around The Troubles. I admitted to Adam that I would never have had a conversation with a policeman in the six counties whilst growing up.

"We learned much from each other in a short period of time. The US groups we visited had amazing similarities to our own. Issues with borders, check points, the Walls, and problems they created for residents either side in El Paso brought back bad border memories and how far we have come. We must make sure we never return to the past but there are also walls that need to come down."

Since AMBIT Máirín has visited projects on the Shankill Road in Belfast and plans to visit Derry too. Her Better Together project has a strong cross-border and cross-community focus, and she hopes that Adam will play a role in its future development.

"One part of the Project is 'Exploring the Past and Looking to the Future'. This will include a series of workshops and discussions around shared approaches to community engagement. We hope to involve Adam and another AMBIT participant to participate in future discussions.

"AMBIT built my self-confidence and made me aware that I have a lot to offer in peace building and I plan to continue this through my own work in Ballinamore."

ACCOUNTS

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30th September 2022

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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 23 February 2023.

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 ("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:

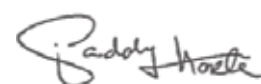
- selected suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

By order of the Board



Mr. Paddy Harte
IFI Chair

23 February 2023

Independent auditors' report to the members of International Fund for Ireland

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the International Fund for Ireland (the "Fund") for the year ended 30 September 2022 which comprise: the income and expenditure account; the statement of total recognised gains and losses; the balance sheet as at 30 September 2022; the cash flow statement; the accounting policies; and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Boards' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Board Members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in 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 in this regard.

Opinion on other information

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Board Members' report and governance statement for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Board Members' report and governance statement have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Independent auditors' report to the members of International Fund for Ireland (continued)

Other required 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.

Responsibilities of Board Members

As explained more fully in the Board Members' report, the Board Members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Board Members 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 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 Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed over.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the company.

Independent auditors' report to the members of International Fund for Ireland (continued)

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the charitable company and considered that the most significant are the UK and Republic of Ireland financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council
- We obtained an understanding of how the company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board Members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Fund's Members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Fund's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Fund and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Dr R I Peters Gallagher OBE FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore (N.I.) LLP
23 February 2023**

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

4th Floor Donegall House, 7 Donegall Square North,
Belfast BT1 5GB

Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 30 September 2022

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €					
	Notes	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Income	2	8,148	7,795	9,266	9,100
Expenditure					
Approved projects	7	6,171	5,547	7,017	6,476
Net administrative expenses	3	178	81	201	94
		6,349	5,628	7,218	6,570
Excess/(deficit) of income over expenditure		1,799	2,167	2,048	2,530
Movement in the Fund balance					
At 1 October 2021		6,689	4,765	7,810	5,327
Exchange differences on retranslation at 1 October 2021		111	(243)	(79)	(47)
		6,800	4,522	7,731	5,280
Excess/(deficit) of income over expenditure for the year		1,799	2,167	2,048	2,530
At 30 September 2022		8,599	6,689	9,779	7,810

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

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

for the year ended 30 September 2022

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €				
	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Excess/(deficit) of income over expenditure	1,799	2,167	2,048	2,530
Currency translation difference charged to the Fund balance	111	(243)	(79)	(47)
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year	1,910	1,924	1,969	2,483

The notes on pages 71 to 77 form part of the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

as at 30 September 2022

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €					
	Notes	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Fixed assets					
Investments	4	-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Cash at bank and on deposit	10	6,187	9,638	7,037	11,254
Donor contributions due	5	8,968	2,008	10,199	2,345
Other amounts receivable	6	156	152	177	177
		15,311	11,798	17,413	13,776
Current liabilities					
Approved project expenditure outstanding	7	(6,604)	(5,003)	(7,511)	(5,842)
Creditors	9	(108)	(106)	(123)	(124)
		(6,712)	(5,109)	(7,634)	(5,966)
Net current assets		8,599	6,689	9,779	7,810
Net assets		8,599	6,689	9,779	7,810
Fund balance at 30 September 2022		8,599	6,689	9,779	7,810

Approved by the Board on 22 February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr. Paddy Harte
IFI Chair



Bernie Butler
Chair of the Audit Committee

The notes on pages 71 to 77 form part of the financial statements.

Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 30 September 2022

	Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €			
	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Excess/(deficit) of income over expenditure	1,799	2,167	2,048	2,530
Adjustments for:				
Decrease /(increase) in donor contributions due	(6,960)	(1,419)	(7,854)	(1,691)
(Decrease)/increase in approved project expenditure outstanding	1,600	(194)	1,667	96
Decrease/(increase) in other amounts receivable	(4)	(152)	0	(177)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors and accrued expenses	1	(76)	(2)	30
Foreign exchange gain/(loss) on intercompany transfers	353	(416)	173	(486)
Write down of investment	-	-	-	-
Interest received	(1)	(5)	(1)	(6)
Exchange difference in opening balance	81	572	155	260
Net cash generated from operating activities	(3,131)	477	(3,814)	556
Cash flows from investing activities				
Interest received	1	5	1	6
Net cash from investing activities	1	5	1	6
Net increase in cash	(3,130)	482	(3,813)	562
Balance at 1 October 2021	9,638	9,556	11,254	10,513
Retranslation to current year exchange rates	(321)	(400)	(404)	179
Balance at 1 October 2020 retranslated to current year exchange rates	9,317	9,156	10,850	10,692
Balance at 30 September 2022	6,187	9,638	7,037	11,254

The notes on pages 71 to 77 form part of the financial statements.

Notes to the Summary 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 28 February 2023.

The principal accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently throughout the year.

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.

Notes to the Summary Financial Statements (continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Contractual arrangements and performance related grants are recognised as goods and services are supplied. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to a particular heading, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of resources. Staff costs and overhead expenses are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time spent on those activities.

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.

2. Income

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
From donors after exchange rate adjustments				
United States of America	2,247	1,455	2,555	1,699
UK Government/NI Office income	1,000	1,000	1,137	1,168
Irish Government	4,233	4,283	4,814	5,000
Exchange rate adjustments	457	(26)	520	(31)
	7,937	6,712	9,026	7,836
Interest receivable	1	-	1	-
Miscellaneous Income	3	-	4	-
	4	-	5	-
Dividend Received	207	1,083	235	1,264
	8,148	7,795	9,266	9,100

Donor countries allocate funds on the basis of calendar years. The whole amount becoming due within each calendar year is recognised within the Funds accounts to 30 September without any timing adjustment.

The exchange rate adjustments relate to exchange gains and losses arising from the translation of US\$ and Euro denominated donor contributions. The extent to which any gain or loss is realised will depend on exchange rate movements up to the date of receipt of contributions due.

Notes to the Summary Financial Statements (continued)

3. Net administration expenses

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Board Members' fees	104	104	119	123
Board Meetings	23	10	26	12
Consultancy and other fees	183	162	208	189
Auditors' remuneration - Audit	19	18	22	21
Travelling and subsistence	57	21	65	25
Postage, stationery, telephone and office	7	8	8	9
Promotional and advertising expenses	42	30	46	34
Miscellaneous	24	5	26	5
	459	358	520	418
Less: Contributions receivable from the Governments of the UK and Ireland in respect of an element of the above expenses	(281)	(277)	(319)	(324)
	178	81	201	94

4. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted Investment	
	£'000	€'000
Cost		
At 1 October 2021	-	-
At 30 September 2021	-	-
Provision		
At 1 October 2021	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
At 30 September 2022	-	-
Net book value		
At 30 September 2022	-	-
At 30 September 2021	-	-

The International Fund for Ireland held the following shareholdings in subsidiaries and joint ventures:

IFI Financial Investments Limited – 100% shareholding

Enterprise Equity Investment Fund Limited – 50% shareholding

The investment in IFI Financial Investment Limited was written down in the financial year ended 30 September 2020 due to a reduction in share value in the subsidiary accounts. The investment in IFI Financial Investment Limited was reported at the cost value of €125.

Notes to the Summary Financial Statements (continued)

During the year ended 30 September 2021, both subsidiaries entered into a company voluntary liquidation on the 29th September 2021. Both entities ceased to be under the control of The International Fund for Ireland upon the appointment of the liquidator.

At the year end 30 September 2022, the process of liquidation was concluded and a final dividend of £207,000 (€235,000) was received in respect of the final distribution from the company.

The International Fund for Ireland has not prepared consolidated financial statements in the current year in accordance with FRS102 section 9.2. as the entity was not deemed to be a parent at 30 September 2022.

5. Donor contributions due

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
United States of America				
- 2015 (US\$0.01m)	9	8	10	9
- 2019 (US\$0.75m)	675	545	767	637
- 2020 (US\$2m)	1,796	1,455	2,044	1,699
- 2021 (US\$2.5m)	2,247	-	2,555	-
Republic of Ireland				
- 2021 (€5m)	4,241	-	4,823	-
	8,968	2,008	10,199	2,345

6. Other amounts receivable

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Government contribution	132	129	150	150
Bank interest receivable	24	23	27	27
	156	152	177	177

Notes to the Summary Financial Statements (continued)

7. Approved project expenditure outstanding

The totals of the Fund's project disbursements and associated fees in the year ended 30 September 2022 and the movements in approved projects outstanding are as follows:

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 1 October 2021	5,003	5,197	5,842	5,745
Foreign exchange re-translation	34	(96)	(112)	212
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 1 October 2021	5,037	5,101	5,730	5,957
Reclassification of project spend	-	-	-	-
Project approvals in the year	6,171	5,547	7,017	6,476
Project disbursements and associated fees in the year	(4,604)	(5,645)	(5,236)	(6,591)
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2022	6,604	5,003	7,511	5,842

8. Cumulative approved projects and disbursements to date

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

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Total approved projects to date	760,304	754,099	950,584	943,680
Less contributions to investment companies	(27,142)	(27,142)	(40,023)	(40,023)
	733,162	726,957	910,561	903,657
Total disbursements to projects and administration costs to date	(726,558)	(721,954)	(903,050)	(897,815)
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2022	6,604	5,003	7,511	5,842

To date the Fund has approved total payments in respect of specific projects and administration costs to a total of £760/€950 million after deduction of approved projects which did not proceed.

The approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2022 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.

Notes to the Summary Financial Statements (continued)

9. Creditors: amounts falling due after less than one year

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Accruals	53	51	60	60
Deferred income	55	55	63	64
	108	106	123	124

10. Components of cash at bank and on deposit

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Cash at hand and on deposit	6,187	9,638	7,037	11,254
	6,187	9,638	7,037	11,254

Analysis of programme disbursements

for the year and of approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2022 (unaudited)

	Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 Sept 2021	Retranslated at 30 Sept 2021	Project approvals and admin costs	Project and admin disbursements	Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 Sept 2022
Expressed in £'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
AMBIT	-	-	130	(130)	-
CIPP	-	-	483	-	483
Peace Projects					
Peace Walls	444	(4)	1,508	(799)	1,149
Peace Impact	3,139	21	1,289	(1,665)	2,784
Personal Youth Development	1,420	17	2,761	(2,010)	2,188
	5,003	34	6,171	(4,604)	6,604

	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Expressed in €'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
AMBIT	-	-	147	(147)	-
CIPP	-	1	549	-	550
Peace Projects					
Peace Walls	518	(18)	1,715	(910)	1,305
Peace Impact	3,666	(72)	1,466	(1,893)	3,167
Personal Youth Development	1,658	(23)	3,140	(2,286)	2,489
	5,842	(112)	7,017	(5,236)	7,511

NOTES



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