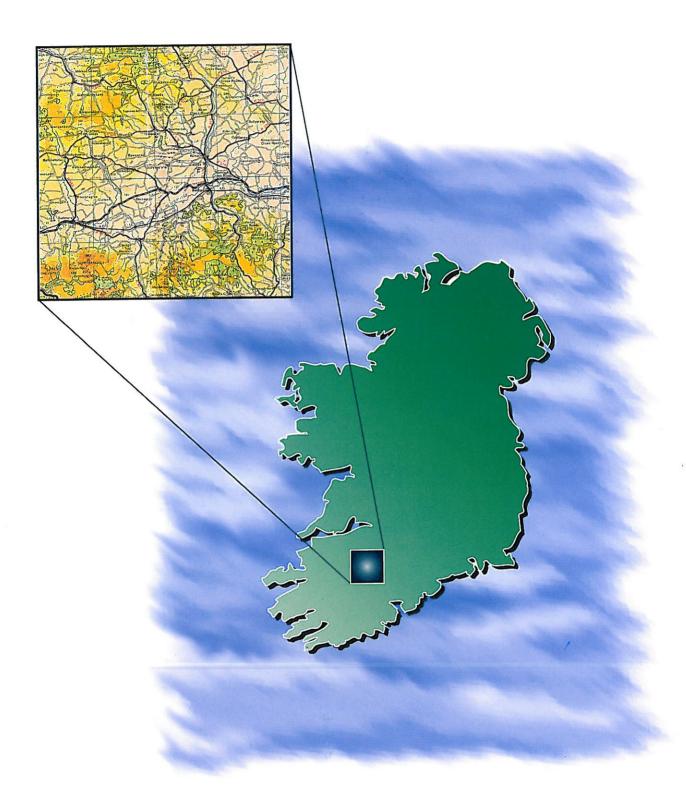




Annual Report
1993 • 1994



Duhallow The Land and the People

Our area conforms approximately with the ancient barony of Duhallow, West Muskerry and parts of East Kerry, covering the valley of the Upper Blackwater River and surrounding hills. It is about 400 square miles in area and contains a population of some 30,000 people. Largely rural there are three market towns Kanturk, Millstreet and Newmarket and a number of villages. The agricultural land graduates from the fertile valley soils to the marginal land of the surrounding hills with dairy farming predominating.

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Exploitation & Marketing of Farm, Forestry & Fishery Products





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euroform

Chairman's Foreword



Mr. Jerry Sheehan, Chairman, IRD Duhallow.

The concept of Integrated Resource
Development was conceived in Duhallow in
1989, when the present company was
established. It was based on the model for
local development initiated by the Irish
Resource Development Trust. The primary
aim was to combine the efforts and resources
of the State Bodies, Local Authorities,
Institutions, Local Communities and
individual entrepreneurs, as well as availing of
the financial support provided under
European Union and State sponsored
schemes, for the benefit of the local area.

The plan has worked well in Duhallow for the past five years and gives me - as Chairman - a sense of pleasure to have correlated the activities of an altruistically motivated, ambitious and conscientious Board of Management and Staff in the intervening years.

There is a well known proverb which says that "nothing succeeds like success", but the reality is that success is not possible without money. We are indeed, fortunate in Duhallow that local financial backing always has been, and continues to be made available to our Company. This 'seed money' has been the backbone of our achievements to-date.

The period and programme under review in the following pages has been a positive period for the Company and a time of progress and economic expansion in Duhallow. It covers the implementation of the LEADER pilot programme from July 1992 to June 1994. It has enabled local people living in Duhallow to undertake development of initiatives on their own account, and consequently, close to £4 million has been injected into the local economy which included EU LEADER funding totalling £1.29 million.

Prior to the advent of the LEADER Programme, rural tourism was practically non-existent in the Duhallow region, consequently the largest LEADER expenditure (32% of total) has been in this sector with 26 projects receiving assistance. Fifteen projects were assisted in the industrial/small enterprise section accounting for 17% of LEADER

expenditure. Expenditure in other sectors was as follows: vocational training and employment assistance - 21%; exploitation of marketing and alternative enterprises - 6%; and technical support and development - 4%. Altogether, sixty-eight projects have been completed and it is anticipated that seventy-eight full time jobs will accrue - in addition to sustaining many existing jobs and creating further part-time jobs in our local area.

IRD Duhallow Ltd., has actively participated in the National and International LEADER Network Groups and our staff have provided total secretarial services for the Irish LEADER Network since its foundation, while our Manager - Maura Walsh is currently the Secretary of the Irish LEADER Network

We have also implemented other initiatives both EU and State funded during the past two years. The EUROFORM Training Programme was particularly significant. We have partnered with a group in England and another group in Greece in the Technology Programme - RUNES. An integrated software package has been produced, and this exchange of information will assist the marketing of Duhallow's products throughout the EU member countries.

IRD Duhallow is now preparing to embark on a further series of Rural Development Programmes that will guide us into the next century. We are taking-off from a much stronger base than heretofore and we face the future with knowledge, and confidence, and a flair for success, that only previous achievements can engender. With the continued support of our local people and subscribers we are set to continue to deliver our mission statement:-

IRD Duhallow

A Vehicle Promoting Prosperity, Self-help and Quality of Life. "Saibhreas a Chothú".

> Trenial Sholan July 1994

Manager's Address

When I was appointed manager of IRD Duhallow in August 1991, the Board had drawn up its LEADER submission and set its targets for the following three years. The submission stated that 64 jobs would be created and that £3.2m was needed in order to finance the plan. The community would dictate the pace and priorities in true bottom-up community led fashion.

But when LEADER approval finally came our requirement was reduced to £1.29m and our contract ran until June 1994. However you will see from our report that the people of Duhallow have delivered 120% on the targets it set out at that time.

A £4m LEADER Programme has been delivered and on target. Final payments to remaining projects were made before 30th June 1994. But instead of delivering 64 jobs, the LEADER Programme although not designed as a job creating programme has in fact delivered 78 full time, 77 part time as well as 75 temporary jobs in Duhallow. The Management Team and Project Evaluation Group have considered in excess 180 projects and have given of their time and expertise voluntarily and generously.

Innovation and challenge are not new to IRD Duhallow. In fact the LEADER structure that was put in place with West Cork LEADER Co-Op with guidance from Philip Lowe of DGVI was and still is innovative in most areas. The joint board chaired by Kevin Twomey and administered by Con Twomey of Teagasc is a model which has worked well and will be replicated in many areas both in Ireland and abroad for LEADER 11.

IRD Duhallow has never been afraid to embrace new challenges in innovative ways. The Venison Co-Op which we helped to establish, involved five different LEADER groups providing funding to a greater or lesser degree. This concept of 'joint projects' or secondary beneficiaries will be a feature of LEADER 11.

While the concept of development through partnership is usually put forward as meaning shared power, on the Board in IRD Duhallow we have put partnership into practice on individual projects. We were the first community group to get approval from Coillte for long distance walk developments through their lands. This came about through working with the local Coillte staff first and then jointly bringing the project forward. Cork County Council and IRD Duhallow have developed joint projects on signposting and town & village planning and we are also partners on a new Renewal Energy Technology Park to be located in Mallow. The ESB provided technical support at a critical stage in the company's development. Other community / state agency partnership projects are detailed elsewhere in this report.

The strongest support this company has received must be from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. Minister Joe Walsh launched our Agricultural Survey and immediately acted on its recommendations. Minister Hyland and the staff at the Rural Development Division of the Department of Agriculture and local inspector Oliver Healy must share the credit for the success of LEADER not only in Duhallow but in Ireland.

Active membership of the Irish LEADER Network has enriched the Duhallow Programme and through AEIDL we have established strong links with similar groups in other countries.

IRD Duhallow is a team effort. A virtuous circle has been formed with the community, providing the energy and ideas - its elected representatives at Board level rising to the challenges and selflessly working for the community it represents, the staff respond and go above and beyond the call of duty taking pride in a job well done which in turn stimulates the community into action. It will be very difficult to break this circle, rather - like the ripples in a pool, the circle should reach further out to the edges.

IRD Duhallow is well equipped to meet the challenges laid down by both the community and outside forces. We look forward not just to LEADER 11 but to the entire range of community initiatives as well as support from the state agencies administering the Structural and Cohesion Funds.

Maura Walsh

July 1994



Ms. Maura Walsh, Manager, IRD Duhallow

"A Vehicle Promoting Prosperity, Self Help & Quality of Life"

The aim of IRD Duhallow is to generate greater employment opportunities, improve earning potential quality of life and sense of community identity of the local people. Achievement of this aim has been made possible in recent years, largely as a result of the EU LEADER Programme, which has enabled IRD Duhallow to put a development structure in place capable of stimulating, assisting and facilitating the development process in Duhallow. June 1992 saw the arrival of the first LEADER funds to Duhallow and consistent work since then has ensured the successful completion of the programme in June of this year.

A LEADER grant allocation of £1.29m has yielded an overall investment of over £4m in Duhallow in the period 1992 to 1994. The various projects of which there are 68, is illustrative of the success of IRD Duhallow in adopting the 'Bottom Up' approach to development. In the case of Duhallow this has meant an emphasis on encouraging an entrepreneurial sprirt, introducing new technologies, raising standards to international level, which encompasses natural resources, tourism, and services to small and medium enterprises.

IRD Duhallow has taken a multidimensional approach to development where resources are exploited in a wholly integrated manner. By addressing local demands, IRD Duhallow is meeting local needs resulting in the evolution of particularly strong community structures in recent times. By electing the board and through representation on it each local community exerts a strong voice with respect to decisions regarding the future development of Duhallow. Cash contributions of over £100,000 in recent years illustrate the commitment and support of the local people.

IRD Duhallow has provided a valuable service to the community in preparing business plans approaching state agencies and making available to the public the vast amount of experience and information gathered over the years. The board of 20 members representing various sectors provide a well of expertise and knowledge.

IRD Duhallow has been able to favour our indigenous resources for the revitalisation of the rural community of Duhallow socially, culturally, politically and economically. Thus IRD focuses attention on alternative farm enterprise, manufacturing and small businesses, tourism, marketing, education and training.

The IRD Duhallow tourism development programme is a collective venture, responding to market needs, a result which individual parties could not possibly achieve. Through the development of a sound tourism infrastructure based on activities and amenities such as walking routes, golf and equestrian facilities, IRD Duhallow acts as a potent agent for economic and social regeneration and conservation of Duhallow heritage.

New opportunities in the food sector have been generated through the development of Duhallow food training centre which will provide a vital support to new entrepreneurs in the food industry.

There has been substantial job creation in Duhallow as a result of LEADER with the expected creation of 78 full time and 77 part time jobs when all projects are complete. LEADER has also succeeded in generating considerable spin off jobs by providing work for contractors on many projects. Account must also be taken of jobs sustained as a result of LEADER. As an Taoiseach, Mr Albert Reynolds commented at the launch of the Irish LEADER Network's report in Dublin in February, "These figures may not appear significant when viewed in the overall context of the scale of Ireland's employment needs, however for each person who has succeeded in gaining employment as a result of Leader the significance of what Leader has achieved is tremendous ".

The single greatest achievement of IRD Duhallow through the LEADER Programme has undoubtedly been its success in firmly embedding the concept of self help and bottom up development in the minds of local communities.

A significant portion of LEADER funding in Duhallow was allocated in the form of technical assistance.

Technical support is aimed at projects in their planning stages, where money is allocated to assist in determining the viability of projects, and their potential for commercial, tourism or community development. This type of funding has also been employed to assist IRD Duhallow towards a better understanding of the needs, attitudes and aspirations of the people of Duhallow and towards the support and preservation of their rich cultural heritage.



River Blackwater - Tourism and Job Potential

In this regard IRD Duhallow has offered advice and assistance to any group or individual seeking direction. The business proposals and promoters are screened and when necessary, assistance is offered in the preparation of business plans. In some cases applicants are directed to alternative sources of finance. Thus IRD Duhallow consistently achieves its most fundamental target with respect to technical support, where it provides all with the necessary technical support and assistance for projects.

In this sector measures were also undertaken to preserve one of Duhallow's richest assets, its cultural heritage. This was done through workshops to teach the traditional music, song and dance of Sliabh Luachra and also the research and publishing of folklore.



Sector A

Technical
Assistance

One of the major surveys conducted in this sector was the Duhallow school leavers survey, the results of which provide valuable information for future planning development in Duhallow. In the survey the aspirations of the younger generation are acknowledged and clearly their voice needs to be represented in any future plan as they are the future of rural Duhallow and the holders of Duhallow's culture and heritage.



Kanturk Castle - Development Potential



Set Dancing Workshops - Cultural Heritage-Development Potential



Sector B

Training

IRD Duhallow's main target of stimulating the provision of locally-based training and learning, designed to meet local needs was successfully achieved.

The importance of training to prepare the necessary workforce for the prospective development path is vital and is one of IRD Duhallow's prime objectives.

IRD Duhallow has engaged in a wide variety of training and educational oriented projects which attempt to develop the area's ability to promote future development. The projects range from having solely economic objectives to cultural, social and educational motives.



James O'Keeffe Institute - Progress through learning

Through the EU Euroform Programme which focused on new employment opportunities through new training, a food business development programme incorporating a National Certificate in Food Hygiene was carried out in Duhallow in conjunction with the National Food Centre. Nine participants completed the course in December.

The Duhallow Food Training Centre is being established in Boherbue. Its main function is to provide hands on training both for those interested in establishing small food businesses, and for those already employed in Duhallow's food industry. The aim of this practical training is to create and sustain small food businesses in the area.

The ultimate aim of the Boherbue centre is to sustain existing small food companies and encourage new food company start-ups through providing support in the form of training until such time as the risk of failure is minimised. Every help and advice will be given to them during this and all stages of their business development. For this purpose as well as for the general running of the Centre, a Food Centre Resource Team will be put in place.



ICA Personal Development Course

An enhanced role for women in rural development

Training for employment

The development of new skills and the constant upgrading of existing ones are seen as vital ingredients for employment. IRD Duhallow and LEADER have developed many projects aimed at contributing towards acquiring new skills and the maintenance of Duhallow's existing skills base at levels which will meet the rapidly changing requirements of the business environment and the employment market. Particular emphasis is placed on the preservation of employment in sectors where change may place jobs at risk.

To date over two hundred people have received training as a direct result of LEADER funding. The nature of training being provided varies from training in community development and enterprise growth for small businesses, to knitting skills and tourism. IRD Duhallow is very conscious of the need to provide training which is both accessible and relevant to the rural environment. Perhaps the most innovative programme in progress is the University of London Economics degree course which IRD Duhallow in conjunction with Limerick Senior College have brought to the James O'Keeffe Institute.

In order to facilitate day and weekend courses, residential training facilities have been developed at the James O'Keeffe Institute in Newmarket where up to 40 participants can be accommodated. The Institute is an ideal centre for day and residential training courses. The venue encompasses the rural development concept where facilities are made readily available for community development purposes and where key training officers committed to the goal of progress in the rural area, can be strategically located.

One of IRD Duhallow's aims is to give due recognition to the role of women in rural development. A Personal development course involving members of the Irish Country Women's Association provided a forum for the participants to gain a better understanding of the challenge facing rural women today. A rural tourism course run in association with Teagase provided a sound foundation on which agri and rural tourism projects can be developed.



Specialist advice to small food producers Rita Ahem, IRD Duhallow's Food Business Specialist with Seamus Hogan of Fieldwise pigs



Sector C Rural Tourism

Since its establishment IRD Duhallow has been committed to the development of tourism in the region. Although Duhallow has never been known as a tourist destination, tourism was quickly identified as a sector for development given its heritage and natural beauty.

The region of Duhallow possesses a rich heritage and culture which is worth preserving and sharing with others. The sheer beauty of the area is ideal for the European tourist interested in health, exercise and enjoying a natural and clean environment. In addition Duhallow's proximity to such well established destinations as Killarney and West Cork provide considerable scope to capitalise on an existing market.

Through the LEADER Programme the foundations of a tourism infrastructure have been laid with the development of many tourism amenities. The emphasis is on developing activities so that Duhallow can promote itself in this large and growing market.

The development strategy has focused on developing holiday packages, marketing and promotion. Establishing entertainment venues and upgrading existing accomodation will be the focus of future development in this sector. Central to the programme is the establishment of a tourism support unit which will co-ordinate the entire strategy and provide information and booking services.

IRD Duhallow is also striving to ensure that there are adequate tourist services and products through promoting the establishment of local accommodation of Bord Failte standard and through promoting the development of local crafts. We have aided and encouraged centres of rural tourism to offer cultural facilities. There was also a focus on the restoration and development of rural sites of tourist interest.

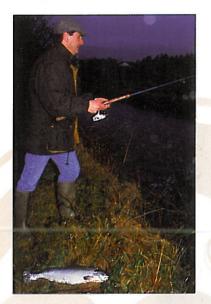


Equestrian Duhallow

A significant number of the tourism projects are family farms who have had to diversify to counterbalance declining income. Such farms demonstrate the potential of exploiting the essential activity of farms both through diversification and the prevention of further out migration and help to conserve the structure of the landscape.

The market research which IRD Duhallow has undertaken in an effort to promote the area must be commended as this was virtually non-existent previously. The brochures, videos and tourism packages which are currently being developed and distributed have undoubtedly put Duhallow on the tourist index.

A total of twenty six tourism projects were LEADER assisted of which eighteen concentrate on the development of activity holiday packages through the improvement of existing amenities and the development of new ones. The remainder focus on promotion and training.



Angling Duhallow

With these developments nearing completion, the focus is now firmly on promotion. The approach which is being taken is to develop complete holiday packages. For this to succeed it is vital that the overall quality of the tourism product be of a very high standard in all areas, from accommodation to entertainment to amenities. At present the quality and standard of services provided, although excellent in most cases, is not uniform. Training is vital to

ensure the overall quality of the mix of elements which will make up the tourism package and determine the whole image of tourism in Duhallow. Plans for the future include the development of active cultural centres "Tithe Luachra" which will serve not only as entertainment venues but also to educate Duhallow's youth in the traditional arts of Sliabh Luachra music, song and dance thereby preserving that culture for future generations and creating employment.





Ecotourism - Millstreet Nature Park



Walking Duhallow -The Duhallow Way



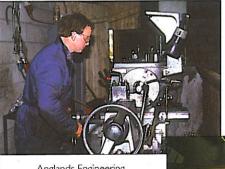
Golfing Duhallow -Kanturk 18 Hole Golf Course



Sector D

Small Business Development

Introducing New Technologies



Anglands Engineering



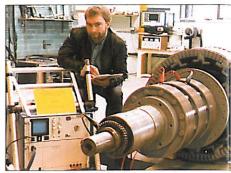


Ducon Concrete a niche found in Stadia Seating

Small to medium sized companies in the Duhallow area play a vital role in the fight against rising unemployment and high emigration rates and thus IRD Duhallow has recognised the importance of channelling support and aid to them.

In this sector the targets which IRD Duhallow set included stimulating the production, distribution and marketing of high quality locally-based products. The transfer of technology and marketing are other factors which IRD Duhallow takes into account when facilitating small and medium enterprises in the area.

Through the LEADER programme IRD Duhallow has provided vital funding for small companies in the area with innovative ideas to allow them grow, diversify and market their products or services in an effort to help them meet some of their basic capital needs



ew technologies catering for new markets

A number of companies were assisted in further expansion of their businesses in order to meet demand for their products or avail of new market opportunities. In many cases firms have been assisted in diversification away from non-viable products towards the development of new products to cater to niche market opportunities.

Training and research is an ongoing process in IRD Duhallow to help local companies meet the challenges of the times and give them greater foresight.

The most recent research carried out was the SME survey conducted in the Summer of 1993. The survey was carried out throughout Duhallow with assistance from the Department of Social Welfare, Summer Students Employment Scheme. The results were computed and analyzed and a final report has been completed. The survey comprises a comprehensive study on the present situation of SMEs, identifying problem areas and making recommendations.

The survey highlighted the importance of the service industry to the local economy and the need for training in the service sector. It also identified a need to develop and pilot a practical Management Development programme, focusing on finance, bargaining, business evaluation and business planning and time management specifically aimed at small companies. The survey results will be instrumental in identifying the type of training and skills needed in the area and will serve as a data-base for implementing future planning.

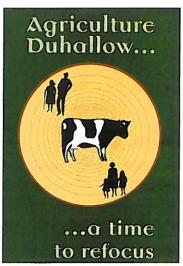
IRD Duhallow's main objective in this sector is to ensure the sustainability of farm families in the area by reducing the dependency on mainstream agriculture through promoting diversification and the undertaking of viability assessments.

Funding in this sector has been aimed at the development of farm based enterprises, in an effort to promote alternative sources of

Ardrahan Farmhouse Cheese

income generation in cases where traditional farming activities may prove no longer viable given the changing agriculture climate. IRD Duhallow has also been instrumental in promoting the area as a high quality food producing area and in the development and promotion of joint projects, such as the marketing of venison.

A comprehensive survey of Duhallow farm families was conducted in an effort to establish the situation of farm families in the region and to generally raise the consciousness of the community in the light of the changing face of agriculture where family farms need to adapt to ensure survival. Entitled "Agriculture Duhallow - A Time to Refocus", it was officially launched by Joe Walsh the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Forestry on the 29th of April 1994. The agriculture sector are obviously by far the most important economic and social sector of the rural community and thus need to be aided to ensure the preservation of rural communities.



Agricultural Survey

The results of the survey showed some worrying trends in agriculture and illustrated the urgency of initiating a programme for developing local farms through buying milk quota and upgrading dairy facilities and through farm diversification.

Estimate costings were made to show the necessary conditions to help family farms reach viability status. It is believed that a grant aid of £11m in Duhallow could provide 769 farm families in the area with a viable work outlet. This grant aid could help these family farms reach a 30,000 gallon quota and make the necessary upgrade in dairy facilities.

The report has gained substantial recognition and has received wide reportage from both local and national press and has been the topic of considerable discussion among farming organisations. It will be a valuable tool in IRD Duhallow's future development strategies. The Agricultural Committee is also piloting a Biomass project in the area in conjunction with our partners in Alternative Energy projects, Cork County Council and Dr Sean McCarthy of Hyperion Ltd.

Agricultural Committee

The communities of Duhallow are invited each year to nominate representatives to our various committees. The following form the dynamic Agricultural Committee.

Tim Leader - Chairman
Dan Riordan - Secretary
Donie Howard, IFA
Maurice Archdeacon, ICMSA
Martin O'Keeffe, Macra na Feirme,
Eddie Walsh, Teagasc
Vincent McSweeney, Dairygold
Donal Guiney, Millstreet
Dan Riordan, Farm Relief
Joan Duggan, Laharn Cross
Liam Flynn, Millstreet



Sector C

Exploitation & Charketing of Farm, Forestry & Fishery Products



Renewable Energy Pilot Project



Duhallow Venison Produce

Curoform in Duhallow

An Alternative Approach to Rural Development

Environment training



Millstreet Country Park Fieldstudies Facilities

The EU Euroform Initiative was a pilot scheme which commenced in June 1992 and ended in December 1993. In total, 65 Irish projects in 12 counties, accounted for our ESF allocation under Euroform. These projects in turn were linked to 192 partners in Europe which helped to promote the exchange of information, ideas and training approaches.

The Euroform Initiative concerns new skills, new qualifications and new employment opportunities which have been prompted by the present economic restructuring process at macro level. The experiences gained from the initiative have been invaluable. Euroform was vital in assessing and underlining the training and skills requisition which could lead to better employment opportunities.

The Duhallow Euroform scheme commenced in January 1993 and concluded in December 1993. Its main aim in developing an alternative approach to Rural Development was to reinforce the measures being undertaken through the LEADER Programme, by encouraging and fostering enterprise in the Duhallow region in order to improve the earning potential, quality of training and skills of the area and nurture an enterprise culture.

In Duhallow the Euroform initiative has worked hand in hand with the LEADER Programme, adding validity to the theories of integration and additionality. By promoting new training and skills development,

Euroform ignited the resourcefulness and drive in many people.

Euroform was a vital step in establishing Duhallow as a fine foods area producing value added products. The Food Business Development programme has developed new skills in food production, marketing and business management. The Dairy Products Research Centre in Moorepark has provided support and advice on the further development of this resource in the area.



Traditional Skills

Euroform has ensured the maintenance of traditional knitting skills in Duhallow. Knitting classes organised within the programme enabled the transfer of skills to the younger generation, also helping knitters to reach high quality standards and providing a valuable step towards the revival of this traditional craft.

A database of industries in Duhallow has been established, where future 'needs' have been identified which will help in IRD Duhallow's future strategies. The viability of networking small businesses was also explored and suitable participants identified. Through developing and applying suitable training initiatives it is hoped to increase employment opportunities, cultivate enterprise, to change negative attitudes to training and enterprise and create an environment where small businesses can flourish.

Euroform has also facilitated the development of new skills, based on the Millstreet Eurovision experience and the identification of necessary training needed to avail of potential employment opportunities in similar events or festivals.

Another aspect of the Duhallow Euroform Programme involved the development of an educational facility at Millstreet Country Park, where the visitor season of the park will be extended to cater for students of all levels. Consequently field studies facilities at the park are currently being developed.



Event management skills - Eurovision Millstreet 1993



Community Development

The members and staff of IRD Duhallow have been stimulating local communities to become involved in the development of Duhallow. This has been done through regular communication of information using public meetings as the forum.

There are over twenty five local community groups active as a result of IRD Duhallow's development effort. The effectiveness of pursuing a bottom-up approach is very apparent in Duhallow where there is high participation at community level and a steadily increasing number of projects presented for evaluation.

Innovative Approach to Planning

The Parish plans programme which is currently underway, came about in response to demand at local community level. Having experienced the positive effects of the pilot LEADER programme and having seen their initial commitment to the concepts and ideals of IRD Duhallow creating tangible results within the community, local organizations have strongly expressed the desire to see a continuation of this work and so to achieve even greater representation and participation by all members of the community.

The Parish Plans programme involves the facilitation of local communities in identifying areas where opportunities for economic and social developments exist through carrying out an audit of the community's own resources. This exercise also

involves highlighting potential threats to the community and facilitates the identification of measures to counter these threats. To this end in recent months over one hundred special information meetings have been held with communities throughout Duhallow where staff and board members have facilitated communities to carry out resource audits and encouraging new projects and ideas.

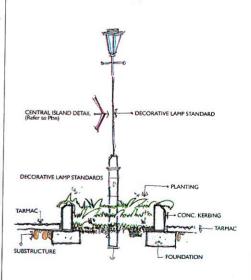
Proof of the success of this approach is evident in the number of plans of high standard which have resulted from the open and constructive exchanges at such meetings. People of different age groups, backgrounds and opinions have united towards the achievement of a common goal of their own.

The drive currently underway has resulted in a general awakening of awareness among active communities of their own potential, best illustrated by the growing emphasis which these communities place upon implementing long term strategies for lasting economic development rather than short term solutions for immediate problems. This process needs to be continued and extended so that many of the still dormant communities can be motivated into action.

In addition to the Parish Plans IRD Duhallow and Cork County Council have drawn up village scape and town scape plans for the region, working closely with the local communities. These plans are the blue print from which communities and the local authority will implement their future strategies.



Village and Town Scope Plans undertaken in association with Cork County Council.



Making More Use Of Our Resources

The fact that in a period of two years over £4 million has been injected into the Duhallow economy is a huge tribute to the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment of both IRD Duhallow and its many partners in this venture.

IRD Duhallow is formulated along the public-private partnership model where representatives from both public and private unite and provide solutions to the areas development needs and its problems. It is a collective venture for development which includes a large number of agencies, departments and bodies.

This emphasis on partnership has formed the basis for a large number of projects pursued by IRD Duhallow. Partnership arrangements in the form of joint projects have been applied with state agencies such as Coillte, Forbairt, Cork County Council and the Regional Tourism Board. Other examples include co-operation with FAS in running a Social Employment Scheme in Rockchapel and a Rural Tourism Course with Teagasc. IRD Duhallow recognises the importance of co-operation with the newly established County Enterprise Board and has regular contact with its Chief Executive, Rochie Houlihan. In association with the Department of Social Welfare, IRD Duhallow during the summers of '93 and '94 provided placement work for third level students. The

National Dairy Products Centre in Moorepark, Fermoy and the Limerick Food Centre were influential partners in the development of the food training centre in Boherbue.



Outside of the LEADER Programme IRD Duhallow has also been the driving force behind many other developments in recent times. In January of this year IRD launched a special programme for Primary Schools in the Duhallow area. The Programme was the result of months of consultation between IRD Duhallow's Schools Committee and interested parties including schools inspectors, principals, teachers, boards of management and parents. As part of the programme 35 participating schools received a comprehensive package including material of practical and stimulating interest. The Programme was developed in an effort to instill a sense of initiative and enterprise in Duhallow people from an early age.

The Programme is the first step in developing a network to facilitate greater interaction between the schools and communities in the area. The main aim is to promote enterprise in people from a young age while also increasing their sense of pride in the locality. As a direct result of this initiative the school teachers of the area have come together to establish a "Teacher's Centre " in the James O'Keeffe Institute. The next step involves the extension of the programme to second level schools.

Social Action

Like the schools programme IRD Duhallow has supported a number of other initiatives from its own funds. Many Duhallow communities provide voluntary support services for the disadvantaged and IRD Duhallow as an indication of its support for such goodwill has provided some financial assistance to social action groups in Millstreet, Rathmore, Meelin, Kanturk and Newmarket. IRD Duhallow has also assisted the Duhallow Literacy Group who provide a very valuable service to the people of Duhallow on a voluntary basis.

The launch of the Duhallow Schools Programme



Duhallow's Future



Rathmore Social Action Group

Duhallow Resources

Established for Service

'Duhallow Resources' is the name of a new service office recently established by IRD Duhallow. Located in Boherbue, the office brings a whole range of sophisticated facilities and services to the doorsteps of businesses and individuals in the area.

Headed up by two of IRD Duhallow's Project Officers, Mary Kerin and Gillian Kelleher, the office promises to offer a wide range of services not available at present.

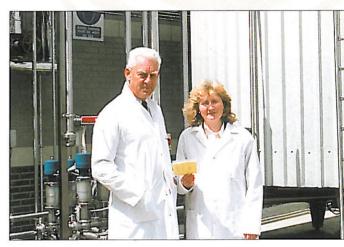


Mary Kerin and Gillian Kelleher - Duhallow Resources

Service to Business

The office also offers a valuable support service to businesses where a talent bank of skilled persons in the area will be established and updated and businesses will be encouraged to use the services of these individuals on a contract basis . This will serve those small and medium sized firms who do not have the wherewithal to employ their own technical expertise on full-time professional basis. This will operate on a similar manner to the 'Farm Relief Service'.

The office is fully equipped with modern advanced telecommunication and information technology equipment guaranteeing a professional service to all its clients. A specialised service is available in the preparation of material for presentations and business plans.



Potential through new product development Rita Ahem, IRD Duhallow's Food Specialist with Barry Connolly of Moorepark

Service to Tourism

A central function of Duhallow Resources is tourism marketing and reservations. The office will be the focal centre in the production of promotional material and holiday packages for the area and in association with the information points in Duhallow provide a tourism information service to visitors to Duhallow.

Service to Individuals

Business plans, Curriculum Vitaes and presentation materials will all be provided at the centre.

The operation has the potential to offer valuable training and work experience on a practical basis to individuals in the Duhallow region.

IRD Duhallow

Board, Management & Staff





IRD Duhallow Management Group

Based in the James O'Keeffe Institute, Newmarket, IRD Duhallow as it is today, is a product of foresight of a number of individuals within the community who were (and continue to be) totally committed to the concept of integrated development.

Since 1991 management and staff have been based at the IRD Duhallow office, carrying out day to day business of the company while implementing the policies as laid down by the Board. As a voluntary body IRD Duhallow has over 90 members from the community who elect 20 representatives to the Management Board at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the management board are non-remunerated. Currently IRD Duhallow employs a Manager, an Administrator, 2 Project Officers, a Food Business Specialist and 2 Clerical Officers.

IRD Duhallow Board Members 1993/94

Mr Jeremiah Sheehan (Chairman)	M.D Avonmore Electrical, Millstreet Tourism Group
Mr. Frank Healy (Vice-Chairman)	M.D. Ducon Concrete, Kanturk Community Council
Mr. Michael Twohig (Treasurer)	M.D. Supervalu Kanturk, Chairman Kanturk Traders Assoc.
Ms. Maura Walsh (Co.Secretary)	Manager IRD Duhallow
Mr. Michael Cronin	Manager Newmarket Co-Op, Newmarket Development Ass.
Mr. Martin Corcoran	Area Engineer Cork County Council, Millstreet Community Council
Mr. Michael Doyle	Coillte
Mr. Derry Fitzpatrick	M.D. Fitzpatrick & Co. Kanturk, Kanturk Golf Club Committee
Mr. Donal Guiney	Castlemore Quarries, Millstreet Community Council
Mr. Donie Howard	I.F.A., Chairman Kilcorney Community Group
Mr. Sean Kelliher	Vice-Principal Boherbue Comprehensive, Cummann Luachra
Mr. Dermot Linehan	Teagasc, James O'Keeffe House Committee
Mr. Tim Lucey	Solicitor, Kanturk
Mr. Vincent McSweeney	Farmer, Board member of Dairygold, Millstreet Community Council
Mr. John Moynihan	Production Manager Cadbury Ireland Ltd, Rathmore Com. Council
Mr. Gerard Murphy	Member County Council, Newmarket Development Association
Mr. Joe O'Connor	Manager Boherbue Co-Op, President Speak Easy Toastmasters
Mr. Conor O'Flynn	M.D. Sunpak Mayfield
Mr. John O'Sullivan	Manager North Cork Creameries
Mr. Ben Wrafter	M.D. Impulse Engineering
Mr. Mike Hayes	Farmer, Dulra Duthalla (Community Group)



The IRD Duhallow team

Contacts

Maura Walsh, Manager
Maria Moynihan, Administrator
Mary Kerin, Project Officer
Gillian Kelleher, Project Officer
Frances McAuliffe, Clerical Officer
Bileen Murphy, Clerical Officer
Rita Aherne, Food Business Specialist

IRD Duhallow

James O'Keeffe Institute

Newmarket

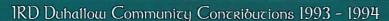
Co.Cork

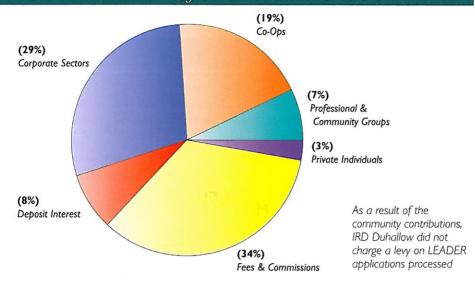
Co.Cork

Tel & Fax: 029-60633 Tel & Fax: 029-76375

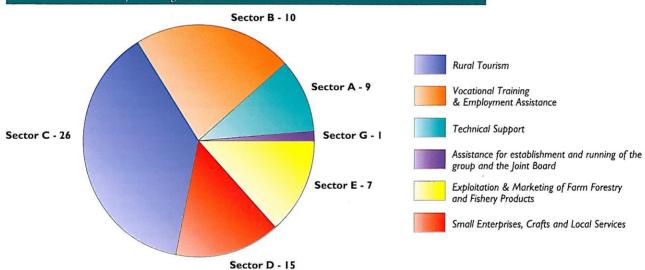
Sources and Uses of Funds

An Overview

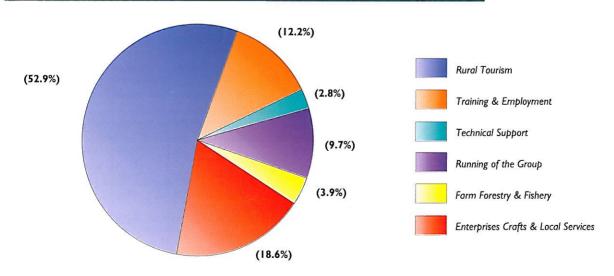




Number of Projects by Sector



Total Expenditure on Leader Projects - Public and Private Funds



Duhallow LEADER Projects

EVELOPMENT ECTOR	NAME OF PROJECT	LEADER GRANT	PRIVATE FUNDS	TOTAL COST	% GRANT
Sector A	Agricultural Survey - Publication of an extensive study of farm families in Duhallow	3,235	13,235	16,470	19.64%
	School Leavers Survey - A survey of the aspiration & attitudes of Duhallow school leavers	5,000	7,000	12,000	41.67%
	Blackwater Survey - A survey of the river Blackwater and its tributaries	14,478	18,822	33,300	43.48%
	"Prinking from the Well" - Duhallow Folklore Book providing a unique insight into Duhallow's rich cultural heritage	500	8,020	8,520	5.87%
	Feile Rockchapel - Workshops to teach traditional music, song and dance of Sliabh Luachra	250	290	540	46.30%
	Leisure Centre Feasibility - Feasibility on the development of a community leisure centre	2,500	2,500	5,000	50.00%
	Castle Restoration Feasibility - A study to establish the feasibility of restoring an historic castle	2,500	2,500	5,000	50.00%
	DBMS Feasibility - Examine the feasibility for a computerised cataloguing system	1,500	1,500	3,000	50.00%
0	Alternative Ag Feasibility - A Study examining the potential of certain crops as alternative farm enterprises	900	900	1,800	50.00%
Sector B	Community Development & Training - Training programme for those involved in				,
DECEOR D	rural development in IRD Duhallow	6,665	11,335	18,000	37.03%
4	LC.A. Personal Development Course - Series of Business Enterprise & personal development courses by local ICA guilds	1,300	435	1,735	74.93%
	Project Training - A training course aimed at the LEADER assisted owners/managers	10,000	10,000	20,000	50.00%
	Food Training Centre - Development of a centre to train people in small food business	128,500	49,809	178,309	72.05%
	Diploma leading to B.Sc Econ An external University of London programme run in conjunction with University of Limerick	7,000	7,000	14,000	50.00%
	European Studies post 16 prog - Participation of Senior 2nd level students in a unique European programme	2,000	2,000	4,000	50.00%
	Jámes O'Keeffe Institute - Development of rural development training institute including residential training facilities	119,755	122,655	242,410	49.40%
	Duhâllow Heritage Centre - Assistance towards the purchase of equipment for the compilation of genealogical records	7,945	8,055	16,000	49.66%
	Rural Tourism Course - Training in hospitality and business skills for tourism service providers	3,135	1,045	4,180	75.00%
V C	Rathmore Credit Union - Training in Administration of a low interest venture capital fund for new small businesses set up by the credit union	900	300	1,200	75.00%
Sector C	Duhallow Way & associated walks - Development of long and short distance walks	27,800)	27,800	55,600	50.00%
	Duhallow Golf Range - Development of a golf driving range as an alternative farm enterprise	15,800	20,200	36,000	43.89%
	Kanturk Castle - Floodlighting of Kanturk Castle	,4,501	4,499	9,000	50.01%
	Dehallow Folkways - Development of a folk museum to provide the visitor with an insight into the culture of Duhallow	35,530	81,370	116,900	30.39%
	Kanturk Golf Course - Expansion of an existing 9 hole course to 18 hole course	50,000	150,000	200,000	25.00%
	Millstreet Country Park - Development of a 500 acre recreational & educational attraction, as an ecotourism project	166,000	1,134,000	1,300,000	12.77%
	Dulra Duthalla - Development of self catering farm house accommodation, Bord Failte approved	6,000	9,000	15,000	40.00%
	/ Dulra Duthàlla feasibility study	2,500	2,500	5,000	50.00%
_	Duhallow Trail - Development, mapping and signposting of a driving route taking all the major places of interest in Duhallow	16,000	16,000	30,000	50.00%
	Millstreet Euro Brochure "US" - A marketing brochure produced on the unique occasion of the Eurovision Song Contest	5,490	6,510	12,000	45.75%
	Tourism Brochure - Production of brochures for the promotion of Duhallow as a tourist destination	7,000	7,000	14,000	50.00%
	Duhallow resources - Tourism co-ordination & reservations office, business services & food centre administration and area office	38,132	15,937	54,069	70.52%
	Kilbrin Community Council - Research & publication of history of Ballygrady Curragh National School	200	1,300	1,500	13.33%
	Parish Plans - The production of town and village scape plans	6,800	18,600	25,400	26.77%
5	Kanturk Park - Development of this community owned park through the provision of safety fencing beside the river hand bushed bushed bushed bushed bushed bushed	2,500	2,500	5,000	50.00%

Duhallow LEADER Projects

EVELOPMENT CTOR	NAME OF PROJECT	LEADER GRANT	PRIVATE FUNDS	TOTAL COST	% GRANT
1	Cuilin Glor Na nGael - Production of a video tape on the Araglen Valley, Cullen and Kiskeam depicting scenery and heritage	150	150	300	50.00%
	Cumann Staire - Cuilin Publication of a journal of local heritage & tradition	150	3,050	3,200	4.69%
C	Cotters Accommodation & Equestrian Facilities - Horse riding facilities complemented by approved self-catering accommodation	7,000	13,000	20,000	35.00%
	Riding Facilities Banteer - Development of a horse riding arena in combination with guesthouse accommodation	10,000	10,000	20,000	50.00%
	Banteer Heritage Centre - Renovation and convertion of the old Banteer National School into a heritage and drama centre	6,000	10,844	16,844	35.62%
	The Clock House Ballydesmond - Development of tourist service package including tourist information and snack facilities	8,178	47,898	56,076	14.58%
	Nora Herlihy Memorial - Feasibility of developing a cultural centre to commemorate Nora Herlihy founder of Credit Union	2,500	2,500	5,000	50.00%
	Lake Development Feasibility - Study into the potential development of a local lake as a tourist fishing centre	2,000	6,500	8,500	23.53%
0	Cullen Pitch & Putt - Funding for parking, fencing and planting for final stage development of this Pitch & Putt club	500	9,500	10,000	5.00%
10	Duhallow Porcelain - Development of a Duhallow range of fine porcelain.	6,000	9,000	15,000	40.00%
19		426,731			
ctor D	Film Location Brochure - Production of a descriptive brochure used to promote Duhallow				
11	as the ideal location for filming	5,000	5,000	10,000	50.00%
/	Duhallow Farm Relief Services - Expansion of current services	9,250	10,750	20,000	46.25% 37.50%
	Forrest Crafts - Assistance towards the purchase of woodturning equipment - kiln and lathe	1,500	2,500	4,000	37.30%
	Donal Casey, Boherbue - Diversification to avail of new market opportunities in the woodcraft business	19,540	39,460	59,000	33.12%
	Ballydesmond Stone - Development of a 45 acre stone quarry	15,750	62,450	78,200	20.14%
	Ducon Concrete - Diversification to the production of stadia seating	65,000	75,000	140,000	46.43%
	Anglands Engineering - Expansion of precision engineering company	5,000	10,700	157,000	31.85%
4	Wood Craft - Expansion of existing business and diversification into the production of woodcraft	1,500	2,150	3,650	41.10%
	Allens of Allenbridge - Assistance towards diversification into the production of hand crafted victorian reproduction railings	2,350	2,350	4,700	50.00%
	Wan Halen - Expand business to exploit market opportunities in specialist engineering	10,000	38,000	48,000	20.83%
É	New Food Product Development - Preparation of test marketing samples of a new food product & market research	650	1,850	2,500	26.00%
	Renewable Energy Pilot Project - Assistance towards the growing of Biomass as an experimental renewable energy source	3,250	4,250	7,500	43.33%
2) 0	Avonmore Electrical - Diversification from commercial to heavy duty industrial motors	75,250	104,150	179,400	41.95%
ECTOR C	Wenison Co-op - Assistance in the development of both the home and export markets for Duhallow venison produce	20,000	180,000	200,000	10.00%
,	Ardrahan Cheese - Development of market opportunities for a high quality, internationally recognised farmhouse cheese	29,166	41,234	70,400	41.43%
/	Tree Harvesting - Development of a tree harvesting operation based on extraction of timber using the horse and sling method	2,000	6,190	8,190	24.42%
	W.J. Leahy - Expansion of alternative farm enterprise involving new inventions	5,000	6,000	11,000	45.45%
	Venison Preparation - Establishment of a venison preparation unit to service the Duhallow Venison farming sector	5,000	5,500	10,500	47.62%
) 3	Fieldwise Ltd Develop the breeding and rearing of free range pigs to provide a farm incomé supplement	5,000	5,000	10,000	50.00%
ctor G	Joint Board - Administration costs of the Duhallow -				
ASSESSMENT OF THE PARTY OF THE	West Cork Joint LEADER Board and IRD Administration	265,000	66,250	331,250	80.00%
N		•			





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IRD Duhallow Ltd. Limited by Guarantee

Summary of Accounts 1993-1994

The following accounts have been extracted from the company's statutory accounts for the year ended 31st December 1993. Full accounts for the year ended 31st December 1993, on which the auditors have made a report, will be delivered to the registrar of Companies after the Annual General meeting.

Copies of the Director's Report, Accounts and Auditors Report can be obtained from the Company's Registration Office, Dublin 2.



Income and Expenditure	1993
Year Chding 31st December 1993	E
Income	300,684
Operational Expenditure	295,790
Operating Surplus	4,894
Interest Received	3,730
Surplus for the Financial Year	8,624
Balance Sheet	
At 31st December 1993	
FIXED ASSETS	
Tangible Assets	
Office Furniture & Equipment at cost less	
depreciation	16,826
CURRENT ASSETS	
Debtors	10,732
Cash on Hand	200
Cash at Bank	67,575
LEADER and Euroform funds on deposit	168,246
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Creditors - amount falling due within one year	3,941
LEADER funds	168,246
NET CURRENT ASSETS	74,566
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	91,392
Capical and Reserves	
RESERVES:	
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT	82,768
Balance brought Forward Surplus retained for the Year	8,624
Balance carried Forward	91,392
Cash Flow Statement	
Year Ended 31st December 1993	
Net Cash Inflow from operating activities	5,023
Potume on Investments & Somision of Figure	
Returns on Investments & Servicing of Finance Interest Received	3,730
	3,130
Investing Activities	
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(9,630)
Net Cash Inflow before Financing	(877)
FINANCING	
Net Cash Inflow from Financing	
INCREASE IN CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	(877)
Bank balance at 1 st January 1993	68,652
Net Cash Flow	(877)
At 31st December 1993	67,775

1. Accounting Policies

- (a) Accounting Convention: The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards
- (b) Fixed Assets: Fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation. The cost of fixed assets is depreciated by equal annual installments over the expected useful lives of the assets as follows: Office Furniture & Equivalent 12.5% per annum
- (c) **Pension:** The company operates a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

2. Operating Surplus

This is stated after charging / (crediting)

Auditors Remuneration 3,875
Depreciation of fixed assets 2,620

3. Directors Remuneration

None of the directors who held office during the year received any remuneration.

4. Employees and Remuneration

The average number employed by the company in the financial period was 13 and is analyzed as follows:

Average Number Persons Employed in 1993 was 13 (Office Staff)

 The staff costs comprised of:
 £

 Wages & Salaries
 79,197

 Social Welfare Costs
 34,887

 114,084

5. Funds

	LEADER	Euroform	SES	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	£
Opening Balance	(8,403)	1,550	997	(5,856)
Movement in Year	175,752	(752)	(898)	174,102
Closing Balance	167,349	798	99	168,246

6. Debrors

Millstreet Enterprise Centre	2,000
Newmarket Island Wood	500
FAS SES Scheme	2,637
Tax Credits re Covenants	5,595
	10,732

7. Creditors

Creditors are analyzed as follows:

Expense Accruals 3,000
PAYE / PRSI 941
3,941

8. Share Capical

The company does not have a share capital and is limited by guarantee. The liability of members is limited to £1 each.

Summarised
Notes to the Accounts at 31st December 1993

Leader		1993 IR£	1992
	LEADER Funds	536,546	IR£ 441,402
Accounts	Interest	3,381_	4.056
		539,927	445,458
	LESS: Bank Interest & Charges	(503)	
		539,424	
	Grant Payments to Projects	363,672	453,861
	Movement of Funds for Year	175.752	(8 403)

Curoform Project Accounts

Euroform Funds allocated to IRD Duhallow Ltd for the year ended 31st December 1993 totalled £169,000. 80% of this (£135,200) was actually received during the year. The remaining 20% (£33,800) is receivable in 1994, following submission of a final Euroform report.

		1993 IR£	1992 IR£
Euroform Funds		135,200	
Euroform Technical Assistance Gra	ant	2,000	2,000
Deposit Interest Received		1,573	
		138,773	
Less Expenses:			
Euroform Technical Assistance	2,347		
Euroform Projects	137.178	139,525	450
Movement of Funds for Year		(752)	1,550

IRD Duhallow Company Information

Chairman:

Jeremiah Sheehan

Treasurer:

Michael Twohig

Manager & Secretary:

Maura Walsh

Bankers:

Allied Irish Bank Strand Street Kanturk

Co.Cork

Auditors:

V.F.Nathan & Co

Chartered Accountants

Lavitts Quay Cork

Solicitors:

Ronan Daly Jermyn

12 South Mall

Cork

Registered Office:

James O'Keeffe Institute

Newmarket, Co.Cork

Company Registration No: 176369 Date of Incorporation: 01-07-1991

Charitable Status No: CHY 11039

There are 16 LEADER Groups in Ireland - all of very diverse nature and covering varying geographical area. The groups differ in that some have been in existence for many years prior to LEADER, while others were established for the purpose of administering LEADER. IRD Duhallow and West Cork LEADER Co-Operative administered LEADER as a joint plan with a federal arrangement.

The first meeting of the Irish LEADER Network was held in the EC Commission Offices, Dublin in May 1992. Representatives from each group, in most cases the Manager, Chief Executive or Chairperson, attended the meeting. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary were elected at this inaugural meeting.

Since May 1992 the LEADER Network has met monthly and when necessary on a more regular basis. The Network has become a very successful vehicle for sharing experiences, solving problems and learning from each other. Since January 1993 meetings have been hosted by individual LEADER Groups around the Country. The visit usually extends over a two day session with time allocated towards visiting LEADER Projects in that particular area. This has proved to be a very helpful and informative practice.

The meetings provide a focal point where the combined expertise of the Network is available to individual groups. Groups are willing to help each other and lend expertise. In a number of cases there has been a staff exchange between groups and this has proved a valuable learning experience.

The Network contributed greatly to the success of LEADER in Ireland. It has provided a forum for discussion, advice and partnership. Among other things it has worked effectively an advisory capacity for issues such as achieving charitable status. The Network has developed a very good working relationship with the Department of Agriculture, the Intermediary Body. Representatives from the Network meet regularly with the Department to discuss progress and problems which may arise.

The Irish LEADER Network

The success of the Irish LEADER Network can to a large extent be attributed to mutual trust which exists among groups and the common objective of ensuring that LEADER

in Ireland is a success. Our experience of Networking has been shared with many European LEADER groups and is widely acclaimed in Europe, with successful networks being set up in Portugal, Spain, Greece and Italy based on the Irish LEADER Network model. AEIDL has been instrumental in establishing transnational co-operation

and exchanges with other countries.

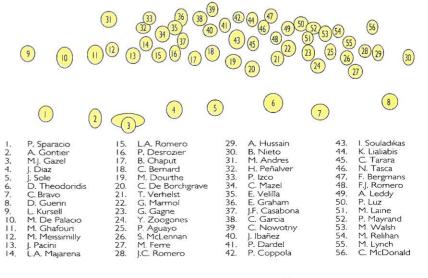


The Irish LEADER Network

IRD Duhallow has since the first meeting of the network provided the administrative backup for the network. Maura Walsh, Manager of IRD Duhallow is Secretary of the network, which is chaired by Mr Anthony Leddy of the Cavan Monaghan LEADER Group.



AEIDL Conference on Culture in Local Development at Aragon, Spain. 22-26 June 1994



Communicies in Duhallow

ommunicy	Contact	Telephone No.
Aubane	Noreen Kelleher	029 70360
Ballydaly	John O'Brien	029 70259
Ballydesmond	Maura Angland	064 51319
Banteer	Mary Tarrant	029 56104
Boherbue	Michael Drum	029 76481
Bweeng	Fr. Corkery	021 333103
Castlemagner Castlemagner	Andy Burke	022 47143
Cullen	Susan O'Connor	029 79033
Derrinag <mark>ree</mark>	Fr. G. O'Connor	029 78042
Donoughmore	Liam Lynch	021 337237
Dromtarriffe	Denis Angland	029 78023
Freemount	Catherine Withers	022 28823
Gneevguilla	Gobnait Carmody	064 56071
Kanturk	John Dillon	029 50144
Kilbrin	Noel Corkery	022 48159
Kilcorney	Donie Howard	029 58148
Kiskeam	Pat Bradley	029 76253
Knocknagree	Tim Kiely	064 56014
Laharn Cross	Patricia Crowley	022 47169
Lismire	Denis Jones	029 60371
Lyre & Nad	John McAuliffe	029 58318
Millstreet	Michael Feeley	029 70223
Meelin	John Moynihan	029 68041
Newmarket	Jim Flynn	029 60282
Rathcoole	Dan Joe O'Keeffe	029 58001
Rathmore	Frank Buckley	064 58007
Rockchapel	Michael Carroll	029 69066
Tullylease	Sheila O'Keeffe	063 83158



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

"Ni neart go cur le cheile"

Duhallow's main strength has been the tremendous work which has been carried out over the past five years towards the long term development of the area. Through the EC LEADER and Euroform funding administered by IRD Duhallow, there has been a total investment of almost £4 million in the development of tourism, small business, training, alternative farm enterprises and technical support in Duhallow. This has undoubtedly laid the foundations for recovery.

A recognised professional structure for development is now in place in the form of IRD Duhallow, research into the needs of the various sectors has been carried out, strategic plans are being formulated and apathy is waning. Through encouraging local communities to become more actively involved in the development of their own areas, LEADER and Euroform have succeeded in reawakening the community spirit and uniting communities.

Development work which did not qualify for EU grant aid but was felt to be essential to the success of our business plan was funded from the private contributions received from the local community and businesses.

However much remains to be done to build upon the successes to date and IRD Duhallow is anxious to ensure that the momentum established over the past number of years will be carried to a new phase.

Undoubtedly IRD Duhallow will be looking to the new EU Initiatives such as LEADER 11, Adapt, Youthstart and NOW. We will also be looking for support for the area through the Structural Funds. Together these will provide the final vital ingredient in the integrated development of Duhallow.





IRD Duhallow
James O'Keeffe Inscicuce
Newmarker
Co. Cork. Ireland.

Tet & Fax: 029 60633

