

Social Innovation Fund - Resilient Communities Fund

The Resilient Communities Fund is a partnership between Social Innovation Fund Ireland and Tomar Trust to find and back innovative projects that strengthen community resilience and have an economic, social and environmental impact.

Scheme Details

Status:	Grant Range:	Funding Source:	Cash Type:
Open	Up to €1,000 Up to €5,000	Trust / Foundation	Revenue

The Resilient Communities Fund is a partnership between Social Innovation Fund Ireland and Tomar Trust to find and back innovative projects that strengthen community resilience and have an economic, social and environmental impact. The Fund will provide critical supports to projects focused on making communities across Ireland safer, healthier, and more vibrant places to live.

Resilient Communities is a €400,000 awards fund, created by Social Innovation Fund Ireland in partnership with the Tomar Trust and the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Department of Rural and Community Development provides match funding for all philanthropic funds raised by Social Innovation Fund Ireland, via the Dormant Accounts Fund.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE?

Community Resilience is a measure of the sustained ability of a community to respond to economic, social and environmental issues.

Significant development occurring across Ireland since the late 1990s has brought changes to settlements, transport patterns, and economic bases, and has altered the traditional rural/urban population balance. As a result of this shift, our rural and town communities are facing challenges to build sustainable economies, maintain public services, and retain young people; while our urban communities are burdened with increasingly unaffordable housing, longer commute times, more limited resources and stresses on infrastructure. Both urban and rural communities are facing potential impacts of climate change, such as adverse effects on water quality and increased risk of flooding. Community resilience thus represents the ability and effort of Irish communities to overcome all of these challenges for stronger, more vibrant communities that also deliver positive economic, social and environmental impacts.

WHAT DOES THE FUND OFFER?

The chosen awardees will receive a total grant award of between €40,000 and €100,000. The award will consist of a 75% cash grant and 25% in accelerator supports. Bespoke accelerator supports may include mentoring, strategic growth planning and access to SIFI's networks.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Social Innovation Fund Ireland are looking for innovative projects that can demonstrate how they are strengthening community resilience whilst delivering economic, social and environmental impact for their localities.

Projects might focus on:

- Economy – providing greater self-sufficiency, sustainability, and stability, while also providing increased opportunities for more people thereby tackling urban migration
- Environment – increasing sustainability and reducing resource usage
- Social – generating a positive sense of belonging, particularly for marginalised and vulnerable groups

Applicant projects must meet Social Innovation Fund Ireland standard criteria and specific fund criteria as listed below.

SOCIAL INNOVATION STANDARD CRITERIA

- The project must address a critical social issue
- The solution proposed must be innovative in an Irish context
- The solution must have potential and a desire to scale or replicate in Ireland (it may also have potential internationally, but this is not a requirement)
- The solution must provide evidence that it is up and running, or have been tested at least in a minimal way
- That it is based on the island of Ireland and will make its main impact in the Republic of Ireland
- Applicants must come from an entity that has a not for profit legal form e.g. charity, social enterprise, voluntary organisations etc.

PROJECTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING WILL HAVE AN ADVANTAGE

- Projects that demonstrate a track record of strong leadership
- Projects that demonstrate a track record of strong community engagement
- Projects with a demonstrated evidence base
- Projects that can demonstrate economic, social and environmental impacts
- Projects that have substantial impact in rural or town communities
- Projects that are based in Munster

WHAT TYPE OF ORGANISATIONS CAN APPLY?

The Resilient Communities Fund will accept applications from:

- Not for Profits
- Voluntary Organisations
- Charities
- Social Enterprises.

How to Apply

Full details and guidelines (including expectations for applicants and FAQ's) are available on the website - <http://www.socialinnovation.ie/resilientcommunities>

Important Dates

Explanation of deadline	Reason	<u>Date</u>
<u>Deadline for applications</u>	Closing (temporarily)	31 Jan 2018

Contact Details

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