



INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

Annual Report & Accounts 2009

Helping Unionists and Nationalists to

Learn, Work & Live Together

as part of a shared future on the island of Ireland



“Developing and funding initiatives that tackle segregation and promote integration to build a lasting peace in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties is a key priority for the Fund.”



Contents

02	Introduction
04	The Board
06	Chairman’s Foreword
10	Building Foundations
20	Building Bridges
34	Building Integration
54	Leaving a Legacy
59	Pre 2006 Programmes
62	Accounts

- 1. Re-imaging Communities Programme, Lower Shankill, Belfast.
- 2. Bush Old Schoolhouse, Cooley, County Louth.
- 3. Shared Neighbourhood Programme, Lissize, County Down.
- 4. Communities in Transition Programme, Parkmore, County Armagh.



1.



2.



3.



4.

Introduction

The International Fund for Ireland was established as an independent international organisation by the Irish and British 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 £648 million/€811 million*.

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.



1.



2.



3.

The Board of the Fund is appointed jointly by the Irish and British Governments. It is assisted by an Advisory Committee comprised 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, including government departments, act as administering agencies for the Fund. In addition, the Fund has engaged the services of a team of Development Officers, 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 2008 to 30 September 2009, 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 programmes cluster around four key areas: Building Foundations; Building Bridges; Building Integration; and Leaving a Legacy. All programmes are characterised by:

- a clear focus on reconciliation as the over-riding objective;
- an independent and credible approach with strong international backing;
- a cross-community, cross-border approach;
- a willingness to take risks on behalf of local communities;
- early support for community initiatives;
- co-operation with other funders and leverage of funds from other sources;
- a willingness to innovate and to break new ground in support of reconciliation; and
- a responsive approach to donor priorities.

1. Re-imaging Communities Programme, Short Strand, Belfast.
2. Communities in Transition Programme, Parkmore, County Armagh.
3. Sharing in Education Programme, St Mary's College & Lisneal College, County Londonderry/Derry.

*The Sterling/Euro conversion rate at 30th September 2009 is applied throughout this report.



Pictured are (L-R):

- Ms Rose-Mary Farrell
- Mr David Graham OBE
- Mr Denis Rooney CBE, Chairman
- Ms Mary Southwell
- Mrs Anne Henderson
- Dr Adrian Johnston

Inset Picture:

Mr Winston Patterson

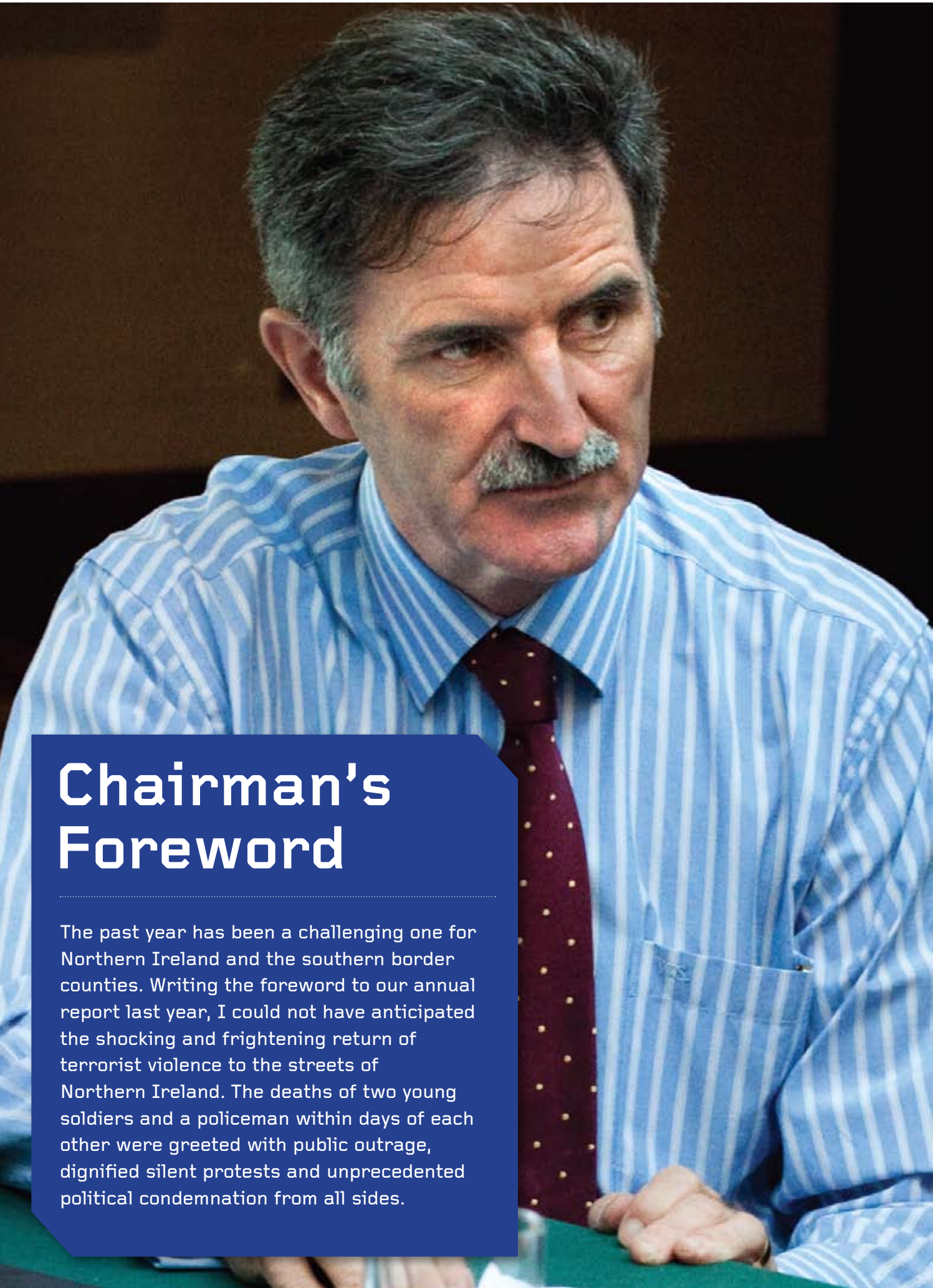


The European Union and Governments of the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand were represented this year by:

- Mr Jonathan Denness and Mr Kyriacos Charalambous, European Union;
- Mr Robert T. Waters, USA;
- Mr Brian Doherty, Canada;
- Her Excellency, Anne Plunkett, Australia;
- His Excellency, Derek Leask, New Zealand.

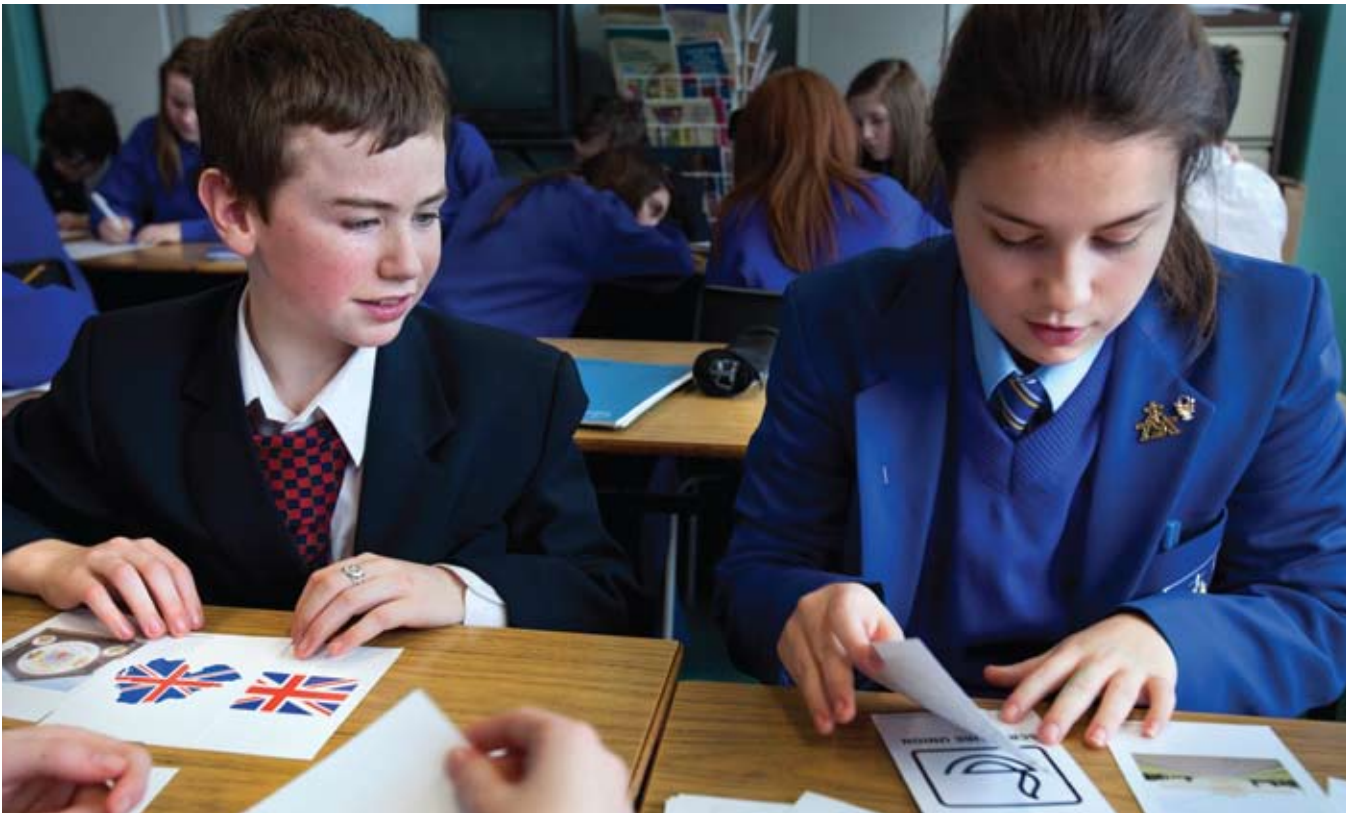
The Board

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



Chairman's Foreword

The past year has been a challenging one for Northern Ireland and the southern border counties. Writing the foreword to our annual report last year, I could not have anticipated the shocking and frightening return of terrorist violence to the streets of Northern Ireland. The deaths of two young soldiers and a policeman within days of each other were greeted with public outrage, dignified silent protests and unprecedented political condemnation from all sides.



1.

Dissident terrorist activity remains a real concern to police on both sides of the border. Despite the tremendous progress that has been achieved in recent years, these murders are a warning that we could very easily be pulled back into the dark days of civil unrest and violence.

Reviewing commentary from journalists, politicians and community leaders on the increasing problems of dissident terrorism, I am particularly concerned that it is young people who are participating in these activities and joining these new terrorist groups. Their willingness to embrace sectarian violence is a reminder to us all that we must do more to tackle sectarianism and segregation. I have no doubt that the current global recession will also put pressure on the most marginalised communities, eroding their sense of hope for the future and their fragile expectation of a better, more peaceful life.

This changing context has only served to strengthen the Fund's resolve to focus on young people, reaching out through a wide variety of activities. This year's Annual Report aims to demonstrate how the Fund is continuing to introduce innovative programmes in its pursuit of reconciliation and lasting peace on the island of Ireland. As well as providing

information on our activities, we have also asked those most affected by our work to tell their own stories, through words and photographs, in a series of case studies. We hope that these specific examples of the Fund's work in action will provide a real sense of the difference we are able to make to individuals and communities across Northern Ireland and the southern border counties.

Young people feature prominently in the case studies and I offer no apology for this. The next generation is very much the focus of our work.

Our Sharing in Education Programme supports strategic projects across all sectors of education. It aims to remove the barriers which arise from the fact that, for the most part, education in Northern Ireland remains segregated. The Programme is already supporting a range of innovative projects bringing together literally thousands of children and creating new models of partnerships between schools

1. Sharing in Education Programme, St Mary's College, County Londonderry/Derry.



1.

“We were greatly encouraged this year that a further 11 social housing areas committed themselves to our Shared Neighbourhood Programme. These communities are already working quietly to encourage mutual respect, tolerance and acceptance in their neighbourhoods but our support will help them to progress more rapidly and to share their experiences with others.”

Mr Denis Rooney CBE,
Chairman.

across Northern Ireland. Hundreds of children are being brought together for the first time. Two of the Programme's major initiatives - Sharing Education Programme and Fermanagh Trust - are featured in this Report.

In addition, our existing portfolio of Youth Programmes continues to provide much needed interventions. The KEY Programme continues to prove successful. It is complemented by the GRIT Programme which works hard to reach 16-18 year olds, targeting those most at risk of choosing other, less peaceful paths. Other initiatives such as the Community Youth Leadership Project and the Wider Horizons Programme mean that we now have a very comprehensive range of interventions aimed at young people. We are determined to break new ground and create new, sustainable models which will help young people to learn, work and live together in mutual respect. We believe that this has never been so important.

However, our work is not solely focused on the next generation. We are committed to developing interventions which will support communities who want to change. We were greatly encouraged this year that a further 11 social housing areas committed themselves to our Shared Neighbourhood Programme. These communities are already working quietly to encourage mutual respect,

tolerance and acceptance in their neighbourhoods. Our support will help them to progress more rapidly and share their experiences with others. We were particularly heartened that so many of these communities told us that their commitment to this process had been strengthened by this year's terrorist incidents. For many, their commitment is a real act of courage and they are to be applauded and celebrated.

Similar courage is being shown by participants in our Integrating Community Organisations Programme, Community Leadership Programme and Communities in Transition Programme. As individuals and community organisations, those participating are breaking new ground and often taking the first steps in their community towards engagement with those from the other tradition. We are confident that these programmes will enable individuals and groups to build stronger, more peaceful communities and create a genuinely shared future for everyone.

The willingness of local communities to embrace change is always inspiring. We have seen particular success with our Re-imaging Communities Programme. Working with a range of statutory organisations, we have helped a wide range of communities to change the physical appearance of their areas. These changes are symbolic of the developing attitudes

of each participating community and challenge the old ways of sectarianism and segregation. These are very significant steps in the history of Northern Ireland and the southern border counties.

The Re-imaging Communities Programme is also a good example of the Fund's success in working in partnership with the statutory sector to implement positive change and to ensure that the experiences gained through our programmes are communicated to those setting policy and planning for the future.

As we enter 2010, we approach a new phase in the Fund's life. We will not be seeking any further international contributions after the end of 2010. As we prepare for new challenges, we remain focused on delivering interventions which will be sustainable long after the Fund ceases to exist.

Sadly, Northern Ireland and the southern border counties have not been alone in dealing with life in the midst of conflict and civil unrest. Other regions in the world are also dealing with conflict. Given its history over the last twenty years, the Fund is committed to sharing its experiences as a model for intervention with other

organisations and regions seeking to move beyond conflict to creating more stable civic societies. As part of delivering on this aim, we have further developed our website, www.internationalfundforireland.com. We also continue to engage with elected and community representatives from around the world, including most recently The Cypriot Reconstruction and Resettlement Council.

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

Closer to home, I would like to thank my hard working and diligent colleagues on the Board. In March 2009, Ms Anne Bonner; Mr Jackie Hewitt; Mr John McDaid; and Ms Deirdre Ryan retired from the Board. I would like to thank them once again for their contribution to the Fund's work. Also in March 2009, Mr David Graham OBE; Ms Rose-Mary Farrell; Dr Adrian Johnston and Mr Winston Patterson joined the Board. These new colleagues have brought with them

experiences and fresh perspectives which will undoubtedly help the Fund in the coming years.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, we appreciate the advice of the Joint Chairs and members of the Inter-Governmental Advisory Committee and the work done on a day to day basis by the Secretariat, our Development Officers, agents and partners.

1. Sharing in Education Programme, Fermanagh Trust, County Fermanagh.



1.

“Sadly, Northern Ireland and the southern border counties have not been alone in dealing with life in the midst of conflict and unrest. Other regions in the world are also dealing with conflict. Given its history over the last twenty years, the Fund is committed to sharing its experiences as a model for intervention with other organisations and regions seeking to move beyond conflict to creating more stable civic societies.”

Mr Denis Rooney CBE,
Chairman.

1. A US Congressional Group met with Fund representatives at the Corrymeela Community, County Antrim this year.



Building Foundations

This area of activity aims to create the conditions for reconciliation and a long-term shared future for Northern Ireland and the southern border counties. Building Foundations' initiatives are active in the most marginalised communities, addressing issues such as deprivation, social cohesion and community leadership in order to make community-led change possible and sustainable.

Creating community art, Parkmore, County Armagh

The Community Based Economic and Social Regeneration Programme



Alan Bothwell, Bush Old Schoolhouse Committee.

The Community Based Economic and Social Regeneration Programme aims to help the most socially and economically disadvantaged regions in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties. The Programme seeks to achieve community development and sustainable reconciliation through funding cross-community and cross-border projects which deliver real change for those living in the area.

A Place of Welcome

Case Study: Bush Old Schoolhouse, Cooley, County Louth.

Located in North Louth, Cooley is a small rural community. It is in a recognised area of disadvantage with high levels of unemployment and low levels of educational attainment. Predominantly a Catholic area, there is a small Church of Ireland community which until recently felt it was limited in terms of what it could offer its neighbours.

However, with the regeneration of the Bush Old Schoolhouse, this small Protestant group has made a major impact on the wider community.

Alan Bothwell from the Bush Old Schoolhouse Committee explains: "By proactively taking the initiative to refurbish the Schoolhouse, we've shown that we can make a very positive contribution to the whole community. It has already strengthened our relationships across the community - everyone feels that the Schoolhouse belongs to them.

"Although we still need to refurbish the interior of the building, we are

being approached by all sorts of community groups who want to hold events in it.

"Our vision in seeking to regenerate the Schoolhouse was to create a place where everyone would feel welcome. As a small group within the community, it is wonderful for us to have something positive to share with everyone. We hope that the Schoolhouse will be of symbolic significance as well as have practical uses in terms of promoting unity and mutual respect."

Once the building is fully refurbished, the Committee plans to use the

Schoolhouse to host a cross-community, cross-border schools project which will look at different cultures and religions. Work is already underway to further promote the Schoolhouse as a venue for peace and reconciliation activities and it is hoped that a cross-community committee to develop the venue will begin work very soon.

The committee is now working closely with the local Grange and District Residents Association and engaging in projects with all parts of the wider community.



Bush Old Schoolhouse, Cooley, County Louth.

Communities in Transition Programme Phase Two

The Communities in Transition Programme seeks to address deeply rooted social, economic and political problems. The Programme focuses on areas with poor community infrastructure which experience ongoing community tension and alienation.

An evaluation of Phase One of the Programme, published this year, highlighted the personal empowerment at the heart of the Programme as key to its successes. It also noted that 23 jobs had been created across ten participating communities to help support new community infrastructure developed as a result of the Programme. The Programme has also helped participating communities to attract over £10m additional funding from a variety of other sources.

The Communities in Transition Programme Phase Two is managed for the Fund by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

Creating community art, Parkmore, County Armagh.

Opening the Community's Eyes to Change

Case Study: Parkmore Estate, Craigavon, County Armagh.

Ten years ago, Parkmore was a 'no go' area for many people in the Craigavon area. The estate had problems with drugs, anti-social behaviour and paramilitary activity. Today, with the help of the Communities in Transition Programme, the estate is free of sectarian graffiti and paramilitary influence. It is a place where young families want to live. Parkmore is also at the heart of ground-breaking cross-community work in the area.

Sharon Mills, Secretary of Parkmore Community Association explains: "About six years ago, we began to push hard to change our community. It wasn't about making a dramatic stand. It took a lot of quiet persistence and it was a very gradual process. Changes in the political situation in Northern Ireland certainly helped but involving everyone in our community was really important in starting to change things. By listening to our young people and giving them responsibility, we've started a generational change which we hope will secure a better future for the area."

"Becoming involved in the Communities in Transition Programme has really helped us to develop our community work. It has provided the funding and support to help us properly evaluate where we are now and to plan effectively for the future. It has raised the profile of the group and helped us attract additional funding. It has really opened the community's eyes to what can be done here."

Most recently, young people from Parkmore began a year long programme of engagement with young people from the nearby Drumbeg estate. Sharon explains the significance of this: "We had an initial meeting and then a police officer was shot in the area. We thought this might derail the whole process. However, the young people from both estates came back to us, asking for a full programme of activity which they could share together. Now there are other groups who want to join us."

Providing for the estate's young people is a major priority for Parkmore. It has secured a £130,000 multi-use games area for the estate. Parkmore's youth group is now organising cross-community sports tournaments with other local areas.

Parkmore has also engaged with one of the Fund's other initiatives. Through the Re-imaging Communities Programme, the community has designed a mosaic for the Community House, which will be supported by sculptures and lighting. The Community Association also hopes to develop a community garden in the next few years.

The Re-imaging Communities Programme also supported one of Parkmore's other major initiatives. Rather than the traditional Twelfth of July bonfire, the estate's young people designed and built a 20ft rocket, which they burned. Rather than a focus for anti-social or sectarian behaviour, this alternative to the bonfire became a shared community event.

Parkmore's growth and success has been such that the Community Association has now appointed its first part-time worker, allowing the Community House to open five days a week. A three-year strategic plan for the area is also now being developed.



Playtime in the Community Centre.

"Becoming involved in the Communities in Transition Programme has really helped us to develop our community work. It has provided the funding and support to help us properly evaluate where we are now and to plan effectively for the future. It has raised the profile of the group and helped us attract additional funding. It has really opened the community's eyes to what can be done here."

Sharon Mills,
Secretary of Parkmore
Community Association.

The Community Leadership Programme

Established in 1993, the Community Leadership Programme is now in its fourth phase and continues to offer exciting and innovative training and learning opportunities which aim to strengthen the leadership capacity of community groups. The Programme goal is to empower communities to develop their leadership skills, and in turn to enable them to build more effective communities and improve the conditions within which they live.

The current Programme will be delivered to 30-35 groups per year over three years in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties, in areas of weak community infrastructure and disadvantage. The Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) has been appointed to deliver the Programme and will recruit community-based organisations according to greatest need, stage of development, potential to gain from the Programme and commitment to learning and development, including willingness to network with others.



Fund Chairman Denis Rooney celebrating the launch of the new £2.1 million Community Leadership Programme with Una McKernan and Seamus McAleavey of NICVA, the delivery agents for the Programme.

Building Foundations

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

American Business Internship and Training Programme (AMBIT)

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Northern Ireland AMBIT	AMBIT 2010.	80,000

Community Based Economic & Social Regeneration Programme

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Armagh City & District Council Area Armagh Church Forum/ Armagh City & District Council C/o The Palace Demesne Armagh	Development of Shambles Market as a shared area and provision of a programme of community and community relations activity.	787,045
Crossfire Trust Darkley Road Keady	Additional financial assistance towards improvements to Darkley House.	84,570
Crossfire Trust Darkley Road Keady	Programme of community and community relations activity.	290,847
SAVER/NAVER Bingham House Main Street Markethill	Additional financial assistance towards the provision of workspace and community facilities.	64,278
Carrickfergus Borough Council Area Carrickfergus YMCA Cheston Street Carrickfergus	Construction of a shared community venue.	555,000
Derry City Council Area Columba Community Queen Street Londonderry/Derry	Construction of additional engagement/ training units at Columba House and a programme of community relations activity.	394,229

Community Based Economic & Social Regeneration Programme

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UK£
Magherafelt District Council Area		
Rural College Derrynoid Draperstown	3-year community relations project focusing on creative writing and shared experiences.	165,521
Newtownabbey Borough Council Area		
Newtownabbey Community Relations Forum Antrim Road Glengormley	Refurbishment of Barron Hall for use as a shared space.	200,000
All Areas		
Opportunity Youth Hill Street Belfast	2-year project: "Reaching Them Young".	496,321

Name/Address	Project Description	SOUTH €
County Cavan		
Cavan County Enterprise Board and Fermanagh Enterprise Ltd. Enterprise Centre Blacklion	To re-establish economic and social linkages through joint training and project work.	391,510
County Donegal		
Balor DCA Group Main Street Ballybofey	Bringing together children on a cross- community and cross-border basis for creative drama workshops based on reconciliation.	215,064
Dunfanaghy Workhouse Figart Dunfanaghy	This 3-year project provides an opportunity for dialogue, contact and positive relationship building on a cross-border and cross-community basis.	351,430

Name/Address	Project Description	SOUTH €
County Donegal		
Football 4 Peace Ireland Pound Street Carndonagh	Promoting positive relations between 7-16 year olds through soccer in schools and clubs in Londonderry/Derry and Donegal.	322,750
History Links Lifford/ Clonleigh Resource Centre Croghan Heights Lifford	Cross-border and cross-community history project building understanding through IT based community hubs.	228,000
Manorcunningham Community Development Association Manorcunningham Community Resource Centre Manorcunningham	Shared Space Project providing a neutral space for all sections of the local community.	260,000
Special Olympics V.A.U.L.T. Special Olympics Ireland West Office St Conal's Hospital Letterkenny	Peace-building through Special Olympics activity in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties.	114,250
County Louth		
Bush Old Schoolhouse Bush Rathcore Riverstown	Renovation of old Church of Ireland schoolhouse for use as a shared community resource centre.	85,398



Building Bridges

Segregation and sectarianism remain very real challenges in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties.

Building Bridges operates in two main areas. Its Youth Programmes focus on creating cross-community and cross-border opportunities for young people which also enhance their employability, skills and self-esteem.

Its Community Bridges Programme supports innovative and ground-breaking community projects which seek to address difference and division and promote reconciliation and mutual understanding between all sections of the community - particularly in interface areas.



KEY Programme, abseiling lessons.

Youth Programmes

Youth Programmes focus on creating cross-community and cross-border opportunities for young people aged between 12 and 28.

As well as providing opportunities for dialogue and mutual understanding, these programmes offer young people a chance to develop their skills, education and self-esteem through practical training and recognised qualifications.



1.

Learning and Educating Together (LET) Programme

The LET Programme aims to break the cycle of poor educational achievement and unemployment by bringing together students aged 12-13 from both sides of the border and from both traditions. Through a series of camps, students learn about personal finance, budgeting, good communication and business planning. Delivered jointly by Young Enterprise Northern Ireland and Junior Achievement Ireland, the Programme has an excellent track record in facilitating friendships between young people from different backgrounds and religions. In 2009, 600 young people attended the camps and approximately 4,500 young people have participated in the Programme since its inception in 2003.

- 1. Knowledge through Enterprise for Youth Programme.
- 2. Denis Rooney CBE, Chairman of the International Fund for Ireland and Chris Conway, Chairman of Young Enterprise congratulate Tamara McConkey from Lisnaskea High School. Tamara was one of 12 KEY participants who won a trip to the Canadian JAX Junior Conference this year.

Knowledge through Enterprise for Youth (KEY) Programme

The KEY Programme works with 14-16 year olds to enhance personal development through enterprise training, business tasks and outdoor activities during a series of residential camps. The Programme brings together young people from different traditions and backgrounds to develop friendships and a greater tolerance and understanding for other traditions.

Delivered jointly by Young Enterprise Northern Ireland and Junior Achievement Ireland, KEY consistently demonstrates success in promoting peace and reconciliation and addressing the disadvantage of marginalised young people. In 2009, 900 young people attended the camps and approximately 8,000 young people have participated in the Programme since its inception in 1999.

Knowledge through Enterprise for Youth - KEY Start Programme

The KEY Start Programme is based on the KEY Programme. It is a ten-day residential programme for young people in alternative education, aged 14-16.

The Programme aims to develop participants' self-esteem and confidence and enhance their ability to contribute positively to society. It also seeks to increase the likelihood of participants becoming economically active and less likely to be socially excluded, while developing their understanding of cultural diversity.



2.

Gerry Rogan Initiative Trust (GRIT) Residential Experience

GRIT is a pilot programme which aims to assist 16-18 year olds to take a more positive view of themselves and their future. It encourages them to examine their own and each other's identity and background and consider the implications of their decisions. Ultimately, the Programme works to support participating young people to make more positive plans for their futures.

An evaluation of the Programme, in 2009, indicates that 90% of participants reported increased self confidence and greater respect for others.

Wider Horizons Programme

The Wider Horizons Programme is one of the Fund's longest established initiatives. It brings together young adults aged between 18 and 28 from economically and socially disadvantaged areas from both sides of the border. The Programme provides them with training, work experience and a unique opportunity to gain a greater insight into, and respect for, each other's traditions.

The Programme is delivered jointly by the Department for Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland and FÁS, the training and employment authority in Ireland.

In 2009, 26 Wider Horizons projects were delivered, involving almost 600 young people.

Since its inception in 1986, approximately 16,500 young people have participated in Wider Horizons projects.

A Once in a Lifetime Experience

Case Study: Sam Hughes, KEY participant.

My journey started just over a year ago, yet I can clearly remember the KEY Programme presentation which took place in Markethill's very own assembly hall, displaying images of outdoor activities combined with a business schedule. There were 12 places available to take part in this fantastic opportunity and so I wrote my letter of application and was selected to take part. The KEY Programme's aim was to give us an insight into the world of business, help prepare us for the future in work while mixing in a cross-community environment to gain essential skills and confidence through outdoor activities.

There were a total of four residentials taking place over nine months, where we were accompanied by St Patrick's College, Banbridge and Deele College, Raphoe, County Donegal. Each day consisted of around three hours of business training where we typed up CVs, learnt about our skills and qualities and took part in mock interviews all to aid our future careers.

The outdoor activities were also great team-building lessons including the Gorge walk, a laser quest and building boats from resources such as blue piping, string and black plastic. The last residential however was by far the most rewarding for me - when we assembled mini companies with a goal of making a profitable product which we would then sell to the public, under real world conditions, i.e. considering finance, productivity and managing resources. The next and final day of KEY was an excellent experience as it was the graduation. It was here that I was nominated for the Canada trip. From KEY I gained essential business know-how and I have a clearer view of the business world for the future, which ensures that I am one step ahead.

I was successful in becoming one of the final 12 winners which would jet off to Canada.

So in July 2009, we travelled to Canada! Teams from the rest of the world started arriving. These included the Bahamas, Quebec, America, Norway, Sweden, India, Cayman Islands, France, England and of course Canada. At the conference, we mixed with nationalities from every corner of the world, experiencing new cultures, ethics, religions and dress senses. The essential purpose of this

week was to gain an insight into the world of business, further develop the entrepreneurial skills we gained from KEY - while mixing in an international environment to enable us to start our own businesses in the future.

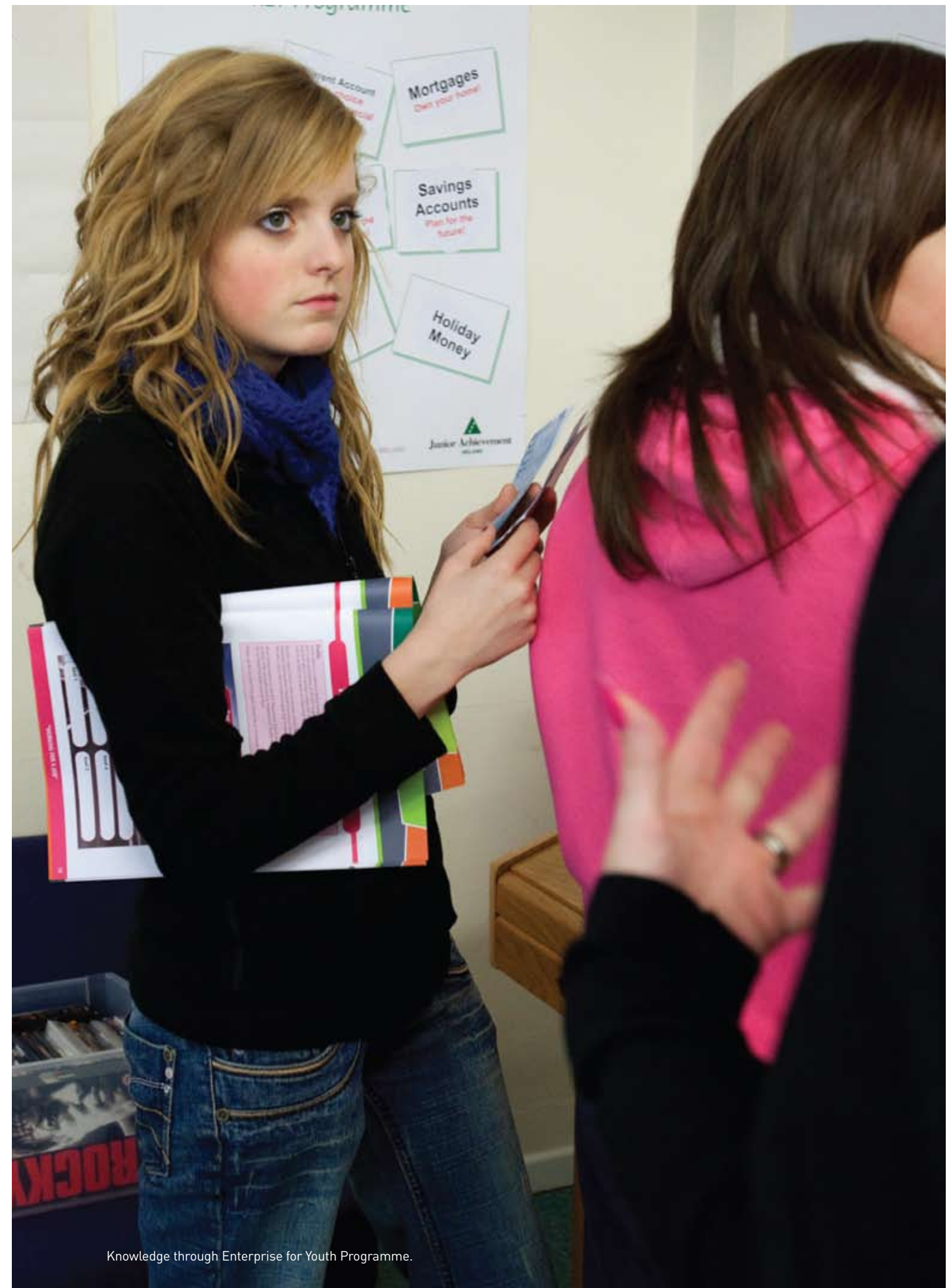
Of course there was a lot of hard work involved in order to gain the essence of what this conference was supplying. We would wake up at 8am and wouldn't be in bed until around 12 that night. The days would normally consist of attending at least two lectures followed by a de-briefing session each to ensure we understood fully what was being taught. There would always be some fun activities mixed in - with some chill out time to mingle with the huge diverse range of people. However the main challenge we were given was to assemble and condense all the information we had learnt over the week in order to answer the following question: "Based on our JAX business influence and as youth leaders of today, we strongly recommend that business leaders of tomorrow consider ..." At the opening ceremony I was taken aback at the scope which the question covered however after gaining the views from all the lectures I now had sufficient knowledge and a new perspective on the worldwide business front.

Altogether this trip was an exceptional, once-in-a-lifetime experience that has truly enlightened my business knowledge and opened my eyes to the rest of the world. The journey from KEY Camp, Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh to JAX in Canada has truly sculpted me into a better person, equipped with valuable contacts and information, a larger capacity of comprehension of the rest of the

world and has perfected the essential business skills and qualities in order to become a successful businessman in the future. This I am sure is relevant to all of the candidates who I shared this phenomenal, once-in-a-lifetime journey with and so, on behalf of myself and the masses of students who took part, I would like to say, thank you!

"... this trip was an exceptional, once-in-a-lifetime experience that has truly enlightened my business knowledge and opened my eyes to the rest of the world. The journey from KEY Camp, Lisnaskea to JAX in Canada has truly sculpted me into a better person, equipped with valuable contacts and information, a larger capacity of comprehension of the rest of the world and has perfected the essential business skills and qualities in order to become a successful businessman in the future."

Sam Hughes,
KEY Participant.



Knowledge through Enterprise for Youth Programme.

Youth Initiatives Programme, Banbridge, County Down.

Community Bridges

The Community Bridges Programme is at the forefront of the work of the International Fund for Ireland in helping communities in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties to use innovative and ground-breaking community projects to develop community relations, reconciliation and international links.

The Programme supports reconciliation for a shared future; organisations delivering projects with the potential to make a significant contribution to reconciliation and the emergence of a shared and peaceful future on the island of Ireland; and organisations wishing to undertake activities that address issues of conflict and division related to Northern Ireland and the southern border counties' history of civil unrest and violence.

Reaching out to Young People

Case Study: Youth Initiatives, Belfast; Banbridge and Downpatrick, County Down.

Reaching out to young people who are least likely to access traditional youth services or community relations but most affected by sectarianism remains a challenge in Northern Ireland. However, with the Fund's support, Youth Initiatives is literally taking its approach directly to these young people with considerable success.

Based in West Belfast, Youth Initiatives' pioneering First Steps Programme reaches out to the most marginalised young people. Andy Hewitt, Manager with Youth Initiatives explains: "Our staff and volunteers seek to meet young people and build relationships with them in the situations they find themselves in every day. That might mean working with local schools, but it also might mean literally walking the streets to get to know them and overcome their suspicions."

Through building relationships and trust with young people, Youth Initiatives then provides them with opportunities to meet on their own territory to look at issues such as self-awareness, as well as practical topics such as drugs, alcohol, sexual identity. A faith based organisation, Youth Initiatives also explores the spiritual dimension of these issues. Once the group is well established, opportunities for cross-community engagement are explored.

Already well established in West Belfast, the Fund's support for Youth Initiatives is allowing it to develop its First Steps Programme in specific, particularly deprived and marginalised areas in East Belfast, Downpatrick and Banbridge.

In East Belfast, group work is now developing well and the First Steps group recently met with its peers from West Belfast, opening both groups to further cross-community engagement.

In Downpatrick, Youth Initiatives is working in partnership with other church organisations to develop First Steps, and relationships with existing statutory and voluntary youth providers in the area. Again, the new First Steps group has started to engage with the Belfast based groups.

Work in Banbridge is still at an early stage. There are facilities for young people in the town and Youth Initiatives' local workers and

volunteers are literally meeting with young people on the street to start to engage them.

Andy explains the importance of the Fund's support: "We now have the support to develop our programme in areas where we believe we can make a real difference to young people. It has also given us the flexibility to evolve and respond to young people in these areas. We can now actively engage young people who are living on the margins, failing to access any services which might be on offer to them. By investing in single identity work with them at the outset, we can then bring them together successfully to build relationships across the community."

"Our staff and volunteers seek to meet young people and build relationships with them in the situations they find themselves in every day. That might mean working with local schools, but it also might mean literally walking the streets to get to know them and overcome their suspicions."

Andy Hewitt,
Youth Initiatives Manager.



Youth Initiatives Programme, Banbridge, County Down.



Youthlinks celebration event.

New Ways of Working Together

Case Study: Youthlinks - Donegal Youth Service & Tyrone Donegal Partnership.

Hundreds of young people from the border areas in counties Tyrone, Donegal and Fermanagh have had unique opportunities to learn, work and share together over the last two years.



Youthlinks Programme, drama class.

Youthlinks, created by Donegal Youth Service and Tyrone Donegal Partnership as part of the Donegal Community Based Youth Work Consortium, targeted at-risk young people between the ages of eight and 25 through an innovative programme of cross-border and cross-community activities. The regions involved in the project had traditionally not engaged in such activities and had been deeply affected by civil unrest and violence. Both regions have long been a focus of Fund activity due to the high levels of disadvantage and unique cross-border links.

Despite very high goals at the Project's inception, Youthlinks exceeded all expectations. It delivered activities involving drama, art, language and culture, culture tours and intergenerational projects as well as a full summer programme which directly addressed diversity, sectarianism, identity and equity. More than 600 young people participated, considerably over the initial target of just 450.

Charlene Logue, Senior Youth Worker, Donegal Youth Service explains:

"This is just the first step to really address the issues, the deep, innate, issue-based problems, either real or perceived. You have two groups of young people, who may be classified as socially and economically deprived and they're geographically living on each other's doorstep, yet they perceive each other as being vastly different. So, the Project is about working with young people, getting them to open up and discuss their issues, their prejudices, their baggage, their history, their culture, everything. It's about exploring similarities, as well as differences."

"Youthlinks' success was driven by the volunteers in the youth organisations we worked with. One of the strengths of the Youthlinks' approach was that it identified volunteer youth leaders, providing them with training and support in youth work and education so that Youthlinks could leave a longer term legacy. The lessons we learned from developing Youthlinks across two different jurisdictions and approaches to youth work has created a model which we believe will be of use to others considering similar projects."

"This is just the first step to really address the issues, the deep, innate, issue-based problems, either real or perceived. You have two groups of young people, who may be classified as socially and economically deprived and they're geographically living on each other's doorstep, yet they perceive each other as being vastly different. So, the Project is about working with young people, getting them to open up and discuss their issues, their prejudices, their baggage, their history, their culture, everything. It's about exploring similarities, as well as differences."

Charlene Logue, Senior Youth Worker, Donegal Youth Service.

Building Bridges

Community Bridges Programme

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Antrim Borough Council Area		
Randalstown Arches Association Main Street Randalstown	Leadership development initiative designed to improve community relations.	181,805
Ards Borough Council Area		
The Link Family & Community Centre West Street Newtownards	3-year community cohesion initiative in North Down, West Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.	291,435
Belfast City Council Area		
Arts for All York Road Belfast	Cross-interface relations arts project focusing on North Belfast.	219,598
Ballynafeigh Community Development Association Ormeau Road Belfast	Interdependence Project involving up to 14 groups in South Belfast.	250,742
Glentoran Partnership C/o The Oval Parkgate Avenue Belfast	Holistic community relations project.	214,356
Skegoniel/Glandore Common Purpose Ashfield Gardens Belfast	Community cohesion and cross-interface project.	248,679
Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group Stewartstown Road Belfast	2-year contentious issues dialogue project.	103,528
Terry Enright Foundation Donegall Street Belfast	3-year youth leadership project supporting young people from interface communities in Belfast.	161,855

Community Bridges Programme

[illegible]

Wider Horizons Programme

Name	Project Description	NORTH/SOUTH UKE
Ireland/North America		
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in Information Technology to Pittsburgh, USA.	86,750
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in Media Skills to Vancouver, Canada.	95,221
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in Community/Childcare to Montreal, Canada.	96,174
North East Community Partnership	Training and work experience in Youth in the Community to Boston, USA.	99,962
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in Multi-Media to Florida, USA.	116,400
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in various careers to Kitchener, Canada.	87,155
Austins Quality Training Services	Training and work experience in various careers to London, Ontario, Canada.	86,000
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in various careers to Cambridge, Canada.	99,100
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in Community Youth Leadership to Pittsburgh, USA.	102,900
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in various careers to Thunder Bay, Canada.	95,600
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in various careers to Kitchener, Canada.	94,240
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in Estate Management to Boston, USA.	112,400
Derry Youth & Community Workshop	Training and work experience in Hospitality to Banff, Canada.	100,000
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in Office Administration to Pittsburgh, USA.	86,750
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in Office Administration to Kitchener, Canada.	105,300
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in Leisure Services to Vancouver, Canada.	99,266

Wider Horizons Programme

Name	Project Description	NORTH/SOUTH UKE
Ireland/North America		
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in various careers to Kitchener, Canada.	87,155
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in various careers to Cambridge, Canada.	98,600
Ireland/Rest of World		
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in Youth in the Community to Germany and Poland.	84,784
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in various careers to Seville, Spain.	93,750
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in various careers to Vienna, Austria.	94,850
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in various careers to Germany.	71,608
North East Community Partnership	Training and work experience in Youth in the Community to Ceske Kopisty, Czech Republic.	100,000
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in various careers to Cape Town, South Africa.	90,267
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in various careers to Seville, Spain.	93,750
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in various careers to Belgium.	71,608
Springboard Opportunities	Training and work experience in Creative/Performing Arts to London, England.	63,253
MAPP Ltd	Training and work experience in Graphic Design to Seville, Spain.	94,850
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience for young mothers to Omagh, Northern Ireland.	50,300
Tyrone Donegal Partnership	Training and work experience in various careers to Llanwarth, Wales.	77,000

Sharing in Education Programme, St Mary's College, County Londonderry/Derry.



Building Integration

Although we have entered into a new era of greater political and civic stability, many communities across Northern Ireland and the southern border counties are still living with sectarianism and segregation. Many people from the different traditions continue to learn, work and live separately.

The Fund continues to develop and support pioneering initiatives in education, housing and with community groups which create sustainable opportunities for sharing. The series of programmes which fall under this area of activity aim to promote integration and underpin peace building and reconciliation initiatives which will continue to have a positive impact long after the Fund ceases to exist.



Sharing in Education Programme, St Mary's and Tempo Primary Schools, County Fermanagh working together to create sculptures.

The Sharing in Education Programme

Established in late 2008, the Sharing in Education Programme provides support for projects that enable young people to participate in shared educational experiences on a cross-sectoral basis.

The Programme seeks to break down the barriers arising from our historic conflict by providing a range of opportunities for young people to learn together and reach the highest possible standards of educational achievement. The Programme encompasses pre-school, primary, post-primary and special education; the promotion of community relations within and between schools and teacher education.

It is managed on behalf of the Fund by the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.

Building for the Future

Case study: Fermanagh Trust, County Fermanagh.

The Fermanagh Trust Shared Education Programme is a ground-breaking pilot initiative which enables schools in County Fermanagh to deliver part of their curriculum jointly with a partner school on a cross-community basis. The three-year programme is funded jointly by the Fund's Sharing in Education Programme and The Atlantic Philanthropies.

Almost 90 per cent of primary schools in County Fermanagh and two schools in County Donegal are engaged in the Fermanagh Trust Programme, along with five post-primary schools. In total more than 1,500 primary and 160 post-primary school pupils are expected to benefit in the first year.

Catherine Ward, Programme Manager for the Fermanagh Trust explains: "Taking part in our Shared Education Programme will mean that pupils have more opportunities for cross-community interaction, helping to break down barriers between communities. The Programme aims to promote positive relations between schools and create the potential for future joint working, sharing and collaborating across the community.

"Here in County Fermanagh, we have to think innovatively to ensure we overcome the impact of living in a largely rural, segregated community. This Programme is a direct response to feedback we received from parents,

schools and the wider community who highlighted the need and potential for collaboration between schools across Fermanagh."

Two of the schools taking part are Tempo Primary School and St Mary's Primary School, Tempo. They are focusing on the curriculum area of Art & Design, working together with local artist Jon Kelly to design and construct a permanent sculpture which will make explicit the links between the schools and also celebrate their differences.

Fergal McCann from St Mary's Primary School feels the experience so far has been incredibly positive: "Through the work we did together in our first term, friendships have been forged and a shared determination has prevailed. Valuable skills have been learned and most of all, respect for tradition and a tolerance for others have become the norm."

Dave Hardy, a teacher at Tempo Primary School explains the impact

of the partnership: "The Shared Education Programme has benefited the children and community of Tempo in many different ways. It has given the children an opportunity to work alongside their peers and, through the medium of art, explore and celebrate not only their similarities but also the differences that make us part of this community. This project has created the first steps in developing a working partnership between the two schools. The success that we have seen so far only encourages the staff, children and parents of the schools to look forward to a positive, more developed, working relationship."



Sharing in Education Programme, St Mary's and Tempo Primary Schools working together to create sculptures.

"Here in County Fermanagh, we have to think innovatively to ensure we overcome the impact of living in a largely rural, segregated community. This Programme is a direct response to feedback we received from parents, schools and the wider community who highlighted the need and potential for collaboration between schools across Fermanagh."

Catherine Ward,
Programme Manager,
Fermanagh Trust.



Sharing Education Programme, County Londonderry/Derry.

The Sharing Education Programme

The Sharing Education Programme is a pilot programme that encourages schools to find new models of sharing education which offer additional educational and academic opportunities for students. In doing so, the Programme provides opportunities to build greater cross-community engagement and reconciliation.

Launched in 2006, the initial phase of the Programme involved more than 60 schools, 100 teachers and 2,500 students from across the community through 12 partnerships. The schools'

collaborations focus on a range of curricular subjects including science, ICT, performing arts, learning for life and work, and engineering.

Research into the Programme's initial impact shows that it has provided 18% of participating students with their first opportunity to meet peers from different backgrounds. More than a third of these students didn't have friends from different traditions but would now like to develop such friendships. Three-fifths would

now like more friends from different backgrounds.

A second phase of the Programme is currently open for applicants and the details of participating schools' partnerships will be announced during 2010.

The Sharing Education Programme was developed by the Fund in partnership with The Atlantic Philanthropies, and is managed by Queen's University Belfast.

A Practical Lesson in Citizenship

Case study: St Mary's College and Lisneal College, County Londonderry /Derry.

St Mary's College is an all girls, Catholic maintained secondary school in the heart of the Creggan area of Londonderry/Derry. Through the Sharing Education Programme, it is working with Lisneal College, a controlled secondary school.

Students from St Mary's and Lisneal share Learning for Life and Work classes, taking it in turns to travel to each other's schools to learn together. Learning for Life and Work provides opportunities to discuss identity and citizenship.

Martine Mulhern, Vice Principal of St Mary's explains the impact of the partnership: "Our partnership with Lisneal brings a very practical dimension to our Learning for Life and Work curriculum. It is easy to talk about citizenship in the abstract but sitting in a classroom with students from different backgrounds, wearing different uniforms, gives our discussions a very practical and real focus. Building relationships and trust so that our students can talk about potentially difficult issues such as symbols is making a real difference to the way they see each other."

David Funston, Principal, Lisneal College, said: "Many of the problems we have stem from ignorance. I think children going to another school and learning from another culture and how they do things in a different tradition can only broaden our

children's education."

St Mary's and Lisneal's shared activities have also included a trip to London to examine culture and heritage. Martine explains: "We also held a joint parents' evening and all the parents were incredibly supportive - it was a major step for some of them to come into a school of a different tradition."

In addition, St Mary's has extended its existing Saturday school programme to include Lisneal College students. Running every Saturday morning, the programme offers additional courses and opportunities. Up to 100 pupils from St Mary's participate with a further two mini buses of students travelling from Lisneal each week.

Martine is now a huge advocate of sharing education. She says: "By sharing education, we have all grown in our understanding of one another - teachers, pupils, parents. An understanding of the sameness has come about - the realisation that underneath we are all the same. It's also brought to the fore a sensitivity to symbols and the need to consider other people's feelings and viewpoints

which are all incredibly important and invaluable lessons for life and for our shared future.

"In a city where there are still regular sectarian clashes between young people, it is encouraging to see our students building real friendships which extend beyond the classroom and which will shape their attitudes and choices long into the future."

"In a city where there are still regular sectarian clashes between young people, it is encouraging to see our students building real friendships which extend beyond the classroom and which will shape their attitudes and choices long into the future."

Martine Mulhern,
Vice Principal, St Mary's College.



Mixed Lessons - Sharing Education Programme, County Londonderry/Derry.

The Respecting Difference Programme

This Programme aims to instil a lifelong tolerant attitude and a respect for difference among young children in Northern Ireland and the southern border counties.

Developed by Early Years, the organisation for young children, the Programme uses cartoons and interactive play materials to help young children understand and respect those who are different and encourage inclusion in a simple and child-friendly way.

The Fund's support means that this Programme will reach over 5,000 pre-school children and parents and 240 pre-school teachers over the next three years.



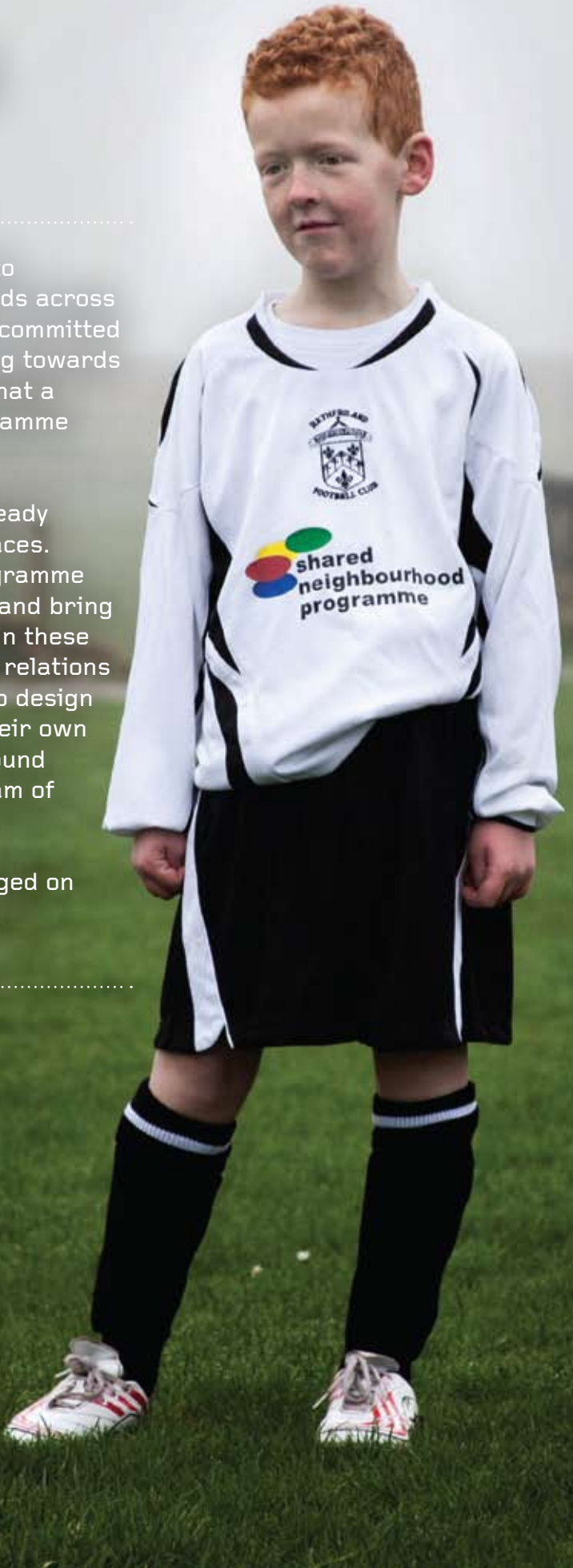
Animated image used in the Respecting Difference Programme.

The Shared Neighbourhood Programme

The Shared Neighbourhood Programme aims to support and encourage shared neighbourhoods across Northern Ireland. To date, 16 communities have committed to participating in the Programme and to working towards becoming genuinely shared spaces. It is hoped that a further 14 communities will commit to the Programme next year.

All of the current 16 participating areas are already working towards becoming genuinely shared spaces. Participation in the Shared Neighbourhood Programme provides access to grants to celebrate diversity and bring together people, from all backgrounds, who live in these areas. Participants also benefit from community relations training, community consultations and support to design their own Neighbourhood Charter and deliver their own Good Relations Programme. Practical on the ground support is also provided through a dedicated team of Area Cohesion Advisers.

The Shared Neighbourhood Programme is managed on behalf of the Fund by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.



Member of the Shared Neighbourhood football team, Lissize, County Down.

Showing the Way to Others

Case study: Lissize, Rathfriland, County Down.

A small estate of 100 houses in the rural town of Rathfriland in County Down, Lissize has become the first participant in the Shared Neighbourhood Programme to be officially designated as a Shared Neighbourhood.

Lissize Community Association has been working in the local area for over 12 years and was one of the first housing estates to commit to the Shared Neighbourhood Programme.

Maxi Beale, Chairman of the Association explains the area's journey: "Lissize has a good mix of people and the estate has been shared for over 30 years but we need to keep working at it to make sure it stays that way. Our Association initially came together to tackle housing issues in the area but we've moved beyond that to improving life more broadly for everyone in the area.

"The Association includes not just local residents but representatives from a range of statutory agencies. Five years ago we set up a project team to develop an action plan for the area and we meet at least once a month to look at current issues. It's a great team of people and everyone works hard."

Over the last five years, the Association had consulted widely with local residents and completed a number of projects including an entrance feature, a play park and a football pitch. Since becoming involved in the

Shared Neighbourhood Programme, the Association has founded a cross-community youth football team - who play in a shared neighbourhood branded strip and developed a new Good Relations Plan and Neighbourhood Charter for the area. The Plan and the Charter are part of the Community Association's ongoing commitment to promoting Lissize as a shared neighbourhood and to ensuring that equality of opportunity, mutual respect and understanding for diversity are central themes in all aspects of daily life. Both also focus on the community's commitment to better cross-community relations between residents through a range of initiatives and to maintaining and developing excellent working relationships with statutory agencies.

Despite the achievements to date, Maxi feels that becoming involved in the Shared Neighbourhood Programme has made a real impact on the local area: "There is no doubt that the Programme has helped us. We've made our greatest progress since we became involved. We're just one small estate but we're very proud to be showing the way to others."



2.

"The Association includes not just local residents but representatives from a range of statutory agencies. Five years ago we set up a project team to develop an action plan for the area and we meet at least once a month to look at current issues. It's a great team of people and everyone works hard."

Maxi Beale,
Chairman,
Lissize Community Association.



1.

- 1. Maxi Beale, Chairperson, Lissize Community Association.
- 2. Unveiling Lissize's official Shared Neighbourhood plaque this year.

The Integrating Community Organisations Programme

This Programme aims to encourage community organisations from each side of the community to work together in a spirit of co-operation. Where groups are already working together, the Programme aims to deepen the level of co-operation and, if possible, encourage amalgamation. For groups which do not yet have a partner, the Programme helps to develop close links with a group from the other community.

The Programme is managed on behalf of the Fund by the Rural Development Council.

John Deignan, Project Co-ordinator, Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative at the Sligo Folk Park.

Building New Partnerships

Case study: Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative, County Sligo and County Fermanagh.

Riverstown, a village south of Sligo town, and the village of Brookeborough in County Fermanagh have, given their locations, both been affected by the troubles. As is commonly the case in many border county towns and villages, this history has led to a sense of fear within the communities and distrust.

Although the Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative was only officially formalised in 2002, as a partnership of Riverstown Enterprise Development and Brookeborough & District Community Development Association, members of the two communities have worked together in very simple ways for the past 15 years.

In the early days it was mostly craft and manual work like the restoration of an old railway carriage, which brought people together in a job that highlighted their common ground. These craft groups eventually evolved into discussions about differences and shared experiences and with the establishment of the Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative the discussions have started to draw participants from throughout the communities.

The support from the International Fund for Ireland has now enabled Riverbrooke to extend its work to touch all age groups within the community. The current programme goes further than previous stand-alone projects and consists of a series of activities and events, including youth groups, discussion groups, cultural events and inter-school initiatives designed to promote awareness and understanding on both a cross-community and cross-border level.

According to John Deignan, Riverbrooke's Project Co-ordinator: "Conflict most often arises from misunderstanding. Peace in any community hinges on awareness and understanding of other cultural identities. We have seen that it has to go beyond political peace to result in real sharing."

Riverbrooke is working with local children to help raise their awareness of each other but also of other cultures throughout the world, for example through a cultural identity project within the seven primary schools in the Brookeborough and

Riverstown areas.

John says: "Each school will choose a country whose culture they would like to research. They will come together in the Sligo Folk Park to present what they have learned and to meet people from all of these countries. The aim is to look at not how different we are, but how alike we are."

A secondary school project will target 15-18 year olds and focus on personal development and team-building that will culminate in a community project. "Research has shown that this age group is most likely to be inducted into sectarianism, so the work to encourage trust-building with people they wouldn't otherwise meet is really vital."

Riverbrooke also facilitates several discussion groups for adults. One highly successful group is the discussion forum Exploring Conflict through Art, which encourages participants to illustrate their journey through conflict to peace.

Other discussion groups explore both retrospective and forward-looking themes such as Conflict and Religion, Life Change through Peace, and Celebrating Difference.

John explains: "These groups aim to help the participants to deepen their sharing and expand on this work. It's about empowering people to have the confidence to become peacemakers in their own communities. We are working to engage more and more people in the discussion groups but the biggest barrier is fear - fear of not being heard or not being listened to. For many, this is the first time they have found the courage to speak about the troubles and its impact on them."

John says that a major challenge is in attracting men to the groups. The next stage for Riverbrooke is to hold more one-off events which will hopefully draw newcomers to listen to speakers

discuss how the peace process has changed their lives.

"Men and women have a different approach to reconciliation and healing. Through pavement-pounding work on our part, we have had some men join this year and they add a new dynamic to the group. Our goal is to do more work in this area and show the men in our communities that the way forward is sharing and allowing yourself the space to heal."

"Each school will choose a country whose culture they would like to research. They will come together in the Sligo Folk Park to present what they have learned and to meet people from all of these countries. The aim is to look at not how different we are, but how alike we are."

John Deignan,
Project Co-ordinator,
Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative.



Exploring Conflict through Art, Riverbrooke Cross-border Initiative, County Sligo and County Fermanagh.



The Re-imaging Communities Programme

The Re-imaging Communities Programme is a pilot programme which contributes to the re-imaging of communities in Northern Ireland, making them more welcoming to all. The Programme brings together local people and artists to remove displays of sectarianism in their communities, with the aim of creating more attractive public spaces which enhance the physical and natural environment and help people to feel part of the community in which they live.

The Programme is funded through and managed by the Shared Communities Consortium, comprised of representatives from the Fund; the Arts Council for Northern Ireland; the Department for Social Development; the Northern Ireland Housing Executive; the Community Relations Council; the Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure; the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister; the Police Service of Northern Ireland; and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives.

Re-imaged mural on the Lower Shankill, Belfast.

A Picture of Change

Case study: Lower Shankill Community Association, Belfast.

The Lower Shankill Road's political and sectarian murals were once infamous - they were among the most gruesome and violent of Northern Ireland's murals. They were shown around the world to signify the worst of Northern Ireland's segregation and sectarian intimidation. Designed to intimidate, they succeeded in keeping many people away from the area.

But where the notorious Grim Reaper mural could once be seen is now an artwork which showcases a child's right to play. Designed and created by members of the local community - of all ages - the new mural is one of ten developed through Belfast City Council's involvement in the Re-imaging Communities Programme.

Ian McLaughlin of the Lower Shankill Community Association explains: "Ten years ago we couldn't even have had a discussion about replacing these murals but the community has changed. Changing the murals isn't just about more attractive artwork. It's symbolic of how much we've moved forward as a community in the last few years and of a fresh sense of hope in the area."

As well as featuring a child's right to play, the new murals also feature an A-Z of the Shankill Road's history, the Belfast Blitz, Martin Luther and local sporting heroes. The sites for each of the new murals were chosen in consultation with local residents, a process which took almost a year.

The local community was also involved in designing each new artwork in partnership with a number of artists. And ultimately, local people actually created the artwork which can now be seen across the area. Ian McLaughlin attributes the lack of graffiti on the new murals to the community's sense of ownership of them.

And lest the progress which the community has made be forgotten, each new mural bears a plaque explaining its origins and showing the sectarian, violent image it has replaced. Ian also points out that this helps to explain the changes to confused tourists looking for the infamous murals from the worst days of Belfast's history.

Ian explains: "For years, the Lower Shankill was in the news for all the wrong reasons. Our commitment to the Re-imaging Communities Programme has raised the profile of the area for very positive reasons. It has had an impact on the community's self-confidence and willingness to embrace further change. It has also made the whole area more welcoming to visitors.

"The success of our initial work has encouraged us to apply again for further funding and we're now ambitious about changing more of our existing murals. And now the tourists who visit the area are getting a more balanced picture of life on the Shankill."



"For years, the Lower Shankill was in the news for all the wrong reasons. Our commitment to the Re-imaging Programme has raised the profile of the area for very positive reasons. It has had an impact on the community's self-confidence and willingness to embrace further change. It has also made the whole area more welcoming to visitors."

Ian McLaughlin, Lower Shankill Community Association.

- 1. Painting out a mural on the Lower Shankill, Belfast.
- 2. Re-imaged mural on the Lower Shankill, Belfast.

Changing the Peaceline

Case study: Short Strand Community Association, Belfast.

The Short Strand community is a small Nationalist group in the largely Unionist area of East Belfast. The community continues to be divided by one of the first peacelines to be erected in Northern Ireland.

However, rather than ignore it, the Short Strand community have chosen to bring it to life through Belfast City Council's involvement in the Re-imagining Communities Programme.

Bernie McConnell, Senior Development Officer with Short Strand Community Forum explains: "When we decided to consider getting involved in the Re-imagining Communities Programme, we felt that murals were a thing of the past and that it was time to do something different. We realised that this was an opportunity to perhaps soften attitudes to and perceptions of the peaceline - a small but significant first step towards the long-term goal of a society where such physical barriers are no longer needed."

The ideas for the artwork were developed through a series of workshops with local residents of all ages and backgrounds, including particularly those local residents whose homes overlook the peaceline - and who now overlook a brand new series of ceramic panels.

The ceramic panels were developed by artist Tom Agnew who drew on the idea of the Strand as a beach, bringing a little bit of the seaside to Inner City Belfast.

Since the artwork was unveiled, there has been no vandalism and in fact the move has been welcomed by the wider community in East Belfast.

Bernie says: "The people living most closely to the peaceline must be the ones to decide when it comes down but projects such as this can start to soften some of the mental barriers to their removal. We're hoping now to continue our re-imagining work, perhaps introducing clear glass blocks into the peaceline, allowing each side to begin to see into the other's world."



A member of the Doyle Youth Club walking past the new ceramic panels, Short Strand, Belfast.

"When we decided to consider getting involved in the Re-imagining Programme, we felt that murals were a thing of the past and that it was time to do something different. We realised that this was an opportunity to perhaps soften attitudes to and perceptions of the peaceline - a small but significant first step towards the long-term goal of a society where such physical barriers are no longer needed."

Bernie McConnell,
Senior Development Officer,
Short Strand Community Forum.



Jackie McPhillips of the Short Strand Community Forum standing at the peaceline, Short Strand, Belfast.

Building Integration

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

Integrating Community Organisations

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Armagh City & District Council Area/Newry & Mourne District Council Area		
South Armagh Rural Network & SAVER/NAVER C/o Cardinal O’Fiaich Centre Crossmaglen	Joint capacity and peace building project.	254,079
Belfast City Council Area		
New Belfast Community Arts & Partners Clanmill Arts & Business Centre Belfast	Arts-led community relations project.	39,704
New Lodge Arts & Westlands Community Group Churchill Street Belfast	Arts project involving local people including those involved in the proposed transformation of the Waterworks Park into a shared cultural space.	33,975
Lisburn City Council Area		
Atlas Women’s Group & Scoil Na Fuisseoige C/o Sloan Street Lisburn	To breakdown barriers and encourage integration through a variety of cross-community courses and events.	47,500
Strabane District Council Area/Derry City Council Area		
Dennett Interchange Ltd & Learmount Community C/o Brook Road Donemana	To encourage wider participation in community development and peace building activities.	189,039

Integrating Community Organisations

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH/SOUTH UKE
North/South		
Belleek & District Community Partnership/ Erne Enterprise Development Co/Kesh Evergreens C/o Craft Village Belleek	Delivery of a range of education and culture focused activities aimed at strengthening interaction between the three communities.	117,971
Blackwater Regional Partnership Main Street Caledon	To build and sustain good relations between seven rural villages along the Armagh, Monaghan and Tyrone border.	174,110
Border Arts 2000 & Balor Developmental Community Arts C/o Main Street Castlederg	Programme of social and cultural events to bring the two communities together.	115,550
Broughshane & District Community Association Ltd/Ionad Namoh Padraig C/o Buckna Road Broughshane	The development of linkages between Broughshane and Gweedore through a range of shared learning activities.	108,671
Bytes Project/Inishowen Partnership C/o Northumberland Street Belfast	Cross-community, cross-border development project offering a range of personal development activities focusing on young people.	62,842
Network Personnel & Tir Boghaine Teo C/o Rainey Street Magherafelt	Cross-border learning project to build improved understanding between communities.	165,139
Northern Ireland Rural Development Council Loy Street Cookstown	Training, mentoring and support for groups participating in the Integrating Community Organisations Programme.	334,000
STEER Mental Health Organisation/Cosy Club C/o Pump Street Londonderry/Derry	Lifelong Emotional Heath Project using multi-media and arts to address the legacy of the troubles.	128,438

Integrating Community Organisations

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH/SOUTH €
North/South		
Atlantic View Community Development Partnership/ Ballybeen Women’s Centre/Ardmonagh Community & Family Centre C/o Main Street Ballyshannon	Production of a DVD telling the story of how women in East & West Belfast and Ballyshannon have formed a partnership creating cultural understanding.	35,958
Donegal School of Music/ St Joseph’s Brass Band/ Glenties Brass Band/ Roughan Silver Band C/o Creeslough Letterkenny	Cross-community, cross-generational and cross-border relationship building project.	94,080
Riverstown Enterprise Development (Sligo) Ltd/ Brookeborough & District Community Development C/o Sligo Folk Park Riverstown	Cross-border and cross-community project aimed at building relationships between communities in counties Sligo and Fermanagh.	193,838
YMCA Ireland (Donegal)/ Londonderry YMCA C/o The Diamond Milford	Cross-border capacity building project.	208,832

Sharing in Education

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Belfast City Council Area		
Belfast Community Sports Development Network Shankill Road Belfast	To bring primary schools and community groups representing different backgrounds together using football and to challenge sectarian attitudes and anti-social behaviour.	271,664
Fermanagh District Council Area		
Fermanagh Trust Broadmeadow Place Enniskillen	To promote and enhance the quality of cross-sectoral collaboration and sharing between schools in County Fermanagh.	1,062,246
All Areas		
Department of Education Balloo Road Bangor	To target 16-17 year olds within communities suffering the greatest economic and social deprivation and to promote community relations.	2,162,439
NEELB Lough Road Antrim	To develop cross-community partnerships of primary schools through the engagement of Controlled, Maintained, Irish Medium and Integrated Schools in counties Antrim and Londonderry/Derry.	444,930
Queens University Belfast University Road Belfast	To promote long-term reconciliation by encouraging sustained engagement through mixed community classes in schools.	1,967,191
Spirit of Enniskillen Trust Malone Avenue Belfast	To develop leadership, facilitation and mentoring skills of disaffected 6th formers and their teachers to better deal with contentious issues that divide pupils, schools and communities in Northern Ireland.	637,425



Artist's impression of the proposed new Lurgan YMCA building.

Leaving a Legacy Programme

The Leaving a Legacy Programme is concerned with ensuring that the lessons, experiences and skills acquired over more than 23 years of peace building are handed on. The Fund's wide range of programmes will focus on achieving measurable reconciliation within and between communities. Cross-border and cross-community programmes will be the hallmark of the Fund's work and the Fund will continue to ensure that its support helps to leverage funds from other sources. This Programme is not open to applications.

Lurgan YMCA

Case study: Lurgan YMCA, Lurgan, County Armagh.

Lurgan is one of a number of towns in Northern Ireland to be divided by a peaceline. There are clear geographical boundaries between the Catholic and Protestant communities in the town and youth centres tend to be located in segregated areas. Sectarian violence, particularly between the town's young people, continues to be a problem.

“Already our plans are creating opportunities to grow community relations in Lurgan. They are providing a catalyst for us to build new partnerships with other agencies and to bring people together to look at our shared issues. We hope to build on the good work being done in the town with young people, extending it to families and the wider community.”

Hugo Dale,
Chief Executive,
Lurgan YMCA.

Lurgan YMCA has been working with the town's young people for over 20 years, operating from two centres within the town, each serving one community. With support from the Fund's Leaving a Legacy Programme, the YMCA plans to build a brand new centre, right on the town's peaceline, allowing them to bring young people from all backgrounds together. The planned centre will be a three-storey building which will provide staff accommodation, a lounge area and space for a wide variety of activities. It will also include a business unit for a social economy project to generate revenue.

Hugo Dale, Lurgan YMCA's Chief Executive explains the significance of the project: “This new building will put us right where we want to be in Lurgan - it will be the only centre of its type in the town. It will be open to everyone, not just Catholics and not just Protestants. While our current work does engage both sides of the community, this new building will be really symbolic of our desire to bring

people together. We also hope that we'll be able to support the work done in the new building with satellite single identity work in both communities, to bring them to a place where they feel they can engage with the other side.

“The new site, which is beside a major supermarket car park, is also a prime opportunity to reach out to parents and provide them with a better understanding of what the YMCA does.

“Already our plans are creating opportunities to grow community relations in Lurgan. They are providing a catalyst for us to build new partnerships with other agencies and to bring people together to look at our shared issues. We hope to build on the good work being done in the town with young people, extending it to families and the wider community.”

Lurgan YMCA has already raised further funds to supplement the Fund's support and hopes that building work will begin on the site in early 2010.

Holywell Trust - The Walled City Partnership

This £1.8m grant will assist the Holywell Trust to develop a city centre facility for reconciliation in Londonderry /Derry. The Project will bring together Holywell Trust with the Peace & Reconciliation Group and The Junction to create The Walled City Partnership. A number of other community organisations will also be

housed in the new facility, which will create a shared space in the centre of the city. Working with young people, former prisoners, and community organisations, the Partnership hopes to promote DiverseCity - a new vision for the city.

This £1.8m grant will assist the Holywell Trust to develop a city centre facility for reconciliation in Londonderry/Derry.

The Corrymeela Community

Case study: The Corrymeela Community, County Antrim.

Corrymeela is an ecumenical community of people committed to reconciliation and peace building through the healing of social, religious and political divisions in Northern Ireland.

Its residential centre in Ballycastle, County Antrim has been a safe place for meeting, encounter and dialogue for thousands of families, school children, youth groups, churches and community groups for the last 45 years.

The Fund's Leaving a Legacy Programme contributed £1m to a new volunteer centre at Corrymeela's Ballycastle centre. It is hoped that the new Coventry Centre will be home to more than 7,500 long-term and short-term local, national and international volunteers over the next 30 years.

The Coventry Centre was officially opened by President McAleese in April 2009.

Leader of the Corrymeela Community Dr David Stevens said: “Since Corrymeela was founded in 1965, volunteering and residential programmes have been a critical aspect of our vision and work. Now, Corrymeela is looking towards the future of our society. In a community that is increasingly segregated, the work of reconciliation and peace building is more important than ever.”

The Leaving a Legacy Programme is also providing a further £2.5m of support to Corrymeela to assist with the development of new residential accommodation and the upgrading of a range of other buildings essential to delivering Corrymeela's programmes.

The Fund's Leaving a Legacy Programme contributed £1m to a new volunteer centre at Corrymeela's Ballycastle centre. It is hoped that the new Coventry Centre will be home to more than 7,500 long-term and short-term international volunteers over the next 30 years.



President McAleese and Fund Chairman Denis Rooney open Coventry House at Corrymeela.

Leaving a Legacy Programme

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

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Ards Borough Council Area		
The Link Family and Community Centre West Street Newtownards	Additional financial assistance towards the provision of new facilities to support the development of the organisation's community and community relations activities.	46,400
Craigavon Borough Council Area		
Lurgan YMCA Carnegie Street Lurgan	Provision of a neutral youth venue.	700,000
Derry City Council Area		
Holywell Trust Bishop Street Londonderry/Derry	Provision of a venue for the Trust and a number of community and community relations organisations.	1,879,428

Pre 2006 Programmes

These programmes are now closed to new applications. The existing projects listed below were awarded additional financial assistance this year.

Business Enterprise & Technology Programme

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Armagh City & District Council Area		
Crossfire Trust - Coachhouse Regeneration Limited Darkley Road Keady	Additional financial assistance towards the provision of 7,750 sq ft of workspace units.	33,038

Community Regeneration & Improvement Special Programme (CRISP)

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Armagh City & District Council Area		
Blackwatertown CRISP Main Street Blackwatertown	Additional financial assistance towards the Bridge Business Park and development assistance.	5,596
Cookstown District Council Area		
Stewartstown CRISP Stewartstown	Additional financial assistance to bring the Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	2,500
Fermanagh District Council Area		
Belcoo CRISP Belcoo	Additional financial assistance to bring the Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	6,000
Derrygonnelly CRISP Derrygonnelly	Additional financial assistance to bring the Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	3,000
Garrison & Melvin CRISP Garrison	Additional financial assistance to bring the Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	9,500
Irvinestown CRISP Irvinestown	Additional financial assistance to bring the Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	7,500

Community Regeneration & Improvement Special Programme (CRISP)

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Fermanagh District Council Area		
Lisnaskea CRISP Lisnaskea	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	2,500
Newtownbutler CRISP Newtownbutler	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	3,500
Roslea CRISP Roslea	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	15,000
Tullyhommon/Pettigo CRISP Pettigo	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	5,250
Magherafelt District Council Area		
Castledawson CRISP Castledawson	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	7,500
Strabane District Council Area		
Castlederg CRISP Castlederg	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	2,250
Plumbridge CRISP Plumbridge	Additional financial assistance towards Environmental Improvement Scheme up to an adoption standard.	1,750

Disadvantaged Areas Initiative - Special Projects

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Belfast City Council Area		
Upper Ardoyne Community Partnership Alliance Road Belfast	Additional financial assistance towards the provision of a mixed use facility comprising 1,400 sq m of retail units, office accommodation and multi-purpose space for community use.	86,773
Castlereagh Borough Council Area		
Landmark East Craigleith Drive Ballybeen Dundonald	Additional financial assistance towards the development of a multi-purpose centre comprising retail units, office accommodation, community space and recording studio.	32,538
Lisburn City Council Area		
Cloona Economic Units Ltd Colin Road Poleglass Lisburn	Additional financial assistance towards the provision of economic and social enterprise units.	39,631

Name/Address	Project Description	SOUTH €
All Areas		
Community Network Services Convoy Enterprise Centre Convoy County Donegal	Additional financial assistance towards a community-based high speed telecommunications network.	90,000

Urban Development Programme

Name/Address	Project Description	NORTH UKE
Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council Area Carncourt Properties Ltd The Diamond Moy	Additional financial assistance towards the demolition of a derelict building and the construction of commercial premises.	20,750

Accounts

The International Fund for Ireland

Accounts for the year ended
30 September 2009

Contents

63	Board members’ statement
63	Independent auditors’ statement
64	Income and expenditure account
65	Statement of total recognised gains and losses
65	Balance sheet
66	Cash flow statement
67	Notes to the financial statements

Board Members’ Statement

This summarised financial statement may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the International Fund for Ireland (“the Fund”) because they do not reflect the performance of the venture capital companies, which are wholly owned subsidiaries of the Fund. For further information the full annual financial statements, the auditors’ report on those financial statements and the board members’

annual report should be consulted; copies of these can be obtained from The International Fund for Ireland at either PO Box 2000, Belfast, BT4 2QY 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 25th February 2010.

By order of the Board



D Rooney
Chairman
25th February 2010

Independent Auditors’ Statement

We have examined the summary financial statement of The International Fund for Ireland (“the Fund”).

Respective Responsibilities of Board Members and Auditors

The board members are responsible for preparing the summarised annual report in accordance with applicable law. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement with the full annual financial statements and the Board members’ report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our statement if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement. The maintenance and integrity of the Fund’s web site is the responsibility of the board members; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the full financial statements or the summary financial statement since they were initially presented on the web site.

This statement, including the opinion, has been prepared for, and only for, the Fund’s board members as a body and for no other purpose. We do

not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this statement is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 1999/6, ‘The auditors’ statement on the summary financial statement’ issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Our report on the Fund’s full annual financial statements describes the basis of our audit opinion on those financial statements and the Board members’ report.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Board members’ report of The International Fund for Ireland for the year ended 30 September 2009.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors,
Belfast,
25th February 2010

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2009

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €

	Notes	2009 £'000	2008 £'000	2009 €'000	2008 €'000
Income	2	31,102	27,477	33,932	34,868
Expenditure					
Approved projects	1,7	17,358	26,075	18,937	33,089
Net administrative expenses	3	208	498	227	631
Impairment provision	4	331	573	541	936
Translation loss on fixed asset investment		-	-	-	1,538
		17,897	27,146	19,705	36,194
Exceptional item - approved projects		-	5,989	-	7,600
Excess of income over expenditure		13,205	6,320	14,227	6,274
Movement in the Fund balance					
At 30 September 2008		51,312	45,009	70,265	67,276
Exchange differences on retranslation at 1 October 2008	1	516	[17]	[4,162]	[3,285]
		51,828	44,992	66,103	63,991
Excess of income over expenditure for the year		13,205	6,320	14,227	6,274
At 30 September 2009		65,033	51,312	80,330	70,265

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.

Statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year ended 30 September 2009

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €

	Notes	2009 £'000	2008 £'000	2009 €'000	2008 €'000
Excess of income over expenditure		13,205	6,320	14,227	6,274
Currency translation difference charged to the Fund balance	1	516	[17]	[4,162]	[3,285]
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year		13,721	6,303	10,065	2,989

Balance sheet at 30 September 2009

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €

	Notes	2009 £'000	2008 £'000	2009 €'000	2008 €'000
Fixed assets					
Investments	4	22,206	22,537	32,390	32,931
Current assets					
Cash at bank and on deposit		33,201	49,247	36,222	62,495
Donor contributions due within one year	5	73,765	51,196	80,478	64,969
Other amounts receivable	6	2,574	3,553	4,024	5,326
		109,540	103,996	120,724	132,790
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Approved project expenditure outstanding	8	(66,572)	(74,627)	(72,630)	(94,702)
Creditors	9	(141)	(594)	(154)	(754)
		(66,713)	(75,221)	(72,784)	(95,456)
Net current assets		42,827	28,775	47,940	37,334
Net assets		65,033	51,312	80,330	70,265
Fund balance		65,033	51,312	80,330	70,265

Cash flow statement for the year ended
30 September 2009

Total transactions expressed in £ and Euro €

Notes	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities				
Cash received from donor governments	8,793	18,549	9,593	23,539
Cash disbursements to projects, excluding accruals	(28,009)	(26,035)	(30,557)	(33,039)
Other cash payments	(458)	(366)	(500)	(464)
Interest received	2,424	8,164	2,644	10,360
Dividends recieved	-	934	-	1,185
Other income	114	200	125	254
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	11	(17,136)	1,446	(18,695)
Capital expenditure				
Purchase of fixed investments	-	(5,504)	-	(6,985)
Sale of fixed assets investments	-	5,214	-	6,617
	-	(290)	-	(368)
(Decrease)/Increase in cash in the year	12	(17,136)	1,156	(18,695)

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Polices

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

Currencies

The Fund’s transactions are effected in the currencies of each part of Ireland. The financial statements are presented in both currencies, each representing an aggregation of all of the transactions for the year in each part of Ireland translated at the respective exchange rates at the year end. Differences arising on the restatement, to the year end exchange rate, of monetary assets and liabilities (eg 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 (eg 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 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. Project approvals which remain outstanding (ie which have not been disbursed to projects), are included in the balance sheet under liabilities.

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.

2. Income

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
From donor governments after exchange rate adjustments				
United States of America (US\$15m 2008:US\$14.878m)	9,423	8,289	10,280	10,519
European Union (€15m 2008:€15m)	13,749	11,820	15,000	15,000
Canada (Can\$0.5m: 2008 Can\$0.5m)	264	248	288	315
Exchange gains	6,114	2,898	6,670	3,678
	29,550	23,255	32,238	29,512
Dividends received	-	934	-	1,185
Interest receivable	1,434	3,082	1,564	3,911
Loan repayments	1	3	1	4
Miscellaneous income	117	203	129	256
	31,102	27,477	33,932	34,868

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

The exchange gains arise from the translation of US\$, Euro and Can\$ denominated donor contributions. The exchange transaction gains consist of £1.048k/£1.143k realised gains and £5.066/£5.527 million unrealised gains. The extent to which any unrealised gain or loss is realised will depend on exchange rate movements up to the date of receipt of contributions due.

3. Net administration expenses

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Board members' fees	90	84	98	107
Board meetings	20	22	22	28
Consultancy and other fees	41	333	44	423
Auditors' remuneration - Audit	54	51	59	64
- Other	14	12	15	15
Travelling and subsistence	33	37	36	46
Postage, stationery, telephone and office	29	35	31	44
Promotional and advertising expenses	180	175	196	222
Miscellaneous	39	58	44	74
	500	807	545	1,023
Less: Contributions receivable from the Governments of Ireland and the United Kingdom, in respect of certain of the above expenses	(292)	(309)	(318)	(392)
	208	498	227	631

Certain other expenses of the Fund, including accommodation and staff expenses, are met directly by the two governments and are not therefore reflected in these financial statements.

4. Fixed Asset Investments

	Unlisted investments	
	£'000	€'000
Cost		
At 1 October 2008	22,537	32,931
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 30 September 2009	22,537	32,931
Depreciation		
At 1 October 2008	-	-
Charge in year	-	-
Provision for impairment of unlisted subsidiary	331	541
At 30 September 2009	331	541
Net book value		
At 30 September 2009	22,206	32,390
At 30 September 2008	22,537	32,931

5. Donor Contributions Due Within One Year

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
United States of America				
- 2009 (US\$15m)	9,422		10,280	
- 2008 (US\$14.878m)	9,347	8,289	10,198	10,519
- 2007 (US\$13.365m)	-	7,447	-	9,450
European Union				
- 2009 (€15m)	13,749		15,000	
- 2008 (€15m)	13,749	11,820	15,000	15,000
- 2007 (€15m)	13,749	11,820	15,000	15,000
- 2006 (€15m)	13,749	11,820	15,000	15,000
	73,765	51,196	80,478	64,969

6. Other Amounts Receivable

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Loan to Enterprise Equity (IRL) Limited	2,239	2,239	3,659	3,659
Government contributions	61	35	65	44
Bank interest receivable (note 2)	265	1,250	290	1,587
Prepayments and accrued income	9	29	10	36
	2,574	3,553	4,024	5,326

The loan to Enterprise Equity (IRL) Limited falls due after one year.

7. Approved Project Expenditure Outstanding

The totals of the Fund's project disbursements in the year ended 30 September 2009 and the movements in approved projects outstanding are as follows:

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2008 (retranslated to current exchange rates)	77,243	80,576	84,271	102,252
Project approvals in the year	17,357	26,075	18,937	33,089
Exceptional item	-	(5,989)	-	(7,600)
Project disbursements in the year	(28,028)	(26,035)	(30,578)	(33,039)
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2009	66,572	74,627	72,630	94,702

An analysis of these totals by expenditure programme is included in Appendix I.

8. Cumulative Approved Projects and Disbursements to Date

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

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Total approved projects to date	648,312	628,339	811,453	802,947
Less contributions to investment companies	(27,142)	(27,142)	(40,023)	(40,023)
Total disbursements to projects and administration costs to date	621,170	601,197	771,430	762,924
Approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2009	(554,598)	(526,570)	(698,800)	(668,222)
	66,572	74,627	72,630	94,702

To date the Fund has approved total payments in respect of specific projects and administration costs to a total of £652/€816 million after deduction of approved projects which did not proceed.

The approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2009 reported in the balance sheet represents the unspent balance of the projects approved for which a claim for payment of grant has yet to be received.

9. Creditors

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Accruals	141	303	154	385
Deferred income	-	291	-	369
	141	594	154	754

10. Loans

The aggregate of euro denominated loans made by the Fund and outstanding at 30 September 2009 amounted to €231k (2008: €232k). The movement represents €1k of loans repaid during the year which have been recognised within income. The equivalent sterling value as translated at the relevant year end rate amounted to £212k (2008: £183k).

11. Net cash flow from operating activities

	2009	2008	2009	2009
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Excess of income over expenditure	13,205	6,320	14,228	6,274
Non cash flow expenses	331	573	541	2,474
(Increase)/decrease in donor contributions due	(22,570)	(6,408)	(15,509)	(805)
(Decrease)/increase in approved project expenditure outstanding	(8,055)	(3,452)	(22,072)	(17,153)
(Increase)/decrease in other amounts receivable	979	4,789	1,301	7,077
Increase /(decrease) in creditors	(452)	269	(599)	287
	(16,562)	2,091	(22,110)	(1,847)
Exchange difference	(574)	(645)	3,415	3,682
Net cash (outflow)/ inflow from operating activities	(17,136)	1,446	(18,695)	1,835

12. Analysis of Changes in Cash

	2009	2008	2009	2008
	£'000	£'000	€'000	€'000
Balance at 1 October 2008	49,247	47,463	62,495	67,995
Retranslation to current year exchange rates	1,090	628	(7,578)	(6,967)
Balance at 1 October 2008, retranslated to current year exchange rates	50,337	48,091	54,917	61,028
Net cash (outflow)/inflow	(17,136)	1,156	(18,695)	1,467
Balance at 30 September 2009	33,201	49,247	36,222	62,495

Appendix 1

Analysis of programme disbursements for the year and of approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2009

	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2008	Project approvals and administration costs	Project and administration disbursements	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2009
Expressed in £'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Building Foundations				
Community based economic and social regeneration	10,958	5,318	(3,472)	12,804
Communities in transition	2,040	-	(283)	1,757
Community leadership	3,987	(1,427)	(234)	2,326
AMBIT	91	66	(76)	81
Building Bridges				
Community bridges	7,872	4,519	(3,757)	8,634
Key	5,070	(424)	(1,428)	3,218
Let	2,674	(206)	(518)	1,950
Wider horizons	937	3,942	(4,057)	822
GRIT	100	-	(79)	21
Key start	145	-	(27)	118
Building Integration				
Sharing Education	1,231	6,583	(1,246)	6,568
Integrating housing	1,448	-	(519)	929
Integrating communities	643	2,596	(447)	2,792
Respecting difference	925	-	-	925
Border Towns and villages	-	1,918	(533)	1,385
Leaving a Legacy				
Capital projects	13,496	(1,269)	(1,999)	10,228
Further Initiatives				
Policing	216	-	(188)	28

	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2008	Project approvals and administration costs	Project and administration disbursements	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2009
Expressed in £'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Pre 2006 programmes				
CERS/CRISP	2,371		-	2,371
Disadvantaged Areas - specials	8,240	57	(1,627)	6,670
Rural development	3,653	(4,879)	(2,459)	(3,685)
Other Community initiatives	(1,226)	(1,955)	(598)	(3,779)
Interact	246	1,294	(66)	1,474
Business enterprise and technology	3,093	(246)	-	2,847
Tourism	3,125	139	(1,252)	2,012
Urban development	1,154	(1,173)	(1,106)	(1,125)
CPDS	655	645	(1,448)	(148)
Second community projects	514	56	(214)	356
Flagship	3,496	45	(408)	3,133
Special	-	1,927	13	1,940
Communities in transition	169	-	-	169
Community leadership	(80)	(169)	-	(249)
	77,243	17,357	(28,028)	66,572

The above totals of approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2008 differ from the balances shown in the balance sheet at that date as a result of their retranslation at current year end exchange rates.

Appendix 1

Analysis of programme disbursements for the year and of approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2009 (continued)

	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2008	Project approvals and administration costs	Project and administration disbursements	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2009
Expressed in €'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Building Foundations				
Community based economic and social regeneration	11,957	5,801	(3,788)	13,970
Communities in transition	2,226	(184)	(309)	1,733
Community leadership	4,350	(1,556)	(255)	2,539
AMBIT	99	72	(83)	88
Building Bridges				
Community bridges	8,587	4,931	(4,098)	9,420
Key	5,531	(463)	(1,558)	3,510
Let	2,917	(225)	(566)	2,126
Wider horizons	1,022	4,301	(4,426)	897
GRIT	109	-	(86)	23
Key start	158	-	(29)	129
Building Integration				
Education	1,343	7,182	(1,359)	7,166
Integrating housing	1,580	-	(566)	1,014
Integrating communities	702	2,832	(488)	3,046
Respecting difference	1,009	-	-	1,009
Policing	-	2,093	(582)	1,511
Leaving a Legacy				
Capital projects	14,724	(1,384)	(2,181)	11,159
Further Initiatives				
Policing	236	-	(205)	31

	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2007	Project approvals and administration costs	Project and administration disbursements	Approved projects outstanding at 30 September 2008
Expressed in €'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Pre 2006 programmes				
CERS/CRISP	2,587	-	-	2,587
Disadvantaged Areas	8,990	62	(1,775)	7,277
Rural development	3,985	(5,323)	(2,683)	(4,021)
Communities initiative programme	(1,337)	(2,133)	(653)	(4,123)
Interact	268	1,412	(72)	1,608
Business enterprise and technology	3,374	(268)	-	3,106
Tourism	3,409	152	(1,366)	2,195
Urban development	1,259	(1,280)	(1,206)	(1,227)
CPDS	715	703	(1,580)	(162)
Second community projects	560	61	(233)	388
Flagship	3,814	49	(445)	3,418
Special	-	2,102	14	2,116
Communities in transition	184	-	-	184
Community leadership	(87)	-	-	(87)
	84,271	18,937	(30,578)	72,630

The above totals of approved project expenditure outstanding at 30 September 2008 differ from the balances shown in the balance sheet at that date as a result of their retranslation at current year end exchange rates.

“We remain grateful to our international donors for their support and encouragement. 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 £648 million/€811 million.”



INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

PO Box 2000 Belfast BT4 1WD
PO Box 2000 Dublin 2 Ireland

www.internationalfundforireland.com