

# Social Finance /Funding organisations

[Clann Credo - the Social Investment Fund](#) Clann Credo - the Social Investment Fund, is the leading provider of Social Finance to community based projects in Ireland, and has offices in Dublin, Cork and Westport. It is a Not-for-Profit organization with charitable status. Clann Credo provides repayable finance to Community & Voluntary organisations and charities that find it difficult to access funding from mainstream financial institutions. This support is primarily through loan finance and occasionally direct investment. All projects are evaluated on their potential to make a social as well as a financial return.

[Community Foundation for Ireland](#) The Community Foundation provides a channel for organisations and individuals to undertake effective community based charitable giving. The Community Foundation operates a Small Grants Scheme. The Community Foundation will favour projects leading to the social inclusion of people and communities who are excluded by reason of geography, age, disability, family circumstances, poverty, gender or race.

[Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs \(Funding\)](#) The Voluntary and Community Supports (VCS) Section of the Department administers the Programme of Grants for Locally-Based Community and Voluntary Organisations. This programme offers two schemes of once-off grants to local voluntary and community groups. The Scheme of Equipment and Refurbishment Grants providing essential physical supports for the local community and voluntary sector and the Scheme of Education, Training and Research Grants aimed at enhancing the capacity of local communities. Applications for grants under the scheme are invited once per year, with advertisements placed in national and local newspapers.

[Dormant Accounts Fund](#) The Government approved the categories under which €24 million from Dormant Accounts will be spent in 2006 on programmes and projects tackling social and economic disadvantage. The Dormant Accounts legislation [Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Act 2005] targets three broad categories of persons for support from the Dormant Accounts Fund: those affected by economic and social disadvantage; those affected by educational disadvantage; and persons with a disability.

[Health Reserach Board \(Grant Funding\)](#) The Health Research Board provides funding and support for research under two strategic strands, *Science for Health* and *Research and Development for Health*. The HRB offers a number of different support schemes to researchers and health professionals. Details of all HRB research funding schemes, including scope, eligibility and how to apply, may be found in Funding Available. The HRB also promotes the development of health research at national and international level by running training courses.

[National Lottery - Ireland](#) The National Lottery generates funds for distribution by the Government. In 2005 the National Lottery generated €203.2 million for distribution by the Government to beneficiary projects in the areas of Health & Welfare; Youth, Sport, Recreation & Amenities; Irish Language and Arts, Culture & National Heritage. An Post National Lottery company is not involved in the allocation of funds to beneficiary projects, these allocations are made by a variety of agencies.

For further information on National Lottery funded schemes and where to apply for funding download the National Lottery Beneficiary Fund [Fact Sheet](#) (PDF size 125kb).

[Pobal](#) Pobal's mission is to promote social inclusion, reconciliation and equality through integrated social and economic development within communities. Pobal is a not-for-profit company with charitable status that manages programmes on behalf of the Irish Government and the EU.

[Royal Irish Academy](#) The Royal Irish Academy, the academy for the sciences and humanities for the whole of Ireland promotes excellence in scholarship, recognises achievements in learning, directs research programmes and undertakes its own research projects. A new initiative in 2006 offers direct help to charitable organisations to pursue their research interests through the Third Sector Research Programme (TSRP). This programme has helped enhance the research undertaken within and about the voluntary sector across Ireland.

[The Ireland Funds](#) The mission of The Ireland Funds is to be the largest worldwide network of people of Irish ancestry and friends of Ireland dedicated to raising funds to support programmes of peace and reconciliation, arts and culture, education and community development.

[Vodafone Ireland Foundation \(VIF\)](#) VIF supports a variety of programmes across Ireland calling for varying levels of funding. The social investment programme focuses primarily on removing barriers that prevent people from participating fully in society. Vodafone Ireland Foundation has established certain funding guidelines to help its charitable giving to be as focussed and effective as possible.

**Community Finance (Ireland)** A volunteer led organisation which was established in response to the decreasing financial support and the difficulties experienced by community organisations in accessing finance. With over €100m available in funding, Community Finance (Ireland) is targeting organisations and social enterprises which are delivering an immediate social impact to the community but cannot access finance from traditional lenders like banks or building societies

**Social Entrepreneurs Ireland** Supports people who have big, new solutions to Ireland's social and environmental problems. They provide funding and a range of in-depth supports. Social Entrepreneurs Ireland, Lower Ground Floor, 11/12 Warrington Place, Dublin 2  
Phone: +353 1 685 3191, Email: [info@socialentrepreneurs.ie](mailto:info@socialentrepreneurs.ie)

**Arthur Guinness Fund; THE ARTHUR GUINNESS FUND** helps social entrepreneurs deliver measurable, transformational change to communities in Ireland and worldwide. Established in 2009 to help mark the 250th anniversary of GUINNESS®, over €6.5m was initially invested in the fund. It helps social entrepreneurs deliver measurable, transformational change to communities in Ireland Email; [consumerinfo.irl@diageo.com](mailto:consumerinfo.irl@diageo.com)

**Vodafone World of Difference:** It supports social innovators to answer their true calling by providing a full salary to work for the charity of their choice for a year. Vodafone Ireland Limited, Mountain view, Leopardstown, Dublin 18,

[Arts and Disability Forum](#) The Arts & Disability Forum exists to facilitate the empowerment of people with disabilities through the development of Arts and Disability culture. The Arts & Disability Awards Ireland are designed to encourage artists to reach their potential through further experimentation. They are open to artists with disabilities throughout Ireland working in all art forms. Age and opportunity's Go for Life Grant Scheme: The Small Grant Scheme is a joint initiative between Age & Opportunity's Go for Life programme and the Irish Sports Council. Grants are available to all eligible local clubs, groups and organisations that promote increased participation in recreational sport or physical activity for older people as a main element of their activities. Age & Opportunity Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9, Ireland. Telephone: +353 (0)1 805 7709 Email: [info@ageandopportunity.ie](mailto:info@ageandopportunity.ie)

**Citizens Information Board** (formerly Comhairle) provides a number of supports, including grants, to the voluntary sector, in particular to those voluntary organisations who provide information on rights and entitlements either to the general public or to specific groups e.g. people with disabilities.

**Hyperion Ltd.** - Dr. Sean McCarthy - specializes in the development of training courses for research managers. Provides training on how to access EU funding.

**Millennium Scholars Trust** The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust was established in 2000 to mark the new Millennium. It is the largest single millennium initiative from either State or private sources. Bank of Ireland has allocated €12.5 million to the Trust, which will award up to 60 scholarships each year of the first decade of the new millennium. The Trust awards scholarships to people with talent and ability who, because of economic circumstances or other barriers such as disability, are prevented from reaching their full educational potential. The Trust is administered by National College of Ireland (NCI), on behalf of Bank of Ireland. A list of current Nominating Bodies is available here. Organisations wishing to act as Nominating Bodies should contact the Trust Office for an application form at: Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust Office, National College of Ireland, Mayor Street IFSC Dublin 1, Telephone: 01 449 8500 / 1850 221 721, Facsimile: 01 497 2200, E-mail: [boischolars@ncirl.ie](mailto:boischolars@ncirl.ie).

**mycharity.ie** mycharity.ie is dedicated to providing services to charities and fundraisers alike to make it as easy, simple and safe as possible to raise money for charity. Through our website we offer charities an online presence and the ability to take donations direct from the public online. In addition we offer charities the ability for their fundraisers to create their own unique fundraising page for any event, and to raise money for charity in a way that is easy, safe and very secure.

**Philanthropy Ireland** Philanthropy Ireland has its roots in a voluntary and informal association of grantmakers established in 1998 called the Irish Funders Forum. In 2004 the organisation was established as a charity and the name was changed to Philanthropy Ireland on the same date. Philanthropy Ireland's main aims are twofold: to foster the development of philanthropy in Ireland, and, to support the role and practice of charitable trusts and foundations. This website also provides a directory of grant giving organisations.

**Social Finance Foundation** The Minister of Finance announced in the 2006 Budget the Government's intention to spearhead a Social Finance Initiative. The Government approved the establishment of the Social Finance Foundation in July 2006. The company was incorporated in January 2007. The seed capital funding of €25m was provided by the banking sector through its representative body, the Irish Banking Federation (IBF). These monies will significantly increase the funding available for lending at affordable rates for social finance projects. The Social Finance Initiative is intended to mobilise the potential present in all communities to ensure that the quality and standard of local community and social infrastructure is commensurate with the level of Ireland's economic development.

**Irish Youth Foundation** A non-profit organisation committed to building a brighter future for young people in Ireland by providing opportunities for success. Founded in 1985 as an independent charitable trust dedicated exclusively to meeting the needs of vulnerable children and young people living in disadvantaged circumstances. Our mission is to financially support projects and programmes that make a positive difference to children and young people facing adversity in their lives.

**Irish Youth Foundation**, DogPatch, Unit 1, The CHQ Building, Custom House Quay Dublin 1,  
Email:[info@iyf.ie](mailto:info@iyf.ie)