



The preservation of agricultural landscapes, Water quality, Resources efficiency, Biodiversity and Climate mitigation/adaptation.

## **Meeting in Inishbofin Community Centre**

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**12.30 p.m. – 2.00p.m.**

### **NEW SCHEME - Calling All Farmers EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS**

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is inviting applications for funding in the second competitive call for proposals under the European Innovation Partnerships Initiative.

The ultimate aim of these innovation partnerships is to road-test new ideas and practices which can then be used more widely by farmers and others to improve productivity, enhance resource efficiency and pursue sustainable farming practices

This is the second of two Open Calls. They will support innovative concepts and ideas from among farmers, advisors, researchers, NGOs and Agri-businesses. Innovation is a key element of EIPs, and all proposals must clearly demonstrate the innovative element around which the proposal is built, as well as explaining how it will be tested on the ground. An innovative idea can be a brand new approach or it can draw on an approach trialled elsewhere and seek to adapt it to Irish circumstances. An EIP must have a clear link to such innovation and the initial application must show this.

**Comhar na nOileán** in partnership with **Comhdháil Oileán na hÉireann** are holding a number of consultation meetings with farmers on the Islands to get their input into the application for the Scheme.

Basically if the application is successful, the scheme will be rolled out across the Mayo Islands, Donegal Islands, Cork Islands and Inishbofin. If successful, the scheme could increase farmer's income by €5,000 a year on top of existing schemes.