**Rural Development Programme (LEADER) 2014-2020**

**Theme: Rural Environment**

**2 Targeted or Closed Calls under Sub Theme Rural Environment**

**1st Targeted Call:**

**Protection and Improvement of Local Bio diversity**

**Introduction:** West Cork Local Action Group for LEADER invites Expression of Interest (EOI) under Strategic Action 8.3 of the Local Development Strategy to support ‘‘The Provision of Capital Investment and Collaborative Action for the Protection and Improvement of Local Bio Diversity.

**Who can be funded** This Competitive Process is aim at Community, Tidy Towns, Environment and Clean Coast Groups living near beaches in the West Cork Area.

**Overall budget: €16,000**

**Project: “Working Towards Zero Waste”**

**Funding of €4,000 will be available for 4 -5 beach projects that will present ideas that aim at reducing plastic and other waste on beaches in their area.**

**What can be funded?**

* Supports for **Collaborative Plans** with Artists /Creative individuals to design structure for waste collection/prevention.
* Support for **Feasibility Studies** in relation to collection of Waste on Beaches.
* Support for **Capital Investment** for beach waste collections that will help reduce waste but also highlight the damage of Plastics and Discards on Beaches.
* **What can’t be funded?**
* Projects with other sources of available funding, such as CCC - Community Environment Action Fund (formerly Local Agenda 21)
* Work that falls under the remit of Cork County Council.

**Levels of funding:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Application Type | **Applicant Type** | **Grant Rate** | **Maximum Funding** |
| Capital Investment | Community/ Not for Profit Groups/ Voluntary Organisations | 75% | €4,000 |
| Collaborative Plans & Feasibilities Studies | Community/ Not for Profit Groups  Voluntary Organisations | 90% | €4,000 |

**2nd Targeted Call:**

**Renewable Energy**

**Introduction:** West Cork Local Action Group for LEADER invites Expression of Interest (EOI) under Strategic Action 9.3 of the Local Development Strategy to support ‘The Provision of Capital Investment and Collaborative Action for the Development of Renewable Energy’

**Who can be funded** This Competitive Process is aim at Community Groups and Micro, Small to Medium Enterprises to carry out Energy Audits on their premises

**Overall budget: €22,400**

**Project called “Energy Audits for Community Buildings, Social Enterprises, Micro and SMEs”.**

**Funding of €5,000 (max) will be available for 4-5 projects that will present.**

**What can’t be funded?**

* Projects with other sources of available funding, such as SEAI.
* Work that falls under the remit of Cork County Council.

**Who can be funded?**

* Community and Voluntary Groups.
* Eligible Businesses (≤20 employees and ≤€4 million annual turnover).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Application Type | **Applicant Type** | **Grant Rate** | **Maximum Funding** |
| Audit /Plans | Community/ Not for Profit Groups/ Voluntary Organisation | 90% | €5,000 |
|  | Private Enterprise /Business | 75% | €5,000 |

**Application process:** There is a two stage process:

**Stage 1:** Complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) form to find out if your proposal meets the objectives of West Cork Local Development Strategy and complies with the LEADER programme guidelines.

**Stage 2:** EOIs that are successful at Stage 1 will be invited to submit a full application with the required supporting documents. Invitation to application stage does not mean that you will be awarded grant aid as this is a competitive process with limited funding.

**Proposed timeline:** **EOI Stage 1** The call opens on **Tuesday, 22nd October 2019**

You must submit your EOI on or before **Wednesday, 18th December 2019**

If you submit an EOI, you will get a letter or an email with details of the outcome of your EOI.

**Application Stage 2**

If you are successful at Stage 1, you must submit your application form and all supporting documents on or before **Friday, 28th February 2020.**

**How will my application be assessed?**

Your application will be scored on the following criteria:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Assessment Criteria | | Weighting |
| 1 | Innovation – demonstration of new project | 15 |
| 2 | Promoter Capacity | 15 |
| 3 | Financial Viability/ Value for Money | 15 |
| 4 | Need and requirement for project | 20 |
| 5 | Sustainability of the project into the future | 15 |
|  | Project impacts – benefits to local community | 10 |
| 6 | Social/Cultural/Economic/ Environmental Impacts | 10 |
| 7 |  |  |
| Total Score | | **100** |

**Who do I contact?**

If you are interested in applying for this funding, we strongly encourage you to contact your local LEADER Implementing or Animating Partner to have an informal chat about your project. However, this is optional and you can submit an Expression of Interest without contacting us first.

**Contact Details:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Company Name** | **Email** | **Phone** |
| Mary Lavelle | [mary@oileain.ie](mailto:mary@oileain.ie) | 087 2872929 |
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