Irish Government Funds Overview
National Development Plan
July 2018
The Irish Government has launched four funds totalling €4 billion in the National Development Plan (NDP) for the period to 2027 to support Project Ireland 2040 across urban regeneration & development, rural development, disruptive technologies and climate action, which are planned to leverage investment from other sources and to assist Ireland meeting the objectives set out in the National Planning Framework (NPF).
Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

Allocation in the NDP to 2027: €2 billion
Submission deadline date under current call for proposals: 28th September 2018
Responsible Department: Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

The URDF is available to support compact growth and sustainable development of Ireland’s five cities and other large urban areas. The URDF is accessible based on a competitive process for projects of at least €2m in value to enable projects that would not otherwise occur and that will likely leverage significant further public and private sector investment.

The URDF is a multi-annual fund and applications are sought for ready to go projects that require funding from 2019 in addition to projects that require further development for funding later. €550m is allocated in the NDP to 2022, including €100m for expenditure in 2019.

The fund is aligned to the objectives of the NPF and is designed to promote a greater proportion of residential and commercial development supported by infrastructure, services and amenities within the existing footprint of urban areas.

Proposals for funding must be led by a public body; however, collaboration with the private sector is encouraged. The fund will provide up to 75% of the total project value, with at least 25% to be provided in matching contributions by the applicants.
Irish Government Funds Overview

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Allocation in the NDP to 2027: €1 billion
Submission deadline date under current call for proposals: 27th September 2018
Responsible Department: Department of Rural and Community Development

In parallel to the URDF, a fund will also be available to support the renewal of small towns, villages and outlying rural areas, as part of Project Ireland 2040. Certain towns with a population of 10,000 or less that are listed as being eligible to apply for urban funding may also consider applying under the rural fund, however these towns may not apply to both funds. Initial funding of €315m is allocated to the fund over the period 2019 to 2022.

The fund is aligned to the National Strategic Outcomes set out in the NPF and NDP. Activities that can be supported include, amongst others, projects that tackle infrastructural deficiencies, address building vacancy, improve accessibility or enhance public facilities.

Proposals under the fund must demonstrate a collaborative approach between two or more organisations, with the fund open to Local Authorities, Local Development Companies, State agencies, other Government Departments, philanthropic funders, the private sector and communities.

As a general rule, the fund will provide up to 75% of the total project value, with at least 25% to be provided in matching contributions.
Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF)

Allocation in the NDP to 2027: €500m
Deadline date for submission of Expressions of Interest: 15th August 2018 (application date to be set for a date in September 2018)

Responsible Department: Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

The DTIF is designed to support enterprises in Ireland to collaborate on research and other activities to promote the development and exploitation of disruptive technologies that combine technology and business model innovation. The DTIF has an initial Exchequer allocation of €180m to 2022.

The fund is designed to assist in achieving the National Strategic Objectives set out in Project Ireland 2040, in particular focusing on a strong economy supported by enterprise, innovation and skills. The amount of funding sought by a project or collaborative partnership should be at least €1m over 3 years, with large scale projects in the range of €5m - €10m total cost encouraged. SME participation in the consortium is essential and co-funding from enterprise partners will be required.

The initial call for expressions of interest draws from research priority areas across: ICT, Health & Wellbeing, Food, Manufacturing & Materials, Services & Business Processes and Energy, Climate Action and Sustainability.
Climate Action Fund (CAF)

Allocation in the NDP to 2027: €500m
Submission deadline date under current call for proposals: 1st October 2018
Responsible Department: Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

The CAF is designed to support projects that can contribute to Ireland meeting its climate and energy targets including renewable energy, district heating, energy efficiency and infrastructure projects. Applicants can be from the public or private sector and the fund is open to projects seeking support of €1m or more that are scheduled to commence development in 2019 or 2020.

To be eligible, projects must not be availing of other support measures, including the Renewable Energy Support Scheme and cannot be applying to any of the other three funds. The fund will provide up to 50% of the total investment costs of a project.

To discuss any of these funds or any relevant projects please get in touch with Michael Flynn or your usual contact at Deloitte.
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