Annual Social Enterprise Conference 2026

Marketplace of Supports

ÉIRE2026.EU
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Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh 2026
Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026

Organisation	Support type	What they do for social enterprises
Pobal	Grants (State)	Manages Government programmes for DRCDG: the Community Services Programme (contribution to manager and staff costs) and Dormant Accounts schemes such as the €4m Sustaining Social Enterprise Scheme 2026/27, which funds key staff. Also oversees SICAP and New Solutions.
ISEN (Irish Social Enterprise Network)	Network, advocacy	Member-led national network offering networking events, education and guidance, and advocacy. Runs BuySocial.ie, a directory that helps buyers find social enterprise suppliers.
Clann Credo	Loans	Ireland's largest social finance lender: term, bridging, match-funding and property loans, assessed on social impact as well as accounts. Over €218m lent to 1,600+ organisations since 1996; Acorn Fund offers

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		€5k–€15k loans at 5% for underserved areas.
Carmichael	Training, mentoring	Specialist training and support body for nonprofits, based in Dublin. Provides governance and management training, mentoring, advice and shared office space.
Western Development Commission	Loans, regional developm ent	Western Investment Fund's Community Loan Fund gives term and bridging loans (incl. LEADER bridging) to social enterprises in Clare, Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo; strategic projects up to €1m over 20 years. Has a regional Social Enterprise Strategy.
SERI (Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland)	Represent ation, member support	Practitioner-led national representative body: champions the sector with Government, raises awareness, and signposts supports. Members get peer networks, AI-enabled funding search tools, a financial literacy hub (with Social

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		Finance Foundation), a social procurement platform (Sphere), training and funding/trading alerts.
InterTradeIreland	Cross-border trade, training	All-island trade body. Runs SELECT, a leadership and commercialisation programme for social enterprise leaders, and helps trading social enterprises sell into Northern Ireland.
The Wheel / Access Europe	Membership body, EU funding	National association for charities, community groups and social enterprises (training, advocacy, funding news). Its free Access Europe service gives EU funding alerts, training, one-to-one application support and partner matchmaking.
New Solutions	Social innovation grants	€9.8m ESF+ fund with a Social Innovation Hub (led by Rethink Ireland). Offers Scaling Up grants, two-year Pilot Grants of €70k–€100k, a Social Innovation Lab and capacity-building support.

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Community Finance Ireland	Loans	All-island charity lender to community groups and social enterprises; loans typically €30k–€500k with no personal liability for volunteer directors. Co-runs a Hybrid Social Finance Loan (part grant, part loan) with Rethink Ireland.
Rethink Ireland	Grants, accelerator	Combines philanthropic and State funding into cash grants plus business support and accelerator programmes (e.g. Social Enterprise Development, Start-Up and Step-Up Funds). €16.6m invested in 177 social enterprise projects since 2016.
LDCN / Local Development Companies	Local, hands-on support	49 Local Development Companies deliver SICAP and LEADER locally: one-to-one mentoring, business planning and governance training, start-up grants and local networks. LDCN is their national representative body.