



## Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2011 - 2013

### Public Consultation Form

### Have your say ...

#### Introduction

This form has been prepared to assist anyone who has an interest in having their say in relation to the second phase of the Donegal Peace 3 Action Plan 2011 – 2013. The Donegal CDB Peace and Reconciliation Partnership will use the views, comments, ideas and concerns collated as part of this consultation process to inform the next phase of this Plan. This Plan will then be submitted to the Special EU Programmes Body at the end of June 2010, by way of an application for funding for Donegal under Priority 1.1 of the EU Programme for Peace & Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland 2007 – 2013.

#### What is the EU Programme for Peace & Reconciliation?

The EU Programme for Peace & Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland 2007 – 2013 (Peace III) is a distinctive European Union Structural Funds Programme, aimed at reinforcing progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promoting reconciliation. Building on the success and lessons of Peace I (1995 – 1999) and Peace II (2000 – 2006), the Peace III Programme has a continued and renewed emphasis on reconciliation and focuses on acknowledging and dealing with the conflict, building positive relations and contributing towards a shared society.

#### What is Priority 1.1 - Building positive relations at local level?

Priority 1.1 of the Peace III Programme focuses on building positive relations at a local level and the overall aim of this priority is to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism and to support conflict resolution and mediation at local community level. The Peace III Programme has identified that this element of the programme is best delivered through a partnership arrangement operating at local level under the auspices of the County Development Boards in the Border Region. To find out more about the Peace III Programme visit [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)

#### What is the Donegal CDB Peace & Reconciliation Partnership?

The Donegal CDB Peace & Reconciliation Partnership is a sub-structure of the Donegal County Development Board (CDB) and was established in February 2008, to develop and implement the Donegal Peace III Action Plan. The Partnership is made up of 16 members with representatives from the following sectors:



**European Union**

European Regional  
Development Fund

Investing in your future



Comhairle Chontae Dhùn na nGall  
Donegal County Council

<b>Sector</b>	<b>No. of Nominees</b>
Social Partners including the Community / Voluntary Sector	8
Local Government	4 (including Chair)
State Agencies and Local Development	4

### **What is the Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2008 – 2010?**

The Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2008 – 2010 was developed in May 2008, by the Donegal CDB Peace and Reconciliation Partnership in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and represented the Partnerships bid for funding under Priority 1.1: Building Positive Relations at a Local Level of the Peace III Programme. To access this plan click on [www.donegalcdb.ie](http://www.donegalcdb.ie) or contact the Donegal Peace 3 Office at 074 91 72 232.

This plan sets out the shared vision, aims and objectives for the county as follows:

#### **Shared Vision**

*“Donegal a county where there is no racism and sectarianism and where all feel equally valued and confident that they belong”*

#### **Aims and Objectives**

To achieve this vision, the following aims and objectives are set out:

- (a) Challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism:
  - (i) Raising the level of consciousness that these issues do exist in Donegal.
  - (ii) Promoting a greater understanding of what constitutes sectarianism and racism so as to create a greater level of trust and tolerance within the county and on a cross border basis.
- (b) Promote active participation in civil life by:
  - (i) Facilitating and encouraging the participation of minority groups in civil life in Donegal.
  - (ii) Working to ensure that the voice of the marginalised and minority communities in Donegal is heard in terms of both the democratic and decision-making processes.
- (c) Promote greater community integration within Donegal and on a cross border basis by-
  - (i) Facilitating, encouraging and supporting social interaction amongst the minority/marginalised and majority communities so as to achieve greater cohesion within communities by promoting cross community contact and relationship building.
  - (ii) Facilitating, encouraging and supporting cross border co-operation so as to achieve a greater level of trust and tolerance particularly with neighbouring counties and to promote reconciliation and develop good relations and understanding.

(d) Promote equality and embrace diversity by-

- (i) Promoting equality for all people in Donegal in terms of opportunity, participation and outcome.
- (ii) Embracing diversity and commonalities in a meaningful way within all sectors of the community.
- (ii) Developing institutional capacity amongst key service providers in terms of policy making and the planning and design of services so as to ensure that they are accessible to all members of the community.
- (iv) Facilitating, encouraging and supporting interaction between schools and churches in local areas so as to facilitate cross community contact and relationship building.

(e) Support conflict resolution and mediation by-

- (i) Supporting conflict resolution within communities that are affected by racism and sectarianism.
- (ii) Addressing issues relating specifically to the legacy of the conflict.

### **Have your say**

To have your say please complete this consultation form and return by e-mail to [peace3@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:peace3@donegalcoco.ie) or by post to Anne Marie Conlon, Partnership Secretary, Peace 3 Office, Donegal County Council, Station Island, Lifford, Co. Donegal by **4.00pm on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010.**

The public consultation period will be from Thursday 25th March 2010 to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

Public consultation workshops will also take place during this period. To register to attend one of these workshops, please email [peace3@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:peace3@donegalcoco.ie) or call Joanne at 074 91 72 376: Booking is essential.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2010	Letterkenny Public Services Centre	2pm to 4.30pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2010	Donegal Town Public Services Centre	2pm to 4.30pm

This consultation Paper is also available on our website [www.donegalcdb.ie](http://www.donegalcdb.ie)

For office use only:

Submission Number: .....

Date received : .....

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town/Town land:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. KEY ISSUES

The Donegal Peace III Action Plan 2008-2010 identified the following as key issues in Donegal.

- **Sectarianism and Racism: Two sides of the same coin in an increasingly diverse society:**

The need to promote equality for all people living in Donegal in terms of opportunities, participation and outcomes and to meaningfully embrace diversity and commonalities within all sectors of the community.

- **Denial and lack of acknowledgement of sectarianism and racism:**

The need to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism by raising the level of consciousness that these issues do exist in Donegal and by facilitating and encouraging the participation of minority groups in civil life and ensuring that their voice is heard.

- **Lack of awareness and understanding of sectarianism and racism:**

There is a need to raise the level of consciousness in relation to racism and sectarianism and to ensure that there is equality of opportunity and participation for all members of society. In order to achieve this it is necessary to ensure that policies and services are planned so that they are accessible to all members of the community.

- **Lack of trust and cross-community contact:**

The need to facilitate, encourage and support greater community integration has been clearly articulated in the last consultation process. This involves creating opportunities for social interaction amongst minority, marginalized and the majority

community so as to achieve greater cohesion at community level. There is also a need to provide support to marginalized and minority communities in terms of confidence and capacity building so as to support greater participation in civil networks.

- **Isolation, poverty and conflict:**

A comment from the last consultation process stated that *'we cannot take peace for granted'* and the contribution made by community development work in integrating communities and identifying social need and reconciling communities is clear to be seen with the work undertaken by the projects funded under Peace I and II. A clear objective of this Action Plan was to build on this good work.

- **Ingrained mentality:**

The need to address sectarianism and racism from early years through education and training at pre-school, primary and secondary school level.

- **Acknowledging and dealing with the past:**

The need to develop interventions targeting specific groups including counselling and trauma services to support their active participation in civil life in Donegal.

**What are your thoughts on these issues and do you think that these are issues in Donegal? Have these issues changed since the plan was developed in 2008?**

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**Are there additional issues that you would like highlighted in the next phase of the Plan? If yes, please describe.**

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### 3. PROPOSED ACTIONS

What action(s) do you think need to be included in the next phase of the Plan?

For every action proposed please provide the following detail:

<b>Description (Rationale, detail type of activity etc):</b>
<b>Expected Output:</b>
<b>Expected Impact:</b>
<b>Timescale:</b>
<b>Delivered / Implemented by:</b>

<b>Budget Required (Euro):</b>
<b>Proposed Exit Strategy:</b>

**Thank you for taking time to make this submission.  
Deadline date: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 4.00pm**