



*Údarás na Gaeltachta*

# **Fostering Job Creation in Rural and Gaeltacht Areas of Ireland**

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# Údarás na Gaeltachta

## **Statutory Brief:**

To develop a vibrant, sustainable Gaeltacht Economy, thereby maintaining the Irish Language as the primary spoken language of the Gaeltacht.

## **What is the Gaeltacht?:**

- regions throughout Ireland where the Irish language (Gaeilge) is spoken as a community language



## Role of Údarás na Gaeltachta

- Creating employment & Stimulating enterprise
- Language and Cultural Development
- Training & Education
- Social and Community Development



# Employment in client companies

**7,268** people employed  
in client companies

**25%** 25% of  
Gaeltacht workforce

\* Based on 2015 employment survey



# Economic Impact of Client Companies



**€843m**

Total Sales  
By Údarás Client  
companies

**€525m**

Export sales



**€192m**

Employee  
Payroll



**€388m**

Direct expenditure in  
the Irish economy



**€85m**

Amount paid in  
taxes to the Irish  
exchequer



# Supporting Enterprise & Job Creation

## Financial Incentives and Supports

- Feasibility Study
- Research & Development
- Capital Grants – buildings and equipment
- Seed Capital Investment
- Employment
- Training
- Mentoring
- Consultancy





# Supporting Enterprise & Job Creation

## Non Financial Incentives

- Start up Guidance
- Business Advice
- Liaising with other institutions
- Identify skills need
- Property Solutions:
  - Facilities – fit for purpose





## Growth Sectors

- Natural Resources - Aquaculture, Renewable Energy, Seaweed
- Life Sciences – Medical devices
- Food – Artisan foods, seafood, food ingredients
- Tourism – especially Cultural/Language Tourism and activity-based tourism



## Growth Sectors (continued)

- Digital Media/Audiovisual
- Internationally Traded Services – Customer Contact centres
- Niche Manufacturing
- Language-based Enterprise





# Job Creation Challenges

- Rural, peripheral locations
- Broadband – need for fibre optic
- Access - road infrastructure
- Transport – public transport
- Energy – need for alternative sources
- High investment costs for provision of property and infrastructure
- Suitably skilled workforce for all sectors
- Budgetary constraints



# Job Creation opportunities

- The valuable coastal resource – Aquaculture, seaweed, food, energy and tourism
- Skilled workforce and access to research capabilities of 3<sup>rd</sup> level institutions
- A dedicated development agency working to attract investment
- Portfolio of property solutions
- Slower pace of life – no traffic congestion!



# Adapting to Change

- Gaoth Dobhair from Industrial Estate to Business Park



- An Daingean from Craft Centre to Food Hub
- Páirc na Mara – Marine Innovation Park
- Digital Hubs – Rollout of centres throughout the Gaeltacht



Údarás na Gaeltachta

*Go raibh maith agaibh*  
*Merci*  
*Thank you*

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