

LEADER 2023 TO 2027
LIMERICK TARGETED CALL 2024

KEY DATES

Call Opening:	Friday 4th October 2024
Deadline for Submission of Expression of Interest (EOI):	Monday 16 th December 2024
Deadline for Submission of Full Application:	Wednesday 30 th April 2025

Evaluation and approval of projects to follow closing date of call. These to be scheduled following close of call, as will be determined by the volume of applications submitted.

OVERVIEW

LEADER operates a two-step application process.

- Stage 1 - Expression of Interest – this is used to determine project eligibility in principle. Those successful at EOI stage will be eligible to submit a full application.
- Stage 2 - Application Submission - the application will be subject to an independent evaluation prior to submission to Local Action Group (LAG) for final decision. Full application guidelines are contained in West Limerick Resources Application Handbook available on request.

The purpose of targeted calls for EOIs, and the subsequent application, is to allow Local Action Groups (LAGs) to target funding at areas where it can deliver the most value, and where a comparative assessment is considered appropriate.

CALL THEMES AND BUDGETS

All programme sub-themes are included under this targeted call as outlined below.

Targeted Call	Sub-theme	Budget Breakdown
2024 Total Call Budget: €3,622,500	The Green Economy	€ 181,125
	Agricultural Diversification	€ 181,125
	Rural Tourism & Recreation	€ 253,575
	Enterprise Development	€ 217,350
	Rural Food Production	€ 217,350
	Social Community and Cooperative Enterprise	€ 217,350
	Rural Infrastructure	€ 362,250
	Accessible Services	€ 362,250
	Optimising Digital Connectivity	€ 181,125
	Rural Youth	€ 362,250
	Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment	€ 543,375
	Climate Change Capacity Building	€ 181,125
	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	€362,250

LEVELS OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

The minimum grant amount is €5,000 and the maximum grant amount is €200,000 (€30,000 for Analysis and Development). The rate of grant aid is governed by the type of applicant and will be based on eligible costs specific to the project. For further details see the accompanying EOI handbook.

EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

An Independent LEADER Evaluation Committee will evaluate all projects on the basis of objective criteria as detailed in the Application Handbook. A project must score a minimum of 65% of the total marks to be recommended for approval to the LAG. Projects submitted under this targeted call will be evaluated against other projects seeking funding under the same sub-theme and ranked in order of highest to lowest as per the scoring record and funding distributed according to this ranking.

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Where applicable, full planning permission and procurement must be in place at time of full application (30th April 2025).
- Project activity undertaken or commenced, or the purchase of goods or services engaged by the project applicant prior to the date of contract signing, shall not be eligible for LEADER funding.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further details on the LEADER EOI and Application process, see the accompanying EOI and Application Handbooks available on request. EOI Handbook is available to download from www.wlr.ie.

CONTACTS

Expression of Interest Forms are available online at www.wlr.ie. To arrange a meeting to discuss your project or to request an Expression of Interest form, please contact one of the following:

East Limerick	Katie Murray	LEADER Development Officer	kmurray@wlr.ie	087 3571310
	Aimee Grigg	LEADER Development Officer	agrigg@wlr.ie	087 3563880
West Limerick	Caitriona Scully	LEADER Development Officer	cscully@wlr.ie	087 3575790
	Suzanne Rowley	Programme Coordinator	srowley@wlr.ie	087 3539179

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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All responses to this Call for Submission of Proposals will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the applicant except insofar as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the proposal or as may be required under law, including the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003.