

Annual Plan Report



Social Inclusion &
Community Activation
Programme

Year:	2024
LCDC:	Meath
Lot:	Meath County (11-1)
Local Development Company:	Meath Community Rural and Social Development Partnership CLG

Annual Targets	
KPI 1	7
KPI 2	41
%KPI 2 Living in Disadvantaged Areas	17.00%

Annual Budget		€191,248
Indirect Salary Costs (Management/Administration)		€18,287
Travel and Subsistence for Indirect Salary Costs		€150
Office/Administration/Establishment Costs		€21,403
Financial/Professional Fees/Staff Training/Other Costs		€650
Total Administration Costs		€40,490 21.17%
Goal 1 Non-Salary Costs		€6,620
Goal 1 Direct Salary Costs		€75,112
Goal 1 Total Costs		€81,732 54.21%
Goal 2 Non-Salary Costs		€7,921
Goal 2 Direct Salary Costs		€61,105
Goal 2 Total Costs		€69,026 45.79%
Total Actions Cost		€150,758
Overall Costs		€191,248
Subcontractor costs do not exceed 30% of annual budget	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Total Grant costs do not exceed 7.5% of total action costs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

(2024) G1.1 Building Stronger Communities			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
	€2,000		€2,000

<p>Goal</p> <p>1</p> <p>Location</p> <p>Navan, Trim, Duleek, Enfield, Ashbourne, East Meath, Athboy, Kells, etc.</p> <p>Description</p> <p>Communities, both geographically and interest-based, are inherently diverse and possess unique traits. SICAP acknowledges that factors like poverty, educational gaps, health issues, and inadequate transportation not only contribute to disadvantage but also hinder the empowerment essential for meaningful change. Empowerment here refers to organising communities to initiate beneficial changes for their inhabitants or interest groups. In 2023, the lasting effects of Covid-19 were evident. Many elderly community members remained hesitant about in-person gatherings, creating a challenge in balancing preferences for social interactions. To address this, we opted for larger or outdoor venues for events and continued using Zoom for online training. In Q1 2024, this blended approach will continue in order to strengthen group confidence and encourage more face-to-face interactions.</p> <p>Community capacity building is pivotal for empowering communities and advancing local groups. This involves SICAP's dedicated support for addressing community-specific issues. In Q1 2024, our focus will be on enhancing group empowerment and capacity. Our Community Development Officer will organise training to strengthen skills in governance, digital literacy, and leadership, relevant to group activities. Collaborative partners will continue to contribute time, resources, and skills towards these goals. Training in grant writing, governance, and fundraising are also prioritised to build capacity in the current climate.</p> <p>Throughout Q1 2024, we will maintain the SICAP Outreach Office in Oaklawns, Navan, supported by the Respond Housing Association. This sustained presence will continue to enhance local community structures and facilitate direct interaction with various groups, including low-income households, disadvantaged families and children, jobseekers, older residents, and communities adversely impacted by recent changes. The Oaklawns facility will continue to host a variety of SICAP services and programmes tailored to these groups.</p> <p>In addressing the challenges faced by migrant groups, such as language barriers, overcrowded living conditions, and limited social engagement, our 2023 efforts focused on assisting migrant-led groups to access various programmes, schemes, and supports. We raised awareness of these offerings and aided in interfacing with relevant departments and agencies. In 2024, we aim to expand this support, keeping groups informed about the evolving nature of available supports and assistance.</p> <p>Part of our Q1 2024 strategy involves helping groups understand and influence decision-making processes in the county, involving structures like the LCDC, PPN, Strategic Policy Committees, CYPSC, etc.</p> <p>Our Q1 2024 priorities includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing mentoring and support for LCGs to tackle social inclusion and equality issues, as per their support plans. • Enhancing community group capacity through various training programmes, identified via direct communication and surveys. • Facilitating networking and collaborative action planning for local issue resolution. • Mental Health and Wellbeing Support: Continuing to offer workshops focused on mental health and wellbeing, specifically designed to address the isolation and negative experiences faced by migrant communities. • Continued focus on including disadvantaged youth in community activities. <p>SICAP will continue developing and implementing tailored support plans for each LCG, which will detail resource availability, additional resource needs, progression steps, and engagement pathways for decision-making participation at local and regional levels. External training specialists may also be engaged to augment the SICAP team's efforts in these areas.</p> <p>Expected Outcomes</p> <p>Enhanced leadership skills and capacity to represent and act across LCGs in Co. Meath. Evidence of progression of local community groups through stage 1 to 3 of the community development continuum. Improved networking and collective development between SICAP supported LCGs in County Meath. Groups encouraged and supported in building membership and capacity. Support for Disadvantaged Families and Children: Engagement and assistance for disadvantaged families and children to improve their immediate surroundings. Enhanced Use of Community Resources: More effective deployment of existing community assets and resources to spearhead initiatives aimed at fostering the social integration of migrants, utilising networking, mentoring, and advocacy strategies.</p> <p>Target Groups</p>
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People living in Disadvantaged Communities, New Communities

Sicap Outcome

G1 - 1:1 Needs of local communities and groups are identified, represented and integrated through local planning and service delivery.

G1 - 1:2 Local social inclusion and equality issues are addressed by local community groups.

G1 - 2:1 Local community groups progress along the community development matrix.

G1 - 1:3 There is increased participation in social, cultural and civic activities among SICAP target groups due to the support of community groups.

G1 - 1:4 A strengthened sense of community.

RAPID Area

Navan

Collaborative Partners

Role

City/County Council (Local Authority)

Participant

Community Work Ireland

Participant

Youth organisations/services

Participant

National migrant organisations

Participant

Local Community Groups

Participant

LECP Objectives

3. Resilience - SCO 3.3 - To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups

1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.1 - To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced

3. Resilience - SCO 3.1 - To Expand and Strengthen the Community Infrastructure

(2024) G1.2 Teach Mná			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
	€2,000		€2,000

Goal
1

Location
Navan, Athboy, East Meath and Ashbourne

Description

This actions objective is to nurture and sustain LCGs with a special focus on aiding disadvantaged women who face exclusion, low confidence, low self-esteem, and mental health challenges. The goal is to enhance their life quality by encouraging social interaction, participation, and active involvement in their communities. This will be achieved through the ongoing support of Teach Mná LCGs, which will host activities tailored by and for women, promoting effective local leadership and governance.

These activities will incorporate learning opportunities that support personal development, communication skills, confidence enhancement, and positive mental health strategies.

Key initiatives include:

- Ongoing Support for Existing Teach Mná: Meath Partnership will continue to assist established Teach Mná groups in Athboy, Ashbourne, and Navan, focusing on their advancement and addressing new needs. This will include strengthening organisational structures through training in committee skills, governance, and strategic planning. Specialised support will be provided to the Athboy and Ashbourne groups to consolidate their growth and development, building on the progress made in 2023. This will involve recruitment, facilitated meetings, capacity building, and activities designed to boost member confidence.

Continued Support for LCGs in Q1 2024 will include:

- Capacity building and organisational development training through networked Teach Mná groups, ongoing throughout Q1.
- Small grants for each Teach Mná for activities highlighting teamwork benefits, stress relief, better outcomes, and enhanced community collaboration.
- Expanded collaboration with other organisations to counter the marginalisation of hard-to-reach women in this target group. Established Teach Mná and collaboration partners will play a significant role in delivering support seminars.
- Enhancement of independence and organisational capacity within these groups.

Teach Mná has been highly valued as a community space where women can meet, learn, network, and socialise. These efforts aim to maintain this positive impact and extend its benefits to more women in the community.

Expected Outcomes

- Improved organisational capacity within the Teach Mna committees.
- Through membership of Teach Mna bring about a growth in engagement with those who are currently economically inactive and disconnected from social supports and community services, transitioning individuals from no social interaction to collective social interaction and service awareness in a community wellbeing context
- Enhanced SICAP access to and engagement with hard to reach disadvantaged women
- Explore the need to continue with an online group service for individuals unable for whatever reason to attend face-to-face meet-up sessions

Target Groups
Disadvantaged Women, People living in Disadvantaged Communities

Sicap Outcome

G1 - 1:1 Needs of local communities and groups are identified, represented and integrated through local planning and service delivery.

G1 - 1:2 Local social inclusion and equality issues are addressed by local community groups.

G1 - 1:3 There is increased participation in social, cultural and civic activities among SICAP target groups due to the support of community groups.

RAPID Area
Navan

Collaborative Partners	Role
Citizens Information Centre	Participant

Education & Training Board	Participant
Mental Health Organisations	Participant
LECP Objectives	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.1 - To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.3 - To improve health outcomes	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.5 - To Increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety	

(2024) G1.3 Meath Befriending Service			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
	€698		€698

<p>Goal</p> <p>1</p> <p>Location</p> <p>Navan, Kells, Trim, East Meath</p> <p>Description</p> <p>Our experiences with the Meath Befriending Service highlight the critical role of regular social interactions in providing support, mental wellbeing, reciprocity, and self-esteem for individuals of all ages. The lack of strong social support, manifested as loneliness, social isolation, and reduced self-care, has detrimental effects on both psychological and physical health, particularly in older adults. Smaller social networks are linked to increased early mortality in this age group, regardless of their daily activity levels. Volunteers of the Meath Befriending Service play an essential role in preventing these risks and averting negative outcomes.</p> <p>The Meath Befriending Volunteers will continue their weekly social visits to support the most vulnerable individuals in Co. Meath, including those over 18 experiencing social isolation or exclusion. These volunteers, trained to identify additional support needs, will inform the SICAP Befriending Coordinator, thereby expanding the support network for the clients.</p> <p>In Q1 2024, the Meath Befriending Service will further develop the capacity of four local volunteer groups across the county, coordinated by Meath Partnership. All volunteers are trained and Garda vetted in collaboration with the Meath Volunteer Centre. They will engage in weekly face-to-face home visits, offering personal interaction and support to clients experiencing isolation and loneliness.</p> <p>SICAP's Q1 2024 activities will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mentoring and Guidance: Continuously provide mentoring and guidance to assist the LCGs individually and collectively in addressing social inclusion issues at the community level. 2. Capacity Building for Community Groups: Deliver specific training to enhance the capabilities of these groups, identified through an ongoing needs analysis process. 3. Networking and Joint Action: Support groups in effective networking and developing the capacity for joint action to address longstanding local issues. 4. Alliance Building and Community Collaboration: Develop alliances and encourage community collaboration to create and support interventions that combat the marginalisation of individuals within this target group. This includes reducing loneliness, isolation, stress, and anxiety through information sessions, workshops, events, and collaborative interagency interventions. <p>Through our engagements with elderly individuals who are isolated and living alone we will;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct individual needs assessments to effectively guide and refer clients to suitable services, acting as an intermediary to facilitate access to mainstream support and services. • Enhance client confidence by expanding their support networks and assisting them in increasing contact with family, friends, and the community, thus reducing their vulnerability and isolation. • Advocate for our older and vulnerable communities, ensuring they feel valued and supported within the wider community. <p>Expected Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A growth in engagement with those who are currently economically inactive and disconnected from social supports and community services • Enhanced SICAP access to and engagement with hard to reach isolated groups. <p>Target Groups</p> <p>People living in Disadvantaged Communities, People with Disabilities</p> <p>Sicap Outcome</p> <p>G1 - 1:1 Needs of local communities and groups are identified, represented and integrated through local planning and service delivery.</p> <p>G1 - 1:2 Local social inclusion and equality issues are addressed by local community groups.</p> <p>G1 - 1:3 There is increased participation in social, cultural and civic activities among SICAP target groups due to the support of community groups.</p> <p>G1 - 1:4 A strengthened sense of community.</p> <p>G1 - 4:1 Local community groups work with local service providers to develop and implement initiatives addressing social exclusion and inequality.</p>
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G1 - 2:2 Local community groups have a greater capacity to address the social inclusion needs of the communities they serve or represent.

RAPID Area

Navan

Collaborative Partners	Role
An Garda Siochana	Participant
Active Retirement Ireland	Participant
City/County Council (Local Authority)	Participant
Disability Organisations	Participant
Volunteer Centre	Participant
HSE	Participant
Local Community Groups	Participant

LECP Objectives

- 1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.1 - To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced
- 1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.4 - To Prevent and Reduce Homelessness
- 1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.5 - To Increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety
- 3. Resilience - SCO 3.3 - To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups

(2024) G1.4 Ukrainian Connect Groups			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
	€1,921		€1,921
Goal			
1			
Location			
Navan, Kells, Oldcastle, Donore, Duleek, Ashbourne & other locations as required			
Description			
<p>As of November 2023, the CSO reported that Ireland has welcomed over 94,607 Ukrainians, providing refuge from the conflict in their homeland. This figure is a 51% increase from November 2022. Within this, Co. Meath has played a significant role, aiding 2,584 Ukrainian families and individuals. This is also a 42.5% increase since November 2022, according to the CSO.</p> <p>These newcomers have settled in various locations across Meath, with more than 200 primary school students and nearly 100 secondary school students from Ukraine being accommodated in local educational institutions. The SICAP team, actively involved since 2022, acknowledges the vast challenges these Ukrainian refugees face as they move into 2024, covering integration, personal progression, and economic independence, along with the local challenges in infrastructure support and community response.</p> <p>Observations from accommodation centres and interactions with the Ukrainian refugees reveal their complex support needs, with many experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, both diagnosed and undiagnosed, necessitating therapeutic interventions and ongoing support. Research underscores the importance of social support in coping with and overcoming trauma. Effective and continuous social support is crucial for well-being, positively impacting health and mitigating distress.</p> <p>In response, the SICAP team, along with local community leaders, has enabled six local Ukrainian-led community groups to engage with the Ukrainian refugee population, addressing their specific needs with the help of Community Development and Integration Officers from the SICAP programme. A particular focus has been on forming special women's groups for economically inactive, retirement-age women who have fled Ukraine with their families or on their own. These women, often burdened with heavy responsibilities, have diverse interests like sewing, cooking, music, learning, and a keen desire to understand Irish culture and history. Participation in these activities has supported the development of conversational English skills, intercultural understanding, and effective integration while respecting and sharing their own culture and heritage.</p> <p>Similarly, many older Ukrainian men, retired and inactive in the labour market, are also residing in these centres. These men bring a wealth of skills, life experiences, and cultural knowledge. SICAP will continue to encourage their involvement with local Men's Sheds and similar organisations, with facilitated transportation support enhancing their participation.</p> <p>Meath Partnership is committed to continuing support for the Ukrainian community through the formation of after-school groups for children aged 6-13 years. These groups provide support to working mothers and create opportunities for Ukrainian parents to engage with Irish families in a fun, activity-filled environment. Continued assistance with homework and themed creative projects will aim to bring normality to the lives of Ukrainian children, their parents, and guardians, underpinning deeper inclusion in local community life.</p> <p>Moving forward in Q1, Meath Partnership will continue to perform continuous needs analysis exercises to ensure the relevance and sustainability of the community integration groups planned for this vibrant and diverse community.</p>			
Expected Outcomes			
<p>Better utilisation of existing community assets and resources to mobilise initiatives that support the social integration of migrants through support work and advocacy.</p> <p>Disadvantaged families and children engaged and supported to improve their social connections.</p> <p>Supporting groups to build membership and capacity.</p> <p>A growth in engagement with those who are currently economically inactive and disconnected from social supports and community services</p> <p>Enhanced SICAP access to and engagement with hard-to-reach isolated groups.</p>			
Target Groups			
New Communities, People living in Disadvantaged Communities			
Sicap Outcome			
G1 - 1:1 Needs of local communities and groups are identified, represented and integrated through local planning and service delivery.			
G1 - 1:2 Local social inclusion and equality issues are addressed by local community groups.			

G1 - 1:3 There is increased participation in social, cultural and civic activities among SICAP target groups due to the support of community groups.

G1 - 4:2 Collaboration and co-operation between relevant stakeholders in addressing social exclusion and inequality is increased.

RAPID Area

Navan

Collaborative Partners	Role
City/County Council (Local Authority)	Participant
City/County Childcare Committee	Participant
Volunteer Centre	Participant
Education & Training Board	Participant
Youth organisations/services	Participant
Mental Health Organisations	Participant
Local Community Groups	Participant

LECP Objectives

1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.3 - To improve health outcomes
3. Resilience - SCO 3.3 - To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups
4. Flourishing - SCO 4.2 - To Further Develop Community Cultural Action

(2024) G2.1 Meath Homeless Information Service			
Non-Salary Costs			Total Costs
Goal 1	Goal 2		
		€2,000	€2,000
Goal			
2			
Location			
Co. Meath			
Description			
<p>In the first quarter of 2024, we will maintain our support services for single adults facing homelessness (those in emergency accommodation), at risk of homelessness (with an eviction notice), recently rehoused individuals, and vulnerable adults living alone or dealing with mental health issues that jeopardise their housing stability. Our ongoing collaboration with local and state agencies will continue to address the needs of our clients. The strategies employed by the SICAP team in this area are positively influencing the response of key services in housing, homelessness, and mental health to our client group.</p> <p>The Meath Homeless Information Service will continue to support the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Clinics Across Co. Meath: Providing accessible information clinics throughout the county. • Needs Assessment and Referral Services: Conducting client needs assessments to effectively guide and refer them to suitable services, acting as a mediator for mainstream support access. Advocacy for service provision and emergency assistance will be a key component where necessary. • Enhancing Client Confidence: Building stronger support networks for clients to help increase their engagement with family, friends, and the community, thereby reducing their vulnerability and isolation. • Client Training and Education Goals: Identifying and addressing clients' training and educational objectives in collaboration with relevant agencies. • Tenancy Sustainment Support: Offering targeted support to individuals at risk of homelessness or those struggling with tenancy management. This will include one-on-one and small group support, with external trainers supplementing the SICAP Team's efforts. Collaborative partners will serve as referral agents to enhance this action. • Life Coaching and Mentoring: Providing individual and group sessions for life coaching and mentoring, focusing on developing essential life skills, understanding rights, and building confidence in self-advocacy. <p>Our approach is centred on person-focused support aimed at reducing the potential for abuse, enhancing respect, building confidence in addressing personal issues, and ultimately improving the quality of life. In this respect, the SICAP team is committed to targeting and assisting the most vulnerable individuals in our society.</p>			
Expected Outcomes			
<p>Improved life-skills and housing outcomes for our clients Improve confidence and self-esteem Greater understanding of the needs of this vulnerable target group Enhanced collaboration between relevant agencies and improved client services.</p>			
Target Groups			
(2018-2023) Homeless and those at risk of homelessness, The Disengaged from the Labour Market (Economically Inactive)			
Sicap Outcome			
G2 - 1:1 SICAP clients have improved personal skills, wellbeing and capabilities.			
G2 - 2:1 SICAP clients receive information about opportunities for lifelong learning.			
G2 - 2:1 SICAP clients receive information about opportunities for lifelong learning.			
G2 - 4:1 SICAP clients are better prepared to enter the labour market.			
G2 - 5:1 SICAP clients, particularly those on low incomes, move into more sustainable and better quality employment.			
G2 - 7:1 Gaps in labour market and education provision are identified and addressed through joint planning and service delivery.			
RAPID Area			
Navan			

Collaborative Partners	Role
County/City Enterprise Board	Participant
Education & Training Board	Participant
Disability Organisations	Participant
Citizens Information Centre	Participant
TUSLA	Participant
Mental Health Organisations	Participant
HSE	Participant
LECP Objectives	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.1 - To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced	

(2024) G2.2 Meath Employment Service			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
		€3,000	€3,000
Goal			
2			
Location			
Co. Meath			
Description			
<p>Despite Ireland's low unemployment rate of 4.8% for people aged 15-74 as of November 2023, long-term unemployment remains a significant challenge. Long-term jobseekers often encounter numerous hurdles, including lack of experience or qualifications, mental health issues, language barriers, substance abuse, relationship problems, poor self-esteem, and debt. Extended periods of unemployment can exacerbate these issues, adversely affecting the individual and their family, and contributing to intergenerational unemployment in disadvantaged communities. Recognising these factors, Meath Employment Service will prioritise the long-term unemployed as a key focus area for Q1 2024. The service will cater to priority groups such as jobseekers over 24 years from disadvantaged backgrounds, new communities, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, lone parents, disadvantaged women, and the underemployed.</p> <p>Drawing from our field knowledge and experience in supporting the unemployed in Co. Meath, the service will provide job-mediation, case-management, individual career coaching, and guidance. We will offer preparatory services and targeted support for jobseekers to access vocational training and short-term activation courses, employing a blended approach when necessary. Tailored to each individual's needs, the services focus on personalising support, enhancing client capacity, and facilitating access to mainstream services and employment opportunities. Emphasising the development of employability and soft skills, such as positive mind set, self-esteem, resilience, and life skills, we will also continue to provide ongoing support to help individuals retain employment and progress in their careers.</p> <p>A crucial aspect of our approach is guiding clients towards self-sufficiency through self-employment. The SICAP team, in collaboration with the DSP, will continue to support jobseekers into meaningful self-employment via the Business Options Service and access to the BTWEA initiative. Working closely with DSP's Intreo Team, we will ensure optimal support for clients aspiring to start their businesses. The service offers flexible outreach across the county, addressing transportation and access barriers. Sub-contractors will be engaged to provide individualised business mentoring and SYOB Business Options training, along with workshops in social media and Canva training to help clients launch their businesses online.</p> <p>Interagency collaboration and partnerships with local employers are essential in supporting and activating long-term unemployed individuals facing multiple employment barriers. Our experience highlights the importance of personalised counselling, job-search monitoring, and persistent contact with long-term unemployed clients. Networking with employers and recruitment agencies are vital in eliminating barriers like transportation or language issues, enhancing our clients' employability. Additionally, inter-agency networking events and information meetings will be supported to increase awareness of available services.</p> <p>In the first quarter of 2024, we will support the economic integration of marginalised individuals which will include members of the travellers community, lone parents, new communities, refugees and asylum seekers with stamp 4 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short work-based learning courses, career mentoring, guidance, and job skills preparation • Pre-development and activation work • Facilitate mentoring and training programmes for migrants in county Meath wishing to set-up a business or secure employment. 			
Expected Outcomes			
Delivery of job coaching, and self-employment supports to 65 jobseekers in County Meath.			
Target Groups			
The Unemployed, The Disengaged from the Labour Market (Economically Inactive)			
Sicap Outcome			
G2 - 1:1 SICAP clients have improved personal skills, wellbeing and capabilities.			
G2 - 2:1 SICAP clients receive information about opportunities for lifelong learning.			
G2 - 2:2 SICAP clients participate in lifelong learning.			
G2 - 4:1 SICAP clients are better prepared to enter the labour market.			

G2 - 5:1 SICAP clients, particularly those on low incomes, move into more sustainable and better quality employment.	
G2 - 6:1 Individuals are supported into self-employment (including social entrepreneurship).	
RAPID Area	
Navan	
Collaborative Partners	Role
Dept. of Social Protection	Participant
Citizens Information Centre	Participant
Volunteer Centre	Participant
National Learning Network (NLN)	Participant
National Traveller organisations	Participant
National migrant organisations	Participant
Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed	Participant
LECP Objectives	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.2 - Increased levels of employment and employability	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.1 - To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced	

(2024) G2.3 Youth Employment Initiative			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
		€1,000	€1,000
Goal			
2			
Location			
Navan, Trim, Oldcastle, East Meath			
Description			
<p>IAs of November 2023, the national youth unemployment rate for those aged 15-24 stands at 12.8%, as reported by the Central Statistics Office. This persistently high rate poses potential long-term negative impacts on affected youths, possibly leading to ongoing challenges into adulthood. Factors contributing to this disadvantage in youth employment include limited job availability in rural areas, familial circumstances, absence of positive role models, intergenerational poverty, educational challenges, mental health issues, disabilities, and discrimination. Prolonged unemployment in youth can lead to a lifetime of poverty and hinder full societal participation, affecting their physical and emotional well-being and future career prospects. In response, SICAP will continue its commitment to aiding young people in building the necessary skills and capacities for employment.</p> <p>YEI will offer comprehensive support to young people and their families through a collaborative service delivery model, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional Wellbeing and Personal Growth: Enhancing emotional wellbeing, life skills, capacity, and independence to support personal development. • Labour Market Participation Workshops: Conducting workshops and training to encourage labour market participation and establish routines and structures for young people. • Identifying and Overcoming Employment Barriers: Recognising specific employment barriers faced by young people and providing solutions, such as sponsored introductions to potential employers, driving lessons, or acquiring other essential skills. • Exploring Progressive Opportunities: Investigating pathways to better pay, more advanced opportunities, and/or income supports for young individuals. • Promoting Employment Benefits: Highlighting the long-term advantages of employment through individual and group support. • Employer Engagement: Collaborating with employers to establish SICAP-supported employment facilitation measures. • In-Work Support: Offering follow-up support to assist employees in meeting employer expectations, aiding in job retention and sustainable employment. <p>We will provide individual mentoring and career coaching to young people in Co. Meath, aged 15-24, focusing on the development of employability skills through coaching and training. Off-the-job supports, including referrals to health, education, and social services, mentoring for further education and training, and financial support for training programme fees, are integral to our approach.</p> <p>Collaboration partners will refer young people to Meath Partnership and assist the SICAP Project Officer in creating suitable progression routes for these young individuals.</p>			
Expected Outcomes			
<p>Enhanced self-confidence, self-esteem and capacity to act independently for a better future. Clear career planning goals established and a dedicated career coach to support attainment of same Enhanced employability skills and facilitated access to the labour market Enhanced relationship with employers and young people progressed into employment or further education and training.</p>			
Target Groups			
Disadvantaged Young People (aged 15 – 24), The Unemployed			
Sicap Outcome			
G2 - 1:1 SICAP clients have improved personal skills, wellbeing and capabilities.			
G2 - 1:2 SICAP clients increase their participation in civic life, education and/or employment.			
G2 - 3:2 Children and their families are supported in education and personal development			
G2 - 3:3 Young people at risk of early school leaving remain within the education system.			
G2 - 4:1 SICAP clients are better prepared to enter the labour market.			

RAPID Area	
Navan	
Collaborative Partners	Role
HSE	Participant
Education & Training Board	Participant
Youth organisations/services	Participant
Local Schools	Participant
An Garda Siochana	Participant
National Traveller organisations	Participant
LECP Objectives	
4. Flourishing - SCO 4.1 - To Reduce Educational Disadvantage	
3. Resilience - SCO 3.3 - To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups	

(2024) G2.4 Ukrainian Response Initiative			
	Non-Salary Costs		Total Costs
	Goal 1	Goal 2	
		€1,921	€1,921
Goal			
2			
Location			
Navan, Kells, Oldcastle, Donore, Duleek & as required			
Description			
<p>Meath Partnerships on-the-ground interactions with Ukrainian refugees have identified a number of emerging challenges which highlight the need for enhanced social integration support. The requirements of Ukrainian families and individuals across Co. Meath vary significantly, including language assistance, access to services like education and transportation, trauma and social support, employment opportunities, and understanding their rights under temporary protection status in Ireland. Other needs include information about local organisations, amenities, and reliable transport, especially for those in remote areas with limited public transport.</p> <p>Addressing these needs, SICAP will continue to focus on enhancing English language learning opportunities through basic conversational and work-related classes, as language barriers are a significant challenge in accessing services. SICAP, with its in-house language-skilled personnel and external translators, will work closely with LMETB and Fáilte Isteach as referral partners for these classes. Networking with local employers to match clients with jobs and securing placements on programmes like Tús for those who have been in Ireland for over a year will be prioritised. Additionally, personal development planning will assist individuals in exploring education, training, and work opportunities aligned with their skills and long-term goals. SICAP will offer direct coaching and mentoring to help individuals choose the most beneficial education and training options based on their circumstances and ambitions.</p> <p>Collaboration with the Meath Volunteer Centre will support short-term work experience placements through volunteering. SICAP also plans to collaborate with EU Transnational Erasmus+ and other national and EU-funded projects to explore various topics, including language, culture, active citizenship, community integration, and arts.</p> <p>SICAP will continue to provide CV preparation clinics and integration workshops across the county, along with manual handling and other relevant training identified through needs analysis. Community development and integration officers will offer wrap-around, client-centred services, including job search assistance, CV preparation, and training. Humanitarian assistance will cover information provision for individuals with temporary protection status, help with medical appointments, urgent travel needs, and state aid applications.</p>			
Expected Outcomes			
<p>Creation of local opportunities for this target group to become involved in local community and cultural activities as a pathway to integration</p> <p>Reduce social isolation and eliminate barriers to participation in community affairs, employment and education.</p> <p>Create active opportunities for this target group to contribute to and integrate into the life of local communities.</p> <p>Delivery of job coaching, job activation and self-employment supports to Ukrainian refugees in County Meath.</p> <p>Enhanced connectivity and travel possibilities for our Ukrainian population.</p> <p>Greater opportunities to collaborative on new initiatives to address identified gaps in service provision.</p> <p>Advance the independence and economic sustainability of the Ukrainian population.</p>			
Target Groups			
New Communities, The Unemployed			
Sicap Outcome			
G2 - 1:1 SICAP clients have improved personal skills, wellbeing and capabilities.			
G2 - 1:2 SICAP clients increase their participation in civic life, education and/or employment.			
G2 - 2:1 SICAP clients receive information about opportunities for lifelong learning.			
G2 - 3:2 Children and their families are supported in education and personal development			
G2 - 4:1 SICAP clients are better prepared to enter the labour market.			
G2 - 6:1 Individuals are supported into self-employment (including social entrepreneurship).			

RAPID Area	
Navan	
Collaborative Partners	Role
City/County Childcare Committee	Participant
City/County Council (Local Authority)	Participant
Volunteer Centre	Participant
Education & Training Board	Participant
Citizens Information Centre	Participant
HSE	Participant
National migrant organisations	Participant
Local Schools	Participant
TUSLA	Participant
LECP Objectives	
1. Wellbeing - SCO 1.2 - Increased levels of employment and employability	
3. Resilience - SCO 3.3 - To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups	
4. Flourishing - SCO 4.1 - To Reduce Educational Disadvantage	
4. Flourishing - SCO 4.5 - To Increase IT Access for all Groups	
5. Renewal - SCO 5.1 - To Stimulate and Support Interagency and Collaborative	