



Special EU Programmes Body
Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE
Special EU Skemes Boadie

EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION 2021 - 2027

Preparing the EU PEACE PLUS
Programme for the 2021 – 2027 period

Consultation Response Survey (Word Template)

10 March – 12 May 2021



**Northern Ireland
Executive**

www.northernireland.gov.uk



**Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland**

Preparing for the EU PEACE PLUS Programme 2021 – 2027

Public Consultation

Consultation Response Survey (Word Template)

The EU PEACE PLUS Programme has been developed after a period of extensive stakeholder engagement from December 2019 to February 2020. A summary of the responses from the stakeholder engagement survey can be accessed on the SEUPB webpage <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

The purpose of this consultation is to provide citizens and other key stakeholders with an opportunity to share their views on the content and administrative arrangements of the PEACE PLUS Programme, findings from the Equality Screening Exercise and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the EU PEACE PLUS Programme for the 2021-2027 period.

The PEACE PLUS programme will contribute to a more peaceful, prosperous and stable society in Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland and will leave a lasting legacy. The Programme will achieve this by funding activities that promote peace and reconciliation and contribute to cross-border economic and territorial development. It will build upon previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes.

Accessibility

The Consultation Information Document and supporting documents, including findings from the Equality Screening and the Strategic Environmental Assessment are available at: <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

We recommend you read these documents in advance of completing the survey to help your understanding of the proposed Programme Strategy including; the key Themes and Investment Areas, indicative budget allocations, administrative arrangements, findings from the Equality Screening exercise and findings from Strategic Environmental Assessment.

A video presenting an overview of the Programme and the process for this Consultation is also available on the SEUPB webpage <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Documentation in other languages and accessible formats such as easy-read, large print, audio-CD and braille can be made available upon request. If you require the documents in these or other formats, please contact us at PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu or Reception on 02890 266660.

Please complete this survey online, if you can.

This will greatly assist us with the timely processing of responses, as staff access to resources and the Clarence Street West Building in Belfast are impacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. This will also support our ongoing efforts to reduce the impact on our environment.

Please note it may take longer to process email and postal responses.

Early responses are encouraged but all responses should arrive no later than:

Wednesday 12 May 2021 at 5pm.

If you require any support during the consultation process, please do not hesitate to contact us at Reception on 02890 266660 or email PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu

Consent and Confidentiality

The information collected in the survey will be analysed and a summary of responses to the consultation will be shared with the European Commission, Member States, Government Departments and published on the SEUPB website. Your responses will be used as part of the process to finalise the PEACE PLUS Programme prior to submitting to the NI Executive, Irish Government and the European Commission for approval.

The SEUPB will publish a list of organisations that have responded to the consultation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, we may publish your organisation's name unless you request not to by ticking the box below. If you are responding as an individual, we may refer to the content of your response, but not your name or address, nor will we publish anything which may identify you or other individuals.

If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please contact PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu but under the Freedom of Information Code of Practice (North South Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland Ltd.), we cannot guarantee confidentiality.

For further information, on how we will process your data and your rights, please see the Privacy Notice in Appendix 1 of the Consultation Information Document.

I am responding on behalf of my organisation and I do not give consent for the details of my organisation to be published.

Survey Instructions

This survey is comprised of five sections. **There is no requirement to answer all of the**

questions unless you wish to do so. With the exception of Section A, no section is compulsory.

You are **required to provide your, and where applicable, your organisation's name, postal address and email address**. This is for verification purposes and to prevent multiple responses from the same person or organisation. No anonymous responses will be considered.

An organisation or individual should only respond once.

Responses are **subject to character limits** to ensure focused responses that can be effectively and efficiently analysed in the final stage of our consultation process. To paste into the text boxes, press and hold Ctrl and V.

If you would prefer to return your completed MS Word Consultation Response Survey template by email, please send to PEACEPLUS@seupb.eu Respondents will receive an acknowledgement email from the PEACE PLUS Team.

If you would prefer to return your MS Word Consultation Response Survey template by post, please send to PEACEPLUS Public Consultation, Special EU Programmes Body, 2 Clarence Street West, Belfast, BT2 7GP. Respondents will receive an acknowledgement letter from the PEACE PLUS Team if responding by post.

Survey Questions

Section A. About You

A. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual?

- Organisation
- Individual

B. Please state which of the following best describes your type of organisation.

- N/A
- Business Organisation
- Community/Voluntary Organisation
- Social Enterprise
- Cross Border Group
- Education
- Environmental
- Government Agency
- Government Department
- Higher Education
- Local Authority
- Political Party
- Private Sector
- Research Organisation
- Youth Organisation
- Other (please specify)

C. Which of the following best describes your interest in this consultation?

(Select as many as applicable)

- I am a stakeholder associated with the management of the PEACE or INTERREG Programme
- I receive or have previously received funding from the PEACE or INTERREG Programmes (as a lead partner, project partner or a subcontracted organisation)
- I have applied for funding from the PEACE or INTERREG Programmes but my application was not accepted
- I have been a participant or beneficiary of a PEACE or INTERREG funded project

I would like to get involved with this PEACE PLUS Programme

Other (please specify)

*** D. Contact Details** (Required)

Name*

Organisation
(Where Applicable)

Address*

Address 2

City/Town*

Post Code*

County

Email Address*

E. How did you hear about this consultation? (Select as many as applicable)

Social media post (i.e. Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter)

Advert in a newspaper (print and/or online version)

Word of mouth

Email (sent directly to you)

Email (sent from a friend or colleague)

Article in a newspaper

Other (please specify)

Section B. Themes and Investment Areas

For information on the Themes and Investment Areas, please read Part 3.7 of the Consultation Information Document available on the SEUPB webpage <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

There is no requirement to answer all of the questions unless you wish to do so.

Q1 Theme 1 - Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment Areas within Theme 1?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Co-Designed Local Community PEACE Action Plans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Empowering Communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building Positive Relations	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Re-imagining Communities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q2 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q1. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

Co-Designed Local Community PEACE Action Plans

LCCP is welcome defining roles of all stakeholder's is essential. Single identity work is essential as the impact of BREXIT will present further challenges. In addition intracommunity tension, organised crime and dissident activity tend to occur in marginalised, predominately single identity areas. Therefore to address these challenges, the LCPP should be permitted to work on a single identity basis. Schools play a critical role in local communities and therefore participation of schools in the local community Peace Partnership should be facilitated. Vocational

Empowering Communities

The Council's Belfast: Our Recovery document recognises that communities need to be at the heart of our City's recovery and we have committed to engage with and work alongside our citizens, and others, in our communities including voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors who play vital roles in city life, to identify priorities together. Working with these sectors, we have established a VCSE Panel and network and we continue to build on this to enhance participation going forward. This engagement will support community participation in co-design of area based

Building Positive Relations

We welcome the continuation of investment of this priority which can build upon the work undertaken within the Building Positive Relations Theme under PIV. This investment will assist in flexibility across a number of areas and fits with Community Planning, T:BUC priorities and Council's Good Relations Strategy. Experience shows that CYP are more accepting of other communities. The focus of theme should create opportunities for integration aimed at those principally affected by conflict and include actions to include refugees, asylum seeker and new

Re-imagining Communities

The Council believes this programme presents a huge opportunity to address many of the ongoing challenges facing the region and its capital city. Clearly Re-imagining Communities aligns to the Belfast new cultural strategy 'City Imagining.' <https://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/culturestrategy> also. Community planning, the duty led and facilitated by councils, has massive potential to materially assist the EU PEACE PLUS programme, but importantly, in its own right, is a citizen and locality-based statutory instrument to materially contribute to

Q3 Theme 2 - Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment Areas within Theme 2?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
SME Development and Transition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Innovation Challenge Fund	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programme Areas Skills Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Smart Towns and Villages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q4 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q3. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

SME Development and Transition

Alignment with ambitions set out within the Councils response to Covid-19 pandemic – Belfast: Our Recovery’ framework.
Alignment with focus of community planning and collaborative activity across partners (e.g. skills development, business development and support etc)
Need to highlight the importance and role of cities in creating sustainable economic growth and acting as hubs for both employment, creativity and innovation as well as being concentrations of deprivation and need.

Innovation Challenge Fund

Innovation and Growth Commission is established and an Innovation Commissioner in place within Belfast. Belfast City Council's City Innovation team are committed to and are keen to seek further engagement with SEUPB with regards to projects which align to the six thematic areas of this programme and recognise economic prosperity and inclusive growth is essential for peace. Digital innovation as key to delivering economic regeneration and transformation. Welcomes opportunities to better support young people. Committed to creating Smart, Healthy and inclusive

Programme Areas Skills Development

We welcome recognition that the Peace Plus programme can offer complementary support for the innovation elements of City Growth Deals, along with the National Planning Framework. We would encourage the Peace Plus programme to also support the Dublin-Belfast Corridor, as a key strategic development, given its potential to deliver economic regeneration, peace and prosperity along the corridor. We would emphasise the critical nature of skills development, particularly the necessity for upskilling / retraining as a key driver in the recovery from COVID19.

Smart Towns and Villages

Need to include reference to smart cities and hubs and we would challenge ‘Smart Towns and Villages’ as an investment area as it limits the ability to fully realise the benefits of delivering regional economic regeneration/transformation, as there is no recognition of the role of cities and major urban areas nor the agglomeration impacts they create. We agree that peace and prosperity are intrinsically interlinked; however, focusing only on towns and villages misses the key opportunity that the region’s major urban areas and cities can provide to deliver on this theme.

Q5 Theme 3 - Empowering and Investing in our Young People. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment Areas within Theme 3?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Shared Learning Together Education Programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PEACE PLUS for Youth Programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q6 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q5. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

Shared Learning Together Education Programme

Community based education plays an important role in bringing people together from all parts of the City and the region and often promoting shared learning and Belfast is a UNESCO Learning City. An Educational Inequalities Task Group which has been formed under Belfast Agenda and community planning to develop and manage the delivery and coordination of programmes and projects to address educational inequalities across Belfast.

PEACE PLUS for Youth Programme

All provision for youth and youth services in the City and the region should be complimentary if possible and not result in duplication of provision and /or services. Additionally, Belfast is fully committed to the participation of children and young people in decision making (Belfast Youth Forum) and the Belfast Resilience Strategy recognises that as an important core principle in planning for the future. Finally, Belfast recognises the importance of supporting those young people most disengaged from education and employment (City Youth Pledge).

Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing

Long-term sickness (including mental health) is one of the key reasons for the persistent high levels of economic inactivity in NI and Belfast, therefore the importance of early intervention to build personal resilience and well-being is a key contributor to improving life chances and opportunities. A recent survey of children and young people in NI (October 2020) reported that while rates of mental health disorder in NI are broadly in line with other international studies, there are slightly higher rates for anxiety and mood disorders. Rates of anxiety/depression are 25%

Q7 Theme 4 - Healthy and Inclusive Communities. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment Areas within Theme 4?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Collaborative Health and Social Care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Victims and Survivors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q8 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q7. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

Collaborative Health and Social Care

Addressing health inequalities, with a specific focus on mental health and social wellbeing is a key focus of the Belfast Agenda and work of the community planning partnership within Belfast.
 Strong partnership with health colleagues, communities and service users in place. Work underway to create an enhanced and integrated care system within the city and wider region. Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing is a priority and Belfast's Community Planning Partnership is determined to work in collaboration to create a

Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion

Strengthening the interconnection of rural and urban areas is vital to support sustainability of businesses, communities and to build peace and reconciliation. Regeneration and social inclusion challenges in urban and rural areas may differ, the need to sustain effort on the regeneration and social inclusion in urban areas is vital to continue to support peace and prosperity; particularly in the context of COVID19 and as recent events in urban areas have shown. Research from OECD and Centre for Cities reports that the resultant behavioural changes have particular

Victims and Survivors

There remains a clear need for sustained focus on peace and reconciliation efforts in cities /urban areas ,as recent events have shown.

Q9 Theme 5 - Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment Areas within Theme 5?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Biodiversity, Nature Recovery and Resilience	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marine and Coastal Management	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water Quality and Catchment Management	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Improvement Programme	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Geothermal Energy Demonstration Programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enhanced Sustainable Travel Connectivity	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q10 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q9. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

Biodiversity, Nature Recovery and Resilience

Theme to cover restoration also, not simply within designated sites. Welcome the recognition and inclusion of urban areas however, we query the use of the term pollution and would prefer to see a drive to reduce drivers for biodiversity loss. Welcome the inclusion of initiatives to connect with nature and to address invasive species. Under IAS actions to address IAS are needed and not simply mechanisms to record and monitor . Actions to address the emerging skills shortages within the ecological sector are needed.

Marine and Coastal Management

Welcome this however need to include the restoration and management of marine habitats with a fundamental focus on ecological robustness. The actions to be supported are focussed on research and developing an evidence base. Whilst this is essential suggest the inclusion of positive actions to assist with restoration even through some small scale pilot projects based on research ,mapping and surveys funded through the programme.

Water Quality and Catchment Management

Strongly welcome this theme especially the focus on nature-based solutions including habitat restoration . Welcome the behavioural change initiative but just shouldn't be restricted to landowners.

Water Quality Improvement Programme

Strongly welcome this theme especially initiatives to address pesticides and the development of sustainable farm practices. Outputs and learnings should be developed to enable usage across the full geographic region and not just restricted to selected catchments. Support the proposals for catchment based initiatives to achieve multiple benefits for water quality, quantity and biodiversity and the development of alternative approaches to treatment systems.

Geothermal Energy Demonstration Programme

Enhanced Sustainable Travel Connectivity

Investment in sustainable public transport to enhance accessibility and connectivity is a vital component of regeneration and in connecting local urban and rural communities as well as cross-border communities. We are encouraged by the recognition of enhancing the Dublin Belfast Corridor rail connections as a type of action to receive support and would suggest that this will be an important first step in supporting the overall ambitions for the Dublin-Belfast Corridor development and strategic cross-border collaboration. Sustainable transport in this is public

Q11 Theme 6 - Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Investment areas within Theme 6?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Strategic Planning and Engagement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintaining and Forging Relationships between Citizens	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q12 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q11. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Investment Area)

Strategic Planning and Engagement

With the launch of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor report on 24 March 2020, this investment area offers significant potential to help progress the commitment already in place from both governments, council areas and universities to realise the potential of this strategic cross-border collaboration. Strongly support the focus and proposed investment in ‘Strategic Planning and Engagement’ to increase cross border collaboration. Work being taken forward through the Belfast Regional City Deal in strengthening collaboration across local government in NI and exploring

Maintaining and Forging Relationships between Citizens

Strongly support the focus and proposed investment in ‘Maintaining and Forging Relationships between Citizens’ investment area. Important to note that the legislation and statutory guidance for community planning outlines the need for Community Planning Partnerships to ensure they seek to involve the ‘Community’ (in its widest sense) in the community planning process, to ensure that community has a voice into the process and that views are taken into account. While the recently established Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sectoral Advisory Panel

Section C. Indicative Budget Allocations

For information on the indicative budget allocations, please read Part 3.7 of the Consultation Information Document available on the SEUPB webpage

<https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Q13 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the indicative budget allocation for each of the six Themes?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Theme 1: Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities (€10m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theme 2: Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation (€143m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theme 3: Empowering and Investing in our Young People (€110m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theme 4: Healthy and Inclusive Communities (€155m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theme 5: Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future (€265m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Theme 6: Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration (€47m)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q14 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q13. (Optional)

(Max 500 characters per Theme)

Theme 1: Building Peaceful and Thriving Communities (€210m)

There is limited information given to comment on the rationale for indicative budget allocations. • Technical Assistance for the Programme will be at 7% of the overall budget for the Programme - to provide for the administration costs for the Programme and used for developmental support for all areas of the Programme. It is not clear if this relates to the establishment and servicing of the Local PEACE PLUS Action Plans and Community Peace Plus Partnerships referenced in Theme 1.

Theme 2: Delivering Economic Regeneration and Transformation (€143m)

There is limited information given to comment on the rationale for indicative budget allocations. The consultation document states that the allocations have been developed based on the specific challenges and needs that have been identified and in close engagement with government departments in all jurisdictions. Further clarification and information is needed on the relationship between the PeacePlus Programme fund and existing EU funds and the future Shared Prosperity Fund.

Theme 3: Empowering and Investing in our Young People (€110m)

As above

Theme 4: Healthy and Inclusive Communities (€155m)

As above

Theme 5: Supporting a Sustainable and Better Connected Future (€265m)

As above we welcome investment in sustainable travel in its widest sense i.e support for transition from car based travel to walking , cycling and use of electric vehicles and would encourage support for those programmes in rural and urban settings , inparticular linking local communities to neighbouring communities ,nature and city and town centres.

Theme 6: Building and Embedding Partnership and Collaboration (€47m)

As above

Section D. Administrative Arrangements

For information on measures to reduce the administrative burden, please read Part 4.1 of the Consultation Information Document available on the SEUPB webpage <https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Q15 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following proposals would help to reduce the administrative burden for applicants to the new Programme?

Investment Area	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Proposal to increase project development support	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to introduce more participation and flexibility in calls for applications	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to simplify the application process	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to increase training opportunities for project partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to make the monitoring system more user friendly	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to increase the use of simplified cost options	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to increase flexibility in project management	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Proposal to make indicators and reporting more focused on quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q16 Please outline your reasons for your answers in Q15. (Optional) (Max 500 characters per proposal)

Proposal to increase project development support

We would welcome the opportunity to engage further in development of measures to help reduce the administrative burden while also continuing to provide financial accountability.
Recognising that there will be a range of issues, challenges and priorities being submitted to the PEACE PLUS programme we would support a commensurate approach to project development support and administrative arrangements.

Proposal to introduce more participation and flexibility in calls for applications

Yes and ensure sufficient time is provided to allow applicants to respond to calls and develop applications. It would be helpful if SEUPB could give some clarity as to what it sees going into local plans versus elements that may be more relevant to an application through an open call. This would be helpful for us in thinking of content for the local plans.
The significant value of the programme also means that funding is now available for new areas that hadn't previously been covered. While this is helpful, it will be

Proposal to simplify the application process

Yes simplification of the application process would be welcome by applicants . Word limits in e-forms provided are overly restrictive at times.

Proposal to increase training opportunities for project partners

Yes provided it is targeted and beneficial to project partners . Provision of targeted & tailored 1-1 support to each type of project at the LAP/Regional levels would be more beneficial. Simplified guidance on procurement, financial monitoring, monitoring and evaluation and compliance with PEACE PLUS Programme regulations would also be preferable.

Proposal to make the monitoring system more user friendly

In line with the draft NI programme for Government Outcomes Framework & Community Planning, we would recommend an outcomes based approach to project development, monitoring & reporting. A more user friendly simplified model of monitoring & evaluation would be along with the use of standardised templates for questionnaires & reporting should be introduced. Experience from PIV indicates that participants are increasingly reluctant to respond to questions regarding their community/religious backgrounds & consideration should be given to removal

Proposal to increase the use of simplified cost options

The use of the simplified cost option (12% salary) has been beneficial to reduce the administrative burden, The use of flat rates would be beneficial to provide increased flexibility, however the option to use these simplified methods should be on an individual project basis not applied across the entire LAP. This will ensure a greater focus on results. Adopting a unit cost approach, similar to the current ESF Programme, would be beneficial and also help to reduce bureaucracy as well as increase the focus on results. General project elements such as catering cost per

Proposal to increase flexibility in project management

Welcomed as long as its risk and issues are correctly managed by all parties. Consideration of the LA role as a leading Public Authority should be taken into account and the use of LA resources which operate on a commercial basis be examined. Acceptable thresholds and guidance should be clearly defined. The potential to respond to emerging needs/community risks should also be considered.

Proposal to make indicators and reporting more focused on quality

Evaluation and monitoring are essential components to measure project impact. Whilst a focus on quality is welcome, enabling indicators to be more meaningful at a participant level is essential. Based on current experience, the volume of questions is excessive and levels of understanding/interpretation needs to be taken into account. Participant feedback is that Protestant/Catholic indicators are binary and need to be more broad ranging. Tailored 1-1 support to align LCCP/LAP outcomes and results to programme indicators would be welcome. The indicators

Section E. Equality Considerations (Section 75)

The Section 75 screening documents can be found on the SEUPB webpage
<https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Q17 Do you agree with the Equality Screening findings for the PEACE PLUS Programme?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q18 If no, what additional actions do you think we need to take and why?

(Optional) (Max 1000 characters)

Section F. Strategic Environmental Assessment

Findings from the Strategic Environmental Assessment, including the Environmental Report and Non-Technical Summary are available on the SEUPB webpage

<https://seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>

Q19 Do the findings from the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the PEACE PLUS Programme cover all the relevant information?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q20 If no, what else do we need to consider and why? (Optional)

(Max 1000 characters)

END OF SURVEY

Thank you for completing our survey.