



The Irish Case

Pobal Presentation

Funded by the Irish Government under the
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Summary

- Introduction to Pobal
- Programmes managed
- Core services
- Local development
- Role of organisation in the policy field
- How it is carried out
- Strengths and challenges

Introduction

Pobal is:

- Company limited by guarantee and not having share capital
- Incorporated in 1992
- Audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General
- Board and Chairperson appointed by Government following consideration of proposals from stakeholders and the national social partners
- Voluntary

Main Object

“The delivery and management of programmes, which promote social inclusion, reconciliation and equality through integrated social and economic development within communities”

On behalf of Government in 2007

- 17 Programmes for 7 Departments / Boards
- Will distribute €380m
- Will work with 4,400 community and voluntary groups and organisations and in turn these organisations employ some 9,300 people
- Framework / service level agreements with Departments

Programmes

- See Appendix
- Some Themes:
Local development, community transport, third level access for disadvantaged students, peace building, social economy / enterprise, childcare, integration of immigrants, rural social scheme etc.

Core services

- Developmental and strategic supports for beneficiaries
- Appraisal of applications and plans
- Recommendations / decisions regarding financial support
- Financial management, audit
- Reporting to Departments, EU etc
- Monitoring outcomes, impacts and research
- Identification of good practice
- Informing policy development

Partnerships

- First Partnerships 1991
- Pobal's role in expansion
- Current context
- Principles underpinning Pobal approach
- Mature relationship with individual Partnerships and networks

Influencing Public Policy

- Formal basis
- Memorandum of Association:
 - “ Aiding through lessons learned from these programmes in the formation of Government and other policy development at the local, regional and national level”

Nature of Pobal Role

- It's a partnership enterprise!
- Informed position
- Intermediary status
- National position
- Links with Departments
- Links with Partnerships and other organisations
- Scope

How do we utilise our position?

- Being proactive!
- Direct interaction with policy makers
- Inputs into external reviews and evaluations
- Participation in committees and fora
- Publications and conferences

Some strengths and challenges


Strengths:

- Professionalism
- Pivotal space between policy and practice
- Cross-sectoral, innovative inputs to current issues
- Shared commitment, flexibility and responsiveness
- Success in influencing policy development and its implementation

Some strengths and challenges (Contd.)

Challenges:

- Policy frameworks
- National structures, mechanisms and processes
- Range and complexity of issues
- Addressing coherence internal and external in a decentralised world
- Demand on the local development sector



Towards a vision and a strategic
framework for the next national
development period.....

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Appendix

For Department of Community Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs

- Local Development Social Inclusion Programme
- RAPID
- Rural Social Scheme
- Community & Voluntary Grants
- Community Services Programme
- Dormant Accounts Fund

For Department of Health & Children

- Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme
- National Childcare Investment Programme
- Dormant Accounts Fund

For Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform

- Equality for Women Measure
- Enhancing Disability Services Programme
- Community Based CCTV Scheme
- Fund for Interagency Projects in Relation to the Traveller Community
- Fund for the Integration of Immigrants

For Department of Transport

- Rural Transport Programme

For Department of Education & Science (via HEA)

- Millennium Partnership Fund for

Disadvantage: Access to Third Level

For Special EU Programmes Body

- Peace 2 & Extension
- Measures in INTERREG 3A

