



An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development



Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

Ár dTodhchaí  
Tuaithe  
Our Rural  
Future



## Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2024/2025

### SKDP - Call for Expressions of Interest – Measure 2

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) supports the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure and the necessary repair, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreation infrastructure in countryside areas across Ireland. The Scheme is funded under “Our Rural Future” which specifically prioritises the growing outdoor activity tourism sector as part of a long-term vision for a vibrant and sustainable rural Ireland.

Launched in November 2022, [Embracing Ireland's Outdoors](#), Ireland’s Outdoors, the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023 - 2027 is shaping the strategic direction of outdoor recreation in Ireland. The strategy will lead, guide and facilitate the sustainable development and management of outdoor recreation in the medium term. It is essential that all projects applied for under ORIS are consistent with Embracing Ireland’s Outdoors.

The Scheme is now delivered under four Measures. SKDP is eligible to submit 3 applications for funding to the Dept. of Rural & Community Development under measure 1 of the scheme which is outlined below.

#### **Measure 2: Medium Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Trail/Amenity Development**

**Max Grant Amount: €200,000. Max Grant Rate 90%**

Eligible Activities: Medium scale projects that are in line with the objectives and focus of the Scheme. This includes, but is not limited

to, the development of new recreational infrastructure, extensions/upgrades to already established trails, walkways, mountain access routes, cycleways, blueways, water or cycle trails or other recreational facilities at bogs, rivers, lakes or beaches. Projects can also include works for the repair, maintenance or promotion of such infrastructure.

South Kerry Development Partnership wishes to work with communities to identify projects that enhance or redevelop existing amenities, or support new opportunities to develop local natural resources.

SKDP are therefore inviting expressions of interest from community groups interested in securing funding under Measure 2 of ORIS 2024/25 for the medium scale repair/upgrade and new trail/amenity development. Applications will be submitted by SKDP on behalf of the project selected.

The projects must be finished and drawdown of funding completed with 24 months of approval.

Groups selected to submit an application or forming part of a multi-fund application will need to provide 10% match funding for their total project costs. Other state funding cannot be used to meet the 10% match funding requirement.

Full Details of the ORIS scheme can be found at the following [here](#)

Where more expressions of interest are submitted by groups than the available 1 application available to SKDP – SKDP will apply the following assessment considerations in selecting the applications to be submitted to the Dept. of Rural & Community Development.

Does the project meet an objective of *Embracing Ireland's Outdoors*?

Is there evidence that funding this project will have an impact at regional or national level?

Does the application set out a clear need for a project of this type?

Do the project outcomes have clear positive health impacts or benefits for local communities?

Do the project outcomes have clear economic and/or tourism impacts?

Do the outcomes of the project demonstrate a sustainable and positive impact on the local area.

Is the project environmentally sustainable/does it include a biodiversity element?

Does the project support an inclusive approach for people with disabilities or does it enhance the opportunities?

Is there evidence of the required permissions, screenings and approvals in place?

Are the timelines for the project realistic?

If your group wish to be considered for funding – please complete the Expression of Interest Form and submit to the Rural Recreation Officer of South Kerry Development Partnership Concubhair Lyne by email or by post. Email & Postal details are set out in the Expression of Interest Form.

**Closing date for completed Expressions of Interest forms is Friday 14th March at 5pm.**

Late Expressions of Interest Forms will not be accepted.

Any queries on the above – Groups should contact the SKDP Rural Recreation Officer – Concubhair Lyne on 087 2601140 or by email at [clyne@skdp.net](mailto:clyne@skdp.net)