



SHARE - Sustainable Housing Accommodation for a Regenerative Exchange

Spain
COUNTRY
Fuenlabrada

48.797.875
POPULATION
194.886

6.150.000 EUR
FUNDING

80% EUI Innovative Actions and co-financing and 20% own funds
FUNDING SOURCES

Fuenlabrada Municipality
PRACTICE OWNER

Innovative Housing Solutions
TOPIC OF PRACTICE



SHARE is a comprehensive community revitalisation solution to improve life in central Fuenlabrada. The area has been grappling with a range of challenges in recent decades, from deteriorated and vacant housing, to disused facilities, closed businesses and an ageing rate well above the city average. While most housing solutions imply construction, new land consumption or just sharing homes, SHARE's solution wants to experiment a new housing model by rehabilitating a disused and symbolic school in the city centre under the NEB criteria.

ABOUT

Fuenlabrada's great challenges consist of revitalising in a sustainable way the centre fostering shared social values while facilitating adequate housing and community environment for both groups: the over-65s and the under 35-s.

CITY STRATEGY

- Strong partnership;
- Domain of the space to be rehabilitated;
- Political commitment and willingness.

ENABLING CONDITIONS

- Fuenlabrada Youth Council;
- Participation Councils of the municipal centers for the elderly;
- Local associations (youth and elderly associations);
- Institute for the Elderly and Social Services.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Fuenlabrada was selected as an EUI Innovative Actions Project in June 2023. After a first year of preparatory works, it entered the implementation phase. More results and news can be found on the EUI webpage or on PORTICO.

RESULTS AND IMPACTS

SHARE's solution focuses on creating accessible, high quality living environments for seniors and young people since they are those who suffered the housing problem the most. The project is based on three principles: 1) Reuse, rehabilitation and activation of community resources for sustainable local development; 2) Affordable, quality housing suitable for people of different ages; 3) Protective environments for early prevention of dependency

STRONG POINTS

- Social challenges:**
 - to facilitate access of elderly to housing and care system that protects their autonomy in order to prevent dependency;
 - to facilitate access to housing for under 35 to foster stable life.
- Economic challenge:**
 - to enable young population that settles in the city centre to contribute to social, cultural and economic revitalisation of the area.
- Environmental challenge:**
 - to explore housing strategies that take into account sustainability and focus on the use of existing spaces, rather than the construction of new housing, to rehabilitate the city centre of Fuenlabrada.

CHALLENGES



Dobele's Castle Reconstruction, Latvia

Latvia

COUNTRY

Dobele town

1.871.871

POPULATION

8.589

2.570 052,70 EUR

FUNDING

European Regional Development Fund, State funding

FUNDING SOURCES

Dobele district municipality

PRACTICE OWNER

From Ruins to Culture and heritage

place for visitors and tourists.

TOPIC OF PRACTICE



The reconstructed Dobele Castle is a centre of cultural and historical heritage providing a new interactive educational, and touristic space to the city, offering to citizens new services. Dobele's castle also has a multifunctional hall, where it is possible to provide lectures, seminars, conferences. Craftsmen, homemakers, archaeologists, scientists and other specialists collaborate to an interactive and educational entertainment of the public.

ABOUT

The construction of engineering networks in the castle complex of the Livonian Order of Dobele provides a favorable environment for the promotion of businesses. The quality of the space from the historical and economic point of view, contributes to the economic growth of the Dobele region, increasing the attractiveness of the living environment and business development.

The development of the Dobele Livonian Order into the Dobele Palace has significantly increased the number of tourists in the city.

CITY STRATEGY

- Availability of Architects and good spacilists
- Alignment of interests and right timing for starting the project

ENABLING CONDITIONS

- Availability of financing;
- Impact of COVID on the economy;
- Technological development is faster than project progress;
- Proximity to the capital, which significantly affects attendance at cultural events;
- Engagement of local entrepreneurs.

CHALLENGES

- The Municipality, who was interested to save historical heritage and to promote and develop small entrepreneurship;
- The Museum who was interested to conserve heritage and enhance research on culture;
- Local inhabitants;
- Craftsmen and small entrepreneurs.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Cooperation with architecture;
- Cooperation with museum to develop new services and events;
- EU Funding.

STRONG POINTS

- Develop heritage in new ways;
- Increase number of tourists;
- Develop new services.

RESULTS AND IMPACTS

- Awareness on the place identity;
- Attraction of good and knowledgeable specialists;
- Development of a technical project of substantial good quality.

TRANSFER TIPS



Valletta Design Cluster Malta

Malta
COUNTRY
Valletta

520.000
POPULATION
5.200

11.300.000 EUR
FUNDING

ERDF, National Funds, Interreg
(Design4Innovation)
FUNDING SOURCES

Valletta Cultural Agency
PRACTICE OWNER

Regeneration of the Valletta Old
Abattoir to create cultural spaces
TOPIC OF PRACTICE



The Valletta Design Cluster is a community space for cultural and creative practice situated in the renovated Old Abattoir in Valletta. It focuses on design, entrepreneurship, social impact, and user-centred design as a catalyst for innovation. It encourages a multi-disciplinary approach that can create positive impacts for communities and individuals. The space includes a makerspace, meeting rooms, spaces to work, as well as a beautiful public rooftop garden.

ABOUT

The Valletta Design Cluster is a legacy project of the Valletta Capital of Culture 2018 foundation. With the goal to revitalise the lower Valletta area, the Cluster enabled a greater focus on creative industries and start-ups, providing locals with opportunities to gain new skills, learn and research, as well as providing the public an open green space with a beautiful roof garden.

CITY STRATEGY

- Public, community, and stakeholder engagement were key to the success of the project and to integrate community ideas in the evolution of the project design.
- A strong vision which aims to fill a gap within the culture and creative industry had an impact early on with the direction of the project and it had a very clear scope from the start of the process.
- Opening the project up to a multi-disciplinary approach enables a multi-faceted outlook to the potential of the project and what it can create.

ENABLING CONDITIONS

- The roof garden provides residents of lower Valletta green open space when they'd otherwise have none.
- The Valletta Design Cluster presently has 200 members, who are using the space to kick start their own initiatives and have found the VDC as an invaluable resource to reach their goals.
- More members are learning new skills through the maker space, as it provides access to specialised equipment which is inaccessible to the public.
- There's an informal exchange of knowledge through workshops, talks, residencies, and activities.

RESULTS AND IMPACTS

The Valletta community, students, researchers, local freelancers, and creatives working in the design and culture industry, local design-based and socially driven organisations and enterprises.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Connecting creatives, and initiatives through a community-centred space.
- Providing access to infrastructure and tools which help in bridging together design and technology.
- Residency programmes for international knowledge and exchange.
- Providing spaces and opportunities for SMEs, freelancers, creative start-ups, and social enterprises.

STRONG POINTS

- The unintentional effect of regeneration was gentrification. Through the refurbishing of area, many buildings are being converted to boutique hotels and there is a slow shift in the identity of the area.
- Communication with stakeholders was a challenge during Covid-19.
- Creating greater awareness about the presence of the Valletta Design Cluster within public consciousness.

CHALLENGES

- Understand any needs of the local economy and community.
- Directly involve stakeholders in the process, and if possible, co-design it with them.
- When dealing with historic buildings, the restoration process should be cohesive and holistically tied to a use or purpose for the space, and not restored for the sake of renovation. This enables the design process to integrate all the building's future activities from the beginning.

TRANSFER TIPS



ROD - creative & learning space, Romania

📍 Romania

📍 COUNTRY

Piatra Neamt

👤 18.978.242

👤 POPULATION

80.000

💰 260.000 EUR

📍 FUNDING

👤 Multiple sources from the City, County, NGOs and private companies.

📍 FUNDING SOURCES

🏛️ Deanery of Piatra Neamt, Iasi Orthodox Diocese

📍 PRACTICE OWNER

🏠 Community space transformation for

📍 creativity, education, and social impact

TOPIC OF PRACTICE



🏠 ROD is a community space repurposed from an old heating station into a creative and learning centre. It spans 300 sqm with 8 rooms dedicated to specific activities including a children's room, library, workshop, training spaces, and event halls. The project combines design, natural materials, local expertise, and educational resources to create a safe context for creativity, learning, and community building.

📍 ABOUT 📍

🏠 ROD transforms an abandoned heating station into a vibrant educational hub, addressing the city's need for innovative learning spaces. Through non-formal and experiential education, it develops creative skills and civic engagement among youth and adults. The project bridges urban-rural divides while fostering intergenerational learning, cultural preservation, and sustainable development. This community-centered approach to education revitalizes both urban infrastructure and human potential.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- Strong multi-stakeholder partnerships (public-private-civil society)
- Initiator to have a long term vision and mission to commit to support the project
- Pro-bono expertise from architects and experts
- Concept building. Knowing what the community needs & what is missing
- Active volunteer community
- Strategic location in the city
- Support from local authorities

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- Over 6.000 people participated in programs
- Over 30 partnerships with local institutions
- Created 9 distinct communities around various initiatives
- 240+ members in the first community of blood donors
- 6 major programs/projects developed and implemented (Roditor fest, School of Good Deeds, People on Hogas street Fair, Door towards the village, Workshops series, Volunteer Program)

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

🏠 Mayor and City Council, County Council, Local NGOs, Parishes, Volunteers, Local business owners, Architects and designers, schools, Local artisans and producers, Community members (families, children, experts)

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- Successful repurposing of abandoned infrastructure into vibrant community space
- Integration of sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetic quality
- Strong community engagement and volunteer participation
- Mix of educational, cultural, and social impact programs
- Use of local materials and craftspeople
- Team & concept building

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- Converting an industrial space into a catchy & engaging community center
- Coordinating multiple stakeholders and funding sources
- Creating sustainable operational model
- Balancing diverse community needs and use

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- Find an unused space/building with potential for transformation
- Build strong local partnerships across sectors
- Involve the community in design and implementation
- Focus on combining sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics
- Document and validate the model before scaling

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



TUP Factory Croatia

📍 Croatia
📍 COUNTRY
Dubrovnik

👤 3.986.627
📍 POPULATION
42.615

💰 13.500.000 EUR
📍 FUNDING

👤 Different sources of funding and investments for the City of Dubrovnik
📍 FUNDING SOURCES

🏢 City of Dubrovnik and TUP Management
📍 PRACTICE OWNER

🏠 TUP Creative Centre
📍 TOPIC OF PRACTICE



📍 TUP Creative Center aims to transform its existing factory complex, the "TUP" Carbon Graphite and Electrical Contact Products Factory, into a vibrant and inclusive urban cultural and social incubator. The TUP Creative Center will serve as a hub for cultural and creative activities, providing spaces for workshops, events, and coworking. The vision is to uplift the historically significant site into a lively community center that operates throughout the year.

📍 ABOUT 📍

📍 Green urban regeneration will be promoted in various ways, such as through the redevelopment of brownfield sites that hold significant potential for social and spatial regeneration. One example is TUP, where it is possible to revitalize the brownfield area while preserving the spatial identity by maintaining the traditional character and encouraging community activities, especially through social and green innovations, and by applying the models and principles of New European Bauhaus.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- 📍 • Political support
- 📍 • Community support and positive public opinion
- 📍 • New European Bauhaus local initiatives Technical Assistance project
- 📍 • NEB values as a driver for the sustainable transformation for TUP

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- 📍 • Permanent TUP Exhibition
- 📍 • Innovation Center / Incubator
- 📍 • New Public Library
- 📍 • Youth engagement through civil society organizations and the Family Center
- 📍 • TUP Creative Hub Association

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

📍 Key stakeholders are the City of Dubrovnik, the cultural and creative industries (CCI) sectors, civil society organizations, education sector, and entrepreneurs. Activation of local resources will take place through sharing knowledge and educational contributions from diverse stakeholders such as the public library, the family center, educational, and CCI networks.

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- 📍 • Hub for cultural and creative activities
- 📍 • Strong, committed political support
- 📍 • Public experience spaces (also pop-ups)
- 📍 • Affordable event and production spaces

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

📍 It is a significant challenge to establish a resilient budgetary framework that meets the overall vision for TUP and NEB values and working principles.

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- 📍 • Identify a strong local vision and remain committed to it
- 📍 • Involve citizens – work closely with the local community and other local stakeholders
- 📍 • Make the most of local talent
- 📍 • Learn from other communities

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



Fábrica de Santo Thyrso Portugal

Portugal

COUNTRY

Santo Tirso

10.530.000

POPULATION

67.709

9.500.000 EUR

FUNDING

European Funds-National Strategic References, and Municipality Funds

FUNDING SOURCES

Municipality of Santo Tirso

PRACTICE OWNER

Rebuilding and transform old Factory

in a Cultural and Creative Quarter

TOPIC OF PRACTICE



The Fábrica de Santo Thyrso is a cultural and creative complex driving urban transformation through fashion, design, and creative industries. Inspired by modern urban renewal strategies, it combines business, culture, and leisure, creating a vibrant space for innovation and local entrepreneurship. This multipurpose quarter houses business incubation, research, and training, fostering a creative ecosystem where technology, global perspectives, and human imagination fuel sustainable solutions and societal impact.

ABOUT

Fábrica de Santo Thyrso, founded in 1898, embodies urban renewal and cultural innovation in Santo Tirso. Revitalized since 2008, it aligns with policies for sustainable development, creating a "15-minute city" with improved transit options. The site now hosts regular cultural events, attracting diverse audiences, alongside a commercial area with restaurants, shops, and leisure spaces by the River Ave. This transformation fosters a vibrant community hub for residents and visitors alike.

CITY STRATEGY

- Partnerships between the City Council and schools, vocational schools and universities, establishing classes in the city through the creation of a training and education center;
- Developing European projects with an international networking network;
- Establishing partnerships with local economic agents;
- A space made up of several areas that allows for diversified events in the areas of culture, sport, economy, music, conferences, open days, creative challenges, theater, international creative residencies

ENABLING CONDITIONS

- Preserved industrial heritage, transforming the factory into a cultural and tourist hub. It hosts exhibitions and events, boosting regional social dynamics.
- The modernization has attracted new investments and enterprises, contributing to the economic revitalization of the area.
- Embraces energy efficiency and eco-friendly practices.
- New businesses generate local employment.
- Cultural transformation boosts regional tourism.
- Enhances community bonds through cultural activities.
- Preserves heritage, fostering regional pride.

RESULTS AND IMPACTS

University ESAD; University of Porto; University of Minho; Engineering School, CESAE Digital; Modatex.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Good accessibility to Public transportation and dynamic context

STRONG POINTS

- Founds to Financing the operation,
- Adapting the spaces to be redeveloped to the new sectoral policies, including the smart specialization strategy in Northern Portugal.
- Adapting buildings so that they are inclusive and sustainable, responding to today's societal challenges and environmental problems.
- Increasing the level of satisfaction of our institutional and sectoral partners, businesspeople, entrepreneurs and the general public with the new activities we want to offer in the future.

CHALLENGES

- Co-creation between national and international partners in the areas of creativity, culture, economy, education, with local, national and international economic agents and public administration bodies;
- fostering international partnerships and networking to increase the sharing and experimentation of new practices and methodologies. It is important to have a defined and articulated Master Plan involving the partners to make it easier to implement the actions.

TRANSFER TIPS



Krypton House – Center Of Multicultural Experience

📍 Hungary

📍 COUNTRY

Ajka

👤 9.590.000

📍 POPULATION

27.385

💰 2.500.000 EUR

📍 FUNDING

👤 City Budget, National Funds, European Funds

📍 FUNDING SOURCES

👤 Csingervölgy Nonprofit LTD Project Company

📍 PRACTICE OWNER

👤 Transformation of brownfield area in a

📍 Centre of Multicultural Experience

📍 TOPIC OF PRACTICE



👤 The Krypton house in Ajka aims at develop a regional and local sense of belonging by regenerating a brownfield area to provide new cultural spaces to the community and improve the attractivity of the City.

📍 ABOUT 📍

👤 The Integrated Development Program of Ajka City aims to create a first class innovative creative-industrial, multicultural, smart and sustainable centre of experience from the First Krypton Factory in the World situated in brownfield area, involving the cooperation of productive local communities and generation.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- Partnership with Central Government and Regional Agencies
- Cooperation with Local Governments
- Technical Assistance from EU Commission
- Civic engagement
- Added value of designer and management

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- After the opening of the Krypton-house in the summer of 2023 more than 9.000 visitors were welcomed
- It became a wellknown and popular common space for the citizens
- A unique space for Hungarian and European cultural, artistic and science life.
- New branding of Ajka city.

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

- 👤
 - Local Associations (Graphics Studio, Local Heritage Association, Local Development Association)
 - Business Partners (e.g.: Hotel owners, digital developers, touristic institutions)
 - Cultural and educational partners

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- 👤
 - Inclusivity
 - Attractive
 - Partnership
 - Inter-regionalism

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- 👤
 - Protecting aesthetic values of built heritage together solving of climate and energy challenges
 - Achieving a permanent touristic attractivity of the place
 - Sustainable financing and business model

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- 👤
 - The engagement with the civil society and the community-led programming are the driving forces of the Project.
 - Using vertical and horizontal partnership by applying the “quadruple helix model”.
 - Reinventing of local heritage to build a common vision of the future city (e.g. Superman-story).

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



Nano Nagle Place Cork

📍 Ireland
📍 COUNTRY
Corck City

👤 5.262.000
📍 POPULATION
224.004

📍 24.012.178 EUR
📍 FUNDING

📍 Phase 1- Donations
Phase 2 - Loan
📍 FUNDING SOURCES

📍 Presentation Sisters Order
📍 PRACTICE OWNER

📍 Heritage Buildings, Community Hub,
Museum
📍 TOPIC OF PRACTICE



📍 Nano Nagle Place is a vibrant heritage site and cultural hub located in Cork, Ireland, dedicated to the legacy of Nano Nagle, an 18th-century pioneer of education for the poor. Once the site of her convent and schools, the place has been transformed into a community-driven space that celebrates history and social change. Visitors can explore interactive exhibits, gardens, and the historic convent, while the site also hosts educational programs and charities that continue Nano's mission. It's a unique blend of heritage, learning, and social sustainability

📍 ABOUT 📍

📍 The project contributes to the implementation of the strategic vision for the city as defined in the city's development plan 2022-2028. A city 'embracing diversity and inclusiveness and growing as a resilient, healthy, age-friendly and sustainable compact city with placemaking, communities and quality of life at its heart'. It embodies the strategic principles of a city of neighbourhoods and communities, enhanced built and natural heritage and a city of learning and culture.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- Location and attractiveness of the site .
- Decision of the Sisters to set up a limited company and to entrust the whole endeavour to those Directors, from development to operation. The skill mix of the Board of Directors with their CEO.
- Involvement of the local community and City of Cork.
- The continuation of the social outreach and educational work of Nano Nagle
- The securing of financial viability for the early years of operation through a rental agreement.
- Procuring the right clients for rental of the Café; Good Day Deli with its strong ecological ethos attracts a wide clientele to the site.

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- Attracting up to 90,000 visitors through the doors per year.
- In 2023, organised 10 festivals and over 70 events on site.
- Over 450 annual participant engagements in our community education programme.
- Successfully sourcing a significant number of Institutional funding grants and donations from Corporates.
- Won European Museum of the year for 2022.

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

📍 Presentation Sisters; Cork city; Partners in social justice organisations and charities across Cork, Munster and Ireland; Institutional Funders across Ireland; Donors; Clients who rent Conference Space and Meeting Rooms; Tenants/Lessee who rent property from Nano Nagel Place

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- The integration of Heritage offerings and social justice projects within one space.
- The commitment to sustainability and biodiversity throughout the site.
- A universal and genuine welcome for all who visit.
- A Business model that provides opportunities for income generation.
- An attractive offering for Institutional Funders

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- Local resistance to change
- Construction delayed by formal objections to planning .
- Conservation orders on old buildings.
- Complexity of site.
- Harmonious Incorporation of a café in a quiet garden.
- Securing of an income stream adequate to future requirements.

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- Consultation with key stakeholders from an early stage in the process.
- Give in-depth consideration to the business model and funding streams that you will utilise when the project is up and running.
- Engage with the city on any future developments which will affect the area of the site/project.

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



Rediscovery Centre Dublin

📍 Ireland
📍 COUNTRY
Dublin

👤 5.262.000
📍 POPULATION
1.263.219

💰 4.100.000 EUR
📍 FUNDING

📍 EU LIFE Funding and Dublin City Council Funding
📍 FUNDING SOURCES

🏢 Rediscovery Centre - Social Enterprise
📍 PRACTICE OWNER

🏠 Circular Economy and Urban
📍 Regeneration
TOPIC OF PRACTICE



📍 Rediscovery Centre is the National Centre for a Circular Economy. Since 2004, the centre has been leading Ireland's transition to a circular economy and low-carbon, sustainable future. Based in Europe's first circular economy demonstration centre, Rediscovery Centre acts as an innovation hub, delivering education, providing research and enabling policy, citizen engagement and collaboration to support community action. Recognising that a just transition requires a social movement, we use our skills and expertise to ensure that all people benefit from, and can participate in the circular economy.

📍 ABOUT 📍

📍 Located in the heart of Ballymun, Rediscovery Centre is based in the repurposed Ballymun Boiler House – one of the last remaining features of the old Ballymun before the urban regeneration project. As part of the regeneration of Ballymun, the iconic flats were demolished and the Boiler House was also due to be knocked down. This changed however in 2014 when Rediscovery Centre, the Government of Ireland and Dublin City Council joined forces to save and repurpose the landmark building as a centre of excellence in circularity. This was supported by the European Commission under the WISER LIFE project, which was completed in 2017. As Europe's first 3D textbook and demonstration centre of the circular economy, our inspiring centre showcases, from foundation to chimney, extraordinary examples of what can be done when waste is seen as an opportunity rather than a problem.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- 📍 Aligning ourselves to the EU and Irish Government's focus upon the Circular Economy.
- 📍 Applying circular considerations to every stage of the regeneration of the Old Boiler House in Ballymun (the home of the Rediscovery Centre)
- 📍 The use of Social Enterprise as a means to realise circular activities including the re-use of paint, furniture and clothing.

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

📍 Through global collaborations, the Rediscovery Centre is educating, demonstrating, advocating and collaborating with others to bring the circular economy to life in Ireland. The WISER LIFE Layman's report contains a more detailed analysis of the impacts generated by the project.

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

📍 The project was made possible through collaboration with Dublin City Council and financial support from LIFE+, Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, and the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

📍 We deliver on our mission through education, demonstration, advocacy and collaboration, delivering workshops and training courses across broad disciplines, research programmes to provide evidence for policy change and partnering with key stakeholders. Since our launch in 2004, we've evolved and grown significantly.

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- 📍 Removing contaminated and construction waste at the outset of the project
- 📍 The scale of the challenge of realising sustainable urban development in Ireland's built, cultural and natural environment. There is a long way to go.
- 📍 Not having a consistent mechanism in place for measuring the environmental impact of the design and development of the building.

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- 📍 Think about the importance of circularity in everything that you do – design, development, and implementation.
- 📍 Provide continuous education and training to both engaged and new Social Enterprises.
- 📍 Link into the wider regeneration of the neighbourhood to ensure a true place based approach.

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



Castleblayney Library and Market Square Regeneration

📍 Ireland

📍 COUNTRY

Monaghan CoCo

👤 5.262.000

📍 POPULATION

65.288

📍 4.830.458 EUR

📍 FUNDING

📍 Rural Regeneration and Development Funds and County Council Fundings

📍 FUNDING SOURCES

📍 Monaghan County Council – Library Services

📍 PRACTICE OWNER

📍 Regeneration of a Public Library

📍 building

📍 TOPIC OF PRACTICE



📍 The Castleblayney Gate Lodge Library and Market Square Regeneration project included conservation works to the derelict Gate Lodge building, a protected structure, to provide a modern public library, community, and cultural space. The initiative included public realm enhancement works to Market Square to link the building to its adjacent sister building. The principal focus was on conserving the surviving fabric of the heritage building and bringing it back into community use as a new branch library for Castleblayney.

📍 ABOUT 📍

📍 Castleblayney serves a wide hinterland, a strategic town for the County that has significant potential for expansion and growth given its location. Emphasis is on maintaining and supporting urban development by way of consolidation of the town centre and expansion of services to meet the needs of the locality. It is important that this growth occurs in a manner that protects and enhances the towns natural heritage assets.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- 📍 Collaboration and multidisciplinary approach to these projects.
- 📍 Communications of project with all stakeholders
- 📍 Experienced team of professionals

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- 📍 GateLodge2 restored to new library and cultural space – 280% footfall increase to library in 1st year of opening.
- 📍 Market House funding of €11m for restoration project to commence.
- 📍 Enhanced collaboration between authority and community.
- 📍 Upskilling of staff in project management/engagement

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

- 📍 Central government
- 📍 Local Government Agencies
- 📍 NGOs

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- 📍 Collaboration
- 📍 Community Engagement
- 📍 Highly experience workforce
- 📍 Democracy

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- 📍 Meeting expectations of community.
- 📍 Covid – Inflation – Brexit
- 📍 Old buildings – unknown knowns!

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- 📍 Communications is key!
- 📍 Who are the stakeholders?
- 📍 Purpose of the project?
- 📍 Operational of such facilities post construction

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍



Medieval Mile Museum Kilkenny

📍 Ireland

📍 COUNTRY

Kilkenny City

👤 5.262.000

👤 POPULATION

27.184

💰 7.000.000 EUR

📍 FUNDING

👤 Kilkenny County Council financing and Civic Trust

📍 FUNDING SOURCES

🏢 Kilkenny County Council

📍 PRACTICE OWNER

🔄 Restoration, conservation and

📍 extension of a church into a museum

TOPIC OF PRACTICE



📍 The project involved restoration, extension and conservation of St Marys Hall, a deconsecrated church, to the Medieval Mile Museum, a city and county museum for Kilkenny. Once the parish church and cemetery of medieval Hightown, the former church is located within the heart of the City and possess some of the most important Renaissance tombs in Ireland. The project was part of a larger plan to enable the urban regeneration of the wider St Mary's Precinct and to conserve items of important social and cultural value.

📍 ABOUT 📍

📍 St. Mary's precinct proposal is consistent with specific objectives of Sustainable Urban Priority in the Regional Operational Programme 2014-2020: the regeneration of cultural infrastructure and public assets and the enhancement of the public realm. The project also contributes to the 10-minute city concept by creating attractive well-connected places.

📍 CITY STRATEGY 📍

- Experience the City had with Stakeholder engagement over multiple years.
- The availability of early funding for feasibility and other studies
- Experience in the URBACT – LINKS Programme on sustainable urban development. The programme culminated with an action plan and Kilkenny aimed to develop a consultation process for plans and projects proposed by the local authority, and restore and conserve St. Mary's Church using eco restoration practices and methodologies.

📍 ENABLING CONDITIONS 📍

- **Accessibility:** A fully accessible public building promotes social inclusion.
- **Educational Focus:** The museum prioritizes education and outreach, serving as a cultural hub for schools, artists, and the community by showcasing ancient craftsmanship.
- **Urban Revitalization:** Reviving the church enhances public engagement and improves the surrounding urban area.
- **Civic Pride:** Showcasing historic artefacts fosters pride in Kilkenny's heritage.
- **Public Interest:** Discovery of human remains sparked tours, generating goodwill and interest in the project.

📍 RESULTS AND IMPACTS 📍

- 📍 **Partners:** Failte Ireland, (Ireland Tourism Board), Kilkenny Borough & County Council's, Kilkenny Civic Trust, The Heritage Council of Ireland, The Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government.
- **Local stakeholders:** St Mary's Steering Committee, The Trustees of St Mary's, An Taisce, The Kilkenny Archaeological Society, An Garda Síochána, Waterford Institute of Technology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

📍 KEY STAKEHOLDERS 📍

- 📍 **Accessibility:** Fully accessible building, with a lift to the "Kilkenny Room" and displays for stone monuments, sight and hearing impairments.
- **Historical Recognition:** The structure is authentically preserved.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Part of Kilkenny's "Medieval Mile," the project uses sustainable practices to regenerate the urban core.
- **Architectural Enhancement:** Modern extensions re-establish the original form, adding to the building's story.

📍 STRONG POINTS 📍

- 📍 **Budgetary considerations** have been to the forefront of the project design and phasing from to outset.
- **Archaeology**
- **Time constraints**
- **Tight site**
- **Restricted access**
- **Busy city centre location**
- **Availability of skilled craftspeople**

📍 CHALLENGES 📍

- 📍 **Early stakeholder identification and engagement**
- **Collaboration**
- **Involvement of end user at an early date is essential**
- **Continual PR and public engagement required**

📍 TRANSFER TIPS 📍