



Irish Technology & Innovation in Sport & Physical Activity Cluster

ERDF and the Cluster Objectives
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ERDF and the Cluster Objectives - Overview

- Aims:
 - Outline the situation of ERDF in Ireland
 - Promotion of clusters in Ireland
 - Response to Irish proposals



ERDF Provisions

- EU Framework
 - ERDF Regulation
- National Partnership Agreement
- Regional Programmes
 - Smart Specialisation Strategy





ERDF Objectives – EU

- **PO1 A Smarter Europe, through innovation, digitisation, economic transformation and support to small and medium-sized businesses**
- **PO2 A Greener, carbon free Europe, implementing the Paris Agreement and investing in energy transition, renewables and the fight against climate change**
- **PO3 A more Connected Europe, with strategic transport and digital networks**
- PO4 A more Social Europe, delivering on the European Pillar of Social Rights and supporting quality employment, education, skills, social inclusion and equal access to healthcare
- PO5 A Europe closer to citizens, by supporting locally-led development strategies and sustainable urban development across the EU.



ERDF Objectives – Ireland

- Focus on PO1, PO2, PO5
- Boosting domestic SMEs through research and innovation
- Promoting managerial and business skills in SMEs
- Addressing regional disparities
- RIS³ determined by national priorities

Details in imminent consultation

Clusters in Ireland

- Modest promotion of clusters
 - Key theme in Future Jobs Ireland
 - Enterprise Clustering Programme 2016
 - Regional Technology Clustering Fund 2019
 - Regional Enterprise Development Fund – Call 3
Theme 3 - Enterprise Clustering Initiatives 2019
 - Feature of ERDF ?

Response to Irish Proposals

- The proposition
 - **What** – Focus/foci of cluster
 - **Who** – The participating parties
 - **Where** - Location(s)
 - **How** – The development processes envisaged, the support services provided, relationship to outside support etc.

Response to Irish Proposals

- The case for an Irish sport cluster
 - Response to the consultation
 - Scope for cluster support
 - Eligibility & relation to smart specialisation
 - Broader political and institutional support
 - Preparation of a submission for funding