



International Centre for Local
and Regional Development
39 Abbey Street
Armagh BT61 7EB
Northern Ireland
Tel: +44 (0)28 3751 5290
Fax: +44 (0)28 3751 1721
Web: www.iclrd.org
Email: info@iclrd.org

November 9, 2006 Conference on “Implementing a Framework for Collaborative Action--Spatial Strategies on the Island of Ireland”

The ICLRD is planning a conference on Thursday, November 9th in Newry to launch the report on Spatial Strategies on the Island of Ireland: Development of a Framework for Collaborative Action.

The report, prepared by the ICLRD was commissioned by InterTradeIreland on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dublin and the Department for Regional Development, Belfast.

The study was welcomed by the May 2006 Joint Communiqué of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference who “endorsed its recommendation for the development of a framework for collaborative action between the two spatial planning strategies on the island.”

Conference Objectives

The conference will highlight major findings from the report and the progress made towards the joint communiqué’s request that the relevant government departments and key stakeholders prepare a new collaborative framework. The November conference presents an opportunity for involved departments and associated stakeholders to show how the recommendations in the report are being acted upon and how the agenda is moving forward. It also presents an opportunity for those attending to provide feedback to the proposals for the framework.

The conference will also present international best practices in inter-jurisdictional collaborative strategies from the US and the EU and highlight the role of the business community and the private sector in inter-jurisdictional development.

Conference Structure

The conference is designed as a one-day event that combines plenary sessions and thematic workshops. The presentations by politicians, policy makers, practitioners and academics will address policy issues and practical challenges to implementing a collaborative framework. Panel discussions and opportunities for delegates to contribute will be important in providing feedback to shaping the collaborative agenda.

Morning Plenary Session:

- Introductory Session—Setting the Context for Collaboration
- Collaborative Frameworks—Recommendations and Agenda for Action

Afternoon Parallel Sessions:

- The Role of the Private Sector in Promoting Collaborative Spatial Strategies
- Implementing Cross-Border Corridors

Audience

Central and local officials, the private sector, NGOs, research organizations, cross-border network organizations and academics involved in planning, financing and implementing all-island and cross-



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border initiatives will benefit from attending the conference. By attending the conference, delegates will gain a better understanding of all-island/cross-border spatial planning activities and with whom they can work with among responsible agencies and organizations. Delegates will be provided with a resource packet of relevant materials.

A final programme will be posted shortly, if you would like to be included in a mailing please contact Mairéad Hughes at the Centre for Cross Border Studies, +44 (0)28 3751 1550.