Our Future in *Place***:** The Role of People, Policy and Process in Place-Making and Place-Shaping



emerging National Planning Framework on behalf of the region. Prior to joining the assembly in 2016, Denis worked for Donegal County Council for 24 years in a variety of roles including Senior Planner in Development Management. He holds a Ba (Hons) Degree in Urban and Regional Planning and a Post Graduate Degree in Town Planning.



Dr. Neale Blair is a Senior Lecturer in Planning at the School of the Built Environment and member of the Built Environment Research Institute at Ulster University. A Chartered Town Planner, Neale is an expert in spatial planning policy and practice. For the past 10 years, Neale has been closely involved with ICLRD as researcher on cross-border spatial planning

research projects and training programmes. His other research interests include: visualisation techniques for stakeholder engagement and decision making; spatial analysis; and international planning theory and practice.



Dr. Linda McElduff is a lecturer in planning in the School of the Built Environment and member of the Built Environment Research Institute at Ulster University. She graduated from Ulster University in 2011 with a MSci in Planning and Property Development and completed her PhD in 2014. Her doctoral research investigated the regeneration and resilience of small coastal resorts on

the island of Ireland. Linda's primary research interests focus on coastal resort degeneration and regeneration; coastal and marine planning; community resilience; governance; and property rights.



Ms. Claire Davis is Programme Manager with the Cork Smart Gateway. The Gateway was established by Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Nimbus Research Centre and Tyndall National Institute. Its purpose is to pursue and facilitate the delivery of a smart agenda for Cork through deploying

smart solutions to regional challenges, seizing emerging opportunities and enhancing the reputation of Cork as an attractive place to live, work, visit and invest. Claire previously worked in policy advisory and project management roles with Cork Chamber of Commerce and the South West Regional Authority.



Mr. Diarmaid Lawlor is Director of Place with Architecture and Design Scotland. An urbanist, with a multidisciplinary background, he has almost 20 years' experience of helping clients make well-informed decisions about complex, connected urban policy and investment challenges. He is an educator, communicator and collaborator who writes

and speaks on creative approaches to making better places.



Prof. Mary P. Corcoran is Professor of Sociology at Maynooth University. A graduate of Trinity College Dublin and Columbia University, New York, her research and teaching interests lie primarily in the fields of urban sociology, public culture and the sociology of migration. In particular, she has been at the forefront of community studies in Ireland contributing

to major studies on disadvantaged neighbourhoods, European neighbourhood regeneration through partnership, quality of life in social housing, civic, social and cultural life in the suburbs and the role of urban agriculture in social cohesion.



Prof. Peter Roberts OBE is currently Interim Chair of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, having previously served as Vice-Chair. He is also Professor Emeritus at the University of Leeds and has been a member of the ICLRD Advisory Board for the past ten years.

WHO ARE WE?

The ICLRD is a North-South-U.S. partnership that has developed out of a unique collaboration between academics and spatial planning specialists from the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) at Maynooth University, the School of the Built Environment at Ulster University, and the Institute for International Urban Development in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Formally established in 2006, we work to strengthen the policy and operational linkages between policy-makers and practitioners involved in spatial planning and social and economic development across the island of Ireland. We engage in a wide range of activities that inform policy, support transformative change, build capacity, create networks and promote good practice.

CONTACTS

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9th February 2017 Radisson Blu Hotel & Spa, Sligo

Our Future in *Place***:** The Role of People, Policy and Process in Place-Making and Place-Shaping





The International Centre for Local and Regional **Development (ICLRD)** is celebrating its tenth birthday.

The theme of place-making has lain at the heart of much of the ICLRD's work programmes – whether action research, policy briefings or capacity building programmes – over the past ten years. It is appropriate, therefore, that this topic and the opportunities it offers in unlocking the potential of places takes centre stage on this occasion.

There is a growing argument that 'place' should play an increasingly prominent role in public policy making. For those involved at a strategic level in spatial planning and economic development, place-making as a tool is not new but, in the advancement towards a knowledge-based economy, its time is certainly now. The importance of place-making, according to The European Business Review, is that it plays a much more significant role in current decisions affecting economic development than ever before – tapping into, very successfully, place-based knowledge, local passion and emotional resilience, and strong civic leadership (Hambleton, 2015).

As investment and people are now more mobile than ever before, considering the quality and potential of a place becomes ever more important. As noted by FitzGerald at the 2010 ICLRD Annual conference, quality places attract and retain skilled and talented people by providing a mix of natural, community, social, leisure, creative and cultural activities for themselves and their families. Determining what a place-based strategy should focus on starts with identifying what the location provides in terms of key assets, services and growth opportunities that shape day-to-day-life and economic opportunities. For policy-makers, this raises questions around innovation and creativity in the spheres of socio-economic, cultural and environmental development and governance – themes that will be explored during this afternoon event.

PROGRAMME		13.45–14.10	Cross-Border Place-Makingand Un-doing: An International
12.00-13.00	Registration, Light Lunch & Refreshments		Perspective Mr. Martin Guillermo-Ramírez, Secretary
13.00–13.10	Welcome & Opening Remarks Conference MC: Mr. John Driscoll, Vice		General, Association of European Border Regions
	President, Institute for International Urban Development and Executive Board Member, ICLRD	14.10–14.35	Recognising the Place-Shaping Role of Local Authorities: A New Vision for the North West Mr. Seamus Neely, Chief Executive,
Session 1: What Role for 'Place' in Public Policy and Strategy?			Donegal County Council & Mr. John Kelpie, Chief Executive, Derry City & Strabane District Council
13.10–13.15	Welcome by Chair Ms. Caroline Creamer, Director, International Centre for Local and Regional Development & Research Fellow, NIRSA, Maynooth University	14.35–14.45	A Reflection: An Emerging Place-Making Agenda for Ireland Mr. Denis Kelly, Assistant Director & Senior Planner, Northern & Western Regional Assembly
13.15-13.45	Keynote address: 'Place' in Public	14.45-15.00	Q & A
	Policy: Place-Making, Place-Shaping and Place-Marketing	15.00–15.20	Refreshments & Networking
	Prof. Robin Hambleton, Emeritus Professor of City Leadership, Centre for Sustainable Planning and Environments, University of West of England	Session 2: Plac from Others	ce-Making in Communities - Learning
		15.20–15.30	Welcome by Chair Dr. Neale Blair, Senior Lecturer, School of

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15.30–16.50 *(20mins each)*

the Built Environment, Ulster University & Executive Board Member, ICLRD

Resilient Places through Place-Making: The Experiences of Ireland's Coastal Towns

Dr. Linda McElduff, Lecturer, School of the Built Environment, Ulster University

Building SMART Places: The Cork Smart Gateway

Ms. Claire Davis, Programme Manager, Cork Smart Gateway

Putting Good Design in Place: Lessons from Scotland

Mr. Diarmaid Lawlor, Director of Place, Architecture & Design Scotland

Society, Space & the Citizenry: Future-Proofing Places for Evolving Service Needs

Prof. Mary P. Corcoran, Professor of Sociology & Head of Department, Maynooth University O&A

16.50-17.05

Plenary Session & Close

17.05–17.25 A Creative Response: Place-Making as a Process of Mutual Learning,

Co-Design and Innovation

Prof. Peter Roberts OBE, Interim Chair, Northern Ireland Housing

Executive (NIHE)

17.25–17.30 Closing Comments

Conference MC: Mr. John Driscoll

17.30 End Conference

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS AND CHAIRPERSONS



Mr. John Driscoll is Vice President and founding member of the Institute for International Urban Development based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. John was also the founding Director of the International Centre for Local and Regional Development where, between 2006-2014, he was a key driver behind innovative spatial planning and management practices in support of

cross-border and cross-community cooperation on the island of Ireland. John has over 35 years of international experience working with governments, communities and international development agencies.



Ms. Caroline Creamer is Director of the International Centre for Local and Regional Development (ICLRD) and a Research Fellow with the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis (NIRSA) at Maynooth University. A qualified town planner, Caroline has been working with local government, communities and other key stakeholders in the Irish border region

for the past decade. Her research interests include spatial

planning practice and policy, inter-territorial and cross-border development and regeneration and building community resilience.



Prof. Robin Hambleton BA MA
PhD MRTPI FRSA is Director of Urban
Answers and Emeritus Professor of City
Leadership at the University of the West

of England (UWE), Bristol. He has held professorial positions in four universities in the UK and USA – in city planning, in city management, in public administration and in city leadership. He has published eleven

books and over 400 articles. His latest book is *Leading the Inclusive City. Place-based innovation for a bounded planet.* (Policy Press, 2015). See http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?K=9781447304968 for further details.



Mr. Martin Guillermo-Ramírez is

Secretary General of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), the oldest regional association in Europe (founded in 1971), with almost one hundred member regions from across Europe - border and cross-border regions. Prior to this, Martin worked for the Regional Government of Extremadura (Spain) in the areas of

cooperation for development, international relations and health and welfare policies. A qualified medical doctor, Martín also holds a Masters in Humanitarian Medicine from the University "Miguel Hernandez".



Mr. Seamus Neely is the Chief Executive of Donegal County Council. Seamus started his public service career with Donegal County Council before moving to various roles in Cavan and Monaghan Urban District Councils, followed by ten years at Cavan County Council. He returned to Donegal County Council in late 2008 as a Director of Service. He took up his current role in June

2010. Seamus holds an honours degree in Business Studies from Ulster University and an MBA from Dublin City University. He is currently Chairman of Donegal Tourism Ltd and Donegal Economic Development Committee.



Mr. John Kelpie MEng., CEng., MIStructe., MIEI is the Chief Executive of Derry City and Strabane District Council. With new powers and covering a larger and more diverse geographical area, John has designed the new Council to be innovative, flexible and responsive to the needs of the City and Region. John previously held the

position of City Engineer at Derry City Council from 2004-2014. Prior to that he was an Associate Partner of a private-sector Structural and Civil Engineering Practice with over 15 years' experience of large scale development projects.



Mr. Denis Kelly is Assistant Director with the Northern and Western Regional Assembly, which was established in 2015 and strives to create better places through innovative regional planning and development. Denis is responsible for the preparation of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy and influencing the