

KERRY COUNTY



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Date of application: 18 January 2010
- EER year : 2011
- Applicant: *Kerry County*
- Political endorsement: Kerry County's application is supported by the Kerry County Council, as clearly demonstrated by the letter attached written by the Mayor Bobby O'Connell
- Contact person: Dr Clare Rigg, School of Business, Institute of Technology Tralee, Tel: 00353 719 1934

2. REGIONAL DATA

- NUTS3: IE025
- Population: 125,000
- Area: 1,815 sq. miles
- GDP / inhabitant:
- TEA Average Ireland: 8.7%

3. COMPETENCES / ACTIVITIES / AWARDS IN THE FIELD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Several late 20th century companies have grown from entrepreneurial beginnings to become international brand names and role models: Kerry Group, Fexco and DairyMaster
- With 30 entrepreneurial companies creating over 300 knowledge jobs, the joint campus for Shannon Development's Kerry Technology Park (KTP) and Institute of Technology Tralee (ITT) was opened in 2001
- Since 2007 the collaborative Young Entrepreneur Programme (YEP) has engaged secondary schools and 3rd level students across the county, trained teachers and exposed over 2000 students to the entrepreneur community
- YEP:- Young Entrepreneur Programme 2010 sees the 3rd cycle of YEP, studied by over 850 second and third level students in Kerry, involving 22 of the county's 27 secondary schools and the Institute of Technology Tralee
- Innovation vouchers for limited companies providing 5000 euro grants to draw on academic expertise
- Shannon Development and ITT, in collaboration with Jerry Kennelly this year launched the Endeavour Programme, a 9 month highly competitive, intensive support for 15 new high potential growth entrepreneurs
- Two major projects on energy and regional development are being led by Shannon Development: one consists of regional clusters for energy planning), the other concerns "Biomass Mobilisation"