



Northern
Periphery
Programme

2007–2013

Innovatively investing
in Europe's Northern
Periphery for a sustainable
and prosperous future



First Announcement NPP Annual Conference 2010

Stimulating Growth, Social Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

in rural areas through enhanced rural business development and core
service provision

Date: 9th of September 2010
(*in connection to the Lead Partner Seminar on 8th of September, see
separate announcement*)

Location: Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty, Co Clare, Ireland

This year's Annual Conference for the Northern Periphery Programme 2007-2013 will be a meeting focused on enhancing the quality of project implementation.

What is the conference about?

The topic of the conference is "*Stimulating Growth, Social Inclusion and Equal Opportunities in rural areas through enhanced rural business development and core service provision*". This topic corresponds with the NPP 2007-2013 horizontal principle of equal opportunities.

In addition, the conference is connected to the [European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion, 2010](#).

The purpose of the conference is to **improve the implementation of the horizontal principle of equal opportunities by NPP projects and stimulate business development in rural areas through social inclusion and equal opportunities.**

In more detail, the conference aims to:

- To raise awareness among running projects and programme bodies about the relevance of equal opportunities for project implementation, project outcomes and opportunities for the NPP area as a whole.
- To provide good practice examples of concrete steps for furthering equal opportunities.
- To show how social inclusion and equal opportunities can form part of developing businesses in rural areas.
- To provide practical tips and tools for projects to integrate equal opportunities better in project implementation and outcomes that projects can put into practice with their partnerships after the event.



Who is the conference for?

The conference is primarily targeted at Lead Partner and Partner organisations and their project coordinators, who are responsible for the day-to-day management of the project. The maximum number of participants per project is three persons.

The Members of the Programme Monitoring Committee, Regional Contact Points and other relevant stakeholders interested in the NPP 2007-2013 are most welcome to participate in the conference.

To Participate

The conference will be a 1-day event, starting with a dinner in the evening of the 8th of September. We expect the conference to finish by 4PM so that participants can start their home journey on the 9th of September from Shannon International Airport, which is a 10-15 minute drive from the venue.

A formal invitation, with agenda and registration form will be available by **early August**. A draft agenda will be distributed in good time before the conference. If you have any questions about the event, please send an e-mail to secretariat@northernperiphery.eu. We also advise you to keep yourself updated through the programme website: www.northernperiphery.eu.

On behalf of the Programme Monitoring Committee,

Niclas Forsling
Head of Secretariat
Northern Periphery Programme

