



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# **Presentation I**

**9.30 – 11.00a.m.**

## **Programme Management and Monitoring**

### **IPA Workshop**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Kieran Moylan**



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## Presentation Outline

- Roles of Managing Authority, Intermediate Bodies and Beneficiaries
- Project Management
- Monitoring Committee Roles and Procedures
- Reporting Systems
- Horizontal Principles
- Annual Implementation Report
- Amending Programmes



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union

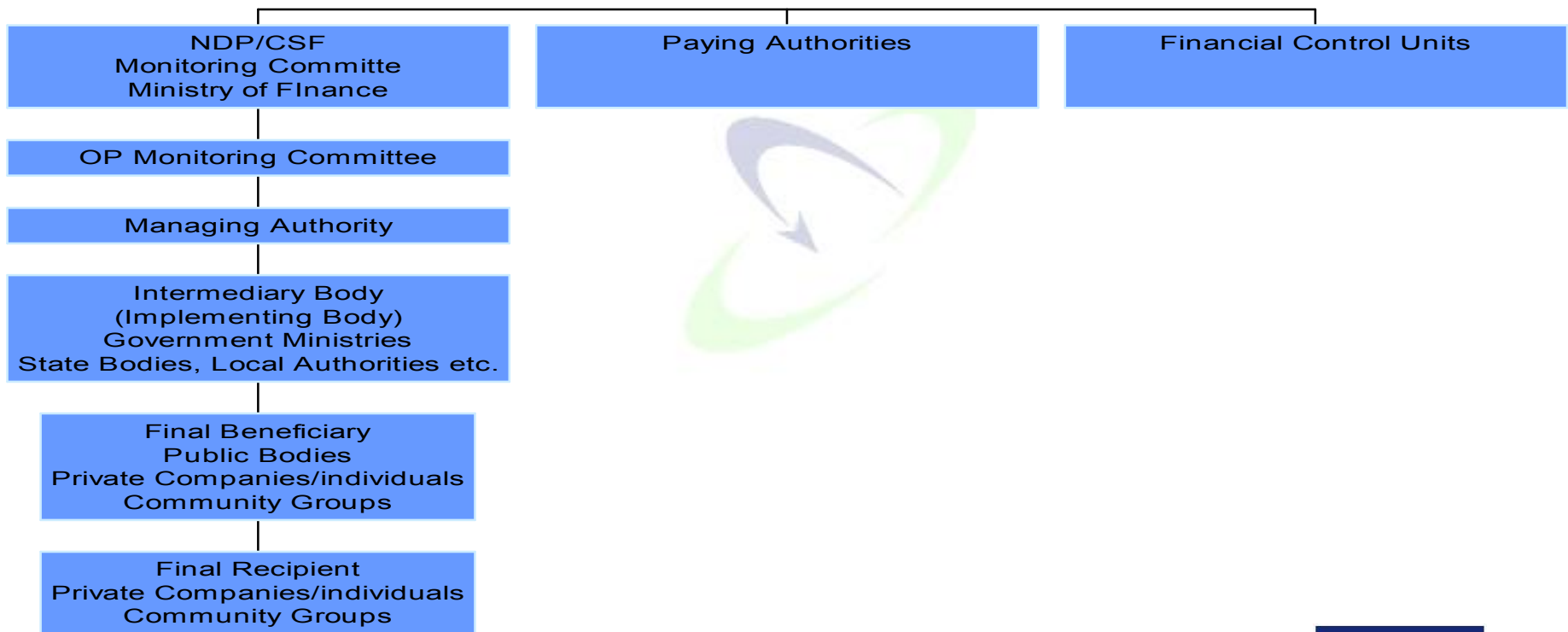


EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# Monitoring, Management and Implementation Structure 2000 - 2006



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Role of Managing Authorities

- **Managing Authorities Chair and provide secretariat for their Monitoring Committee**
- **Assemble statistical and financial information required for monitoring and evaluation of the OP**
- **Preparing documents for the Monitoring Committee**
- **Make proposals for financial reallocations;**
- **Make proposals for adjusting the programme complement where necessary;**



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Managing Authorities (Continued)

- **Ensure compliance by Implementing Bodies with Structural Funds requirements**
- **Submit payment claims to Paying Authorities and arranging payments to the final beneficiaries.**
- **Compile annual implementation report on progress**
- **Engage in reviewing with the Commission and the Ministry of Finance the main outcomes of the previous year and prepare a response to any recommendations from the Commission**
- **Organise in cooperation with the Commission, the Ministry of Finance, and the NDP/CSF Evaluation Unit, the mid-term evaluation of the OP.**



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND

# STAFF STRUCTURE

*Border, Midland & Western*  
Assembly  
*Our Future*

**DIRECTOR**

**ASST. DIRECTOR**

**Finance Unit**

**Programme  
Executive**

**Corporate  
Affairs**

**Programme  
Executive**

**Managing &  
Monitoring**

**Programme  
Executive**

**Policy & Research**

**Policy &  
Research  
Officer**

**Programme  
Liaison**

**Programme  
Liaison Officer  
- Interreg IIIB  
- Innovative Actions**

**Staff Officer**

**Asst. Staff Officer**

**Asst. Staff Officer**

**Auditor**

**Clerical Officer**

**Clerical Officer**

**Clerical Officer**



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## **ROLES OF MANAGING AUTHORITY, INTERMEDIATE BODIES & BENEFICIARIES cont'd**

### **Role of Intermediate Bodies**

- The Intermediate Body is responsible for certification of all expenditure incurred by Beneficiaries.
- Intermediate Bodies are responsible for submitting eligible expenditure in the format (both electronic and hard copy) required by the Certifying Authority to the Managing Authority in order for payment claims to be prepared for submission to the Certifying Authority.
- They are responsible for ensuring that all payment claims for Structural Fund expenditure, submitted by Beneficiaries, are supported by receipted invoices and audit documents, and that a clear audit trail exists.
- They carry out Article 4 (now Article 60(b) ) checks on Beneficiaries on basis of sampling methodology duly documented
- Provide physical and financial progress reports to Managing Authority in prescribed format for purposes of Monitoring Committee reports and Annual Implementation Reports



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

## **ROLES OF MANAGING AUTHORITY, INTERMEDIATE BODIES & BENEFICIARIES cont'd**

### **Beneficiaries**

- The Beneficiaries are responsible for ensuring that only actual eligible expenditure incurred, and expenditure which comes under the terms of the project as approved by the Intermediate Body, is submitted.
- They are required to ensure that a clear audit trail exists in relation to EU funds and that all claims are supported by receipted invoices or, where this cannot be done, by accounting documents of equivalent probative value.
- They carry out Article 4/ Article 60(b) checks on all operations
- They submit to Intermediate Bodies physical and financial progress reports



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

## ROLES OF MANAGING AUTHORITY, INTERMEDIATE BODIES & BENEFICIARIES cont'd

### *Experience from 2000-2006 Round*

- Central Exchequer pre-funds all ERDF co-financed operations - recouped ERDF funds from Brussels are returned to the Exchequer and not to individual government departments. => lack of incentives/penalties on Intermediate Bodies/Beneficiaries to carry out timely ex-poste certification
- Generally quality of reporting for Monitoring Committees improved over time, but still gaps in indicators
- Loose accountability arrangements between Managing Authority and Intermediate Bodies



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# ROLES OF MANAGING AUTHORITY, INTERMEDIATE BODIES & BENEFICIARIES cont'd

## *Innovations for 2007-2013 Round*

- Formal Administrative Agreements required between Managing Authority and all Intermediate Bodies
- In absence of Programme Complement, detailed Implementations Plans required to be drawn up between Managing Authority and Intermediate Bodies
- Quantified physical indicators (Output & Result) required to be reported on for all Priorities
- Proportionality Principle to apply to reporting and audit arrangements



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## Monitoring Committee

- Established by Member State in consultation with the Managing Authority
- Gender Balance
- 3 months after the Commission Decision on OP
- Partnership Principle
- Agree own rules of procedure
- Managing Authority provides chair and secretariat
- Meets generally twice per annum



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# Monitoring Committees

- **Separate Monitoring Committee for NDP/CSF and for each OP 2000-06**
- **Monitoring Committees met twice per year**
- **NDP/CSF Monitoring Committee makes decision across programmes**
- **OP Monitoring Committees makes decisions within programme**
- **Decide only Structural Funds co-financed expenditure**
- **Decisions based on consensus**
- **Make recommendations on non co-financed expenditure**



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Monitoring Committee

Monitoring Committee

32 Members +  
14 Advisers

Government Depts.	12
Regional Assembly	4
Regional Authority	3
Social Partners	8
Horizontal Priorities	3
North/South	1
W.D.C.	1
European Commission	5
Regional Authorities	3
EU Info Office	1
Paying Authority	3
CSF Evaluation Unit	1
Equality	1



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## MONITORING COMMITTEES cont'd

### Responsibilities

- Article 65 of the General Regulation is the key legal basis.
- Essentially the Monitoring Committee has to satisfy itself as to the effectiveness and quality of the implementation of the OP.
- Specific tasks include:
  - Approval of selection criteria
  - Periodically review progress against financial & physical targets
  - Consider and approve Annual & Final Reports
  - May propose to Managing Authority any revisions or examinations of OP
  - Consider and approve amendments to OP



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## **MONITORING COMMITTEES cont'd**

### **Rules and Procedures**

- Subject to compliance with A.65, MC's are essentially self-regulatory and agree their own rules of procedure in agreement with the Managing Authority.
- The Managing Authority provides the Monitoring Committee with the information required to carry out its functions.
- Intermediary bodies provide physical and financial progress reports covering the reporting period to the Managing Authority and these are compiled and synthesised by the Managing Authority.
- Where decisions are required to be made between meetings, the Managing Authority, with the approval of the Monitoring Committee Chairperson may convene additional meetings or request that the decision be made by means of a written procedure.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

## **MONITORING COMMITTEES cont'd**

### **Experience from 2000-2006 Round**

- Generally MC's worked well and all decisions were taken by consensus
- Where disagreements arose these were resolved using an agreed resolution procedure between the respective parties and the MA & Dept of Finance
- Meetings somewhat formulative, but did improve over time
- Concentration in latter years of OP on poorer performing Measures
- Participation by the social Partners declined over time



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## MONITORING COMMITTEES cont'd

### *Innovations for 2007-2013 Round*

- Responsibilities and procedures largely the same
- New responsibilities include
  - MC's must be informed of the annual control report, or of the part of the report referring to the OP concerned, and of any relevant comments the Commission may make after examining that report or relating to that part of the report;
  - May propose to the Managing Authority to carry out an evaluation of a particular part of the OP
  - Based on the proportionality principle, given the reduction of Funds coming to Ireland, proposing to reduce size of MC and to meet less frequently (annually).



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## REPORTING SYSTEMS 2000 - 2006

### Financial Reporting

- All Bodies in cascade required to report twice yearly (Spring & Autumn) on financial progress
- Beneficiaries report at project level to Intermediate Body level; Intermediate Body aggregates project data and reports at Measure level to Managing Authority
- Managing Authority aggregates Measure level financial data to compile Priority level financial tables; M.A. reports to Community Support Framework Monitoring Committee at Priority level
- All financial reporting at each level in cascade use a 31 column financial table for each Measure where the financial plan is annualised and progress in expenditure recorded against annual forecasts
- For Monitoring Committee purposes the figures used are the declared eligible expenditure incurred by the respective final beneficiaries over the reporting period, not the actual certified expenditure which is subsequently certified to the Paying Authority



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## REPORTING SYSTEMS cont'd

### Physical Progress Reporting

- Physical progress reporting is carried out using both qualitative and quantitative methodologies
- All Bodies in cascade required to report twice yearly (Spring & Autumn) on physical progress using both methods as appropriate
- All Measures have a suite of indicators drawn up in conjunction with the Intermediate Bodies to measure progress, including a 'Key Effectiveness Indicator', which was used for the purpose of determining the Performance Reserve
- All indicators had baseline, mid-term and final target figures.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Project Reporting to Monitoring Committee

- **Introduction – description measure, commentary on progress**
- **Expenditure to date**
- **Performance Indicators – progress to targets**
- **North/South Co-operation**
- **Information and Publicity Requirements**
- **Horizontal Issues – Environment; Gender Equality; Poverty; Rural Development**
- **Future Prospects**
- **Adjustments required**
- **Annexes**



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Preparing Progress Reports

- Cross checked to previous reports
- All sections must be completed
- Liaise with Measure Managers
- Underperforming Measures- project data now requested
- Annual report – Horizontal Principle Report required



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# Horizontal Principle Reports

- Following MTE – 5 HPs applied 2000-06
  - Environment
  - Gender
  - Social Inclusion
  - Rural Development
  - Wider Equality Grounds
- Reports submitted once a year to MC
- Co-ordinating Committees – report to MC



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# Horizontal Principle Reporting Template

- Name of Measure/Sub-Measure
- Actions over previous 12 months to incorporate the principle into the measure
- Progress against agreed performance indicators
- Contribution of the measure to the promotion of the principle
- Issues that arise for further consideration



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## **Experience from 2000-2006 Round**

- Difficulties in getting progress reports from Intermediate Bodies in timely fashion and in accordance with agreed templates
- Difficulties in having all of the physical indicator tables populated with data
- Many Measures had too many indicators
- Many of HP's were not relevant to all Measures and a prioritisation exercise had to be undertaken at the Mid Term Review whereby Measures thereafter had to report on a maximum of two HP's
- Often serious time lag between expenditure reported to Monitoring Committee and subsequent certified expenditure to Paying Authority.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

## **Innovations for 2007-2013 Round**

- Now mandatory to have quantified targets at Priority level using a limited number of output and result indicators.
- Proportionality principle applies to indicators, suggesting a fewer number of indicators required
- Must record indicators in electronic format and report annually on them to the Commission in Annual Implementation Reports
- Financial reporting also more simplified – now have just two financial plans:
  - A table showing the contribution of the EU Funds to the Programme broken down by year
  - A table showing for the whole programming period at Programme and Priority level, the contribution of the EU Funds, the National match funding (public & private), other sources of funding and the effective aid rate. Thus no longer have annual commitments at Priority level



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

## **Innovations for 2007-2013 Round Cont'd**

- Now also have, for information purposes, an indicative breakdown of Funds by category (Lisbon Earmarking)
- For Annual Implementation Reports the financial information required is a bit more prescriptive and includes;
  - expenditure paid out by beneficiaries included in payment claims sent to M.A.
  - total payments received from the Commission
  - expenditure paid out by bodies responsible for making payments to beneficiaries.
- Utilising proportionality principle, proposing to move in Ireland to annual meetings of Monitoring Committee.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Annual Implementation Report 2000 - 2006

Required under Council Reg (EC) No. 1260/99

Within six months of the end of each calendar year of implementation (i.e., 30<sup>th</sup> June)

Final report – six months after the final date of eligibility of expenditure

Commission – 2 months to signal if report is unsatisfactory

Annual Review meeting with Commission considers issues arising



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly  
*Investing in Your Future*

# Annual Implementation Report

Any changes in general conditions relevant to implementation – socio-economic overview

Progress of priorities and measures for each fund

Financial implementation of the Assistance – drawdown

Steps taken by MA &/MC to ensure quality & effectiveness of implementation



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# Annual Implementation Report

- Summary of significant problems
- Actions on recommendations made by the Commission Art 34 (2) or requests made for corrective measures (38.4)
- Technical assistance report
- Publicity & Information
- Steps taken to ensure compatibility with Community Policies



Ireland's (EU) Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*

Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

## **AMENDING PROGRAMMES**

### **Legal Basis for Amendments to OP's**

- Article 14 of Council Regulation 1260/99 sets the circumstances under which changes can be made to a Programme:
  - OP's could be adapted following the completion of the Mid-Term Evaluation and the allocation of the Performance Reserve
  - They may also be revised in the event of significant changes in the socio-economic situation and the labour market
- Any amendments must be approved by the Monitoring Committee, agreed by the Member State, and subsequently adopted by the Commission.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# AMENDING PROGRAMMES cont'd

## Experience from 2000-2006 Round

- Ireland took the opportunities presented by the mid-term evaluation, and the guidance offered by the Commission on 'simplification' to make fairly significant amendments to the OP's. In particular much of the details at Measure level was taken out of the OP's and transferred to the Programme Complement
- Also many of the Financial Plans were modified by omitting private expenditure or having it substituted with further public expenditure.
- Many of the indicators were adjusted with revised end programme targets
- Outside of the mid term review, a small number of other OP amendments were made over the lifetime of the programmes, such as widening the scope of co-financing, transferring funds across Priorities and Programmes and adjusting grant rates, etc.



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



*Border, Midland & Western*  
Regional Assembly

*Investing in Your Future*

# AMENDING PROGRAMMES cont'd

## Innovations for 2007-2013 Round

- Legal basis for amending Programmes is contained in Article 33 of the Council Regulation 1083/2006
- The scope and possibilities for making revisions to OP's has been greatly widened – there are now 5 No. circumstances under which this may be done
  - following significant socio-economic changes
  - in order to take greater or different account of major changes in Community, national or regional priorities
  - in light of on-going evaluations carried out under Article 48
  - following implementation difficulties
  - following allocation under National Performance or Contingency Reserves
- Commission now has only three months from submission of request from Member State to make a decision
- The revision of the OP will not require a revision of the Commission's original decision approving the Programme under Article 28(3).



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007-2013

Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND