

LDCN NSSIH Project Lead

About Local Development Companies Network

Local Development Companies Network (LDCN; *formerly Irish Local Development Network or ILDN*) is the national representative body for Local Development Companies (LDCs) in Ireland. LDCs operate in all urban, rural and island communities and are overseen by voluntary boards that are constituted to ensure a community-led, socially inclusive focus.

Each of our member LDCs are unique and provides services that reflect the needs of their communities. Beyond the core programmes, LDCs also deliver national and European initiatives that enhance the development of their communities through enterprise, training, activation, education, health, and community supports. LDCN as a representative body liaises with funders and policymakers to ensure the voice of communities and programme delivery specialists are highlighted in national, regional and local community policy and provision.

Purpose

This is an exciting new role in LDCN to deliver on the New Solutions Social Innovation Hub(NSSIH); A partnership of Ireland's leading social innovation organisations, of which LDCN is a consortium member. Funding will be for a fixed term 2.5 year contract.

The LDCN Project Lead will have responsibility for delivering specific actions under the NSSIHs work plan and some associated projects and programmes across the Local Development Companies on behalf of the Network. LDCN has responsibility for delivering the **New Solutions Lab**, "*supporting social innovators in the early stages of their ideas and projects*".

The project lead will drive activities to support the LDCs, (along with the social innovators and social enterprises they work with), to engage with NSSIH. This role will also be tasked with ensuring LDCs are empowered to engage with the Hub as it develops and establishes, and active regular engagement with all members of the consortium. The project lead will have a key role in planning and devising programmes, events and activities during the year, which will take place regionally and locally across the country to fulfil the commitments of this consortium.

While this role has very detailed specific tasks, it will also require candidates to work closely with a small team who have broader remit to support LDCs in all of their work. This will require a degree of flexibility from time to time.



Duties and Responsibilities--:

- To work with LDCs and their local networks to ascertain critical success factors over the lifetime of this pilot
- Close collaboration with project staff of NSSIH's consortium partners
- To co-ordinate and lead out on in-person and virtual workshops to support ideation, including the development of content and delivery / facilitation of workshops
- To contribute to, engage in and support the pilots established under this project.
- To assist in developing capacity building supports for Local Development Companies to deliver in their communities
- To develop and deliver webinars for social innovators
- To devise and develop curriculum content for support to social innovators.
- To analyse social innovation networks operating at a local level and to promote best practice
- To promote citizen engagement, guided by LDC track record in community engagement
- To develop awareness raising, ideation and pre-development workshops to be delivered at a community level
- Coordinating with LDCN staff in planning, designing and scheduling all events and workshops
- Working closely with LDCN 'Communities of Practice'
- All programme compliance and monitoring and preparing reports internally and to funders' specifications
- Lead on building and supporting relationships with key stakeholders
- Adhere to LDCN policies and internal controls in order to maximise efficiency and minimise risk exposure
- Ensure compliance with the company's data protection policies to ensure compliance with data protection legislation. (GDPR requirements)
- Participate in all training/ development as directed
- Any other duties which may be assigned from time to time.

Qualifications

A relevant 3rd level qualification in business sciences, social entrepreneurship, social policy, communications, marketing, management, enterprise development, community development or a related discipline.

Candidates should demonstrate how their qualification applies to this role.

Knowledge & Expertise

The LDCN NSSIH Project Lead should be able to demonstrate **experience and expertise** in the following areas:



- Relevant experience in working with state or community based organisations, active in local and community development, enterprise, social enterprise and/or social innovation
- Prior experience in at least one of the following: developing individual and/or group-based support and workshops; provision of advice and guidance to clients setting up their own business, social enterprise or innovative project
- Relevant expertise in delivering training, research, impact measurement in this area.
- An understanding of relevant government policies such as [Trading for Impact: National Social Enterprise Policy 2024-2027](#) and related policies would be an advantage, and a thorough understanding of the social innovation landscape, relevant government policies and clients' requirements

Candidates should demonstrate how their experience applies to this role.

Skills & Competencies

- Strong Communication Skills and Capabilities, both written and verbal.
- Impact Measurement Capabilities
- Able to self-direct and prioritise work
- Confident, professional presentation skills
- Able to prepare reports and proposals for a variety of agencies
- Able to conduct themselves in a way that commands confidence and respect.
- Highly computer literate in dealing with standard MS word and data processing, spreadsheet and communication packages.

Character & Personal Qualities

- Strong interpersonal and communication skills and a capacity to work with a range of individuals and agencies
- A flexible approach in the work place with a capacity to work outside normal office hours
- Be passionate about learning, creative and forward thinking.
- Able to work in a self-directed dynamic manner
- Understand and show commitment to the values of LDCN

Application Process

A detailed CV and Cover Letter (no more than 1 page), demonstrating suitability for the role should be sent to mairin.ocuireain@ldcn.ie by April 12th 2026, with, LDCN NSSIH Project Lead in the subject line.

Interviews will take place week commencing 20th April – Venue To Be Confirmed



Job Detail

<i>Status</i>	2.5 year fixed term contract.
<i>Location</i>	LDCN is a national organisation and as such, we are open to hearing from candidates in any county. Hybrid work arrangements are possible. Inter county travel essential with the role.
<i>Hours of Work</i>	35 hours per week, flexibility required.
<i>Salary</i>	Starting Salary €53000
<i>Reporting to</i>	CEO

