

TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2005

Don Aire Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta. De réir Ailt 18 agus 19 den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979, tá an tuarascáil agus ráitis airgeadais don bhliain 2005 á dtíolacadh ag Údarás na Gaeltachta.

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

To the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. In accordance with Sections 18 and 19 of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979, the report and financial statements for the year 2005 are being presented by Údarás na Gaeltachta.

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An tÚdarás

Bord an Údaráis

An Cathaoirleach:

Liam Ó Cuinneagáin

Comhaltaí an Údaráis dála ag 31/12/05:

Réigiún na Mumhan

Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Breandán Mac Gearailt
Séamus Mac Gearailt
Micheál Ó Scanaill

Réigiún Chonnacht/Laighean

Ian Mac Aindriú
Séamas Breathnach
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Connie Ní Fhatharta
Cathy Ní Ghoill
Val Hanley
Treasa Uí Lorcáin
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg

Réigiún Dhún na nGall

Daithí Alcorn
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Gráinne Mhic Géidigh

Coistí Réigiúnacha

Trí struchtúr reachtúil na gcoistí réigiúnacha cinntítear go héifeachtach gur laistigh de na pobail Ghaeltachta a dhéantar cinntí maidir leis an bhforbairt áitiúil. Tá trí choiste ann a dhéanann ionadaíocht ar cheantair Dhún na nGall, ar réigiún Chonnacht/Laighean agus ar réigiún na Mumhan, agus is féidir leo sin deontais channacha suas go dtí €317,435 a cheadú do thionscadail. Déanann na comhaltaí ionadaíocht ar a gceantair féin ar na Coistí Réigiúnacha. Bhí suas le deich gcrúinniú ag gach Coiste Réigiúnach i rith 2005.

Struchtúir faoi leibhéal an Bhoird

Bíonn gach comhalta boird páirteach i gCoistí earnála agus i bhFochoistí.

An Coiste Meastóireachta

Coiste reachtúil é seo a dhéanann meastóireacht ar thionscadail mhóra agus a chuireann moltaí chuig an mBord. Ar an gcoiste sin tá an Cathaoirleach, tríúr comhaltaí tofa boird agus an Príomhfheidhmeannach mar aon le hionadaithe ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, GFT (Éire) agus Fiontraíocht Éireann. Bhí cruinniú amháin ag an gcoiste seo sa bhliain 2005.

An Coiste Iniúchta

De réir an Chóid Chleachtais do Chomhlachtaí Stáit, tá Coiste Iniúchta ag Údarás na Gaeltachta. Air sin tá an Cathaoirleach, ceathrar comhaltaí eile den Údarás agus comhalta seachtrach amháin. Scrúdaíonn an coiste seo ráitis airgeadais, cúrsaí rialaithe chorparáidigh, tuairiscí ón Iniúcháir Inmheánach agus ón Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste, agus obair eile a dhéantar i dtaca leis an eagraíocht agus lena fochuideachtaí.

The Board of an tÚdarás

An Cathaoirleach:

Liam Ó Cuinneagáin

Members of An tÚdarás as at 31/12/05:

Munster Region

Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Breandán Mac Gearailt
Séamus Mac Gearailt
Micheál Ó Scanaill

Connacht/Leinster Region

Ian Mac Aindriú
Séamas Breathnach
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Connie Ní Fhatharta
Cathy Ní Ghoill
Val Hanley
Treasa Uí Lorcáin
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg

Donegal Region

Daithí Alcorn
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Gráinne Mhic Géidigh

Regional Committees

The statutory regional committees' structure effectively localises decision-making in relation to local development within the Gaeltacht communities. Three committees representing the areas of Donegal, the Connacht/Leinster region and the Munster region can approve grant-aid to projects up to a cumulative level of €317,435. The members represent their own areas on the Regional Committees. Each Regional Committee sat approximately ten times during 2005.

Sub-Board Structures

Each board member participates in sectoral Committees and Sub-Committees.

Evaluation Committee

This is a statutory committee which evaluates large-scale projects and makes recommendations to the Board. Membership comprises An Cathaoirleach, three elected board members and the Chief Executive as well as representatives from the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, IDA (Ireland) and Enterprise Ireland. This committee sat once during 2005.

Audit Committee

In accordance with the Code of Practice for State Bodies, Údarás na Gaeltachta has an Audit Committee. This comprises An Cathaoirleach, four board members and an external member. This committee examines financial statements, corporate governance matters, reports from the Internal Auditor and from the Comptroller and Auditor General and other work carried out in relation to the organisation and its subsidiary companies.

Fochoistí

Trí fhochoiste speisialta atá ann ar a raibh an Cathaoirleach, idir 11 agus 13 chomhalta boird, agus beirt ionadaithe bainistíochta. Seo a leanas ballraíocht na bhfochoistí ag deireadh 2005:

An Fochoiste Bunstruchtúir Fhisiciúil agus Teileachumarsáide

Ian Mac Aindriú
Daithí Alcorn
Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Connie Ní Fhátharta
Breandán Mac Gearailt
Séamus Mac Gearailt
Val Hanley
Frank Ó Conláin (Feidhmeannach)
Seán Mac Gloinn (Feidhmeannach)

An Fochoiste Teanga, Oideachais agus Oiliúna

Ian Mac Aindriú
Daithí Alcorn
Séamas Breathnach
Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Connie Ní Fhátharta
Breandán Mac Gearailt
Séamus Mac Gearailt

Gráinne Mhic Géidigh

Val Hanley
Micheál Ó Scanaill
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg
Peadar Ó Maoláin (Feidhmeannach)
Fionnbarra Ó Muirí (Feidhmeannach)

An Fochoiste Forbartha Pobail, Comharchumainn, Oileáin agus Ceantair

Thearcfhorbartha
Séamas Breathnach
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Gráinne Mhic Géidigh
Cathy Ní Ghoill
Micheál Ó Scanaill
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg
Tadhg Ó Conghaile (Feidhmeannach)
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig (Feidhmeannach)

Iar-Chomhaltaí Boird

Tháinig deireadh le tréimhse oifige na gcomhaltaí seo a leanas ar 2 Aibreán 2005:

Seán Ó Baoill
Pádraic Ó Biadha
Seán Ó Droighneán
Seán Ó Neachtain

Sub-Committees

Each of three special sub-committees comprised An Cathaoirleach, between 11 and 13 board members, and two management representatives. The membership of the sub-committees at the end of 2005 was as follows:

The Physical and Telecommunications Infrastructure Sub-Committee

Ian Mac Aindriú
Daithí Alcorn
Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Connie Ní Fhátharta
Breandán Mac Gearailt
Séamus Mac Gearailt
Val Hanley
Frank Ó Conláin (Executive)
Seán Mac Gloinn (Executive)

The Culture, Education and Training Sub-Committee

Ian Mac Aindriú
Daithí Alcorn
Séamas Breathnach
Fiachra Ó Céilleachair
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Connie Ní Fhátharta
Breandán Mac Gearailt

Séamus Mac Gearailt
Gráinne Mhic Géidigh
Val Hanley
Micheál Ó Scanaill
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg
Peadar Ó Maoláin (Executive)
Fionnbarra Ó Muirí (Executive)

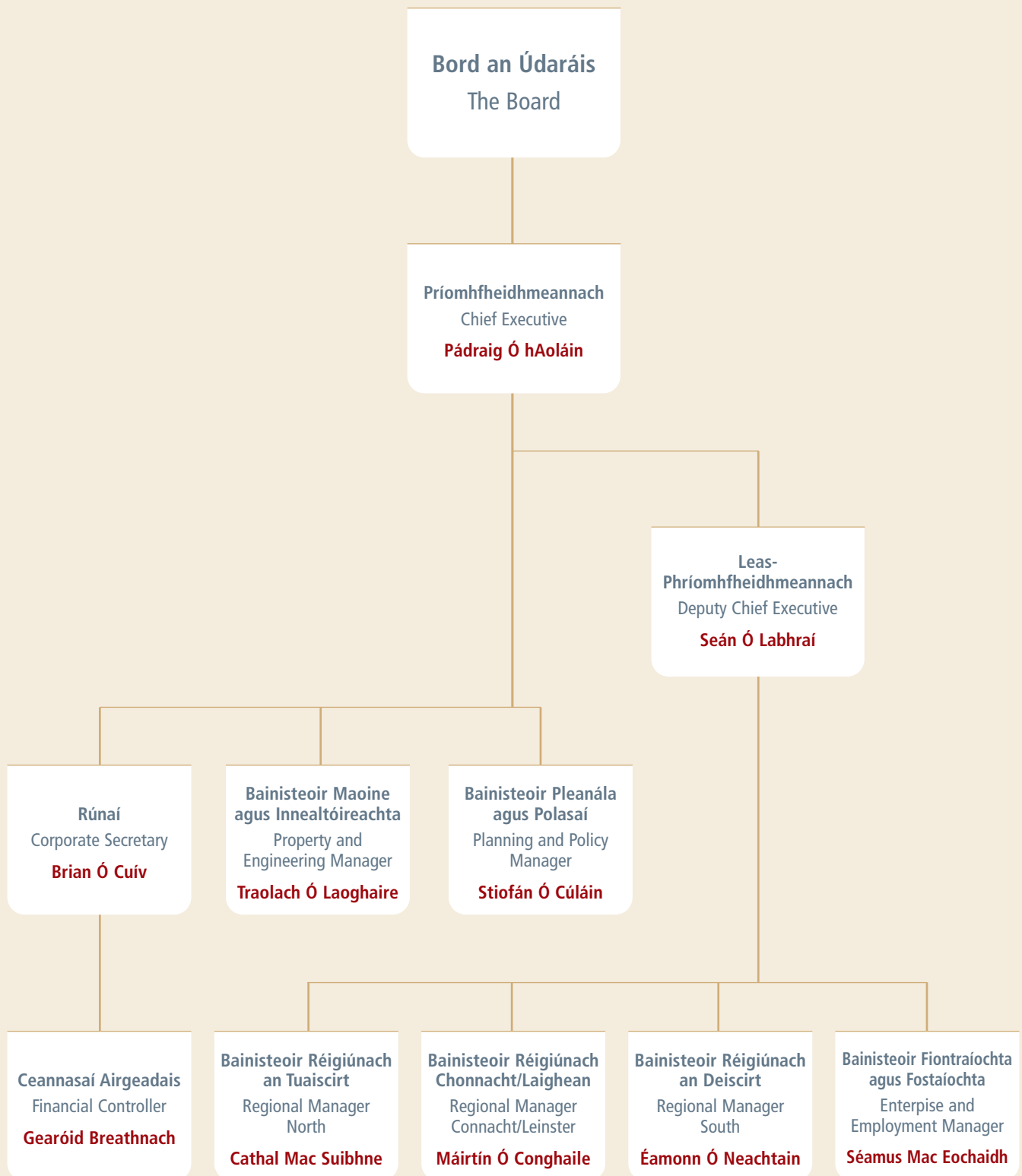
The Community Development, Cooperatives, Islands and Underdeveloped Areas Sub-Committee

Séamas Breathnach
Seán Ó Créabháin
Seosamh Ó Cuaig
Tadhg Ó Cuinn
Liam Ó Cuinneagáin (Cathaoirleach)
Pádraig Ó Dochartaigh
Brian Ó Domhnaill
Gráinne Mhic Géidigh
Cathy Ní Ghoill
Micheál Ó Scanaill
Cathal Seoighe
Seán Ó Tuairisg
Tadhg Ó Conghaile (Executive)
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig (Executive)

Former Board Members

The period of office of the following members ended on the 2nd April 2005:

Seán Ó Baoill
Pádraic Ó Biadha
Seán Ó Droighneán
Seán Ó Neachtain





Réamhrá

Introduction

An Ghaeltacht

Clúdaíonn an Ghaeltacht codanna fairsinge de chontaetha Dhún na nGall, Mhaigh Eo, na Gaillimhe agus Chiarraí – iad ar fad geall leis ar imeallbhord an Iarthair – agus codanna freisin de chontaetha Chorcaí, na Mí agus Phort Láirge.

Ó bunaíodh an Stát ghlac Rialtas i ndiaidh a chéile leis go raibh fíorthábhacht ag baint le caomhnú agus le forbairt na Gaeltachta mar phobal labhartha Gaeilge. Ní hamháin go soláthraíonn sí deis agus dúshlán chun leanúnachas na Gaeilge mar theanga phobail a choinneáil beo go nádúrtha, ach freisin soláthraíonn an Ghaeltacht an timpeallacht is fearr ar fad do dhaoine ar mian leo an Ghaeilge a bheith ar a dtóil acu. Tá na ceantair sin ina gcodanna bunúsacha d'fhorbairt sochaí dhátheangach in Éirinn agus cuireann siad timpeallacht ar fáil inar féidir leis an teanga dul chun cinn a dhéanamh i gcomhthéacs nua-aimseartha.

Údarás na Gaeltachta

Is é Údarás na Gaeltachta an t-aon ghníomhaireacht stáit ina bhfuil formhór (17 as 20) na gcomhaltaí boird tofa go daonlathach. Údarás saineiúil réigiúnach atá ann a bhfuil réimse leathan de ghníomhaíochtaí forbartha idir lámha aige.

Tá dualgas reachtúil ar Údarás na Gaeltachta forbairt a dhéanamh ar gheilleagar na Gaeltachta ar mhaithe le spreagadh a thabhairt do chaomhnú agus do leathadh na Gaeilge mar phríomh-mheán cumarsáide sa Ghaeltacht. Chun na haidhmeanna sin a chur chun cinn, tacaíonn an tÚdarás le scéimeanna táirgiúla fostaíochta trí fhorbairt a dhéanamh ar acmhainní nádúrtha áitiúla agus ar chumais fhiontraíochta, trí infheistíocht shoghluaiste a mhealladh chun na Gaeltachta agus trí thacaíocht a thabhairt do thionscnaimh fhorbartha pobail. Cuidíonn sé freisin le réimse leathan de thionscnaimh theanga agus chultúrtha atá dírithe ar an nGaeilge a neartú mar phríomh-mheán cumarsáide i ngach earnáil de shaoil an phobail.

Tá daonra na Gaeltachta beagán os cionn 90,000 de réir Daonáirimh 2002 agus tá 28,500 d'fhórsa oibre inti. Ag deireadh na bliana bhí 7,658 duine fostaíthe go lánaimseartha agus 4,525 eile fostaíthe go páirtaimseartha i gcliaint-thionscadail de chuid an Údaráis i réimsí ar nós innealtóireacht, leictreonaic, uisceshaothrú, turasóireacht agus acmhainní nádúrtha, gníomhaíochtaí cíosamhairc agus seirbhísí nua-aimseartha.

Tá feirmeoireacht agus iascaireacht i measc na ngníomhaíochtaí eile atá tábhachtach d'eacnamaíocht na Gaeltachta.

An Ghaeltacht

The Gaeltacht covers extensive parts of counties Donegal, Mayo, Galway and Kerry – all on the western seaboard – and also parts of counties Cork, Meath and Waterford. Although all of the Gaeltacht population speak English, these are the only parts of Ireland where Irish is still spoken as a community language.

The maintenance and development of the Gaeltacht as an Irish-speaking community has been regarded by successive Governments since the foundation of the State as of the utmost importance. Not only does the Gaeltacht present an opportunity and a challenge to maintain naturally the continuity of Irish as a community language, but it also provides the ideal environment for people who wish to become proficient in Irish. These areas form an important cornerstone in the building of a bilingual society in Ireland and provide an environment where the language can evolve naturally in a modern setting.

Údarás na Gaeltachta

Údarás na Gaeltachta is the only state development agency where the majority (17 out of 20) of the board members are democratically elected. It is a unique regional authority with wide ranging development functions.

The statutory brief of Údarás na Gaeltachta is to develop the economy of the Gaeltacht and thereby the preservation and extension of Irish as the principal means of communication in the Gaeltacht. In furtherance of these aims, An tÚdarás promotes productive schemes of employment through the development of local natural resources, skills and entrepreneurial abilities and the attraction of mobile investment to the Gaeltacht. It also promotes and supports community development initiatives and a wide range of language and cultural schemes aimed at strengthening the place of Irish as the principal means of communication among all sections and sectors of the community.

The population of the Gaeltacht is a little in excess of 90,000 as per the 2002 Census of Population and the total labour force is 28,500. At year end there were 7,658 people employed full-time and 4,525 part-time in Údarás-supported sectors such as engineering, electronics, aquaculture, tourism, natural resources, audio-visual activities and modern services.

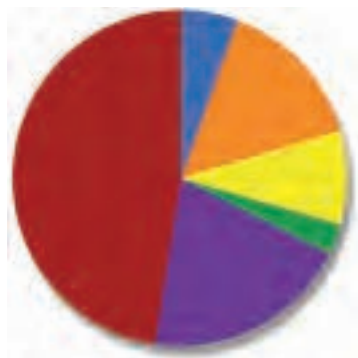
Other important economic activities within the Gaeltacht include farming and fishing.

Súilfhéachaint Siar/Overview

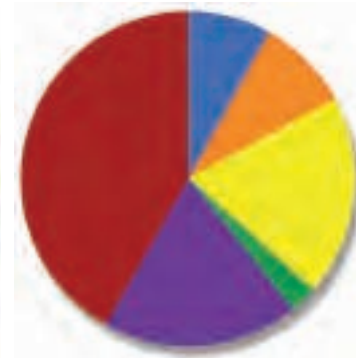
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
ÚDARÁS NA GAELTACHTA					
Glan-Sócmhainní Dochta/Net Fixed Assets (€'000)	162,719	143,714	138,212	135,681	129,657
Glan-Sócmhainní Reatha/Net Current Assets (€'000)	(259)	(1,195)	(1,457)	(2,706)	(1,689)
Fostaíocht Lánaimseartha/Full-Time Employment	107	117	116	113	107
Tuarastail agus Pá/Salaries and Pay (€'000)	6,534	6,794	7,268	7,926	7,993
FOTHIONSCAIL AGUS COMHTHIONSCAIL					
SUBSIDIARY AND ASSOCIATE INDUSTRIES					
Infheistíocht an Údaráis sa Scairchaipiteal/ Údarás Investment in Share Capital (€'000)	1,959	3,424	691	3,283	2,211
Deontais a Ceadaiódh/Grants Approved (€'000)	6,026	7,295	10,068	6,679	6,944
Deontais a Íocadh/Grants Paid (€'000)	5,731	6,031	6,885	8,587	7,336
MÓRTHIONSCAIL AGUS MIONTIONSCADAIL					
LARGE AND SMALL BUSINESSES					
Deontais a Ceadaiódh/Grants Approved (€'000)	15,449	19,345	17,391	15,348	13,139
Deontais a Íocadh/Grants Paid (€'000)	11,007	9,338	9,402	9,540	10,463
FOSTAÍOCHT I DTIONSCADAIL A FUAIR CÚNAMH					
EMPLOYMENT IN ASSISTED BUSINESSES					
Fostaíocht Lánaimseartha/Full-time Employment	8,093	7,571	7,346	7,507	7,658
Fostaíocht Shéasúrach agus Pháirtaimseartha/ Seasonal and Part-time Employment	4,234	4,086	4,220	4,470	4,525
FOIRGNIMH					
BUILDINGS					
Caiteachas ar Fhoirgnimh/ Expenditure on Buildings (€'000)	19,175	18,553	7,843	8,806	6,948
AIRGEAD A FUARTHAS ÓN STÁT					
EXCHEQUER FUNDING					
Deontais – Caiteachas Reatha/ Grants – Current Expenditure (€'000)	6,222	8,675	8,720	13,193	14,155
Deontais – Deontais do Thionscail agus Caiteachas Caipitil/ Grants – Grants to Industry & Capital Expenditure (€'000)	35,616	34,300	24,000	20,000	22,500

FOSTAÍOCHT DE RÉIR EARNÁLA
EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR


Acmhainní nádúrtha	837
Bia	1283
Déantúis eile	1546
Éadach/Teicstíl	256
Innealtóireacht	1267
Seirbhísí	2469

IOMLÁN 7658
DEONTAIS A CEADAÍODH I 2005 DE RÉIR EARNÁLA
GRANTS APPROVED IN 2005 BY SECTOR


Acmhainní nádúrtha	900,717
Bia	2,420,380
Déantúis eile	1,506,365
Éadach/Teicstíl	460,300
Innealtóireacht	3,306,508
Seirbhísí	7,738,695
*Saoi Teo	3,750,000

IOMLÁN 20,082,966
MÉADUITHE FOSTAÍOCHTA I 2005 DE RÉIR EARNÁLA
INCREASES IN EMPLOYMENT IN 2005 BY SECTOR


Acmhainní nádúrtha	80
Bia	91
Déantúis eile	194
Éadach/Teicstíl	27
Innealtóireacht	187
Seirbhísí	414

IOMLÁN 993
Foinsí fáis na fostaíochta 2001-2005

Sources of employment growth 2001-2005

Bliain Year	Bonn Fostaíochta Employment Base	Poist Nua i dTionscadail atá ann cheana New Jobs Created in Established Businesses	Poist Nua Cruthaithe trí Thionscadail Nua New Jobs Created in New Businesses	Iomlán na bPost Nua Cruthaithe Total New Jobs Created
2001	8093	813 - (72%)	310 - (28%)	1123 - (100%)
2002	7571	458 - (50%)	452 - (50%)	910 - (100%)
2003	7346	562 - (53%)	490 - (47%)	1052 - (100%)
2004	7507	688 - (64%)	383 - (36%)	1071 - (100%)
2005	7658	711 - (72%)	282 - (28%)	993 - (100%)

GLUAIS/GLOSSARY

Acmhainní Nádúrtha	Natural Resources
Bia	Food
Déantúis Eile	Other Production
Éadach/Teicstíl	Textiles
Innealtóireacht	Engineering
Seirbhísí	Services

*Níl an deontas a cheadaítear do ghníomhaíochtaí oiliúna agus oideachais Saoi Teo earnáil-bhunaithe.

*Aid approved for Saoi Teo's training and education activities is not sector based



Ráiteas an Chathaoirligh Chairman's Statement

Ó bunaíodh é corradh agus 25 bliain ó shin tá torthaí suntasacha bainte amach ag Údarás na Gaeltachta. Bhí tionchar nach beag ag a chlár eacnamaíochta, shóisialta agus chultúrtha ar fud na Gaeltachta. Tá bonn láidir fostaíochta chomh maith le punann leathan infreastruchtúir gnó, tionsclaíochta agus eile cruthaithe ag na clár fhorbartha eacnamaíochta agus chuidigh na tionscnaimh shóisialta agus teanga go mór le buaú staid na teanga agus feabhsú caighdeán an tsaoil sa Ghaeltacht.

Gan aon amhras, chruthaigh buacacht bhríomhar eacnamaíochta na tíre trí chéile comhthéacs tacúil/fábhruil do chruthú fostaíochta. Sháraíomar arís sprioc 800 post nua sa bhliain atá leagtha amach dúinn sa Phlean Forbartha Náisiúnta. Tá dúshlán mhóra romhainn, áfach, in imshaol náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta atá níos iomaíche ná riamh má tá an tÚdarás leis an infheistíocht a fháil atá riachtanach lenár spriocanna fostaíochta a bhaint amach agus an infheistíocht sin a lonnú sna háiteanna is géire a dteastaíonn sí.

Leanfar leis an bhéim straitéiseach, ar ndóigh, ar earnáil na seirbhísí, an phríomhfhoinsé fáis i dtéarmaí comparáideacha. Tá béim bhreise á cur againn ar acmhainní dúchasacha. Leanfaidh déantúsaíocht nideoige, áfach, mar fhoinsé thábhachtach fostaíochta don Ghaeltacht isteach sa todhchaí. Tá athfhócas á chur againn ar an mbonn fostaíochta atá ann chun an méid is mó is féidir postanna nua a ghiniúint ón bhfoinsé sin agus chun líon na gcaillteanas a laghdú oiread agus is féidir. Leanfaimid orainn ag tacú le

comhlachtaí Gaeltachta trí infheistíocht leanúnach i dtaighde agus forbairt, in acmhainní daonna, i bhfeabhsú cumais, agus i bhforbairt mhargaíochta lena gcumas iomaíochta a fheabhsú agus a gcuid fostaíochta a bhuanú. Dúshlán eile fós, dúshlán suaithinseach ann féin d'Údarás na Gaeltachta, is ea a chinntiú go mbíonn céimeanna cosanta agus tionscnaíochta teanga ina gcuid dílis den phróiseas cruthaithe fostaíochta agus forbartha pobail.

Súilfhéachaint ar fhostaíocht 2005

Bhí méadú glan 151 post ar an iomlán an bhliain seo caite de thoradh 993 post nua a chruthú agus caillteanas post a choinneáil ag leibhéal 842. Fágann sé sin 7,658 duine fostaithe i gcliant-tionscadail an Údaráis ar an iomlán. Tá an toradh seo mórán ar aon dul le toradh 2004. Bhí toradh maith arís ar an bhéim straitéiseach ar an earnáil seirbhísí agus d'fhás an fhostaíocht fosta i réimsí na hinnealtóireachta agus na déantúsaíochta. Níor chruthaigh gach earnáil go maith, áfach, agus léirigh earnáil an bhia – próiseáil éisc go háirithe – an caillteanas glan is mó. Tá tionchar diúltach i gcónaí ar phróiseáil éisc ag an laghdú i ngabhálacha éisc agus ag staid lagaíthe thionscal na feirmeoireachta bradáin. Níl aon ghealladh maith ann do ghabhálacha éisc sa mheántearma agus d'fhéadfadh caillteanas breise jabanna a bheith ann dá thoradh sin. Tá ábhar dóchais, áfach, gur féidir le tionscal na mbradáin teacht chuige féin thar an tréimhse trí go cúig bliana seo romhainn mar tá athstruchtúrú á chur i bhfeidhm ar fheirmeacha áirithe

Since its establishment just over 25 years ago, Údarás na Gaeltachta's track record speaks for itself. Its economic, social and cultural development programmes have had a significant impact throughout the Gaeltacht. The economic development programmes have created a strong employment base as well as a varied portfolio of business, industrial and other development infrastructure while the social and language initiatives have contributed significantly to stabilising the language situation and improving the overall quality of life in the Gaeltacht.

Undoubtedly, the continuing economic buoyancy in the country has created a favourable context for job creation. Last year we again surpassed the National Development Plan target of 800 new jobs. However, we are facing major challenges in a much more competitive national and international environment if we are to source the level of new investment required to meet our job targets and locate that investment in areas where it is most needed.

The strategic emphasis on the services sector, the main growth area in comparative terms, will, of course, continue. We are increasing the emphasis on indigenous resources. However, niche manufacturing will also remain a very important source of Gaeltacht employment into the future. We are refocusing on the existing employment base to maximize the potential of existing industry as a source of extra jobs and to stem

the flow of job losses. We will continue to actively support Gaeltacht companies by ongoing investment in research and development, human resources and capacity, and in market development to increase their competitiveness and contain job losses. An additional and unique challenge for Údarás na Gaeltachta is to ensure that language protection and promotional measures form an integral part of the job-creation and community development process.

2005 Jobs at a Glance

There was an overall net gain of 151 jobs last year, arising from 993 new jobs being created and losses being contained at 842, resulting in an overall employment total of 7,658 in Údarás supported businesses. These results are broadly comparable to 2004. The strategic emphasis on the services sector continued to bear fruit and other areas that experienced growth were engineering and manufacturing. However, all sectors did not fare equally and the food area in particular – mainly fish processing – showed the highest net losses. The reduction in fish landings and the weakened position of the salmon farming industry continue to impact negatively on fish processing. The medium term outlook for landings is not positive and this could result in further job losses. However, there are grounds for optimism that salmon farming can recover

i gConamara Theas agus tá roinnt feirmeacha tosaithe ag feidhmiú ar bhonn comharaíochta foirmeálta. Is é an toradh a bheidh air seo ná córas comhardaithe fómhaireachta a mhéadóidh acmhainneacht na bhfeirmeacha éagsúla, ar a mbeidh de thoradh buanadas níos fearr praghasanna agus aisíoc níos fearr dá réir.

Bonneagar Fisiciúil agus Teileachumarsáide

Tá cumas comhlachtaí agus pobail Ghaeltachta le bheith iomaíoch agus le forbairt ar bhonn cothrom le ceantair eile ar fud na tíre ag brath go mór ar ghréasán maith bóithre agus rochtain iomlán ar chóras leathanbhanda ardluais ar phraghas iomaíoch a bheith ar fáil. Tá go leor ama agus acmhainní caite ag an Údarás ag iarraidh ar na comhlachtaí atá freagrach as na réimsí seo an dá easnamh mhóra seo a chur ina gceart. Tá feabhas suntasach tagtha le dhá bhliain anuas ar chodanna móra den ghréasán bóithre réigiúnacha de bharr chomhaoinithe idir an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta agus na húdaráis áitiúla. Tá breis infheistíochta sa réimse seo riachtanach, áfach. Is é an dála céanna é chomh fada agus a bhaineann leis an infreastruchtúr Teileachumarsáide atá feabhsaithe go mór le blianta beaga anuas, cé gur ó bhonn an-lag é. Tá ceangaltas DSL leathanbhanda ar fáil anois ó Eircom in 11 malartán sa Ghaeltacht agus tá uasghrádú le déanamh ar 14 malartán eile i rith 2006. Ba ghá don Údarás ranníocaíocht chaipitil a íoc lena chinntiú go ndéanfaí uasghrádú ar go leor de na malartáin seo. Tá

leathanbhanda saillíte/raidió á forbairt i roinnt mhaith ceantar le tacaíocht mhaoinithe ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta (trí scéim CLÁR), agus ón Roinn Cumarsáide, Mara agus Acmhainní Nádúrtha tríd an nGrúpscéim Leathanbhanda. Fós féin tá bearnaí móra sa tsuirbhís i dtólamh i limistéir mhóra den Ghaeltacht. Beidh idirghabháil stáit riachtanach chun córas cuí cultaca leathanbhanda a chur ar fáil mar ní dócha go mbeidh an leibhéal éilimh i gceantair áirithe a mheallfaidh soláthróir príobháideach.

Infreastruchtúr Gnó agus Forbairt Áitiúil

Ar cheann de phríomhaidhmeanna na heagraíochta tá forbairt á déanamh ar láidreachtaí pobail agus ar fhiontraíocht dhúchasach bunaithe ar acmhainní nádúrtha áitiúla agus cultúrtha chomh maith le ceardaíocht agus seirbhísí áitiúla. Tá comharchumainn phobail agus comhlachtaí pobalbhunaithe mar ghnéithe lárnacha de straitéis fhorbartha áitiúil an Údaráis. Cuireann siad ar chumas pobail a gcuid tosaíochtaí féin a shocrú agus a leagan amach, ach chomh maith leis sin tá siad mar fheithiclí chun bainistiú a dhéanamh ar réimse tionscadal beaga eacnamaíochta, sóisialta agus cultúrtha. Is féidir leo, fosta, úinéireacht a ghlacadh ar sheirbhísí áirithe pobail agus, i gcásanna áirithe, ar shócmhainní.

Mar dhúshraith den straitéis fhorbartha áitiúil seo tá soláthar spáis nua-aimseartha fiontraíochta agus górlainne gnó, go háirithe sna ceantair thearcfhorbartha agus ar na hoiléain. Tá tús áite á thabhairt againn

over the next three to five years as there has been a restructuring of some farms in south west Connemara and farmers have moved towards working on a formalised cooperative basis. This will result in a more coordinated system of harvesting, thereby maximizing the potential of operating farms and will, in turn, lead towards greater price stability and potentially better returns.

Physical and Telecommunications Infrastructure

The ability of Gaeltacht companies and communities to compete and develop on an equal footing with other areas throughout the country will not be achieved without a good road network and full access to cost competitive, high speed broadband. An tÚdarás has put considerable time and effort into having these two infrastructural deficits addressed by the responsible bodies. There has been a major improvement in the past two years in substantial parts of the regional roads infrastructure due to the joint funding initiatives of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the local authorities. Continued investment in this area is vital. A similar situation pertains to the telecommunications infrastructure, which has seen major advancements in a short number of years, albeit from a very weak base. Broadband DSL from Eircom is now available from 11 exchanges and an additional 14 are to be upgraded in 2006. A capital contribution

from Údarás na Gaeltachta was necessary to ensure the upgrading of many of these exchanges. Satellite/radio based broadband is being developed in a large number of areas with the support of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (through the CLÁR programme) and the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources through the Group Broadband Scheme. However, there are still significant gaps in broadband availability in many Gaeltacht areas. State intervention will be required to put appropriate backhaul arrangements in place as the likely demand in many areas will not attract private sector investment.

Business Infrastructure and Local Development

One of the organisation's core objectives is the development of community strengths and indigenous entrepreneurship, based on local natural and cultural resources, as well as crafts and local services. Community co-operatives and community-owned companies are a key component of Údarás na Gaeltachta's local development strategy. They enable communities to set and implement their own priorities and also are vehicles for managing a range of small social, economic and cultural projects. They can also take ownership of certain essential community services and, in some cases, assets.

A key component underpinning this development

do na ceantair seo lena chinntiú ní hamháin go bhfanfaidh siad inmharthana ach le gur féidir leo féachaint i dtreo an todhchaí le dóchas. Is i gcuid de na ceantair thearcfhorbartha agus ar chuid de na hoileáin seo is láidre atá an Ghaeilge mar theanga phobail agus seo ceann de bhunchúiseanna réasúnaíochta na straitéise.

An Ghaeilge

Tá an Ghaeilge mar theanga phobail agus teaghlaigh ag staid chinniúnach chriticiúil. Cé nach bhfuil aon phróifíl phoiblí gur fiú trácht air ag an nGaeilge i gceantair áirithe Ghaeltachta (staid a bhí amhlaidh i bhformhór na gceantar seo tráth ar socraíodh teorainneacha na Gaeltachta i gcéadúair) tá beocht agus teacht aniar sa teanga i roinnt mhaith ceantar a d'fhéadfaí a úsáid chun í a fhás agus a dhaingniú. Tá dhá dhúslán ann dúinne. Caithfidh na pobail láidre Ghaeilge a chosaint agus a láidriú sa dóigh gur féidir léi fás go horgánach mar theanga bheo phobail agus caithfidh a chinntiú gur féidir an Ghaeilge a athbheochan chun stádas mar theanga láidir thánaisteach a bhaint amach sna ceantair sin nach bhfuil sí mar theanga phobail iontu níos mó.

Tá Údarás na Gaeltachta agus an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ag obair as láimh a chéile ar réimse tionscnamh nua chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar na réimeanna úsáide teanga sin atá fíorchriticiúil chun an Ghaeilge a phréamhú sa

teaghlach agus sa phobal. Is den riachtanas é go mbeadh úinéireacht teaghlach agus pobail ar dhúslán seo na teanga mar theanga phobail má tá sí le bláthú ag an leibhéal sin.

Tá plé poiblí ar bun le pobail áitiúla ar fud na Gaeltachta d'fhonn páirtnéireachtaí a chothú le tabhairt faoi réimse tionscnamh teanga, sóisialta agus forbartha a chur i bhfeidhm.

Buaicphointí Teanga 2005

I measc na nithe ba thábhachtaí ó thaobh na Gaeilge de in 2005 bhí seoladh oifigiúil Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga. Tá tionchar dearfach cheana féin ar chur i bhfeidhm fhorálacha Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla agus beidh tionchar substaintiúil tairbheach ag feidhmiú foriomlán na bhforálacha sin ó 2006 ar aghaidh ar sholáthar seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge do phobal na Gaeltachta agus na Gaeilge i gcoitinne. Tá soláthar na seirbhísí seo do chainteoirí Gaeilge mar cheart dlíthiúil mar an chéad chéim chun ardán a chruthú d'fhás suntasach ar an éileamh ar na seirbhísí sin.

I measc na bhforbairtí tábhachtacha eile don Ghaeilge i 2005 bhí stádas mar theanga oifigiúil oibre de chuid an Aontais Eorpaigh a bhaint amach don Ghaeilge agus bunú tionscnamh pleanála teanga do phobail Ghaeltachta trí mhaoiniú ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta.

Tá maoiniú substaintiúil á chur ar fáil do naíonraí tríd an scátheagraíocht Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta

strategy is the provision of modern enterprise incubation spaces, particularly in the lesser-developed areas and the islands. We are giving preferential treatment to these areas to ensure that they not only remain viable but can look to the future with optimism. It is within some of these lesser-developed communities and on the islands that the Irish language is at its strongest as a community language, and this factor forms a core element of the rationale for our strategy.

Irish Language

Irish as a home and community language in the Gaeltacht is at a crucial juncture. While there are large areas where the language has little or no profile in daily community life (which, indeed, was the situation in most of these same places when the Gaeltacht boundaries were originally determined), in quite a number of areas the language has a vibrancy and vitality that can form the platform for growth and expansion. The challenge for us is two fold: we must protect and invigorate those strong Irish-speaking communities so that the language can grow organically as a living language and we must ensure that Irish can be revived in the medium term to strong second language status in areas where it is no longer the community language.

Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs are working

collaboratively on a range of new initiatives that are addressing those aspects of Irish language usage which are crucial for embedding or re-establishing it in the home and community. Family and community ownership of this challenge is crucial for the future of Irish as a community language in the Gaeltacht.

To this end, public consultations are taking place throughout the Gaeltacht with a view to establishing local development partnerships for the implementation of a range of social and language initiatives.

2005 Language Highlights

Among the most important events of 2005 was the official launch of the Language Commissioner's Office. The implementation of the Official Languages Act is already having a beneficial impact and the completion of the roll out of the full provisions in 2006 is expected to have a substantial impact on the expansion of Irish language services to the Gaeltacht and the Irish-speaking population generally. The provision of these services as a right to Irish speakers is the first step towards creating the platform from which demand can grow to more significant levels.

Other important Irish language developments in 2005 were the achievement of European Union working language status for Irish and the establishment of language planning initiatives in five Gaeltacht communities funded by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Teo agus tá struchtúr nua ar a nglaothar Óige na Gaeltachta Teo seolta don óige. Tá maoiniú substaintiúil á chur ar fáil freisin mar thacaíocht do chúrsaí oideachais tríú leibhéal atá á soláthar ag institiúidí éagsúla. Tá tionscnamh nuálach tacaíochta teanga ar a dtugtar 'Gaeilge 2010' á sheoladh i bpobail áitiúla na Gaeltachta i gcomhar leis an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta. Áirítear bunú 30 ionad seirbhísi agus gníomhaíochtaí Gaeilge mar chuid lárnach den tionscnamh sin. Táthar ag súil go gcabhróidh na deiseanna nua seo le daoine nach cainteoirí líofa iad Gaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a fheabhsú le páirt níos iomláine agus níos gníomhaí a bheith acu in imeachtaí pobail trí Ghaeilge agus ar an mbealach sin an Ghaeilge a threisiú ag leibhéal an phobail.

Soláthar Oideachais trí Ghaeilge

Cé go bhfuil cuid mhór gnéithe den soláthar polasaí poiblí i dtaobh na Gaeilge gur gá a athbhreithniú nó a athbheachtú is iad na gnéithe is mó atá ina n-ábhar buartha sa ghearrthéarma ná na réimsí bunscolaíochta agus iarbunscolaíochta mar a bhfuil brúnna ilchineálacha – inmheánach agus seachtrach – tar éis an Ghaeilge mar phríomh-mheán teagaisc a lagú de réir a chéile i líon mór scoileanna ag an dá leibhéal. Tá sé riachtanach go dtabharfaí aghaidh ar bhonn práinne ar fhadhb na Gaeilge i scoileanna na Gaeltachta agus go dtabharfaí na tacaíochtaí do

mhúinteoirí atá riachtanach le cur ar a gcumas aghaidh a thabhairt ar an gcúlú leanúnach ón teagasc trí Ghaeilge. Éilíonn staid na Gaeilge i scoileanna na Gaeltachta iarracht láidir comhpháirtíochta idir an Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta, atá freagrach go hiomlán as imeachtaí in-scoile, An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta atá freagrach faoin Roinn as soláthar ábhair curaclaim don oideachas trí Ghaeilge, agus an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta agus Údarás na Gaeltachta a bhfuil freagrachtaí orthu maidir le cothabháil, buanú agus forbairt na Gaeilge sna pobail ina bhfuil na scoileanna Gaeltachta suite.

Oideachas Tríú Leibhéal agus Oiliúint

Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach in 2005 maidir le líon na gcúrsaí tríú leibhéal atá á maoiniú ag Údarás na Gaeltachta i gcomhar le hAcadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh, agus Institiúidí Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn agus na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo. Is rí-thábhachtach leis an Údarás an infheistíocht shubstaintiúil atá a dhéanamh ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, OÉG, i bhforbairt thrí ionad ollscolaíochta Gaeilge ar mhaithe le cúrsaí creidiúnaithe tríú leibhéal a sholáthar sa Ghaeltacht. Tá tionchar an-mhór socheacnamaíoch agus teanga ag an infheistíocht sin.

Substantial funding is being provided for pre-schools (Naíonraí), through the umbrella organisation Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo, a new youth structure, called Óige na Gaeltachta Teo, has been launched and considerable support is being provided to third-level education courses through Irish in collaboration with a number of third-level institutions. An innovative package of additional language support measures, Gaeilge 2010, is being rolled out throughout the Gaeltacht, involving the establishment of an initial 30 Irish language learning and activity centres in partnership with the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. It is hoped that opportunities to learn or improve their Irish will help non-fluent Irish speakers to participate more in community activities through Irish and thereby further bolster the language at community level.

Education Provision Through Irish

While there are many aspects of public policy provision through Irish in need of review and refocusing, the areas of greatest immediate concern are the primary and post primary education sectors where a range of pressures – both internal and external – have eroded Irish as the principal means of education provision in a large number of Gaeltacht schools at both levels. It is essential that the language situation in Gaeltacht schools be addressed as a matter of urgency and teachers be provided with the supports necessary to

meet the challenge of reversing the gradual trend away from all-Irish education provision. The position of Irish in Gaeltacht education urgently requires a collaborative effort between the Department of Education and Science, which has total responsibility for in-school activities, COGG, the advisory body for Gaeltacht schools and Gaelscoileanna, and the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and Údarás na Gaeltachta who have responsibility for language maintenance, promotion and development activities in the communities served by these schools.

Third-level Education and Training

Further progress was made in 2005 in expanding the range of third-level courses being funded in the Gaeltacht in partnership with third-level institutions such as the Galway/Mayo and Letterkenny Institutes of Technology and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, National University of Ireland, Galway. An tÚdarás attaches particular importance to supporting the substantial investment being made by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, NUIG, in the development of the outreach centres for the delivery of third-level education through Irish in the Gaeltacht and the growing range of accredited courses being offered in these centres. This investment carries substantial socioeconomic and language benefits for the areas in question.

Turasóireacht Chultúrtha

Tá timpeall 930 gnólacht sa Ghaeltacht a bhfuil baint dhíreach acu le hearnáil na turasóireachta. Fostaíonn siad timpeall 2,500 duine. Ó 1996 i leith bhí forbairt tháirgí turasóireachta agus margaíocht thurasóireachta na Gaeltachta á gcomhordú ag an bhfochuideachta Imeachtaí Gaelsaoire Teo ('GaelSaoire'). Cé go bhfuil an earnáil thurasóireachta ar an iomlán ag fás tá an éagothromaíocht dáiliúcháin idir mórilmistéar Bhaile Átha Cliath agus na réigiúin ag dul i méid chomh maith. D'fhulaing na ceantair Ghaeltachta de thoradh an laghdaithe seo i líon na dturasóirí in 2005. Creideann Údarás na Gaeltachta gur gá aghaidh a thabhairt ar an bhfadhb seo trí chur chuige déghéagach – ar an gcéad dul síos trí chomhghuaillíocht straitéiseach mhargaíochta de na heagrais áitiúla agus réigiúnacha turasóireachta le céatadán níos airde de na cuairteoirí go hoirthear na tíre a mhealladh go dtí a réigiúin féin, agus ar an dara dul síos táirgí nua nuálacha d'ardchaighdeán a fhorbairt sna réigiúin. Oibreoidh GaelSaoire, fosta, i gcompháirtíocht le soláthróirí seirbhísí turasóireachta sa Ghaeltacht chun pacáistí speisialta le 'blas' láidir Ghaeltachta a thairiscint do spriocmhargáí sonracha.

Buíochas

Ba mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a ghabháil leis na heagrais agus gníomhaireachtaí a mbíonn dlúthchaidreamh againn leo inár gcuid oibre: grúpaí pobail, gníomhaireachtaí agus ranna rialtais, údaráis áitiúla, institiúidí tríú leibhéal agus eagraíochtaí teanga. Aithnímid an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an gcaidreamh luachmhar atá againn leis na heagrais seo agus le heagrais eile ar leibhéal idirnáisiúnta agus Eorpach agus táimid ag súil lena dtacaíocht agus a gcomhoibriú i rith na mblianta atá romhainn amach.

Ba mhaith liom an deis seo a thapú fosta le buíochas a ghlacadh le comhaltaí an Bhoird, leis an Phríomhfheidhmeannach agus leis an fhoireann as ucht a ndíograise agus a dtiomantais d'obair agus d'aidhmeanna Údarás na Gaeltachta; agus ar ndóigh leis an iar-Phríomhfheidhmeannach, Ruán Ó Bric agus leis na hiarchomhaltaí a d'éirigh as oifig i rith na bliana.



Liam Ó Cuinneagáin,
Cathaoirleach.

Cultural Tourism

There are approximately 930 businesses in the Gaeltacht directly involved in the tourism sector and employing approximately 2,500 people. Since 1996 tourism product development and tourism marketing of the Gaeltacht have been coordinated by the Údarás subsidiary company, Imeachtaí GaelSaoire Teo ('GaelSaoire'). While the tourism sector as a whole is growing the imbalance in the distribution of visitor numbers between the greater Dublin area and the regions is also growing. The Gaeltacht areas experienced their own share of this decline in visitor numbers in 2005. Údarás na Gaeltachta believes that this situation must be addressed as a matter of urgency by a two-pronged approach – firstly through a strategic marketing alliance of the local and regional tourism bodies to attract a higher percentage of visitors from the east coast to their regions; and secondly by developing new, innovative high-quality tourism products in the regions. Gaelsaoire will also work collaboratively with tourism service providers in the Gaeltacht in developing and marketing attractive all-inclusive packages with a specific Gaeltacht 'blas' aimed at targeted interest groups.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our thanks to the various organisations with which we work closely: community groups, other State agencies and departments, local authorities, third-level institutions and language bodies. We acknowledge the valuable relationships we have built up with these organisations, and with others on a European and international level, and look forward to their continued co-operation in the years ahead.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the board, the chief executive and staff for their dedication and commitment to Údarás na Gaeltachta; and of course to Ruán Ó Bric who retired from his position as Chief Executive, and to the board members who left office during the year.



Liam Ó Cuinneagáin
Cathaoirleach



Geilleagar
Economy



An Plean Forbartha Náisiúnta

Oibríonn Údarás na Gaeltachta trí mhiosúir éagsúla: Cúnamh do Thionsclaíocht, d'Oiliúint, agus do Thalamh agus Foirgnimh, a mhaoinítear faoin bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta 2000–2006.

Tá cómhaoiniú á dhéanamh ag cistí Eorpacha ar chuid de na cláir náisiúnta atá á reachtáil ag an Údarás d'fhiontair Ghaeltachta thar cheann na n-údarás bainistíochta, ar nós an clár Beart II RTI (taighde iomaíoch) agus an clár FIG (próiseáil ar bhia mara agus uiscshaothrú).

Is í an sprioc atá ag an bPlean Forbartha Náisiúnta ná 5,600 post nua a chruthú sa Ghaeltacht thar na seacht mbliana go dtí 2006, sin 800 post ar meán in aghaidh na bliana. Sáraíodh an sprioc bliantúil sin arís i 2005 agus cruthaíodh 993 post nua san iomlán.

Forbairt Tionsclaíoch

Tháinig laghdú beag ar líon na bpostanna nua a cruthaíodh i gcuideachtaí a fuair cúnamh ón Údarás, ó 1,071 i 2004 go dtí 993 i 2005. Tháinig laghdú ar líon na bpostanna a cailleadh ó 910 i 2004 go 842 i 2005. Bhí 7,658 duine fostaithe go lánaímseartha ag deireadh na bliana. D'ardaigh an líon postanna páirtaimeartha agus séasúrtha go dtí 4,525 (ó 4,470 i 2004).

Baineadh amach an méid sin in ainneoin easpaí leanúnacha infreastuchtúir agus infheistíocht tionsclaíochta a bheith ag aistriú chuig tíortha ina bhfuil costais ísle, rud atá ina ábhar imní dúinn i gcónaí.

Tháinig méadú ar an bhfostaíocht i bhformhór na



National Development Plan

Údarás na Gaeltachta operates three specific measures under the plan: Assistance for Industry, Training and Land and Buildings, which are financed under the National Development Plan 2000–2006.

Some national programmes administered by An tÚdarás for Gaeltacht enterprises on behalf of the managing authorities such as the Measure II RTI programme (competitive research) and the FIG programme (seafood processing and aquaculture) are co-financed by European funds.

The National Development Plan calls for the creation of 5,600 new jobs in the Gaeltacht over the seven years to 2006, an average of 800 jobs per year. In 2005 we again exceeded this annual target and created a total of 993 new jobs.

Industrial Development

The number of new jobs created in Údarás-assisted companies fell slightly from 1,071 in 2004 to 993 in 2005. Job losses fell from 910 in 2004 to 842 in 2005. Total full-time employment at year end was 7,658. The number of part-time and seasonal jobs rose to 4,525 (from 4,470 in 2004).

This performance was achieved against a background of ongoing infrastructural deficiencies coupled with a shift in manufacturing activity towards low cost countries, a factor which is an ongoing cause of concern.

Most of the sectors experienced increases in



n-earnálacha agus is cúis dóchais a fheiceáil go bhfuil earnálacha ar nós bia agus seirbhísí nua-aimseartha ag leanacht ar aghaidh mar phríomhfhoinsí fostaíochta.

Postanna a Ceadaiódh

Tháinig méadú beag ar líon na bpostanna a ceadaiódh i 2005, – 709 acu, i gcomparáid le 657 i 2004.

Maoiniú ar na Postanna a Ceadaiódh

Tá infheistíocht Stáit €32.4m i gceist leis an 709 post atá faoi i dtionscadail agus i bhforbairtí nua.

Taighde agus Forbairt

Cuireann an tÚdarás béim ar leith ar chaiteachas Taighde agus Forbartha agus é ag cabhrú le gnóthaí chun forbairt a dhéanamh ar a gcumas iomaíochta, rud atá an-tábhachtach san eacnamaíocht oscailte atá againn. Bhí caiteachas iomlán €3.3m ar dheontais do Thaighde agus Forbairt i 2005. Cuireann an tÚdarás an clár náisiúnta Beart II RTI i bhfeidhm sa Ghaeltacht thar ceann Fhiontraíocht Éireann.

Costas in aghaidh an Phoist

Bhí costas deontais €16,702 in aghaidh an phoist i 2005 agus bhí meánchostas de €14,868 in aghaidh an phoist i gceist thar na cúig bliana seo caite. Chomh maith le deontais chaipitil, léiríonn an costas in aghaidh an phoist an caiteachas deontais ar oiliúint, fostaíocht, taighde agus forbairt cé is moite de Bheart II/RTI.

employment and it is heartening to see sectors such as food and modern services continuing to be the main contributors to increases in job growth.

Job Approvals

There was a slight increase in the number of job approvals in 2005, to 709, compared to 657 in 2004.

Funding of Projects approved

The 709 jobs approved in new projects and expansion of existing businesses involve an overall State investment of €32.4m.

Research and Development

An tÚdarás places special emphasis on Research and Development expenditure as it assists companies to develop their competitiveness, a very important factor in our open economy. Total expenditure on Research and Development grants in 2005 amounted to €3.3m. An tÚdarás administers the national Measure II RTI programme in the Gaeltacht on behalf of Enterprise Ireland.

Cost per Job

The grant cost per job for 2005 was €16,702 and the average cost per job over the past five years was €14,868. In addition to capital grants, the cost per job reflects expenditure on training, employment research and development grants excluding Measure II/RTI.

Punann Maoine

Léiríonn éagsúlacht na punainne maoine an ról leathan atá ag Údarás na Gaeltachta mar ghníomhaireacht fhorbartha réigiúnaí. Ní hé amháin go bhfuil sealúchas substaintiúil d'eastáit thionsclaíochta, de mhonarchana agus d'oifigí sa phunann maoine, tá trí aerstráice ann freisin mar aon le seirbhísí coimhdeacha, agus réimse maoine a coimisiúnaíodh go speisialta.

Faoi dheireadh 2005, bhí 246,788 méadar cearnach spáis ag an Údarás, a raibh 50,390 méadar cearnach de folamh. Bhí roinnt monarchana móra á n-athchóiriú chun iad a chur in oiriúint do riachtanais na gcuideachtaí nua a bheidh mar chliant iontu. Bhí 16,650 méadar cearnach i ndroch-chaoi, rud a fhágann go bhfuil 13.5% den spás ar fáil do thionscadail nua.

Tá clár díolacháin mhaoinne idir lámha faoi láthair agus tá an t-ioncam á athinfheistiú i bhfiontair eile. Díoladh luach €4.3m den phunann maoine i 2005 agus bhí idirbheartaíocht ar siúl faoi luach €17m eile.

Aerstráicí

Is le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta na haerstráicí ar thrí oileán Árann agus is é a mhaoiníonn an chothabháil orthu – trí chonarthaí cothabhála leis na comharchumainn ar Inis Oírr agus Inis Meáin agus le conraitheoir príobháideach ar Árainn.



Property Portfolio

The diversity of the property portfolio reflects Údarás na Gaeltachta's diverse role as a regional development agency. The portfolio includes not only a substantial holding of industrial estates, factories and office premises but also three airstrips with ancillary services and a range of specifically commissioned properties.

At the end of 2005, an tÚdarás had 246,788 square metres of space, of which 50,390 square metres were unoccupied. A number of large factories were undergoing refurbishment to adapt them to the needs of new client companies. 16,650 square metres were in poor condition, leaving 13.5% of space available for new projects.

An tÚdarás is currently in the process of selling some of its property portfolio and reinvesting the income in other ventures. During 2005 €4.3m of the property portfolio was sold and a further €17m was under negotiation.

Airstrips

An tÚdarás owns and funds the maintenance of airstrips on the three Aran Islands. Maintenance on Inis Oírr and Inis Meáin is carried out by the island co-operatives and on Árainn by a private contractor.

Éifeachtúlacht Fhuinnimh

Lean na Rannóga Seirbhísí Innealtóireachta agus Maoine le staidéar ar thionscadail éifeachtúlachta fhuinnimh atá á dtrial i bhfoirgnimh de chuid an Údaráis. Tá dianscrúdú ar siúl go leanúnach ar úsáid chórais nua teasa faoi urlár in oifig Réigiúnach an Údaráis mBaile an Mhuilinn sa Daingean chun éifeachtúlacht an chórais a mheas. Tá córas teasa san ionad fiontraíochta i dTír an Fhia, Co. na Gaillimhe, bunaithe ar chaidéal aisghabhála teasa ón talamh. Sa chás seo, tá comparáid á déanamh le córas teasa ola san fhoirgneamh céanna. Tógfar torthaí na scrúduithe seo san áireamh i gclár tógála an Údaráis i gcás athchóirithe monarchana nó i bhfoirgnimh nua.

Tionscnaimh Fhorbartha Áitiúla

Tá an fhostaíocht pháirtaimseartha agus shéasúrtha ina foinse thábhachtach ioncaim ag pobail áitiúla agus bíonn tionchar mór aige sin ar a lán de na pobail sin ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge láidir mar theanga pobail.

Chomh maith le fostaíocht pháirtaimseartha agus shéasúrtha tá cabhair mhór tugtha ag na Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail (arna riaradh ag an Údarás i gcomhar le FÁS agus na pobail áitiúla) chun feabhas a chur ar shaol an phobail agus misneach a thabhairt don mheánmna áitiúil nuair a bhí cúinsí eacnamaíochta go holc. An bhliain seo caite fuair suas le 360 duine fostaíocht ar 19 scéim agus b'fhiú €4m iad do gheilleagar na Gaeltachta.

Lean an tÚdarás, i gcomhar le MFG/LEADER, ag riaradh na Scéime Sóisialta Tuaithe atá maoinithe ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe, agus Gaeltachta trí POBAL i rith 2005. Tháinig meadú suntasach ar líon na rannpháirtithe ar an scéim, agus ag deireadh na bliana bhí 8 scéim ar an bhfód faoi scáth an Údaráis ag fostú 161 rannpháirtí agus 9 saoi. Tugann na scéimeanna deis ioncaim bhreise do na rannpháirtithe agus cuidíonn siad go mór le forbairt pobail agus freastal ar riachtanais eile sa phobal. Is fiú breis agus €2m sa bhliain an scéim seo do gheilleagar na Gaeltachta.

Energy Efficiency

The organisation continued with the study of energy efficient projects which are being tested in Údarás buildings. The use of a new underfloor heating system in the organisation's Regional Office in An Daingean, Co. Kerry is being closely monitored in order to evaluate the system's effectiveness. A heating system based on a pump which sources heat from the ground is in place in the enterprise unit in Tír an Fhia, Co. Galway. In this case, comparisons are being made with an oil heating system in the same building. The results of these studies will be taken into account in the Údarás' building programme for the refurbishment of factories or construction of new buildings.

Local Development Initiatives

Part-time and seasonal employment has played a significant part in Údarás na Gaeltachta's response to the income needs of local communities and makes a particularly important impact in many of those

communities where the Irish language is strongest as a community language. In addition to part-time and seasonal employment in client projects, Community Employment Programmes (administered by An tÚdarás in co-operation with FÁS and local communities) have made a huge contribution in improving the fabric of community life and maintaining local morale. Last year 19 schemes employed 360 people and had a value of €4m to the Gaeltacht economy.

An tÚdarás, in association with MFG/LEADER, continued to administer the Rural Social Scheme introduced during 2005 and funded by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs through POBAL. By year end there were 8 schemes, employing 161 participants and 9 supervisors, in operation in the Gaeltacht under the auspices of An tÚdarás. These schemes provide extra income for the participants and greatly assist community development and other needs within the community. This scheme has a value of over €2m to the Gaeltacht economy.



Acmhainní Daonna Human Resources

Oideachas agus Oiliúint

Tá forás agus forbairt déanta ar ghníomhaíochtaí na heagraíochta i dtaca le hoideachas agus le hoiliúint thar na blianta. Tá athrú tagtha ar fhócas na Rannóige Oiliúna agus Oideachais, ó oiliúint laistigh de chuideachtaí go dtí deiseanna oiliúna agus oideachais a chur ar fáil don phobal. Tá deiseanna curtha ar fáil do líon mór daoine aonarach agus grúpaí chun feabhas a chur ar a gcuid scileanna nó breis cáilíochtaí creidiúnaithe a bhaint amach. Tá an tÚdarás ag cur maoiniú tacaíochta ar fáil le haghaidh cúrsaí creidiúnaithe dioplóma tríú leibhéal agus breathnaítear orthu sin mar bhunchloch do sholáthar oideachais Ollscoile trí Ghaeilge sa Ghaeltacht. Tá sé seo á dhéanamh ach go háirithe le hAcadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh a bhfuil infheistíocht shubstaintiúil á déanamh aige i bhforbairt ionaid Ghaeltachta. Tugadh tacaíocht freisin do chúrsaí tríú leibhéal trí Ghaeilge de chuid Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn agus Institiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo.

Clár Foghlama Fadsaoil

Cuireann an Clár Foghlama Fadsaoil cabhair airgeadais ar fáil do dhaoine atá 23 bliain d'aois nó os a chionn atá ag iarraidh freastal ar chúrsaí creidiúnaithe acadúla chun a leibhéal scileanna a fheabhsú agus breis cáilíochtaí a bhaint amach chun feabhas a chur ar a ndeiseanna fostaíochta. Tá an t-éileamh ar an gclár seo ag méadú i gcónaí agus ag deireadh na bliana bhí os cionn 250 duine aonarach ag leanacht

lena gcuid staidéir le tacaíocht na Scéime – méadú 100% ar an bhfigiúr a bhí ann trí bliana ó shin.

Scéim na bPrintíseach

Bronnadh 72 scoláireacht phrintíseachta sa bhliain 2005 i gceirdeanna éagsúla, ar nós siúinéireacht, pluiméireacht, pláistéireacht agus leictreachas. Faoi dheireadh na bliana bhí 277 duine Gaeltachta ag staideanna éagsúla dá gcuid printíseachtaí faoi scáth an Údaráis.

Oiliúint Chlosamhairc

Le dlús a chur leis na hiarrachtaí chun bunchloch níos láidre a chur faoin tionscal físe i nGaeltacht Thír Chonaill cuireadh clár oiliúna le chéile i gcomhar leis na comhlachtaí léiriúcháin Telegael Teo agus Cúl an Tí Teo. Cuireadh oiliúint ar ghrúpa scríbhneoirí agus léiritheoirí a d'oibrigh le chéile le sraith de dhosaen clár grinn (FFC) a sholáthar do TG4. Mar thoradh ar an bhfiontar seo, tá grúpa scríbhneoirí/léiritheoirí ag feidhmiú i nGaoth Dobhair anois. Tá sé chlár grinn eile críochnaithe acu agus conradh faighte le sé chlár eile a dhéanamh i 2006.

Scéim do Bhainisteoirí Cúnta Comharchumann

Chun cuidiú le comharchumainn sna pobail Ghaeltachta tá maoiniú ar fáil chun bainisteoirí faoi oiliúint a cheapadh i gcomharchumainn Ghaeltachta faoi scéim thacaíochta bainistíochta. Meastar go gcuideoidh sé seo leis na comharchumainn teacht ar dhaoine oiriúnacha lena n-oiliúint mar chomharbaí ar

Education and Training

The education and training activities of the organisation have evolved and developed over the years. The focus of the Training and Education Division has shifted from in-company training to creating access to training and education opportunities at community level. A wide spectrum of individuals and groups are being facilitated to access opportunities to improve their skills or achieve further accredited qualifications. An tÚdarás is providing support-funding for accredited third-level diploma courses which are viewed as the foundation stone of university education provision through Irish in the Gaeltacht. This is being done primarily in conjunction with Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, National University of Ireland, Galway, which is making a substantial investment in the development of Gaeltacht centres. Third-level courses through Irish delivered by the Letterkenny Institute of Technology and the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology have also been supported.

Lifelong Learning Programme

The Lifelong Learning Programme provides financial assistance to people of 23 years and over wishing to attend accredited courses in order to upgrade their skill-levels and achieve further qualifications to enhance their employment opportunities in the Gaeltacht. This programme is increasing in popularity and by the end of 2005 more than 250 individuals were studying with the assistance of this scheme – a 100% increase over a three year period.

Apprentice Scheme

A total of 72 apprentice scholarships were awarded in 2005 in various trades, including carpentry, plumbing, plastering and electrics. There were a total of 277 apprentices at various stages of their training on Údarás-funded scholarships under the national apprenticeship programme at year end.

Audiovisual Training

In order to put the audiovisual industry in the Donegal Gaeltacht on a firmer footing a training programme was developed in 2005 with two production companies Telegael Teo and Cúl an Tí Teo. Training was provided to a group of writers and a group of producers who collaborated on a 12-part series of comedy programmes (FFC) for TG4, which were broadcast by the station. This group of writers/producers in the Gaoth Dobhair area have completed another six programmes and have a contract for a further six for 2006.

Scheme for Assistant Managers of Co-Operatives

To assist Gaeltacht community co-operatives in identifying and training suitable management personnel, an area which has proven particularly difficult in the past, funding is provided for the appointment of assistant managers. Ten assistant managers were being funded by this scheme at year end, five of these in island community co-operatives.



bhainisteoirí, réimse a bhí iontach deacair a réiteach san am atá caite. Bhí deichniúr bainisteoirí cunta maoinithe faoin scéim seo ag deireadh na bliana, cúigear acu fostaithe le comharchumainn oileánda.

Scoileanna

Cuirtear réimse leathan tacaíochta ar fáil do scoileanna iarbhunoidéachais, ar a n-áirítear gairmthreoir, bréag-agallaimh, bunchúrsaí ríomhaireachta agus scoileanna fise. Bhí tóir ar leith ar cheardlann 4-lá i scoileanna fise a thug deis do na daltaí físteipeanna dá gcuid féin a scrípteáil, a láithriú, a léiriú agus a thaifeadadh, agus ghlac os cionn 500 dalta as 25 scoil páirt ann sa scoilbhliain 2004/2005.

Tugtar cúnadh do scoileanna freisin le gur féidir leis na daltaí an ECDL a bhaint amach sula bhfágann siad an scoil iarbhunoidéachais. Bhain 202 dalta sin amach sa scoilbhliain 2004/2005.

Soláthar Ardoideachais agus Cúrsa Forbartha Scoileanna

Tugadh cabhair airgeadais i 2005 do líon áirithe cúrsaí creidiúnaithe dioplóma agus teastais chun deis a thabhairt do scoláirí sa Ghaeltacht cáilíochtaí níos fearr a bhaint amach nó scoileanna nua a fhorbairt.

Chríochnaigh ceithre chúrsa lánaimseartha ag leibhéal Dioplóma sa bhliain acadúil 2004/2005

- Dhá chúrsa dioplóma a reáchtáil Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Ollscoil na hÉireann,

Gaillimh, i nGaoth Dobhair – Dioplóma i Scileanna Teilifíse agus Dioplóma sa Ríomhaireacht Fheidhmeach.

- Cúrsa i Scileanna Raidió a reáchtáil Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge ar an gCeathrú Rua.
- Cúrsa i Ríomhaireacht don Riarachán Gnó a reáchtáil Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge i gCarna.

Chríochnaigh an cúrsa lánaimseartha do Theicneoirí Ríomhaireachta a chuir Institiúid Theicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn ar fáil i bPáirc Ghnó Ghaith Dobhair freisin. Cúrsa 18 mí a bhí anseo a raibh creidiúnú HETAC ag gabháil leis.

Bhí ceithre chúrsa lánaimseartha ag leibhéal Dioplóma ar siúl ag deireadh 2005:

- Dioplóma i Scileanna Raidió á reáchtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge ar an gCeathrú Rua.
- Dioplóma i Scileanna Teilifíse á reáchtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge i nGaoth Dobhair.
- Dioplóma i Ríomhaireacht don Riarachán Gnó á reáchtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge i gCarna.

Bhí trí chúrsa ag leibhéal Dioplóma Iarchéime/M.A. agus M.Sc. ar siúl ag deireadh 2005:

- Cúrsa Ard-Dioplóma/M.Sc. sa Ghaeilge Fheidhmeach agus san Aistriúchán i gCarna, Co. na Gaillimhe. Is iad Europus Teo, cuideachta ghairmiúil

Schools

A wide range of supports was provided to postprimary schools including career guidance, mock interviews, basic computer courses and video skills. A 4-day video skills workshop, which enables pupils to script, act, produce and record their own videos, is particularly popular and in excess of 500 pupils from 25 schools participated during the 2004/2005 school year.

Assistance is also provided to schools to enable pupils to attain the ECDL before leaving postprimary level and 202 pupils achieved this in the 2004/2005 school year.

Higher Education Provision and Skills Development Course

Financial assistance was granted in 2005 to a number of accredited diploma and certificate courses to enable students in the Gaeltacht to achieve higher qualifications or develop new skills.

Four fulltime Diploma courses were completed in the 2004/2005 academic year:

- Two diploma level courses provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, National University of Ireland, Galway in Gaoth Dobhair, Co. Donegal – a Diploma in Television Skills and a Diploma in Applied Computing.
- A Diploma in Radio Skills provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, in An Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway.
- A Diploma in Computing for Business

Administration in Carna, provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge.

A full-time Computer Technicians course provided by Letterkenny Institute of Technology at Páirc Ghnó Ghaith Dobhair, Co. Donegal was completed. This was an 18-month course with HETAC accreditation.

There were four fulltime Diploma courses running at the end of 2005:

- A Diploma in Radio Skills provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, in An Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway.
- A Diploma in Television Skills provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, in Gaoth Dobhair, Co. Donegal.
- A Diploma in Computing for Business Administration provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in Carna, Co. Galway.

Three Higher Diploma/M.A and M.Sc. courses were running at the end of 2005:

- A Higher Diploma/M.Sc. course in Applied Irish and Translation in Carna, Co. Galway. This course was delivered by Europus Teo, a professional translation company and is approved by HETAC in conjunction with the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology at M.Sc. level.
- A Higher Diploma/M.A. in the Study of Translation provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in An Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway.
- A Higher Diploma in Information Technology course



aistriúcháin, a reachtáil an cúrsa seo agus tá sé aitheanta ag HETAC i gcomhar le hInstitiúid Teicneolaíochta na Gaillimhe-Maigh Eo. Tá an cúrsa seo faofa anois ag leibhéal máistreachta (M.Sc.).

- Cúrsa Ard-Diplóma/M.A. i Staidéar an Aistriúcháin á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge ar an gCeathrú Rua.
- Cúrsa Ard-Diplóma Iarchéime i dTeicneolaíocht an Eolais á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge i gCarna.

Bhí dhá chúrsa nua páirtaimseartha ar siúl sa Ghaeltacht ag deireadh 2005 chomh maith:

- M.A. i Modheolaíochtaí do Theagasc Teangacha á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge ar an gCeathrú Rua.
- Diplóma Iarchéime sa Drámaíocht á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in Indreabhán. D'aontaigh an tÚdarás maoiniú don chéad chúrsa céime sa Ghaeltacht, céim sa Chumarsáid a bheidh á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge ar an gCeathrú Rua agus deiseanna taighde M.Sc. sa Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise a bheidh á reachtáil ag Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge i gCarna.

Tá na tionscnaimh sin ar fad ag tabhairt deis rochtana do mhuintir na Gaeltachta ar cháilíochtaí creidiúnaithe tríú leibhéal agus ar dheiseanna lena scileanna a fheabhsú chomh maith le bheith ag tacú leis an bhforbairt ar ábhar ardoideachais trí Ghaeilge sa Ghaeltacht.

in Carna, Co. Galway delivered by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Galway.

There were two new part-time courses running at the end of 2005:

- M.A. in the Methodology of Language Teaching being provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in An Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway.
- A Higher Diploma in Drama being provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in Indreabhán, Co. Galway.

An tÚdarás has agreed funding for the first ever primary degree course in the Gaeltacht, a degree in Communications which will be provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, An Cheathrú Rua, Co. Galway and also for research opportunities, M.Sc. in Information Technology, which will be provided by Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, in Carna, Co. Galway.

All of these initiatives are providing access to accredited third level qualifications and upskilling opportunities to Gaeltacht people and are also contributing to the development of Irish language medium higher education in the Gaeltacht.





Uisceshaothrú
Aquaculture

Nuair a chuirtear san áireamh an leagan amach tíreolaíochta atá ar an nGaeltacht, is léir go bhfuil an t-uisceshaothrú agus próiseáil éisc fós i measc na n-earnálacha is straitéisí don fhorbairt áitiúil. Tá obair leanúnach ar siúl ag an Údarás le gnéithe éagsúla a bhaineann le huisceshaothrú agus próiseáil éisc a fhorbairt agus a chur chun cinn.

Cuidíodh leis na soláthróirí bradán i gCill Chiaráin tús a chur le comhdhlúthú agus cónascadh na n-aonad táirgíochta ar fad in aon chomhlacht oibriúcháin amháin, Meitheal Éisc Teo. Tháinig dhá tháirgeoir isteach sa struchtúr nua seo i 2005 agus leanfaidh táirgeoirí eile a luaithe agus is féidir.

Beidh an comhlacht nua ag díriú ar tháirgeadh bradán d'ardchaighdeán agus an praghas is airde a fháil dá tháirgí dá réir. Cuirfear céatadán ard den táirgíocht ar fáil ar chonradh do Mhaoiniú Mara Teo, comhlacht a bunaíodh le cuidiú Údarás na Gaeltachta agus Coimisiún Forbartha an Iarthair agus a bhfuil d'aidhm aige leanúnachas a choinneáil sa mhargadh le táirge d'ardchaighdeán.

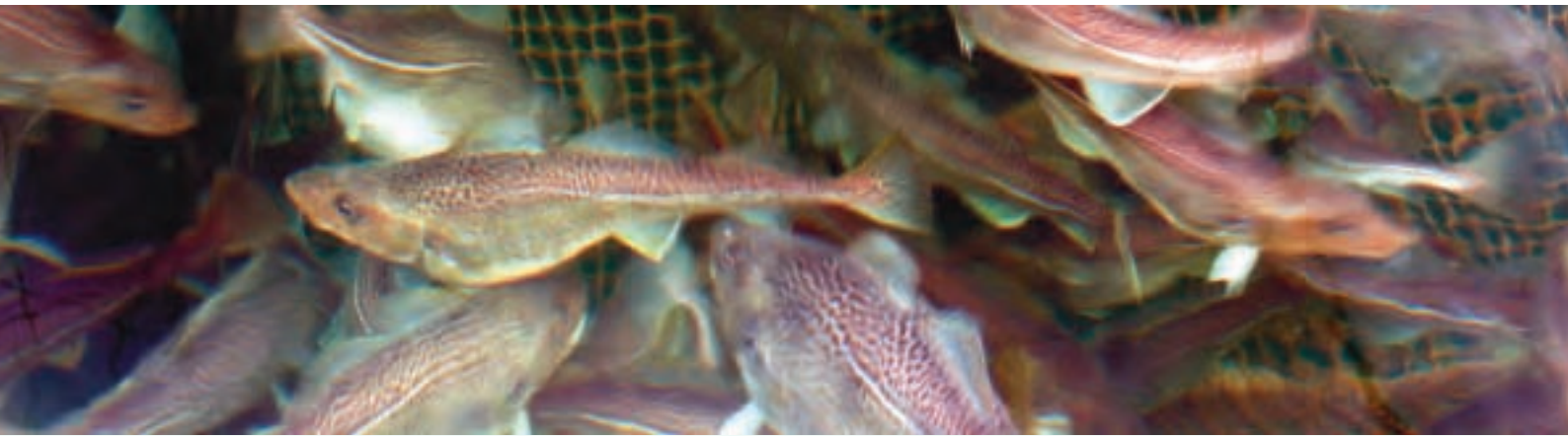
D'éirigh go maith leis na trialacha chun trosc a ghorradh i gcomhar le Foras na Mara, Institiúid Mháirtín Uí Riain, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh agus feirmeoirí bradán áitiúla agus tá sé i gceist an

tionscadal seo a leathnú i 2006. Rinneadh measúnú ar na fadhbanna a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun cinn de bharr a bheith ag feirmeoireacht trosc i dteochtanna na hÉireann agus taispeánadh nach fadhb iad teochtanna arda an tsamhraidh d'éisc óga. Leanfar i 2006 leis na trialacha chun paraiméadair eacnamúla tháirgeadh trosc a mheas.

Aontaíodh Ionad Nuálaíochta Mara a bhunú i gCarna i gcomhar le hInstitiúid Mháirtín Uí Riain, Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh. Ceadaiodh an maoiniú cuí le tabhairt faoin ionad seo a thógáil faoi réir cead pleanála a fháil.

Tá an tÚdarás chun seilbh a ghlacadh in 2006 ar scaireanna in Arramara Teo, comhlacht próiseála feamainne i gCill Chiaráin, Conamara agus tá sé i gceist an tionscnamh seo a leathnú agus a fhorbairt. Leagfar béim in athuair ar fhorbairt na hacmhainne feamainne agus beidh páirt ag roinnt táirgeoirí, Arramara Teo ina measc, san obair seo.

Chríochnaigh an tionscnamh eachuisce Eachuisce Éireann Teo, a chuid taighde i gCarna, Conamara agus tá sé réidh anois le dul i mbun trádála. Tá sé i gceist ag na príomhaithe freisin measúnú a dhéanamh ar éisc ornáideach eile d'ardluach don mhargadh uisceadán.



When the geographic composition of the Gaeltacht is taken into consideration the obvious importance of aquaculture and fish processing as a strategic sector for development becomes clear. An tÚdarás continues to aid all aspects of the promotion and development of this sector.

The salmon producers in Cill Chiaráin, Conamara were assisted to commence the consolidation and amalgamation of all production units into one operating company, Meitheal Éisc Teo. Two producers joined this new structure in 2005 and others will follow as soon as practicably possible. The new company will concentrate its efforts on the production of high quality salmon and thereby achieve premium prices for its produce. A significant proportion of production will be produced on contract for Maoiniú Mara Teo, a company established with both Údarás and Western Development Commission assistance to this end and whose objective is to maintain market presence and continuity with quality product.

Cod farming trials in conjunction with the Marine Institute, The Martin Ryan Institute, The National University of Ireland, Galway, and local salmon farmers proved encouraging and further expansion of the

project is planned for 2006. Many of the potential problems of cod farming in ambient Irish temperatures and conditions were evaluated and assessed and it was shown that high summer temperatures are not a problem with juvenile fish. Further trials in 2006 will assess the economic parameters of cod production to market size.

It was agreed to establish a Marine Innovation Centre in conjunction with the Martin Ryan Institute, National University of Ireland, Galway at Carna. The required funding was sanctioned to commence construction subject to planning permission. An tÚdarás is to acquire a shareholding in Arramara Teo, a seaweed processing company in the Connemara Gaeltacht, and it is intended to expand and develop the project. It is proposed to place renewed emphasis on the development of the seaweed resource and to involve a number of producers, including Arramara Teo, in this effort.

A seahorse project, Eachuisce Éireann Teo, successfully completed its research phase and is now poised to become a commercial operation. It is also proposed to evaluate other ornamental fish species of high value for the aquarium trade.



Turasóireacht
Tourism

GaelSaoire

Is é an cur chuige straitéiseach atá ag Údarás na Gaeltachta i dtaca le forbairt na turasóireachta sa Ghaeltacht ná tionscnaimh mhargaíochta agus fhorbartha a chur chun cinn, go háirithe sna réimsí a bhaineann le gníomhaíochtaí turasóireachta cultúrtha.

Tá acmhainní airgeadais agus foireann curtha ar fáil don obair sin trí fhochuideachta, Imeachtaí Gaelsaoire Teo, a oibríonn faoin ainm trádála GaelSaoire. Siad na príomhaidhmeanna atá ag GaelSaoire:

- Margaíocht a dhéanamh ar thurasóireacht chultúrtha na Gaeltachta chun an Ghaeltacht a chur chun cinn mar cheann scríbe turasóireachta ann féin agus breis ioncain a ghiniúint do sholáthróirí seirbhísí na Gaeltachta agus don phobal i gcoitinne.
- Tacú le forbairtí straitéiseacha táirgí agus seirbhísí agus le himeachtaí cultúrtha turasóireachta sa Ghaeltacht.

Cé gur tháinig méadú ar líon na gcuariteoirí go dtí an tír ina hiomláine, bhí bliain dheacair ag an tionscal sna ceantair imeallacha arís anuraidh. Tá na ceantair Ghaeltachta san áireamh anseo agus dá réir sin tá sé riachtanach díriú ar na deacrachtaí sin. Ghlac GaelSaoire páirt ghníomhach le dreamanna eile in iarrachtaí leis na deacrachtaí seo a sháru anuraidh a aimsiú agus leanfar leis an bhfeachtas seo.

Tá athbhreithniú á dhéanamh ar chur chuige forbartha agus margaíochta GaelSaoire don toadhchái agus seolfar é sin sa dara leath de 2006.

Poiblíocht, Foilseacháin agus Fógraíocht

D'fhoilsigh GaelSaoire sraith de bhróisiúir i rith na bliana agus tá fáil anois ar réimse de litríocht ardchaighdeán turasóireachta faoin nGaeltacht. Seoladh bróisiúr, suíomh idirlín agus feachtas margaíochta úr Oileáin na Gaeltachta. Tá sé beartaithe é seo a úsáid chun pacáistí saoire oileánda a fhorbairt le cur ar an margadh in 2006 i bpáirtíocht le heagraíochtaí eile. Foilsíodh leabhrán ina raibh sonraí faoi 130 féile Gaeltachta agus dáileadh é ag aontáí trádála náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta. Eagraíodh feachtas cuimsitheach fógraíochta i rith 2005.

An Baile Beo

Reáchtáiltear an comórtas bliantúil seo i gcomhar leis na húdaráis áitiúla chun na pobail áitiúla a spreagadh le tuilleadh úsáide a bhaint as comharthaíocht Ghaeilge agus as tionscnaimh Ghaeilge. Ghlac 45 grúpa áitiúil, comharchumainn agus comhlachtaí pobalbhunaithe ina measc, ar fud na Gaeltachta, páirt sa chomórtas i 2005. Bronnadh 26 duais sa chomórtas as duaischiste €50,000 atá urraithe ag na seacht gcinn d'údaráis áitiúla a bhfuil freagracht orthu as ceantair Ghaeltachta.

GaelSaoire

Údarás na Gaeltachta's strategic approach to tourism development in the Gaeltacht is to promote marketing and development initiatives, particularly in the areas of cultural tourism. Financial resources and staff have been provided for this work through a subsidiary company, Imeachtaí Gaelsaoire Teo, which operates under the trade name of Gaelsaoire. The main aims of Gaelsaoire are:

- Marketing of the Gaeltacht cultural tourism product in order to promote the Gaeltacht as a tourist destination in its own right and generate more income for Gaeltacht service providers and the community in general.
- Support strategic product and services development and cultural tourism events in the Gaeltacht.

Although the number of visitors to the country in general increased, last year was another difficult one for the peripheral regions, including the Gaeltacht. It is imperative that the imbalance of tourist traffic distribution between the greater Dublin region and the rest of the country be addressed by the major western tourism stakeholders. During the year GaelSaoire Teo was collaborative with the relevant bodies in addressing this imbalance and plan to continue with this networking initiative in the foreseeable future.

A complete review of the marketing and development strategy of GaelSaoire has begun and its new strategy will be launched in the latter half of 2006.

Publicity, Publications and Advertising

During 2005 a revised marketing initiative for Gaeltacht Islands incorporating holiday packages was initiated consisting of a brochure and a web site. This is now the basis for a larger project involving other agencies which is funded on a national basis for implementing during the coming year. A booklet detailing 130 Gaeltacht festivals was published and distributed at national and international trade fairs. An extensive advertising campaign was also mounted during 2006.

An Baile Beo

This is an annual competition run in conjunction with local authorities to encourage local communities to increase the usage of Irish-language signage and Irish language initiatives. A total of 45 local groups, including community cooperatives and community based companies throughout the Gaeltacht, took part in the competition in 2005. Prizes were awarded to 26 groups who participated in the competition from a prize fund of €50,000 which is sponsored by the seven local authorities which have responsibility for Gaeltacht areas.







Closamharc/Nuatheicneolaíocht
Audio Visual/New technology

Closamharc

Bliain rathúil eile a bhí i 2005 don earnáil chlosamhairc sa Ghaeltacht ina bhfacthas léiritheoirí/comhlachtaí léiriúcháin ag fáil ainmniúcháin agus duaiseanna ag an bhFéile Cheilteach agus ag Na Gradaim Scannán agus Teilifíse Éireannacha. Anuas air sin, d'éirigh le roinnt léiritheoirí/comhlachtaí léiriúcháin maoiniú MEDIA a tharraingt chucu féin agus d'éirigh le roinnt eile coimisiún a dhaingniú ó Choimisiún Scannán agus Teilifíse Thuaisceart Éireann, An Ciste Craoltóireachta Gaeilge, a bunaíodh i 2004.

Seoladh 'Fuaim agus Fis', scéim de chuid Choimisiún Craolacháin na hÉireann, atá maoinithe leis an táille cheadúnas teilifíse, a cuireadh ar bun chun tacú le léiriú clár nua i réimsí cultúir, oidhreacht, taithí mhuintir na hÉireann agus i réimse na litearthachta do dhaoine fásta. Cuirfidh an scéim seo deiseanna nua ar fáil do léiritheoirí Gaeltachta agus do chomhlachtaí léiriúcháin.

Chuir an earnáil seo fostaíocht ar fáil d'os cionn 215 fostaí lánaimseartha agus d'os cionn 175 fostaí páirtaimseartha nó séasúrach sa bhliain 2005.

Nuatheicneolaíocht

Tá an-bhéim curtha ag Údarás na Gaeltachta ar thábhacht na hearnála teicneolaíocht-bhunaithe le blianta beaga anuas agus tá an tÚdarás de shíor ag iarraidh tacaíocht a thaispeáint do chliaint seanbhunaithe san earnáil, maraon le hiarracht a dhéanamh tograí nua a mhealladh a úsáideann an nua-theicneolaíocht. I rith 2005 chonacthas cliaint

seanbhunaithe ag díriú ar Thaighde agus Forbairt agus aimsiú margaí nua. Ceadaíodh roinnt tionscadal nua ICT freisin i 2005, ina measc tionscadal suntasach d'Acaill, Co. Mhaigh Eo a chuirfidh breis agus 50 post ar fáil. Leanann fás na dtionscadal seirbhís-bhunaithe sa Ghaeltacht de bharr dul chun cinn na teicneolaíochta, feabhsú an bhonneagair theileachumarsáide agus daoine a bhfuil na scileanna cuí acu a bheith ar fáil. Chuir an earnáil seo fostaíocht ar fáil d'os cionn 500 fostaí lánaimseartha agus do 160 fostaí páirtaimseartha nó séasúrach sa bhliain 2005.

Bonneagar Teileachumarsáide a Fhorbairt

Cuireadh isteach líonra snáithín optach i bPáirc Ghnó Gaoth Dobhair i nDún na nGall. Chuir an Roinn Cumarsáide, Mara agus Achmhainní Nádúrtha maoiniú 90% ar fáil don tionscadal seo faoi Chlár Forbartha Infreastruchtúir Teileachumarsáide Leathanbhanda chun Líonraí Ceantar Cathrach (MAN's) a sholáthar i gceantair faoi leith.

Cuireadh isteach líonra snáithín optach ar Pháirc Ghnó Bhéal an Mhuirthead, Co. Mhaigh Eo. Fuair an tionscadal seo maoiniú 50% faoi CLÁR na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta. Rinne an Roinn Cumarsáide, Mara agus Achmhainní Nádúrtha an scéim a riaradh faoi chlár na Líonraí Ceantar Cathrach (MAN's).

Cuireadh soláthar snáithín optach chuig gach aonad ar Eastát Tionscail an Chlocháin Léith, Co. Dhún na nGall.

Audiovisual

The audiovisual sector in the Gaeltacht had another successful year in 2005 with producers/production companies featuring as both nominees and winners in the Celtic Film Festival and The Irish Film and Television Awards. Furthermore, a number of Gaeltacht producers/production companies were selected for MEDIA funding and obtained commissions from the Northern Ireland Film and Television Commission, Irish Language Broadcast Fund, established in 2004.

October 2005 saw the launch of 'Sound and Vision', The Broadcasting Commission of Ireland's funding scheme financed by the television licence fee and designed to support programming about Irish culture, heritage, experience and adult literacy. This scheme will provide new opportunities for Gaeltacht producers and production companies.

The sector provided employment for over 215 fulltime and more than 175 part-time and seasonal employees.

New Technology

In recent years Údarás na Gaeltachta has emphasised the importance of the ICT sector in the Gaeltacht and has continuously sought to support existing clients within the sector, while striving to attract new projects exploiting new technologies. 2005 saw some existing clients focus on Research and Development and the exploration of new markets. Some new ICT projects were also approved during 2005, with a significant project approval for Acaill, Co. Mayo involving in

excess of 50 jobs. The presence of service-based companies in the Gaeltacht continues to grow due to recent technological advances, improvements in technological infrastructure and the availability of skilled personnel.

This sector sustained over 500 fulltime employees and up to 160 part-time and seasonal employees.

Development of Telecommunications Infrastructure

The installation of a fibre optic network on Gaoth Dobhair Business Park was completed. The project received funding of 90% from the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources under the Department's Broadband Telecommunications Infrastructure Development Programme for the provision of Metropolitan Area Networks (MAN's) in selected areas of the country.

The installation of fibre optic network on Béal an Mhuirthead Business Park was completed. The project received funding of 50% under the CLÁR Programme of An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta. The project was administered by the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources under the MAN's programme.

Each unit on the industrial estate in An Chlochán Liath, Co Donegal, were provided with fibre optic connectivity.

In co-operation with Eircom a number of exchanges were approved for upgrading to Broadband DSL services. The status at the end of 2005 was as follows:

I bpáirtíocht le hEircom rinneadh uasghrádú ar ríocht de mhalartáin Eircom go seirbhísí Leathanbhanda DSL. Faoi dheireadh 2005 bhí uasghrádú déanta ar na malartáin seo a leanas: Gaoth Dobhair, Cill Charthaigh, An Clochán Liath, An Tamhnaigh, An Fál Carrach agus Ard an Rátha (Co. Dhún na nGall); Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh agus Baile Mhic Íre (Co. Chorcaí); An Daingean (Co. Chiarraí); Béal an Mhuirthead, Gob an Choire agus Bun an Churraigh (Co. Mhaigh Eo); An Cheathrú Rua, Carna, Tír an Fhia, Bearna agus Baile Chláir (Co. na Gaillimhe).

Faoi scéim CLÁR na Roinne Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta cuireadh seirbhísí leathanbhanda ar fáil trí chóras raidió ar An Charraig agus An Clochán Liath (Co. Dhún na nGall); An Corrán (Co. Mhaigh Eo) agus Carna (Co. na Gaillimhe).

Faoi Scéim Ghrúpa Leathanbhanda na Roinne Cumarsáide, Mara agus Acmhainní Nádúrtha cuireadh seirbhísí leathanbhanda ar fáil trí chórais satailíte agus raidió i gceantair Ghaoth Dobhair, Chorca Duibhne agus Chois Fharraige. Ceadaíodh na scéimeanna seo le tacaíocht ó Ghrúpaí Pobail sna ceantair sin.

G-COM TEORANTA

Buntáistí IT sa Ghaeltacht

Ó lár na n-ochtóidí, tá baint ghníomhach ag Gcom leis an fhorbairt ar raon leathan de thionscadail phíolótacha bunaithe ar an teicneolaíocht sna ceantair Ghaeltachta, agus fuarthas tacaíocht agus cabhair ó

Choimisiún na hEorpa faoi réimse de chláracha taighde agus forbartha.

Chun tacú leis an treoir atá ag an eagraíocht infheistíocht a mhealladh isteach, tá cuidiú tugtha ag Gcom chun bunchloch a chur faoin eolas teicneolaíochta sa phobal, rud atá riachtanach chun deiseanna nua fostaíochta a chur ar fáil don fhórsa saothair. Trí thionscadail píolótacha a chur i bhfeidhm tá an réigiún tugtha níos gaire do 'lár an aonaigh' trí sheirbhísí a chur ar fáil atá coitianta i bhformhór na gceantar uirbeach.

Gnéithe tábhachtacha d'fhorbairt iomlán na gceantar Gaeltachta is ea pobal atá oilte ar úsáid na teicneolaíochta agus gréasáin ardluais a bheith ar fáil.

Cúrsaí Oiliúna ECDL agus Scoileanna

Lean Gcom leis an gcomhordú ar sholáthar chúrsaí ECDL agus measúnuithe do dhaltaí idirbhliana iarbhuscoileanna ar fud na Gaeltachta i rith 2005. Rinneadh dul chun cinn suntasach i soláthar Cúrsaí Oiliúna agus Teistiúcháin ECDL thar ceann Údarás na Gaeltachta:

- Chláraigh 102 duine nua don mheasúnú ECDL i rith 2005.
- Tá teastas ECDL bainte amach ag 604 duine go dáta, 74 d'fhoireann an Údaráis ina measc.
- Tá GCom anois creidiúnaithe le hardchúrsaí i Word agus Excel a mhúineadh.



DSL upgrades completed by Eircom at December 2005: Gaoth Dobhair, Cill Charthaigh, An Clochán Liath, An Tamhnaigh, An Fál Carrach and Ard an Rátha (Co. Donegal); Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh and Baile Mhic Íre (Co. Cork); An Daingean (Co. Kerry); Béal an Mhuirthead, Gob an Choire and Bun an Churraigh (Co. Mayo); An Cheathrú Rua, Carna, Tír an Fhia, Bearna and Baile Chláir (Co. Galway).

In addition to the Eircom developments, Wireless Broadband Services were implemented with support under the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs CLÁR Programme in An Charraig and An Clochán Liath (Co. Donegal); An Corrán (Co. Mayo) and Carna (Co. Galway).

Satellite and Wireless Broadband Services were implemented with support under the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources Group Broadband Scheme in Gaoth Dobhair (Co. Donegal); Corca Dhuibhne (Co. Kerry) and Cois Fharraige (Co. Galway). These schemes were approved with the support of community groups in those areas.

G-COM TEORANTA

IT Benefits in the Gaeltacht

Since the mid 1980's Gcom has been actively involved in the development of a wide range of pilot technology supported projects in the Gaeltacht areas with support and assistance from the European Commission under a number of the Research and Development Programmes.

To support the organisation's brief of attracting

inward investment, Gcom has helped to create the foundation for a technology-aware community that is necessary to provide new employment opportunities for the working population. To improve overall community life Gcom has looked at a broad range of developments and activities that have gone some way towards removing the sense of isolation in Gaeltacht communities. The implementation of the pilot projects has brought the region closer to the 'centre' by facilitating the provision of services that are taken for granted in most urban centres.

A community skilled in the use of technology and the availability of high-speed networks are important to the overall development of the Gaeltacht regions.

ECDL and Schools Training Courses

Gcom continued to co-ordinate the provision of ECDL courses and assessments to Transition Year Secondary School students in all Gaeltacht regions. Significant progress was made in the provision of ECDL Training Courses and Certification on behalf of An tÚdarás during 2005:

- 102 new persons registered for ECDL assessments during 2005.
- To date a total of 604 candidates have been awarded ECDL Certificates, including 74 Údarás staff members.
- GCom is now accredited to run Advanced Courses in Word and Excel.

Tionscadail an AE

Leanadh le cur i bhfeidhm tionscadail a bhí maoinithe ag an AE. Is iad seo leanas na tionscadail a rabhthas ag plé leo le linn 2005:

An Tionscadal TESIS

Críochnaíodh an tionscadal TESIS faoin gClár Interreg IIIB Iarthuaisceart na hEorpa. Is éard a bhí sa tionscadal ná measúnú agus feidhmiú ar phleanáil ICT agus Oideachais do FBManna i gceantair Ghaeltachta na Gaillimhe, Mhaigh Eo agus Thír Chonaill. Údarás na Gaeltachta a rinne comhordú ar an tionscadal i gcomhar le Gcom, Díseart, Westbic agus Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh, mar aon le comhpháirtithe sa Ríocht Aontaithe, sa Bheilg agus san Ísiltír.

An Tionscadal NENSI

Leanadh le cur i bhfeidhm an tionscadail NENSI faoin gClár Interreg IIIB Iarthuaisceart na hEorpa. Cuireann an tionscadal seo seirbhísí ar líne ar fáil do chuideachtaí nua atá in ionaid Chothaithe. Tá an tionscadal dírithe ar fhorbairt seirbhísí a bhaineann leis na hIonaid Chothaithe atá beartaithe do Ghaoth Dobhair agus do Chill Charthaigh. Tá an tionscadal á chomhordú ag cuideachta san Ísiltír agus tá comhpháirtithe sa Ghaeltacht, sa Fhrainc, sa Ghearmáin agus sa Bheilg.

An Tionscadal 'Ciberstrategy'

Leanadh le cur i bhfeidhm an tionscadail 'Ciberstrategy' faoin gClár Interreg IIIC. Cuireann an tionscadal seo seirbhísí ar fáil chun cuidiú teilionaid a

fhorbairt mar ionaid straitéise agus pointí tagartha do Shochaí an Eolais. Beidh an tionscadal dírithe ar fhorbairt seirbhísí a bhaineann leis na teilionaid i gCill Charthaigh, Na Forbacha agus An Daingean. Tá an tionscadal á chomhordú ag cuideachta sa Spáinn agus comhpháirtithe sa Ghaeltacht, san Iodáil, sa Ghearmáin, sa Ghréig agus i bPoblacht na Seice.

An Tionscadal AtlantisBPnet

Tosaíodh ar chur i bhfeidhm an tionscadail AtlantisBPnet in Eanáir 2005 faoin gClár Interreg IIIB Limistéar an Atlantaigh. Tá sé d'aithne ag an tionscadal scothchleachtas a bhunú agus a fhorbairt do Shochaí an Eolais i réigiúin éagsúla an Atlantaigh. Tá an tionscadal á chomhordú ag cuideachta sa Spáinn agus comhpháirtithe sa Ghaeltacht, sa Bhreatain Bheag agus sa Phortaingéil.

An Tionscadal EKIE

Tosaíodh ar chur i bhfeidhm an tionscadail EKIE i Márta 2005 faoin gClár Interreg IIIC. Tá an tionscadal seo ag déanamh staidéir ar fhorbairt fiontraíochta i gceantair ina bhfuil daonra íseal, le béim faoi leith ar thionscadail eolasbhunaithe. Tá sé mar phríomhaidhm ag an dtionscadal comhlachtaí teicneolaíochta, institiúidí oideachais agus thaighde agus comhairlí áitiúla a ghríosadh le hoibriú go héifeachtach lena chéile chun borradh a chur faoi ghníomhaíochtaí gnó. Tá an tionscadal á chomhordú ag comhlacht san Fhionlainn agus comhpháirtithe sa Ghaeltacht, sa Ghearmáin agus san Iodáil.

EU Projects

The implementation of EU funded projects continued successfully. The following projects were in hand during 2005:

TESIS Project

The TESIS project under the Interreg IIIB North West Europe Programme was completed during 2005. The project involved the assessment and implementation of Information and Communication Technologies and Innovation planning for SMEs in the Galway, Mayo and Donegal Gaeltacht regions. The project was co-ordinated by Údarás na Gaeltachta in association with Gcom, Díseart, Westbic and NUI Galway with partners in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands.

NENSI Project

The NENSI project under the Interreg IIIB North West Europe Programme continued. The project involves the provision of on-line services to start-up companies in Incubation Centres. The project is directed at the development of services relating to, for example, the proposed Incubator Units at Gaoth Dobhair and Cill Charthaigh, Co. Donegal. The project is being coordinated by a company in the Netherlands with partners located in the Gaeltacht, France, Germany and Belgium.

The Ciberstrategy Project

The Ciberstrategy Project under the Interreg IIIC Programme continued in 2005. This project involves the provision of services to assist telecentres to develop

as strategy centres and research points for the Information Society. It will focus on the development of services to the telecentres in Cill Charthaigh, Co. Donegal, Na Forbacha, Co. Galway and An Daingean, Co. Kerry. This project is being co-ordinated by a company in Spain with partners in the Gaeltacht, in Italy, Germany, Greece and the Czech Republic.

The AtlantisBPnet Project

The AtlantisBPnet project under the Interreg IIIC Atlantic Area Programme commenced in January 2005. This project involves the study of best practice in obtaining, analysing and distributing information on the level of use and development of Information and Communication Technologies in different Atlantic Area regions. This project is being co-ordinated by a company in Spain with partners in the Gaeltacht, Wales and Portugal.

EKIE Project

The implementation of the EKIE project was commenced in March 2005 with support under the Interreg IIIC programme. The project aims to investigate approaches to enterprise development in areas with low population density, with a special focus on knowledge intensive industries. The primary aim of the project is to encourage small and medium-sized technology companies, education and research institutions and local authorities to work effectively together to generate new business activity. The project is being co-ordinated by a company in Finland with partners located in the Gaeltacht, Germany and Italy.



Teanga, Pobal agus Cultúr
Language, Community and Culture

Teanga, Pobal agus Cultúr

Tá cothú agus neartú na Gaeilge mar theanga bheo sa Ghaeltacht, agus an teanga sin a thabhairt ar aghaidh go dtí an chéad ghlúin eile, ina bhunús le polasaí Údarás na Gaeltachta. Tá cothabháil agus forbairt na teanga mar chuid lárnach de ghníomhaíochtaí iomlána na heagraíochta. Mar aitheantas ar an ról bunúsach atá ag an bpobal i gcur chun cinn na haidhme sin, tá a lán de na gníomhaíochtaí ar leith bunaithe ar fhorbairt pobail agus ar ghníomhaíochtaí pobail.

BUAICEANNA 2005**Naíonraí**

Bunaíodh Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo mar struchtúr nua neamhspleách chun naíonraí pobail na Gaeltachta a riaradh agus a bhainistiú. Tá maoiniú á chur ar fáil ag Údarás na Gaeltachta. Tá breis agus 130 stiúrthóir naíonraí fostaíthe ar fud na Gaeltachta ag Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo. D'éirigh le naíonraí Gaeltachta maoiniú breis agus €5m idir chaipiteal agus reatha, a aimsiú faoi Scéim Chomhdheiseanna na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí i rith na bliana. Tugann an tÚdarás cabhair airgid agus tacaíocht chomhairleach do na grúpaí seo lena n-aighneachtaí, ar a n-áirítear gnéithe deartha agus pleanála, a ullmhú.

Fondúireacht an Údaráis – Úsáid na Gaeilge i ngnó

Spreagann an scéim seo na tionscadail Ghaeltachta le gníomhaíochtaí a thionscnamh sna cuideachtaí féin agus i measc an phobail chun an Ghaeilge a ghríosadh

agus a chur chun cinn. Tá pleananna teanga aontaithe le mórchuid de na comhlachtaí Gaeltachta agus monatóireacht leanúnach á déanamh ar a ndul chun cinn.

Scéim Thacaíochta Chúraim Leanai

Chun a chinntiú go mbeidh fáil ag pobal na Gaeltachta ar mhaoiniú, idir chaipiteil agus reatha, chun ionaid chúraim leanai d'ardchaighdeán a fhorbairt, tá an tÚdarás ag obair i gcomhar le grúpaí pobail chun a chinntiú go mbainfidh siad tairbhe iomlán as an gciste náisiúnta atá faoi chúram na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí. I 2005 tugadh cuidiú do 10 ngrúpa pobail chun iarratais ar dheontas caipiteil dár luach breis agus €10 milliún chomh maith le deontais foirne os cionn €50,000 a ullmhú le cur chuig POBAL a riarann an ciste náisiúnta seo thar ceann na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí.

Gníomhaíochtaí Óige

Ag éirí as staidéar cuimsitheach a rinneadh ar riachtanais óige na Gaeilge, a foilsíodh sa tuarascáil 'Ógshaothar' sa bhliain 2003, cinneadh ar struchtúr óige Gaeltachta a mhaoiniú. I rith 2005 toghadh ionadaithe do Bhord Stiúrtha na cuideachta 'Óige na Gaeltachta Teo' ó ionadaithe na n-ógeagrais atá ag feidhmiú sna réigiúin éagsúla mar chuid den réamhullmhúchán do bhunú na cuideachta nua a tháinig ar an bhfód i rith 2005. Beidh raon leathan de sheirbhísí tacaíochta á chur ar fáil ag an struchtúr nua seo do na hógeagrais sa Ghaeltacht. Tá bainisteoir

Language, Community and Culture

The preservation and strengthening of Irish as a living language in the Gaeltacht and its transmission to the next generation forms the basis of Údarás na Gaeltachta's policy. All of the organisation's activities have at their core a language maintenance and development objective. Recognising the fundamental role played by the community in the furthering of this objective, many of the specific activities are rooted in community development and in community-based activities.

2005 HIGHLIGHTS**Pre-Schools (Naíonraí)**

Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo was founded as a new independent structure to administer and manage the community naíonraí throughout the Gaeltacht. It is funded by Údarás na Gaeltachta. Over 130 naíonra directors are employed throughout the Gaeltacht by Comhar Naíonraí na Gaeltachta Teo in conjunction with local community groups which represent each naíonra. Gaeltacht naíonraí succeeded in accessing over €5m in funding under the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform Equality Scheme. An tÚdarás provides advisory and financial support to such groups to assist them to prepare their submissions which include design and planning application elements.

Fondúireacht an Údaráis – Use of Irish in Business

This scheme encourages Gaeltacht businesses to

initiate activities both in their business and in the community to encourage and promote the use of Irish. Irish language plans have been agreed with most Gaeltacht businesses and these are being monitored on a continuous basis.

Childcare Support Scheme

In order to ensure that the Gaeltacht community has access to high quality childcare facilities, an tÚdarás is working closely with community groups to ensure that they are fully utilising the funding available through the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform for the provision and funding of childcare centres. During 2005 ten community groups were assisted in the preparation of applications for capital funding valued at over €10m. as well as applications for revenue grants of over €50,000 to POBAL who administer this national fund on behalf of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

Youth Activities

Arising from the recommendations of a report on the needs of Irish-speaking youth published in 2003 arrangements were set in train for the establishment of a Gaeltacht youth structure. During 2004 representatives from youth organisations operating in the Gaeltacht were elected to the Board of Directors of a new structure, 'Óige na Gaeltachta Teo', which came into being in 2005. It is being funded by Údarás na Gaeltachta. This new company will provide a wide





agus oifigigh óige réigiúnacha le ceapadh ag Óige na Gaeltachta Teo i 2006.

Comharchumainn Ghaeltachta

Tá aitheantas tugtha do bhreis agus scór eagraíocht phobail ar fud na Gaeltachta faoi Scéim Dheontas Riaracháin na gComharchumann Pobail. Íoctar deontas riaracháin bliantúil le gach comharchumann atá aitheanta chun go mbeidh sé in ann an plean forbartha nó soláthar seirbhísí atá aontaithe a chur i bhfeidhm ina cheantar feidhme. Tá na comharchumainn ina n-éascaitheoirí tábhachtacha don fhorbairt pobail agus bíonn ról lárnach acu, trí réimse de ghníomhaíochtaí áitiúla, sa bhealach a dtugtar faoi riachtanais áitiúla a sheirbhísiú agus i mbuanú na Gaeilge mar ghnáththeanga phobail agus oibre. Aithnítear go bhfuil tábhacht ar leith leo ar na hoileáin Ghaeltachta chun seirbhísí a sholáthar dá bpobail agus le feidhmiú ar bhonn idirghabhála agus stocaireachta le Ranna agus eagrais stáit.

Muintearas

Tionscadal oideachais agus oiliúna is ea Muintearas a chuireann seirbhísí tacaíochta ar fáil do bhunscoileanna agus do phobail sa Ghaeltacht. Cuireann Údarás na Gaeltachta maoiniú bliantúil ar fáil don tionscadal atá ag feidhmiú ar bhunús fochuideachta. Cuireann an tionscadal béim ar leith ar dhaoine óga, ar leanaí a bhfuil riachtanais speisialta acu agus ar réimse leathan cúrsaí a thugann deis do bhail an phobail forbairt a dhéanamh ar a gcuid scileanna pearsanta. Reáchtáladh réimse leathan de scéimeanna oideachais agus oiliúna i 2005 le

tacaíocht ó fhoinsí éagsúla maoinithe, ina measc Údarás na Gaeltachta, An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta, FÁS, Cumas/Pobal, an Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta, an Crannchur Náisiúnta, an tAontas Eorpach, agus An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt, Comhionannais agus Athchóirithe Dlí.

Clár Forbartha na nEalaíon

Déanann Údarás na Gaeltachta agus An Chomhairle Ealaíon cómhaoiniú ar chlár forbartha agus cothaithe na n-ealaíon traidisiúnta agus comhaimseartha tríd an fhochuideachta Ealaíon na Gaeltachta Teo. Tá triúr áisititheoirí réigiúnacha fostaithe leis an gclár a chur i bhfeidhm.

Cuireadh tús le cur i bhfeidhm *Plean Stráitéise d'Fhorbairt na nEalaíon sa Ghaeltacht 2005-2009*, comhfhiontar idir Údarás na Gaeltachta agus An Chomhairle Ealaíon a leagann amach sraith tosaíochtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí straitéiseacha don tréimhse 2005-2009.

Cheadaigh An Chomhairle Ealaíon agus an tÚdarás cómhaoiniú €750,000 don chéad bhliain den straitéis.

BUAICEANNA 2005

Cuireadh tús le “Tearmann”, cúrsa oiliúna atá lonnaithe i bPáirc Ghnó Ghaoth Dobhair faoi stiúir Chló Ceardlann na gCnoc, do dhearcealaíontóirí agus do riarthóirí ealaíona.

D’fhreastail 12 ar an gcéad bhliain den chúrsa atá ag cur oiliúint ar na rannpháirtithe i gclódhéanamh mindána, i dteicneolaíocht na n-ealaíon físiúla agus i

range of support services to Gaeltacht youth organisations. A manager and regional officers will be appointed in 2006.

Community Co-Operatives

More than twenty local community organisations throughout the Gaeltacht are officially recognised under the Community Co-operatives Administration Grant Scheme. An annual administration grant is paid to each recognised co-operative to enable it to implement an agreed development or service-provision plan in its area of operation. The co-operatives are important community development facilitators and play an influential role through their range of activities and services in addressing local needs and in securing Irish as a community language. Their role on the Gaeltacht islands is especially important as they not only provide a wide range of advisory and practical services but they also provide an important interface between these communities and various government departments and state bodies.

Muintearas

Muintearas is an education and training project providing support services to primary schools and to communities in the Gaeltacht. Údarás na Gaeltachta provides annual administrative funding to the project, which is a subsidiary company of An tÚdarás. The project places particular emphasis on young people, on children with special needs, on the development of educational material for Irish-medium schools, and on

a wide range of courses which enable members of the community to develop their personal skills.

A broad spectrum of educational and training schemes were run in 2005 with the support of a variety of funding sources including Údarás na Gaeltachta, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, FÁS, Cumas/Pobal, the Department of Education and Science, The National Lottery, the European Union and the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The Arts Programme

Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council jointly fund a wide range of traditional and contemporary arts initiatives and projects through a subsidiary company called Ealaíon na Gaeltachta Teo. This company employs three regional arts facilitators who implement the programme.

The implementation of the *Strategy for the Development of the Arts in the Gaeltacht 2005-2009*, a joint venture between Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council, which lays out a series of priorities and strategies for both organisations for the period 2005-2009, commenced.

An tÚdarás and the Arts Council approved funding of €750,000 for the first year of the strategy.

2005 HIGHLIGHTS

“Tearmann”, a training course for visual artists and arts administrators, commenced in Páirc Ghnó Ghaoth Dobhair. There are 12 participants on the course who

scileanna riaracháin i dtionscadail ealaíona.

Faoi Scéim Forbartha na nEalaíon cuireadh tacaíocht €220,000 ar fáil do 41 tionscnamh i 2005. Ina measc siúd a fuair tacaíocht bhí “Cosa Meata”, grúpa drámaíochta sráide as an Fhál Carrach i dTír Chonaill, a bhain duais náisiúnta ag Paráid Lá Fhéile Pádraig i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Chur Scéim na bhFéilte tacaíocht ar fáil do cheithre mhórfhéile Gaeltachta; Féile Iorrais, i mBéal an Mhuirthead, Féile na Bealtaine sa Daingean, Féile Phléaráca i gConamara agus Féile Ealaíona an Earagail, i nDún na nGall. Rinneadh ceiliúradh speisialta ar shaol agus ar shaothar Leo agus Baba Uí Bhraonáin ag Féile Ealaíona an Earagail i 2005.

Cuireadh tús le scéim *Sparántacht d'Ealaíontóirí* i 2005 agus faoin scéim seo cuireadh tacaíocht ar fáil do 10 n-ealaíontóir Gaeltachta – ina measc Bríd Ní Mhoráin, Úna Ní Shé, Seosamh Ó hÓgáin, Dónal Ó Liatháin agus Caoimhín Ó Fraithille.

Leanadh le Scéim na bPríomhréimsí a thugann deis d'Ealaín na Gaeltachta forbairt straitéiseach a dhéanamh ar ghnéithe éagsúla a chuirfidh le hinfreastruchtúr na n-ealaíon ar bhunús fadtréimhseach. I measc na dtionscadal ar tugadh cúnamh dóibh bhí:

- Scéim Drámaíochta agus Litríochta don Óige á reachtáil ag Pléaráca i gceantar Chonamara.
- Scéim Amharclanaíocht don Óige á reachtáil faoi stiúir AnnóG i gceantar Chorca Dhuibhne.
- Scríob Chleite, scéim scríbhneoireachta, á reachtáil i meánscoileanna ar fud na Gaeltachta.
- Scéim Cothú Imeachtaí – maoiniú dóibh siúd a bhí

ag iarraidh sraith imeachtaí ealaíona d'ardchaighdeán a reachtáil in ionaid éagsúla Gaeltachta. I measc na n-eagras a bhain tairbhe as an scéim seo bhí Coiste Mhíobhaí sna Dúnaibh i dTír Chonaill, Ionad Cultúrtha Bhaile Bhuirne, i Muscraí, Áras Éanna in Inis Óírr, Coiste Féile Iorrais i Maigh Eo agus Comharchumann Ráth Chairn i gCo. na Mí.

I gcúrsaí litríochta rinneadh dul chun cinn mór i spreagadh na scríbhneoireachta chruthaithí i measc an aosa óig. Foilsíodh *Dánta Déanta* i 2005, cnuasach de shaothar scríbhneoirí óga as ceantar Mhúscraí a tháinig as an sáróbair a rinne Liam Ó Muirthile, file, agus é ina scríbhneoir cónaitheach in Ionad Cultúrtha Bhaile Bhuirne. Foilsíodh *An Ghaith Aduaidh*, cnuasach de shaothar an aos óig as Toraigh, Cloich Chionn Fhaola agus Gaoth Dobhair de thoradh obair Eoghan Mhic Ghiolla Bhríde, scríbhneoir, agus é i mbun na scéime Scríob Chleite sna meánscoileanna sna ceantair sin.

Cuireadh tús i 2005 le nuachtlitir mhíosúil a scaipeadh a chuireann ealaíontóirí agus an pobal i gcoitinne ar an eolas faoi imeachtaí agus deiseanna atá ag teacht chun cinn.

Eagraíodh Comhdháil na nEalaín Traidisiúnta ar an Spidéal i Mí Mhéan Fómhair 2005 agus d'fhreastail 90 rannpháirtí air. Bhí an chomhdháil seo ag díriú go sonrach ar pholasaí úr na nEalaíon Traidisiúnta atá leagtha síos ag An Chomhairle Ealaíon agus ar an scéim tacaíochta *Deis* atá mar chuid den pholasaí seo.

are receiving training in fine art print, the technology of the visual arts and administration skills in art projects.

A total of €220,000 was shared among 41 arts projects which received assistance under the Arts Development Scheme 2005. Among those who received funding were the street theatre group “Cosa Meata” from An Fál Carrach, Co. Donegal who won a national award at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin.

Four major Gaeltacht arts festivals received funding under the *Festivals Scheme*, these were: Féile Iorrais, Iorrais, Co. Mayo; Féile na Bealtaine in An Daingean, Co. Kerry; Féile Phléaráca in Conamara, Co. Galway and Féile Ealaíona an Earagail in Co. Donegal. The life and work of Baba and Leo Ó Braonáin was celebrated at Féile Ealaíona an Earagail in 2005.

The *Bursaries for Artists* scheme commenced in 2005 and bursaries were awarded to 10 Gaeltacht artists, among them Bríd Ní Mhoráin, Úna Ní Shé, Seosamh Ó hÓgáin, Dónal Ó Liatháin and Caoimhín Ó Fraithille.

Scéim na bPríomhréimsí gives Ealaín na Gaeltachta a chance to strategically develop certain areas which will add to the arts infrastructure on a longterm basis. Among the projects which received assistance were:

- Youth Arts and Literature scheme organised by Pléaráca in the Conamara (Co. Galway) area.
- Youth Theatre Scheme organised by AnnóG in the

Corca Dhuibhne (Co. Kerry) area.

- Creative Writing Scheme for young people being organised in second level schools throughout the Gaeltacht.
- Several groups who organised a series of high-quality arts events in various venues throughout the Gaeltacht also received funding, these included: Baile Bhuirne Cultural Centre and Áras Éanna in Inis Óírr among others.

Great strides were made in the fostering of creative writing among young people and these resulted in the publication of two anthologies of work by young writers in 2005. *Dánta Déanta* is a collection of the work done by young writers in the Múscraí (Co. Cork) area who worked with poet Liam Ó Muirthile while he was writer-in-residence in the Baile Bhuirne Cultural Centre and *An Ghaith Aduaidh* is a result of the work done by young writers from Toraigh, Cloich Cheann Fhaola and Gaoth Dobhair (Co. Donegal) who worked with the writer Eoghan Mac Giolla Bhríde in second-level schools in those areas.

A monthly newsletter was circulated to artists and the general public giving information on arts events and opportunities.

A Seminar on the Traditional Arts was held in An Spidéal (Co. Galway) in September 2005 and over 90 attended. This seminar was specifically focused on the new Arts Council policy for the traditional arts and the support scheme *Deis* which is part of this policy.



Eagraíocht agus Seirbhísí Organisation and Services

Foireann

Ag deireadh na bliana bhí foireann 107 ag an eagraíocht.

Tugadh an clár gníomhaíochta cothrom le dáta agus cuireadh ar aghaidh chuig an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta é. Ag éirí as sin ceadaíodh don eagrais na méaduithe pá a bhí dlite don fhoireann i dtaca leis na comhaontuithe 'Dul Chun Cinn a Choinneáil' agus an Próiseas Tagarmharcála a íoc.

Cothromaíocht

Tá Údarás na Gaeltachta tiomanta go hiomlán do pholasaí comhionannais deise, agus tá gach post san eagraíocht oscailte d'fhir agus do mhná. Tá forbairt déanta ar chlár comhionannais thar na blianta. Leanfar leis na scéimeanna atá ag an Údarás le roghanna a chur ar fáil don fhoireann i dtaca leis na riachtanais ghairme agus phearsanta atá acu, nithe mar chomhroinnt poist, sosanna gairme agus laghdú ar uaireanta oibre. Ag deireadh 2005 bhí naonúr den fhoireann ag baint leasa as na scéimeanna seo.

Laistigh de na constaicí a bhaineann le hearcú foirne sa tSeirbhís Phoiblí i gcoitinne, déantar gach iarracht deiseanna fostaíochta oiriúnacha a chur ar fáil do dhaoine le míchumas.

An tAcht um Shábháilteacht, Sláinte agus Leas ag an Obair, 1989

De réir an Achte um Shábháilteacht, Sláinte agus Leas ag an Obair, 1989, tá ráiteas sábháilteachta scríofa ag Údarás na Gaeltachta agus táthar ag feidhmiú na

socruithe cuí go leanúnach chun cosaint a thabhairt do shábháilteacht agus do shláinte na bhfostaithe agus na gcúairteoirí ar fad atá taobh istigh dá ionaid ghnó.

Leanadh leis an oiliúint a chur ar fáil don fhoireann sa réimse sábháilteacht agus sláinte i rith 2005 chun féachaint chuige go bhfuil an t-eagrais ag comhlíonadh na bhforálacha san Acht um Shábháilteacht, Sláinte agus Leas ag an Obair, 2005.

Oiliúint agus Forbairt na Foirne

Leanadh ar aghaidh leis an gclár oiliúna agus forbartha foirne i 2005 agus seo a leanas na réimsí a clúdaíodh i rith na bliana:

- Clár Fhorbartha Pearsanta
- Clár Oideachais Bhreise nó cáilíochtaí 3ú leibhéal
- Diplóma agus Céim sa Ghaeilge
- Cúrsaí sa Nuatheicneolaíocht
- Oiliúint leanúnach do chinnteoirí agus do dhaoine eile faoi fheidhmiú an Achte um Shaoráil Faisnéise
- Oiliúint i Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht
- Cúrsaí Cuntasáíochta.

Clár um Chúram Cliant

I gcomhréir le dea-chleachtas sa tSeirbhís Phoiblí, tá glactha ag Údarás na Gaeltachta le Cód Cleachtais i dtaca le Cúram Cliant. Tá leagan nua den Chairt Chliant le foilsiú i 2006. Mar chuid den Chód Cleachtais a bhfuil tagairt dó sa Chairt tá nósmaireacht maidir le gearáin a láimhseáil agus tá córas ann chun déileáil le gearáin fhoirmiúla faoi

Staff

At year end the organisation had a staff of 107.

The action plan for the organisation was updated and forwarded to the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs for approval as part of the performance verification system under the Public Service Pay Agreement.

Equality

Údarás na Gaeltachta is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and has developed an equality programme over the years. All jobs in the organisation are open to men and women. An tÚdarás continues to operate a number of schemes which provide staff with options in relation to meeting their career and personal needs, such as job sharing, career breaks and reduced working hours. At the end of 2005, nine staff were availing of these schemes.

Within the constraints applying to the recruitment of staff in the Public Service in general every opportunity is made to make suitable job opportunities available to people with disabilities.

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989

In accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989, Údarás na Gaeltachta has a written a safety statement and continues to implement appropriate measures to protect the safety and health of all employees and visitors within its business centres.

During 2005 staff training in various areas of Health and Safety continued in order to ensure the organisation is fully compliant with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005.

Staff Training and Development

The staff training and development programme continued in 2005 and the following areas were covered during the year:

- Personal Development Programmes
- Further Education or 3rd level qualification programme
- Diploma and Degree in the Irish language
- New Technology Courses
- Ongoing training for decision-makers and others on the operation of the Freedom of Information Act
- Training in Health and Safety
- Courses in Accountancy.

Client Care Programme

In accordance with good practise in the Public Service Údarás na Gaeltachta has adopted a Code of Practice for Quality Client Care. A new version of the Client Charter is to be published in 2006. The Code of Practice referred to in the Client Charter includes procedures for handling disputes and a system for dealing with formal complaints regarding the quality of an tÚdarás' service delivery. Normal procedures were followed for investigating and responding to representations and complaints and to correct any

chaighdeán seirbhísí an Údaráis. Baineadh leas sa ghnáthbhealach as an gcóras seanbhunaithe atá ann chun achainíocha agus gearáin a fhiosrú agus a fhreagairt agus le fadhbanna a chur ina gceart chomh fada agus ab fhéidir nuair a tharla siad. Níor iarradh ar an eagraíocht leas a bhaint as an gcóras do ghearáin fhoirmiúla i rith na bliana 2005.

Tá an tÚdarás tiomanta ar leibhéal na seirbhíse do chliaint a fheabhsú agus aithníonn sé nach mór gach seirbhís phoiblí a dhearadh agus a chur ar fáil de réir na riachtanas atá ag an saoránach aonair, an gnó nó an pobal. Rinneadh suirbhé i measc cliant dá chuid chun cuidiú le feabhas a chur ar sheirbhísí na heagraíochta, agus le feabhas a chur ar an mbealach a ndéantar na seirbhísí sin a sheachadadh. Tosaíodh ar shraith cruinnithe poiblí a reáchtáil sna ceantair éagsúla Ghaeltachta i dtreo dheireadh na bliana 2005 chun eolas a thabhairt don phobal faoi spriocanna agus ghníomhaíochtaí an Údaráis. Tá eolas faoin

Údarás agus a sheirbhísí chomh maith le foirmeacha iarratais agus ábhar gaolmhar ar fáil le híoschoipeáil ar www.udaras.ie. Tosaíodh ar obair chun uasghrádú eile a dhéanamh ar an suíomh idirlín seo, agus tá an leagan nua le lánseáil i rith 2006.

Na hAchtanna um Eitic in Oifig Phoiblí, 1995 agus 2001

I gcoimhréir leis na hAchtanna um Eitic in Oifig Phoiblí, 1995 agus 2001, tá ráitis leasa déanta ag comhaltaí an Bhoird agus ag gach ball foirne atá i bpost ainmnithe i ndáil le forálacha an Achta.

Na hAchtanna um Shaoráil Faisnéise, 1997 agus 2003

Tháinig Údarás na Gaeltachta faoi thionchar an Achta um Shaoráil Faisnéise ar 21 Eanáir, 2001. I rith 2005, fuair an tÚdarás 9 n-iarratas nua ag iarraidh eolais agus 1 iarratas ag iarraidh athbhreithniú inmheánach.



difficulties as they arose. An tÚdarás was not requested to deal with any complaints through the system for formal complaints during 2005.

An tÚdarás is committed to improving its level of customer service and recognises that all public services should be designed and delivered based on the needs of the individual citizen, business or community. A survey of clients was conducted during 2005 to determine ways in which an tÚdarás could improve the delivery of the services provided by the organisation. A series of public meetings was commenced in the various Gaeltacht areas towards the end of 2005 to inform the community of the activities and objectives of An tÚdarás. Information on An tÚdarás and its services, as well as application forms and related material are available for downloading on www.udaras.ie. Work commenced on a

further upgrade on this website, and the new version is to be launched in 2006.

The Ethics in Public Office Acts, 1995 and 2001

In accordance with the Ethics in Public Office Acts, 1995 and 2001 members of the Board and all staff holding designated positions have completed statements of interests in compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Freedom of Information Act, 1997

Údarás na Gaeltachta was brought under the provisions of this Act on 21 January, 2001. During 2005, An tÚdarás received 9 new requests for information and 1 request for an internal review.

Údarás na Gaeltachta

Ráitis Bhliantúla Airgeadais
Annual Financial Statements

2005

Tuarascáil an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste le cur i láthair Thithe an Oireachtais

Tá ráitis airgeadais Údarás na Gaeltachta don bhliain dar críoch 31 Nollaig 2005 iniúchta agam faoin Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979.

Tá na ráitis airgeadais, a ullmhaíodh faoi na beartais chuntasaíochta arna leagan amach sna ráitis, comhdhéanta de na Beartais Chuntasaíochta, an Cuntas Oibríoch, an Clár Comhardaithe, an Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid, Ráiteas Gnóthachan agus Caillteanas Aitheanta lomlán agus na nótaí gaolmhara.

Freagrachtaí Chomhaltaí an Údaráis agus an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste faoi seach

Tá Comhaltaí an Údaráis freagrach as na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú de réir an Achta um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979, agus as rialtacht na n-idirbheart a chinntiú. Ullmhaíonn an tÚdarás na ráitis airgeadais de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn. Tá freagrachtaí cuntasaíochta Chomhaltaí an Údaráis leagtha amach sa Ráiteas um Fhreagrachtaí Bhaill an Bhoird.

Is é m'fhreagrachta ná na ráitis airgeadais a iniúchadh de réir cheanglas ábhartha dlí agus rialúcháin agus Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire).

Tuairiscím mo thuairim maidir le cibé an dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíorcheart, de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn. Tuairiscím freisin cibé, dar liom, an raibh leabhair chuntais chúil coinnithe. Lena chois sin, deirim cibé an dtagann na ráitis airgeadais leis na leabhair chuntais.

Tuairiscím ar aon chás ábhartha nár feidhmíodh suimeanna airgid chun na gcríoch a bhí beartaithe nó sa chás nach leanann na hidirbhearta do na húdaráis a rialaíonn iad.

Tuairiscím freisin mura bhfuil an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe ar fad faighte agam agus atá riachtanach chun críocha m'iniúchta.

Scrúdaím an Ráiteas maidir le Rialú Inmheánach Airgeadais le féachaint an léirítear ann gur chomhlíon an tÚdarás an Cód Cleachtais maidir le Rialachas Comhlachtaí Stáit agus tuairiscím ar aon chás ábhartha nach ndéanann sé amhlaidh, nó más rud é go bhfuil an ráiteas míthreorach nó nach dtagann sé le faisnéis eile atá ar eolas agam de bharr

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

I have audited the financial statements of Údarás na Gaeltachta for the year ended 31 December 2005 under the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Accounting Policies, the Operating Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and the related notes.

Respective Responsibilities of the Members of the Údarás and the Comptroller and Auditor General

The Members of the Údarás are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979, and for ensuring the regularity of transactions. The Údarás prepares the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. The accounting responsibilities of the Members of the Údarás are set out in the Statement of the Board's Responsibilities.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. I also report whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept. In addition, I state whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

I report any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions do not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report if I have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of my audit.

I review whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control reflects the Údarás's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and report any material instance where it does not do so, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information of which I am aware from

na ráitis airgeadais a bheith iniúchta agam. Ní cheanglaítear orm a bhreithniú cibé an gclúd-aíonn an Ráiteas maidir le Rialú Inmheánach Airgeadais gach priacal agus rialú airgeadais, ná teacht ar thuairim maidir le héifeachtacht na nósanna imeachta maidir le priacail agus rialú.

An Bunús atá le mo Thuairim ar na Ráitis

I mbun m'fheidhme mar Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste, rinne mé m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúcháireacht (Ríocht Aontaithe agus Éire) arna n-eisiúint ag an mBord um Chleachtais Iniúcháireachta agus trí thagairt a dhéanamh do na nithe ar leith is gá a chur san áireamh i ndáil le cúrsaí bainisteoireachta agus oibriúcháin a ghabhann le comhlachtaí Stáit. Déantar scrudú mar chuid den iniúchadh, ar bhonn tástála, ar fhianaise a bhaineann le suimeanna agus rialtacht na n-idirbheart airgeadais a chuirtear san áireamh sna ráitis airgeadais, agus leis na hidirbhearta a fhoilsítear iontu. Chomh maith leis sin, cuimsíonn an t-iniúchadh measúnacht ar na meastacháin agus ar na breitheanna suntasacha a rinneadh agus na ráitis airgeadais á n-ullmhú, agus measúnacht le féachaint an n-oireann na beartais chuntasaíochta don bhail atá ar chúrsaí an Údaráis, ar feidhmíodh na beartais sin ar bhealach leanúnach agus ar foilsíodh iad ar bhealach sásúil.

Phleanáil mé agus rinne mé m'iniúchadh sa chaoi is go bhfaighinn an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe ar fad a mheas mé a bheith riachtanach ionas go mbeadh leordhóthain fianaise agam a d'fhágfadh cinnteacht réasúnach ann go bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais saor ó mhíráiteas ábhartha, cibé calaois nó neamhrialtacht nó earráid eile is cúis leis sin. I dteacht ar mo thuairim, rinne mé meastóireacht ar a shásúla is a cuireadh faisnéis i láthair sna ráitis airgeadais san iomlán freisin.

Tuairim

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíorcheart, de réir Cleachtais Chuntasaíochta a nGlactar Leis go Coitianta in Éirinn, ar riocht ghnóthaí an Údaráis ag 31 Nollaig 2005 agus ar a ioncam agus ar a chaiteachas don bhliain dar críoch sin.

Is é mo thuairim go raibh leabhair chuntais chuí coinnithe ag an Údarás. Tá na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis na leabhair chuntais.



John Purcell
Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste
24 Bealtaine 2006

my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control covers all financial risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the risk and control procedures.

Basis of Audit Opinion

In the exercise of my function as Comptroller and Auditor General, I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation.

An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures and regularity of the financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Údarás's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of the Údarás's affairs at 31 December 2005 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by Údarás na Gaeltachta. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.



John Purcell
Comptroller and Auditor General
24 May 2006

Ráiteas ar Dhualgais an Bhoird

De réir Alt 18 (1) den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979, caithfidh an tÚdarás ráitis airgeadais a réiteach in cibé leagan a aontaíonn an tAire, le comhaontú ón Aire Airgeadais. Agus iad ag réiteach na ráiteas seo, caithfidh an tÚdarás:

- polasaithe cuntasáíochta oiriúnacha a roghnú agus iad a chur i bhfeidhm go seasta
- breithiúnais agus meastacháin atá réasúnta, agus críonna a dhéanamh
- na ráitis airgeadais a réiteach ar bhonn gnótha leantaigh, ach amháin sa chás nach mbeadh sé ciallmhar a cheapadh go leanfadh an Bord air ag feidhmiú
- neamhchomhlíonadh ábhartha aon chleachtais chuntasaíochta infheidhme a nochtadh agus a mhíniú.

Tá dualgas ar an mBord cuntais chearta a thugann léargas de chruinneas réasúnach ar stádas airgeadais an Bhoird ag am ar bith, agus a chuireann ar a chumas a chinntiú go n-aontaíonn na ráitis le hAlt 18 (1) den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979, a choimeád. Tá dualgas ar an mBord chomh maith sócmhainní an Údaráis a chosaint agus dá bharr sin, gach ní atá réasúnta a dhéanamh chun aon chalaois nó aon ghnóthaí cama a chosc agus a thabhairt faoi deara.



Liam Ó Cuinneagáin
Cathaoirleach



Séamas Breathnach
Comhalta

Statement of the Board's Responsibilities

Section 18 (1) of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979, requires an tÚdarás to prepare financial statements in such form as may be approved by the Minister, with the concurrence of the Minister for Finance. In preparing those financial statements, an tÚdarás is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Údarás will continue in operation
- disclose and explain any material departures from applicable accounting standards.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company, and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 18 (1) of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ráiteas Rialaithe Airgeadais Inmheánaigh

Thar ceann Bhord Údarás na Gaeltachta admhaím an fhreagracht atá orainn maidir lena chinntiú go bhfuil córas éifeachtach rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh á oibriú agus á choinneáil.

Ní féidir leis an gcóras ach cinnteacht réasúnach agus ní cinnteacht iomlán a thabhairt go mbeidh cosaint ag sócmhainní, go bhfuil idirbheartaíochtaí údaráithe agus á dtaifeadadh go cuí, agus go seachnaítear neamhrialtachtaí nó earráidí ábhair nó go n-aimsítear iad laistigh de thréimhse thráthúil.

Ghlac an Bord céimeanna chun a chinntiú go bhfuil timpeallacht rialaithe oiriúnach i bhfeidhm trí:

- Shainmhíniú soiléir a dhéanamh ar fhreagrachtaí agus ar chumhachtaí bainistíochta
- Nósanna imeachta foirmiúla a bhunú chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar ghníomhaíochtaí agus chun sócmhainní na heagraíochtaí a chosaint
- Chultúr freagrachta a fhorbairt feadh gach leibhéal de chuid na heagraíochta.

Tá próisis bunaithe ag an mBord chun rioscaí gnó a aithint agus a mheas trí:

- Chineál, fairsinge agus impleachtaí airgeadais rioscaí a bhaineann leis an gcomhlacht a aithint lena n-áirítear an méid agus na catagóirí a bhreithnítear a bheith inghlactha
- Measúnacht ar dhéanamh ar an dóchúlacht go dtarlóidh na rioscaí aitheanta
- Obair go dlúth leis an Rialtas agus le gníomhaireachtaí éagsúla chun a chinntiú go bhfuil tuisceant shoiléir ar spriocanna Údarás na Gaeltachta agus go bhfuil tacaíocht ann do na straitéisí chun na spriocanna sin a bhaint amach.

Tá an córas rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh bunaithe ar chreat eolais bhainistíochta rialta, nósanna imeachta riaracháin lena n-áirítear scaradh dualgas, agus córas tarmilgín agus cuntasachta. Áirítear ann ach go háirithe:

- Córas buiséadta cuimsitheach le buiséad bliantúil a chomhaontaíonn agus a athbhreithníonn Bord Údarás na Gaeltachta
- Athbhreithnithe rialta ag Bord Údarás na Gaeltachta ar thuairiscí airgeadais bliantúla agus tréimhsiúla a léiríonn feidhmíocht airgeadais in aghaidh réamhfaisnéisí

Statement of Internal Financial Controls

On behalf of the Board of Údarás na Gaeltachta, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place by:

- Clearly defining management responsibilities and powers
- Establishing formal procedures for monitoring the activities and safeguarding the assets of the organisation
- Developing a culture of accountability across all levels of the organisation.

The Board has established processes to identify and evaluate business risks by

- Identifying the nature, extent and financial implication of risks facing the body including the extent and categories which it regards as acceptable
- Assessing the likelihood of identified risks occurring
- Working closely with Government and various Agencies to ensure that there is a clear understanding of Údarás na Gaeltachta's goals and support for the strategies to achieve those goals.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administration procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular it includes:

- A comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget which is reviewed and agreed by the Board of Údarás na Gaeltachta
- Regular reviews by the Board of Údarás na Gaeltachta of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts

- Spriocannaí a leagan amach chun feidhmíocht airgeadais agus eile a thomhas
- Treoirí rialaithe infheistíochta caipitil a bhíonn sainithe go soiléir
- Disciplíní foirmiúla do bhainistíocht tionscadal.

Tá feidhm Iniúchta Inmheánaigh ag Údarás na Gaeltachta a oibríonn de réir an Chóid Fhrámaíochta um Scothchleachtas atá leagtha amach sa Chód Cleachtais um Rialú Comhlachtaí Stáit. Cuireann obair an iniúchta inmheánaigh san áireamh an anailís a dhéantar ar rioscaí a d'fhéadfadh dul i gcion ar an eagraíocht agus bunaítear pleananna bliantúla iniúchta inmheánaigh ar an anailís sin. Formhuiníonn an Choiste Iniúchta anailís na rioscaí agus na pleananna iniúchta inmheánaigh. Ar a laghad uair amháin sa bhliain cuireann an tIniúcháir Inmheánach tuairisc ar fáil don Choiste Iniúchta ar ghníomhaíocht iniúchta inmheánaigh. Áirítear sa tuairisc sin tuairim an Iniúcháir Inmheánaigh ar éifeachtacht agus ar leordhóthanacht an chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh.

Bíonn obair an Iniúcháir Inmheánaigh, An Choiste Iniúchta a mhaoirsíonn obair an Iniúcháir Inmheánaigh, bhainisteoirí feidhmeannacha laistigh de Údarás na Gaeltachta atá freagrach as forbairt agus cothabháil an chreat oibre rialaithe airgeadais, agus ráitis arna ndéanamh ag an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste sa litir bhainistíochta, mar bhonn eolais don Bhord agus é ag déanamh monatóireachta agus athbhreithnithe ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh.

Dearbhaím go ndearna an Bord athbhreithniú ar éifeachtacht an chórais rialaithe airgeadais inmheánaigh a bhí i bhfeidhm i rith na bliana 2005.

Arna shíniú thar ceann an Bhoird



Liam Ó Cuinneagáin
Cathaoirleach
Dáta: 28 Aibreán 2006

- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- Clearly defined capital investment control guidelines
- Formal project management disciplines.

Údarás na Gaeltachta has an Internal Audit function which operates in accordance with the Framework Code of Best Practice set out in the Code of Practice on the Governance of State Bodies. The work of internal audit is informed by analysis of the risk to which the body is exposed, and annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. The analysis of risk and the internal audit plans are endorsed by the Audit Committee. At least annually, the Internal Auditor provides the Audit Committee with a report of internal audit activity. The report reflects the Internal Auditor's opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal financial control.

The Board's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal auditor, the Audit Committee which oversees the work of the internal auditor, the executive managers within Údarás na Gaeltachta who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial control framework and comments made by the Comptroller and Auditor General in the management letter.

I confirm that the Board carried out a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial controls in operation during 2005.

Signed on behalf of the Board

Polasaithe Cuntasaíochta

An tAcht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979

Bunaíodh Údarás na Gaeltachta ar 1 Eanáir 1980 faoi fhorálacha an Achte um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979.

Seo a leanas na príomhpholasaithe cuntasaíochta atá in úsáid ag an Údarás:

(a) Bunús Cuntasaíochta

Ullmhaíodh na ráitis airgeadais seo de réir alt 18 den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta, 1979 faoi mhodh fabhrúithe cuntasaíochta, seachas mar a léirítear thíos, agus de réir prionsabail chuntasaíochta a nglactar leo go ginearálta faoin gcoinbhinsiún costais stairiúil. Glactar le Caighdeáin Tuairiscithe Airgeadais arna moladh ag na comhlachtaí aitheanta cuntasaíochta, de réir mar a thagann siad i bhfeidhm.

(b) Deontais an Oireachtais, Cistí Struchtúrtha an AE agus Aisiocaíochtaí Deontas

Comhairítear na nithe seo ar bhonn fáiltais airgid thirim.

(c) Deontais Iníochta

Comhairítear na nithe seo ar bhonn íocaíochtaí airgid thirim.

(d) Scéim Aoisliúntais

Feidhmíonn Údarás na Gaeltachta scéim pinsean shochair shainithe, a mhaoinítear go bliantúil ar bhunús íoc mar a thiteann amach ó airgead atá ar fáil dó, ar a n-áirítear airgead a chuireann an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobal, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ar fáil agus asbhaintí as tuarastal foirne.

Is ionann costas na bpinsean is na sochair phinsean a shaothraíonn na baill foirne sa tréimhse agus léirítear iad mar ghlanchoistas, gan na ranníocaíochtaí foirne a choinníonn an tÚdarás. Aithnítear suim comhionann leis an gcostas pinsean mar ioncam sa mhéid is go bhfuil sé infhaighte ar ais, agus go gcuirtear deontais a fhaightear sa bhliain, chun costais phinsean a íoc, ina aghaidh.

Léirítear gnóthachan agus caillteanas achtúire a thagann as dliteanais scéime sa Ráiteas Gnóthachain agus Caillteanais Aitheanta Iomlán agus aithnítear coigeartú comhfhreagrach sa tsuim infhaighte ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta.

Léiríonn dliteanais pinsean luach láithreach na n-íocaíochtaí fáistíneacha pinsean atá saothraithe ag an bhfoireann go dáta. Is ionann an maoiniú pinsean iarchurtha is an bhunsócmhainn chomhfhreagrach a gheofar sa todhchaí ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta.

(e) Sócmhainní Dochta

Úsáidtear formhór sócmhainní na heagraíochta i bhforbairt tionscail. Ní bhreathnaítear orthu mar mhaoin infheistíochta agus áirítear iad sa Chlár Comhardaithe ar bhonn costais lúide dímheas carnach.

Accounting Policies

Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979

Údarás na Gaeltachta was established on 1 January 1980 under the provisions of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979.

The significant accounting policies adopted by An tÚdarás are as follows:

(a) Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with section 18 of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act, 1979 under the accruals method of accounting, except as indicated below, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention. Financial Reporting Standards as recommended by the recognised accountancy bodies are adopted, as they become operative.

(b) Oireachtas Grants, EU Structural Funds and Grant Refunds

These items are accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

(c) Grants Payable

Grants are accounted for on a cash payments basis.

(d) Superannuation Scheme

Údarás na Gaeltachta operates a defined benefit pension scheme which is funded annually on a pay as you go basis from monies available to it, including monies provided by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and from contributions deducted from staff salaries.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by an tÚdarás. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Pension liabilities represent the present value of future pension payments earned by staff to date. Deferred pension funding represents the corresponding asset which will be recovered in future periods from the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

(e) Fixed Assets

The major portion of the organisation's assets are used to aid industrial development. They are not seen as investment assets and they are stated in the balance sheet at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Áirítear mar mhaoín agus áiseanna tionsclaíocha talamh, foirgnimh thionsclaíocha críochnaithe, áiseanna tionsclaíocha, forbairt suímh agus foirgnimh oifige.

Áirítear talamh ar bhonn costais. Léirítear na sócmhainní eile ar bhonn costais lúide dímhéas carnach a áirítear ina ngálaí cothroma bliantúla thar a saolré úsáideach eacnamúil measta.

San áireamh i gcostas na bhfoirgneamh tá an méid cuí do chostas forbartha an tsuímh agus áiseanna eile bonneagair a áirítear i gcostas tógála an fhoirgnimh, chomh maith leis an méid cuí d'ímhostais na Rannóige Seirbhísí Innealtóireachta mar atá leagtha amach i Nóta 11.

Is mar seo a leanas atá na rátaí dímhéasa:

Foirgnimh	4% p.a.
Áiseanna Tionsclaíocha	3% p.a.
Innealra, Troscán,	
agus Trealamh Oifige	10% go 25% p.a.
Feithiclí Mótair	20% p.a.
Innealra agus Trealamh ar Léas	20% p.a.
(nó de réir ráta comhionann leis an ioncam faoin léas má tá sé níos airde).	

(f) Infheistíochtaí

Léirítear infheistíochtaí i scaireanna ar bhonn costais móide agus lúide soláthar d'athluacháil idir costas agus luach bunaithe ar ghlanluach sócmhainní. Tá clár na n-infheistíochtaí leagtha amach i Nóta 14 agus Sceideal 1 de na ráitis airgeadais seo.

Ní léiríonn na ráitis airgeadais aon chomhdhlúthú ar thorthaí fochuideachtaí nó comhchuideachtaí. Sé tuairim an Údaráis go gcuirfeadh comhdhlúthú dá leithéid na cuntais as a riocht, go háirithe nuair a chuirtear san áireamh an éagsúlacht a bhaineann le gnóthaí na gcuideachtaí ina bhfuil infheistíochtaí chomh maith le dualgas ginearálta an Údaráis féin.

(g) Léasanna

Áirítear na cíosanna ó léasanna oibríocha sna ráitis airgeadais mar a mbíonn siad iníoctha.

Comhairítear an glan-ioncam ó shócmhainní atá ar léas ó institiúidí airgeadais, agus a léasaítear ar aghaidh chuig cliant-chuideachtaí, faoi ioncam Eile sa Chuntas Oibríoch ar bhunús faibhrithe.

(h) Caipiteal

San áireamh sa chuntas caipitil tá ioncam a chuirtear i leith chistiú caipitil agus gach brabús, caillteanas agus athluacháil ar idirbhearta sócmhainní agus infheistíochtaí (Nóta 17).

(i) Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail

Aithnítear caiteachas ar Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail de réir mar a tharlaíonn sé, agus faibhrítear an t-ioncam gaolmhar sna ráitis airgeadais.

Property and other facilities comprise land, completed industrial properties, industrial facilities, site development and office buildings.

Land is stated at cost.

All other assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation calculated in equal annual instalments over their estimated useful economic lives.

Cost of properties includes an appropriate portion of the site and other infrastructural development costs necessary for the construction of the properties, together with an appropriate portion of the Engineering Services Division overheads as set out in Note 11.

The depreciation rates applied are as follows:

Property	4% p.a.
Industrial Facilities	3% p.a.
Machinery, Office Equipment	
agus Furniture	10% to 25% p.a.
Motor Vehicles	20% p.a.
Leased Machinery and Equipment	20% p.a.
(or at a rate equal to the income under the lease if this is higher).	

(f) Investments

Investments in shares are shown at cost plus and less a provision for the difference between cost and a valuation which is calculated on a net asset basis. Details of the investments are set out in note 14 and schedule 1 of these financial statements.

The financial statements do not reflect a consolidation of the results of subsidiary or associate companies. An tÚdarás is of the opinion that such a consolidation would be misleading having regard to the diverse nature of the business of the companies and to the general duty of the organisation.

(g) Leases

Rentals under operating leases are dealt with in the financial statements as they fall due.

The net income from assets which are leased from financial institutions and on-leased to client companies is accounted for in Other Income in the Operating Account on the accruals basis.

(h) Capital

The capital account comprises income applied for capital funding and all gains, losses and revaluations on asset and investment transactions (Note 17).

(i) Community Employment Schemes

Expenditure on Community Employment Schemes is recognised as it is incurred and the related income is accrued in the financial statements.

Cuntas Oibríoch

don bhliain dar chríoch 31 Nollaig 2005

Operating Account

for the year ended 31 December 2005

	Nótaí	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
Ioncam:				Income:
Deontais ón Oireachtas	1	36,655	33,193	Oireachtas Grants
Fáltais ó Chistí an Aontais Eorpaigh	2	2,239	1,924	Receipts from European Union Funds
Cíosanna ó Léasáil Mhaoine	3	5,689	5,588	Rents from Leased Property
Ioncam ó FÁS	4	4,733	4,095	Income from FÁS
Táillí a Tuilleadh		722	636	Fees Earned
Ioncam Eile	5	412	425	Other Income
Farasbarr/(Easnamh) ar Dhíol Sócmhainní agus Infheistíochtaí	6	172	4,741	Surplus/(Deficit) on Sale of Assets and Investments
Aisíocaíochtaí Deontas		238	461	Grant Repayments
Maoiniú larchurtha Glan do Phinsin	22(b)	3,075	2,378	Net Deferred Funding for Pensions
Iomlán Ioncain		53,935	53,441	Total Income
Caiteachas:				Expenditure:
Deontais a Íacadh	7	18,691	18,916	Grants Paid
Imeachtaí Reatha	8	15,080	14,125	Current Activities
Cothabháil agus Bainistiú Punann Maoine	9	4,593	3,771	Maintenance and Management of Property Portfolio
Forbairt Teanga, Cultúir agus Pobail	10	4,816	3,861	Language, Culture & Community Development
Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail	4	4,733	4,095	Community Employment Schemes
Dímheas don bhliain		9,178	9,291	Depreciation for the year
Iomlán Caiteachais		57,091	54,059	Total Expenditure
Gluaiseacht Ghlan don Bhliain		(3,156)	(618)	Net Movement for Year
Fuilleach ar 1 Eanáir		287	(13)	Balance at 1 January
Aistriú ón /(chuig) an gCuntas Caipitil	17	2,916	918	Transfer from/(to) Capital Account
Fuilleach ar 31 Nollaig		47	287	Balance at 31 December

Ráiteas Gnóthachain agus Caillteanais Aitheanta Iomlán (STRGL)

(Easnamh)/Farasbarr don bhliain

Caillteanas/(Gnóthachain) achúireach ar Dlíteanais Pinsin
Maoiniú larchurtha Pinsin
Soláthair i gcomhair Athluachála agus Díscríobh Infheistíochtaí

	(3,156)	(618)
22(f)	(21,204)	(12,363)
22(d)	21,204	12,363
17	(1,386)	(1,358)

(Caillteanais)/Gnóthachain Aitheanta Iomlán don bhliain

(4,542) (1,976)

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses (STRGL)

(Deficit)/Surplus for year

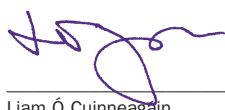
Actuarial Loss/(Gain) on Pension Liabilities
Deferred Pension Funding
Provision for Revaluation and Write-off of Investments

Total Recognised (Loss)/Gain for the year

Is i leith gníomhaíochtaí leanúnacha atá na suimeanna a thaispeántar faoi Ioncam agus Caiteachas.

Is cuid de na Ráitis Airgeadais na Polasaithe Cuntasaíochta, Nótaí 1 go 24 agus Sceideal 1.

Arna shíniú ag:



Liam Ó Cuinneagáin



Séamas Breathnach

Amounts shown under Income and Expenditure are in respect of continuing activities.

The Accounting Policies, Notes 1 to 24 and Schedule 1 form part of the Financial Statements.

Dáta: 28 Aibreán 2006

Clár Comhardaithe

ar 31 Nollaig 2005

Balance Sheet

at 31 December 2005


	Nótaí	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
Sócmhainní Dochta Inláimhsithe:				Tangible Fixed Assets:
Sócmhainní Dochta	13	129,657	135,681	Fixed Assets
Sócmhainní Dochta Airgeadais:				Financial Fixed Assets:
Infheistíochtaí (Sceideal 1)	14	18,591	17,977	Investments (Schedule 1)
Sócmhainní Dochta Doláimhsithe:				Intangible Fixed Assets:
Ceartha		99	108	Rights
Iomlán Sócmhainní Dochta		148,347	153,766	Total Fixed Assets
Sócmhainní Reatha:				Current Assets:
Féichiúnaithe	15	1,976	2,200	Accounts Receivable
Airgead sa bhanc agus ar láimh		<u>2,849</u>	<u>2,987</u>	Cash in bank and on hand
		4,825	5,187	
Dlíteanais Reatha:				Current Liabilities:
Creidiúnaithe	16	(6,514)	(7,893)	Accounts Payable
Sócmhainní Reatha/(Dlíteanais) Glana		(1,689)	(2,706)	Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)
Sócmhainní Iomlána Iúide Dlíteanais Reatha roimh phinsin		146,658	151,060	Total Assets less Current Liabilities before pensions
Maoiniú larchurtha Pinsic	22(e)	100,366	76,087	Deferred Pension Funding
Dlíteanais Phinsic	22(e)	(100,366)	(76,087)	Pension Liabilities
		0	0	
Sócmhainní Iomlána Iúide Dlíteanais Reatha		146,658	151,060	Total Assets less Current Liabilities
Féichiúnaithe: Méid Infhaighte tar éis bliana		1,164	1,304	Accounts Receivable: Amounts falling due after more than one year
Sócmhainní Glana		147,822	152,364	Net Assets
Maoinithe mar seo a leanas				Financed by
Cuntas Caipitil	17	147,775	152,077	Capital Account
Cuntas Oibríoch		47	287	Operating Account
		147,822	152,364	

Is cuid de na Ráitis Airgeadais na Polasaithe
Cuntasaíochta, Nótaí 1 go 24 agus Sceideal 1.

The Accounting Policies, Notes 1 to 24 and
Schedule 1 form part of the Financial Statements.

Arna shíniú ag:


Liam Ó Cuinneagáin


Séamas Breathnach

Dáta: 28 Aibreán 2006

Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid

don bhliain dar chríoch 31 Nollaig 2005

Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2005

	Nótaí	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
Réiteach Gluaiseachtaí Glana le Sreabhadh Airgid isteach (amach) ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin:				Reconciliation of Net Movements to Net Cash inflow (outflow) from Operating Activities:
Gluaiseacht Ghlan don Bhliain		(3,156)	(618)	Net Movement for Year
Dímheas don Bhliain				Depreciation for the year
Sócmhainní Dochta Inláimhsithe		9,169	9,282	Tangible Fixed Assets
Sócmhainní Dochta Doláimhsithe		9	9	Intangible Fixed Assets
Caiteachas Caipitlithe		(351)	(395)	Expenditure Capitalised
Gluaiseachtaí i gCaipiteal Oibre				Movements in Working Capital
Laghú/(Méadú) i bhFéichiúnaithe		225	747	Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable
Méadú/(Laghú) i gCreidiúnaithe		(1,206)	671	Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable
Laghú/(Méadú) i bhFéichiúnaithe: méid infhaighte tar éis bliana		140	77	Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable: amounts falling due after more than one year
(Farasbarr)/Easnamh ar Dhiol Sócmhainní agus Infheistíochtaí		(172)	(4,741)	(Surplus)/Deficit on Sale of Assets and Investments
Insreabhadh Glan Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin		4,658	5,032	Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities
Ráiteas ar Shreabhadh Airgid				
Cash Flow Statement				
Insreabhadh Glan Airgid ó Ghníomhaíochtaí Oibriúcháin		4,658	5,032	Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities
Caiteachas Caipitil				Capital Expenditure
Ceannacháin Sócmhainní Dochta		(6,881)	(8,707)	Purchase of Fixed Assets
Caiteachas ar Thionscadail Tógála nach ndeachaigh ar aghaidh		0	(11)	Expenditure on Building Projects that did not go ahead
Ceannacháin Infheistíochtaí		(2,211)	(3,283)	Purchase of Investments
Diúscairt Sócmhainní Dochta & Infheistíochtaí		4,470	7,140	Disposal of Fixed Assets & Investments
Caiteachas Caipitil Glan		(4,622)	(4,861)	Net Capital Expenditure
Bainistiú Acmhainní Leachtacha		(379)	(18)	Management of Liquid Resources
Glan-mhéadú (laghdú) in airgead tirim		(343)	153	Net increase (decrease) in cash
Réiteach Sreabhadh Glan Airgid le Gluaiseacht i gCistí Glana				Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Funds
Glan-mhéadú/(laghdú) in airgead tirim		(343)	153	Net increase/(decrease) in cash
Sreabhadh Airgid ó bhainistiú acmhainní leachtacha		379	18	Cash flow from management of liquid resources
Gluaiseacht i gCistí Glana		36	171	Movement in net funds
Cistí Glana ag 1 Eanáir		712	541	Net funds at 1 January
Cistí Glana ag 31 Nollaig		748	712	Net funds at 31 December

Anailís ar Chistí Glana

Airgead sa bhanc agus ar láimh
Rótharraingt bhainc

01/01/05

2,987
(2,275)Gluaiseacht
Movement(139)
175

31/12/05

2,848
(2,100)

Analysis of Net Funds

Cash at bank and on hand
Bank overdraft

712

36

748

Is cuid de na Ráitis Airgeadais na Polasaithe
Cuntasaíochta, Nóta 1 go 24 agus Sceideal 1.The Accounting Policies, Notes 1 to 24 and
Schedule 1 form part of the Financial Statements

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
1. Deontais ón Oireachtas Soláthraítear Deontais ón Oireachtas faoi Alt 22 den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta 1979 a leasaíodh le hAlt 2 den Acht um Údarás na Gaeltachta (Leasú), 1993. Tá na Deontais ón Oireachtas sna ráitis airgeadais comhdhéanta de dheontais i leith: Imeachtaí Reatha 14,155 13,193 Caiteachas Caipitil agus Deontais do Thionscail 22,500 20,000 Iomlán Deontas ón Oireachtas 36,655 33,193			1. Oireachtas Grants Oireachtas Grants are provided under Section 22 of the Údarás na Gaeltachta Act 1979 as amended by Section 2 of the Údarás na Gaeltachta (Amendment) Act, 1993. The Oireachtas Grants as shown in the financial statements consist of grants in respect of: Current Activities 14,155 13,193 Capital Expenditure and Grants to Industry 22,500 20,000 Total Oireachtas Grants 36,655 33,193
2. Cistí an Aontais Eorpaigh Ciste Sóisialta na hEorpa i leith Deontas Oiliúna & Fostaíochta, a fuair cúnamh ag rátaí suas le 75% de chaiteachas incháilithe 1,000 0 Clár Oibríochtúil Ionstraim Airgeadais do Threoir Iascaireachtaí (FIFG) 203 391 Scéim Thaighde agus Forbartha Tionsclaíoch – Beart 1 & RTI (faighte ó Fhiontraíocht Éireann) 511 1,523 Cláracha Eile (faighte ó Fhiontraíocht Éireann) 0 10 Caiteachas Caipitil ar leagan Cábla Snáithín Optaic 408 0 Deontas ó INTERREG IIIA 117 0 Fáltais ó Chistí an AE 2,239 1,924 Ar 31 Nollaig 2005 bhí suim thart ar €300,000 infhaighte ó Chiste Sóisialta na hEorpa			2. European Union Funds European Social Fund in respect of training and Employment Grants, which were assisted at rates of up to 75% of eligible expenditure 1,000 0 Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance Operational Programme (FIFG) 203 391 The Industrial Research & Development Scheme – Measure 1& RTI (received from Enterprise Ireland) 511 1,523 Other Programmes (received from Enterprise Ireland) 0 10 Capital Expenditure on Fibre Optic Cabling 408 0 Grant from INTERREG IIIA 117 0 Receipts from EU Funds 2,239 1,924 At 31 December 2005 an amount of approximately €300,000 was receivable from the European Social Fund
3. Cíosanna ó Léasáil Maoine Ollchíos infhaighte ó na cliant-chuideachtaí 5,689 5,588 Tá fóirdheontais chiosa de €781,125 (€768,949 – 2004) san áireamh i nDeontais a Íocadh (féach Nóta 7).			3. Rents from Leased Property Gross rents receivable from client companies. 5,689 5,588 Rent subsidy grants amounting to €781,125 (€768,949 – 2004) were made available to client companies (Note 7).

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
4. Ioncam ó FÁS			4. Income from FÁS
Tá an tÚdarás ag obair i gcomhar le FÁS ag cur Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail i bhfeidhm.			An tÚdarás sponsors Community Employment Schemes on behalf of FÁS.
I rith na bliana bhí 18 Scéim á reachtáil ar an meán agus 338 fostaithe orthu.			During the year there were on average 18 Schemes in operation employing 338 people.
5. Ioncam Eile			5. Other Income
Léasáil Sócmhainní	48	67	Asset Leasing
Dibhinní	167	45	Dividends
Ús Glan a Tuilleadh	1	0	Net Interest
Eile	64	3	Other
Fáltas ón Roinn i leith caiteachas ar an bhFeachtas Feasachta Teanga	66	236	Receipt from the Department in respect of the Language Awareness Campaign
Fáltas ón Roinn i leith riaradh Scéimeanna Sóisialta Tuaithe	54	61	Receipt from the Department in respect of the Rural Development Schemes
Fáltas ó Chiste John Conor McGee	13	13	Receipt from the John Conor McGee Fund
Iomlán Ioncaim Eile	412	425	Total Other Income
6. Farasbarr/(Easnamh) ar Dhíol Sócmhainní agus Infheistíochtaí			6. Surplus/(Deficit) on the Sale of Assets and Investments
Sócmhainní	172	4,562	Assets
Infheistíochtaí	0	179	Investments
	172	4,741	
7. Deontais a Íocadh			7. Grants Paid
Sócmhainní Dochta	5,327	6,815	Fixed Assets
Fóirdheontais Chíosa			Rent Subsidies
Maoín an Údaráis	781	769	Údarás Properties
Maoín Eile	111	21	Other Properties
Fostaíocht	4,232	3,433	Employment
Oiliúint	4,757	4,517	Training
Taighde agus Forbairt	3,326	3,239	Research & Development
Eile	157	122	Other
Iomlán Deontas a Íocadh	18,691	18,916	Total Grants Paid

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
8. Imeachtaí Reatha			8. Current Activities
Costais Riaracháin			Administration Costs
Táilí Chomhaltaí an Údarás	202	205	Údarás Members Fees
Tuarastail	6,591	6,623	Salaries
Costais Taistil agus Feithiclí	836	911	Travel & Motor Expenses
Cíos, rátaí, solas, teas agus cothabháil oifige	438	401	Rent, rates, light, heat & office maintenance
Costais Ghinearálta Oifige	851	674	General Office Expenses
Suirbhéireachtaí agus Seirbhísí Teicniúla	421	297	Surveys and Technical Services
Fógraíocht agus Bolscaireacht	464	340	Advertising & Publicity
Táille Iniúchta	51	47	Audit Fee
	9,854	9,498	
Costas Iomlán Pinsean (Nóta 22(c))	4,895	4,063	Total Pension Costs (Note 22(c))
Soláthar do Dhrochfhiacha	331	564	Bad Debts Provision
Iomlán Imeachtaí Reatha	15,080	14,125	Current Activities Total
9. Cothabháil agus Bainistiú na Punainne Maoine			9. Maintenance and Management of Property Portfolio
Tuarastail	1,402	1,303	Salaries
Costais Taistil agus Feithiclí	164	177	Travel & Motor Expenses
Caiteachas Díreach ar Chothabháil	3,207	2,294	Direct Maintenance Expenditure
Costais dhíreacha na Rannóige Seirbhísí Innealtóireachta	171	392	Direct costs of Engineering Services Division
	4,944	4,166	
Lúide Costais Riaracháin a bhaineann le Caiteachas ar Shócmhainní Docta (Nóta 11)	(351)	(395)	Less Administration Costs relating to expenditure on Fixed Assets (Note 11)
	4,593	3,771	
10. Forbairt Teanga, Cultúir agus Pobail			10. Language, Culture and Community Development
Forbairt Teanga	1,826	1,472	Language Development
Costais Fhorbartha Pobail	613	397	Community Development Costs
Deontais Reachtála do Chomharchumainn	2,377	1,992	Administration Grants for Co-Operatives
	4,816	3,861	
11. Costais Riaracháin Chaipitlithe			11. Administration Costs Capitalised
Tá caipitiliú déanta ar chaiteachas na Rannóige Seirbhísí Innealtóireachta agus é clúdaithe i gcostas na maoine, ionann le 13% de chaiteachas díreach.			Engineering Services Division expenditure is capitalised and included in the cost of properties and amounted to 13% of direct expenditure.
12. Drochfhiacha			12. Bad Debts
Díscríobhadh drochfhiacha de €33,036 sa bhliain 2005 (€442,411 sa bhliain 2004).			Bad debts of €33,036 were written off in 2005 (€442,411 in 2004).

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

13. Sócmhainní Dochta	Foirgnimh & Áiseanna eile	Oibreacha Caipitil idir lámha	Sócmhainní Dochta eile	Iomlán	13. Fixed Assets
	Property & Other Facilities	Capital Work in Progress	Other Fixed Assets	Total	
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	
Costas					Cost
Ar 1 Eanáir	222,842	10,303	5,049	238,194	At 1 January
Breiseanna	19	6,929	284	7,232	Additions
Oibreacha críochnaithe i rith 2005	5,829	(5,829)	–	0	Work completed during 2005
Díolacháin	(6,455)	–	(103)	(6,558)	Disposals
Ar 31 Nollaig 2005	222,235	11,403	5,230	238,868	At 31 December 2005
Dímheas					Depreciation
Ar 1 Eanáir	98,537	–	3,976	102,513	At 1 January
Soláthar don bhliain	8,848	–	320	9,168	Charge for Year
Laghdú i sócmhainní a díoladh	(2,403)	–	(67)	(2,470)	Disposals
Ar 31 Nollaig 2005	104,982	–	4,229	109,211	At 31 December 2005
Glan-Luach Leabhair					Net Book Value
Ar 31 Nollaig 2005	117,253	11,403	1,001	129,657	At 31 December 2005
Ar 1 Eanáir 2005	124,305	10,303	1,073	135,680	At 1 January 2005

San áireamh sna Sócmhainní Dochta Breise tá:
Éadail Sócmhainní Dochta
Caiteachas Caipitlithe

€'000

6,881

351

Additions to Fixed Assets comprise:

Fixed Asset Acquisition

Expenditure Capitalised

€'000

6,881

351

7,2327,232

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
14. Infheistíochtaí			14. Investments
Costas			Cost
Ar 1 Eanáir	25,852	24,513	At 1 January
Breiseanna	2,211	3,283	Acquisitions
Díolacháin & Díscríobhanna	(2,210)	(1,944)	Disposals & Write offs
	25,853	25,852	
Ar 31 Nollaig			At 31 December
Soláthar i gcomhair Athluachála			Provision for Revaluation
Ar 1 Eanáir	7,875	8,415	At 1 January
Soláthar don bhliain	1,323	975	Charge for year
Díolacháin & Díscríobhanna	(1,936)	(1,515)	Disposals & Write offs
	7,262*	7,875	
Ar 31 Nollaig			At 31 December
Glan-Luach Leabhair ar 31 Nollaig	18,591	17,977	Net Book Value at 31 December
Ar 1 Eanáir	17,977	16,098	At 1 January
*Tá an glan-solathár comhdhéanta de athluacháil dhearfach de €2,414,044 agus díluacháil de €9,676,355			*The net provision is made up of a positive revaluation of €2,414,044 and a devaluation of €9,676,355
15. Féichiúnaithe			15. Accounts Receivable
Méid infhaighte taobh istigh d'aon bhliain			Amounts falling due within 1 year
Féichiúnaithe & Réamhíocaíochtaí	1,782	1,674	Accounts Receivable & Prepayments
Fochuideachtaí	7	0	Subsidiary Companies
Scéimeanna Fostaíochta Pobail	187	526	Community Employment Schemes
	1,976	2,200	
16. Creidiúnaithe			16. Accounts Payable
Méid iníochta taobh istigh d'aon bhliain			Amounts falling due within 1 year
Creidiúnaithe & Costais Fhaibhrithe	3,536	5,044	Accounts Payable & Accruals
Fochuideachtaí	0	70	Subsidiary Companies
Ioncam Iarchurtha as Idirbhearta Maoine	877	504	Deferred Income from Property Transactions
	4,413	5,618	
Rótharraingt Bhainc	2,101	2,275	Bank Overdraft
	6,514	7,893	

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

	2005 €'000	2004 €'000	
17. Cuntas Caipitil			17. Capital Account
Fuilleach ar 1 Eanáir	152,077	154,365	Balance at 1 January
Infheistíochtaí			Investments
Soláthar i gcomhair Athluachála Infheistíochtaí	(1,323)	(975)	Provision for Revaluation of Investments
Díscríobh Infheistíochtaí	(63)	(383)	Investment Write-offs
	(1,386)	(1,358)	
Caiteachas ar Thionscadail Tógála nach ndeachaigh ar aghaidh	0	(11)	Expenditure on Building Projects that did not go ahead
Aistriú ón gCuntas Oibríoch			Transfer from the Operating Account
Deontais Stáit a úsáideadh chun Caiteachas Caipitil a mhaoiniú	5,600	3,500	State Grants used to fund Capital Expenditure
Caiteachais Caipitil ar leagan Cábla Snáithín Optaic	408	0	Capital Expenditure on Fibre Optic Cabling
Aistriú ón gCuntas Oibríoch i leith caiteachais chaipitil áirithe	82	132	Transfer from Operating Account in respect of certain capital expenditure
Farasbarr ar Dhíol Sócmhainní agus Infheistíochtaí	172	4,741	Surplus on Sale of Assets and Investments
	6,262	8,373	
Dímheas ar Shócmhainní Dochta	(9,169)	(9,282)	Depreciation on Fixed Assets
Dímheas ar Chearta Iascaireachta	(9)	(9)	Depreciation on Fishing Rights
	(2,916)	(918)	
Fuilleach ar 31 Nollaig	147,775	152,077	Balance at 31 December

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

18. GealltanaisCaipiteal

B'é €8,500,000 an luach a bhí ar ghealltanais Chaiteachas Caipitil ar aghaidh ar 31 Nollaig 2005.

Deontais

Meastar luach íocaíochtaí ar aghaidh i leith Ghealltanais Deontais ag €32,500,000 ar 31 Nollaig 2005.

19. Dlíteanais Theagmhasacha

Ar 31 Nollaig 2005 bhí, i dtuairim na bainistíochta, dlíteanais theagmhasacha de €800,000 ann i leith cásanna dlí agus €2.811 milliún maidir le deontais a fuarthas faoin gClár Oibríochtúil Ionstraim Airgeadais do Threoir Iascaireachtaí (FIFG).

20. Comhaltaí Boird - Nochtadh Idirbhearta

I ngnáthchúrsaí gnó, féadann an tÚdarás deontais a fhaomhadh agus socruithe conarthacha eile a dhéanamh le gnóthais ina bhfuil Comhaltaí den Bhord fostaithe nó a bhfuil leas eile acu iontu.

Chuir an tÚdarás modhanna imeachta i bhfeidhm de réir na dtreoirínte a d'eisigh an Roinn Airgeadais i leith nochtadh leasanna ag Comhaltaí den Bhord agus chloígh an tÚdarás leis na modhanna sin i rith na bliana.

Faomhadh deontais agus idirbhearta eile nua de €211,493 in iomlán i 2005 i dtaca le gnóthais a raibh baint ag comhaltaí den Údarás leo nó a raibh leas acu iontu go díreach nó go indíreach a nocht siad ag cruinnithe. I measc na gcásanna a bhí ann bhí cinn a raibh comhaltaí den Údarás fostaithe acu nó ag soláthar seirbhíse dóibh. Chloígh na Comhaltaí sin agus An tÚdarás leis na treoirínte ón Roinn Airgeadais i leith cásanna leasa pearsanta. I gcásanna a bhféadfadh coinbhleacht leasa a bheith ann, ní bhfuair Comhaltaí den Bhord cáipéisíocht bhoird i dtaca leis na hidirbhearta molta, agus níor ghlac na Comhaltaí sin páirt ná níor fhreastail siad ar aon phlé boird a bhain leis an ábhar.

21. Stádas Cánach

Forálann Alt 227 den Acht Comhdhlúite Cánacha, 1997 go bhfuil an tÚdarás saor ó chánacha ar gach ioncam taobh amuigh d'ús taise a mbíonn cáin choinneála ar ús taise (DIRT) ag foinse le híoc air agus ioncam trádála a mbíonn cáin chorpáraide le híoc air.

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

18. CommitmentsCapital

Forward commitments on Capital Expenditure at 31 December 2005 amounted to €8,500,000.

Grants

It is estimated that future payments likely to arise from Grant Commitments amounted to €32,500,000 at 31 December 2005.

19. Contingent Liabilities

On 31 December 2005, in the opinion of management, there existed contingent liabilities of €800,000 in respect of legal cases and €2.811 million in respect of grants received under the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance Operational Programme (FIFG).

20. Board Members - Disclosure of Transactions

In the normal course of business, An tÚdarás may approve grants and enter into other contractual arrangements with undertakings in which Board Members of An tÚdarás are employed or otherwise interested.

An tÚdarás adopted procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board Members and An tÚdarás adhered to these procedures during the year.

Grants and other transactions totalling €211,493 were approved in 2005 in respect of undertakings with which members of an tÚdarás were associated or in which they had a direct or indirect interest which they disclosed at meetings. Included were undertakings in which members of An tÚdarás were employed or to which they were providing a service. The Board Members and An tÚdarás complied with the Department of Finance guidelines covering situations of personal interest. In cases of potential conflict of interest, Board Members did not receive board documentation on the proposed transactions nor did those members participate in or attend any board discussions relating to the matter.

21. Taxation Status

Section 227 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997 provides that an tÚdarás is exempt from taxes on income with the exception of interest receivable which is subject to retention tax at source (DIRT), and trading income which is subject to corporation tax.

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

22. Scéim Pinsean

Feidhmíonn an tÚdarás scéim pinsean shochair shainithe neamh-mhaoinithe.

Tá an luacháil a úsáidtear d'fhaisnéisiú FRS 17 bunaithe ar luacháil iomlán achtúireach ag 31 Nollaig 2005 a rinne achtúire cáilithe neamhspleách chun riachtanais FRS 17 a thógáil san áireamh chun go bhféadfáil dliteanais na scéime ag 31 Nollaig 2005 a mheas.

(a) Úsáidtear na foshuímh airgeadais seo a leanas chun dliteanais na scéime a mheas faoi FRS 17:

<i>Modh Luachála</i>	Aonad Fortheilgthe		Projected Unit	<i>Valuation Method</i>
	Ar 31/12/2005	Ar 31/12/2004	Ar 31/12/2003	
Ráta Lascaine	4.10%	4.60%	5.25%	Discount Rate
Ráta Boilscithe	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	Inflation Rate
Ardú Pá	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	Salary Increases
Ardú Pinsin	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	Pension Increases

(b) Maoiniú larchurtha Glan do Phinsin don don Bhliain

Maoiniú infhaighte i leith costas pinsean na bliana reatha
Deontas Stáit a úsáideadh d'foc Pinsinéirí

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
5,366	4,581
(2,291)	(2,203)
<u>3,075</u>	<u>2,378</u>

(b) Net Deferred Funding for Pensions the Year

Funding recoverable in respect of current year pension costs
State Grant applied to pay Pensioners

(c) Anailís ar Chostas Iomlán Pinsean curtha in aghaidh Caiteachais

Costas Seirbhíse Reatha
Ús ar dhliteanais na Scéime Pinsean
Ranníocaíochtaí Fostaithe

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
1,470	1,362
3,896	3,219
(471)	(518)
<u>4,895</u>	<u>4,063</u>

(c) Analysis of Total Pension Costs charged to Expenditure

Current Service Cost
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities
Employee Contributions

(d) Sócmhainn Mhaoinithe larchurtha do Phinsin

Aithníonn Údarás na Gaeltachta na suimeanna seo mar shócmhainn atá comhfheagrach don dliteanas iarchurtha do phinsin ar bhunús na bhfoshuíomh thuasluaite agus roinnt teagmhas san am a chuaigh thart. I measc na dteagmhas sin tá an bunús reachtúil do bhunús na scéime aoisliúntais, agus an polasaí agus cleachtais atá i bhfeidhm faoi láthair i dtaca le maoiniú pinsin seirbhíse poiblí ar a n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí ó fhostaithe agus próiseas na meastachán bliantúla. Níl aon fianaise ag an Údarás nach leanfaidh an polasaí maoinithe seo de shuímeanna dá leithidí a sheasamh de réir an chleachtais reatha. B'í an tsócmhainn mhaoinithe iarchurtha do phinsin dála ag 31 Nollaig 2005 ná €100 milliún (2004: €76 milliún). Bunaítear cainníochtú an dliteanais ar na foshuíomh airgeadais a leagtar amach i Nóta 22(a). Cuirtear an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ar an eolas faoi na foshuíomh a úsáidtear, a bhunaítear ar chomhairle ghairmiúil achtúireach, ach ní aontaítear go foirmiúil leis an Roinn iad.

(e) Gluaiseacht i nDlíteanas Glan Pinsin i rith na bliana airgeadais

Easnamh ag tús na bliana
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha
Pinsin a íocadh i rith na bliana
Costais Seirbhíse Caite
Ús ar dhliteanais na Scéime Pinsean
Gnóthachan/caillteanas achtúireach
Easnamh ag deireadh na bliana

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
(76,087)	(61,346)
(1,470)	(1,362)
2,291	2,203
0	0
(3,896)	(3,219)
(21,204)	(12,363)
<u>(100,366)</u>	<u>(76,087)</u>

(e) Movement in Net Pension Liability during the financial year

Deficit at beginning of the year
Current Service Cost
Pensions paid during the year
Past Service Costs
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities
Actuarial gain/(loss)
Deficit at the end of the year

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

22. Pension Scheme

An tÚdarás operates a defined benefits scheme which is unfunded.

The valuation used for FRS 17 disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation at 31 December 2005 by a qualified independent actuary to take account of the requirements of FRS 17 in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2005.

(a) The financial assumptions used to calculate the scheme liabilities under FRS 17 are as follows:*Modh Luachála*

	Aonad Fortheilgthe		Projected Unit	<i>Valuation Method</i>
	Ar 31/12/2005	Ar 31/12/2004	Ar 31/12/2003	
Ráta Lascaine	4.10%	4.60%	5.25%	Discount Rate
Ráta Boilscithe	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	Inflation Rate
Ardú Pá	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	Salary Increases
Ardú Pinsin	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	Pension Increases

(b) Maoiniú larchurtha Glan do Phinsin don don Bhliain

Maoiniú infhaighte i leith costas pinsean na bliana reatha
Deontas Stáit a úsáideadh d'foc Pinsinéirí

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
5,366	4,581
(2,291)	(2,203)
<u>3,075</u>	<u>2,378</u>

(b) Net Deferred Funding for Pensions the Year

Funding recoverable in respect of current year pension costs
State Grant applied to pay Pensioners

(c) Anailís ar Chostas Iomlán Pinsean curtha in aghaidh Caiteachais

Costas Seirbhíse Reatha
Ús ar dhliteanais na Scéime Pinsean
Ranníocaíochtaí Fostaithe

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
1,470	1,362
3,896	3,219
(471)	(518)
<u>4,895</u>	<u>4,063</u>

(c) Analysis of Total Pension Costs charged to Expenditure

Current Service Cost
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities
Employee Contributions

(d) Sócmhainn Mhaoinithe larchurtha do Phinsin

Aithníonn Údarás na Gaeltachta na suimeanna seo mar shócmhainn atá comhfheagrach don dliteanas iarchurtha do phinsin ar bhunús na bhfoshuíomh thuasluaite agus roinnt teagmhas san am a chuaigh thart. I measc na dteagmhas sin tá an bunús reachtúil do bhunús na scéime aoisliúntais, agus an polasaí agus cleachtais atá i bhfeidhm faoi láthair i dtaca le maoiniú pinsin seirbhíse poiblí ar a n-áirítear ranníocaíochtaí ó fhostaithe agus próiseas na meastachán bliantúla. Níl aon fianaise ag an Údarás nach leanfaidh an polasaí maoinithe seo de shuímeanna dá leithidí a sheasamh de réir an chleachtais reatha. B'í an tsócmhainn mhaoinithe iarchurtha do phinsin dála ag 31 Nollaig 2005 ná €100 milliún (2004: €76 milliún). Bunaítear cainníochtú an dliteanais ar na foshuíomh airgeadais a leagtar amach i Nóta 22(a). Cuirtear an Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta ar an eolas faoi na foshuíomh a úsáidtear, a bhunaítear ar chomhairle ghairmiúil achtúireach, ach ní aontaítear go foirmiúil leis an Roinn iad.

(d) Deferred Funding Asset for Pensions

Údarás na Gaeltachta recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. An tÚdarás has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current policy.

The deferred funding asset for pensions as at 31 December 2005 amounted to €100 million (2004: €76 million).

The quantification of the liability is based on the financial assumptions set out in Note 22(a). The assumptions used, which are based on professional actuarial advice, are advised to the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, but are not formally agreed with the Department.

(e) Gluaiseacht i nDlíteanas Glan Pinsin i rith na bliana airgeadais

Easnamh ag tús na bliana
Costas Seirbhíse Reatha
Pinsin a íocadh i rith na bliana
Costais Seirbhíse Caite
Ús ar dhliteanais na Scéime Pinsean
Gnóthachan/caillteanas achtúireach
Easnamh ag deireadh na bliana

2005	2004
(€'000)	(€'000)
(76,087)	(61,346)
(1,470)	(1,362)
2,291	2,203
0	0
(3,896)	(3,219)
(21,204)	(12,363)
<u>(100,366)</u>	<u>(76,087)</u>

(e) Movement in Net Pension Liability during the financial year

Deficit at beginning of the year
Current Service Cost
Pensions paid during the year
Past Service Costs
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities
Actuarial gain/(loss)
Deficit at the end of the year

Nótaí ar Ráitis Airgeadais

(ar lean)

Notes to the Financial Statements

(continued)

22(f) Stair Thaití Gnóthachain & Caillteanais

22(f) History of Experience Gains and Losses

	2005	2004	2003	
(Gnóthachan)/Caillteanas ó thaití dhliteanais scéime pinsin				Experience (gains)/losses on scheme liabilities
Méid (€'000)	(4,460)	(5,539)	3,561	Amount (€'000)
Céatadán de luach láithreach dhliteanais na scéime	(4.4%)	(7.3%)	5.8%	Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities
Athrú sa bhunús tuisceana a bhaineann le luach láithreach na nDliteanas Scéime Pinsin				Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of Pension Scheme Liabilities
Méid (€'000)	(16,744)	(6,824)	(2,134)	Amount (€'000)
Céatadán de luach láithreach dhliteanais na scéime	(16.7%)	(9.0%)	(3.5%)	Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities
Méid iomlán aitheanta sa Ráiteas Gnóthachain agus Caillteanais Aitheanta Iomlán				Total amount recognised in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses
Méid (€'000)	(21,204)	(12,363)	1,427	Amount (€'000)
Céatadán de luach láithreach dhliteanais na scéime	(21.1%)	(16.3%)	2.3%	Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities

22(g) Tionchar an Pholasaí Cuntasaíochta

Is é tionchar an athraithe i bpolasaí cuntasaíochta ag éirí as teacht i bhfeidhm FRS 17 ná go n-aithnítear mar chaiteachas sa bhliain costas na bpinsean a tuilleadh, seachas na híocaíochtaí a rinneadh le pinsinéirí, agus méid comhfhreagrach maoinithe. Lena chois sin aithnítear sa Chlár Comhardaithe an dliteanas carnach i leith pinsean a bhí tuillte ag fostaithe dála ag 31 Nollaig 2005 mar aon le sócmhainn comhfhreagrach, cé nar nochtadh dliteanais dá léithidí cheana ach amháin trí nóta.

22(g) Effect of Accounting Policy

The effect of the change in accounting policy arising from the introduction of FRS 17 is to recognise as expenditure in the year the cost of pensions earned rather than the payments made to pensioners and a corresponding funding amount. In addition the Balance Sheet recognises the cumulative liability for pensions earned by employees as at 31 December 2005 together with a corresponding asset, whereas previously such liabilities were disclosed by note only.

23. Figiúirí Comparáideacha

Tá na figiúirí comparáideacha atheagraithe agus athluaite ar an mbunús céanna le figiúirí na bliana reatha.

23. Comparative Figures

The comparative figures have been re-organised and re-stated on the same basis as the current year figures.

24. Idirbhearta le Páirtithe Gaolmhara

I rith na bliana, bhí roinnt idirbheart ag an Údarás le páirtithe gaolmhara (fochuideachtaí agus comhchuideachtaí) agus tá achoimre de na sonraí anseo thíos.

24. Related Party Transactions

During the year, An tÚdarás entered into a number of transactions with related parties (subsidiary and associate companies), details of which are summarised below.

Saoi Teo

Siad seo a leanas na hidarbhearta a bhí idir Saoi Teo agus an tÚdarás i rith 2005:

Saoi Teo

Transactions with Saoi Teo during the year 2005 were as follows:

	€		€
Táillí Bainistíochta a fuarthas ó Saoi Teo	648,423	Management fees received from Saoi Teo	648,423
Deontas a íocadh le Saoi Teo	3,692,314	Grants paid to Saoi Teo	3,692,314

Bhain an tioncam agus an caiteachas seo a leanas le fochuideachtaí agus comhchuideachtaí uile an Údaráis i 2005.

The following income and expenditure related to all subsidiary and associate companies of an tÚdarás in 2005.

	€ Fochuideachtaí Subsidiaries	€ Comhchuideachtaí Associate Companies	
Táillí Bainistíochta a Fuarthas	668,423	0	Management Charges Received
Cíos Áitreabh a Fuarthas	67,885	330,118	Rents from Premises Received
Deontais a Íocadh	5,421,154	769,476	Grants Paid
Conarthaí i gcomhair Seirbhísí a fuarthas	33,100	85,401	Contracts for Services Received

Clár infheistíochtaí i gCuideachtaí
amhail ar 31 Nollaig 2005Schedule of Investments
as at December 31 2005

SCEIDEAL 1

SCHEDULE 1

Ainm Name	Costas Cost	Gnáthscaireanna Ordinary Shares	Scaireanna Tosaíochta Preference Shares
	€	€	€
Fochuideachtaí atá faoi lánúinéireacht an Údaráis Subsidiary companies under Údarás ownership			
1. Taighde Mara Teo	257,249	240,742	16,507
2. G-Com Teo	586,997	586,997	—
3. Saoi Teo	3	3	—
4. Snáth Kilcarra Teo	266,645	266,645	—
5. Imeachtaí GaelSaoire Teo	2,031,447	2,031,447	—
6. Muintearas na nOileán Teo	3	3	—
7. Ealaín (na Gaeltachta) Teo	1,708,013	1,708,013	—
8. Foinn Chonallacha Teo	138,404	138,404	—
Comhchuideachtaí ina bhfuil idir 20% agus 50% de na gnáthscaireanna ag an Údarás Associate companies in which An tÚdarás has between 20% and 50% of ordinary shares			
9. Clódóirí Lurgan Teo	189,633	189,633	—
10. Turmec Teo	784,698	122,784	661,914
11. Tourmac Infheistíocht Teo	285,691	63,487	222,204
12. Telegael Teo	683,770	301,692	380,921
13. Eo Teo	31,744	37,600	—
14. Aerphort Idirnáisiúnta Dhún na nGall Teo	939,606	177,763	698,355
15. Fiontar Oidhreacht Inis Mór Teo	85,072	38,092	46,980
16. Éisc Iathghlas Teo	77,939	102,269	190,461
17. Bioniche Teo	1,035,213	108,014	1,035,401
18. Chillchiarain Eisc Teo	25,395	25,395	—
19. Maoiniú Mara Teo	1,100,000	294,000	806,000
Cuideachtaí ina bhfuil níos lú ná 20% de na gnáthscaireanna ag an Údarás Companies in which An tÚdarás has less than 20% of ordinary shares			
20. Irish Seafood Producers Group Ltd	4,635	115,081	—
21. Earagail Éisc Teo	1,043,725	116,067	623,124
22. Kerry Airport plc	31,743	31,743	—
23. Galf Chorca Dhuibhne cpt	100,001	18,411	100,000
24. Feirm Eisc Cléire Teo	338,250	168,250	170,000
Infheistíocht gan chothromas Non equity investments	14,107,031		14,139,776
An Costas Iomlán Total Cost	€25,852,907		