



Participative GIS Tools

Project to preserve the local knowledge by working with local communities in County Donegal where, through the use Geographic Information Systems (GIS), they are able to “crowdsource” information only known locally. This initiative serves to empower and build up active digitizing communities.

Issues Faced

In an age of Digital Cartography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Big Data, local knowledge and folklore of the surrounding landscape is being lost and is dying out with an ageing population.

There is a real need of preserving this local knowledge seen as invaluable heritage that otherwise will be lost and impossible to obtain in the future.



Key Objectives

- Curtail the loss of local knowledge by capturing it in and sharing it through user-friendly GIS tools.
- Empower the role that the community may play in the provision of public information and services.
- Improve the public information management processes through a more intense and adequate use of digital technologies.



Main Results

- First crowdsourcing type project carried out in Donegal allowing the community to be a key player in the provision of public services.
- Easy-to-use map application accessible through the Donegal Map Portal that will be a resource for tracing family histories and researching local landscapes and folklore.
- Cost saving by allowing free access to digital maps avoiding the costly paper-produced ones.

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Áislann - supporting innovation in Gaeltacht

Áislann Ghaoth Dobhair is a purpose-built, state of the art Enterprise, Innovation and Cultural based development located on the Gaoth Dobhair Business Park which offers support to knowledge-based enterprises and provides fully serviced workspace for start-up and early stage businesses.

Issues Faced

Support the change of the productivity model in the Gaeltacht area, mainly dependant on the manufacturing sector some years ago and highly impacted by the cheaper labor costs in other countries and that reduced dramatically the number of jobs in the area, and move it into a more knowledge-based model.



Key Objectives

Áislann Ghaoth Dobhair aims to nurture and encourage start-ups and small businesses in the North West Gaeltacht area. The innovative centre offers a complete business solution to entrepreneurs seeking a high quality and mentoring environment in which to grow their enterprise with business support also available from Údarás na Gaeltachta.



Main Results

Since 2015, we have helped fifteen entrepreneurs start their own businesses in the Áislann and we are currently in negotiations with another 10 start-ups. We have created a vibrant cluster of technology, digital media and internet companies to create a new knowledge-based model that also hosts a 20 person digital hub to nurture early-stage digital enterprises and facilitate remote working.

Údarás na Gaeltachta

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Catalyst Inc

· HERE TO HELP YOU CHANGE THE WORLD ·

Catalyst Inc Innovation Centre - Derry

The high-tech, super-connected premises provide flexibility for start-ups and companies of any size, ranging from a single "hot desk" to large-scale workspace, as well as meeting spaces, a café, on-site parking and secure cloud data storage.

Issues Faced

"Catalyst Inc is Northern Ireland's next generation science park. An independent, non-profit organisation that invests the surplus generated from our agile workspace and facilities, providing the underwriting necessary for the community-led development of our entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem through Connect and Capital Match."

Key Objectives

"Our vision for Northern Ireland is "a community of innovators so powerful its people can change the world." We provide the home, networks and empathy to nurture anyone with the talent and ambition to produce world leading products and services. We believe that innovation has the power to transform NI into one of Europe's most entrepreneurial economies by 2030".

Main Results

The North West campus provides 50,000 square foot of flexible workspace on the banks of the Foyle, on the site of a former Fort George army barracks. It has its own Data Centre and with 100% of space already let to 30 tenants, it is home to specialists in software, telecoms, digital media, health & bioscience, clean tech and television production, among many others.



Catalyst Inc

The Innovation Centre
Bay Road
Derry-Londonderry
Northern Ireland

www.catalyst-inc.org



C-TRIC - Healthcare Innovation Hub in Derry

C-TRIC houses a Clinical Research Facility and a Healthcare Innovation Hub providing specialist workspace and services for academic researchers, clinical researchers and the biotechnology industry.

Issues Faced

Need of reducing costs and time to market by effective translating the University's research and innovation capability in personalised medicine. C-TRIC is situated on a major acute hospital site allowing for co-localisation of clinicians, academics and industry experts. This makes C-TRIC an ideal location for staging clinical research and trials.

Key Objectives

C-TRIC's primary objective is to reduce both the time to market and the costs associated with research and development of innovative health technologies, medical devices and therapeutics. C-TRIC's unique infrastructure and key support staff facilitate clinical research and innovation, enabling the streamlining of developments from the laboratory to the market.

Main Results

C-TRIC streamlines the process of taking developments from the laboratory to the market place through a focused 'bench to bedside' approach. C-TRIC can facilitate partnerships between academic researchers, clinical practitioners and industry.



Clinical Translational Research and Innovation Centre

Altnagelvin Hospital
Glenshane Road
Derry-Londonderry
Northern Ireland

www.c-tric.com



Eighty81 Creative Hub - Derry

Eighty81 is a new Creative Industry space providing shared workspace, own door office space, incubation workspace and meeting and event space for creative businesses which is now open in Ebrington Square in Derry-Londonderry.

Issues Faced

Eighty81 is facing the challenge of unlocking the potential of the creative sector in Derry by providing them and space to meet and work alongside other like-minded creatives to grow together, learn and share experiences.

Key Objectives

Eighty81 aims to create a beautiful, inspiring, creative and affordable shared workspace for creative businesses which allows them to grow and develop. A workplace which is both creative yet professional with a friendly, informal and supportive atmosphere that encourages communication, collaboration and inspiration.

Main Results

Eighty81 hosts at the moment 12 creative business with a combination of digital, software, film, animation, photography, graphic design, architecture etc.

This is translated into 25-30 people working at the hub including staff and temporary workers. The hub has capacity to accommodate 20 more workers when reaching full capacity.



Eighty81 Creative Workspace

Building 80/81
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eightyeightyone.com



CoLab - Innovation Hub in North West Ireland

Based on the Letterkenny IT campus, CoLab is a collaborative hub, a like-minded community to enable people with great ideas to turn them into viable businesses. Home to pioneering research in many areas, CoLab is involved in numerous initiatives and programmes for technology entrepreneurs.

Issues Faced

CoLab was established as stimulating and supportive incubation centre in 2000 to take a pivotal role in changing the attitude towards innovation, risk-taking, and entrepreneurship in the Northwest region in Ireland to transfer technology and ideas into businesses.



Key Objectives

CoLab Innovation centre aims to accelerate business growth through the exchange of knowledge, access to expertise, funding signposting, entrepreneur programmes and state-of-the-art facilities.



Main Results

Since 2000 we've played a pivotal role in changing the attitude towards innovation, risk-taking, and entrepreneurship in the Northwest. We've helped over 100 entrepreneurs to successfully start their own businesses, and we are currently home to another 28 companies. We've created a clustering of vibrant SMEs, companies that are working together to create the future economy of the Northwest.

CoLab

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The Nerve Centre - Creative Social Enterprise

The Nerve Centre is Northern Ireland's leading creative media arts and education centre. More than 120,000 people a year benefit from a wide-ranging programme of events, cutting edge projects, creative learning centres, training opportunities, and state-of-the-art production facilities.

Background

Nerve Centre was established in 1990 to provide a space for young musicians and filmmakers to meet, collaborate and create. It has developed into an Oscar nominated production house, Curriculum creator and provider, teacher-training centre, music venue and leading social enterprise, employing up to 100 people.



Key Objectives

The Nerve Centre seeks to support creativity, innovation and imagination in the use of digital technologies in learning, community and social contexts. Inclusion and access is a key driver - bringing new technology and training to those who are traditionally excluded. We have a creative industries development role but also seek to drive social change.

Key Projects

We currently operate a range of projects across four sites in Derry and a centre in Belfast. Projects include an MIT FabLab; two Creative Learning Centres; a visual arts gallery; a commercial recording studio and TV post production suite; FabSocial - an outreach FabLab in the Shantallow community and SYNC, a large scale music outreach programme.



Nerve Centre

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