

Ireland, National Development Plan, 2000-2006

IRELAND, National Development Plan, 2000-2006 was the government's long-term strategy for expenditure of EUR57 billion over seven years in infrastructure, productive investment, education and training, regional development and social inclusion. The Strategy was organized around 4 key objectives: i) continuing sustainable national economic and employment growth, ii) consolidating and improving Ireland's international competitiveness; iii) fostering balanced regional development; iv) promoting social inclusion. The Strategy was noteworthy for the involvement of the social partners in its drafting, and for the low proportion of EU funding (10% approx.) to domestic funds in the overall investment. It is also noteworthy for the inclusion of a mandate to mainstream gender equality as a horizontal principle.

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