



**Northern
Periphery
Programme**

2007–2013

Innovatively investing
in Europe's Northern
Periphery for a sustainable
and prosperous future



Agenda

NPP Annual Conference 2010

Stimulating Growth, Social Inclusion and Equal Opportunities
in rural areas through enhanced rural business development and core
service provision

9th September 2010 - Bunratty Castle Hotel, Bunratty, Co. Clare Ireland

9.30am – 10.45am **Conference chair:** Mr. Gerry Finn, Director, BMW Regional
Assembly

- **Welcome & Introduction**
Cllr Joe Flanagan Cathaoirleach, BMW Regional Assembly
- **Key note address:**
**Rural Business Support solutions & addressing Regional
economic imbalance**
Dr. Vincent Cunnane, CEO Shannon Development
- **Equality as a cross cutting theme in Northern Periphery**
Mr. Niclas Forsling, Head of Secretariat, Northern Periphery
Programme

10.45am-11.00am *Coffee break*

11.00am – 12.30pm **Viable Rural Business solutions & service provision in
peripheral areas**

- **Stimulating rural business innovation in the context of
prioritising equal opportunities**
Dr. Kevin Heanue, Economist, Rural Economy Research Centre,
Teagasc

- **Equality of access to Enterprise supports**
Ms Maria Callanan, CEO Laois County Enterprise Board
- **Good practise in rural service provision**
Mr. Norman Mac Askill, Head of Rural Policy, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, Inverness.
- **Questions & Answers**

12.30 – 1.45pm *Lunch*

1.45pm-4.00pm **Parallel Workshops**

<p>EQUALITY Cross cutting theme</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Martin Mc Donald, CEO, Northern Ireland Rural Development Council</p>	<p>Rural Business & Services theme</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Ciaran Lynch, Director of Rural Development, Tipperary Institute</p>
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Plenary wrap-up

4.00 pm **Conference close**