

The Border Compass Project – Outcomes and New Opportunities for Cross-Border Cooperation

Andy Hallewell, ICBAN, 30 November 2018

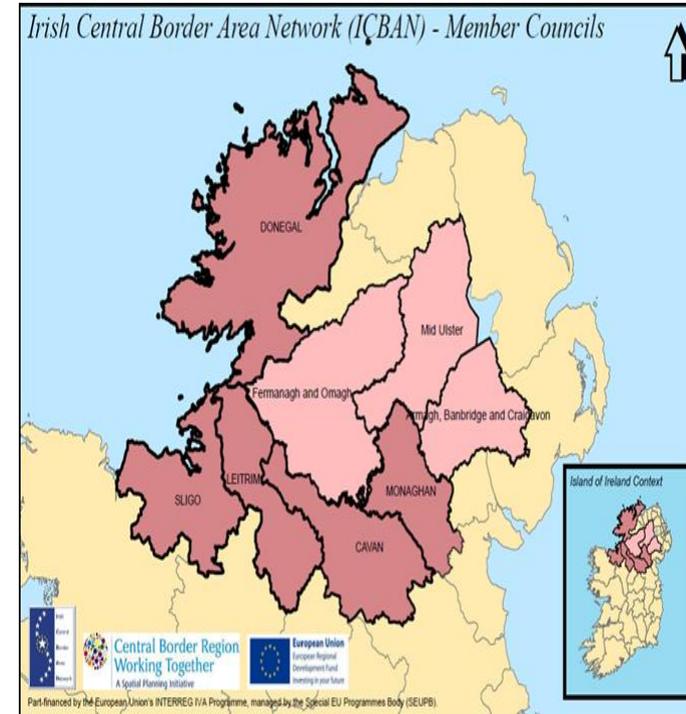


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The Border Compass Project, March-Nov 2018

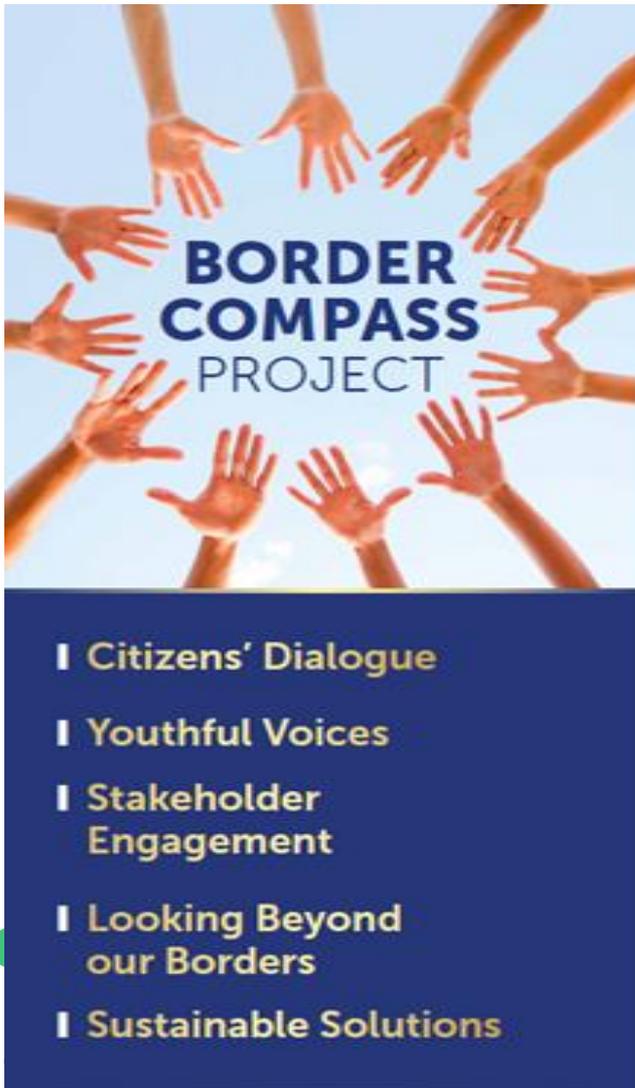
- Address challenges of a changing environment
 - Where one jurisdictional area of the Region will be in the EU, while the other prepares to leave
- Incumbent on areas such as the Central Border Region, and organisations such as ICBAN, to respond accordingly
- Engaging with member Councils, stakeholders and Border Communities
- Reaffirming commitments to cross-border cooperation
- Help maintain and build good relations



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Engaging With Border Communities



- Citizens' Voices
- Hard to Reach Groups
 - Women
 - Young People
 - Carers
 - LGBT Community
 - People with Disabilities
- Cross-community / Cross-border



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'Brexit at the Border' Study, spring 2018

1. Giving a voice to border citizens
2. Recording those voices
3. Ensuring those voices are heard by those involved in high-level negotiations – EU Negotiating Team, Irish, UK and NI Govts.

Practical consequences for border life

What a 'hard border' means

Attitudes to proposed technological solutions

Representation on the issues

Priorities for the Brexit negotiations

Partnership:

Academic integrity

Trust, respect and responsibility in dealing with a sensitive issue



Online survey

591 respondents

50/50 Male/Female

80% 31-65 years old

Focus groups

49 participants

6 groups

Coverage in 123 media publications worldwide



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'Youthful Voices'

- 14–17 year olds
- 29 young people attended 54 workshops
- Cross-border residential, Garton, Donegal, 01/08/2018
- 'Cross Border Champions' - OCN Level 3 Accreditation



Topics Discussed:

Segregation
Brexit
Identity
Conflicts
Stereotypes
Working Together



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 **verbal**
Promoting the written and spoken word



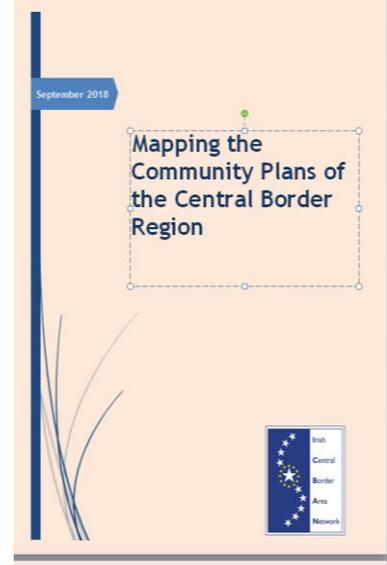
So What ?

Sustainable Solutions !

53 people attended 3 Sustainable Solutions Workshops

A renewed commitment for future cooperation

- ✓ Engagement of young people with elected representatives and statutory functions
- ✓ Community Planning Mapping Document + subsequent engagements
- ✓ Using the learning from other border regions
- ✓ Mechanisms to enhance involvement of both Executive and Democratic functions of Local Government in the Cross-Border Partnership



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Where Next?

- Some issues outside the ICBAN Partnership remit
- Continue to navigate what is a rapidly changing environment
- We don't pretend to have all the answers (and nor should we)
- Build on the Cross-Border Community Planning Linkages
- New mechanisms to engage democratic & executive functions
- Supporting our young Cross-Border Champions
- Maintain contacts
- Maintain our network and help build good relations



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A final word to the youth

“It’s all well and good putting in these ‘it’ll sort us out for a few years’ ideas...but there’s no point in doing that if it’s not going to last and it’s going to have to be changed again...”

(Monaghan Youth Focus Group 1, Ref: 42.16)



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