

Annual Report *Tuairisc Bhliantúil* 1998



The aim of the Combat Poverty Agency is to
promote a more just and inclusive society
by working for the prevention and
elimination of poverty and social exclusion.





Combat Poverty Agency
An Ghníomhaireacht do Chomhrac na Bochtaine

Annual Report *Tuairisc Bhliantúil* 1998



1999 Board¹

Anna Lee (Chairperson), Brian Kenny (Vice-Chairperson), Liam Barrett, Berni Brady, Clare Farrell, Niall Fitzduff, Hugh Frazer, Sr Stanislaus Kennedy, Bernadette Lacey, Fergus McCabe, Pearse O'Hanrahan, Eoin O'Malley, Feargus O Raghallaigh, Frank Mulcahy, Fionnuala Richardson

Mission Statement

The aim of the Combat Poverty Agency is to promote a more just and inclusive society by working for the prevention and elimination of poverty and social exclusion. The Agency pursues this aim through the four main functions set out in the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986: policy advice, project support and innovation, research and public education.

Functions

The four general statutory functions of the Agency under the 1986 Act are:

- Advising and making recommendations to the Minister for Social Welfare on all aspects of economic and social planning in relation to poverty in the State
- The initiation of measures aimed at overcoming poverty in the State and the evaluation of such measures
- The examination of the nature, causes and extent of poverty in the State and for that purpose the promotion, commission and interpretation of research
- The promotion of greater public understanding of the nature, causes and extent of poverty in the State and the measures necessary to overcome such poverty.

Further information

A copy of the Agency's current Strategic Plan 1999-2001 and an information leaflet on the Agency are available free of charge.

A brochure provides details of the Agency's grants scheme, Working Against Poverty; a publications catalogue and a library information leaflet are also available.

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GLOSSARY

ADM Ltd	Area Development Management Ltd
CDP	Community Development Programme
CPA	Combat Poverty Agency
ESRI	Economic and Social Research Institute
EUSSPPR	European Union Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation
NAPS	National Anti-Poverty Strategy
NCDE	National Committee for Development Education
NESC	National Economic and Social Council
NESF	National Economic and Social Forum
NODE	Network of Grassroots Development Education
NUJ	National University of Ireland
SMI	Strategic Management Initiative
SPED	Staff Performance, Evaluation and Development

Réamhrá an Chathaoirligh

Is cúis áthais dom an 12ú Tuarascáil ón nGníomhaireacht do Chomharc na Bochtaine a thíolacadh don Aire Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh de réir cheanglas alt 11 den Acht um Ghníomhaireacht do Chomharc na Bochtaine, 1986. Is ábhar lúcháire é a lua go bhfuil geilleagar na hÉireann tar éis leanúint d'fhás a dhéanamh den cheathrú bliain as a chéile. Is cúis áthais ar leith dom go léiríonn an tuarascáil seo dul chun cinn tábhachtach i dtaca le laghdú bochtaine agus eisiaimh shóisialta. De réir taighde a rinneadh le déanaí ar an Living in Ireland Survey 1997 is léir go bhfuil an líon daoine atá ag maireachtáil faoi dhianbhochtaine leanúnach ag titim. Ina theanta sin tháinig laghdú i 1998 ar an difhostaíocht agus ar an difhostaíocht fhadtearmach. Ach, d'ainneoin na bhforbairt dearfacha seo, tá a lán daoine ag fulaingt fós mar gheall ar bhochtaine agus eisiaimh shóisialta agus tá siad eisiata ar bhonn fadtéarmach ó pháirteachas sa mhargadh saothair. De réir na fianaise is déanaí atá ar fáil (1997) tá duine amháin as gach cúigear in Éirinn ag maireachtáil faoi bhun líne bochtaine ioncaim is é sin le rá 50% den mheánioncam teaghlaigh. Tá mibhuntaiste oideachasúil ar an iomarca daoine lena n-áirítear na daoine óga atá ag freastal ar scoil faoi láthair. Tá idir an ceathrú cuid agus an tríú cuid de leanaí na hÉireann faoi bhagairt mar gheall ar bhochtaine. De thoradh an gheilleagair rathúil tá méadú tagtha ar na fadhbanna a bhaineann le hinfhaighteacht tithíochta agus cúraim leanaí ar chostas réasúnach.

Sa chomhthéacs sin, cuirtear fáilte roimh thiomantas láidir an Rialtais maidir leis an Straitéis Náisiúnta Frithbhochtaine (SNF). Cabhróidh SNF agus an córas gaolmhar bochtaine-phrofa le forbairt polasaithe agus clár éifeachtach frithbhochtaine. Tá deis uathúil ann chun spriocanna dúshlánacha radacacha a leagan síos agus a bhaint amach i dtaca le deireadh a chur le bochtaine. Leanann an Ghníomhaireacht de tosaíochtaí a leagan síos i dtaca le SNF ina clár oibre agus cuirim fáilte roimh an dlúthchaidreamh oibre éifeachtach atá forbartha le fcioreann an Aonaid SNF sa Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh. Tá spéis curtha agam i ndul chun cinn na hoibre le húdarais réigiúnacha agus áitiúla i dtaca le straitéis frithbhochtaine a fhorbairt. Tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuil obair fhrithbhochtaine ag croílár an chórais athnuaithe rialtais áitiúil.

Léiríonn an tuarascáil seo táscairí i dtaobh an réimse leathain oibre a rinne an Ghníomhaireacht i 1998. Is cúis áthais ar leith dom a lua go bhfuil béim á cur i gcónaí ar chomhairle a thabhairt don lucht déanta polasáil agus ar chláir nuálacha. Trí Chlár Taispeána na Gníomhaireachta maidir le Mibhuntaiste Oideachasúil leantar de dhírú ar thacaíocht a thabhairt d'obair


'áitiúil' ardchaighdeán agus, ag an am céanna, de dheimhin a dhéanamh de go gcoimeádtar an nasc le nithe a bhaineann le polasáil náisiúnta; leantar den tiomantas i leith 'daoine eisiata a chumhachtú' mar ghné thábhachtach d'obair na Gníomhaireachta.

Trí Chlár Speisialta Tacaíochta an AE do Shíocháin agus Athmhuintearas leanadh de thacaíocht a thabhairt do phobail áitiúla atá ag dul i ngleic le heisiaimh shóisialta agus ag cur athmhuintearais chun cinn. Is mó an tionchar atá ag an gclár mar gheall ar an bhfócas méadaithe ar shaincheisteanna straitéiseacha. Is mór an meas atá againn ar an gcaidreamh sármaith le Area Development Management Ltd. agus Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust arb iad ár gcomhpháirtithe iad sa Chlár. Bhí a lán daoine, go háirithe an fhoireann in Oifig Mhuineacháin, bainteach leis an obair a chinnteoidh ábharthacht agus rathúlacht leanúnach an Chláir.

Ba é 1998 an bhliain deiridh den chlár oibre faoi Plean Straitéiseach 1996-1998 agus cuireadh tús leis an bPlean Straitéiseach don tréimhse 1999-2001. Áiríodh san obair sin meastóireacht neamhspleách ar phlean 1996-1998. Ba mhór an dúshlán é an fhís agus an uaillmhian a chur in oiriúint do na hacmhainní a bhí ar fáil.

Ba chúis lúcháire agus ba mhór an onóir dom a bheith ceaptha mar Chathaoirleach ar an nGníomhaireacht le haghaidh dara téarma sa bhliain 1998. Bhí sé de phribhléid agam a bheith ag obair le Bord oilte, eolasach agus fuinníil. Tá mé buíoch as díograis, flaitiúlacht agus caoinfhulaingt mo chomhghleacaithe. Tá ádh ar an nGníomhaireacht go bhfuil foireann chomh díograiseach cumasach sin aici faoi cheannas Hugh Frazer, an Stiúrthóir. Tá meas mór agam féin agus ag na comhaltaí eile den Bhord ar a ngairmiúlacht, a dtuiscint agus a ndúthacht. Tá buíochas ar leith tuille ag Helen Johnson as a cuid oibre mar Stiúrthóir Gníomhach sa chéad leath den bhliain fad a bhí an Stiúrthóir ar sos gairme.

Leanann an Ghníomhaireacht de thairbhe a fháil ó thacaíocht agus ó thuiscint na Roinne Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh agus ón dlúthchaidreamh oibre éifeachtach eadrainn. Tá mé an-bhuíoch de Dharmuid Ó hEichtiarn TD, Aire Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh, as a thacaíocht agus as a chúnamh leanúnach. Is onóir dom an mhuintín atá aige asam mar Chathaoirleach ar an nGníomhaireacht agus tá mé ag súil le trí bliana dúshlánacha, spreagúla agus éifeachtacha sa chomharc i gcoinne bochtaine.


Anna Lee, Meitheamh 1999

Chairman's Foreword

I am pleased to present the 12th Annual Report of the Combat Poverty Agency to the Minister for Social Community and Family Affairs in accordance with the requirement of section 11 of the Combat Poverty Agency Act 1986. It gives me pleasure to note for the fourth year in a row that Ireland's economy has maintained its record growth. I am particularly pleased that this report reflects important progress in the reduction of poverty and social exclusion. Recent research from the 1997 Living in Ireland Survey provides clear evidence that the number of people experiencing severe and consistent poverty is falling. In addition, unemployment and long-term unemployment fell steadily in 1998. However, amidst these positive developments many people continue to experience poverty and social exclusion and to be excluded on a long-term basis from labour market participation. According to the most recently available evidence (1997) one in five Irish people live below an income poverty line of 50% of average household income. Too many people experience significant educational disadvantage including the current population of school going young people. Between a quarter and a third of Irish children are at risk of poverty. Our booming economy has led to deepening problems in relation to the availability of affordable housing and childcare.

In this context the Government's strong commitment to the National Anti Poverty Strategy (NAPS) is most welcome. NAPS and the related system of poverty proofing will assist the development of effective anti-poverty policies and programmes. There is a unique opportunity to set and to meet challenging and radical targets in relation to the eradication of poverty. The Agency continues to prioritise the NAPS in its programme of work and I welcome the close and effective working relationships that have developed with the staff of the NAPS Unit in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. I have followed with interest the work with regional and local authorities in the development of anti-poverty strategies. It is important that anti-poverty work is at the heart of the renewed system of local government.

This report gives pointers to the wide-ranging work undertaken by the Agency in 1998. I am particularly pleased to note the continued emphasis on advising policy makers and innovative programmes. The Agency's Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage continues its focus

on supporting quality 'local' work while ensuring its linkage to national policy concerns and there is a continued commitment to 'empowering the excluded' as a crucial aspect of the Agency's work.

The EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation has continued to support local communities who are tackling social exclusion and promoting reconciliation. The increased focus on strategic issues has strengthened its impact. We appreciate and value our excellent relationships with Area Development Management Ltd and the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust, our partners in the Programme. Many people, in particular the staff in the Monaghan Office, have ensured the continued relevance and success of the Programme.

1998 was the final year of the work programme under the 1996-1998 Strategic Plan and work on the Strategic Plan for 1999-2001 got underway. This included an independent evaluation of the 1996-1998 plan. The challenge of matching vision and ambition to available resources was considerable.

I was delighted and honoured to be appointed Chairperson of the Agency for a second term in 1998. I have been privileged to work with a skilled, informed and energetic Board. I am grateful for the commitment, generosity and tolerance of my colleagues. The Agency is fortunate to have a highly committed and extremely able staff team, led by Hugh Frazer, the Director. I, and my fellow Board members appreciate their professionalism, consideration and dedication. Particular thanks are due to Helen Johnston for her work as Acting Director in the first half of the year while the Director was on a career break.

The Agency continues to benefit from the support and insights of the staff of the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs and from our close and effective working relationship. I am most grateful to Dermot Ahern TD, Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs for his continuing support and assistance. I am honoured by his vote of confidence in me as Chairperson of the Agency and look forward to three challenging, stimulating and effective years in the fight against poverty.

Anna Lee
Anna Lee, June 1999

Part 1



Annual Overview: An Agenda for Action against Poverty

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An Agenda for Action against Poverty

Real Progress

Over the past year important advances have occurred in tackling poverty and social exclusion. The living standards of the poorest in society have improved and there is evidence that the number of people experiencing extreme or consistent poverty is falling. When the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) was launched in 1997, it set targets for reducing poverty. Many commentators at the time considered that the targets set were too modest for a ten-year strategy, even before the extraordinary economic and employment growth of the last two years was predicted. The latest poverty trends, based on data actually collected in 1997, show that the target for reducing consistent poverty from 9-15% of the population to less than 5-10% of the population over a ten-year period from 1997 had already been largely achieved by the time the strategy was launched.¹ The trends that saw a significant fall in consistent poverty between 1994 and 1997 are likely to have continued since then. In these circumstances it is welcome that the Government has now set new targets for reducing consistent poverty to less than 5% of the population by 2004.² However, given the continued very rapid economic growth, this may too prove to be somewhat cautious. Certainly it is now possible to envisage that by the time NAPS is due to conclude in 2007 consistent poverty should be very substantially reduced and hopefully, be largely eradicated. Perhaps of more importance than setting new targets in relation to consistent poverty is the growing recognition that a poverty target based on just the measurement of consistent poverty is not sufficient. In this regard it is significant that the Government has asked the

Inter-Departmental Policy Committee for the NAPS "to draw up new targets to reflect the changed environment, for example in relation to education and adult literacy, and to consider action targets in relation to particular groups such as children in poverty"³. The involvement of the social partners in the process of target setting will be very important.

Alongside the fall in unemployment, long-term unemployment has fallen significantly. This has also been reflected in new Government targets. Overall, the NAPS has become increasingly embedded in the political and administrative system and the government has introduced a system of poverty proofing to assess the potential impact of new policies and programmes on people living in poverty⁴. A number of significant policy developments have been put in place. Changes in the tax system introduced in the 1999 Budget facilitated those moving from welfare into work, reduced the amount of tax paid by people on low pay and took some 80,000 people out of the tax net. There were also encouraging developments in social welfare, education and training.⁴ The Employment Action Plan, published in April 1998, has led to a greater emphasis on a preventative approach to tackling unemployment and therefore an increase in the numbers placed in training rather than in supported employment. This has stemmed from recognition of the need for a stronger connection between labour supply and the needs of a growing labour market. The moves to integrate local government and local development and to introduce a more co-ordinated and strategic approach to planning at county level hold out hopes of more co-ordinated local anti-poverty strategies to complement the National Anti-Poverty Strategy.

Persistent Problems

In spite of the progress, very real problems remain to be addressed, a point made strongly in the recent report of the UN Economic and Social Committee⁵. There is still a significant group of people who have not benefited much from the very rapid economic growth and have not been able to access the labour market.

1 Callan T, Layte R, Nolan B, Watson D, Whelan CT, Williams J and Maître B. *Monitoring Poverty Trends*, Data from the 1997 Living in Ireland Survey conducted by The Economic and Social Research Institute which was commissioned by the Combat Poverty Agency and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs from the Economic and Social Research Institute. It is published jointly by the Government Stationery Office and CPA, June 1999.
 2 Dermot Ahern TD, Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs at the launch of the Inter-Departmental Policy Committee First Annual Report of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy 1998/99.
 3 The Combat Poverty Agency will shortly publish a review of the impact of the first two years of the NAPS.
 4 see 'The National Anti-Poverty Strategy and the 1999 Budget', *Poverty Today Supplement*, Combat Poverty Agency, April/May 1999 for a more detailed discussion of changes made in the 1999 Budget.
 5 UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. *Concluding Observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Ireland*. UN Economic and Social Council. May 1999.



Although long-term unemployment is falling, over 50,000 people are long-term unemployed.⁶ After the review of the Community Employment Scheme in 1998 and its subsequent refocusing to tackle hard-core long-term unemployment and the implementation of the FÁS Action Programme on Training for the Long-Term Unemployed, the long-term unemployed still seems substantially to comprise older men. Specialised interventions are required to meet their needs. The issue of educational disadvantage is an important contributory factor to long-term unemployment. In particular the fact that nearly a quarter of all Irish adults fail to meet basic literary levels⁷ and that significant numbers of young people continue to leave school early or with no qualifications is worrying.

Much remains to be done in relation to child poverty. The 1999 Budget increases in child benefit were worth £40.76m in a full year and bring the full year costs of child benefit in 1999 to £447.5m. This additional investment is very welcome and continues the trend in recent budgets of increasing child benefit. However, the overall net gain in child income support for welfare-dependent families has been modest.⁸ In addition, the issue of childcare remains to be addressed. While the position of pensioners has improved with significant increases in the last Budget, the rate of increase for many of those dependent on social welfare has not kept pace with the incomes of those in employment. Thus income disparities are widening and, although the numbers of people experiencing basic deprivation has decreased, the numbers experiencing relative income poverty has continued to increase⁹. This widening of income gaps between the rich and poor is likely to have continued since 1997 and there is now a strong argument for setting a target under the NAPS for reducing income poverty as well as consistent poverty. It would not be unreasonable to aim to reduce the numbers living on incomes below half average income, the poverty measure used by the European Commission, from one in five people (20%) to well below one in ten people (10%) by 2007.

An increasing housing shortage and escalating house prices has contributed to lengthening waiting lists for public housing. This mainly hits the weakest and most vulnerable. For many people public services such as transport and health

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are of poor quality and for some are very difficult to access. Minorities such as people with disabilities, Travellers, refugees and asylum seekers continue to experience disadvantage and discrimination.

While research data show that the numbers of people in consistent poverty has fallen the evidence on the ground in the most disadvantaged urban and rural communities is that there are very significant concentrations of multiple disadvantage. This is particularly the case in local authority housing estates in the main urban areas and in small towns and villages in more rural areas. Indeed, when combined with the continued problem of drugs it seems that the situation in some communities may actually be getting worse. Reports from area-based partnerships participating in the Local Urban and Rural Development Programme, from projects supported in the border counties under the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation and from projects in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs' Community Development Programme reinforce the extent of these problems of inequality. This evidence is also supported by recent research highlighting the problems of public housing estates¹⁰ and examining the spatial distribution of poverty¹¹. There is a danger that without interventions to redress these social divisions the most disadvantaged communities will become still more cut off from the economic boom enjoyed by the rest of society.

6 CSO, Quarterly National Household Survey: Third and Fourth Quarters, The Stationery Office, Dublin, 1998.
 7 OECD, 'Literacy skills for the Knowledge Society', in *International Adult Literacy*, Paris, OECD, 1997.
 8 Combat Poverty Agency, 'The National Anti-Poverty Strategy and the 1999 Budget' *Poverty Today Supplement*, April/May 1999, Dublin, Combat Poverty Agency.
 9 see Callan T et al, op. cit.
 10 Fahey T (ed.), *Social Housing in Ireland: A Study of Success, Failure and Lessons Learned*, Oak Tree Press in association with The Katharine Howard Foundation and the Combat Poverty Agency, 1999.
 11 Pringle D, Walsh J and Hennessy M (eds.), *Poor People, Poor Places: A Geography of Deprivation in Ireland*, Oak Tree Press in association with the Geographical Society of Ireland, Dublin 1999.

While we have made progress over the last few years in reducing consistent poverty there is no reason for complacency. Poverty remains a harsh reality for many people and many communities and involves the denial of fundamental rights. Economic growth on its own will not create a fairer, more just and equal society. We now need and have the resources to develop and implement targeted and integrated policies and programmes to address the causes of poverty and to break its recurring cycle in families and communities. Ireland's current demographic profile with a relatively "young" population and a growing labour market enhances this opportunity. Furthermore, the scale of the problem we face, while no less urgent, is now of more manageable proportions.

Creating Change

The next few years will be crucial in combating poverty. Decisions taken over the next few months will be very important in determining how well we do in seizing the opportunity that now exists dramatically to reduce poverty and social exclusion in Ireland. Any new national agreement that replaces Partnership 2000 will set the framework for policy development for the next three years. The National Development Plan to be agreed with the EU Commission for spending the next round of Structural Funds will be a very important factor in terms of future development. It is vital that addressing poverty and social exclusion is put at the heart of both these documents. The further embedding of the peace process will also be of great importance. If current difficulties can be overcome and the new political institutions in Northern Ireland and the cross-border bodies are put in place this will release new energies and provide a major additional impetus to addressing issues of exclusion and poverty and promoting positive community development. Another important context for action on poverty and social exclusion is the Amsterdam Treaty. This creates an important opportunity to develop a new framework for action to tackle social exclusion across the European Union. It holds out the potential for developing European guidelines on social exclusion to complement the EU's employment guidelines. All these policy developments provide the opportunity for institutional change to create greater equality and less poverty.

12 Groups such as Travellers, people who are homeless, refugees and asylum seekers, people living in residential or institutional care and women in refuges are not captured by the survey data on which the existing poverty targets are based.
 13 see Combat Poverty Agency, Submission on the 1999 Budget, *Investing in Children*, for a more extensive discussion on child benefit.

Agenda for Action

In the light of the current exceptional opportunity to address poverty the Agency would propose the following ten point agenda for action over the next few years. This should be at the heart of any new national partnership agreement to replace Partnership 2000 and should inform the content of a new National Development Plan to spend the next round of Structural Funds.

1. Continue and intensify the implementation of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy and agree additional targets including specific targets for reducing child poverty, for narrowing income disparities, for reducing housing lists and for meeting the needs of particularly vulnerable groups.¹²
2. Ensure that the NAPS and poverty proofing is extended to local level and informs the strategic planning of County Development Boards and the reform of local government and its integration with local development with a view to developing integrated local anti-poverty strategies.
3. Intensify efforts to target support to older long-term unemployed people through specialised interventions designed to meet their individual needs.
4. Increase resources to tackle educational disadvantage with a particular focus on developing early childhood education, the launch of a national childcare strategy focussed on children from disadvantaged backgrounds, the further co-ordination and integration of responses to early-school leaving and increased support for adult education initiatives aimed at tackling adult literacy.
5. Continue the tax policy in the 1999 Budget of prioritising those on low incomes by taking the low paid out of the tax system. Substantially increase personal allowances and avoid tax changes that will further exacerbate the growing income disparities between the rich and poor.
6. Consult with the social partners and introduce a transparent mechanism for uprating social welfare payments so that they at least keep in line with general increases in income levels in the wider society.
7. Significantly increase child benefit¹³.
8. Develop a major public investment programme in key public services that are crucial to people living in poverty, in particular housing, health and transport and ensure that they are delivered in ways that are inclusive of



everyone and that link with and reinforce community and local development initiatives.

- 9. Invest in the physical and environmental infrastructure of poor communities. Ensure an integration of social and infrastructural developments as part of a comprehensive programme of regeneration in disadvantaged urban and rural communities which builds on the work of area based partnerships, community development projects, community arts initiatives, the Integrated Services Project and the Local Drugs Task Forces.
- 10. Continue to develop support for community and voluntary organisations that are involved in tackling poverty and building the social capital that is a prerequisite for effective local development. This can best be achieved through building on programmes such as the Community Development Programme and the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation and through finalising the Government's White Paper on support for the voluntary and community sector.

The Combat Poverty Agency's Role

This Annual Report covers the final year of the Agency's 1996-1998 Strategic Plan. As is reported elsewhere in the report, towards the latter part of 1998 a considerable effort went into reviewing the impact of the Agency's work over the previous three years and into setting priorities for the next three years. In deciding on its priorities for the period 1999-2001 and the contribution it can best make to the agenda for action outlined above the Agency has set itself four strategic objectives. These are:

- Ensuring that the National Anti-Poverty Strategy will have made significant progress in reducing and preventing poverty.
- Narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor through promoting the distribution of resources, services and employment opportunities in favour of people living in poverty.
- Achieving a coherent and planned public policy on child poverty.

- Advancing the opportunity offered by peace to build a more inclusive and participative democracy on this island.¹⁴

In pursuing these objectives the Agency is very conscious that Ireland's rapidly expanding economy, the developing peace process, the favourable demographic projections and the establishment of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy provide an exceptional opportunity to make a major advance in preventing and eliminating poverty. The growing interest at European level with the increased focus in the Amsterdam Treaty on issues of social inclusion is also helpful. The Agency will play its part in working to maximise this opportunity. However, ultimately it is the energy and commitment of all sectors of Irish society that will be necessary. In the last few years successive governments have put in place many of the mechanisms and policies necessary to eradicate poverty. Indeed the Irish experience is increasingly seen as a model by the rest of Europe. We must now ensure that those mechanisms and policies are backed by the resources and determination necessary to make them work.

"Economic growth on its own will not create a fairer, more just and equal society. We now need and have the resources to develop and implement targeted and integrated policies and programmes to address the causes of poverty and to break its recurring cycle in families and communities"


¹⁴ The goals and actions under each strategic objective are outlined in detail in the Agency's Strategic Plan 1999-2001.

Part 2



Work of the Combat Poverty Agency

*Work of the Combat Poverty Agency is to
a more just and inclusive society*



Work of the Combat Poverty Agency

The next section of the Annual Report describes the work of the Agency under the main headings of the Agency's work programme. This reflects the key objectives outlined in the Agency's Strategic Plan 1996-1998.



Objective 1

Promoting Social Solidarity

"The Agency will promote social solidarity by influencing wider public policy and civil society, at local, national and European levels, in favour of those living in poverty"

Advising Policy-makers

During 1998 the Agency continued to carry out its statutory role of advising the Government and its departments, agencies and advisory bodies on social and economic policy in relation to poverty and poverty-related issues.

Minister and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs

Regular meetings were held with the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs and his Department in relation to the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS), community development, the pre-budget submission and the development of a new Agency Strategic Plan 1999-2001.

There was also ongoing liaison with senior officials of the Department on these and other issues including the Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS), the Green Paper, *Supporting Voluntary Activity*, and research and policy issues. Regular meetings and contact was maintained with the NAPS Unit, the Voluntary and Community Services Unit, the Family Affairs Unit and the Planning Unit.

Other government departments and agencies

Links were maintained and developed with a range of other government departments such as Departments of the Taoiseach; Finance; Education and Science; Justice, Equality and Law Reform; Environment and Local Government; Agriculture. This was primarily through participation in advisory/working groups convened by these departments or

through providing policy advice in response to requests or through policy submissions. In addition a meeting was held with the Minister of State in the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to discuss issues relating to early education, equality, disability and domestic violence.

There was ongoing information exchange, liaison and policy discussion with Area Development Management Ltd (ADM), the National Social Services Board (NSSB), the National Economic and Social Council (NESF), the National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) and the National Pensions Board. The Agency assisted the NSSB in planning and organising the NSSB/Consumer Debtnet EU conference in Dublin in September on credit/debt where a joint paper on credit unions was presented. Meetings were also held with NSSB to discuss the Green Paper, *Supporting Voluntary Activity*. The Agency continued to develop links with other state agencies through its ongoing involvement in the Association of Chief Executives of State Agencies.

The Agency was represented on the following:

- Inter-Departmental Policy Committee on the National Anti-Poverty Strategy, convened by the Department of the Taoiseach and the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs;
- Monitoring Committee for the Operational Programme for Local Urban and Rural Development, convened by the Department of the Taoiseach;
- Monitoring Committee for the URBAN Programme, convened by the Department of the Taoiseach;
- Inter-Departmental Policy Committee on Local Development, convened by the Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation;
- Monitoring Committee for the EU Special Programme for Peace and Reconciliation, convened by the Department of Finance and the Department of Finance and Personnel, Northern Ireland;
- Inter-Departmental Working Group on the Treatment of Households, convened by the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs;
- Community Development Programme Technical Group and the Community Development Programme Advisory Committee, convened by the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs;
- National Advisory Committee for the Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS), convened by the

- Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs;
- Steering Committee for the White Paper, *Supporting Voluntary Activity*, convened by the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs;
- Women's Education Initiative, convened by the Department of Education and Science;
- Management Committee of the 8-15 year old Early School Leavers' Initiative, convened by the Department of Education and Science;
- Expert Advisory Panel for the 1998 Urban Renewal Scheme, convened by the Department of Environment and Local Government;
- National Crime Forum, convened by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

Submissions were made to:

- The National Crime Forum
- The Partnership 2000 Working Group on Childcare
- White Paper on Rural Development
- National Development Plan
- National Forum on Early Childhood Education
- Draft second report by Ireland under the United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
- Inter-departmental group on implementation of a National Minimum Wage
- Green Paper, *Supporting Voluntary Activity*
- Policy Review Project, Public Library Service
- Commission on the Points System.

A database of Agency policy submissions was established during the year. Copies of any Agency policy submission are available from the Agency's library. Recent submissions are on the Agency's website www.cpa.ie.

International policy development

In the international field, contacts were further developed with the European Commission (EU) and Council of Europe officials with a view to ensuring Agency input to European developments on poverty, social inclusion and citizenship. To support this work, a Staff Working Group on the EU was established in March. A staff information seminar on EU developments was held and a European Information Service highlighting key economic and social developments was maintained. In addition, the Agency participated in the European Social Policy Forum, the Institute of European Affairs and the Combined European Bureau for Social Development.

National Anti-Poverty Strategy

The National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS), was launched in 1997 and aims to reduce the number of people living in long-term poverty along with other related objectives on education, employment, income adequacy and urban and rural development. As part of the Strategy, a special NAPS Unit, based in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, was set up under the Strategic Management Initiative (SMI).

The Agency has a number of roles to play in the National Anti-Poverty Strategy. These are:

- supporting and advising the Inter-Departmental Policy Committee that co-ordinates the NAPS;
- supporting and advising the NAPS Unit;
- monitoring and evaluating the NAPS;
- supporting regional and local authorities in developing anti-poverty strategies;
- public education on the NAPS;
- providing research and data on poverty;

A Staff Working Group on NAPS met regularly to support and co-ordinate this work.

Agency participation continued in the Inter-Departmental Policy Committee. The Agency produced a discussion document on poverty-proofing. This informed the work of the NAPS Unit who developed a framework for poverty-proofing in consultation with the social partners. This was subsequently ratified by Government and now operates within government departments. Work was also carried out on developing an evaluation and monitoring framework. In liaison with the NAPS Unit, a communications and public education strategy for the NAPS was also finalised.

Regular meetings were held with the NAPS Unit to review progress to date. The Agency prepared an outline training proposal for the NAPS Unit to implement an awareness module for NAPS Liaison Officers in government departments on NAPS and to share information on poverty levels and the nature of poverty. The Agency contributed to these awareness sessions that were commissioned by the NAPS Unit and completed in June. Initial discussions were held with the NAPS Unit and the Government Information

Service (GIS) on developing a public profile on the NAPS. The GIS convened a briefing meeting for departmental press officers to which the Agency contributed.

The Agency began work on developing guidelines for local authorities on consultation with voluntary and community groups and assisted with the planning of a seminar with the Dublin Regional Authority on the NAPS.

Poverty Today, the Agency's quarterly journal, regularly featured news on the NAPS. The first analysis on the extent to which the 1998 Budget matched NAPS targets was published as a *Poverty Today* supplement.

In ongoing meetings and contact with the community and voluntary sector and in particular with seven Agency-funded national anti-poverty networks, NAPS was an issue regularly discussed. The Agency also participated in meetings between the networks and the NAPS Unit in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

A study on models of consultation in Ireland and abroad was commissioned to inform the development of such a model for the involvement of the community and voluntary sector in the NAPS. The study, *Models of Consultation and Ongoing Participation between the Statutory Sector and the Community and Voluntary Sector to Inform the Implementation of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy*, was finalised by Ralaheen Ltd and Community Technical Aid and a copy is available in the Agency's library.

With the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, the Agency commissioned an analysis of the 1997 Living in Ireland survey data. The study provides an updated picture of poverty trends since 1994 and informs monitoring of the NAPS global target to reduce poverty. The Department and the Agency have recently published the study, *Monitoring Poverty Trends*, by the ESRI.

Agency staff made a number of presentations about the NAPS to a wide range of groups and interests in Ireland and abroad.

Promoting Dialogue with Key Interests

The Agency responded to requests from agencies and organisations, particularly working in the areas of community development, disability, racism, health and education, to discuss poverty and related issues. Requests from visiting international groups were also responded to and these included visits from anti-poverty agencies, trade unions, and local government and related organisations from a number of countries including Britain and Eastern Europe.

Contact with the political system was maintained through responding to information requests and providing briefings to national parties. Arising from the Agency's work in the European Union's Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation an address was made to NI Assembly members on addressing poverty and social exclusion and the potential of community development in cross-border work.


The Agency continued its involvement in Common Purpose, a social education initiative working with the statutory, private, and community and voluntary sectors.

Promoting Public Education and Awareness

The Agency's main tools for promoting public education are:

- publication of information and reports;
- informing media coverage;
- hosting of conferences and seminars;
- providing library and information services;
- providing input and support for post-primary curriculum development;
- providing grants for community and voluntary groups to undertake public education work.

Through articles in its own journal, *Poverty Today*, the Agency sought to raise awareness on the work of the Agency, levels of poverty and policy issues such as low pay, child poverty, minimum wage and the NAPS. A number of research and policy studies and reports, resource materials for the community and voluntary sector and educational material on poverty were published throughout 1998 and these are referred to under the relevant work areas. In



addition the Agency's 1997 Annual Report and a 1999 Calendar with the theme "investing in children" was published. The Agency regularly disseminated its publications to public representatives, employer organisations, trade unions, churches and voluntary and community groups to support informed debate on poverty and policy.

Media liaison was enhanced through the contracting in of a media consultancy. Seventeen press releases were issued. Media interviews and briefings to national and local press and radio and TV were provided on an ongoing basis.

The Agency held a number of conferences and seminars throughout the year relating to policy issues arising from new research. These are further detailed under relevant areas of this report. In addition, two regional public information seminars on poverty in Ireland were held in Sligo and Waterford; these followed two seminars previously held in Dublin and Mullingar in 1997. The Agency also presented papers, contributed to or attended a wide range of external conferences and seminars.

Through 1998 there was a steady increase in interest in the Agency's library on poverty and community development. This is particularly so with the community and voluntary sector. The library's stock has been growing to meet this demand. The library information management system was updated during the year and this has greatly increased efficiency.

In relation to post-primary curriculum development work key actions included:

- the updating and publishing of *Fair Shares?*, a poverty awareness pack for teachers and youth leaders.
- A submission to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) on the Leaving Certificate Geography syllabus review.
- In February, the implementation of a project, Poverty, the Classroom and the Curriculum, with City of Dublin VEC Curriculum Development Unit. The project's aim is to develop and implement strategies and mechanisms to establish nationally the teaching of poverty and related social justice issues within the second level mainstream curriculum.

- The development and publication, with the Department of Education and Science Leaving Certificate Applied Support Service and the National Committee of Development Education (NCDE) of a teaching resource, *Exploring Contemporary Social Issues*, for use in Leaving Certificate Applied.
- With the National Committee for Development Education (NCDE), the Agency drafted the Senior Cycle Religious Education teacher guidelines for the NCCA.
- With NCDE and Network of Grassroots Development Education (NODE) the implementation of a workshop in Tralee to explore the potential for linking a local and global development perspective to curriculum development and within the classroom at senior cycle level.
- Support for and involvement in the review of the Development Education in Transition Year network. It has been re-established as WEBS; an all-Ireland network committed to education for empowerment and action towards a more just, equal and sustainable world.

The public education grants scheme was again implemented this year. Sixty-one projects were funded and grant support of £140,495 was provided. Details of projects funded under the scheme are outlined in *Appendix 2*.

Research Infrastructure

The Agency brief in this area is to:

- Undertake research on the nature, extent, causes and consequences of poverty;
- Contribute to the formulation of policy in relation to poverty issues;
- Monitor and evaluate trends in policy and provision at both national and local level;
- Support the poverty research infrastructure.

The joint survey management committee, comprising the Agency, the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs continued to oversee the Living in Ireland household panel survey and associated programme of research studies.

The Agency commissioned a module of questions in the Irish Social Omnibus Survey on attitudes to poverty. A report on

the results is available in the Agency's library and a summary was published in the December 1998 issue of *Poverty Today*.

A number of research reports were commissioned during the year. These are referred to under the relevant areas of this report. In addition, research on the potential of secondary data sources to generate information on poverty was commissioned.

Support was provided to the Agency's fellowship students and in 1998 the Agency awarded two new fellowship awards for doctoral research. These are detailed in *Appendix 2*. Student placements from the University of Limerick and Trinity College Dublin were supported. The Agency's research database was maintained and an evaluators' database was established. Administration of the Research and Evaluation Grants Scheme was ongoing. A database of funded research was maintained. Twenty-seven projects were funded under the Research Scheme to a total of £76,150. Sixteen projects were funded under the Evaluation Scheme to a total of £51,370. Further details are outlined in *Appendix 2*.

The Agency participated in a number of research advisory committees. These included the Crosscare advisory committee considering follow-up research to work previously undertaken on Dublin's Foodbank, and on the advisory committee for a study on the cost of heating in Ireland by Energy Action/UCD. There was participation also with ADM on a seminar considering survival strategies for smallholders. The Agency organised a research workshop on qualitative research with inputs from University of Bristol researchers. The Agency also collaborated with Trinity College Dublin and the University of Ulster in the development of a Yearbook on Irish Social Policy.

Discussions were held with the Trinity College Dublin Policy Studies Institute on the possibility of collaborating in sponsoring a Visiting Research Fellow on poverty and social exclusion.



Objective 2

Addressing the Causes of Poverty

"The Agency will address the causes of poverty and social exclusion by seeking to enhance life chances, in particular through working for a reduction in long-term unemployment and educational disadvantage"

Tackling Long-term Unemployment

The Agency continued its work in this area, in particular by researching aspects of unemployment, poverty and youth employment experiences. A number of briefing and policy discussion papers were commissioned and the results analysed with a view to informing policy and contributing to the Agency's new Strategic Plan.

The following were commissioned:

- A Poverty Briefing on poverty and unemployment;
- A discussion paper on trends and issues in long-term unemployment;
- A research study on the transition to the labour market for 18- to 21-year-olds;
- A policy discussion paper on unemployment programmes and reintegration of the long-term unemployed;
- A policy discussion paper on the evolution of work-experience programmes in Ireland.

A study on the older unemployed by WRC Social and Economic Consultants Ltd was finalised and is available in the Agency's library.

Poverty Today continued to highlight unemployment issues including a feature on the Employment Action Plan and its implications. The Agency also participated in a number of Irish and EU conferences relating to labour market policy.


Addressing Educational Disadvantage

The Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage, which began in 1996, progressed well during the year. The Agency maintained its support to the four funded networks and its research, training and evaluation support. The four local participating networks are Tuam, Co. Galway; Tralee, Co. Kerry; Drogheda, Co. Louth and Killinarden in West Tallaght, Dublin.

An evaluation of the Programme is ongoing by The Children's Research Centre in Trinity College Dublin. An interim evaluation of the Programme was submitted to the Agency by the Children's Research Centre. A policy paper, *Towards an Integrated Framework for Tackling Early School Leaving*, was commissioned along with a qualitative study on early school leaving that focuses on young people in the four network areas.

Other key actions in the Programme during 1998 included:

- Support for each of the networks at an individual level.
- Organisation of the annual conference of the Demonstration Programme in October, which focused on integrated responses to absenteeism and also provided a forum for exchange of information amongst participants in the programme and related educational interests.
- Ongoing support for a series of inter-network activities through bi-monthly co-ordination meetings with all of the networks. These play a key role in sharing information, experience and learning arising from the work of the Programme.
- Publication and launch of an information pack on the Programme in November by the Minister for Education and Science.
- Publication and launch, by the Minister for Education and Science, of *Educational Disadvantage and Early School Leaving*, a report of three discussion papers that review educational disadvantage in Ireland and



summarise Irish and international interventions to combat early school leaving.

- Supporting management training for the Tuam and Tralee networks.
- Organisation of training programmes for the networks on research and evaluation, information technology and influencing policy. A policy and research workshop on early school-leaving, educational disadvantage and the transition from primary to secondary school was also organised.
- Dissemination of lessons and issues arising from the Demonstration Programme in various publications and conferences. This included an article in *Poverty Today*, a paper to the Stepahead conference in Dublin on education disadvantage and an article on the Programme in the National Youthstart Support Structure newsletter.
- A needs assessment and feasibility study into providing poverty awareness training for teachers in the four participating networks was undertaken. A proposed programme of work was agreed.
- Research was initiated, in conjunction with the National Youthstart Support Structure, on case studies of good practice highlighting integrated actions to tackle early school leaving and educational disadvantage.

Related work on educational disadvantage

A poverty briefing on education disadvantage commissioned.

The Agency provided advice to a research project on educational disadvantage in the six southern counties on the border. A subsequent educational disadvantage initiative with the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation continues to be supported.

The Agency co-hosted a conference with the Children's Research Centre, TCD, on "Researching Young People's Experience of Poverty, Exclusion and 'Youth Problems'".

The Agency is providing financial support to The Children's Research Centre for a research project on the integration of services to disadvantaged children and their families.

With the ESRI, the Agency co-hosted an international research conference on educational failure and underachievement and the consequences for labour market exclusion. Editing, production and dissemination of the papers, *Transitions in Youth*, was undertaken by the Agency.

The Agency contributed to the Department of Education and Science's Early School Leaving Initiative for 8-15-year-olds through membership of the Management Committee and advised on a brief for evaluation of the Initiative.

Participation continued on the Department of Education and Science's Women's Education Initiative Working Group.

The Agency continued to co-fund the Irish component of an international study by the Dublin Institute of Technology on the quality of life of four-year-olds with a follow up at age seven. The study has a particular focus on the value of early education in addressing educational disadvantage.



Objective 3

Addressing the Consequences of Poverty

"The Agency will address the consequences of poverty; in particular by working for the empowerment of those who are marginalised and excluded as a result of poverty and by addressing the problems that are manifest in disadvantaged urban and rural communities"

Empowering the Excluded

Community Development Programme (CDP)

The Agency continued its role of providing support and advice to the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs (DSCFA) Community Development Programme. Under the CDP, the Department supports over 90 locally based community development resource centres/projects in disadvantaged communities.

In addition, the Agency continued its support and advice role with Specialist and Regional Support Agencies in the Programme. It assisted in establishing a new regional support agency in the Midlands in conjunction with a working group in the region.

The DSCFA agreed to the establishment of a specialist support agency for developmental community arts and the Agency is supporting this work.

A report on the views of CDP local projects of the links

between them and the Programme's Advisory Committee and on regional networking needs was prepared. Six regional workshops were organised to debate this issue and to discuss project experiences. The report has been presented to the Department. Training and support needs for rural projects in the Programme were identified at a special conference.

Grant aid was provided to the CDP for networking of projects and inter project training provided by support agencies. Details are outlined in *Appendix 2*.

The Agency consulted with CDP support agencies and projects on the formulation of its next Strategic Plan. The Agency held discussions with the Department during the year on its role in the CDP. Arising from the Agency's own staffing resource constraints, it was decided that from January 1999 the Agency would reduce its involvement in the Programme.

Related community development work

Work was carried out through the year on developing a framework for evaluation for community development projects. Key issues were identified, a conference was held in October to facilitate this and conference papers were prepared for circulation.

Work also commenced on drafting an Agency position paper highlighting the Agency's understanding of community development and its contribution to and importance as an anti-poverty strategy.

Supporting Voluntary Activity

A summary of the government's Green Paper, *Supporting Voluntary Activity*, on the role and relationship of the State to the community and voluntary sector, was published by the Agency and distributed for information and consultative purposes. This was reprinted due to demand. The Agency also organised a national conference on the Green Paper in February for anti-poverty and community groups. A report, *Summary and Discussion Questions, from the Combat Poverty Agency Conference for Anti-Poverty and Community Development Groups, On the Green Paper*, was compiled and published in August. These were widely disseminated to inform debate and assist the consultative process on the Green Paper.

The Agency is represented on the DSCFA steering group for the forthcoming White Paper on the community and voluntary sector. The Agency made a policy submission to the White Paper. To inform this work, a background paper on the relationship between the community and voluntary sector and the State was commissioned and an Agency Board and staff workshop was held. A number of meetings were also held with the National Social Services Board (NSSB) to exchange information and thinking on issues to be addressed in the White Paper.

National Networks

The Agency continued to provide core funding and support to seven national anti-poverty networks. These networks are: the Community Workers Co-operative, Irish Rural Link, the European Anti-Poverty Network, the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed, the Irish Traveller Movement, One Parent Exchange and Network and the Forum of People with Disabilities. Meetings were held regularly with the networks to support their work and ensure links with the Agency's work. The Agency also provided additional financial support to the networks to undertake work linked to the National Anti-Poverty Strategy. Details are outlined in Appendix 2.

Community Directors Support

The Agency continued to support the Forum of Community Directors of area-based partnerships, in collaboration with Area Development Management Ltd., and a number of meetings took place in 1998.

National Economic and Social Forum (NESF) Assembly

The NESF Assembly is the term for the meetings of the national anti-poverty networks, CDP and women's networks that elect the three 'disadvantaged sector' members of the National Economic and Social Forum. These meetings discuss proceedings of the Forum and the issues which networks wish their representatives to raise at the Forum. The Agency facilitated the election process for new representatives to the Forum. New representatives to the NESF were elected during the year and a meeting of the new Forum took place.

Community Arts

Advice was requested by the Arts Council/An Comhairle Ealaíon on the needs of the arts in Ireland for the next

Council/Comhairle development plan, and the Agency contributed through participation in consultative fora.

In addition a review of introductory courses in developmental community arts, previously run by the Agency, was undertaken in 1998.

Resource Materials

Work on producing new resource materials continued throughout the year. A brief for a social analysis pack was prepared and the work was commissioned. *Working for Change*, a resource on the policy-making process and guide to policy-making bodies, was produced, published and launched at two seminars, in Dublin and Waterford, in November. Further seminars are planned for Limerick and Sligo in 1999.

A Guide to Resource Materials, for Anti-Poverty and Community Groups, on Social Analysis and Linking Practice and Policy, was compiled, published and widely disseminated during the year.

Work advanced on *Providing for Equality*, a scoping report that reviews equality concepts and legislative and policy provision for equality. An interim report was received.

The Agency funded the National College of Ireland to provide two training courses in Newbridge and Limerick for community and voluntary organisations. These courses aimed to enhance management and organisational development and sought to build on the good practice promoted through the Agency's publications on 'Managing Better'. In addition, during the year three titles in the 'Managing Better' series were reprinted in response to demand.

The Agency provided support and advice to the commissioned work on developing an audit of training available to the community and voluntary sector.

Refugees

The Agency participated in advisory meetings on the establishment of information services for refugees and asylum seekers, under the auspices of Refugee Information Services. In addition, in response to a request from the DSCFA, the Agency commissioned a report on how community development strategies could address the needs

of refugees and asylum seekers. This report has been submitted to the Department.

Certificate in Voluntary Sector Management: Dublin City University (DCU)

Discussions were held throughout the year on future provision for this course and it was decided by DCU not to continue.

Community Foundations

The report, *Community Foundations, An Introductory Report on International Experience and Irish Potential*, was published and disseminated. The Agency provided advice on this issue to the Minister and Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs and is represented on the committee overseeing the establishment of a Foundation.

Allen Lane Foundation

In 1998, the Allen Lane Foundation, a UK based grant-making charity, researched a possible new focus for its funding programme in Ireland following a decision not to continue with its women's programme. The Agency provided advice to the Foundation in this work.

Addressing the Spatial Dimensions of Poverty

Local development

The Agency continued its membership of the Inter-Departmental Policy Committee on Local Development (IDPC), the Monitoring Committee for the Operational Programme on Local, Urban and Rural Development, and the EU URBAN Programme. Membership of sub-groups of Area Development Management Ltd (ADM) on community development and equality was also maintained. In addition, there was liaison with ADM on a study of the contribution of community development to the local development process. An information exchange seminar between the staff of the Agency and ADM on current work priorities was held to enhance and support the development of working relationships.

The Comptroller and Auditor General contracted the Agency to provide technical advice on its value-for-money audit of local development initiatives.

The study, *Where are Poor Households?*, commissioned from the ESRI on spatial dimensions of poverty was completed and published. This used data based on the 1994 Living in Ireland survey and analysed how household and spatial factors combined to produce cumulative disadvantage and assumptions surrounding this process. A seminar to promote the study's findings and discuss policy issues arising was held in the autumn of 1998.

Work continued on a second study from the Living in Ireland Survey, examining cumulative disadvantage.

The Agency completed and published its study on the role of local partnerships in promoting social cohesion. This Irish contribution was part of a wider European study, carried out in conjunction with the European Foundation of Living and Working Conditions. The study, *Local Partnerships for Social Inclusion*, comprised a national review of local partnership approaches and case studies. A joint seminar with the Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation and the European Foundation was held in December.

Research continued and an initial report was submitted from a joint study with the Katherine Howard Foundation on living conditions and quality of life of residents in local authority housing estates. An information seminar and a policy research workshop with key interests took place.

A poverty briefing on housing and homelessness was commissioned and a draft was received during the year.

On urban renewal, the Agency participated in two information seminars in Dublin and Athlone on Urban Renewal Schemes. It also participated in the Expert Advisory Panel for the 1998 Urban Renewal Scheme.

Drugs, poverty and policy programme

The Agency's programme on poverty and drug use offers financial support over a three-year period to a number of community and voluntary groups to build links between their work and the policy-making process. As part of the Programme, research was commissioned on the links between poverty and drug use.

The Agency supported two seminars for the seven Agency-funded groups on policy aspects of local anti-drug work.



Discussion was also initiated on work plans for 1999. The Agency continued to fund and oversee a support service to the funded groups and evaluation of the Programme is ongoing.

Rural case studies

In partnership with the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (NIVT) the Agency continued work on developing case studies highlighting good practice in rural community development.

Supporting the Peace Process

EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation

The Agency, with ADM Ltd, continued its joint role of managing and implementing the delivery of the EU Peace and Reconciliation Programme in the six southern border counties. The Programme's work lay mainly in the areas of:

- assisting projects to access funding;
- providing information, research and support with financial systems;
- drawing policy and practice lessons from Peace and Reconciliation Programmes;
- addressing strategic issues;
- maintaining and developing cross-border contacts with policy-makers and anti-poverty activists; and
- co-operating with north-south exchange bodies.

There was regular liaison between the Agency's Dublin-based office and the Monaghan office of the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation, including staff meetings, appraisal of grant applications, collaboration on a range of strategic initiatives and work with local advisory committees.

Meetings of the Joint Management Committee, local advisory committees and cross-border advisory committee were held throughout the year.

Implementation of the cross-border part of the Peace Programme, in conjunction with NIVT, continues to be a key feature and during 1998 a cross-border development worker was appointed to implement a cross-border strategy from a community-development perspective.

A database was set up to enable the ADM/CPA offices to access information on 1,000 projects currently funded under

the Programme. This was used extensively to provide management information as well as satisfy EU and national government reporting requirements.

Key strategic initiatives

The Agency has been involved in and contributed to the development of a number of the Programme's strategic initiatives. These are highlighted below.

The Reconciliation, Awareness, Education and Training Initiative - establishing a programme for awareness, education and training in reconciliation for funded projects of the Programme.

Women in Adult and Community Education Initiative - supporting women through adult and community education.

The Retail/Service Sectors initiative - direct support to the retail/services sector in key border towns and villages.

The Disadvantaged Private Business Sector Initiative - establishment of county-based consortium of agencies as a vehicle for loan funding to the disadvantaged private sector.

The Disability Initiative - study on how to address disability issues.

The Childcare Initiative - establishment and funding of Border Counties Childcare Network.

The Reconciliation within the Educational Curriculum Initiative - supporting the development of work on Reconciliation in the Curriculum through working with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment and the City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee Curriculum Development Unit.

The Initiative to Improve Accessibility and Advice for the Unemployed - the establishment and funding of a Network for Unemployed Centres in the border counties.

The Cross-Border Reconciliation Development Initiative - in collaboration with the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (NIVT) and Co-operation Ireland, research was commissioned into the gaps and barriers in cross border work. A detailed

report, which will be used to inform the EU and the Irish and British governments, will be available in 1999.

The Tourism Initiative - supporting the strategic development of tourism in the border region through the funding of marketing executives and marketing plans for each county.

The Strategic Capacity Building Initiative - through facilitation and management under the Agency's 'Managing Better' publication series to groups funded under the Programme. This included residential workshops and mentor counselling to 20 groups and training in areas such as financial management, recruitment and self-evaluation.

The Endowment Proposal Initiative - the development of work to consider the establishment of an Endowment Fund/Community Foundation as a sustainable funding source for Northern Ireland and the border counties when the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation concludes.

The Initiative to Support Community-Led Development through Local Authorities - provision of community links works for a number of county councils.

The Prisoners and ex-Prisoners Initiative - a study of the number and needs of ex-prisoners and their families in the border counties.

The Educational Disadvantage Initiative - supported research on educational disadvantage that made proposals on how the Peace and Reconciliation programme could best support responses to the issue. The research informed the development of an initiative that resulted in 18 groups, accessing £230,000 to implement tailored responses to educational disadvantage to meet local need. A further allocation is earmarked under this initiative for 1999.

More detailed information on the work of the Programme is available directly from the ADM/CPA EU Peace and Reconciliation Programme, European Union House, Monaghan. Tel: 047-71340. e-mail: monaghan@adm-cpa.com

International Fund for Ireland (IFI)

The Agency continued its participation in the IFI's Communities in Action committee.

Grants

Administration by the Agency of the Promoting Common Interest Grants continued. This scheme supported work on a north-south basis on poverty, social exclusion and community development. A review of the Promoting Common Interest Grants Scheme was commissioned and a report received containing recommendations regarding funding. £70,309 was awarded to 22 projects under the grant scheme in 1998. Further details are outlined in Appendix 2.

Maintaining links

Agency links with community groups, researchers, anti-poverty activists and policy-makers on community development and anti-poverty work in Northern Ireland were maintained.



Objective 4

Reducing Poverty

"The Agency is committed to working towards a reduction in existing poverty levels, in particular by promoting the redistribution of income in favour of those living in poverty through reform of the tax and social welfare systems and by working to ensure that everyone has at least a minimally adequate income"

Improving the Social Welfare System

The Agency investigated issues and made recommendations on the future of the social welfare system. A particular area of concern was to highlight a minimum adequate income and means of achieving this, drawing on research on social welfare rates and paying particular attention to the adequacy of child income support.

Pre-budget submission

The Agency's pre-budget submission, *Investing in Children*, was published. It focussed on meeting the needs of children. Priorities identified were child benefit, child care, tackling educational disadvantage and improvements to the tax and social welfare systems to benefit low-income groups. This was complemented by post-budget analysis that was also published. This assessed the budget against the National Anti-Poverty Strategy's objectives and targets.

As part of the pre-Budget process, a seminar was organised which was attended by government departments, the social partners, trade unions and community and voluntary groups on the implications of tax and welfare reform for people on low incomes.

Housing income support

Work commenced on preparing for publication a report of a study carried out by the Centre for European Social Research in NUI Cork on the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme Rent and Mortgage Supplements.

Tax/welfare treatment of households

The Agency continued its participation in the inter-departmental working group examining the treatment of households under the tax and social welfare system, following an invitation from the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs in 1997 to join the group. The group examined the treatment of different household types under the tax and social welfare codes.

Child poverty

A research study on child poverty drawing on data from the 1994 and 1997 Living in Ireland Survey was commissioned and is being undertaken by the ESRI. In addition, preparatory work commenced on implementing a public awareness programme to highlight the extent of child poverty in Ireland and measures to tackle it.

Women and poverty

Work continued on research commissioned by the Agency from the ESRI on women and poverty. A seminar was held in May 1998 to discuss interim findings and key issues arising from the research. The study was recently published.

Welfare/work issues

The Agency continued to participate on a research advisory group of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions to a project on active welfare and employment policies.

Medical care

Contact commenced with the Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed on issues of common interest in the area of medical care for low-income families.



Promoting Redistribution and Tax Reform

Farm income support

A study was commissioned from Teagasc/ESRI on farm income support. This is investigating the distribution of farm income and the potential to re-focus income support in favour of low-income producers.

Simulating welfare and income tax changes (SWITCH) tax/welfare model

The ESRI SWITCH Model simulates the effects of tax and welfare changes on a nationally representative sample of households. The Agency continued its involvement in the Micro-Simulation Forum, the inter-departmental forum on the development and use of the SWITCH model as a policy tool. The Agency also participated on an Advisory Group to the EUROMOD project, which is developing a European tax and welfare model.

Income distribution

Work continued on research into the distribution of income, carried out by the ESRI and the Department of Economics, NUI Maynooth. The research examines trends in income inequality in recent decades and the various factors influencing the distribution of income in an international context, particularly the role of male and female earnings.

Credit and debt policy group

The Agency continued its involvement in the Credit and Debt Policy Group, a coalition of community and voluntary organisations. This involved advising on its research programme and supporting the development of the group.



Developing the Agency

In addition to pursuing the previous four strategic objectives the Agency worked to develop its organisational, administrative, human resource and technical capacity.

Agency Board Membership

In 1998, the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs appointed one new member and re-appointed the outgoing Chair, Anna Lee, as the Agency's Chairperson for a three-year period.

Strategic Plan

The past year, 1998, was the final year of the Agency's 1996-1998 Strategic Plan. Much work went into evaluating performance under the plan and in preparing for the next strategic plan.

As part of the evaluation process, performance reports for each of the three years of the 1996-1998 Strategic Plan were developed and finalised with the input of staff. Nexus Research Co-operative undertook an independent evaluation of the plan. This is available from the Agency's library and the April/May 1999 issue of *Poverty Today* carries a summary. This evaluation and analysis informed the discussions and preparations for the Strategic Plan 1999-2001 which also took place throughout the year.

Submissions were invited from the public and groups concerned with poverty issues on priorities for the Agency's new Strategic Plan 1999-2001. Consultation with key statutory agencies, advisory bodies and anti-poverty organisations was undertaken to inform planning for the next three years. A staff planning day took place in October and the Agency's board and staff participated in considering priorities for developing the Agency. A two-day planning meeting with the board and programme staff discussed the draft Strategic Plan. This was agreed in December and submitted to the Minister for the Social, Community and Family Affairs who approved it. The plan is now published and available free of charge from the Agency or on our web site at www.cpa.ie.

Management Styles

A review was initiated of Agency management styles, roles and effectiveness. A Management Team seminar was held in July to discuss management styles.

Programme for Competitiveness and Work (PCW)

Agreement was reached with the trade unions on the application of the local bargaining clause of the PCW for a majority of staff. Outstanding claims are currently being processed.

Superannuation

An information book on the Agency's superannuation scheme was finalised for circulation to all staff.

Administrative Support Structures

The Agency's administrative support structures help maintain and monitor policies, systems and procedures. Section budgets and work programmes were monitored on an ongoing basis and the 1998 work programme was implemented with input from each section. Board Policy Advisory Committees and Staff Policy Action Teams supported the implementation of the Agency's work programme.

Human Resources

Staffing

The Director took a six-month career break in the first half of the year. An internal appointment to Acting Director led to the appointment of an Acting Head of Research and a temporary research officer. An 18-month career break was arranged for the Head of Projects. Following internal appointment to this post subsequent vacancies for a projects officer and a research officer were filled. The EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation also appointed additional staff during the year.

Staff Performance, Evaluation and Development (SPED)

Regular review meetings between individual staff and their managers took place to facilitate an exchange on performance, evaluation and development.

Human Resource Development

With the advice and assistance of an external management consultant, work took place on the production of a human



resources development policy, including a review of SPED. A questionnaire survey of staff needs was carried out as part of this. Staff participated in the production and review of the draft human resource development policy including involvement in focus groups and a seminar. A staff steering group participated in the overall planning process.

Staff continued to avail of access to training programmes by the Language Training Centre, part of the Civil Service Centre for Management Organisation, and Development and by the Staff Development Unit of the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

Staff meetings

A process to review staff meetings commenced and this is expected to inform the human resources development policy.

Bilingualism

Work continued on developing an action programme to promote bilingualism, in accordance with previous guidelines from Bord na Gaeilge and the Department of Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht.

Information Technology

Work on expanding and enhancing the Agency's information technology resources and support continued throughout the year. All staff now have access to a common, integrated suite of business applications. Work commenced on the Agency's internet website during the year. This went on line in December and work continues on enhancing the site. The site address is www.cpa.ie.

Financial Systems

A needs and benefits study on the introduction of an integrated computerised accounting system was completed during the year. Work is continuing on the implementation of the report.

Records and Archive Management

The Agency continues to maintain its records and archives in accordance with the National Archives Act.

Appendix 1



The aim of the Combat Poverty Agency

Board, Sub-committees and Staff

promote a more just and inclusive society

by working for the prevention and

elimination of poverty and social exclusion

Board

There were 10 meetings of the Agency held in 1998. In addition to attendance at Board Meetings, Members were also active on sub-committees and assisting with particular pieces of work between meetings. The attendance record of the Members of the Agency was as follows:

	No of Meetings Attended
Anna Lee, Chairperson ¹	9
Fionnuala Richardson	9
Fergus McCabe	8
Eoin O'Malley	6
Hugh Frazer ²	5
Michele Power ³	8
Berni Brady	8
Niall Fitzduff	9
Clare Farrell	9
Brian Kenny	8
Feargus O Raghallaigh	8
Liam Barrett	9
Sr Stanislaus Kennedy	9
Frank Mulcahy	9
Pearse O'Hanrahan	8
Bernadette Lacey ⁴	6

1 Reappointed for a second term from 22nd June 1998.
 2 The Director was on a career break for the first six months of 1998.
 3 Resigned March 1999.
 4 Appointed 3rd February 1998.

Sub-committees

Finance and Personnel

Anna Lee (Chair), Brian Kenny, Clare Farrell, Fionnuala Richardson, Feargus O'Raghallaigh, Hugh Frazer.

Specialist Policy Advisory Committees which operated in 1998:

Tax and Social Welfare	Education, Labour Market, Unemployment	Community and Local Development
Eoin O'Malley (Chair)	Fionnuala Richardson (Chair)	Niall Fitzduff (Chair)
Anna Lee	Anna Lee	Anna Lee
Hugh Frazer	Berni Brady	Brian Kenny
Bernadette Lacey	Tom Collins	Hugh Frazer
Anne McManus	Hugh Frazer	Michele Power
Aebhric McGibney	Sean O'Cearbhall	Fergus McCabe
Mary Murphy	Joan Walsh	Clare Farrell
Brian Nolan	Pat Dowling	Déaglán Ó Briain
Cormac Carey	Dermot Stokes	Kathleen Stack
Paul Sweeney	Damien Hannan	Siobhan Lynam
Brigid Reynolds	Noirin Hayes	Noreen White
Joe Larraghy	Anne McManus	Noirin Clancy
Donal de Buitléir	Melanie Pine	Eamon Deane
Ursula Barry	Tom Costello	Fintan Farrell
Bernard Feeney	Carmel Duggan	Hilary Tovey
Francis O'Toole	Philip O'Connell	Chris Whelan
Clare Farrell	Manus O'Riordan	Chris Curtin
	Mike Allen	Sarah Flynn
	Sean Healy	Maureen Kavanagh
		Anne O'Sullivan

EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation, Joint Management Committee

Anna Lee (Joint Chair)
 Terry Larkin (Joint Chair)

Anastasia Crickley
 Marie Friel (until February 1999)
 Adge King
 Maire O'Leary
 Avila Kilmurray
 Hugh Frazer
 Tony Crooks
 Tom Curran
 Niall Fitzduff
 Berni Brady
 Déaglán Ó Briain
 Pearse O'Hanrahan
 Fionnuala Richardson
 Bob Wilson (from March 1999)
 Kathleen Stack
 Majella Mulkeen (from March 1999)



A number of local advisory committees support the Peace programme's work. Membership is as follows:

Community Development/Human Resources Committee

Anastasia Crickley, Joint Management Committee (Chair)
Ann Brady, Drogheda Partnership
Brian Buckley, National Forum of People with Disabilities
Marion Byrne, ADM
Pamela Culkin, Sligo Partnership
Tom Daly, North-Western Health Board
Jim Devenney, Border Regional Authority, Donegal
Jim Devins, Border Regional Authority, Sligo
Mary Devlin, Primary Sector, Department of Education
Ann Donegan, FÁS (NW)
Brian Glynn, FÁS (NE)
Tom Hobson, International Fund for Ireland
Dr Tony Kelly, VEC Sector
Leo Kinsella, North Eastern Health Board
Dónall Mac Ghiolla Bhríde, Áras na Gaeltachta
Alice Malone, Community Workers Co-operative
Kathleen McCaffrey, Leitrim Partnership
John McEaney, Monaghan County Partnership
Gearóid MacEochaidh, Community Connections, CDP
Mary McGowan, Irish Pre-School Playgroups Association
Marie McLoughlin, Community Workers Co-operative
Mary Murphy, Department of Social Community and Family Affairs
Máire Ní Ghógáin, Schools Inspectorate
Peter Savage, Border Regional Authority
Deirdre Shanley, Dept of Social Community and Family Affairs (NW)
Pat Shields, Dept of Social Community and Family Affairs (NE)

Economic Development Committee

Tom Curran, Joint Management Committee (Chair)
Margaret Barry, Joint Management Committee (until November 1998)
Seamus Bree, Forbairt
Tony Canning, Glenboe Action Group
Dorothy Clarke, Leitrim County Enterprise Board
Mary Coleman, Border Regional Authority, (Cavan)
Michael Curran, International Fund for Ireland
Ronan Denny, Louth County Enterprise Board
Mairéad Diggin, Inishowen Partnership
Frank Evans, Monaghan County Partnership
Tony Ferguson, Border Regional Authority (Leitrim)
Fintan Flannery, Lifford/Clonleigh Resource Centre
Marie Gallagher, FÁS (NW)
Chris Gill, INOU



Michael Greenan, Cavan County Partnership
Noel Keane, Community Workers Co-operative
Tom Kellely, FÁS (NE)
Ade King, Joint Management Committee
Anthony Leddy, Cavan Monaghan Rural Development
Gerard Mullaney, Sligo LEADER Partnership
Sonya Ní Loughlin, Údarás na Gaeltachta
Michael Quigley, Sligo LEADER Partnership
Vincent Reynolds, Cavan County Enterprise Board
Mary Ryan, Business Innovation Centre
Shielá Shields, National Women's Council/OPEN
Patsy Trainor, Border Regional Authority (Monaghan)
Bob Wilson, Dundalk Employment Partnership
Rosaleen French, Lifford/Clonleigh Resource Centre

Cross-Border Committee

Hugh Frazer, Joint Management Committee (Joint Chair)
Avila Kilmurray, Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (Joint Chair)
Mark Conway, Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust
Anastasia Crickley, Joint Management Committee
Aideen McGinley, Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust
Maire O'Leary, Joint Management Committee
Mark Adair, Community Relations Council
Malcolm Ross, Co-Operation Ireland
Michael Curran, International Fund for Ireland (from June 1988)
Therese Devlin, Rural Community Network (from June 1998)
Paddy Logue, Northwest Community Network (until August 1998)

Staff ¹

Director	Hugh Frazer*	
Administration	Kieran Sheedy	Head of Organisational Management and Development
	Eileen Scanon ²	Head of Administration/Secretary
	Maria O'Neill ³	Finance Officer/Administrator
	Mary Byrne	Clerical Officer
	Catherine Gaul	Executive Officer
	Geraldine Clarke	Messenger/Cleaner
	Cora Murray	Typist/Receptionist
Projects	June Meehan	Head of Projects
	Liz Sullivan ³	Head of Projects
	Julie Howley ^{2*}	Projects Officer
	Kate Ennals ⁴	Projects Officer
	Jim Walsh ^{2*}	Projects Officer
	Anne O'Brien	Clerical Officer
Research	Helen Johnston*	Head of Research
	David Silke	Research Officer
	Carmel Corrigan ³	Research Officer
	Daithi Downey ³	Research Officer
	Yvonne O'Roarke	Clerical Officer
Information and Public Education	Joan O'Flynn	Head of Information
	Clare Farrell	Information Officer
	June O'Brien	Clerical Officer

Superannuation

Under Section 14 of the Combat Poverty Agency Act 1986, a Non-Contributory Superannuation Scheme and a Contributory Spouse's and Children's Scheme have been approved by the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs for staff in the Agency. A number of staff are employed on a secondment basis from other organisations and have retained their membership of these organisations' superannuation schemes.

Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 1989

The Agency continues to implement appropriate measures to protect the safety and health of all employees and visitors within its offices.

¹ Staff at 1st June 1999.

² These are part-time posts.

³ These are temporary appointments to fill consequential vacancies arising from a member of staff going on career break.

⁴ Job-share post.

⁵ This is a temporary appointment to fill a vacancy created by the secondment of a member of staff to another organisation.

* In 1998, The Director was on a career break for the first six months of the year. Helen Johnston was appointed Acting Director for this period and Jim Walsh was appointed Acting Head of Research.

The EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation has two joint managers, one employed by ADM and one employed by CPA. The rest of the staff team are employed jointly by ADM and CPA. They are:

Managers	Anne McGeeney	Joint Manager, Combat Poverty Agency
	Paddy McGinn	Joint Manager, ADM
Administration	Mary Kelly	Financial Administrator
	Rosalind O'Neill	Finance Officer
	Frances Lavery	Audit Co-ordinator
	Ailish Gildernew	Office Administrator
	Aine MacNeill	Receptionist/Secretary
	Julie Clifford	Clerical Officer - Development
	Paula Clerkin	Clerical Officer - Appraisal
	Roisin Bogue	Clerical Officer - Finance
	Maura Sullivan	Clerical Officer - Finance
	Deirdre McGuigan	Clerical Officer - Finance
	Amanda Rannard	Clerical Officer - Finance
	Christine Lehmann	Clerical Officer - Database
Development	Roisin Keenan	Development Worker - Leitrim
	Donald McDonald	Development Worker - Monaghan
	Rita McNulty	Development Worker - Sligo
	Ray Rogers	Development Worker - Louth
	Paul Skinnader	Development Worker - Donegal
	Tina Tully	Development Worker - Cavan
	Paddy Logue	Cross-Border Development Worker
Research	Kathy Walsh	Research Officer

Appendix 2



Projects Funded by the Agency

The aim of the C
promote a more
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Evaluation Grants 1998

	£
Ballymun Job Centre, Dublin	3,500
Ballyphehane/Togher Community Development Project, Cork	4,000
Don Bosco House, Dublin	3,200
Eigse Dun Dealgan, Louth	2,500
KLEAR Ltd, Dublin	3,500
Meitheal, Dublin	3,800
Mountwood Fitzgerald Community Development Project, Dublin	1,620
North Clondalkin Integrated Family School, (Dochas), Dublin	3,000
North West Inner City Women's Network, Dublin	1,950
Offaly/Kildare Lifestart Project, Offaly	3,000
Power Partnership, Dublin	5,000
Women's Centre, Letterkenny (Second Chance Education Project For Women), Donegal	2,500
Sláinte Pobal, Kildare	4,000
St Brigids Family and Community Centre, Waterford	2,800
Tuam Community Development Resource Centre, Galway	2,500
Waterford Care of the Aged Society Limited, Waterford	4,500
Total	51,370

Research Grants 1998

	£
ADAPT, Limerick	3,750
African Refugee Network, Dublin	2,500
Athy CDP & Cherry Orchard CDP	3,000
Cairde Ltd, Dublin	1,500
Clondalkin Partnership (Clondalkin Higher Education Access Project), Dublin	3,000
Community Enterprise Society Ltd (Terenure CES), Dublin	2,250
Community Workers Co-Operative, Galway	3,750
Cork Community Development Institute, Cork	3,000
Dublin Aids Alliance (Women & Trafficking, AIDS & Mobility Network), Dublin	2,750
Energy Action Ltd, Dublin	5,000
Focus Ireland, Dublin	3,000
Free Legal Advice Centre, Dublin	3,300
Greater Blanchardstown Lone Parents' Steering Group, Dublin	4,000
Homelessness & Mental Health Action, Dublin	3,600
Inter Agency Drugs Project, Dublin	750
Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill CDP, Cork	2,250
Larkin Unemployed Centre, Dublin	600
Leaving Cert Applied Presentation Family Policy Group, Dublin	2,000
Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teo, Tir Chonaill	1,500
Muscular Dystrophy Ireland, Dublin	2,000
Portlaoise Lone Parents Group, Laois	4,000
Ronanstown Community Childcare Centre, Dublin	3,000
Rural Resettlement, Kilrush, Clare	3,750
South Inner City Community Development Association, Dublin	3,000
St Vincent De Paul Family Centre (St John's Centre), Cork	1,900
Tallaght Travellers Support Group, Dublin	1,000
Threshold, Dublin	3,000
Trim Initiative for Development & Enterprise (& North Meath Community Development Association)	3,000
Total	76,150

Promoting Common Interest Grants 1998

	£
Access 2000 Interlink on behalf of the Coalition of Grass Roots Women's Federation, Wexford	3,000
Community Women's Education Initiatives, Cork	3,022
Co-operative Development Society Ltd, Dublin	5,000
Derry Travellers Support Group, Derry	902
Dublin Institute of Adult Education, Dublin	3,000
European Anti-Poverty Network, Dublin	3,000
Extern Organisation Ltd, Belfast	2,000
Free Legal Advice Centres Ltd, Dublin	4,400
Housing Institute of Ireland, Dublin	4,000
National Schizophrenia Fellowship, Belfast	570
One Parent Exchange & Network, Dublin	3,000
Portlaoise Citizens Information Centre, Laois	1,258
Smashing Times Theatre Company Ltd, Dublin	4,000
Springboard Opportunities Ltd, Belfast	2,600
St Mary's Lone Parent Group, Limerick	3,000
St Mary's Lone Parent Group, Limerick	3,722
The North Wall Women's Centre, Dublin	3,405
The Women's Centre, Derry	2,500
Women's Social Exclusion Group, Dublin	3,500
Women's Studies Centre, National University of Ireland, Galway	1,930
Women Together Tallaght, Dublin	10,000
YMCA, Dublin	2,500
Total	70,309

Public Education 1998

	£
80:20 Educating and Acting for a Better World, Wicklow	1,200
Adapt Kerry Ltd, Kerry	1,000
Age Action Ireland, Dublin	3,000
Age & Opportunity (Older Women's Network), Dublin	3,500
Association of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Ireland, Dublin	1,400
Ballybeg Community Development Project Ltd, Waterford	1,500
Ballymun Womens Resource Centre, Dublin	1,500
Blanchardstown Travellers Support Group Ltd., Dublin	1,500
BOND Project - Blanchardstown Offender for New Directions Project - Dublin	1,000
CAFÉ, Dublin	5,000
Calypso Productions, Dublin	1,000
CARP Killinarden Ltd, Dublin	500
Cerebral Palsy Ireland, Wicklow	1,655
Clondalkin Travellers Development Group, Dublin	1,710
Community Media Network, Dublin	500
Community Research Co-Operative, Cork	5,000
Community Response/South West Inner City Network, Dublin	1,500
Community Workers Co-Op, Galway	2,500
Community Workers Co-Operative - Mid-West Network, Limerick	700
Cork Community Development Institute, Cork	5,000
Cork Environmental Alliance, Cork	3,000
Cumas Teo (Clár Horizon), Galway	2,160
Disabled People of Cläre, Cläre	2,750
Donore Ave Social Analysis Group, Dublin	400
Dublin NE Community Communications Co-Operative, Dublin	1,500
Dun Laoghaire VEC (ACN Community Network), Dublin	3000
European Anti Poverty Network Ireland, Dublin	2,000
Family Resource Centre, Dublin	1,500
Focus Ireland - Research, Development & Education, Dublin	2,500
Forum of People with Disabilities, Dublin	1,500
Geographical Society of Ireland, Kildare	3,500
Gingerbread Longford	1,000
Greater Blanchardstown Lone Parents' Steering Group, Dublin	1,000
Homelessness and Mental Health Action, Dublin	3,000
Irish Refugee Council Ltd (Camera Pen), Dublin	2,000
Irish Traveller Movement (National Networks), Dublin	6,000
Kerry Diocesan Youth Service	3,500
Kilkenny Community Action Network	2,000
Larkin Unemployed Centre, Dublin	3,000
Let in the Light, Dublin	5,000
Lone Parent Network, Dublin	2,000
LOT/LEA, Dublin	1,000
Mná Feasa, Cork	1,000

National Federation of Youth Clubs (National Youth Federation)	2,500
National Women's Council of Ireland, Dublin	3,000
Open Channel TV Base, Dublin	2,000
Parish of the Travelling People, Dublin	1,500
Pavee Point, Dublin	4,500
Presentation Family Leaving Certificate Applied Policy Group, Dublin	1,450
Prussia Street Women's Group, Dublin	1,000
Scheme Workers Alliance, Dublin	2,500
South West Clondalkin Community Development, Dublin	4,200
St Vincents Trust, Dublin	2,000
Tallaght Travellers Support Group, Dublin	3,200
Tallaght West Community Forum, Dublin	2,000
Threshold (Credit and Debt Policy Group), Dublin	5,000
The National Early School Leaving Network, Dublin	1,000
The North Clondalkin Homework Project, Dublin	3,770
Travellers Interest Group, Dublin	3,900
Women's Aid, Dublin	500
Working Together Group, Mayo	1,500
Total	140,495

Poverty, Drug Use and Policy Grants 1998

	£
Drogheda Resource Centre for the Unemployed for the Drogheda Youth	
Sector Computer Scheme, Co Louth	5,250
Ballymun Youth Action Project, Dublin	14,000
Coalition of Communities Against Drugs, Dublin	12,500
Midland Regional Youth Service Ltd, Athlone	4,200
Addiction Response Crumlin, Dublin	7,500
Community Action Programme Ballymun Ltd, Dublin	15,000
Franciscan Social Justice Initiatives, Dublin	15,000
Total	73,450

Demonstration Programme on Educational Disadvantage - Core Funding

	£
Tralee Education Network, Co Kerry	30,000
Network on Educational Disadvantage, Tuam Area, Co Galway	30,000
Drogheda Youth Educational Network, Co Louth	30,000
Tallaght Partnership, Dublin	30,000
Total	120,000

Networking Grants 1998

	£
Ait na nDaoine, Co Louth	252
Ballybane & Mervue Community Development Project, Galway	2,500
Clondalkin Travellers Development Group, Dublin	2,700
FAB Community Development Project, Wexford	1,250
Farranree Community Development Project Ltd, Cork	3,000
Galway Travellers Support Group, Galway	3,750
Glenboe Community Action Group, Donegal	2,000
Inner City Renewal Group, Dublin	2,000
Kiltimagh Community Development Project, Mayo	2,000
Knockanrawley Resource Centre Ltd, Tipperary	1,500
Knocknaheeny/Hollyhill Community Secretariat Ltd, Cork	3,000
Lifford/Clonleigh Resource Centre, Donegal	2,000
Limerick Travellers Development Group, Limerick	1,224
Lourdes Youth & Community Services Ltd, Dublin	1,000
South West Wexford Community Development Group, Wexford	3,000
Templeshannon Community Development Project, Wexford	2,000
Tullamore Travellers Movement, Offaly	4,000
Total	37,176

Support Agency Grants 1998

	£
Community Action Network, Dublin	7,540
Cork Community Development Institute Ltd, Cork	2,548
Framework Waterford Ltd, Waterford	1,350
Meitheal Development Ltd, Dublin	3,261
Meitheal Development Ltd, Dublin	3,200
West Training Development Ltd, Galway	3,500
Total	21,399

National Anti-Poverty Strategy Grants 1998

	£
Community Workers Co-operative, Galway	5,000
European Anti Poverty Network, Dublin	5,000
Forum of People with Disabilities, Dublin	5,000
Irish Rural Link, Galway	5,000
Irish Traveller Movement, Dublin	5,000
Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed, Dublin	5,000
One Parent Exchange and Network, Dublin	5,000
Total	35,000

Occasional Grants 1998

	£
Tipperary South Riding VEC for Tipperary Youthreach Second Chance Programme, Tipperary	1,500
National Youth Federation, Dublin	2,000
Total	3,500

Research Fellowships Paid in 1998

Awarded in 1996 for three years

Selina McCoy

Early School Leavers: A Study of the Effectiveness of Irish Post-Primary Schools in Influencing Achievement of Disadvantaged Pupils

Awarded in 1998 for half a year

Colm O'Reardon

The Political Economy of Inequality in Advanced Countries: the Irish Case in Comparative Perspective

Awarded in 1998 for two and a half years

Francis Houghton

Health and Inequality: An Investigation into the Relationship Between Health and Relative Deprivation in the Mid-West

A full list of research fellowships awarded since 1994 is available on request.

Appendix 3



by working for the
elimination of poverty

EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation

Grants Approved 1998

The Agency, in collaboration with Area Development Management (ADM) Ltd, implements a number of measures under the Peace and Reconciliation Programme.

In 1998 the following grants were approved under Measure 3.4 Cross-border Community Reconciliation; Measure 4.1 Developing Grassroots Capacity and Promoting the Inclusion of Women and Measure 4.4 Promoting the Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups.

For details of projects under other measures, please refer to ADM's Annual Report and the annual report of the ADM/CPA Peace and Reconciliation Programme.

Project Name	£
MEASURE 3.4 - CROSS-BORDER COMMUNITY RECONCILIATION	
St Angela's College	14,242.00
Sligo/Tyrone School Links Programme	4,780.00
Monaghan Chamber of Commerce & Industry Ltd	23,920.00
Tuesday Social Club	3,000.00
Tionscnamh Lugh	3,000.00
St Joseph's CBS Secondary School	5,950.00
Rubato Ballet Community "Dancing on the Border"	30,000.00
Community of Lough Arrow Social Project	6,854.00
Seeds of Hope	3,000.00
'Fresh Wind'	20,000.00
Lucan Youth Centre Dev. Project	15,000.00
The Dundalk Simon Community	219,944.00
Irish Pre-School Playschools Association	3,000.00
Telework Ireland	25,000.00
Portadown/Monaghan Integrated Area Partnership	37,610.00
Redeemer Pilots Women's Training Programme	5,330.00
Women Anti-Poverty Project	7,250.00
Forthill Men's Group	2,500.00
Ramelton Community Peace Walk	1,400.00
Kiltyclogher Community Council	35,500.00
The Dream Team	30,000.00
Women's Education for Transformation	100,000.00
Tyrone-Donegal Partnership	39,800.00
Sign of the Times Group	1,660.00
North/South Cross Community Project	10,000.00
Melvin Education Network	3,000.00
Age and Opportunity	80,000.00
North West Employment Focus	50,000.00
Derg Finn Partnership	3,000.00
Glencree Centre for Reconciliation	80,000.00
Sligo County Agricultural Show	15,400.00
Calypeo Productions	33,000.00
Patrick McGill Summer School	4,000.00

Project Name	£
Partnership for Activity & Cultural Tourism	100,000.00
Clontarf Methodist Church	6,500.00
'The Pushkin Prizes'	3,000.00
Longford Childrens Arts Festival	1,500.00
Fionn Chonallacha	80,000.00
Co-operation Ireland	6,500.00
Afri	6,000.00
Portadown/Monaghan Partnership	39,800.00
Zion Trust	46,500.00
Banada Abbey Secondary School Links Project	70,000.00
Dhá Éin Theatre Co.	6,000.00
Young Mariners Club	3,000.00
Monaghan Diversion Partnership Programme	4,900.00
Erne-Shannon Community Tourism (E.S.C.T.)	3,000.00
Cross-Border Community Development Project	23,250.00
The Shankhill Community Association	85,416.00
Boomerang (Cork's Young People's Theatre Co.)	2,000.00
Fermanagh Women's Network	2,400.00
The Shanty Educational Project	82,000.00
Cross-Border Community Worker's Network	27,122.00
North-West Rural Transport Forum	3,000.00
Power Partnership	31,730.00
Riverstown Enterprise Development Company	4,500.00
Positive Mental Health in Rural Communities	3,000.00
Cox's Demense Youth & Community Project Ltd.	39,388.00
	1,597,646.00

MEASURE 4.1 - DEVELOPING GRASSROOTS CAPACITY & PROMOTING THE INCLUSION OF WOMEN

Muirhevnamor Community Council	2,900.00
Dochas	10,000.00
Womens Aid Dundalk	68,627.00
Community Workers Co-op Donegal	50,956.83
Letterkenny Women's Centre	10,350.00
Donegal LDC	11,695.00
Donegal County Council	120,000.00
IRD Milford Ltd	6,588.00
Manorhamilton & District Credit Union Ltd	6,000.00
Drimarone Development Association	3,000.00
Creelough Women's Group	3,000.00
Rossinver Community Development Co. Ltd	36,360.00
Monaghan Community Development Committee	20,000.00
Dungloe Development Association	2,300.00
Raphoe Community in Action	48,656.00
Women's Education Resource Working Group	5,500.00



Project Name	£
Farnaught Cemeteries Committee	3,000.00
CRANN	3,000.00
Ballyconnell Community Centre Education & Development	3,000.00
Glenboe Community Action Group	143,070.00
Muirhevnamor Community Youth Project	48,651.00
Killargue Community Developemnt Ass & Killargue Fo	1,400.00
Killea Football Club	3,000.00
Inishowen Partnership Company	37,000.00
Cooley Community Women's Group	3,000.00
Cavan Arts Centre Group	5,600.00
Teach Duchais Drumeela Development Committee	5,000.00
Irish Countrywomen's Association	3,000.00
Ballinode Community Projects Ltd	2,675.00
The Organic Centre	59,000.00
Co. Sligo LEADER Partnership Company	79,700.00
Knockatallan School Development Group	3,000.00
Killinkere Development Association	3,000.00
MacNean's Women's Group	2,500.00
Glenties Community Playgroup	3,000.00
Balor Development Community Arts Group	111,600.00
Ulster Council, Ladies Gaelic Football	4,450.00
Stardone Community Centre	4,000.00
Glenfarne Active Age Group	3,564.00
Ballinamore Women's Development Group	3,000.00
Communitas	3,000.00
Monaghan Citizens Information Centre	57,290.00
Newtowncunningham Community Development Group	7,300.00
Cavan/Monaghan Rural Development Society Ltd	21,000.00
Denn & District Development Association	2,200.00
Whag (Women's Health Action Group)	2,000.00
Combined Tenant & Resident Association, Muirhevnamore, Dundalk	3,000.00
Éigse Dún Dealgan	3,000.00
Sligo Social Service Council Ltd	3,000.00
Rathmullan Residents Association	1,200.00
Model Arts Centre	3,000.00
Monaghan County Council	58,350.00
Ballydunrow Community Development Association	3,000.00
Breffni Community Development Group	4,000.00
Knockconan National School	3,000.00
Arvagh Area Development Association	51,000.00
Páistí Le Chéile	38,500.00
Sligo Women's Network	4,500.00
Cavan Youth Drama	3,000.00
Donegal County Enterprise Board	92,000.00

Project Name	£
St.Patrick's GAA Club	3,000.00
Dungloe Development Association	60,000.00
Co Monaghan Community Network	34,700.00
Second Chance Education Project for Women	6,100.00
Donegal Community Workers Co-operative	3,000.00
Shercock Sports and Recreational Facilities Ltd.	5,000.00
Maghery Community Gombined	3,000.00
St Michael's Family Life Centre	54,000.00
Loughside Ladies Group	3,210.00
The Donegal Women's Network	154,600.00
Sub-Committee of Cootehill Area Development	3,000.00
Mná Féin	3,000.00
Women's Health Partnership Group	7,000.00
Community Connections	92,700.00
Drumgoon Community Centre Committee	4,000.00
Aclare Development Council Ltd	9,000.00
North West Community Development Agency Working Group	3,500.00
Dundalk Young GFC/Glenmuir AFC/St Gerards AC	3,000.00
Emyvale Development Association	3,000.00
Killeshandra Community Council Ltd	54,700.00
Oram Area Community Development	3,000.00
Castleblayney Scout Hall	3,000.00
County Cavan Community Network	3,000.00
Denn Development Association	2,000.00
Women's Education Resource Working Group	30,000.00
Tydavnet Village Community Centre	2,000.00
Phoenix Sport & Leisure Ltd	102,476.00
Kilnaleck & District Community Co-op	3,000.00
Staying Alive Centre	9,400.00
Muirhevnamor Community Council	5,000.00
Calipo Theatre Company	1,000.00
Focus for Women	7,000.00
Redeemer Community Development	2,000.00
Manorcunningham Development Association	7,500.00
	1,997,368.83

MEASURE 4.4 - PROMOTING THE INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

Finn Farm	3,000.00
Irish Wheelchair Association	33,000.00
Irish Wheelchair Association	34,000.00
Coiste Chú Chulainn	3,000.00
Ballybay Parent's Association	1,000.00
St Johnston Carrigans Resource Group	65,200.00
Ex-Prisoners Assistance Committee (EXPAC)	190,490.00

Project Name	£
Drogheda Community Services Centre	3,250.00
Fáilte Abhaile	3,000.00
North West Parents & Friends Assoc.	35,000.00
Dundalk Parents & Friends of the Mentally Handicapped	50,096.00
North Western Health Bord	3,000.00
Aware - Dundalk	2,560.00
White Oaks Rehabilitation Centre/Abba Trust	3,000.00
Donegal Travellers Project	64,700.00
Letterkenny Community Centre Ltd	2,000.00
Cairdeas Ghaoth Dobhair do Thuismitheoirí	5,000.00
Shalomar (Finisklin Housing Association)	33,000.00
Simon Community of Ireland	3,000.00
Brainwave, The Irish Epilepsy Association	25,000.00
Cavan Family Resource Group	60,625.00
Management Committee for Educating Travellers	2,700.00
Drogheda Equality Network	2,000.00
Lifestart	97,940.00
Ex-Prisoners Assistance Committee (EXPAC)	5,000.00
Ex-Prisoners Assistance Committee (EXPAC)	20,000.00
"Suile" Artlink & Advisory Group	55,800.00
Drogheda Disability Interest Group	60,500.00
Killybegs & Area Branch of Schizophrenia Ireland	4,000.00
North Leitrim Men's Group	43,140.00
Clones Branch of the Mentally Handicapped Association	3,000.00
Drogheda Homeless Aid	75,800.00
Fáilte Abhaile	175,274.00
Community Services Department	6,000.00
Fáilte Cluain Eois	175,500.00
AMWN	3,000.00
NWHB Social Work Department	72,300.00
Mullaghmore Sailing Club	47,000.00
	<u>1,471,875.00</u>
Total	<u>5,066,889.83</u>

Financial Statements



The aim of the Combat Poverty Agency is to promote a more just and inclusive society by working for the prevention and elimination of poverty and social exclusion.

Combat Poverty Agency

Consolidation of Financial Statements

Combat Poverty Agency in co-operation with Area Development Management Ltd. (ADM Ltd.) have set up a Joint Management Committee to administer the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (P&R) in the six border counties. All the transactions of the P&R programme are eliminated through their incorporation into the consolidated financial statements of ADM Ltd. and the Combat Poverty Agency. All the P&R transactions for which the Agency is liable on the basis of the joint management agreement, together with the transactions for its "core" operations are consolidated in these financial statements.

Prompt Payments of Accounts Act, 1997

The Agency complies with the requirements of the Prompt Payments of Accounts Act, 1997. The standard terms of credit taken, unless otherwise specified in contractual arrangements, are 45 days. At the end of each month invoices presented for payment are examined to ensure they are in compliance. The Agency continually reviews its administrative procedures in order to assist in minimising the time taken for invoice query and resolution. In that context a new computerised accounts and financial management system is being introduced during 1999. The Agency's procedures provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material non-compliance with the act. During the year ended 31st December, 1998 there were no late payments and no interest was paid under the Act.

Statement of Agency Responsibilities

Section 10(1) of the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986 requires the Agency to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister with the consent of the Minister for Finance, all proper and usual accounts of all monies received or expended by it.

In preparing those financial statements, the Agency is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply the consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the agency will continue in operation.

The Agency is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Agency and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 10(1) of the 1986 Act. The Agency is also responsible for safe-guarding the assets of the Agency and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Dated: 18th June, 1999

Anna Lee, Chairman

Anna Lee

Brian Kenny, Vice Chairman

B. Kenny

Hugh Frazer, Director

H.C. Frazer

Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles 1998**1. General**

The Agency was established in 1986 by order of the Minister for Social, Community and Family Affairs made under the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986.

2. Historical Cost Convention

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

3. Oireachtas Grant-in-Aid

The income from this-source represents actual cash receipts in the year.

4. Other Income

The amount shown in respect of the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation represents allocation to income which matches the projects payments made during the year.

5. Projects and Programmes to Combat Poverty

Expenditure represents payments made by the Agency during the year. Ownership of capital items, purchased by project organisers, is vested in the parties who funded the project on a proportionate basis. The interest of the Combat Poverty Agency in such assets is not included in these financial statements.

6. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed Assets are shown at original cost of valuation less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis at the following annual rates:

Furniture 12.50%
Equipment 20.00%

A full year's depreciation is provided in the year of acquisition.

7. Capital Account

The Capital Account represents the unmortised amount of income allocated for the purchase of fixed assets.

8. Superannuation

Superannuation costs will be charged against revenue when they arise.

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December, 1998

	Notes	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
INCOME			
Oireachtas Grant-in-Aid			
Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs		2,273,000	2,257,000
European Social Fund	1(a)	2,554,754	1,806,785
Exchequer Social Fund	1(b)	851,585	602,262
Other Income	1(c)	77,235	75,651
		<u>5,756,574</u>	<u>4,741,698</u>
Transfer (to)/from Capital Account	6	14,503	(12,255)
		<u>5,771,077</u>	<u>4,729,443</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Projects and Programmes to Combat Poverty			
Pilot Projects	2(a)	514,314	575,462
Grant schemes to Community and Voluntary Organisations	2(b)	357,081	353,403
Project Development, Training and Seminars	2(c)	161,450	246,676
Information, Education and Resource Material		244,167	205,774
Research Projects		153,520	114,114
EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation	2(d)	2,874,631	2,137,409
		<u>4,305,163</u>	<u>3,632,838</u>
Development, Support and Administration costs			
Salary Costs and Expenses	3	746,559	657,593
Rent and other Administration costs	4	320,309	280,917
Depreciation	5	54,886	49,257
		<u>1,121,754</u>	<u>987,767</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>5,426,917</u>	<u>4,620,605</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			
Surplus brought Forward		166,405	57,567
Surplus on Income & Expenditure Account		<u>510,565</u>	<u>166,405</u>

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles and Notes 1 to 10 form part of these Financial Statements.

Anna Lee, Chairman

A. M. Lee

Brian Kenny, Vice Chairman

B. Kenny

Hugh Frazer, Director

H. C. Frazer

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1998

	Notes	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
FIXED ASSETS			
Furniture and Equipment	5	159,445	173,948
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and Prepayments		53,233	350,978
Cash at Bank and on hand		<u>1,638,396</u>	<u>260,353</u>
		<u>1,691,629</u>	<u>611,331</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors and Accruals		255,672	97,732
Deferred Income		<u>925,392</u>	<u>347,194</u>
		<u>1,181,064</u>	<u>444,926</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>510,565</u>	<u>166,405</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Capital Account	6	159,445	173,948
Surplus on Income and Expenditure Account		<u>510,565</u>	<u>166,405</u>
		<u>670,010</u>	<u>340,353</u>

The Statement of Accounting Policies and Principles and Notes 1 to 10 form part of these Financial Statements.

Anna Lee, Chairman

A. M. Lee

Brian Kenny, Vice Chairman

B. Kenny

Hugh Frazer, Director

H. C. Frazer



Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 December, 1998

	Notes	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	7(a)	1,374,557	148,430
RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE			
Interest received		43,951	13,270
Net inflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance		43,951	13,270
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of fixed assets		(40,465)	(62,062)
Disposal of fixed assets			147
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities		(40,465)	(61,915)
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,378,043	99,785

	1998 IR£	1997 IR£
1. INCOME		
(a) EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation - ESF Funding		
Deferred Income at 1 January	260,395	103,037
Project Funding via Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs	2,988,403	1,862,865
Deferred Income at 31 December	(694,044)	(260,395)
Technical Assistance for Administration Costs via ADM Ltd		101,278
	<u>2,554,754</u>	<u>1,806,785</u>
(b) EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation - Exchequer Funding		
Deferred Income at 1 January	86,799	34,346
Project Funding via Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs	996,134	620,995
Deferred Income at 31 December	(231,348)	(86,799)
Technical Assistance for Administration Costs via ADM Ltd		33,760
	<u>851,585</u>	<u>602,262</u>
(c) Other Income		
Interest earned on Deposit A/Cs	43,951	13,270
Recoupment of overheads against EU Programmes		24,725
Sales of Publications	17,746	16,952
European Foundation for Improvement of Living & Working Conditions		3,598
Unspent grants	7,556	7,101
Seminar registration Fees	5,612	2,867
Miscellaneous Income	2,370	7,138
	<u>77,235</u>	<u>75,651</u>

2. PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES TO COMBAT POVERTY

(a) Pilot Projects

One of the functions of the Agency is to initiate and evaluate measures aimed at overcoming poverty. In line with this function the Agency supports a limited number of pilot projects in both urban and rural areas which seek to identify and develop strategies aimed at tackling the underlying causes of poverty. Amounts paid under each programme are as follows:

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
National Networks Pilot Programme	245,113	358,276
Disadvantaged Young People	169,990	168,725
Drugs Pilot Programme	89,177	
Support of Pilot Projects	5,301	
Community Arts Pilot Programme	4,733	48,461
	<u>514,314</u>	<u>575,462</u>

(b) Grant Schemes to Community and Voluntary Organisations

The amount shown represents once-off payments made to community and voluntary organisations.

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Information/Public Awareness Grants	140,658	105,601
Research Grants	92,700	91,050
Promoting Common Interest Grant Scheme	71,809	90,399
Evaluation Grants	51,914	66,353
	<u>357,081</u>	<u>353,403</u>

(c) Project Development Training and Seminars

The Agency supports its pilot and other training programmes by organising training and networking (in the form of seminars, conferences, exchange visits). Amounts spent under the main headings are as follows:

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Community Development Programme	84,564	128,227
Enhancing the Community Development Sector	76,886	118,399
	<u>161,450</u>	<u>246,676</u>

(d) EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation

Combat Poverty Agency in co-operation with Area Development Management Ltd. (ADM Ltd.) have set up a Joint Management Committee to administer the EU Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in the six border counties. This Programme was announced in July 1995 and the contract signed with European Union in December, 1995. The proposed allocation in respect of the Combat Poverty Agency assisted projects is £17.459m from 1995 - 1999 inclusive.

The Agency, in collaboration with ADM Ltd., implements 14 measures under the Programme. Specifically the Agency has responsibility for the following measures: 4.1 Developing Grassroots Capacity and Promoting the Inclusion of women; 4.4 Promoting the Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups; 3.4 Cross-border Community Reconciliation. This latter measure is implemented in association with the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (NIVT)

The basis of accounting for the Peace and Reconciliation Programme was reviewed in 1997 to reflect a change in accounting policy with a changeover to the accruals method of accounting. Prior year figures have been restated to reflect the changes. The income and expenditure of the Agency under the EU Special Support Programme for Peace & Reconciliation for 1998 is summarised as follows:

	£IR	£IR
INCOME		
European Social Fund	2,988,402	
Exchequer	996,134	
		<u>3,984,536</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Projects		
Measure 3.4	1,158,592	
Measure 4.1	1,148,421	
Measure 4.4	354,421	
Support Costs	213,196	
	<u>2,874,630</u>	
Administration*	184,514	3,059,144
Deferred in 1998		925,392
Deferred in 1997		347,194

The unspent balance of £925,392 is carried forward to 1999 and is shown as deferred income in the balance sheet, comprising £694,044 of ESF funds and £231,348 of Exchequer Funds.

* Administration expenditure for the P&R programme, which covers salaries, travel, subsistence, training, printing, postage, rent, maintenance, legal fees etc. are included in the consolidated figures set out in notes 3,4 and 5 below.

3. SALARY COSTS AND EXPENSES

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Staff salary costs*	629,969	552,961
Temporary employment agency costs	42,137	46,193
Travel and Subsistence		
- Staff	28,336	23,019
- Members and Sub-Committees	11,894	5,232
Staff Training and Other Expenses	21,590	14,523
Agency seminar	4,326	1,337
Pension Gratuity and Payments	500	498
Staff Recruitment	7,807	13,830
	<u>746,559</u>	<u>657,593</u>

* The average number of core staff employed by the Agency during 1998 was 20 (1997:20). The figures given here include the Agency's liability (£90,616) in respect of the remuneration of administrative staff members in the EU Special Support Programme for Peace & Reconciliation.

4. RENT AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION COSTS

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Rent and Rates	93,790	93,082
Postage and Telephones	62,643	61,489
Consultants to Administration	48,484	5,186
Maintenance and Insurance	43,335	43,309
Printing, Stationery and Office Supplies	33,568	39,072
Light and Heat	8,296	8,504
Records & Archive Management	9,251	
Sundry	16,193	24,831
Audit Fees	3,759	3,300
Legal/Professional Fees	908	1,740
Loss on Disposals	82	404
	<u>320,309</u>	<u>280,917</u>

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Furniture	Equipment	Total
	IR£	IR£	IR£
Cost or Valuation			
Balance at 1 January			
- at Cost	138,104	195,029	333,133
Additions at cost	5,687	34,777	40,464
Disposals at cost	(100)	(103)	(203)
Balance at 31 December	<u>143,691</u>	<u>229,703</u>	<u>373,394</u>
Accumulated Depreciation			
Balance at 1 January	40,892	118,292	159,184
Charged in the year	19,755	35,131	54,886
Disposals	(100)	(21)	(121)
Balance at 31 December	<u>60,547</u>	<u>153,402</u>	<u>213,949</u>
Net Book Value - 31/12/98	83,144	76,301	159,445
Net Book Value - 31/12/97	96,650	77,298	173,948

6. CAPITAL ACCOUNT

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Balance at 1 January	173,948	161,693
Transfer to Income and Expenditure Account		
Income applied to purchase of fixed assets	40,465	62,062
Amortised in the year in line with asset depreciation	(54,886)	(49,257)
Released on disposal of fixed assets	(82)	(550)
	<u>(14,503)</u>	<u>12,255</u>
Balance at 31 December	<u>159,445</u>	<u>173,948</u>

7. CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION**(a) Reconciliation of surplus for the year to cash from operating activities**

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Surplus for the year	344,160	108,838
Adjustment for non operating items		
Interest Receivable	(43,951)	(13,270)
Loss on Disposal	82	403
Movement on Capital a/c	(14,503)	12,255
Adjustment for non cash items		
Depreciation	54,886	49,257
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	297,745	(308,686)
Increase in Creditors	736,138	299,633
Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	<u>1,374,557</u>	<u>148,430</u>

(b) Analysis of balances of cash and cash equivalents and movements during the year

	1998	1997
	IR£	IR£
Balance at 1 January	260,353	160,568
Net cash inflow	<u>1,378,043</u>	<u>99,785</u>
Balance at 31 December	<u>1,638,396</u>	<u>260,353</u>

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31 December, 1998 nor at 31 December, 1997.

9. COMMITMENTS

- (a) There were no capital commitments at 31 December, 1998 nor at 31 December, 1997.
- (b) Funding commitments of £6,871,268 existed at 31 December, 1998 (31 December, 1997: £5,312,262) in respect of Grants to Community and Voluntary Organisations, Research Projects and measures to Promote Peace and Reconciliation.
- (c) Combat Poverty Agency has commitments up to the year 2017 in respect of the lease of office accommodation at Bridgewater Business Centre, Islandbridge. The rent on foot of this lease is £86,735 per annum, which is subject to review on a five yearly basis.

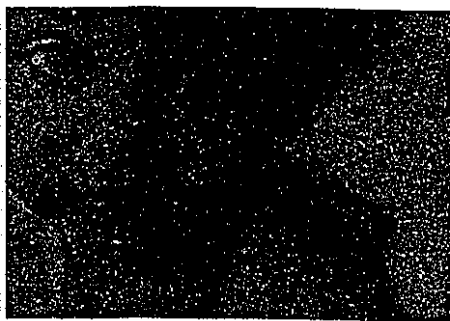
10. SUPERANNUATION

The Combat Poverty Agency main Superannuation Scheme 1997 and the Combat Poverty Agency Spouses and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme 1997 were laid before the Houses of Oireachtas on 1 August, 1997 and are now formally in place.

Deductions in respect of spouses' and children's benefits in the year have been transferred to the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

AUDIT

The financial statements for 1997 and 1998 are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General under the provisions of section 10(2) of the Combat Poverty Agency Act, 1986.



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