# CANDIDATE INFORMATION BOOKLET

## SENIOR PROGRAMME EXECUTIVE

## OUR GENERATION (NI)

CI/SPEOG/1224

## Fixed Term Contract

Completed application and monitoring form must be returned to **vacancies@cooperationireland.org** no later than 12pm on 31st January 2025.

Co-operation Ireland is an Equal Opportunities Employer.





**FOREWORD**

Thank you for your interest in the position of Senior Programme Executive Our Generation (NI) at Co-operation Ireland. The appointment of a Senior Programme Executive Our Generation will provide an exciting opportunity for a dedicated individual to join our team. Please refer to the Job Description and Personnel Specification within this booklet for more information about this role.

Included in this information booklet is further information about the vacancy and Co-operation Ireland. Included are the Job Description and Person Specification for the role. You should pay attention to the person specification to demonstrate in your application form how you meet the essential and desirable criteria for the role.

Please ensure you follow all instructions given. Please note that all applications must be made via the application form and CVs will not be considered.

If you have any further queries regarding the role, please do not hesitate to contact vacancies@cooperationireland.org.

Best wishes in your application.



Ian Jeffers

Chief Executive Officer

**INFORMATION ABOUT CO-OPERATION IRELAND**

**OUR APPROACH**

Co-operation Ireland is an all-island peace-building organisation. We work to build a shared and cohesive society by addressing legacy issues of the conflict and facilitating contact and collaboration between people from different backgrounds across these islands.

Under our current strategic plan, our programmes are primarily targeted at young people and marginalised communities which have experienced the worst impacts of the conflict.

**OUR VISION**

Co-operation Ireland works to promote and encourage interaction, dialogue and practical collaboration between the peoples of Northern Ireland and between Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland.

Co-operation Ireland's vision is of:

"A peaceful and stable island where people of all backgrounds live and work together for a better future."

**OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to sustain peace by helping to build a shared cohesive society. Co-operation Ireland does this by working in partnership with others in these islands to:

* Develop initiatives which address emerging challenges to peace;
* Facilitate understanding, positive relationships and co-operation across these islands, building a sense of interdependence;
* Create a supportive environment by building capacity, influencing policy, and Developing collaboration at a strategic level;
* Share our learning and experience of peace building and practical co­ operation internationally.

**OUR VALUES**

In carrying out its mission, Co-operation Ireland is guided by the following values:

* Respect for People and their Rights;
* Inclusion, Equality and Fairness;
* Accountability, Integrity and Transparency.

Further information can be found on our website: [www.cooperationjreland.org](http://www.cooperationjreland.org/)

**Job Description**

# Role: Reports to: Location: Salary Scale:

**Contract Period: Hours per week:**

Senior Programme Executive Our Generation

Head of Civic Society Delivery (NI)

Co-operation Ireland Office – Belfast

Point 3 - £33,000 - £41,000\*[[1]](#footnote-1)

Fixed Term Contract until 30th September 2027

35 hours per week (Co-operation Ireland is committed to providing a positive working environment, supporting employees to achieve an appropriate work life balance and operates an attractive flexible working policy).

# Job Purpose Summary

To lead a team on the design and delivery activity to promote the capacity of children and young people to form positive relationships, build capacity of key contacts and promote sharing of best practice in the programme area.

# Background

OUR Generation is a Peace Plus project focused on developing Emotional Resilience and promoting Well-Being to support cohesion on both a cross­ community and a cross-border basis. The project is delivered by a consortium, led by Action Mental Health - Co-operation Ireland is one of the consortium partners.

# Main Duties and Responsibilities

* Undertake outreach activities at a local community level to engage local groups in project activities, with a particular focus on those groups who represent those impacted by the legacy of conflict including marginalised, isolated or at-risk young people.
* Develop supportive, challenging, healthy working relationships with community organisations and their representatives to develop and design an activity and learning for young people in their community.
* Arrange and deliver workshops and/or training seminars with consortium partners to ensure the achievement of the outreach and engagement targets set by the consortium manager.
* To support a reflective process for community participants that will contribute to improvements in programme design.
* Participate in regular planned and ad hoc meetings with Co-operation Ireland management team and other consortium partners to assess and review the ongoing delivery of the project
* Lead and support a small team of 2 OUR Generation Programme Executives in NI and IRE.

# Additional Duties Delivery

* Support the establishment and maintenance of adequate monitoring/information management systems to ensure effective information gathering and record keeping.
* Gather relevant best practice data on project performance and achievement

of key targets.

* Support consortium partners in devising new outreach initiatives that successfully engage "hard to reach" young people and how they might be enhanced to reach and retain those with many complex needs and lives.
* Work with consortium partners to develop an on-line system that provides relevant information to community level organisations.
* Develop linkages with other Peace Plus funded projects, especially those supported under the "Building Positive Relations" and "Children and Young People" strands of the programme to enhance and complement delivery across the programme.

# Learning

* Develop knowledge on the issues facing young people and identification of national and international best practice in peacebuilding with young people.
* Identify, develop and disseminate effective practice models most likely to

effect changes for marginalised young people impacted by these issues.

* Promote a learning culture by identifying models of good practice currently being used and proposed by delivery agents and ensure that the learning is shared.
* To contribute to practice and policy papers which extend best practice learning to local communities.

# Administrative Activities

* Maintain a written record of all community organisations, and events/seminars.

design and development meetings with provide briefing reports on training

* In collaboration with consortium colleagues, contribute to any evaluation of the projects in terms of delivery, impact and quality of outcomes.
* Input non-financial monitoring information onto the Peace IV reporting system regarding the activities undertaken by Co-operation Ireland to fulfil its obligations under the terms of the funding award.
* Follow the PR requirements of the Peace Plus programme including the use of logos on all publicity and communication materials.
* Participate in group/team meetings providing regular updates.
* Represent Co-operation Ireland and the project in external networks and meetings.
* Any other duties appropriate to the grade and nature of the post.

# General

* Always promote the organisation positively and strive to build and maintain the excellent partnerships that have been developed by the organisation.
* Conduct yourself in a trustworthy, reasonable and responsible manner when undertaking your duties.
* Promote a positive and harmonious working environment where all are treated with respect, equality and fairness and in which no form of intimidation or harassment is tolerated.

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* Abide by all the organisation's policies and procedures and ensure that these are implemented fully within your areas of responsibility.
* Within the context of the post, ensure full compliance to health and safety and safeguarding requirements.
* Participate in staff development and training events.
* Any other duties deemed necessary within the postholder's competency to ensure the effective operation of your role within the company or a role where similar experience and/or knowledge and/or skills might be required.

This is the description of the job as it is presently constituted. It is the practice of the organisation to periodically examine staff job descriptions and to update them to ensure that they continue to relate to the job. It is the aim of the organisation to reach agreement on reasonable changes following discussion with the postholder.



A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

**Person Specification**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Educational and Professional Qualifications** | *Essential* | * Accredited facilitation qualification/skills.
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| *Desirable* | * Nationally recognized 3rd level professional qualification in community development or equivalent.
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| **Previous Experience/ Training** | *Essential* | * 2 years’ experience in a community development role.
* Experience in designing, facilitating and delivering community projects at a grassroots level.
* Must possess good literacy and numeracy skills.
* Proficient with the use of Microsoft Office packages.
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| *Desirable* | * Demonstrable experience of good report writing, including monitoring and assessment of project activity.
* Experience of inter-disciplinary and inter-agency work.
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| Other | *Essential* | * Organised, efficient and self-motivated individual with sensitivity and openness towards peacebuilding and reconciliation work.
* Able to work and communicate effectively with others of different backgrounds and abilities.
* Experience of developing and nurturing external partnerships with stakeholders.
* Willing and able to travel extensively within NI, IRE and occasionally further as required.
* Willing and able to work extended hours when required (within Co-operation Ireland's Flexible Working Policy).
* Possession of a valid driver's license and access to a car for business purposes.
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**THE SELECTION PROCESS**

**MAKING YOUR APPLICATION**

* The application form is designed to ensure that applicants provide the necessary information to determine how they meet the criteria detailed in the person specification.
* You should ensure that you provide full details of your qualifications including modules achieved and dates including start and finish date.
* You should ensure that you give evidence of your experience in your application form, giving length of experience, examples and dates as required.

e.g.1 August 2020 to 30 September 2023.

* The selection panel will not make assumptions from the title of the applicant's post or the nature of the organisation as to the qualifications, experience and skills gained.
* All applications must be made on the standard application form.
* CVs and late applications will not be accepted.
* Incomplete application forms will not be accepted.

**SHORTLISTING**

* All applications will be screened by the selection panel to determine if they meet the Essential Criteria for the position. Co-operation Ireland does however reserve the right to use the Desirable Criteria if it is necessary to introduce additional job-related criteria, depending on the number of applications received. You should therefore make it clear on your application form how you meet the Desirable as well as the Essential Criteria. Only those who have sufficiently demonstrated on their application form that they meet the eligibility criteria will progress to the next stage.

**INTERVIEWS**

* It is anticipated that interviews will take place on 10th February.
* Candidates should make themselves available for interview during the period specified above. Changes to the above interview period will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
* If you wish to withdraw your application at any stage of the process, please email vacancies@cooperationireland.org.
* The interview will include situational based and competency-based questions.
* The selection panel will design questions to test your knowledge and experience. The person specification detailed above will be used as the basis for the interview questions.

**COMMUNICATION REGARDING THIS RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

All communications in relation to this role will be issued to the email address given by you. Please ensure that you check your email account to make sure that you do not miss any communications in relation to this recruitment and selection process.

**FEEDBACK**

Co-operation Ireland is committed to providing feedback in respect to decisions taken in determining eligibility/short-listing as well as at interview. Feedback will be communicated on receipt of a written request. All requests for feedback are welcome.

**RESERVE LIST**

Should further positions in Co-operation Ireland be identified which are similar to that outlined in the role to which you have applied. A reserve list may be created of candidates who meet the required standard(s) against the interview criteria and who have acquired the necessary pass mark. Should any further vacancies arise. the highest scoring applicant on the reserve list would be allocated to the vacancy. The reserve list will be valid for one year from the final date of the interview.

**DISABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Co-operation Ireland will ask on the application form if you require any reasonable adjustments, due to disability. to enable you to attend any part of the selection process. Details of any disability are only used for this purpose and do not form any part of the selection process. If you are successful in the selection process and are being considered for appointment, you may be required to outline any adjustments you consider necessary in order to take up an appointment. If you wish to discuss your disability requirements further, please contact vacancies@cooperationireland.org.

**KEV INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS ROLE**

On successful appointment you will be eligible to receive the following:

* An opportunity to earn a gross salary: Point 3 - £33,000 - £41,000 (per annum)
* An attractive pension scheme.
* Generous holidays entitlement - Annual leave - 25 days and Customary Holidays - 10 days (pro rata for part-time or part year service). An additional day of annual leave after 5 and 10 years' service to the organisation.
* Co-operation Ireland is committed to providing a positive working environment, supporting employees to achieve an appropriate work life balance and operates an attractive Flexible Working Policy.
* Co-operation Ireland will consider hybrid working arrangements based on the needs of the organisation.
* Cycle to Work Scheme - terms and conditions apply.
* Occupational Sick Pay Scheme - terms and conditions apply.
* Life Assurance.
* Salary Protection - terms and conditions apply.
* Excellent training and development opportunities.

**PROBATION**

This position is subject to a three-month probationary period. During or at the end of that period your employment will be confirmed, terminated or your probationary period may be extended for a further three-month period.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MONITORING FORM**

Please note this form is regarded as part of your application. The information is used for monitoring purposes only. All applications for employment are considered strictly on the basis of merit.

Please complete the monitoring form and return along with your application.

**CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS 12PM ON 31st JANUARY 2025.**

Co-operation Ireland is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes all applications.

1. Although this post carries the responsibility and pay grade of grade 3, the title is reverting to senior programme executive. This is because Our Generation is a large project with 9 partners led by Action Mental Health, and the lead person’s title is project manager. Therefore use of senior programme executive will mitigate any confusion within the partnership re who is leading OG. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)