

For immediate release
MSD

MSD Makes Top Five Irish Corporate Contributors

Global healthcare company ranks first in corporate funding and fourth in total contributions

Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Business Impact Launched

Wednesday, 13 May 2015: MSD has been announced as one of Ireland's top corporate CSR contributors in the Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI) Business Impact Map. MSD is ranked as the top contributor in Ireland, based on pure corporate funding support, and fourth overall in terms of total contribution including employee fundraising, volunteerism and in-kind donations.

The global healthcare company contributed over €1.6 million to 474 Irish community groups in 2014, through a series of flagship corporate responsibility initiatives, including local Neighbour of Choice partners, fundraising days, local community investments and a wide range of patient partnership programmes. MSD employees also volunteered nearly 1,400 hours of their time throughout the year.

Commenting on the map, Brian Longstreet, Managing Director, Human Health, MSD said, *"We are delighted to feature in this year's Business Impact Map, and are proud to be one of Ireland's top corporate contributors for the second year in a row. MSD is committed to helping improve health and wellbeing in our communities where our employees live and work, and together with local partners, we are privileged to support projects that will make a real difference. The impressive inputs of our employees through volunteerism and fundraising speaks to our ongoing commitment to community partnerships."*

As a global leader in healthcare with a strong presence in Ireland, MSD employs 2,300 people across six pharmaceutical sites in Dublin, Cork, Wicklow, Tipperary and Carlow; alongside Animal Health, Human Health and Global Financial Services operations. MSD is committed to leading in the implementation of best practice by addressing critical social, environmental and economic challenges both nationally and internationally. In recent years, MSD has become a leader in corporate responsibility in Ireland through a focus on four priority areas – Access to Health; Environmental Sustainability; Employees; and Ethics & Transparency.

With a realisation of MSD's 'footprint' across communities in Ireland, MSD employees (70%) regard giving back to local communities as a top priority and are actively involved in projects and CSR communication.

The "Business Impact Map" showcases the inputs of large corporates across Ireland and demonstrates the ongoing value of corporate and community partnerships. As a key member of BITCI, MSD approaches all corporate partnerships under its strategic Be Well Corporate Responsibility programme which is aligned to the MSD ethos of "Helping the World Be Well".

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Notes to the Editor

About MSD

MSD, known as Merck in the United States and Canada, has operations in more than 140 countries. In Ireland, MSD employs over 2,000 people across its five sites in Dublin, Carlow, Cork, Tipperary and Wicklow. Its extensive Irish operations encompass manufacturing, commercial and marketing facilities.

MSD is a leader in healthcare, dedicated to helping the world be well through a wide range of innovative health solutions. This includes the development, production and distribution of prescription medicines, vaccines and biologic therapies as well as animal health products.

MSD's commitment to research and to increasing access to healthcare across the world is demonstrated by clearly focused policies, far-reaching programmes and life-enhancing partnerships.

About the Business Impact Map

Business in the Community Ireland, a network dedicated to responsible business practices, compiled the statistics and created the online map to showcase the impact business is having on communities around the country. The map can be viewed at www.bitc.ie. Companies that participated in the map include, Intel, Abbott, AIB, Bank of Ireland, BT, Bord Gáis, IBM, KPMG, ESB, Diageo Ireland and Accenture among others. The map is designed to show the impact businesses can have on societal issues such as health, education, homelessness, social inclusion, disability and addiction and it is planned to inspire the development of further community and business partnerships.

About Business in the Community Ireland

Business in the Community Ireland is a unique movement of companies across Ireland committed to responsible business practices. Their purpose is to inspire, engage, support and challenge companies to continually improve the impact they have on society, specifically in the community, environment, marketplace and workplace. <http://www.bitc.ie>