



# Introduction to Wicklow's Community Climate Action Programme (Strand 1 and Strand 1a)

Wicklow County Council CCAO  
Julie Sammiller

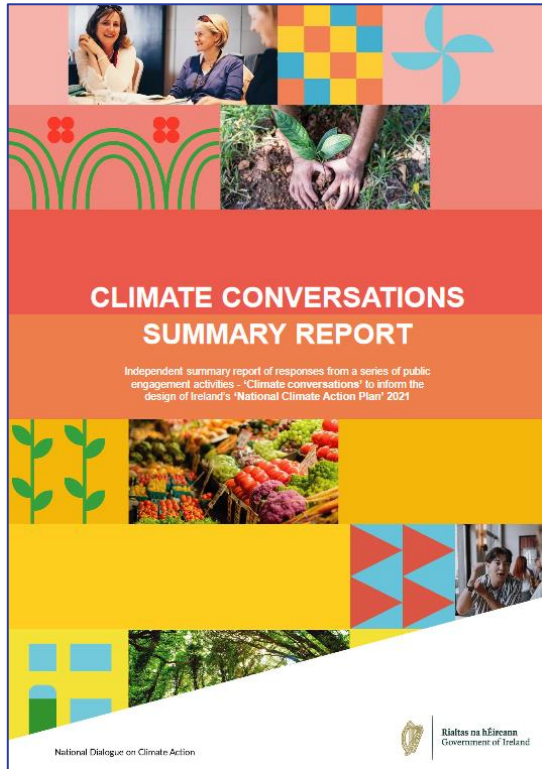
2023-2024



Rialtas  
na hÉireann  
Government  
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

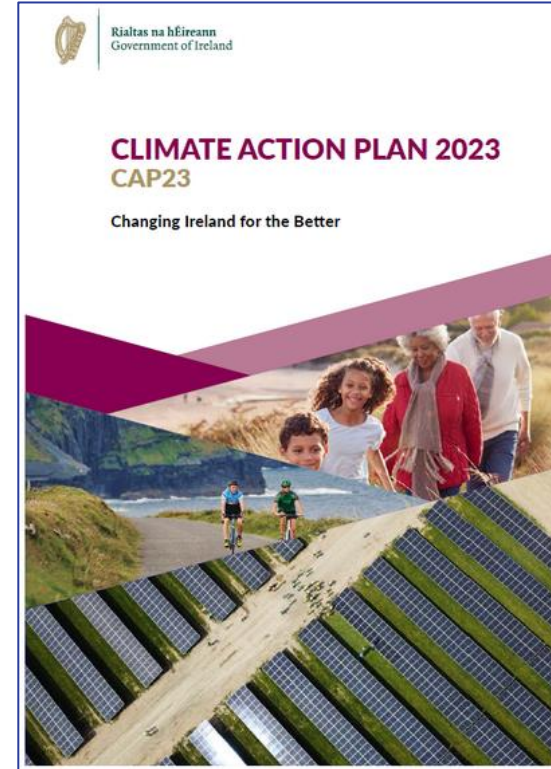
# Background:



## Climate Conversations

Government engagement with citizens

- citizens want to take climate action
- citizens need **support** to take action



## Climate Action Plan 2023

- roadmap for action
- climate solutions at the centre of development

# Community Climate Action Programme - CCAP

- new programme to support and empower communities / groups to take climate action at a local level
- Wicklow County Council will award grants from a funding pot of €646,000 to community-based organisations to step up local climate action
- overall objective of programme - **to shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities to contribute to national climate and energy targets**

Strand 1 - €24M divided between local authorities

Strand 1a - €3M cross-border and all-island initiatives



# Eligibility

## community groups / organisations must be:

- not-for-profit
  - located in operational area of county council
  - registered with PPN
- or**
- connected with collectives such as The Wheel/Tidy Towns  
**and /or**  
a community group - Articles of Association or a  
Constitution - hold an AGM, approved minutes available



## NOT eligible :

- private individuals
- commercial undertakings (including sole traders)
- schools (possibly further clarification)
- *national* community or environmental organisations

# What funding is available?

- the Community Climate Action Programme grants can fund up to 100% of all eligible costs

- groups can apply for different size projects

- small (10% of fund)
- medium (40% of fund)
- large (50% of fund)

<b>Project Scale</b>	<b>Project Value</b>
<b>Small Scale Projects</b>	<b>Up to €20,000</b>
<b>Medium Scale Projects</b>	<b>€20,000 to €50,000</b>
<b>Large Scale Projects</b>	<b>€50,000 to €100,000</b>

- projects must be completed within 18 months

# What projects are eligible?

**Projects must deliver a direct positive impact on climate change by:**

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- increasing production or use of renewable energy
- improving energy efficiency and/or increasing climate resilience helping communities adapt to the consequences of climate change
- identifying nature-based projects that enhance biodiversity and seek to reduce, or increase the removal of, greenhouse gas emissions or support climate resilience
- assisting regions/communities within Wicklow and sectors of the economy impacted by the transition to a low carbon economy
- involving potentially innovative solutions to address the above asks

# How are projects evaluated?

Evaluation criteria:

## Strand 1

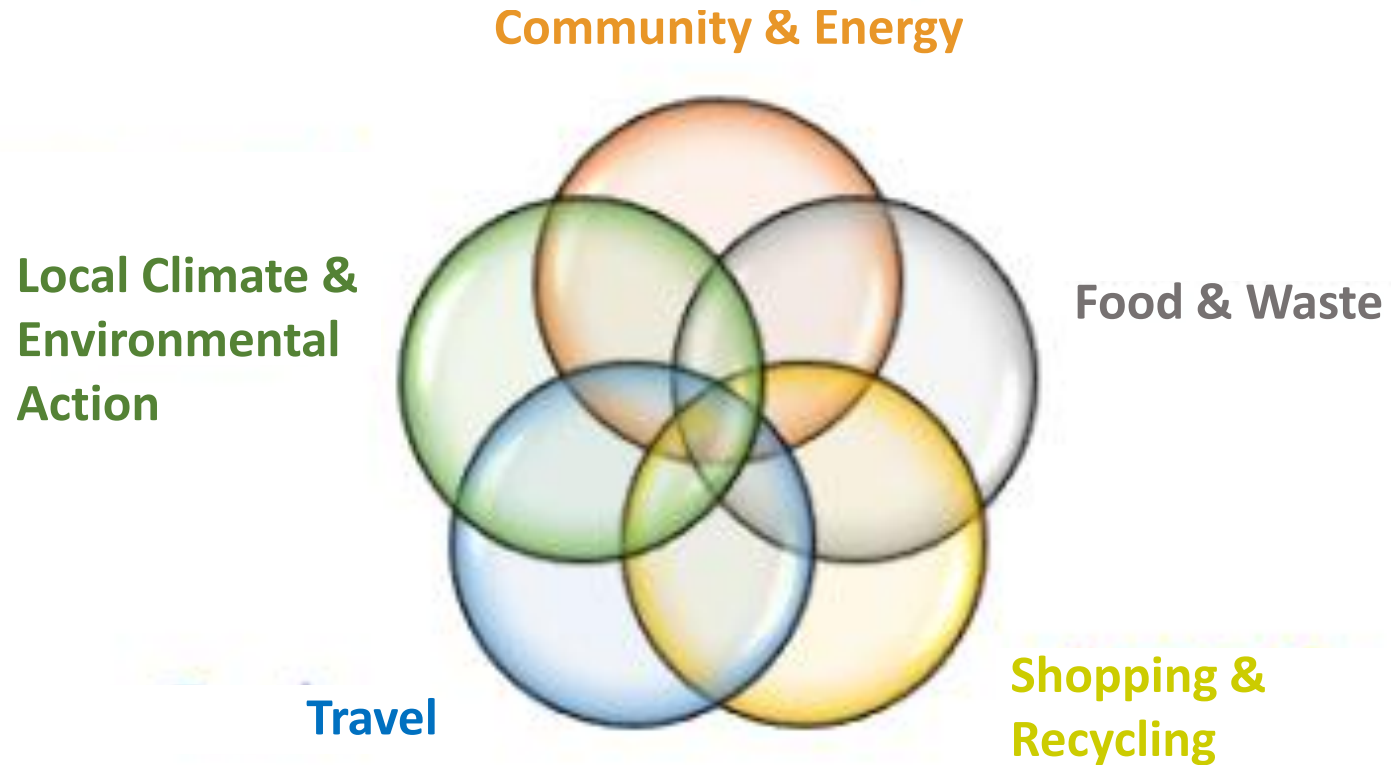
- Relevant & Impact (30%)
- Innovation & Scalability (20%)
- Value for Money (20%)
- Achievability (10%)
- Partnership Approach (10%)
- Governance Arrangements (10%)

## Strand 1A

- Shared Island Relevant & Impact (30%)
- Innovation & Scalability (20%)
- Value for Money (20%)
- Achievability (10%)
- Cross-border Partnership Approach (10%)
- Governance Arrangements (10%)

- WCC will select suitable projects for consideration by the Minister (DECC)
- shortlist of projects submitted to Minister (DECC)
- minister (DECC) has final approval of submissions
- WCC will issue letter of offer to successful applicants
- if a lower award is allocated, applicant may submit a revised Programme of Works
- WCC reserves right to withdraw from a project if all requirements are not met

# Projects under both strands will address 5 Themes





# Community & Energy → reduce the climate impact of buildings by using less energy, utilising renewable energy and avoiding heat loss

- LED community lighting
- small community renewable energy
- solar, hydro, wind
- retro-fitting community buildings



# Travel → projects which reduce travel related emissions

- cycle parking
- improving cycle way access
- community electric bikes
- bike repair stations / hubs





# Food and Waste → projects which reduce food waste

- community composting facilities
- community gardens  
(local food production)
- community supported farming  
(local business food pledges)
- community fridges  
(reduce GHG and re-distribute food)



# Shopping and Recycling

→ increase variety and number of recycling facilities and reducing, reusing and recycling initiatives

- community repair hubs
- swap shops
- water re-fill stations
- eliminate single use plastics by local businesses
- toy / instrument / equipment / fashion reuse and upcycling centres
- paint recycling





# Local Climate and Environmental Action



holistic approach to managing the local environment and taking climate action

- mini forests
- dispersed orchards
- community gardens
- roof gardens
- pollinator projects
- climate resilience projects





# How will groups / communities apply?

Attend an in-person / online event about the Fund or receive information via email / phone.  
Discuss project ideas within Community Group

Contact the Community Climate Action Officer & discuss the project

Complete & submit  
Expression of Interest (Application) Form

- Expression of Interests (applications) are not yet being accepted, but this is the time to get together and decide on your projects
- All details will be added to the Wicklow County Council website once the fund is live
- Groups can contact the Wicklow County Council Community Climate Action Officer with any questions regarding project ideas, see contact details below:

[ccap@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:ccap@wicklowcoco.ie)

or

[jsammiller@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:jsammiller@wicklowcoco.ie)



Rialtas  
na hÉireann  
Government  
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

