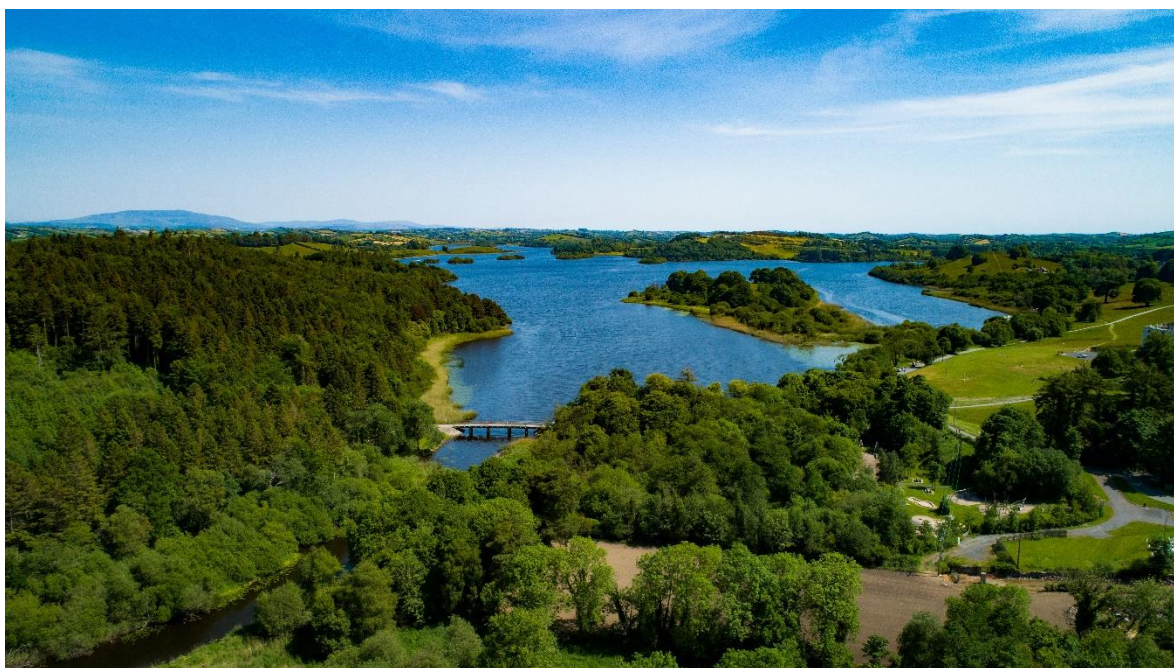


Community Climate Action Programme



The Community Climate Action Programme aims to support Monaghan community groups, large and small, rural, and urban, to build low carbon communities.

Themes

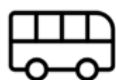
There are five programme themes under the Community Climate Action Programme which projects should be based on.

The themes are:

- Theme 1: Energy
- Theme 2: Travel
- Theme 3: Food & waste
- Theme 4: Shopping & recycling
- Theme 5: Local climate and environmental action



Energy



Travel



Shopping/Recycling



Food Waste



Climate Action

There are many opportunities to create projects which include multiple themes and communities should try to incorporate as many themes as possible.

This document contains a selection of case studies for each theme. These are only examples, and communities are encouraged to be as innovative as possible with their projects, harnessing their local interests and assets.

For queries, please contact: climateaction@monaghancoco.ie



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Theme 1: Energy



Projects of interest under this theme would reduce the climate impact of buildings in communities by using less energy, utilising renewable energy and avoiding heat loss.

SOS Kilkenny – Building and lighting upgrades.

Background: SOS Kilkenny, a not-for-profit organisation who provide services to adults with intellectual disabilities made energy upgrades to their six-building complex in Kilkenny.

Project: In 2016, the organisation replaced their old storage heating system in four of their buildings with a district heating system. In 2018, the internal and external lighting was replaced with LED lighting and the remaining two care buildings were switched from oil heating to gas heating. Roof and wall insulation works carried out also.

Impact: The upgrades reduced heating and lighting costs by an average of €9,000 per year. Besides the reduction in energy use and costs, the upgrades improved working and living conditions for all.

Learn more:

<https://southeastenergy.ie/sectors/community-groups/sos-kilkenny-heating-and-lighting-upgrade-sos-kilkenny/>

Cappoquin Community Centre – Building upgrades.

Background: Cappoquin Community Centre is a multi-purpose community centre located in Waterford managed and operated by Cappoquin Community Development.

Project: Wanting to reduce their carbon footprint and energy costs they carried out an energy audit of the building and applied for a grant for works to upgrade lighting, wall and floor cavity insulation and install solar PV panels.

Impact: Annual savings of 32,782kWh and €4,821. The Community were happy that they were able to manage rising energy costs while also making improvements to the environment of their community building, making it a healthier and more pleasant place to be.

Learn more:

<https://southeastenergy.ie/sectors/community-groups/cappoquin-community-centre/>

Fair Play Café – LED lighting and Solar PV

Background: The Fair Play Café is a community centre in Ringsend, Dublin. After completing an Energy Master Plan through SEAI's Sustainable Energy Communities scheme, they decided on a roadmap for their energy efficiency projects.

Project: A range of projects were carried out to improve the energy efficiency of the café and to show to their wider community how energy projects could be successfully implemented. Lighting was replaced with energy efficient LEDs; a 3 kW Solar PV was installed; and advanced heating controls and a new insulated door were installed.

Impact: The LED lighting saved 21% of total electricity consumption in the café. The solar panels contribute to 16% of their total energy consumption. The controls and door significantly contributed to the reduction of heat loss and created a more comfortable space. The café saved €1,300 per year on energy costs.

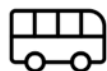
Learn more: <https://www.seai.ie/case-studies/the-fair-play-cafe/>



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Theme 2: Travel



Projects of interest under this theme would contribute to a reduction in travel related emissions.

Collinstown – Bike Hub

Background: South Dublin County Sports Partnership (SDCSP) with support from other groups established the Bike Hub on the grounds of Collinstown Park Community College, Clondalkin.

Project: The Bike Hub is a co-shared amenity with bikes, other equipment, and repair facilities. Other initiatives include Learn to Cycle programmes for young people 5-13 years of age, teenager BMX/Trail programmes, primary school cycle safety training, adults' community bike rides and more.

Impact: This initiative supports active travel, the circular economy and social inclusion.

Learn more:

<https://www.cyclingireland.ie/clubs/cycling-hubs/>

Callan Community Energy – Community owned solar powered EV charging point

Background: Callan Community Energy is a sustainable energy community in Kilkenny.

Project: In 2021, the energy community installed a solar powered 22 kW EV charging station in the Callan Supervalu carpark to support its residents' transition to electric vehicles.

Impact: It is the first community-owned EV charge point in Ireland and supports the national charging infrastructure. The electricity sales will be paid directly to Callan Community Energy.

Learn more:

<https://southeastenergy.ie/irelands-first-community-owned-ev-charging-point-callan-community-energy-company/>

Moray Carshare: Community owned car & bike hire

Background: Moray Carshare is a community-based car club in Scotland that is owned by its members.

Project: The community share 14 cars, 10 electric bicycles, a trailer and a camper van kit. The cars and bikes are placed at different locations around Morayshire in the north-east of Scotland. They have 300 members who use the community transport.

Impact: Encourages the use of electric and active transport, car sharing and social inclusion. Members note the initiative reduces the need to have second cars.

Learn more: <https://moraycarshare.org.uk/about-us/>



Other examples: E cargo bikes in Fingal: <https://council.ie/mountview-gets-moving-with-ecargo-rental-from-fingal-county-council-and-bleeper/>



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Theme 3: Food & Waste

Projects of interest under this theme would reduce food waste.

Cork Urban Soil Project – Community Composting

Background: Cork Urban Soil Project (CUSP) is about community-scale composting. They compost food waste and use the compost right in the middle of the city.

Project: CUSP use a small composting machine (a Joraform aerobic biodigester) and team with MyGoodness, a community food company who produce large amounts of food scraps and compostable packaging. At the end of every week, CUSP brings all MyGoodness's food waste and packaging to the biodigester where it is shredded and broken-down producing compost in four weeks. After an additional "curing" period the compost is used in the CUSP microfarm.

Impact: CUSP have diverted 10,200kg of food waste and 8,000kg of cardboard and produced 6,000 litres of compost while changing the way society views waste.

Learn more:

<https://www.urbansoilproject.com/impact>

Top of the City – Community Garden

Background: Transformation of derelict space at St Carthage's Avenue, Waterford City into a community allotment and garden.

Project: In 2020 the community garden was developed in collaborative effort of volunteers, Waterford City and County Council and local businesses. Works included, establishing raised beds for growing vegetables; ornamental sections with biodiversity and pollinator friendly plants; ivy wall; rainwater collection systems; a community seed bank; a wooden greenhouse; and a sheltered stage designed for workshops and summer events.

Impact: Increase in people's knowledge and access to fresh produce, green spaces reduce air pollution, access to composting facilities, encouragement of healthier lifestyles and building stronger communities. An abandoned site was recovered for use and there was also a reduction in anti-social behaviour in that area.

Learn more:

<https://waterfordcouncilnews.com/2021/10/12/top-of-the-city-community-garden-a-success/>

Creggan Country Park - Community Fridge

Background: Creggan Country Park in Derry is a not-for-profit organisation providing a variety of outdoor pursuits, education facilities and green and blue spaces.

Project: Creggan Country Park setup a Community Fridge in 2022 to redistribute surplus food to local people. There are storage, fridge, and freezer facilities. No registration is required, and food is collected and redistributed on the same day. Visitors can go for a walk in the local surroundings, bring along a reusable bag and just take what they want from the fridge and shelves during its opening hours.

Impact: This Community Fridge has distributed over 1-tonne of surplus food to local families and in doing so has resulted in a 4-tonne reduction in carbon dioxide emissions. Community fridges help tackle climate change at a local level as food waste can produce large amounts of greenhouse gases. The facility also encourages knowledge sharing, community building and social inclusion.

Learn more: <https://www.facebook.com/creggan.countrypark.18/>

Other examples: <https://carrickmacross.ie/community/carrick-community-allotments-ltd/#>



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Theme 4: Shopping & Recycling



Projects of interest under this theme would promote the reduction, reuse and repair of materials, and increase the number of recycling facilities.

Sew Last Season – Social Sewing Space

Background: Sew Last Season was set up by Helen Garvey, a Fashion and Textile Designer. The Galway city initiative is used for upcycling and embellishment of preloved clothes.

Project: Sew Last Season is a public sewing room located in Ozanam House, St Augustine Street, which was set up to teach people how to sew, mend and upcycle. They are supported by St Vincent de Paul who provides the workspace and materials.

Impact: Reduces fast fashion, textile waste and promotes the circular economy, giving people the skills to prolong the life of their clothes.

Learn more: <http://www.sewlastseason.com/>

Carrickmacross Toy Library - Community resource sharing

Background: The not-for-profit initiative in Monaghan aims to address the environmental challenge around children's toys through a sustainable toy lending service.

Project: The Toy Library promotes play for children aged 0-6 by enabling families to borrow, not buy quality, sustainably sourced toys. Users can borrow up to four toys, puzzles or games for up to three weeks at a time. Parents pay a small membership fee that goes towards repairing or replacing broken toys.

Impact: This project encourages resource sharing, reduces waste, and promotes the circular economy. 80% of children's toys end up in landfill or in the sea after being used for an average of six months. Toys are difficult to recycle as they can contain materials that cannot be easily separated.

Learn more:

<https://carrickmacrostoylibrary.lend-engine.com/>



Not available € 0.00 for 21 days

Betsy the Cow Animal Hopper



Available € 0.00 for 21 days

Bounce and Spin Zebra



Available € 0.00 for 21 days

Kurve Wooden Balance Bike



On loan € 0.00 for 21 days

Light n' Sound Minnie



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Theme 5: Local climate and environmental action

Projects of interest under this theme would take a holistic approach to positively managing the local environment, including in relation to climate action.

Monaghan Tidy Towns - Dispersed Urban Orchard (DUO)

Background: Monaghan Tidy Towns has been working on the biodiversity of their area since 2010 with works including a habitat survey; maintaining a 4 KM wildlife corridor along the Ulster Canal Greenway; identification of key habitat spaces for bees; planting pollinator attractive plants etc.

Project: Their 2014-15 DUO project created routes for bees between their key habitat spaces and Greenway. The routes were mainly made up of residential housing, so they provided fruit trees for the local residences along these routes to plant in their gardens, thereby creating routes for pollinators to travel. Uptake was hugely popular among the community.

Impact: In 2016 Monaghan Tidy Towns won the Local Authority Pollinator Award. Their overall work has increased biodiversity, made public and private land more pollinator friendly, encouraged community engagement in the local environment and reconnection with nature.

Learn more: <https://pollinators.ie/monaghans-dispersed-urban-orchard-for-pollinators/>

Ripple Project in Ballina - Creation of green spaces and water resilience

Background: Greenhills Estate in Ballina, Mayo took part in the Ripple project. The aim of the project was to understand, map and record the local community's experience, perspectives, and knowledge about their neighbourhood's green spaces, in relation to water and climate change.

Project: Following a series of workshops, residents shared their insights, aspirations and hopes for their neighbourhood. They designed a number of projects to improve the movement of water, biodiversity, and amenity value of parts of the estate. They ultimately selected to create a garden in a neglected part of the estate in 2023. The garden includes raised vegetable beds, a mini orchard of heritage apple trees, seating, native pollinator plants, and a tree nursery. Water will be gathered and directed into a rain garden.

Impact: The garden will be a positive space for wildlife and the residents. The collection of water will slow the flow of heavy rain and allow rain tolerant planting to absorb some of the water.

Learn more: https://twitter.com/ripple_ballina?lang=en



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