

ORS

seai SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY AUTHORITY
OF IRELAND



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26th Aug 2021

**Society of Chartered
Surveyors Ireland**



Webinar Agenda

- Introductions – SEC Mentor & Overview
- ‘Learn’ Stage actions
- ‘Plan’ Stage actions
- SECs – Potential Actions & Next Steps
- Supports & Resources / Training

30^{YRS} | ORS

- CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- INFRASTRUCTURE
- HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT
- BUILDING SURVEYING
- ASSIGNED CERTIFIER
- FIRE SAFETY
- ENVIRONMENTAL
- ENERGY SERVICES

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Energy Services

- Public Sector Energy Support
- SEC Energy Master Plans
- SEC's (Mentoring)
- Grant Evaluation & Inspection
- Renewable Energy Projects
- Energy Audits
- SI 426 Compliance
- ISO 50001 Energy Management System
- TGD L/NZEB Design & Certification
- Energy Project Management



ORS are Mentors for Midlands Region

- Midlands Regional Coordinator: Isabella Donnelly
- Co. Offaly: 11 SEC's; Mentor - Laurence O'Reilly
- Co. Laois: 27 SEC's; Mentor – Mark Robertson
- Co. Longford: 8 SEC's; Mentor – Hugh Baxter
- Co. Westmeath: 13 SEC's; Mentor - Isabella Donnelly



- ORS Senior Energy Consultant & Team Lead
- l.oreilly@ors.ie

SEAI – Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

SEAI

Ireland's national sustainable energy authority.

We work with householders, businesses, **communities** and government to create a cleaner energy future

5 Year Strategy (2017 -2021) - Ireland's energy will be sustainable, secure, affordable and clean



1. **Use Less** – reduce energy consumption, increase energy efficiency

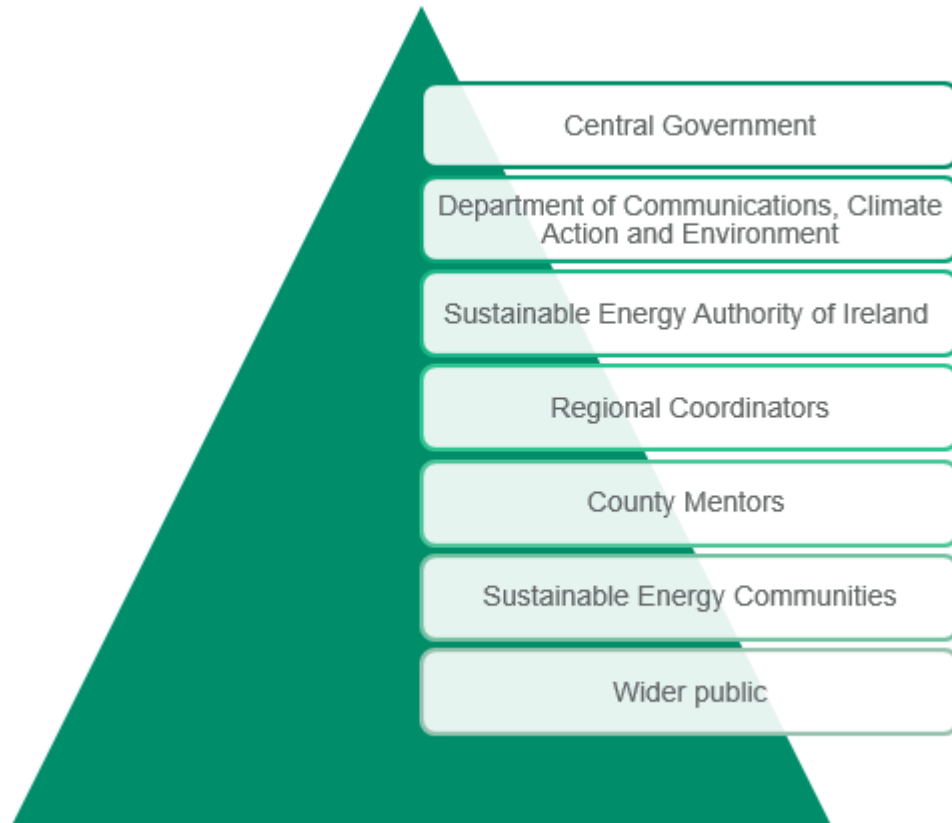


2. **Use Clean** – utilise natural resources, renewable sources, reduce reliance of fossil fuels



3. **Innovate** – new approaches

SEAI & SEC Community Network



SEAI is a public agency implementing sustainable energy policy on behalf of the government.

Sustainable Energy Communities – a government funded support programme for communities who want to become more sustainable in their energy use



WHY ARE COMMUNITIES IMPORTANT IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION?



Why are communities important in the energy transition?



The energy transition and climate action is more than just a technological revolution - it's also a **social** one.



Communities have a huge social influence - GAA, Tidy Towns, technology opposition groups – they can be **enablers** or change, or indeed obstacles to change



Community groups are at the heart of cultural nuance - they are aware of the **local and historical sensitivities**



Community groups have a relationship of **trust and communication** in their wider communities, people who might otherwise never engage in the energy transition.



Communities contain a **wide variety of energy users**, with different needs, different levels of understanding, different abilities to change.



Communities are multi-generational – older generations want to leave a **better legacy** for the younger ones.

What is a Sustainable Energy Community

A Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) is a group of people in which everyone works together to develop a sustainable energy system for the benefit of the community. This is achieved by:

Aiming, as far as possible, to be energy efficient

Using renewable energy where feasible

Adopting smart energy solutions

Benefits of joining the Sustainable Energy Community network?

Renovations in your community

Save money on energy bills

Score better in the Tidy Towns competition

Climate Action

Healthier buildings for vulnerable people e.g. creches, nursing homes, assisted living facilities

Support duty of care e.g. Housing associations

Better behavioural change in the community

Support other projects or networks you're involved in e.g. Eco-congregations

Brings the community together

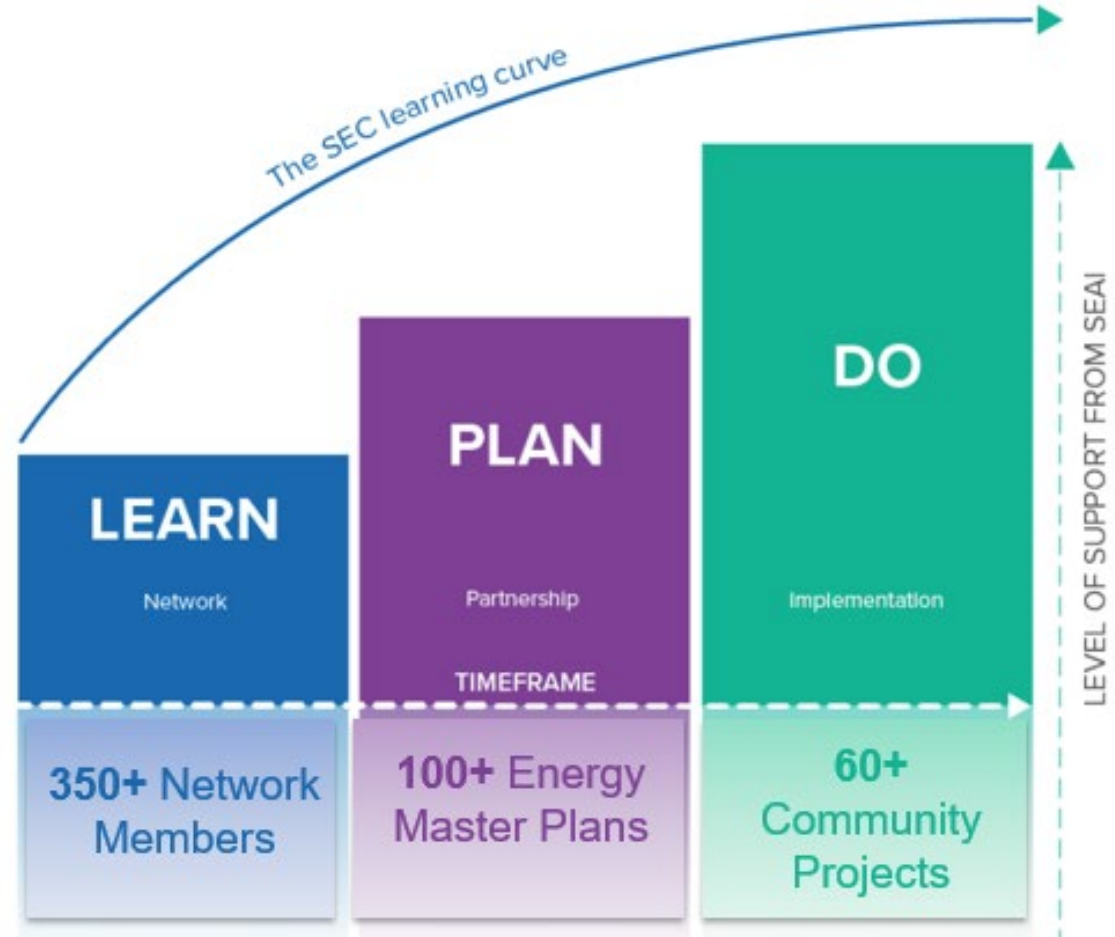
Heard about positive experience of other SEC's

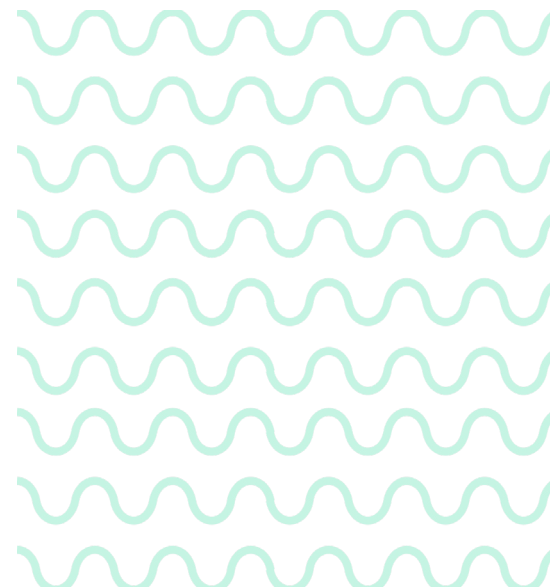
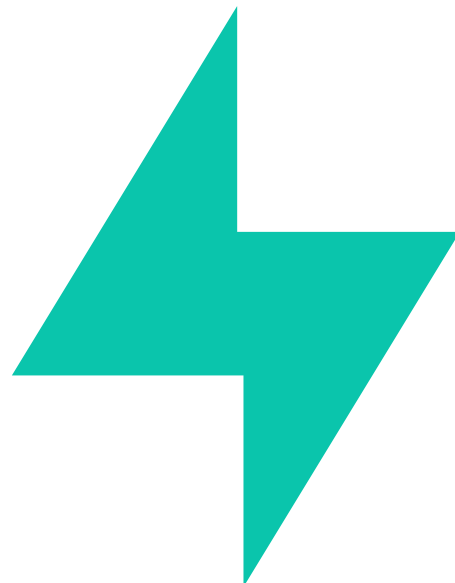
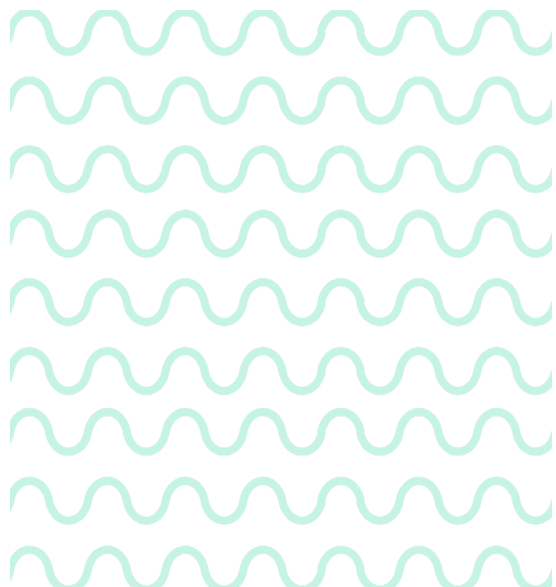
Have specific projects under consideration

Many others....

SEC Learning Curve

Learn – Plan - Do

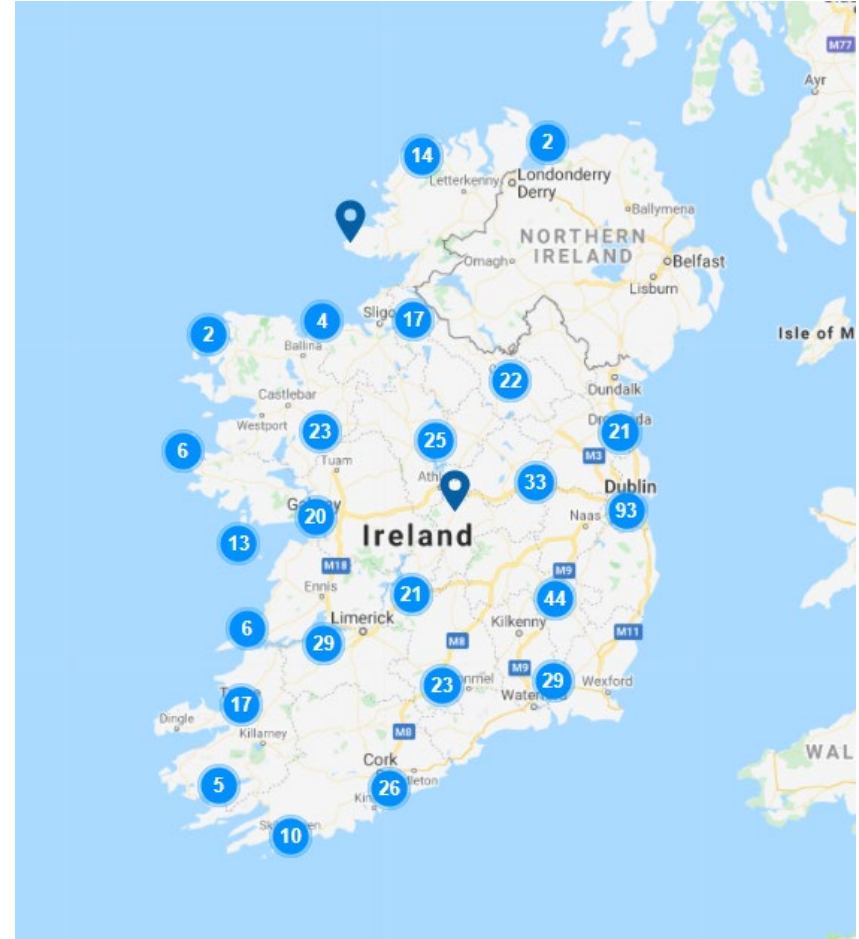




‘LEARN’ Stage - Actions


Benefits of the LEARN Step – Joining the Network

- Mentoring
- Learning supports
- Get in touch with other communities who have common interests
- Learn from communities who have conducted local energy projects
- Start thinking about energy use in your own community in an informed way
- Learn from energy experts
- Attend regional and national events
- Learn about behavioural changes that can save energy in the community





'Learn' Stage actions



Build your
SEC Team

- How many people?
- Representation from different sectors, e.g. local business, sports clubs, schools etc.
- Beware of volunteer fatigue – try to get new members from time to time
- Give everyone a role – even a small task
- What skills does the team have/need?



‘Learn’ Stage actions



Build your
knowledge

- Split research tasks to build knowledge:
 - Grant schemes
 - Finance (e.g. Credit Union, ‘Green’ mortgages)
 - Electric Vehicles
 - Local stakeholder mapping – No. homes, No. of businesses
- Share knowledge internally
 - Team briefings
 - Online share platforms e.g. Google Drive
- Complete your *Community Charter*
- SEAI Academy Training

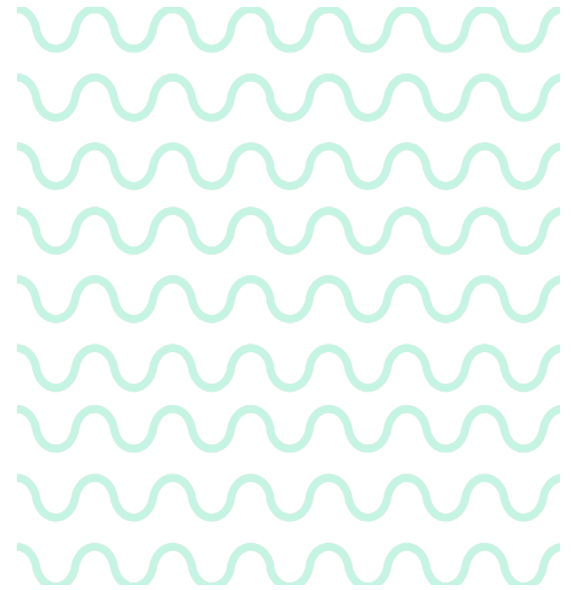
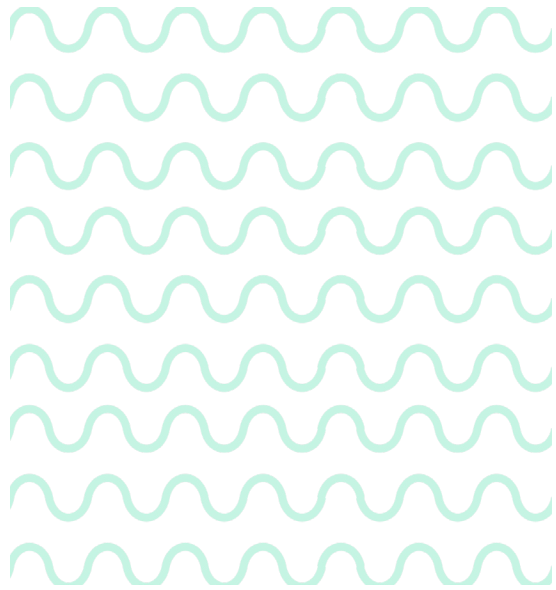


‘Learn’ Stage actions



Engage
your
community

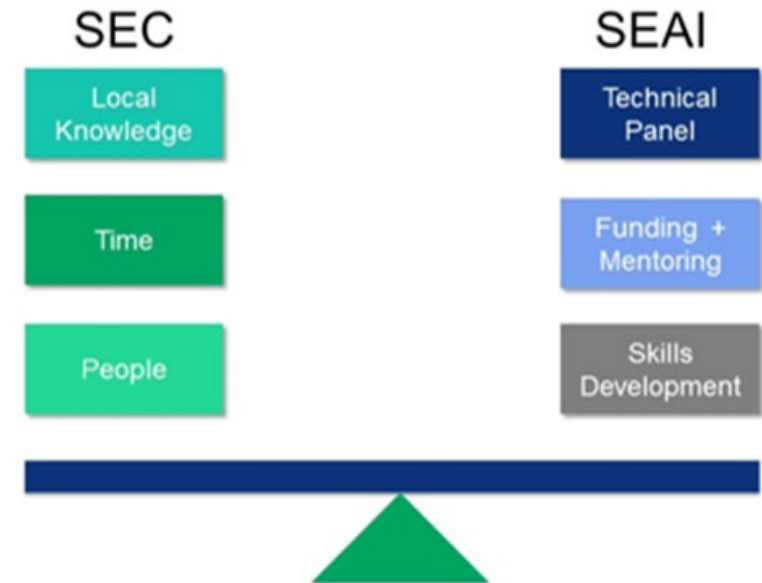
- Raise awareness
 - Flyers
 - Events
 - Surveys
- Look for local support
 - Fund raising events
 - Local sponsors
- Contact other SECs to share knowledge



‘PLAN’ Stage - Actions

Benefits of the Plan step - Energy Master Plan

- Receive further mentoring support
- **Community Charter** – vision statement for local energy goals
- **Competency Assessment** – see where the strengths and weaknesses are
- **Energy Master Plan** funding – dedicated funding for the community to develop an energy plan for the community
- Learn what exactly your community needs to do to become more sustainable in its energy use and develop a register of opportunities.
- See what projects will save the most energy at least cost, and go from there



Community Charter & Competency Assessment

Community Charter

The Bally Town Co-operative

Our Vision...
Is to build a resilient, energy efficient community and a thriving local economy where everyone works together to create a more sustainable energy system.

We will do this by...
Improving the energy performance of our buildings, increasing our use of renewable energy, promoting better energy choices and sustainable transport.

We will work together...
With all of our community representatives, energy users and the SEC Network to help maximise impact, share resources and knowledge. We will work to ensure Bally Town becomes widely recognised as being a leader in reducing carbon emissions in a rural town setting.

We commit to...

- Collaborate to improve our energy efficiency by a minimum of 3% on average every year, for at least the next three years.
- Achieve 5% of our energy supply from renewable sources by 2020.
- Maintain records of energy use in our target buildings and homes to track and report annually on our progress.
- Collaborate with the SEC Network and SEAI to provide feedback, share knowledge and contribute to the national movement for Sustainable Energy Communities.
- Ensure there is a long-term strategy for Bally Town to promote a roadmap of integrated initiatives and continuous improvement.

We the undersigned are fully supportive of the vision, aims and commitments outlined above. We sign this Community Charter on behalf of:

Bally Town Co-operative **11th September 2016**

Signature: _____

Position / Title: _____

Signature: _____

Position / Title: _____

Bally Town Logo

} Vision Statement

} Elaborated Vision/ Goals

} Guiding Principles

} Commitments

Competency Assessment

Category	Score (0-10)
Integrated Planning	7
Partnerships & Engagement	9
Strategic Financing	8
Energy Efficiency	6
Sustainable Transport	5
Renewable Energy	4
Smart Energy	3

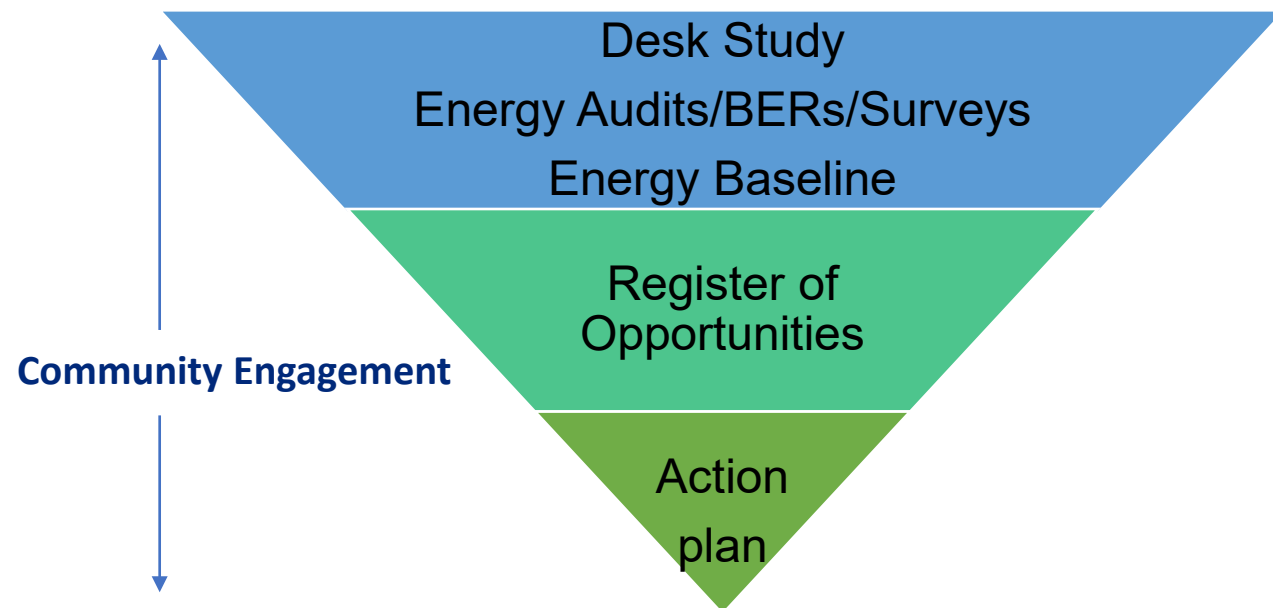
Indicator	Y / N	Guiding Questions
Project Roadmap		Have you created a Year 1 workplan outlining goals, priorities and key actions? Have you developed a three-year project roadmap?
Coordination with Policy		Have you been in contact with local, regional, or national authorities and institutions? Have you ensured your efforts are coordinated and strategically fit with spatial planning and policy?
Stakeholder Strategy		Are you engaging in ongoing stakeholder mapping - to identify potential partners, supporters and challengers? Have you developed a strategy to connect and align with key stakeholders?
Synergy		Are you planning to integrate projects across different areas (e.g. Energy Efficiency and Transport)? Have you already begun to do this?
Data Collection + Analysis		Have you developed an integrated system of data collection across all elements of the initiative? Have you established a methodology to ensure an annual review of progress towards goals?

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Energy Master Plan

Upon completion of an Energy Master Plan, a community should have:

- a good understanding of how energy is used locally,
- be able to prioritise opportunities,
- have at least a medium-term action plan outlining the practical actions in order to avail of these opportunities.



Energy Master Plan – Funding Levels

SEC LEVEL	SCALE	SPEND	FUNDING
Level 1	Street/ Village	Up to €2,000,000	€10,000
Level 2	Town / Island	Up to €20,000,000	€15,000
Level 3	County / Regional	Up to €50,000,000	€20,000
Level 4	National / Other	Over €50,000,000	€25,000

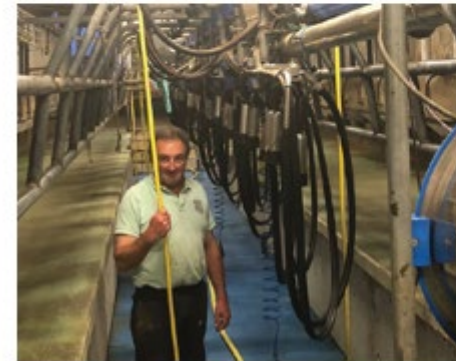
Sample Opportunities & Actions

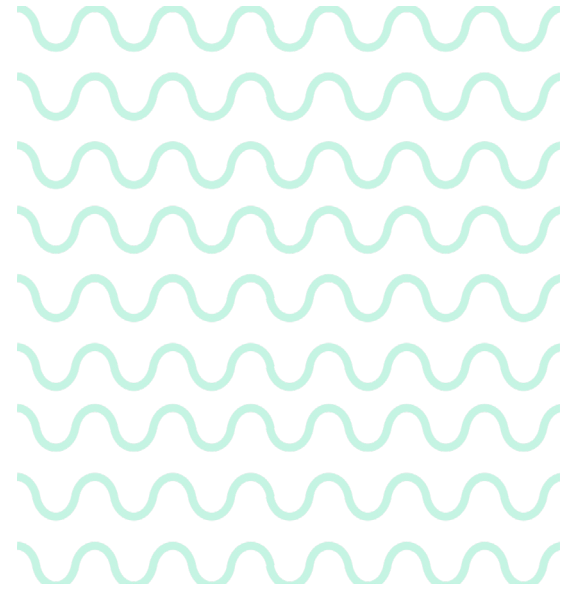
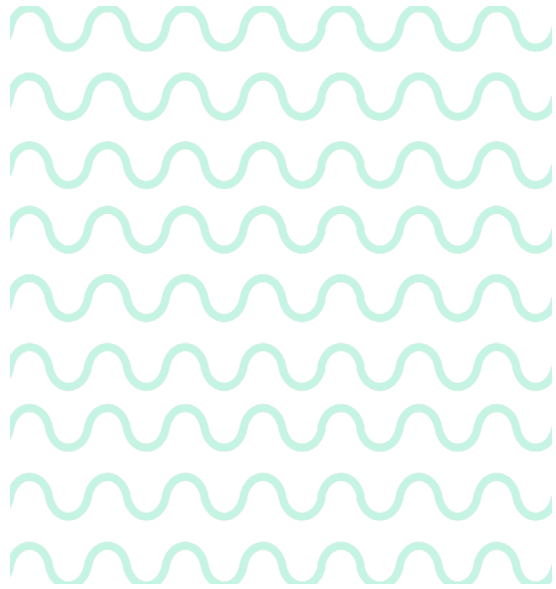
- Energy efficiency measures – behavioural changes
- Energy Awareness & Training
- Lighting Upgrades
- Fabric Upgrades;
 - Internal & external insulation,
 - Windows & doors replacement
- Systems Upgrades
 - Efficient boilers
 - Building management systems (BMS); Heating Controls
- Renewable Electricity Generation – Solar PV / Microgeneration
- Renewable Heat Generation – Solar Thermal / Biomass / Biogas



Benefits of the Do step – Community Energy Projects

- **Health** – such as a switch from diesel to electric vehicles reducing local emissions of particulates in car exhaust emissions and improving air quality. Warmer homes and buildings can also aid the health of vulnerable people in the community.
- **Environmental** – moving away from a fossil fuel dependent local energy system is important for the environment, and helps the community become more climate change resilient for current and future generations.
- **Economic** – developing employment opportunities associated with energy supply or enhanced efficiency. Energy efficient buildings are also cheaper to run. [?]
- **Social** – warmer, more comfortable buildings are more likely to be used by the community. [?]
- **Strategic** – you can position your community to avail of opportunities in current and future energy policy, local area plans and future development on a national or regional scale.





SEC's - Potential Actions & Next Steps

Potential Actions & Next Steps

1. Register as a Sustainable Energy Community



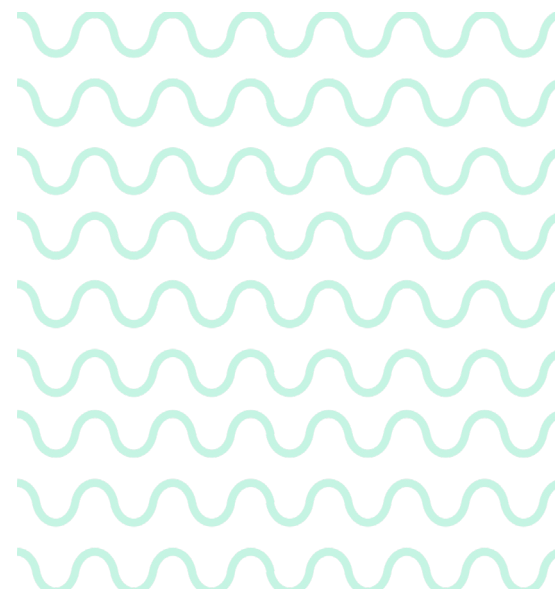
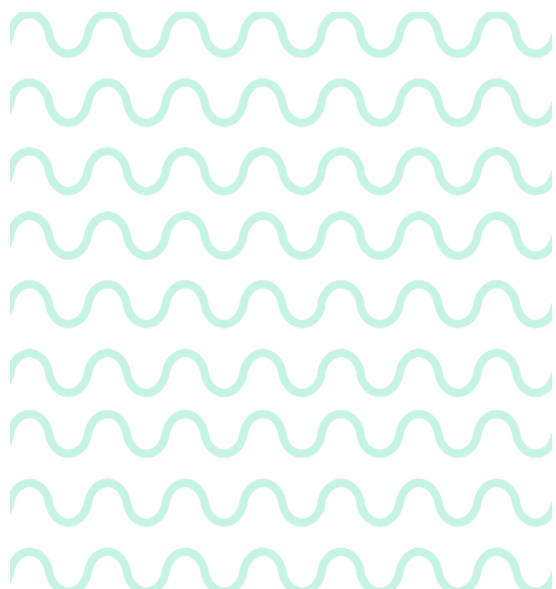
SEC
Registration

2. Have you got your team together?

3. Have you identified stakeholders?

4. Have you held local events or surveys?

5. Community Charter
Competency Assessment
EMP Application



Supports & Resources / Training

Residential

Insulation Grant

A home can lose over 30% of its heat through poorly insulated walls. Grants include cavity, internal and external wall insulation, along with attic insulation grants.

[Find out more >](#)



Solar Water Heating Grant

Solar thermal systems are designed to meet 50-60% of your overall hot water requirement over the year, thereby saving you money on your annual hot water heating bills.

Heat Pump System Grant

An attractive alternative to fossil fuel heating systems, transforming home comfort levels, offering lower costs and reduced carbon emissions.

[Find out more >](#)



Solar Electricity Grant

We are delighted to offer homeowners a grant of up to €3,800 to support the installation of solar panels for electricity generation and battery energy storage systems.

Heating Controls Grant

Reduce your energy usage by up to 20% and save costs with home heating controls.

[Find out more >](#)



How to apply

Once you have looked at our range of grants, you may wish to talk to a good building contractor, architect, BER Assessor or energy advisor. See everything you need to do to apply.

Communities Grant

- Supports innovative delivery approach at community level
- Competitive evaluation process – think diversity!
- Balancing domestic, commercial, not for profit projects
- Energy efficiency, renewable measures & project costs
- Varying funding levels
- Further information at: <https://www.seai.ie/grants/community-grants/>



€25.3m

Total government grant funding
offered in 2019

57

Total number of projects supported
in 2019

34,676

Tonnes of CO2 reduced annually

Business Grants/Supports

- Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH)
- Triple E-Register
- Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme
- Excellence in Energy Efficiency Design (EXEED)

About the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat

The primary objective of the support scheme for renewable heat is to increase the level of renewable energy in the heat sector. This will contribute to meeting Ireland's 2020 renewable energy targets whilst also reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The government funded scheme will support the adoption of renewable heating systems by **commercial, industrial, agricultural, district heating, public sector and other non-domestic heat users** not covered by the emissions trading system.

BENEFITS OF SELECTING A TRIPLE E PRODUCT

Reduced energy costs

Investing in energy efficient equipment will help you reduce your energy costs over the lifetime of the product. Savings usually far outweigh the capital costs of purchasing the equipment.

Confidence

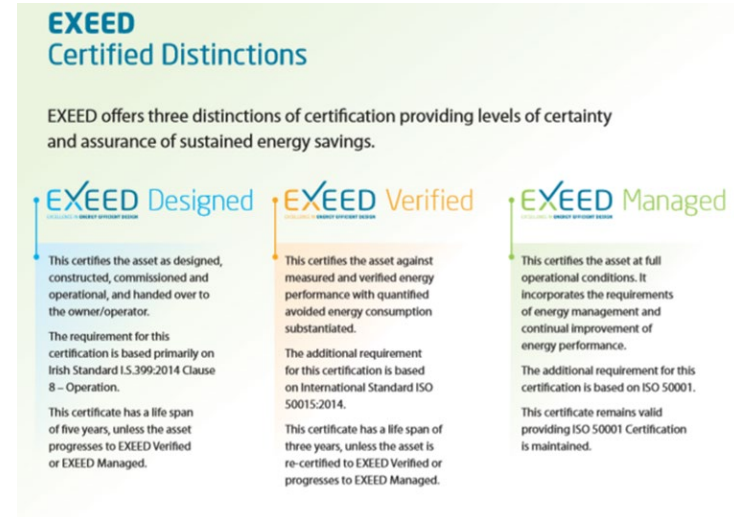
You can be confident that equipment has met a minimum recognised testing standard.

Best in class products

Triple E Register generally lists equipment that performs within the top 15% of similar products in terms of energy efficiency.

Reduced carbon emissions

Triple E listed equipment lowers your carbon footprint through reduced energy consumption.



Eligible measures include:

Lighting Decommissioning, maintenance, retrofit and controls.	Ventilation and air conditioning Free cooling, maintenance, optimisation of operation and general energy management.	Transport Eco-driving, fleet and energy management.
Heating Servicing, set point regulation, control and fabric upgrade.	Motors, drives and pumps Replacement, VSDs and control.	Combined heat and power To meet 'own use' heat and electricity demand.
Refrigeration Temperature control, pipe insulation, relocation and replacement.	Compressed air Leak repair, optimisation, redesign and replacement.	Industry processes Steam trap inspections, facility programmes and BMS.

SEC Resources & Training

SEC Website



| Step 1 - Learn



| Step 2 - Plan




| Step 3 - Do



SEC Handbook

SEAI Energy Academy











Behavioural Change
★★★★★ · Length 20 Mins · R

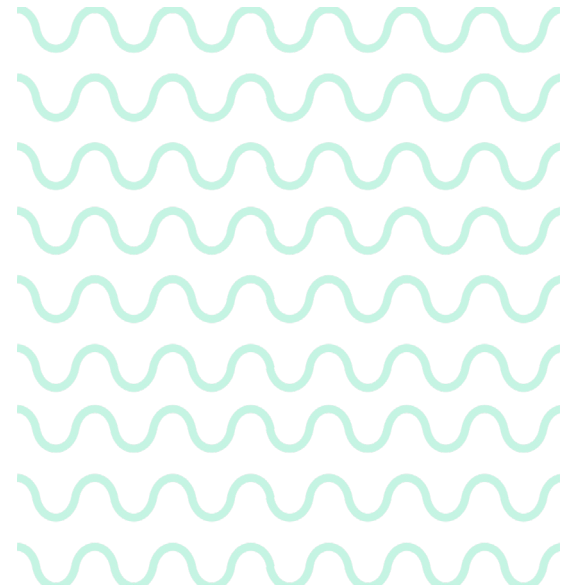
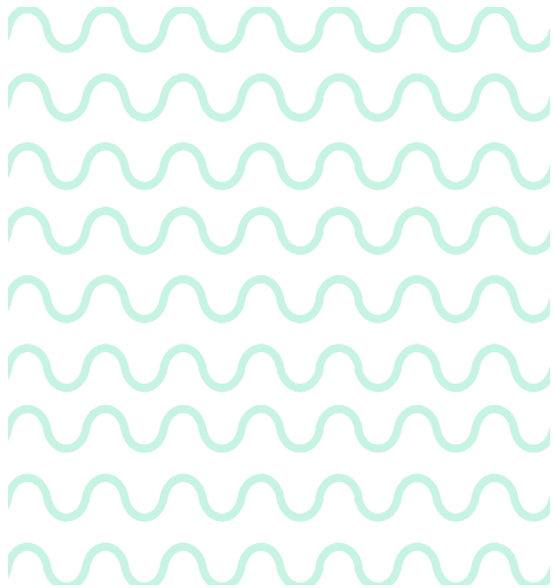
This module gives you an introduction to how you can change their habits around energy

1 Module

SEC Webinars

 22:03	Sustainable Energy Communities: Sustainable Transport Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
 43:02	Sustainable Energy Communities: Strategic Financing Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
 35:07	Sustainable Energy Communities: Smart Energy Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
 1:16:12	Sustainable Energy Communities: Renewable Heat Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
 43:19	Sustainable Energy Communities: Renewable Electricity Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
 42:36	Sustainable Energy Communities: Media Training Webinar Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

	Electricity Bill Analysis ★★★★★ · Released 22 Apr 2020 This module will help you save costs and reduce your carbon footprint
1 Module	
	Energy and Climate Change ★★★★★ · Length 20 Mins · Released 22 Apr 2020 This module gives an overview of what you can do to reduce your carbon footprint
1 Module	



Q & A