

GREEN ECONOMY

GOAL: TO DEVELOP DONEGAL AS A LEAD REGION FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY

TOSAÍOCHTA: LE DÚN NA NGALL A FHORBAIRT MAR PHRÍOMHRÉIGIÚN DON GHEILLEAGAR GLAS

Key Activities / Tosaíochta	Progress Update to CDB at March 2011
1. To promote Donegal as a lead region for the Green Economy	<p>CDB Training and Education Consortium established and meeting regularly, stakeholders in process of developing an Action Plan</p> <p>CDB Inter Agency Energy Group established, research ongoing on public sector fuel usage and models of good practice in public sector use of wind resources and other renewables, projects being developed through the structure include RASLRES, SEI Renewable Energy Community Programme and CO2Free</p> <p>CDB Green Economy Forum established, ongoing information dissemination meetings</p> <p>Investment in Renewables Training Centre in LYIT</p> <p>Application for Regional Renewable Energy Network (REN-NET) currently undergoing SEUPB Economic Evaluation.</p>
2. Retraining of construction workers in green economy / enterprise areas	<p>FETAC and City and Guilds programmes relating to wind turbine maintenance established (lead FÁS)</p> <p>LYIT HETAC Level 7 Wind Turbine Maintenance programme initiated, Oct 2009 (16 participants)</p> <p>BZEE Training Programme to be initiated at LYIT</p> <p>Training programmes planned by Teagasc for woodland owners to enable entry into wood energy market</p>
3. To undertake bio-diversity initiatives in the county	<p>CDB Green Economy Forum to liaise with Heritage Forum to assist implementing Biodiversity elements of Donegal Heritage Plan</p> <p>15% of Coillte estates devoted to biodiversity</p> <p>Teagasc host two biodiversity events annually</p>

<p>4. To undertake an anti-litter awareness/action programme in the county</p> <p>5.</p>	<p>DCC WEES provide a core function in relation to anti litter awareness and action, additional services provided in conjunction and state agencies and the community sector</p>
<p>6. To promote and facilitate recycling initiatives</p>	<p>Six Civic Amenity Sites and local recycling facilities currently provided by Donegal County Council</p>
<p>7. To develop a Bio-mass supply chain in the county</p>	<p>County Donegal is currently seen as the model of good practice in terms of development of the local wood energy market, through the work carried out by the Forest Link project and the Donegal Woodland Owners Group.</p> <p>Donegal Woodland Owners Group have recently completed an inventory of the timber that is coming to the market based on the members forest holdings. The report has identified 5000 tonnes that can be extracted for processing.</p> <p>The application on behalf of the CDB to be a pilot area under the RASLRES programme has been accepted, engineering assessments have been carried out on buildings owned by public sector agencies to assess suitability for conversion to wood energy systems, the members of the CDB Inter Agency Energy Group are meeting to discuss potential conversion projects as a multi agency cluster</p> <p>The WDC RASLRES project is the design and piloting of market stimulation models in the partner regions to stimulate renewable energy (RE) deployment in rural areas. RASLRES will focus on wood energy, energy crop and marine biomass technologies, and will incorporate measurement tools for rural Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. The project will design best practice models for stimulating growth of regional RE markets across the NPP area. These models will then be applied through a series of pilot projects in the partner regions using different technologies and fuels. A network for transnational exchange of knowledge, policy initiatives, technology and methodologies will be developed, which can be used across the entire Northern Periphery Area.</p> <p>The CDB Inter Agency Energy Group are currently examining two proposed models of development for wood energy in the county, a wood chip ESCo for the major energy users (hospitals, LYIT, FAS, Leisure Centres) and a log gasifier ESCo for medium energy users (DCC and VEC)</p>

<p>8. To undertake research into wave / tidal power in the county</p> <p>9.</p>	<p>The RESOURCE project, partnered by Donegal County Council, Moyle District Council and the Scottish Highlands Council aims to examine wave, tidal and wind energy as a renewable resource in Rathlin Island the small Scottish Islands and the Donegal coastline. Outputs in Donegal will revolve around an examination of wave and tidal energies as well as an audit of the grid infrastructure.</p>
<p>10. Undertake an audit of renewable technologies and projects / proposals underway in the county</p>	<p>The CDB Green Economy Forum aim to update a previous audit to capture the renewable energy proposals and projects in the County</p>
<p>11. To establish a Renewable Energy Resource Centre in County Donegal</p>	<p>The CDB Green Economy Forum aim to examine models of good practice with the aim of developing a Renewable Energy Resource Centre in the County.</p>
<p>12. To promote Green Transport Initiatives</p>	<p>Car Share pilot project initiated (lead Donegal County Council and Letterkenny Town Council)</p> <p>A number of pilot bio-fuel projects undertaken in the County</p>
<p>13. To promote an integrated wind power sector in County Donegal</p>	<p>CDB Training and Education consortium initiated</p>
<p>14. To develop education programmes for Green enterprise</p>	<p>CDB Training and Education consortium initiated</p>
<p>15. Undertake actions to promote and facilitate energy efficiency in the county</p>	<p>DCC Energy Efficiency Programme initiated</p>
<p>16. Undertake comprehensive retro-fit programmes of housing in County Donegal for energy efficiency and conservation</p>	
<p>17. Investigate the potential of the utilisation of a wind/hydro model of renewable electricity generation</p>	<p>A number of micro wind and mini hydro projects being assessed for their feasibility</p>
<p>18. Research and promote the use of renewables in Donegal enterprises</p>	<p>Renewables usage initiated in tourism sector</p>
<p>19. To explore and to develop mechanisms for community involvement and stakeholding in renewable energy projects</p>	<p>Community Workshop held (Údarás na Gaeltachta and DCC)</p>

20. Explore development of bio-fuel potential in the county	Non Food Fuel Crops project implemented (DCC
21. Other	Agriculture Focus Group established to assess potential land use projects and initiatives for promotion