26th August 2019

Community Futures Goes Green

Programme Proposal

Oifig Réigiúnach um
Ghníomhú ar son na hAeráide
Rialtas Áitiúil
Cósta Atlantach Thuaidh

Climate Action
Regional Offices
Local Government
Atlantic Seaboard North

CARO

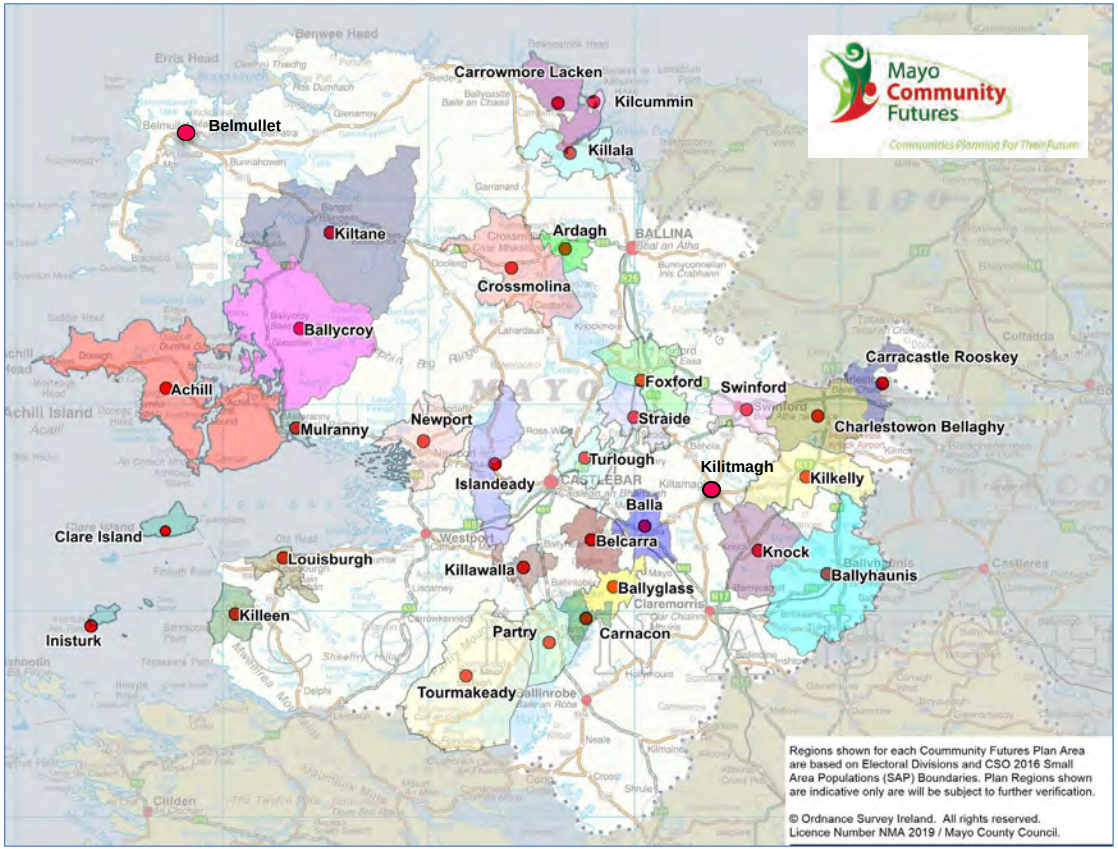
Part 1

Existing Community Futures Groups

Mayo Community Futures

Mayo Community Futures
Communities Planning For Their Future

Currently **33** communities have engaged with the programme and developed a Local Community Action Plan



County Mayo	
Population	Housing Stock
130,507	65,921

CSO Census 2016

Community Futures (Ex)	
Population	Housing Stock
40,987	22,574
31%	34%

CSO Census 2016

Mayo Community Futures

Of the **33** existing Community Future areas, **9** are already engaged with Sustainable Energy Communities programme through SEAI

1. **Achill Community Future Group**
2. Burrishoole Community Partnership (Newport)
3. Cliara Development Company DAC
4. Erris SEC (Kiltane)
5. Killawalla Community Council
6. **Louisburgh Community Futures Group**
7. Mulranny Green Plan Group
8. Rundale Ox-Moy Group (Swinford)
9. Forbatha Thuar Mich Edaigh Teo

seai SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AUTHORITY OF IRELAND
Sustainable Energy Communities Programme

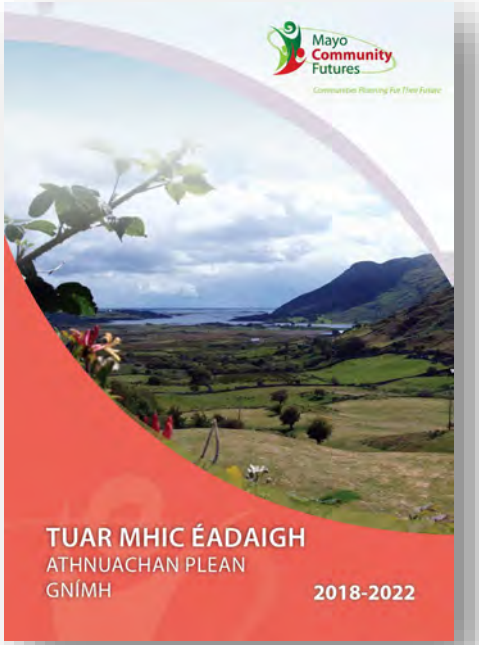
Mayo Community Futures

Climate Change Actions in Existing Community Plans

- None of the Plans mention Climate Change specifically
- None of the Community Profiles look at local vulnerabilities to the impacts of Climate Change
- Some existing Plans have developed actions around
  - Renewable energy – particularly those in the SEC Programme
  - Public Transport and connecting or developing Greenways
  - Enhancing Biodiversity

Mayo Community Futures

Example: Tourmakeady Community Action Plan (SEC)



Renewable and Sustainable Energy

- Continue with the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland (SEAI) 'Better Energy Communities Scheme' and related initiatives
- Install P.V. (solar) panels for community buildings
- Continue the development and implementation the SEC Energy Master Plan
- Explore electric car charging point provision in the village and encourage sustainable transport initiatives
- Explore Hydropower Plant possibilities
- Investigate community recycling initiatives

Actions Delivered on the Ground

- Completed 3 rounds of the BEC scheme - **63 houses retrofitted.**
- Feasibility Study and Public Information evening for 4 possible **Micro Hydroelectric Projects** in the local Area.
- Live **Public Display Panel** in local Community Centre to showcase progress, projects underway and awareness raising
- **Energy Master Plan** project underway

Part 2

Proposal for Community Futures Goes Green

Mayo Community Futures Goes Green

What do we want to achieve?

Community Futures is a forward looking process shaped by a long-term vision for and by the community. It therefore needs to factor in things like climate change

Objective of Community Futures Goes Green

Retaining the bottom-up approach with local priorities being viewed through the prism of climate action to create a vision of a climate adapted and carbon neutral community.

Mayo Community Futures Goes Green

What do we want to achieve?

Raise Awareness
Drivers of Climate Change, Risks, Impacts, Actions, Case Studies, Supports, Funding etc.

Climate Adaptation
Bottom up approach to assessing vulnerabilities to climate change

Climate Mitigation
Communities working to reduce GHG Emissions
Encourage formation of Sustainable Energy Communities

Mayo Community Futures Goes Green

What do we need to do?

Engage with the existing CF Groups to guide them through amending their existing Community Action Plans

Revise the programme to ensure new Communities take account of climate risks, actions and opportunities

Develop a Guide & Toolkit for Communities to assess vulnerabilities, opportunities, actions and supports.

Engaging with Existing Community Futures

Outline Proposal

Existing Groups invited to attend Training Workshops in October / November 2019

Manual & Toolkit to be developed in parallel with the Training Workshops and published (December 2019)

Select 5 Community Future Climate Champions for other communities and work with them to amend their plans (Jan-Jun 2020)

Engaging with Existing Community Futures

1. Autumn Climate Change Training Workshops

Climate Action Awareness & Training programme already designed and tendered

Working Group that developed the Programme

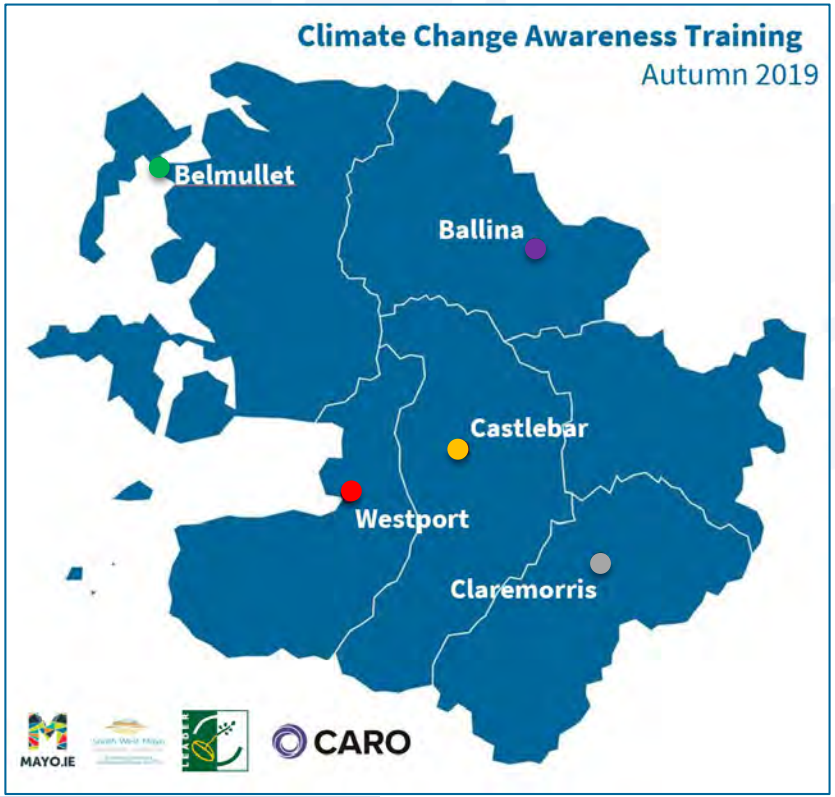
- South West Mayo DC
- Mayo County Council
- CARO

Funded through LEADER – approx. €35,000

Expected timeline: 8 weeks starting in October 2019

1. Autumn Climate Change Training Workshops

- Understanding Climate Change in Our Community
- Understanding Climate Change through Biodiversity, Water Quality and Green Solutions
- Understanding Climate Change and Coastal Impacts
- Understanding Climate Change and Community Energy
- Understanding Climate Change and Household Energy
- Climate Change and Transport
- Understanding how Personal Consumption affects Climate Change



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2. Manual & Toolkit

Learning about Climate Change	• Drivers of Climate Change • Observed & Projected Climate Change for Ireland • How will climate change affect communities
Climate Adaptation	• Step by Step Guide to assessing local vulnerabilities to Climate Change • Case Studies of community adaptation examples
Climate Mitigation	• Step by Step Guide and examples for communities to reduce GHG emissions • Case Studies of community action examples
Funding & Supports	• Contact details for supporting Agencies (MCC, SEAI etc.) • Summary details on Climate Action Funding

The Toolkit will also include presentation, worksheets and potentially links to videos so it will require an online platform (Phase 2)

2. Manual & Toolkit

Manual will be developed by Mayo County Council & CARO with input from the following;

- Training Workshops – Workshop presentations and direct feedback from attendees.
- Community Futures Steering Group.
- External Agencies (Climate Ireland, National Dialogue, SEAI etc.)

The intention would be to launch the Manual/Toolkit at the final Workshop in December 2019

3. Community Futures Climate Champions

Following the Autumn Training Workshops **Expressions of Interest** will be invited from 5 Communities to become exemplar sites for Community Future Goes Green and assist neighbour communities

Selection criteria to be agreed but categories could include

- Coastal / Island Community
- Existing SEC Community
- Non SEC Community
- Community who's Action Plan is due for renewal in 2020/2021

3. Community Future Climate Champions

What do these Champion Communities get?

- 6 month mentoring programme taking the community through the Climate Change Manual and support in amending their Community Action Plan.

- Selected as a site for Climate Change Wall-Art Project being progressed through LEADER as a visual demonstration of their work and amended Action Plan

3. Community Futures Climate Champions

6 Month Mentoring

- Step 1. Desktop review of existing Community Profile & Action Plan
- Step 2. Workshop with Steering Group to assess vulnerabilities, opportunities and potential actions
- Step 3. Steering Group to conduct Stakeholder Interviews to ensure a mix of organisations and perspectives
- Step 4. Community vulnerabilities, opportunities and potential actions and climate pledges developed
- Step 5. Community Voting Day (similar to existing Community Futures Programme)
- Step 6. Compile, Analysis and Amend the Community Action Plan

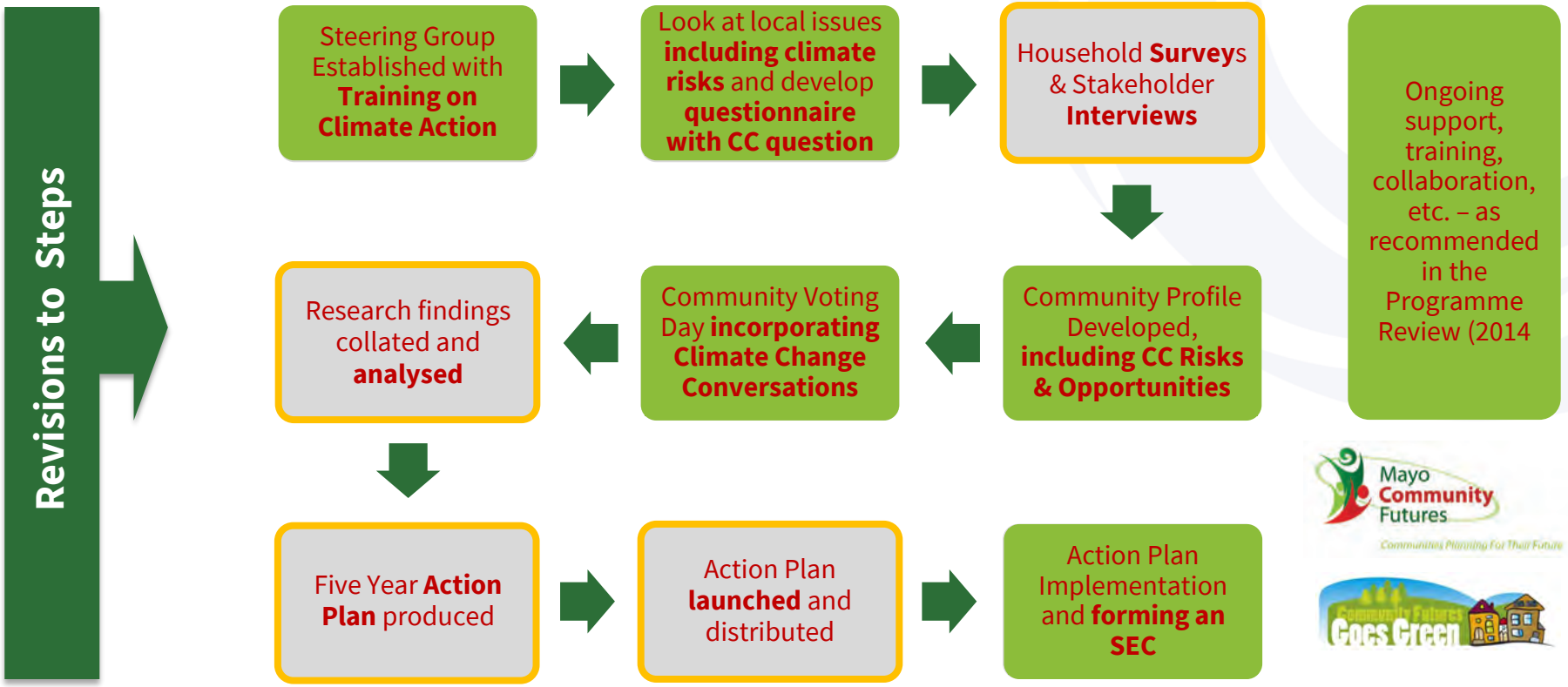
A resource will be required (5 – 10 days per Community minimum)

Potential LEADER project as a follow on from the Training Programme (75% - 100%)

Part 3

Community Futures Going Forward

Mayo Community Futures Goes Green



Part 4

Resources Required

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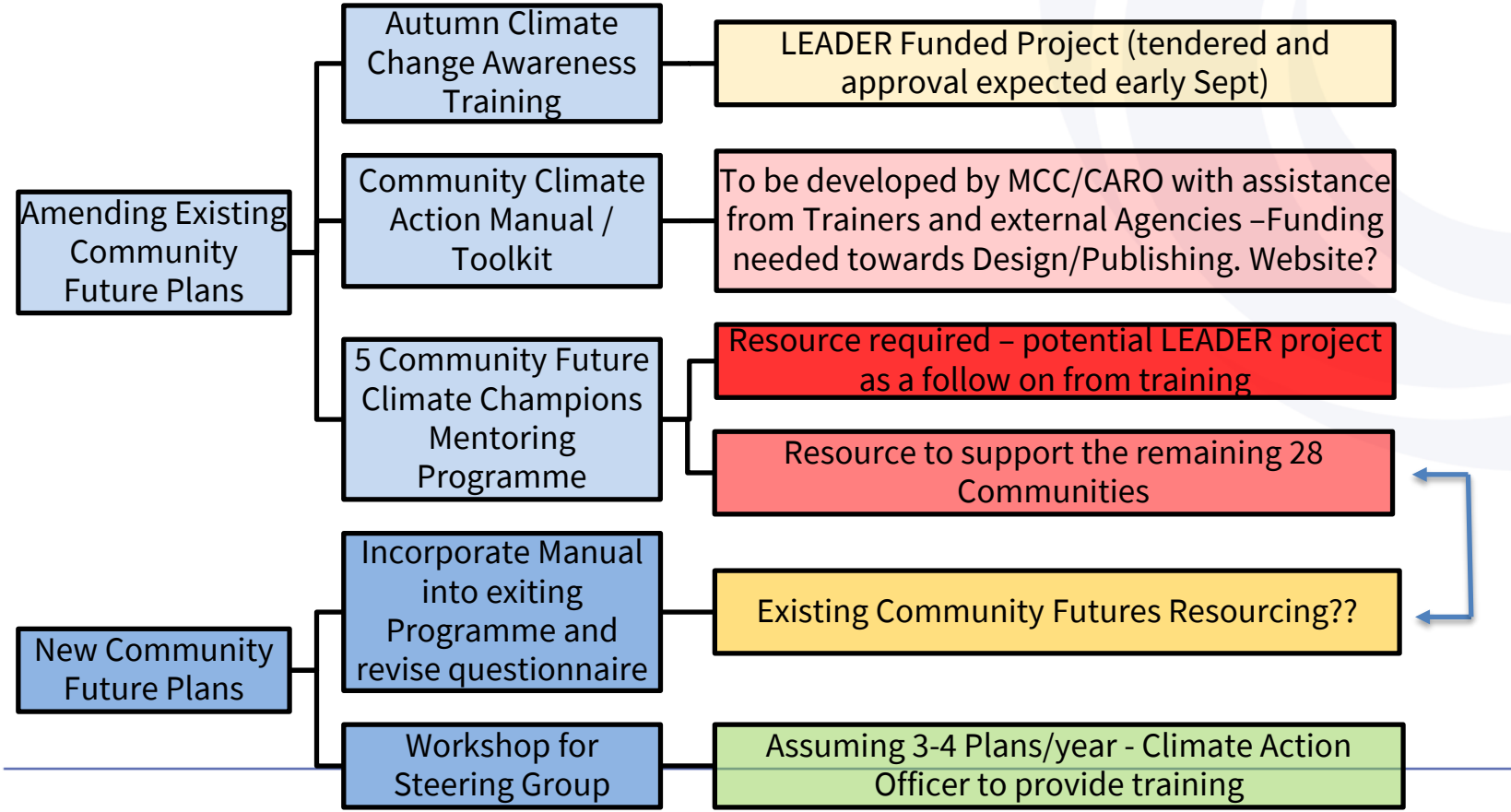
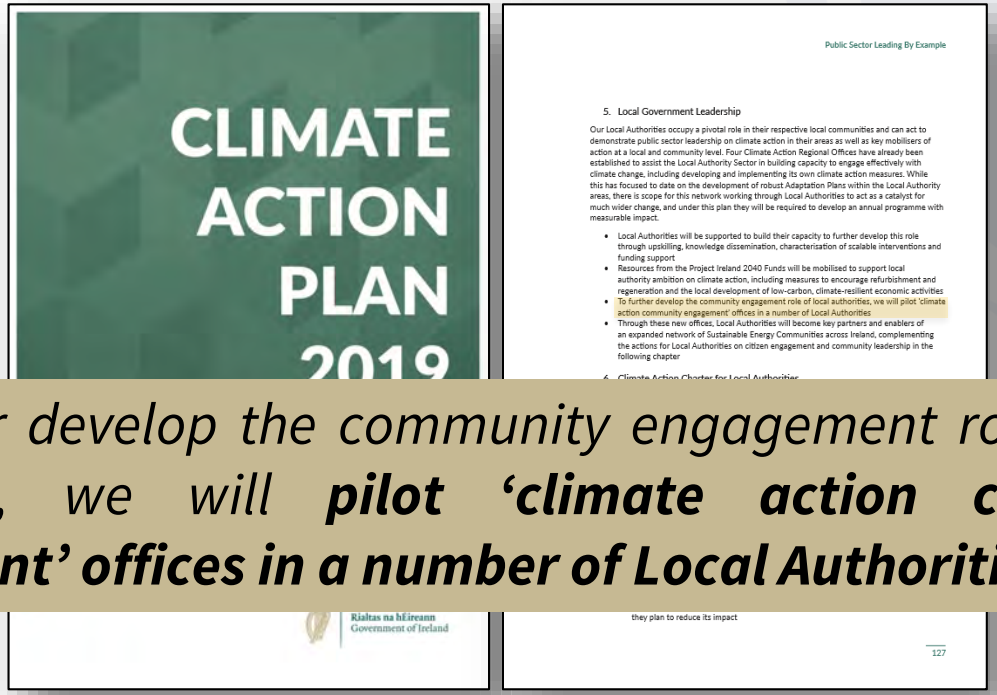


Other Potential Resources

Climate Action Plan



"*To further develop the community engagement role of local authorities, we will* ***pilot 'climate action community engagement' offices in a number of Local Authorities.***"

Other Potential Resources

AELCIC-PATHFINDER Project

Bertra is a *Pilot Landscape* in the AELCIC - PATHFINDER Project

Partnership of 20 institutions across the EU seeking to develop future site-specific Landscape Adaptation Plans to Climate Change (LACAPs).

"The project aims at defining and testing proactive and catalyzing models for the creation of local Consortia with the social, economic, technical and administrative capacity to define their own Landscape Climate-Change Adaptation Plans (LACAP)."

Atlantic-Alpine Region

4 Pilot Landscapes.
Ireland: The Bertra Beach Dune System of County Mayo
Holland: The Lowland Peat and Polder Landscape Holland (The Netherlands),
France: the alpine and glaciers landscape of the Haute Tarentaise Valley
France: Mont Saint Michel (France)

NUI Galway OÉ Gaillimh CARO MAYO.IE

AELCIC-PATHFINDER Project

Bertra Project in Partnership with NUIG

Vision

Create a forum for the integrated management of Bertra Strand and its surrounding landscape by **engaging local communities and stakeholders**, local and national authorities and the academic community in a joint approach to managing and planning for this valuable landscape in the face of climate change.

Aim

To create a framework that integrates relevant stakeholders in the sustainable management of Bertra's beach-dune system providing a strategic and evidenced-based **context for the future planning and management decisions**

Implementation

1. Stakeholder identification and engagement
2. Identification of climate change impacts and opportunities
3. Solidifying work for future development:
   - Creation of a Stakeholder Forum.
   - An outline LACAP: what the goals and substance of a plan should be

AELCIC-PATHFINDER Project

Bertra Project in Partnership with NUIG

- The development of specific LACAP for Bertra and Murrisk area is not part of the current AELCIC Project.
- NUIG proposing to work with MCC, CARO & the community to develop the LACAP as part of a Masters Programme
- The approach will be in line with the Bottom-Up principle of Community Futures
- Potential for the LACAP to be developed under the framework of Community Futures Goes Green – NUIG Resources

RTÉ

NUIG have had some discussions with RTE on a proposed documentary that looks at the impacts of CC in Ireland and why we need to take action – Bertra Project is in the mix.

- Interview with member of the community impacted by CC
- Interview with MCC/NUIG on the science and issues

Part 4

Summary

Community Futures Goes Green

Summary

- All Community Future Groups invited and encouraged to attend the **Autumn Climate Change Awareness Training** (Oct – Nov 2019)
- Development of a **Community Climate Action Manual** (Sept – Dec 2019) with online portal/links to be developed in 2020
- Expressions of Interest invited from existing Community Future Groups to become **Community Futures Climate Champions** (Dec 2019 – Jan 2020)
- **Mentoring Programme** for Community Futures Climate Champions (Jan – June 2020) – with remaining Communities to follow suit using the Manual
- **New Community Futures Programme** to incorporate the Community Climate Action Manual in the process
- Some elements of the proposal are **dependent on resources** being made available; LEADER funding, Community Champions Facilitator, Manual & Toolkit (including Web Portal)