

National Just Transition Fund – Project Final Report Template

Strand 2 Projects

In line with the Funding Agreement, Grantees are required to submit a final report on their projects that captures all elements of project outcomes, outputs and impact.

Please note that detailed expenditure is captured separately on an ongoing basis by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications. This Final Report aims to capture the initially envisaged project costs with the final cost of the project.

Grantees are obliged to publish this Final Report on their websites by 31 December 2024 and they must notify the Minister of the publication.

1. Project Details

MRTT	150
Project Name	Community Led Just Transition North Tipperary – Phase 1 & 2
Grantee/Organisation Name	Energy Communities Tipperary Cooperative
Project Start Date	12/09/2022
Project Completion Date	11/10/2024

2. Expenditure

Estimated project cost	1,054,000.00
Total project cost	1,077,321.490
Percentage covered by the National Just Transition Fund (As per Funding Agreement)	59%

3. Project Outcomes

Please provide details of your project's milestones, outcomes and outputs, demonstrating the impact of the project since its commencement.

Progress Report: EcoVision Energy Communities Project

1. Community Engagement & Staffing Initiatives

- Conducted active animation within the original JTF (Just Transition Fund) communities of Ballingarry and Littleton.
- Successfully hired two local staff members to support project activities and community outreach.

2. Technical Assessments

- Conducted 55 technical assessments on homes to evaluate energy upgrade measures for each household.

3. Energy Upgrade Proposals

- Provided 55 tailored quotes to homeowners, detailing the required energy upgrade works for their properties.

4. Staff Training on Behavioural Change Program

- Partnered with Les 7 Vents from Normandy to train three staff members on their behavioural change program.
- The program addressed all aspects of daily home energy use, demonstrating average yearly energy costs to homeowners.

5. Behavioural Change Program Rollout

- Developed and implemented a behavioural change program through home visits, workshops in schools, and community groups across North Tipperary.
- This initiative reached approximately 80 homes, resulting in an average 7% reduction in annual energy usage per home, equating to a total saving of 22,400 kWh annually, or 11,200 kg of CO2 emissions.

6. Staff Expansion & Program Development

- Recruited and trained two additional staff members in the behavioural change program.
- Collaborated with Tipperary County Council to extend the program, with plans to assess 80 homes under the County Council's initiative over the next 18 months.
- The ongoing impact of the JTF project continues to influence energy conservation efforts within the community, ensuring long-term benefits.

7. Rebranding and Relaunch

- Rebranded from Energy Communities Tipperary Cooperative (ECTC) to **EcoVision** and successfully relaunched the company website.

8. Energy Upgrade Projects

- Completed 16 energy upgrade works, including 11 shallow and 5 deep retrofits.
- These upgrades resulted in an estimated energy saving of 260,000 kWh per year, and a reduction of 69,420 kg of CO2 emissions annually.

9. Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Feasibility Study

- Conducted a solar PV feasibility study, which provided the EcoVision board with the confidence to pursue the development of a Community Solar PV project.

10. Business Development: Community Solar PV Project

- Drafted a value proposition for prospective customers and confirmed 9 sites for implementation.
- Secured match funding for 5 sites, with 4 sites under the pilot Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with EcoVision.
- Completed a tender process for the selection of solar installers, with four suppliers submitting tenders.
- Installed MID monitoring units at four sites to guarantee accurate, regular data delivery for billing purposes.
- Engaged Arthur Cox Solicitors to draft Power Purchase Agreements between EcoVision and the four pilot sites.
- Established a billing model for clients, with energy production costs set at €0.21 per kWh.

11. Solar PV Installations in North Tipperary

- Installed a total of 125 kW of solar PV capacity across 9 community sites, resulting in annual savings of 187,500 kWh and 93,750 kg of CO2 emissions.
- The sites include:
 - **Birdhill Community Centre:** 8 kW + Battery
 - **Drombane Community Centre:** 9 kW
 - **Upperchurch Creche:** 7 kW
 - **12 SVP houses in Upperchurch & Drombane:** 2 kW per home
 - **Upperchurch School:** 4 kW
 - **Littleton Community Centre:** 27 kW
 - **Lion Trust – Matthew Bourke House:** 14 kW
 - **Lions Trust – Monastery Close:** 32 kW
 - **Lorrha Community Centre:** 8 kW
- Power Purchase Agreements have been established for the latter four projects, enabling EcoVision to invoice communities bi-monthly for energy generated on-site at rates lower than the market average. This arrangement helps EcoVision recoup installation costs, which were match-funded through the JTF initiative.
- MID monitoring units have been installed at all sites to ensure precise billing.

Phase 2 – Milestone 1 - €200,707.37 - December 2022 (Match funding €139,474.61)

- Behavioural Change training and roll out
- Energy upgrade works
- Solar PV installation
- Start of Solar PV feasibility study with Oakhall
- Salaries
- Project Management & Administration

Milestone 2 - €108,802.36 - April 2023 (Match funding €73,753.59)

- Behavioural Change training and roll out
- Energy upgrade works
- Solar PV installation
- Start of Solar PV feasibility study with Oakhall
- Salaries
- Project Management & Administration

Milestone 3 - €74,879.52 - October 2023 (Match funding €52,034.37)

- Energy upgrade works
- Solar PV installation
- Rebranding and website from ECTC to EcoVision
- Salaries
- Project Management & Administration

Milestone 4 - €77,411.42 - March 2024 (Match funding €53,794.37)

- Energy upgrade works
- Solar PV installation
- Solar PV -Power Purchase Agreement development
- Project Management & Administration

Milestone 5 - €160,618.03 - October 2024 (Match funding €130,306.96)

- Energy upgrade works
- Solar PV installations
- Monitoring of Solar PV Installations
- Project Management & Administration

Match funding was made up of a mixture of investments from homeowners, community building owners and EcoVision's own funds.

This project would not have been possible without the 41% match funding by EcoVision.

4. Project Completion

Please provide information confirming the completion of the project under the terms of the Funding Agreement. For projects involving construction-related activities, this will include certification of the completion of building works or any other works requiring sign-off by professionally qualified persons.

BER Certs for houses. Recs Certs for Solar installation. Photos. Video file of interviews and completed jobs

5. Project Media

Please submit any project photos, website addresses and project promotional material, such as media coverage or social media posts. Please note that this material may be re-used by the Department to highlight just transition funding and the type of activities supported (if necessary, material should be accompanied by the names and titles of those pictured).

Radio interviews about JTF, link in file attached.

Link to our JTF page on EcoVision.ie <https://ecovision.ie/transition/>

Photos, and video of completed works which will be cut and shared on our social media over the next few months now that the project has completed.

6. Project Evaluation

An ex-post evaluation of projects is expected to be conducted by an external agency, commencing in Q2-Q4 2024 and continuing through Q4. Your project's Final Report will be a key source of information in this process. Please nominate your project's lead contact for engagements with the evaluation agency, providing their name, title, email address and contact phone number.

Marcella Maher Keogh, Project Coordinator. Marcella@ecovision.ie 086 1080356

7. Project Declaration

By signing, you confirm that:

- All information contained in this Final Report is subject to transparency obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Any personal information which you provide to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications will be obtained and processed in compliance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018.

- You have complied with your own data protection obligations in respect of the personal data that you supply to us and that you are entitled to disclose such personal data to us; and
- You will ensure that a copy of our data protection notice ([available here](#)) is sent to data subjects (e.g. your employees) whose personal data you provide to us.
- The Department can share this Final Report, or relevant extracts, with external parties under confidentiality and conflict of interest disclosures and for FOI requests to assist with assessing the information.
- All project promotional material i.e. case studies, project photos, website & social media platforms, websites can be used by the Department, including through re-publication, for promotional purposes for the Just Transition Fund.
- All information in this annual report is correct and complies with the terms and conditions of the project Funding Agreement.
- You have enclosed the most recent annual accounts as well as a statement of good financial standing for years in which the grant has been drawn down (see sections 7.9 and 7.10 of the Grant Agreement)

Name of Authorised Officer:

Marcella Maher Keogh

Date:

11/10/24