



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

Community  
Foundation  
Ireland

# CLIMATE ACTIONS WORK

ENGAGEMENT FUND



# Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund 2024

## Grant Round Criteria

### Introduction

We are building a stronger and wider national conversation on climate change and what it means for communities across the country.

We are looking to reach people across Irish society who want to make their communities better places to live. Climate change is a shared challenge. It is also a shared opportunity in which everybody has something important to contribute.

### What is the Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund about?

This funding is to support groups or organisations working to bring people together and share information in communities.

If you are an existing or newly formed organisation, this funding is to support communications and engagement activities that enable you to connect with a wider audience in your community.

This unique fund is to support you to communicate about climate actions you may be undertaking in your community. It is not for climate actions by themselves as there are many other supports available for those, rather this funding is aimed at your communication and engagement needs.

We particularly encourage activities which will draw new people into a conversation around local action to improve communities, climate and quality of life.

This fund will support groups to work with audiences who have not previously talked about climate change or the local actions they can take. Although there is a strong national concern about climate change, many people are not involved in this conversation. We will give priority to funding projects that are innovative, trying out new ideas for reaching wider audiences.

There are many exciting things already happening in Ireland. This is a fund to support to the incredible work underway in communities across the country and to encourage wider conversations and participation.

### Criteria

We invite applications that fall under one of the following three strands:

- Community Awareness
- Community Engagement

- Community Activation

Applicants will be asked to select which strand their proposal falls under. Please ensure you apply for the amount of funding available for the strand you are applying to.

Each group or organisation knows their own community best. In particular, you will know which strand is more appropriate at this stage of your journey to improve your community and embed climate action.

Many organisations may only be at the first stage of their journey, while others will be more established and seeking to grow their impact from the local to the regional.

## Community Awareness

This strand is to support groups to be able to **talk** about climate actions that **involve and encourage** others in your community to join with you in making your place a better one.

### Who should apply:

- Newly established groups or organisations (including newly established groupings for which this is their first grant).
- Organisations seeking to grow awareness of climate-positive community activities.

### Examples of proposals:

- 1.1.1.1 Raising awareness of local environmental activities and projects, through funding for administrative, social media, or video related activities.
- 2.1.1.1 Events that encourage members of the community to become local climate advocates.
- 3.1.1.1 Hosting events that encourage open conversation about local climate action.

**Funding available:** €2,500

## Community Engagement

This strand is to support groups looking to **join up** and **work with** other groups in your area who may also be looking to make things better.

### Who should apply:

- Organisations or groups seeking to build connections and partnerships with others.
- Organisations or groups seeking to build local or regional movements.

### Examples of proposals:

1. Developing strategies that bring partnerships further and grow their impact.
2. Establishing community hubs that support climate action.
3. Collaborations that raise awareness of climate action at a local level.

**Funding available:** €5,000

## Community Activation

This strand is to support all groups to **activate their communities** around climate action. Activation might occur as a result of a climate action project focused on increasing community engagement, or it might occur through training, education or leadership building.

### Who should apply:

- Established partnerships between environmental or non-environmental organisations.
  - If you are not already part of a network or partnership, you may be much better suited to the Awareness or Engagement Strand.

### Examples of proposals:

- Starting a new local environmental initiative, or scaling up a current initiative that involves and activates the local community around climate action
- Environmental projects that bring new people or groups in and activate them around climate action.
- Scaling up awareness-raising or community engagement activities in a region.

**Funding available:** €10,000

## Eligibility

### Eligible organisations...

1. Can be a registered charity or a local community / voluntary group.
2. Must have an annual income of less than €1,000,000.
3. Must have up to date and sufficient governing documents, accounts, and a dedicated bank account.
4. Can be non-profit sports clubs or religious groups.

### Eligible projects...

1. Must meet the criteria and aims of Climate Actions Work: Engagement Fund.
2. Must be focused on community engagement and activation.
3. Should include realistic costs and timescales.

Ineligible organisations...	Ineligible projects include...
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. Charities or community / voluntary groups with an annual income of more than €1,000,000.</li><li>5. Statutory bodies.</li><li>6. For-profit companies.</li><li>7. Organisations outside the Republic of Ireland.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9. Religious, political, or animal welfare activities.</li><li>10. Budgets dedicated solely to core costs and overheads.</li><li>11. Projects where the grant makes up <b>less than 50%</b> of the total project cost.</li><li>12. Projects where the grant makes up <b>more than 50%</b> of the organisation's</li></ol>



8. Individual people who are not part of a constituted organisation.	annual turnover.  13. Projects that have already been completed.
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## What does Community Awareness, Engagement and Activation look like?

It's worthwhile thinking of the following when making your application:

- 1 **Relevant:** What matters to your community and how do these connect to climate change?
- 2 **Local:** Is your project co-created by members of your community?
- 3 **Meaningful:** Will it have clear outcomes that improve people's lives in the local community?
- 4 **Accessible:** Is the design of your project available to all?
- 5 **Clear:** Are you using language that people understand?

This includes bringing in new, or 'hard-to-reach' audiences who have not previously engaged around climate action.

## Climate Action Training

This fund will be supported by a climate action training programme.

Built on extensive research of the needs of a broad range of stakeholder and community groups, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications have developed a training programme in climate engagement and communications. Supporting documents will be sent to all successful applicants.

In collaboration with Dublin City University, this will deliver accessible and best practice guidelines on the development and implementation of effective engagement programmes in climate action for all organisations.

## Documentation we need to make grants:

Applicants will need to provide some information around how the grant will be managed. This can be done through the Grants Portal by uploading digital copies.

**It must be completed before you submit your application.**

1. **Mission Statement OR Constitution OR Memorandum and Articles of Association.**
  - a. This must show the mission statement or main objects of the organisation, how any donations will be used.
  - b. If you have a Constitution this should show the winding up clause, and details of the appointment of the Board of Directors.
  - c. This document must be **signed**.
2. **A bank account statement header**

- a. This statement header must clearly show the Account Name, BIC and IBAN.
- b. Please blank out any transactions, as this is purely to verify the account to pay the grant into.

### 3. List of Committee members / Board members

- a. All applicants will be asked to submit all members of their committee/board members, and their length of time served.

### 4. The organisation's latest, signed annual accounts or financial statement

- a. Annual accounts should include unabridged financial statements for the last year, or where relevant, a monthly profit and loss for the year.
- b. Organisations with an annual income of less than €100,000 should provide a **signed** Profit and Loss account for the year.
- c. Organisations with an annual income of more than €100,000 must provide **signed** audited annual accounts.

## Grant Round Timeline:

Opening date for applications:	2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024
Closing date for applications:	4pm, 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
All applicants informed of outcome:	End of November 2024
Grants will be awarded:	December 2024
Activities should begin	January 2025
Update/check due:	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
Report due:	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026

## How to apply

The Fund is open for applications on **2<sup>nd</sup> September** and will close at **4pm, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.

To apply to the Grant Round please read our general guidance around accessing and submitting applications [here](#).

We will be hosting a webinar to go through this document and the application process in more detail at 11:00am, Friday September 6<sup>th</sup>. You can register here to join – [Climate Actions Work Engagement Fund webinar](#).

This webinar will be recorded and uploaded to our website.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the Grants Team at [info@foundation.ie](mailto:info@foundation.ie).

## About Community Foundation Ireland

Community Foundation Ireland and its partners believe in equality for all in thriving communities. We work with individuals, families, corporates and other trusts and foundations, as well as Government, to translate giving in the moment to giving that is strategic, sustainable and impactful. We use our skills and knowledge developed over 24-years to help donors turn aspirations into effective investments.

The Foundation works with partners to achieve solutions for both long-standing and emerging challenges. The work is built upon four pillars: Empowering Generations, Sustainable Futures, Inclusive Communities and Accelerating Change.

Through our many partnerships we are working towards an Ireland where barriers are broken down and communities are empowered to thrive. Working with you, other non-profits and donors we are committed to making this vision a reality.

## About the Climate Actions Work Programme

Climate Actions Work is a first-of-its-kind national engagement and communications campaign to support and encourage action on climate and community resilience. The campaign, led by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, will focus on hearing from, and working with, local communities – talking directly to people to help combat climate change.

Many community organisations are supported through volunteers. Furthermore, climate action is happening in pockets across communities (sports clubs, schools, biodiversity groups, volunteer groups, etc.) yet there is a significant lack of coordination. There is a need for 'joined up thinking' and 'ambitious policies' to be reflected 'where they live'.

This campaign will focus on local people and places, encouraging and supporting climate actions that are designed and developed by communities. Over the coming year, the Climate Actions Work team will engage with groups up and down the country to amplify the huge amount of climate action that is already taking place, to provide support to groups where needed, and to encourage more people to get involved in taking climate actions collectively.

Since 2021, through the National Dialogue on Climate Action, the Department has consulted with over 12,000 members of the public, engaged over 1,000 key stakeholders, and held in-depth dialogues with populations vulnerable to the transition to carbon neutrality.

The voice of the public and stakeholders was clear, responsive, and conveyed a sense of urgency and enthusiasm to work with the government. It identified the huge number and variety of communities taking action, and where people still lack information, knowledge, resources, or capacity.

The purpose of the Fund is to support widespread public and stakeholder engagement on climate action, empower people across all of society to adopt more sustainable behaviours, and be a vehicle to facilitate public participation in the [Climate Action Plan](#).

## Further Information

The Climate Actions Work: Engagement Fund is specifically intended to support climate action communications and engagement initiatives only.

Further information on the Climate Actions Work campaign is available at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/9aa70-minister-ryan-launches-new-climate-and-engagement-campaign-a-first-of-its-kind-globally/>

The Government of Ireland's Climate Action Fund (CAF) was established to provide assistance and financial support to projects which will help Ireland achieve its climate and energy targets.

The Climate Action Fund (CAF) will provide at least €500 million in government funding up to 2027 towards this aim. Further information on the Climate Action Fund (CAF) is available at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/de5d3-climate-action-fund/>