



# Natural Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (NEES)

2<sup>nd</sup> Irish Partner's Meeting  
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# Overview of Project

- Northern Periphery Programme (Interreg IVB)
- Duration 01.06.11 – 31.05.14
- Total Project Budget: € 1,466,710.23
- Total Project Grant: € 860,767.95
- 8 Partners – 4 x Ireland, 1 x Sweden, 1 x Scotland, 1 x Greenland, 1 x Northern Ireland,
- 1 prospective Partner from Finland
- 18 associate partners (7 Irish)

# Synopsis

- Identify and promote products and services that improve **energy efficiency** in existing domestic buildings, that make use primarily of renewable or recycled materials and of services based on natural processes, which originate and are normally accessible in the Northern Periphery Programme region, and have the potential for being mainstreamed and commercially disseminated inside and outside the region.

# Overall objectives

- NEES will develop a model for the identification and validation of innovative products and services for achieving natural energy efficiency, aiming to help providers to develop and diversify their products to reach a larger market. The model will be based primarily on 12 steps identified in the application, and the model will be fully implemented and replicated as a consultancy support service for similar products, linked to national EEE programmes.

# Actions

- Review current situation, identify barriers and bottlenecks, gauge potential for widespread marketing.
- Develop comprehensive sustainability criteria (triple bottom line), profiling and documenting best practice on a LCA basis
- Carry out 5 surveys of state-of-the-art in all Partner regions in use of natural products and services to promote EEB.
- Investigate transferability of these products and services to other Partner regions
- Develop monitor and evaluate @ 5 practical demonstration projects (at least one per region) which demonstrate transferability

# Actions(2)

- Identify, validate and establish the transferability of 15 selected products and services that best reflect this approach
- Identify and promote appropriate supports in terms of professional, advisory and raining services
- Generate a general quantifiable increase in awareness and uptake of these products in partner regions
- Generate and document tangible social and economic benefits
- Identify funding streams and business models that allow continuation of work after end of project.

# Main Products

- 5 national surveys of natural products and services
- Central data base and on-line catalogue of products and services
- Package of sustainability indicators (starting from Natureplus label) and incorporating “triple bottom line”
- 15 detailed profiles (@3 per region) of selected best practice
- 5 @feasibility studies of pilots project for local application
- 5 @ study visits to selected best practice

# Main Products (2)

- 5 @ demonstration projects (one in each partner area) which illustrate the different products or services
- 5 @ demonstration projects monitored and evaluated, photo and video records
- 5 @ local workshops and seminars linked to demonstration projects covering range of products and services
- Final Project Conference which is first gathering of full NEES Network
- Operating transnational network of stakeholders with an interest in promoting the theme & sector

# Work Packages

- WP1. Management and Co-ordination
- WP2. Determining products process, services, opportunities and barriers
- WP3. Benchmarking Best Practice
- WP4. Transfer of Best Practice (15 case studies)
- WP5. Demonstration Projects (5 projects)
- WP6. Support and Training
- WP7. Public Awareness and Dissemination

# WP1. Management and Co-ordination

- Overall Co-ordinator CCAE
- Local Co-ordinators – **SKDP (IE)**, GCU (Scot), U of Umea (Sweden), ARTEK (Greenland) , U of Ulster (NI)
- **Steering Group** – Partners meetings (6) and Teleconferences
- **Local Partners Groups** – Meeting including Associate Partners (9)
- Skype, Web Site and on-line internal communication
- SWOT at regional and project wide levels
- Conflict resolution policy

# WP1. Activities

- Establish Partnership – including Agreement
- Set up Steering Group – with regular partners meetings & Skype TC's
- Set up Local Partner Groups – regular meetings and Skyp TC's
- Work Programme and Financial flow scheduling
- Period Progress and Financial Reporting
- Monitoring & evaluation (overall & local)
- Events and activities co-ordination
- Knowledge management and IP
- Legal, contractual, ethical, financial & administrative
- Liaison with NPP Secretariat, reports, publicity requirements
- Compliance with internal performance and financial audit

# WP2. Determining products process, services, opportunities and barriers

- Co-ordinator GCU
- Participants – All Partners
- Develop NEES Criteria for best practise (basis of defining best practise products & services)
- Carry out 5 Surveys covering all Partner areas
- Identify @ 15 BP products and services in all regions @3 per region.
- Carry out survey of awareness and demand of natural products and services
- Collect, analyse survey data, summarise and report
- Upload onto on-line portal & set up on-line database or resources available

# WP2. Activities

- Development and definition of NEES baseline sustainability indicators for products, processes and services to be included based on the triple bottom line of environmental, social and economic criteria
- Development of best Practise criteria based on TBL
- Survey of existing products, processes and services in each partner region and carry out SWOT analysis of each.
- Survey of exiting awareness, opportunities and barriers to market in each partner region and SWOT analysis
- Verify statutory compliance of products and services with local regulations and legislation

# WP3. Benchmarking Best Practice

- Co-ordinator U of Umea
- Participants – All Partners
- Provide basis of Evaluating best practise products & services
- Promote formation of Panel of Experts that can use NEES criteria as basis for identifying Best Practice in each region, as well as practice that could be improved
- Identify and profile 15 best practise products or services, illustrated by case studies
- Propose and carry out selected Study Visits
- Further investigate feasibility and barriers to products and services, bottlenecks and obstacles to dissemination
- Suggest a strategy and action that would help promotion and marketing
- Produce comparative summary fiches and upload on on-line portal
- Upload recommendations onto on-line portal

# WP3. Activities

- Set up Expert Panel and define basis of evaluating best practice on basis of more criteria developed
- Also take into account Nature Plus criteria and Life Cycle Analysis, bioregionalism, etc. in evaluating best practices identified
- Selection of @ 15 products and processes for mapping and further investigation
- Make regional adjustments based on research and local consultation
- Proof identified best practice against local experiences and opinion (through local Partners groups)
- Collect comparable data, make recommendations and upload onto on-line portal
- Profile detailed case studies of best practise, for dissemination

# WP4. Transfer of Best Practice (15 case studies)

- Co-ordinator - U of Ulster
- Participants – Other Partners .
- Propose and implement an exchange programme aimed at transferring best practice to and from each region.
- Co-ordinate each region to select one product of service from another region for transfer.
- Organise targeted exchange opportunities, including public events, surveys, consultation meetings, study visits
- Review transferability of the best practice identified
- Identify and set up spin-off and follow-on exchanges, including new EU initiatives

# WP4. Activities

- Development and implementation of questionnaire to facilitate technical, economic and social evaluation
- Review by local Partners meetings of best practice identified in all regions, preparation of presentations and consultation material to disseminate locally in order to establish local demand and feasibility
- Survey stakeholders in each region, to establish appropriateness of selections and other implications
- Propose study visits to projects where products and services are demonstrated to establish feasibility of transfer
- Action plans to disseminate best practise in implementing pilots in partner regions.
- Investigation and promotion of spin-off and follow-on project, including EU and other funding.

# WP5. Demonstration Projects (5+)

- Co-ordinator - SKDP
- Participants – All other Partners
- Propose and develop @ one small scale demonstration project to illustrate Best Practise identified in each region
- Identify funding for capital works and labour as necessary
- Discuss and agree specification for projects with local Partners meetings
- Implementation should be monitored and evaluated with data collection and digital records
- Workshops or Study Visits to be held at demonstration sites
- Demonstration project to be clearly proofed against NEES indicators
- Record of project, monitoring & results on-line.

# WP5. Activities

- Identification of demonstration projects that incorporate selected best practices for monitoring, documentation and evaluation
- Production of detailed proposals and identification of funding for demonstration projects
- Monitoring and evaluation of demonstration of pilot projects
- Placing specification, monitoring and results on-line.

# WP6. Support and Training

- Co-ordinator ARTEK
- Participants – Other Partners
- Carry out survey of training and support needs of producers and service providers
- Develop a portfolio of appropriate support and training resources for producers, installers and service bodies
- Linkage with local energy agencies and business advisory services to provide support for producers and service providers.
- Identification of relevant vocational training services on technical, business and social issues.
- Development of relevant accredited training modules and integration into academic curricula.

# WP6. Activities

- Devising relevant technical skills training for producers, installers, retailers and end users
- Identifying and developing training focus points for producers service providers (central base at ARTEK innovation centre)
- Opportunities for training in business and marketing
- Devising technical, vocational, business and marketing support services fro producers and installers
- Particular attention to be paid to business planning for the 15 best practice products and services
- Integration of relevant supports into existing energy advisory services and business support agencies

# WP7. Public Awareness and Dissemination

- Co-ordinator -U of Umea
- Participants – Other Partners
- Document and disseminate theme and especially selected products and services mainly through NEES on-line portal
- Complemented this by a range of social networking tools including Facebook, Linked-In and Twitter
- Post periodic e-newsletter to large data base
- Organise local seminars around Project objectives, specific case studies and demonstration projects
- Develop exchange and export market for products and services
- Work to European seminar to mainstream areas and to be a gathering of proposed EU NEES network at end of project.

# WP7. Activities

- Development of on-line portal with product and service information and evaluation
- Integration of on line portal with other on-line knowledge exchanges (e.g. Build Up, EnviroSolutions, etc.)
- Creation of an on-line discussion forum linked to the portal
- Sending out of electronic newsletter to 2,000 stakeholders
- Organise local dissemination events to promote objectives of Project, best practises identified and demonstration projects
- Develop network of stakeholders committed to NEES in Partner regions (and beyond)
- Organise EU seminar to present results and launch NEES network.

# Communication Tools

- On-line portal
- Electronic newsletter
- Kick-Off Meeting
- Local seminars in partner regions
- Study visits to demonstration projects
- Final conference and network launch
- Good Urban Places Conference (GCU June 2011)
- Final Report in book form
- Video Record Project





# NEES Contact

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