

Meenadreen Community Fund 2024:

Energia Empowers Local: Igniting Community Growth Through Sustainable Partnerships.

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 23-years to help donors turn aspirations into effective investments.

Community Foundation Ireland, its network of 5,000 partner organisations and donors share a mission of equality for all in thriving communities. 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.

As a philanthropic hub we offer support, expertise and insights allowing us to deliver for communities and organisations across Ireland.

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.

Fund Overview

The Energia Meenadreen Fund is a community grant that supports non-profit, community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations based within a certain proximity to the Meenadreen Wind Farm.

The fund is now entering its seventh year, with its primary focus on the communities neighbouring the Meenadreen Wind Farm.

Proposed projects should be focused on environmental initiatives that contribute to:

- climate action,
- biodiversity and local environment enhancement,
- community engagement

and directly contribute to overall community wellbeing.

Aim:

The fund aims to back various community projects such as training programs, social enterprise development, and community events in the areas surrounding the Meenadreen Wind Farm, occasionally extending support up to Donegal Town. Requesting projects with particular emphasis on initiatives that enhance the environment, promote climate action, and encourage biodiversity, community wellbeing and engagement.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The grant is open to non-profit organisations.
- Applicants must be located within the immediate vicinity or up to 14km away from the Meenadreen Wind Farm.
- Priority is given to organisations within a 10km radius of the wind farm.
- Organisations should have access to an organisational bank account.
- Applicants should possess charitable aims.
- Applicants should possess charitable aims and have a written constitution outlining these objectives.
- The grant is only open to organisations that are not-for-profit.

Residency Requirements:

Eligibility is determined by the organisation's geographical location. They must be within a 14km radius from the Meenadreen wind farm, with those within a 10km radius given preference.

Priority Areas:

- Eligibility depends on the organisation's geographical proximity to the Meenadreen wind farm.
- Priority given to those within a 10km radius.
- Initiatives focusing on environmental enhancement, climate action, biodiversity.
- Projects aiming at community engagement and overall wellbeing.

Funding Details:

- Organisations can apply for a maximum of €10,000.
- Grants will be paid via bank transfer directly to the applicant organisation.

Grant Round Timeline

Opening Date for applications: **23rd September**

Closing Date for applications: **18th October**

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible applicants must...	Eligible projects must...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate the capacity to fulfil the project's proposed timeline and budget. ● Express willingness to share their project's story with Energia's media team. ● Submit annual or most recent audited accounts. ● Have a child protection policy (if working with individuals under the age of 18). ● Provide evidence demonstrating how their project benefits the environment, contributes to climate action, or enhances local biodiversity. ● Projects aiming at community engagement and overall wellbeing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be led by non-profit, community, voluntary, or not-for-profit organisations. ● Be located within the immediate vicinity or up to 14km away from the Meenadreen Wind Farm (priority given to those within a 10km radius). ● Focus on environmental enhancement, climate action, biodiversity, community engagement, or overall wellbeing. ● Have clear, realistic costs, and timescales. ● Provide clear, concrete evidence demonstrating how the project will benefit these priority areas. ● Comply with all other eligibility criteria set out by the Energia Meenadreen Fund.

Ineligible applicants include...	Ineligible applications include...
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organisations operating beyond a 14km radius from the Meenadreen Wind Farm. ● Profit-making enterprises. ● Sports organisations. ● Those involved in religious or political activities. ● Organisations applying for projects that have already occurred. ● Organisations missing the required governance documents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Applications from profit-making enterprises. ● Applications from sports organisations. ● Projects involved in religious or political activities. ● Applications for projects that have already occurred. ● Applications missing the required governance documents. ● Applications covering core or ongoing overhead costs. ● Proposals for equipment costs only. ● Projects promoting religious causes. ● Applications for work that has already taken place. ● Non-charitable activities. ● General political donations. ● Sponsorship or fundraising event applications. ● Applications for work taking place outside of the designated area.
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Ineligible applications and applications will not be successful, so please do not apply

Exclusions:

The fund will not cover:

- **Core or ongoing overhead costs.**
- **Proposals for equipment costs only**
- **Promotion of religious causes**
- **Work that has already taken place**
- **Non-charitable activities**
- **Political donations**
- **Sponsorship or fundraising events**
- **Work outside of the designated area**

How to Apply:

- Applicants must meet all grant criteria before applying.
- Submit an online application via our online grants management software [Smart Simple](#).
- Submit all requested governance documents along with the application.
- Applications must be submitted before 5pm on October 18th, 2024.
- The FAQ can be found [here](#).
- Contact info@foundation.ie with any queries.