Good Practice
Donegal Energy Management

Ianire Renobales
Project Manager & Digital Communications Officer at ERNACT

28 June, 2018 | Florence (Italy)
Low-Carbon Economy Policy Learning Platform
About CLEAN

**Aim:** Increase energy efficiency in housing and public infrastructure by 4% through technology, open innovation and improved low-carbon policy instruments.

Regional Action Plans

Enhanced policy instruments

New projects

9 partners will work together until 2022 to improve the capacity of their policy instruments to increase energy efficiency.
County Donegal

• The most northern county in Ireland.

• Current population – 158,755.

• 4th largest county in the Republic of Ireland and the largest county in the Ulster.

• It has a border of 140km with Northern Ireland and 9 km with the Republic – (with Co. Leitrim)
ISO 50001

Donegal County Council is the 2nd Council in Ireland to achieve the ISO 50001 Accreditation (October 2016)

In a short period of time, DCC:

- Noticed significant energy savings: reduced energy consumption in buildings between 5%-10% without any physical projects:
  - Better behaviour
  - Raising awareness
Applying the Energy Management System to:
Good Practice in Donegal

Developed an **Energy Management System** to:

- Manage the energy performance / consumption
- Plan a program on energy savings / objectives

They’ve identified the **Significant Energy Users**:
1. Street lighting  
2. Road transport  
3. Public buildings

Broken energy consumption down to 3 types:
1. Electricity  
2. Heating  
3. Transport fleet

**Main Objective** > **Reduce energy consumption**
Objectives for 2018

• Continuous Improvement in Energy Performance
• 33% Reduction in Energy Consumption by 2020

Specific 2018:

• 5% Reduction in Transport Energy Use
• 10% Reduction in Buildings’ Electrical Use
• 10% Reduction in Buildings’ Thermal Energy Use
• Develop a Register of Energy saving opportunities
• Raise staff awareness to save 10% in overall energy use
• Develop projects and action plans to deliver Energy Savings
• Upgrade >1000 Street Lights
Next steps

Register opportunities and develop new actions:

1. Measure and record
2. Calculate performance
3. Service and maintain
4. Measure and record (again)
5. Repeat
Advantages & Disadvantages

**ADVANTAGES:**

✓ The organisation takes the responsibility for its energy performance.
✓ Predict, monitor & measure the consumption.
✓ Identify potential savings / weaknesses.
✓ Save money / energy.
✓ Reinvest those savings into new projects.

**DISADVANTAGES:**

× Not enough administrative resources.
× Resources are needed to maintain the Energy Management System.
Who is this GP useful for?

“Any organisation that is using energy can implement an energy management system, no matter how big or small. If you are using energy, you should be managing it and this accreditation ensures that you are reviewing your energy consumption”

Paddy Mullen
Facilities Manager at Donegal County Council
Find out more…

✓ About ISO 50001 Energy Management Accreditation:
https://www.iso.org/iso-50001-energy-management.html

✓ Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland:
https://www.seai.ie/energy-in-business/

✓ Paddy Mullen from Donegal County Council:
PADDY.MULLEN@donegalcoco.ie
Ianire Renobales
ERNACT
ianire.renobales@ernact.eu
www.interregeurope.eu/clean