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**EXPRESS**

# **EXPRESS Project in South East Region of Ireland**

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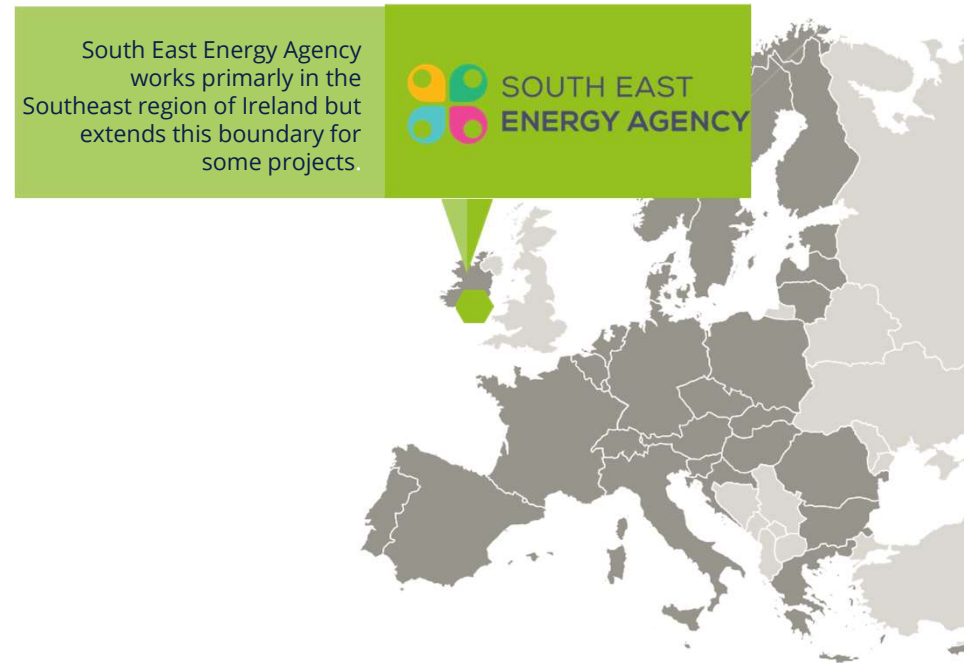
27.6.2023 | 15 Minutes | Joensuu, Finland



# South East Energy Agency

*South East Energy Agency is the Energy Agency for Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford, we work in partnership to deliver energy saving projects for the local authorities, communities and individuals in the Southeast.*

## Our Mission



## EXPRESS

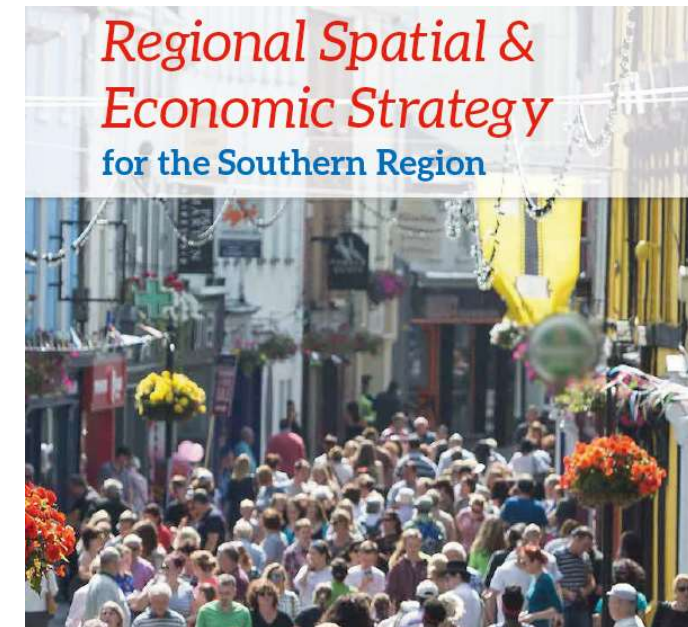
*The EXPRESS project aims to decrease the regions' dependency on energy imports and fossil energy and to increase their energy self-sufficiency and share of renewable energy by improving regional policies.*

### EXPRESS project's linkage to strategies and regional development work

Our focus will be on RPO 98 which aims **to support the development of a Regional Renewable Energy Strategy with relevant stakeholders.**

The Objective policy improvement is to improve some specific areas to assist in achieving this RPO as outlined under the RSES Project Charter for Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the Southern Region as follows:

- Development of Renewable Energy Resources - Developing key actions that can be taken at regional level to achieve regional targets including setting out good practices for stakeholders and communities
- Awareness Raising, Engagement & Communications – Awareness raising, consciousness building, education/information – Creation of an effective way to understand outputs that will assist the communication strategy of the Regional Renewable Energy Strategy for the Southern region.



..... RPO 98 .....

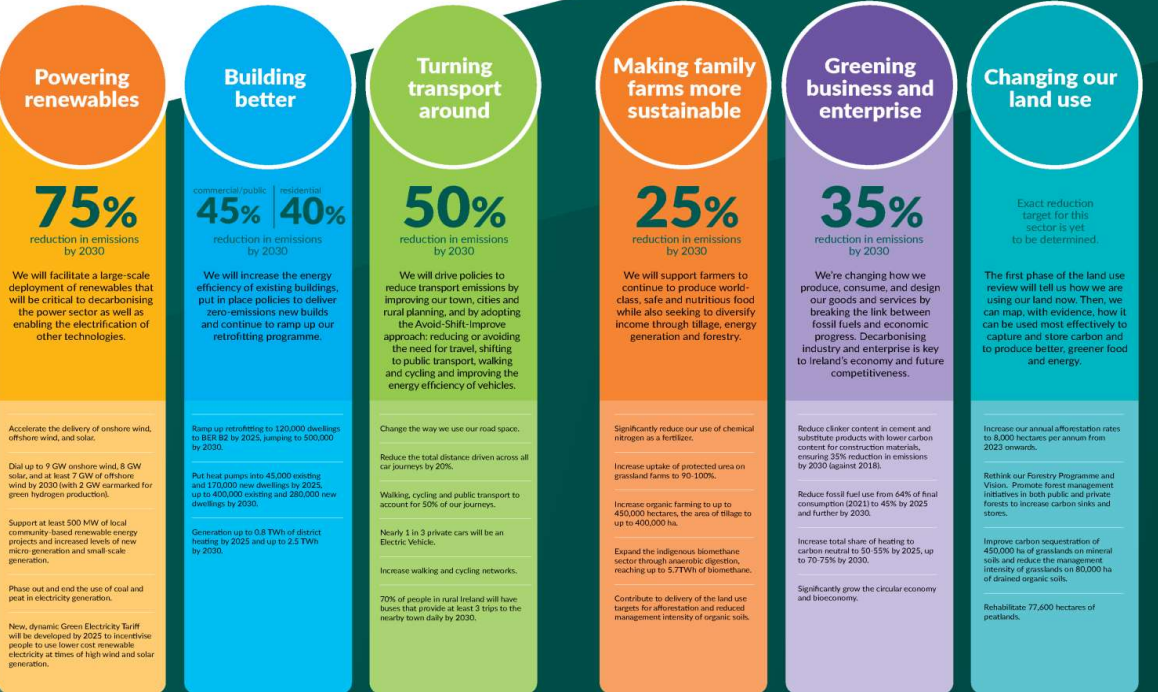
**Regional Renewable Energy Strategy**

It is an objective to support the development of a Regional Renewable Energy Strategy with relevant stakeholders.

# Regional Context Assessment: Data on current situation, indicators

Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2023 focuses on six vital high impact sectors to achieve the regional energy and climate target by 2030 in the South East region. These sectors include energy, transport, agriculture, built environment, industry, and waste. Through various measures such as renewable energy promotion, sustainable agriculture practices, energy-efficient buildings, and waste management improvements, the plan aims to reduce GHG emissions and promote sustainability in the region.

## The Six Vital High Impact Sectors

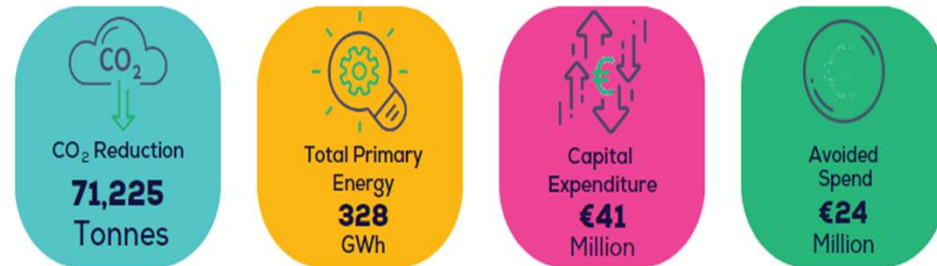


## Regional Energy and Climate Targets to 2030

Below are the Regional targets taken from the 2021 National Climate Action Plan. The South East Region represents 8.9% of the national total population. South East Energy Agency will support the region in achieving the targets set in the National Climate Action Plan.



## Progress



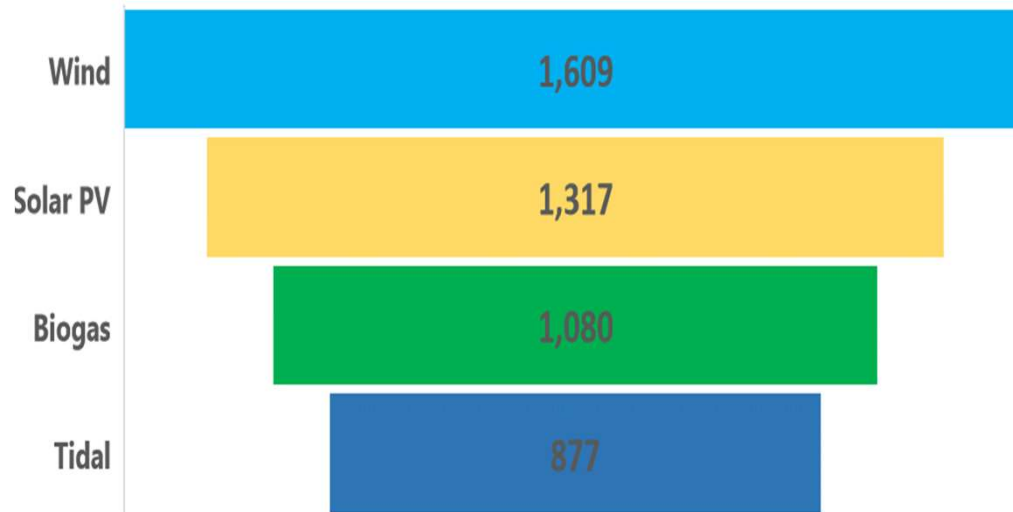


# Largest potential in reaching renewable energy self-sufficiency

TOTAL RES  
4,883 GWh

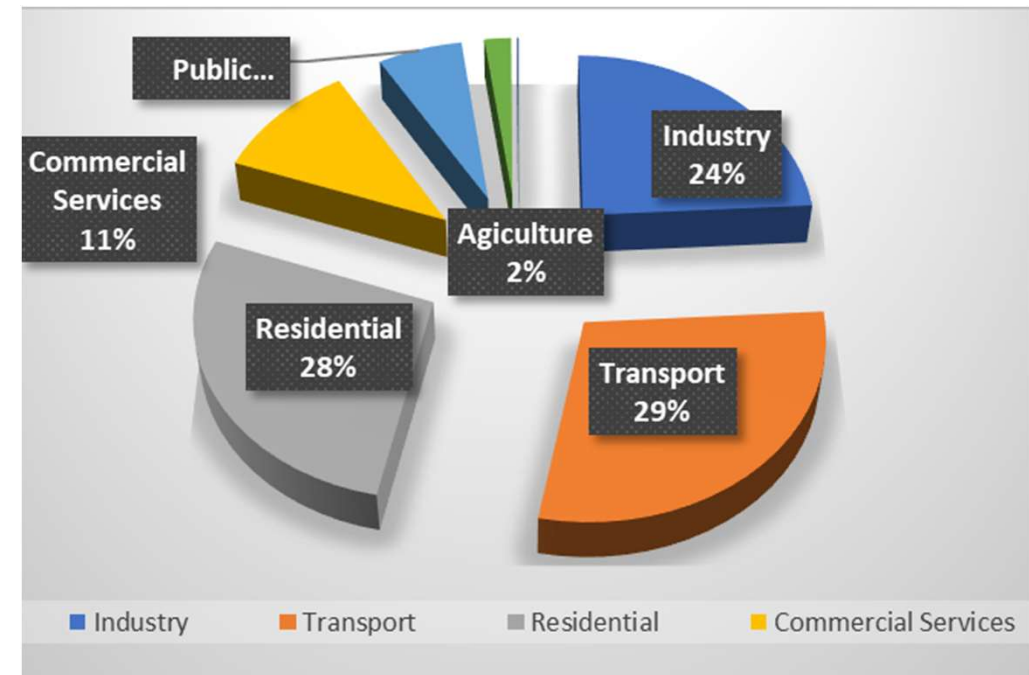


Potential Renewable Energy  
in South-East region



■ Potential Renewable Energy Production (GWh)

Energy Use by Sectors in South East Region (2022)



# Biggest challenges in reaching renewable energy self-sufficiency

## Energy Security

- Ireland was the 10th most energy dependent EU Member State
- Lack of development of indigenous sources of renewable energy

## Meeting Climate Commitment

- Ireland fails to meet climate change targets by 2030 (EPA projection report, 2023)
- all sectors of the economy deliver emission reductions in the short term and sustain this delivery into the future.

## Energy Cost & their significance

- Higher energy poverty for household and Cost competitiveness for business
- Lack of energy competitiveness

## Sectoral issues

- Transport, heat, and electricity have historically accounted for approximately 40% of final energy use each, with the remaining 20% accounted for by the electricity mode

## Physical infrastructure and employment opportunities

- Though the cost of RES is falling the cost of connecting RES is increasing and there is not enough grid capacity available.
- Lack of professional resources

# Best Practice of knowledge and expertise to share

## Public Sector

South East Energy Agency plays an important role in supporting local authorities in the Southeast in their efforts to transition to more sustainable and energy-efficient practices. The agency offers a range of services and support to local authorities, including energy audits, renewable energy feasibility studies, and training and education programs. By providing these services, we are helping local authorities identify areas for improvement in their energy use and develop strategies for reducing their carbon footprint. In doing so, the agency supports local authorities in meeting their climate targets, improving energy efficiency in public buildings, and promoting sustainable practices within their communities.

## Public Sector Energy Management Services

Energy management is an all-encompassing process that should include every aspect of an organisation from finance, human resources and public relations to maintenance, purchasing and planning. SI 542 Energy End-Use Efficiency and Energy Services Regulations of 2009 requires that all public bodies fulfil an exemplary role with respect to energy management. The 5 main steps of Energy management are:

### Commit



Energy Team,  
energy policy,  
ISO50001/  
Energy map

### Identify



Energy audits,  
Register of  
opportunities  
(ROO), Gap to  
Target

### Plan



Annual action  
plan for delivery,  
Budgets &  
resources  
allocated

### Do



Delivery of  
Projects






### Review



M&R, M&V, annual  
strategic reviews  
under ISO50001,  
advanced  
diagnostics under  
Energy map

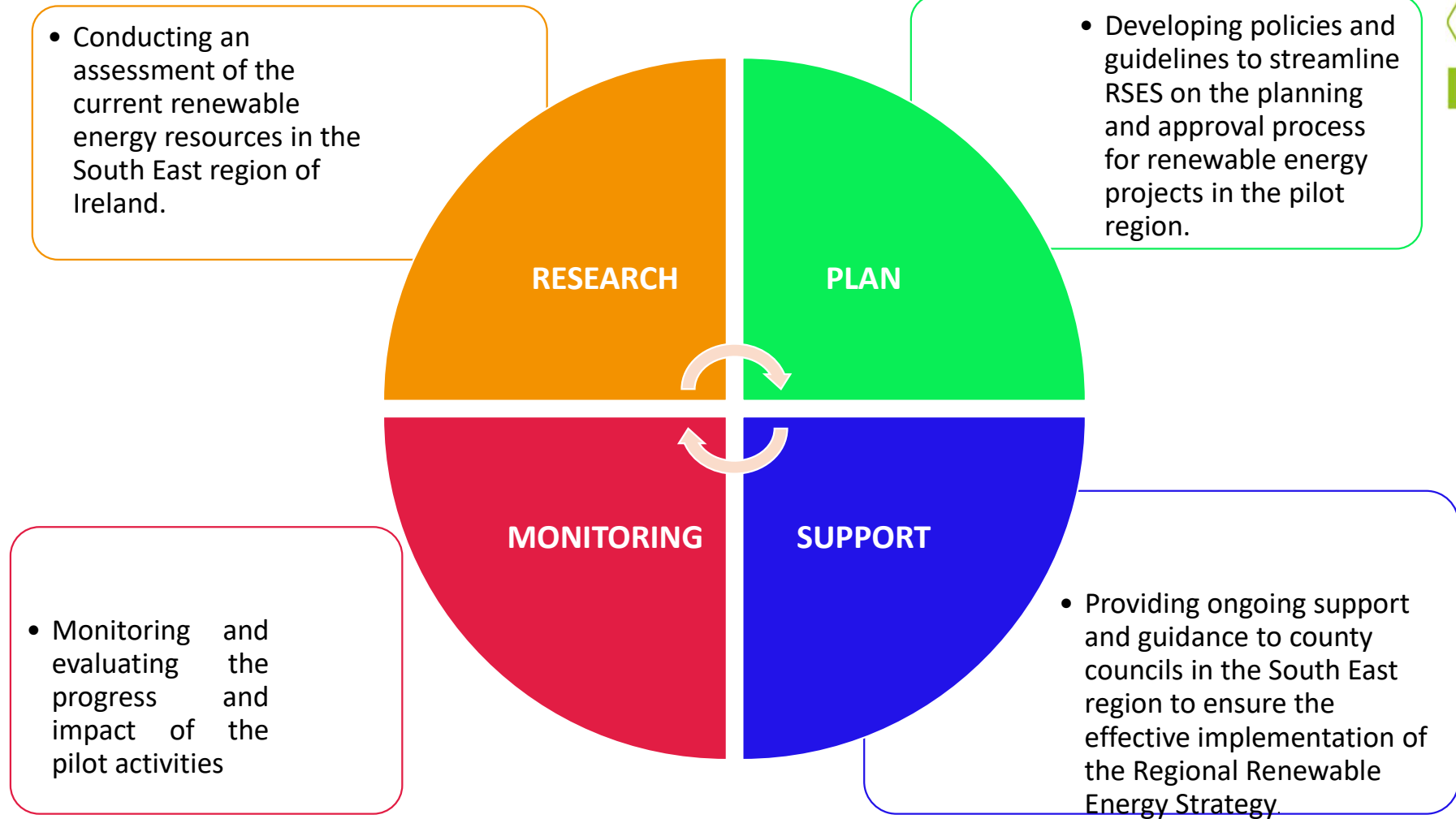
South East Energy Agency responsible for delivering Regional Renewable Energy Strategy (RSES) action, particularly in the Local Authority areas of Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford. Together with the Southern Regional Assembly, that remit can extend across the Southern Region of Ireland, which also includes the urban centres of Cork and Limerick.

The Climate Action Plan 2021 & Ireland's Long Term Renovation Strategy sets out 2030 targets for the public sector which the Local Authorities must meet:

-  Reduce CO2 equivalent emissions from the sector by 51%
-  Improve energy efficiency by 50%
-  Minimum of 50% of its thermal demand is produced by renewable sources
-  No fossil fuel heating systems to be installed in local authority buildings from 2023 onwards
-  Upgrade all public buildings to BER B energy rating



# PILOT ACTION





THANK YOU



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**EXPRESS**

*The project EXPRESS is implemented in the framework of the Interreg Europe programme and co-financed by the European Union.*

[www.interregeurope.eu](http://www.interregeurope.eu)

