

ShareRES



ShareRES Interregional Event 2 Dossier

SHARE 



PP03 - Donegal County Council  
(Ireland)

November 2023

# Content

Aim of the document .....	2
Project identification.....	2
Partners / associated policy authorities .....	2
Project summary .....	3
1. Event Agenda.....	4
2. Summary.....	6
3. Presentations from Guest Speakers.....	¡Error! Marcador no definido.
4. Workshop.....	9
5. SC Meeting .....	10
6. Study Visits.....	11

## Aim of the document

The aim of the Interregional Events' Dossier is to summarise the main interregional activities held during the event for publication and dissemination in the project website.

The document includes the agenda, a description of the main activities developed, conclusions of the interregional learning and event photos.

## Project identification

Acronym:	ShareRES
Title:	SHAring REnewable eneRgy through Energy communitieS
Project ID:	01C0212
Project duration:	48 months + 3 months for project closure
Core Phase:	From 01/03/23 until 28/02/2026.
Follow-up Phase:	From 01/03/26 until 28/02/2027.
Closure Phase:	From 01/03/27 until 31/05/27

## Partners / associated policy authorities

### Project partners

- LP01 - Consortium Extremadura Energy Agency – AGENEX (Spain)
- PP02 - Riga Planning Region (Latvia)
- PP03 - Donegal County Council (Ireland)
- PP04 - Alba Iulia Municipality (Romania)
- PP05 - Nicosia Development Agency (Cyprus)
- PP06 - BSC, Business support centre L.t.d., Kranj (Slovenia)

### Associated policy authorities

- APA01 - Directorate General for Industry, Energy and Mines - Regional Government of Extremadura (LP01)

## Project summary

The involvement of citizens and communities is vital to successfully achieve a clean energy transition. Although it is recognized that community energy projects have significant social, economic and environmental benefits, citizens around Europe are still facing many challenges. Legal restrictions, administrative burdens and punitive tariffs are just some of the obstacles and barriers currently faced.

The main objective of ShareRES is to improve the policies that enable an active participation of citizen communities in the energy market by generating, consuming, sharing and selling electricity; as well as providing flexibility to the grid through demand-response and storage. These improvements will achieve a democratic, sustainable and inclusive energy system, in which energy communities will be key for the energy transition.

Among the project's results will be the development of collective and citizen-led initiatives, the increase in public acceptance of renewable projects and the attraction of private investment. Among the benefits and territorial impacts for the regions are the increase in energy efficiency, the reduction of energy costs and, most importantly, the creation of local jobs.

ShareRES will analyse policies and provide insights for policymakers in 6 EU regions: Riga Region (Latvia) in the North; Donegal County (Ireland) in the West; Gorenjska (Slovenia) and Alba Iulia (Romania) in the East; and Nicosia (Cyprus) and Extremadura (Spain) in the South of Europe.

There will be 6 policy improvements developed and implemented throughout the project thanks to an intense core phase that will include several learning events and activities defined in the project work plan. Over 90 people involved in the project will increase their capacity and knowledge of energy communities and renewable community energy projects, from a technical and financial point of view. Over 15 good practices will be identified, allowing them to be transferred within the partnership.

## 1. Event Agenda



### SHaring REnewable eneRgy through Energy Communities

#### AGENDA Second Interregional Event

Tuesday 24th October 2023, Ballyliffin, Co Donegal, Ireland (F93 XR25)

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 09:00-09:30  | Registration.   |
| 09:30-10:00  | Introductions - Welcome from Donegal County Council<br><a href="#">Michael McGarvey, Director of Service</a>  |
| 10:00-10:15  | Donegal County Council - Outline of the agenda / Recap of ShareRES Project with <a href="#">Lead Partner, Ana Martínez Pinilla, ShareRES Project Manager</a><br><a href="#">Con McLaughlin, Senior Engineer</a>   |
| 10:15-10:35  | Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)<br><a href="#">Gillian Baker, Programme Manager – Renewable Electricity Support Scheme /Small Scale [up to 6MW] Generation Scheme.</a><br>An outline of the <b>Community Enabling Framework Programme</b> which Gillian runs to supports greenfield export only community projects between 0.5MW and 5MW in scale. |
| 10:35-11:00  | Group discussion on Renewable Electricity Support Scheme in Ireland / Community supports available for Community Projects.  |
| 11:00-11:15  | Coffee break  |
| 11:15-11:35  | Community Power – an outline of community energy projects in Ireland<br><a href="#">JP Prendergast, Community Power / Member of the Trusted Adviser Panel</a> (which is part of the Community Enabling Framework)   |
| 11:35-11:55  | Atlantic Technology University (ATU) - Good practice Toolkits for community energy projects (AgroRES Project) / Also, Consultation on 'Private Wires'<br><a href="#">Mel Gavin, R&amp;D Coordinator, ATU /</a><br>Mel is also a Regional Coordinator of the SEC Programme for SEAI  |
| 12:00-13:00  | Workshop: - Good Practice Learning and replication potential.   |
| 13:00 -14:00 | Lunch   |
| 14:00-16:30  | ShareRES Project Steering Committee   |

- 19:00-21:00 Project dinner - venue **Nancy's Barn Ballyliffin, (F93 VY75)** followed by
- 21:30-22:00 Irish Dancing demonstration / Irish Traditional Music evening  
(Venue - Ballyliffin Lodge Hotel & SPA)

## Agenda Day 2

### SHARing REnewable eneRgy through EEnergy Communities

#### Wednesday 25th October 2023, Ballyliffin, Co Donegal, Ireland (F93 XR25)

- 09:00-09:15 Meeting point, Hotel Reception
- 09:15-10:30 Study visit No1 – renewables (solar / biomass) installed at Ballyliffin Lodge Hotel & SPA.
- 10:30-10:45 Bus travel to Carndonagh, meet at ..  
Carndonagh Public Services Centre, Malin Road, Carndonagh, **(F93 YV1N)**
- Tea /Coffee on arrival*
- 11:00-12:00 Study visit No2 – renewables (solar) installed at Atlanfish, Carndonagh
- Study visit No3** – renewables (solar) installed at Supervalu, Carndonagh
- 12:00-12:30 Update from local Sustainable Energy Communities ..
- o Inishowen SEC, Paul McGonigle
  - o LAN SEC, Eithne McLaughlin
- 13:00-13:15 Bus travel to Lunch venue.
- 13:15-14:30 Lunch
- 14:30-16:00 Bus travel to local sight-seeing and return to Ballyliffin Lodge.
- 16:30-18:00 Partner departures

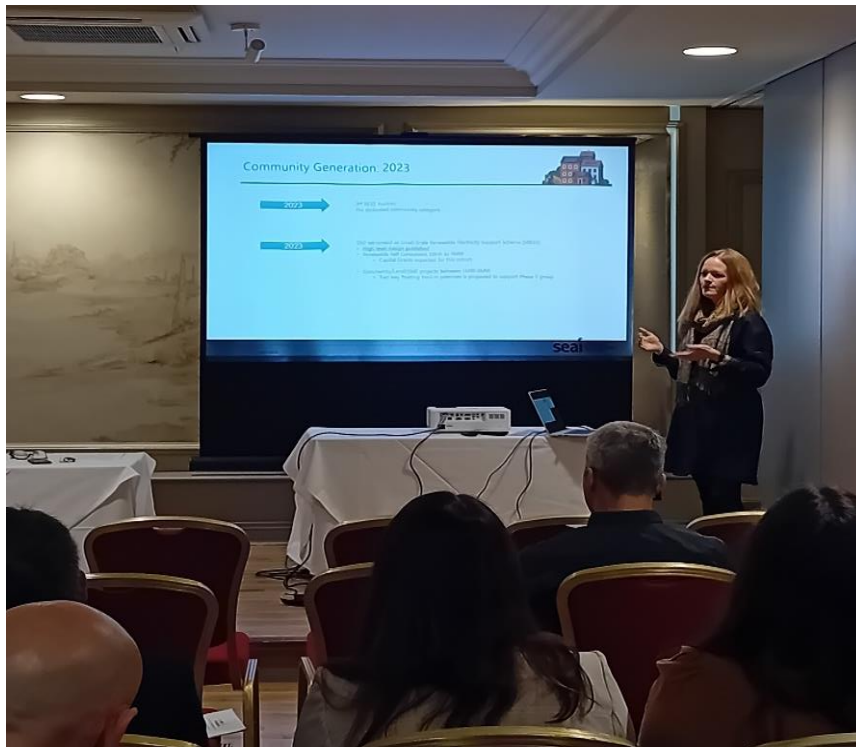
## 2. Summary



The 2nd ShareRES Interregional Event took place on 24th & 25th October 2023 in the picturesque village of Ballyliffin, Co Donegal, Ireland. Mr Micheal McGarvey, Director of Service, Water & Environment, Donegal County Council opened the event and welcomed the 30 attendees. Each of the partners and stakeholders were invited to introduce themselves to the group. Con McLaughlin, Senior Engineer, Donegal County Council gave a brief overview of the project and the objectives set out and invited the Project Manager, Ana Martinez from the lead partner, Consorcio Agencia Extremeña de la Energía to address the group.



### 3. Presentations by Guest Speakers



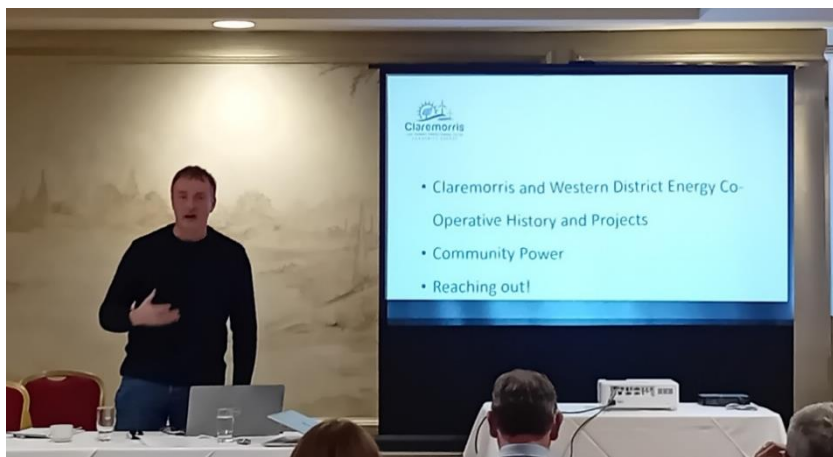
First guest speaker of the day was Gillian Baker, Programme Manager with SEAI - Renewable Electricity Support Scheme. Gillian gave a very informative presentation to the group on the work carried out by SEAI in relation to Community Energy Power and how the communities are supported by the 'Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland' (SEAI). This was followed by a questions and answers session from the group.



Next on the agenda, was a very detailed and informative presentation by Mel Gavin, R&D Co-Ordinator, Atlantic Technological University, Sligo. Mel is also the Project Manager and is the lead partner in the LEAP Project (EU Life Programme). Mel is regarded as an all-round expert in the energy transition and he gave excellent presentations on Good practice toolkits (AgroRES Project) and also Consultation on "Private Wires".



Mel answered a number of questions following the presentation from the attendees and facilitated a number of discussions on the topics presented.



The third and final presentation of Day 1 was given by JP Prendergast, Community Power. JP is also a member of the Trusted Adviser Panel which is part of the Community Enabling Framework. The presentation given by JP included examples of how communities working together can deliver on large projects.

In this case, the Community Group has grown from 15 members in 2015 to 149 members today working together to address the impacts of climate change, raise awareness in the local communities in relation to renewable energy and to create green jobs within the local economy. A very enthusiastic presentation which was very well received by the audience.

## 4. Workshop

During the event, a workshop “Initiating the Interexchange of experiences: Identification of Good Practices” was held.

The main objective was to establish the methodology for the Good Practices identification, the criteria, and the main characteristics to consider a regional example an interregional Good Practice.

Workshops on Good Practice Learning followed and a number of partners shared examples including:

1. Donegal County Council – Sustainable Energy Community Programme delivered through SEAI.
2. Donegal County Council – MOU between Local Authorities and SEAI to assist SEC’s deliver the Energy Master Plans.
3. Cyprus – Energy Agency and University of Technology working in collaboration to change how shared public spaces are used.





## 5. SC Meeting

The final activity of Day 1 was the partners attending the second steering committee meeting, which was led by Ana Martinez, Project Manager.

The meeting focus was on the project reporting deadlines, claims process, communication commitments that each of the partners are required to meet. Partners had an opportunity to raise any concerns that they were experiencing and the lead partner clarified any issues raised.



## 6. Study Visits

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, 2 study visits were planned related to the projects topics. The first study visit took place in Ballyliffin, Co Donegal just a short distance from the conference venue and the second study visits were hosted in Carndonagh, Co Donegal a short 10 minute drive from the first location.

### STUDY VISIT 1 – Ballyliffin Lodge & Spa Hotel, Co Donegal.

Day 2 commenced with a site visit to the Ballyliffin Lodge and Spa Hotel site to see some of the renewable technology introduced by the private sector. Community owned sites are work in progress but not fully developed for viewing yet.

This site visit demonstrated how the business uses the renewable energy from biomass woodchip boiler and also solar power to offset the rising energy costs. The hotel have also added a 'smart energy management' system to control heating in zones / rooms and also LED lighting / sensor controls throughout the hotel.







## STUDY VISIT 2 – Atlanfish Ltd, Carndonagh, Co Donegal

The final site visits and presentations were hosted at the Carndonagh Public Services Centre Con McLaughlin – presented the work undertaken by neighbouring Atlanfish Ltd



*Site visit No2 – Atlanfish, Con McLaughlin presenting at Carndonagh PSC*

Aine McLaughlin, Inishowen Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) gave a detailed presentation on the work being carried out by the SEC.



*Aine McLaughlin, Inishowen Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) presenting at Carndonagh PSC*

The final presentation of the day was delivered by Eithne McLaughlin, LAN Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) outlining the detail of 'Meet the Builder' workshops currently being hosted by that group with support from Mel Galvin, ATU and Co-ordinator for SEAI.



*Eithne McLaughlin, LAN Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) presenting at Carndonagh PSC*