



1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FEE ECOCAMPUS

Getting Higher Level Education Climate Ready

26-27th April 2024

‘Becoming a Better Neighbour – Community Outreach by Irish Campuses’

Submission topic : Education for Environmental Citizenship – The role of the EcoCampus outside of the school walls

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Title: Becoming a Better Neighbour – Community Outreach by Irish campuses

- Green Campus committee as **conduit** between a third level institution and the local and wider community
- Links to the Seven Steps of Green Campus particularly Step 6 of the programme: **‘Informing and Involving the Campus and Wider Community’**

Through Step 6: A Green Campus Committee is empowered to:

- Reach out to their local community and **work in partnership** to address threats to the local environment
- Promote **environmental citizenship** and **social inclusion**
- Work on **community enhancement projects**
- Pass on experience and **best practice**
- Seek opportunities to co-learn and co-create
- Set an **example in the locality** and to become, in essence, a **better neighbour**.



Green-Campus Origins to Present Day

- Origins: UCC students in 2007 saw the need to follow on from Green-Schools. They Celebrated 10 Years as an awarded campus in 2020 and recently were awarded their 5th green flag.
- 2024: 60 registered, 22 awarded Green-Campus Accreditation
- Both a programme and an award, does not aim to reward specific environmental improvement projects, e.g. switching to renewable energy or capital projects
- Criteria: the successful implementation of the seven steps of the programme and a demonstration of commitment to the continuity of the programme on campus
- Long term commitment to environmental action and improvement on campus (Assessment & Renewal)



Campus profiles

Dublin City University: A multi-campus university in North Dublin established in 1989, first green flag in 2014, 18k students and 2.5k staff

University College Cork: Cork City campus, established in 1845, founding member of the Green Campus programme and now on 5th green flag, 23k students and 3k staff

Technological University Dublin: Formed in 2019, multi campus location in Dublin City and suburbs, first green flag in 2023, 28k students and 2.5k staff

Kinsale College: College of Further Education in rural Cork, second green flag in 2023, 190 students and 25 staff

Atlantic Technological University Connemara: Technological University in rural Galway specialising in furniture design, established in 1987, on 2nd green flag, 200 students



Dublin City University Community Outreach

- **Dublin City University:** A multi-campus university in North Dublin established in 1989, first green flag in 2014, 18k students and 2.5k staff:
- **DCU goes Wild for Cruinniú na nÓg (youth meeting)** – exploring creative ways to make room for nature in the city on the All Hallows Campus
- **Connection to a wider national initiative by Creative Ireland**



Dublin City University Community Outreach

- In October 2022, Ireland held its first **Children and Young People's Assembly on Biodiversity Loss**.
- **Key features**
 - Brought together a representative random sample of 35 children and young aged 7-17 from across Ireland
 - Met over 2 weekends in October 2022
 - Created a vision statement, 6 key messages, and 58 calls to action on biodiversity protection



Eva Cantwell & Colm Smith
DCC Active Travel Team

5 or 10 minute car journeys are what blocks are up Dublin

Active Travel Network

310 km of New Green travel infrastructure

SCHOOL RUST

SAFETY

community consultation

Accessible

Health & Wellbeing

MORE Pedestrians and Cyclists

More cars out slow cars down

people out and talking to each other

Planting Apples, Trees and Native Hedgerows

community roots

Bat boxes

4 routes going through Ballymun

Michelle Nolan
connecting Cabra

Connecting Cabra

lots of concrete
lack of green space

Creating a Sustainable Community

Energy Masterplan

Tree planting

Garden Gnomes

Carbon Sink

Muck and Magic

Recycling

Food Growing Projects

Harvest & Share

John O'Donoghue
Ballymun Tidy Towns

Tidy Towns

Bike library

Good Food Festival

Ballymun Food Forum

Rediscovery Centre

Avoid Shift Improve Transport System

decarbonising our

Dr. Robert Egan
Trinity College Dublin

Let's Look at **Ghent in Belgium**

More Walking
More Cycling

Dublin City Council Transport Consultation

Get involved!

Have your say

Top Tips

Full

for Saving Energy

organiser everything for you

one stop shop

Grants for windows

Doors

Air Tightness

Attic Insulation

if you are in FUEL POVERTY

external insulation

Warmer Homes Scheme

Individual Energy Upgrade Grants

Do the work yourself

Supports from **Seai**

Gráinne Ryan
climate Ambassadors

Nature Based Solutions

what are the **BARRIERS?**

Lifestyle Change

System Change

SAFE

Flood Protection

on Taisce

Behaviour change

Sustainable Energy

Quality

Green Ballymun Community Conference 2023

Have your say!

Identifying **ACTIONS** to reduce emissions

Dublin City Council CLIMATE ACTION Plan 2024-2029

Ballymun Decarbonising Zone

Sarah McEllistrem
Codema

What grants are available for businesses and communities?

Solar Panels

community grants

Scheme for commercial premises

Seai or a rental property?

New Legislation coming to push landlords to retrofit houses!

rental grants

Pedestrian is King!

Keeping Pedestrians safe from e-Scooters?

New Legislation

We have Great Community Organisations

Focus on Food Security

Greener Safer Cleaner

Free Public Transport

Be Active!

it's coming! Clean Streets and Civic Pride

Train Metro

BALLYMUN in the Future

Willow

Postcard from Ballymun 2050

Myself in the Future

Local Food only!

Bring back the Market

No More Avocados!

Individual Actions

More Contact and Communication with Public Representatives

Let's talk more about the ENVIRONMENT

Actions we can take in Ballymun

Education

Advocacy Workshops

Vote!

Help to access Grants

Supports from Local and National Governments

Sharing Resources - Tool cars - Bikes

Today's Actions for Ballymun's Future

As electricity prices go up, more solar panels look attractive!

Q+A

Protecting Existing Positive Projects?

Be Active!

Train Metro

BALLYMUN in the Future

Willow

Postcard from Ballymun 2050

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Codema
Dublin's Energy Agency

Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

graphic by: hazelhurley.com

University College Cork Community Outreach

- **University College Cork:** Cork City campus, established in 1845, founding member of the Green Campus programme and now on 5th green flag, 23k students and 3k staff
- **Cork Nature Forum:** founded as a local coalition for biodiversity.
- The **core aims** of the Nature Forum are to advocate for the conservation, enhancement, and addition of blue and green spaces and their associated biodiversity in Cork City and further afield.
- The Forum is **non-hierarchical** and meets every month. Members include representatives Cork City Council, Cork Environmental Forum, UCC (students and staff), Green Spaces for Health, LAWPRO, amongst others.



University College Cork Community Outreach

- **BehaviAir (Behaviour and Impacts on Air Quality)** is a collaboration between academics in UCC (School of Applied Psychology, School of Chemistry), Cork City Council and Cork Healthy Cities.
- The project builds on ongoing research and engagement work by this group of partners in Cork to enhance public awareness of air pollution (which is currently limited) through effective communication and air quality data, and use this to promote positive behaviours for healthy air



CHEERS EVERY ONE!
THANK YOU EVERYONE...

CLEAN AIR DAY ROUND TABLES

A VISION FOR CLEAN AIR IN CORK CITY

BEHAV-I-AIR

@CORK CITY HALL

DISCUSSION

DR. MARICA CASSARINO

AND ROBERTO CIBIN

KEVIN RYAN
GOOD EVENING ALL

CLLR. KIERAN MCCARTHY
our Mayor!!!!

DENISE CAHILL
(Cork Healthy Cities)
AIR QUALITY IS SOMETHING IN OUR ACTION PLAN

DEAN VENABLES
Poor AIR QUALITY IRELAND ± 1,700 premature deaths
BUT... it has improved since 80's, 90's

BEHAVIOUR HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE

WE HAVE SHARED CHALLENGE
INVISIBLE THREAT

LACK OF AWARENESS

WORKING WITH A COMMUNITY TO COME UP WITH A VISION FOR CLEAN AIR

INTRO: MARICA

IMAGINATION!
THINK-IF CORK HAD CLEAN AIR...

VISION: Imagine a Cork where everyone can breathe clean air. What would it look like?

THE TRUTH!

IN YOUR GROUPS (DISCUSS)

STRIVING FOR CLEAN AIR IS MY BLOOD!

Tradition and Culture

culture, culture wars... we need to bring all of cork with us!

INCLUSION encouragement

NO MORE BONFIRES

NO FIRE PLACE (changing the ideas around them...)

MAKING WALKING A CULTURE!

Policy and Politics

more power to local gov.

DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEMS

TAX BREAKS FOR LANDLORD FOR ENERGY UPDATE

Infrastructure and Environment

CYCLE LANES incentive use of bikes

RIVER TRANSPORT

CAR AS A STATUS SYMBOL

TRANSPORT SEEMS TO BE THE BIG ONE!

making buses safer!

ESPECIALLY NIGHT BUSES

You want the vision? YES
Schools, if every person could walk, cycle, wheel, or bus

why people use solid fuel AND why they can't retrofit

HOW DO WE COMMUNICATE THESE SOLUTIONS...

GET BACK TO BILLBOARDS instead of social media...

QUIZ

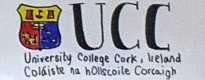
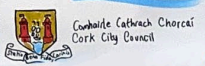
BLACK CARBON!

GLOBAL WARMING

5:35 PM MILLENNIUM HALL

ROBYN DEASY

www.robbyndeasy.com



University College Cork Community Outreach



Office of
Accommodation
and Community Life





TU Dublin Community Outreach

- **Technological University Dublin:** Formed in 2019, multi campus location in Dublin City and suburbs, first green flag in 2023, 28k students and 2.5k staff
- **CRAWL – Campus’ Role as Actors in Walkable and Liveable Communities**
- CRAWL aims to engage TU Dublin’s community and campus stakeholders in order to understand barriers and provide opportunities to make campuses and their surrounding neighbourhoods more walkable and liveable.

TU Dublin Community Outreach

- The 'GLAS @ TU Dublin' garden provides a space for local community groups and schools to grow fresh produce, reconnect with nature, and foster a stronger sense of community.
- [The garden opened in May 2023](#), and welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.
- [New research](#) published ahead of 'National Allotments and Community Gardens Week 2023' underlines the critical importance of green spaces for urban communities



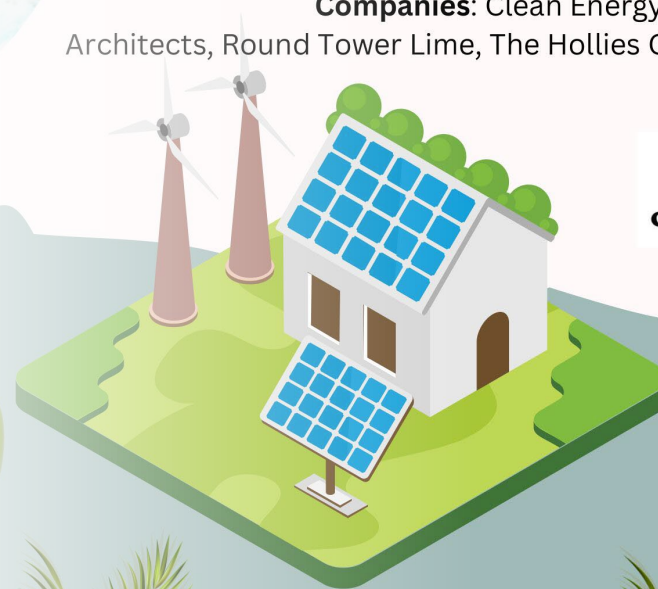
Kinsale College Community Outreach

- **Kinsale College:** College of Further Education in rural Cork, second green flag in 2023, 190 students and 25 staff
- **Kinsale Community Energy project** with local partners including Transition Towns Kinsale and Kinsale College involves 20 – 30 households and the local community centre being fitted with solar panels
- The **energy showcase day** flyer features on this slide.

STAINABLE ENERGY/ELECTRIFIED TRANSPORT *Showcase*

Solar Panels, Wind turbines, Eco Insulation, Retrofitting, Electric Bikes & Cars

Companies: Clean Energy Solar, Kearys Electric Cars, Rua Architects, Round Tower Lime, The Hollies Centre for Sustainability, Niall McCarthy, Green Aer Bikes



Visit
www.kinsalecampus.ie



Kinsale College Community Outreach

- **The Patchwork Meadow Project**
- Following on from the success of preparing meadows in local primary schools in 2023, Kinsale College are now expanding their Patchwork Meadow project from schools to the entire community with the goal is to engage all local school children to plant a 1x1m meadow patch as part of a larger mission to regenerate local ecosystems.
- The children are encouraged to take photos of their meadows and create posters to be exhibited in the local library as part of a community showcase.



**KINSALE
REPAIR
CAFE**

Bring your clothes, bikes,
electronics, furniture, computers
and more. Let's see what we can
fix together

**TUESDAY 19TH MARCH
&
TUESDAY 2ND APRIL
@7.30PM**

KINSALE CAMPUS BANDON RD,
BLACKHORSEFIELD, KINSALE, CO. CORK

For more information:
facebook.com/kinsale.repair.cafe

Resilience in action

**SKILL
SHARE
KINSALE**



www.transitiontownkinsale.org



2pm Saturday 20th January (at Saile)
'Fruit Tree Pruning' with Éidín

7.30pm Tuesday 20th February
'First Easy Steps to Ferment Food'
with Rafaela

7.30pm Tuesday 19th March 'Intro to
growing mushrooms' with Joao

7.30pm Tuesday 16th April
'Learning to Forage' with Chloe

7.30pm Tuesday 14th May
'Fermented Drinks-water kefir and
more' with Fanny

7.30pm Tuesday 11th June 'Easy
sewing to replace disposable items at
home' with Marion

ALL SKILL SHARES AT KINSALE COLLEGE
(except for first) & ARE DONATION BASED

To book please email
info@transitiontownkinsale.org



ATU Connemara Community Outreach

- **Atlantic Technological University Connemara:** Technological University in rural Galway specialising in furniture design, established in 1987, on 2nd green flag, 200 students
- A **Community Native Woodland** was planted in 2013 at the Letterfrack, Connemara campus of Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (now part of the Atlantic Technological University).
- The woodland planting was a collaboration with the campus, Connemara National Park (CNP), Connemara West campus and local community groups.
- The woodland project was planned by the GMIT Letterfrack Green Campus Committee with support from the 'One Million Trees and a Day' initiative and a Department of Agriculture Native Woodland grant.
- The woodland planting was undertaken to provide a learning environment for students and staff of the nearby GMIT Letterfrack campus (now ATU Connemara), as well as diversifying habitat for biodiversity gain within the CNP and to contribute to carbon sequestration.



Links to projects

Dublin City University:

- [DCU goes Wild for Cruinniú na nÓg | Dublin City University](#)
- [Home - Children and Young People's Assembly on Biodiversity Loss \(cyp-biodiversity.ie\)](#)
- [Green Ballymun Community Conference | Energy Efficiency Agency Dublin | Codema](#)

University College Cork:

- [News | University College Cork \(ucc.ie\)](#)
- [Behav-I-Air – BEHAViour and Impacts on AIR quality \(behaviar.org\)](#)
- [CommunityLifeBooklet_fullproof2023.pdf \(ucc.ie\)](#)

Technological University Dublin:

- [Crawl | TU Dublin](#)
- [Green Team | TU Dublin Launches Community Garden in Blanchardstown | TU Dublin](#)
- [TU Dublin Research: Ballymun Community Garden Benefits both People and Planet - Global Action Plan](#)

Kinsale College:

- [Transition Town Kinsale » Kinsale Community Energy Project](#)
- [Green Campus Kinsale \(youtube.com\)](#)

Atlantic Technological University Connemara:

- [Letterfrack Green Campus | ATU - Atlantic Technological University \(gmit.ie\)](#)



Thank you for listening!

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Ireland

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An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland

