# Master List of Recommendations /Actions Master List

#### (As Amended 2024)

Headings in black boxes describe the purpose / thrust of the action to be given to the user. Only text in white boxes is provided to the users.

Where this categorisation of criteria is in a green box, it is proposed that all users would receive this type of action in one of the categories listed.

Where the criteria are in an orange box, users would only receive recommended actions if they're in one of the categories/ sectors referenced.

Each Action is a assigned a priority:

Get Started
Embed
Strategic

Each Action is assigned relevant focus area buttons:

Energy
Water
Travel
Materials
Training/ Staff Engagement
Cost Saving
High Impact
Supports

#### **Recommended Actions Master List**

1. Give this plan an owner		
Size	Size	Size
10 or fewer	11 -249	250 or more
Appoint a key member of staff to be your sustainability champion.  Your sustainability champion will take ownership of this plan, share it with all staff andset an	Appoint a small number of key staffacross the business to be a 'Green Team', with an appointed leader.  Your Green Team, with oversight	Appoint a senior manager as your sustainability lead, with access to thenecessary resources and perhaps a 'Green Team' of colleagues throughout the organization.
ambitious but achievable timeframe for putting these measures in place.	ofa member of the senior management team, will take ownership of this plan, share it	Your Sustainability lead and Green Team, with oversight of a

Establishing clear ownership of this plan is an important first step and will help raise awareness and give priority tothe actions needed in order todecarbonise your business.

Consider allocating an appropriate budget for implementation of this plan.

**Get Started** 

Training/ Staff Engagement

withall staff and set an ambitious but achievable timeframe for putting further measures in place.

Give each action in this plan an'owner'.

Establishing clear ownership of thisplan is an important first step and will help give priority to the actionsneeded in order to decarbonise your business.

Consider allocating an appropriate budget for implementation of this plan.

**Get Started** 

Training/ Staff Engagement

member of the senior management team, will take ownership of this plan, share it with all staff and set an ambitious but achievable timeframe for putting these measures in place.

Give each action in this plan an 'owner' who will be responsible forimplementing that action.

Establishing clear ownership of thisplan is an important first step and will help with the prioritisation and delivery of actions needed to decarbonise your business.

Consider allocating an appropriate budget for implementation of thisplan.

Part of the role of your sustainability lead should be to undertake an assessment of which actions will have the greatest material impact.

**Get Started** 

Training/ Staff Engagement

2. Undertake Energy Training – provide training to staff to reduce energy use.				
Size	Size	Size		
10 or fewer	11 -249	250 or more		
All appropriate staff should	All appropriate staff should do	Key management and all		
do an online energy training	an energy training course to	appropriate staff should		
course to identify energy and	identifyenergy and cost	undertake energy training to		
cost savings for your	savings for your business.	identify opportunities for further		
business.	,	energy and cost savings for your		
	Arrange for your Green Team and	business.		
Completing an e-learning	other relevant staff to undertake			
course on SEAI's Energy	Energy Management training with	Your Sustainability lead should		
Academy will enable staff to	SEAlor Skillnet Ireland. By changing	undertake regular specialist		
reduce your business' energy	behaviours within the workplace,	training to identify energy and		
consumption and save	businesses can lower operating	costefficiencies. Arrange for staff		
money on your energy bills.	costs while reducing energy	and Green Team to undertake		
, , ,	intensity, whichis vital for	Energy Management training		
Supports Available &	combatting climate change.	with SEAI or Skillnet Ireland. By		
Description		changing awareness and		
	Supports Available & Description	knowledge within the workplace,		
The SEAI Energy Academy is		businesses can lower operating		
a free online training	The SEAI Energy Academy is a free	costs while reducing energy		
resource offering modules	online training resource offering	intensity.		
focused on important areas	modules focused on important			
of energy efficiency and	areasof energy efficiency and	Supports Available & Description		
management.	management.			
https//www.seai.ie/	https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/	The SEAI Energy Academy is a		
energyacademy/		free online training resource		
	The Climate Ready Academy Energy	offering modules focused on		
	Leaders Programme equips	important areas of energy		
Assess whether there is a	businessesand energy professionals	efficiency and management.		
Solas green	with expertise on how to reduce	https://www.seai.ie/energy		
microqualification that your	energy waste, optimise cost	academy/		
staff could undertake to	savings, and protect the			
help your business achieve	environment. <a href="https://climateready">https://climateready</a>	Climate Ready Academy Energy		
its climate goals.	Academy.ie/energy-leaders-	Leaders Programme equips		
https://www.solas.ie/	programme/	energy professionals with		
programmes/skills-to-		expertiseon how to reduce		
advance/employers/	The Climate Ready Academy	energy waste, optimise cost		
	Sustainability Leaders programme	savings, and protect the		
	aims to drive and assist businesses	environment.		
	and sustainability professionals to	Energy Leaders Programme -		
	embrace responsible and sustainable	Climate Ready Academy.		
	business practices towards a	Assess whether there is a Calca		
	decarbonized economy.	Assess whether there is a Solas		
	Energy Leaders Programme - Climate	green microqualification that your staff could undertake to help your		
	Ready Academy.	business achieve its climate goals.		
	Access whathar there is a Calas	https://www.solas.ie/programmes		
	Assess whether there is a Solas	/skills-to-advance/employers/		
	green microqualification that your staff could undertake to help your	75Kills to davalice/elliployels/		
	business achieve its climate goals.			
	https://www.solas.ie/programmes/			
	skills-to-advance/employers/			
1	3KIII3-LO-auvalice/ellipi0yel3/	İ		

3. Understand, monitor and reduce your energy use by increasing energy awareness and encouraging behavioural change.

#### All Users

Monitor and reduce your energy use, through increasing energy awareness and encouraging behavioral changeamongst staff.

Recording energy use gives you a baseline against which to measure all improvement actions taken. SEAI's Energy Management Guide for Small Business can be a useful guide to getting started with monitoringyour energy use.

Use communications tools to promote awareness and support staff to be more energy efficient

#### Communications will include:

- Posters and/or other prominent messages in the workplace to let staff know about the energy savingand conservation measures.
- Regular communication on the energy and emissions footprint of the organisation and the stepsunderway to address these.
- Cues to remind staff to turn off lights and equipment at the end of the day/when not required.
- Appointing someone to turn off communal machines like printers, coffee machines, etc. at appropriatetimes.
- Energy saving competitions between departments or teams.
- Encouraging all staff to undertake online sustainability training (training recommendations provided infurther actions)
- Consider assigning sustainability objectives, goals and actions as part of your performance management process.

#### Supports Available & Description

SEAI Business Energy Upgrade Scheme allows you to choose from a selection of measures to upgrade your business and get immediate grant approval.

https://www.seai.ie/grants/business-grants/rapid-approval

SEAI Introduction to Energy Management: Creating an Energy Action Plan Training assists businesses withwriting an energy action plan, tracking their energy use, and developing an energy management strategy.

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/introductiontoenergymanagementtrainingontradesector

The SEAI Energy Management Guide for Small Business is a useful guide to getting started with monitoring your energy use.

https://www.seai.ie/publications/Energy-Management-Workbook-SMEs.pdf

The Skillnet Ireland Climate Ready Academy Sustainability Pass is a free online self-study modular programme designed to support all staff of all disciplines and skill levels to improve sustainability awareness and encourage best sustainability practices.

https://www.climatereadyacademy.ie/sustainability-pass/

The Climate Ready Academy Sustainability Leaders programme aims to drive and assist businesses and Sustainability professionals to embrace responsible and sustainable business practices towards a decarbonised economy.

https://www.climatereadyacademy.ie/sustainability-leaders-programme/

SEAI's Energy Academy has modules that will teach you the most effective ways to run behaviour change campaigns in the workplace: <a href="https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/">https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/</a>

Save up to 10% off your business energy bill by implementing low or no-cost energy efficiency measures. The SEAI have lots of tips and resources to get you started.

https://www.seai.ie/plan-your-energy-journey/for-your-business/steps-to-energy-efficiency

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. <a href="https://www.localenterprise.ie/green">https://www.localenterprise.ie/green</a>

#### 4. Implement all no-cost and low-cost energy – saving measures

#### All Users

Take 'early win' actions on efficiency and cost saving measures first.

The journey to zero emissions will be a demanding one and will likely require strategic investment over time. However, introducing some low-cost energy-saving measures identified through your training can help you make early progress, save your business money and set you on a path to lowering your carbon footprint.

#### Consider:

- Replacing all old fluorescent or incandescent lighting with high efficiency LED Lighting at end of life, install lighting controls, such as motion detectors, to reduce consumption.
- Ensuring thermostats are set to 19 22 degrees C and set timers to turn off on weekends and evenings.
- Installing draught-proofing anywhere that unwanted cold air comes in e.g. under doors, aroundwindow frames, through old unused extractor fans.
- Ensuring major energy using equipment such as boilers, compressors, dryers, refrigeration are regularly serviced and maintained to avoid excess consumption.

Review all potential opportunities in SEAI SME Guide to Energy Efficiency

#### Supports Available and Description

Replace old fluorescent or incandescent lighting with high efficiency LED Lighting at end of life, install lighting controls such as motion detectors to reduce consumption.

https://www.seai.ie/publications/SEAI-Energy-Efficient-LED-Lighting-Guide.pdf

The SBCI Growth and Sustainability Loan Scheme (GSLS) offers discounted finance to SMEs, farmers, fishers and Small Mid-Caps for long-term investments towards climate action and environment sustainability. Lending benefits from reduced interest rates, finance amounts from €25K to €3m over terms from 7 to 10 years, with unsecured loans up to €500K.

https://sbci.gov.ie/products/growth-and-sustainability-loan-scheme

The Local Enterprise Office Energy Efficiency Grant helps businesses implement cutting-edge energy-efficient solutions, upgrade equipment, and optimise processes – so to future-proof businesses, reduce costs and help businesses reach their sustainability goals.

The scheme provides 75% of eligible costs (from a minimum grant of €1,000 up to a maximum grant of €10,000) for investment in energy efficient technologies & equipment identified in a Green for Business; GreenStart or SEAI Energy Audit. This includes but is not limited to meters and related installation & commissioning costs, smart energy controls and upgrades or replacement to more energy efficient equipment and systems.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/energy

#### 5. Implement Space Heating Measures

#### All Users

Take additional measures to reduce your heating costs if you have not already done so,

- Insulate your premises so it loses less heat (ensuring adequate ventilation)
- Consider your office layout where people sit affects how hot or cold they feel.
- Installing recirculating fans (to move hot air that has risen to the roof back down to where it is needed) or lower suspended ceilings (to reduce the amount of space to be heated).
- Installing new windows can reduce heat loss significantly.
- Ensure you have the right type of heating. Spot heating can be more efficient in large spaces with fewpeople.

An investment in energy efficiency – however small – will help drive increased competitiveness and build resilience to the headwinds of market uncertainty and energy price volatility.

#### **Supports Available & Description**

More ideas on how to improve heating efficiency are available in SEAl's SME Guide to EnergyEfficiency: SME-Guide-to-Energy-Efficiency

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#### 6. Engage with your landlord

If the response to: I own my premises = No

Engage early with your landlord or lessor to make necessary changes to energy use, building fabric, lighting and other actions in this plan. If you are considering moving or renting a new premises, make sustainability akey criterion in decision making and in lease negotiations.

You have indicated that you are renting or leasing your premises. While you may therefore be constrained in implementing some of the actions proposed in this plan, many of them are deliverable and commercially sensible, with the engagement of your landlord or lessor. It might also be helpful to engage with other tenants if appropriate.

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https://www.localenterprise.ie/energy

7. External expertise to identify energy saving opportunities and plan for zero carbon				
Energy Spend (per annum)				
<€10,000 <€10k - €49,999k €50 - €500k >€500k				
Seek external expertise tohelp	Seek external expertise tohelp make a plan for	Undertake an energy audit of your business	Undertake an energy audit of your	
make a plan for a	a zero-carbon	and make a plan for	businessand make a	
zero-carbon	business.	zero-carbon.	plan for zero-	
business.			carbon.	
	Having an external	Having an external		
Having an external	expertexamine the	expert examine the	Having an external	
expertexamine the	energy use and wider	energy use in your	expert examine the	
energy use and	operations of your	business can help to	energy use and wider	
wider operations of	business can help you	identify potential	operations of your	
your business can	to plan for further	energy and cost	business can help you	
help you to plan for	efficiencies and low	savings.	toplan for further	
further efficiencies	carbon opportunities.	Cumparts Available	efficiencies and low	
and low carbon opportunities.	Cunnorts	Supports Available &Description	carbon opportunities.	
opportunities.	Supports Available 8	<u>พิทธิริตาทิยาดม</u>	-For Large companies	
Supports	Available & Description	Local Enterprise Office	that fall within the	
Available &	<u>הבפתוותווחוו</u>	Green for Business	Energy Efficiency	
<u>Description</u>	Local Enterprise Office	Programme is available	Directive, you must	
	Green for Business	to Small and Micro	ensure that you meet	
Local Enterprise	Programme is available	Enterprises (up to 50	the mandated	
Office Green for	to Small and Micro	staff). The programme	requirement to get an	
Business	Enterprises (up to 50	is open to all sectors	energy audit done every	
Programme is	staff). The programme	and provides free	4 years:	
available to Small	is open to all sectors	expert advice and	https://www.seai.ie/pla	
and Micro	and provides free	mentorship and a	n-your-energy-	
Enterprises (up to	expert advice and	unique report for your	journey/for-your-	
50 staff). The	mentorship and a	business to understand	business/supports/ener	
programme is open to all sectors and	unique report for your	and plan the next steps	gy-audits/	
provides free expert	business to understand	in your sustainability	Supports	
advice and	and plan the next steps	journey. https://www.local	<u>Supports</u> <u>Available &amp;</u>	
mentorship and a	in your sustainability	enterprise.ie/green	Description Description	
unique report for	journey. https://www.local	Checipitache/green		
your business to	enterprise.ie/green	SEAI's Support Scheme	SEAI's Support Scheme	
understand and	and production production	for Energy Audits offers	for Energy Audits offers	
plan the next steps	SEAI's Support Scheme	financial support for a	financial support for a	
in your	for Energy Audits	high-quality energy	high-quality energy	
sustainability	offers financial support	audit for SMEs that	audit of your business	
journey.	for a high-quality	spend more than	for or SMEs that spend	
https://www.local	energy audit for SMEs	€10,000 annually on	more than €10,000	
enterprise.ie/green	that spend morethan	energy.	annually on energy	
	€10,000 annually on	https://www.seai.ie/pla		
Enterprise Ireland	energy.	n-your-energy-		
and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a	https://www.seai.ie/pla	journey/for-your-		
range of supports for	n-your-energy-	business/supports/ener gy-audits/		
client companies to	journey/for-your- business/supports/ener	gy-audits/		
reduce emissions	gy-audits/	Enterprise Ireland and		
and improve	<u>sy addits/</u>	Údarás na Gaeltachta		
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performance. Údarás na Gaeltachta supports for client https://enterprisehave a range of companies to reduce ireland.com/en/suppo supports for client emissions and improve environmental rts companies to reduce /become-moreemissions and improve performance. The sustainable environmental ClimateAction Voucher performance. The to develop an initial ClimateAction Voucher action plan, to develop an initial GreenStart/Plus to develop internal action plan, GreenStart/Plus capabilities. to develop internal capabilities. Energy Strategic Consultancy Monitoring & Tracking for large energy users Systems grant to install to develop a carbon meters. reduction roadmap. https://enterprise-Energy Monitoring & ireland.com/en/ Tracking Systems grant supports/become-moreto install meters. sustainable https://enterpriseireland.com/en/ supports/become-moresustainable

8. Sector Specific Energy-saving Actions				
- If: Sector Selected				
Other Manufacturing, Food & Drink, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering	Retail			
Assess your manufacturing process to ensure it isoptimised to use less energy and resources  For example, avoid wasting energy when motors are running:	Assess your refrigeration equipment to ensure it is optimised to use less energy and resources  Fridges and freezers are very high consumers of energy, so it is important to make sure that they are running at optimal efficiency.			
<ul> <li>Automate and interlock motor controls so thatthey only run when other equipment is switched on and are isolated when it's switched off.</li> <li>Establish optimum settings for motors</li> </ul>	Optimum temperatures for fridges range from 1.7 to 3.3 degrees Celsius, and for freezers -18 to -20 degreesCelsius.  Ensure freezers are defrosted regularly.			

and communicate to staff.

Avoid wasting energy from compressors by ensuringadequate space around compressors and regularly checking for leaks; install automatic isolation valvesso that air is not wasted when machines are not in use.

Consider reusing waste heat from compressors. Over 90% of the energy that goes into a compressor comes out as heat – consider using it, for example by fitting a heat exchanger and heating water.

Consider improving motor efficiency: Variable speeddrives improve motor efficiency by wasting less energy, increase lifespan of motor and reduce maintenance.

Ensure that you are compliant with refrigerantregulations.

#### Supports Available & Description

Lean for Business is designed to encourage Local Enterprise Office clients to adopt Lean business principles in their businesses to increase performance and competitiveness. Applying LEAN principles to your business will help to build resilience so that you are better positioned to copewith future challenges and opportunities. LEAN - Local Enterprise Office

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

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The scheme provides 75% of eligible costs (from a minimum grant of €1,000 up to a maximum grant of €10,000) for investment in energy efficient technologies & equipment identified in a Green for Business; GreenStart

Repair door seals on fridges and relocate refrigeration units if they are located near draughts:poor location can nearly double energy use.

Fit LED lighting. Lighting can add ~10% to the heat load in refrigeration systems. LEDs work very well at low temperatures and give off very little heat, so they are perfect for cooled spaces. They are also verylow maintenance, therefore reducing lifetime costs.

Ensure that you are compliant with F-gasesregulations if applicable.

#### Supports Available & Description

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The Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA) is a tax incentive designed to encourage businesses to investin energy efficient products. If you select

or SEAI Energy Audit. This includes but is not limited to meters and related installation & commissioning costs; smart energy controls and upgrades or replacement to more energy efficient equipment and systems.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/energy

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports forclient companies to reduce emissions and improve environmental performance. The Climate Action Voucher to develop an initial action plan. GreenStart/Plus to develop internal capabilities. Strategic Consultancy for large energy users to develop a carbon reduction roadmap. Energy Monitoring & Tracking Systems grant to install meters.

https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

Enterprise Ireland's and Údarás na Gaeltachta Digital and Lean Offers are designed to encourage clients to adopt digital systems and Lean business principles in their organisation to increase performance and competitiveness.

Become more competitive | Business Support | Enterprise Ireland (enterprise-ireland.com)

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

https://www.idaireland.com/scale-with-ida/funding-programmes-incentives/ida-gogreen-offer.

The Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA) is a tax incentive designed to encourage businesses to invest in energy efficient products. If you select products from SEAI's Triple E register when purchasing new refrigeration equipment, then you will be able to deduct the full cost of that equipment from your profits in the year of purchase.

https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/business-grants-and-supports/accelerated-capital-allowance/

Under the SEAI EXEED grant scheme, support may be available for organisations planning an ambitious energy efficiency overhaul of their existing food production, processing and storage processes.

EXEED Grant Scheme | Business Grants | SEAI

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Energy Speed (per annum) <e10,000< th=""><th colspan="5">O Undertake targeted investments in order to remove fessil fuels from your exerction</th></e10,000<>	O Undertake targeted investments in order to remove fessil fuels from your exerction					
Plan now to go low - carbon when you are next upgrading your boiler or heating system.  Once you have addressed available efficiency measures, undertaking targeted investments to remove fossil fuels from your business' operations will reduce emissions and make your business resilient and ready for the zero-carbon future. Over time it will save you carbon taxes and other emissions penalties.  Plan now to go low - €10k - €49,999k  Ake a plan to go low - carbon as soon as possible, such as installing heat pump(s) or bio energy processes.  Once you have completed a full energy processes.  Once you have completed a full energy audit, and addressed available efficiency measures, undertaking targeted investments to remove fossil fuels from your business' resilient and ready for the zero-carbon future.  Over time it will save you carbon taxes and other emissions penalties.  Consider whether passive water heating or rooftop microgeneration could be useful for your building.  Supports Available &  Make a plan to go low - carbon as soon as soon as possible, such as installing heat pump(s) or bio energy processes.  Once you have completed a full energy audit, and addressed available efficiency measures, undertaking targeted investments to remove fossil fuels from your business' operations will reduce emissions and make yourbusiness resilient and ready for the zero- carbon future. Over timeit will save you carbon taxes and other emissions penalties.  Supports Available &  Supports  Make a plan to go low - carbon as soon as possible, such as installing heat-pump(s) or bio energy processes.  Once you have completed a full energy audit, and addressed available efficiency measures, undertaking targeted investments to remove fossil fuels from your business' operations will reduce emissions and make yourbusiness resilient and ready for the zero- carbon future. Over timeit will save you carbon taxes and other emissions penalties.	9. Undertake targeted investments in order to remove fossil fuels from your operation  Energy Speed (per appum)					
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panels to generate electricity on site. Non-Domestic Microgen Scheme | Business Grants and Supports | SEAI

Through the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme, energy providers (gas, electricityand solid fuel) have an obligation to help customers decarbonise contact any of these providers (known as Obligated Parties) to assess available supportoptions. https://www.seai.ie/busin ess-and-publicsector/business-grantsand-supports/energyefficiency-obligationscheme/

Grant support for one- off measures such as lighting or insulation maybe available through SEAI's Communities Grant — consider engaging with an experienced Community Energy Project Coordinator to find out if this approach could be right for you:

Community Grant
Overview | SEAI

Consider installing renewable heat sources such as a heat pump or biomass boiler under the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat Support Scheme for Renewable Heat |

Business Grants | SEAI

The Local Enterprise Office Energy Efficiency Grant helps businesses implement cutting-edge energy-efficient solutions, upgrade equipment, and optimise processes – so to future-proof businesses, other sectors to install solar PV panels to generate electricity on site.

Non-Domestic
Microgen Scheme |
Business Grants and
Supports | SEAI

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Business Grants | SEAI

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Non-Domestic
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Business Grants and
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Supports | SEAI

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Community Grant
Overview | SEAI

Consider installing renewable heat sources such as a heat pump or biomass boiler under the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat Support Scheme for Renewable Heat |
Business Grants |
SEAI

reduce costs and help businesses reach their sustainability goals.

The scheme provides 75% of eligible costs (from a minimum grant of €1,000 up to a maximum grant of €10,000) for investment in energy efficient technologies & equipment identified in a Green for Business; GreenStart or SEAI Energy Audit. This includes but is not limited to meters and related installation & commissioning costs; smart energy controls and upgrades or replacement to more energy efficient equipment and systems. https://www.local enterprise.ie/energy

Energy
High Impact
Supports

The Capital investment for decarbonisation processes grant supports investment in carbon reducing technologies in manufacturing combustion processes. The scheme may provide grants of up to 50%, witha maximum support of €1m, for Enterprise Ireland, Údarás na Gaeltachta and IDA Ireland manufacturing clients.

https://enterpriseireland.com/en/ supports/becomemore-sustainable

The SBCI Growth and Sustainability Loan Scheme (GSLS) offers discount finance to SMEs, Farmers, Fishers and Small Mid-Caps for long term investment towards climate action and environment sustainability. Lending benefits from reduced interest rates, finance amounts from €25k to €3m over terms from 7 - 10 years with unsecured loans of up to €500k https://sbci.gov.ie/ products/growth/andsustainability-loan-

Strategic Energy High Impact

Supports

scheme

#### Business Grants | SEAI

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Embed
Energy
High Impact
Supports

The SEAI EXEED grant scheme is designed for organisations who are planning an energy investment project and it's particularly worthwhile for companies with high energy spend. Find out more.

EXEED Grant
Scheme | Business
Grants | SEAI

Consider installing renewable heat sources such as a heat pump or biomass boiler under the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat Support Scheme for Renewable Heat |
Business Grants | SEAI

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# 10. Undertake an assessment to design a plan to remove fossil fuels from your business operations If: metric provided for Coal/ Heating Oil / Heavy Fuel Oil

Make a plan to remove high-carbon fossil fuels from your operations as soon as possible.

You have indicated that you are using a high-carbon fossil fuel in your operations, such as Coal / Oil / LPG / Diesel / Kerosene. This is a concern to the medium-term sustainability of your business and you should plan now to address this. Carbon taxes will make these fuels more expensive for your business in the short term, and SEAI grants will no longer support systems using these fossil fuels. The good news is that you can significantly reduce your carbon footprint and decarbonise your business by addressing this.

#### You should:

- 1. Immediately seek an external energy audit and expertise as to the most cost-effective approach to decarbonizing your activities
- 2. Use this analysis to put together a realistic plan to replace the use of high-carbon fuels in youroperations

**Supports Available & Description** 

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to reduce emissions and improve environmental performance. The Climate Action Voucher to develop an initial action plan, GreenStart/Plus to develop internal capabilities.

https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

SEAI's Support Scheme for Energy Audits offers financial support for businesses who want to get a high-quality energy audit. This will identify the most effective actions you can take to reduce your business's fossilfuels use.

Energy Audits for SMEs | Business | SEAI

Consider if installing renewable heat sources such as a heat pump or biomass boiler under the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat would be appropriate for your facility:

Support Scheme for Renewable Heat | Business Grants | SEAI

Energy providers (gas, electricity and solid fuel) have an obligation to help customers decarbonise – contact any of the providers (known as Obligated Parties) to assess available support options. <a href="https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/business-grants-and-supports/energy-efficiency-obligation-scheme/">https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/business-grants-and-supports/energy-efficiency-obligation-scheme/</a>

The SEAI EXEED grant scheme supports a range of energy efficiency technologies for organisations who are planning an ambitious energy investment project.

EXEED Grant Scheme | Business Grants | SEAI

The SBCI Growth and Sustainability Loan Scheme (GSLS) offers discounted finance to SMEs, farmers, fishers and Small Mid-Caps for long-term investments towards climate action and environment sustainability. Lending benefits from reduced interest rates, finance amounts from €25K to €3m over terms from 7 to 10 years, with unsecured loans up to €500K.

https://sbci.gov.ie/products/growth-and-sustainability-loan-scheme

Embed
Energy
High Impact
Supports

If: metric provided for Coal/ Heating
 Oil/ Heavy Fuel Oil and size = <10</li>

Contact your Local Enterprise Office to access advice and guidance on your options to replace high-carbonfuels in your process.

#### Supports Available & Description

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to reduce emissions and improve environmental performance.

https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

 If: metric provided for Coal / heating oil / heavy fuel oil AND Sector = Manufacturing / Food & Drink

Contact SEAI, Enterprise Ireland or IDA Ireland withyour energy audit to access advice and support onyour options to replace high-carbon fuels in your process.

#### **Supports Available & Description**

GreenStart or the Strategic Consultancy grant, is open to Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta clients, to develop a carbon reduction roadmap. <a href="https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable">https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable</a>

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

Energy
High Impact
Supports

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High Impact
Supports

Embed
Energy
High Impact
Supports

#### 11. Provide training to staff to manage and reduce water use.

User

Provide training to all relevant staff to manage and reduce water use.

Staff should be encouraged to visit Uisce Éireann's conservation quiz to test yourself and learn the importance of protecting our precious water supply.

#### Supports Available & Description

Staff can take Uisce Eireann's water conservation quiz to discover the importance of safeguarding our water and learn how business can contribute to a sustainable future

Water Stewardship | Conservation | Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)

Get Started
Water
Training/ Staff Engagement

12. Monitor your water use and set targets to reduce it.

a. Water use (if not provided, assume low)

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Low water use (less than 20,000m3 per annum)	High water use (20,000 m3 per
	annum and above)

Monitor your water use and set targets to reduce it.

Appoint somebody to review your water bills periodically and introduce additional measures to bring it down each quarter or year. Sign up to Uisce Éireann's conservation Pledge.

As a first step, highlight water conservation options in bathrooms and kitchen areas.

Water is a precious and non-renewable resource. Ensuring your business uses it efficiently will reduceyour water bills and help ensure that you will continue to have a reliable water supply into the future.

#### Supports Available & Description

The SME Water Stewardship Programme is a free online training initiative, offered in partnership with Uisce Éireann and the Sustainable Enterprise Skillnet, and delivered by 20FIFTY Partners. Accredited by Water Stewardship Ireland, this programme provides international best practice certification and equips businesses with the knowledge to lower water consumption, reduce water bills, and protect the environment.

Water Stewardship for SMEs - Water

Sign up to Uisce Éireann's conservation pledge Water conservation for business |
Conservation | Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish

Embed Water Cost Saving

Water)

Stewardship Ireland

Your business uses a significant volume of water. It's essential that you appoint a senior manager to be responsible for monitoring your water use quarterly and setting targets to reduce it.

Designate a Water sustainability lead and support them to become an Uisce Éireann Certified Water Steward. They should be responsible for reviewing your water bills periodically and introduce additional measures to bring it down each quarter orannually. The programme will provide you with the knowledge and skills to reduce water consumption and operating costs at your site.

Businesses can share their new SME Water Steward badge on marketing materials/social media and add it to their green credentials.

Water is a precious and non-renewable resource. Ensuring your business uses it efficiently will reduceyour water bills and help ensure that you will continue to have a reliable water supply into the future.

#### **Supports Available & Description**

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Water Stewardship for SMEs - Water Stewardship Ireland

Join Water Stewardship Ireland Community of Practice (Large Users).

https://www.waterstewardshipireland.com/

Learn about addressing water quality at the catchment level

https:www.waterstewardshipireland.com/showcase/catchment-excellence-programme

Sign up to Uisce Eireann's conservation pledge.

<u>Water Stewardship for SMEs - Water Stewardship</u>

<u>Ireland</u>

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to small and micro enterprises (up to 50 staff). The program is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainable journey.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

Get Started
Water
Cost Saving

b. Sector Specific Actions – if: Sector selected

Manufacturing	Pharma	Food & Drink	Hospitality	Education
Establish a 'Water Balance' for your manufacturing	Conduct a wateraudit of your hospitality	Establish a 'Water Balance' for your pharma site.	Uisce Eireann provide detailed	Establish a 'Water Balance' for your operations and
process. A water balance provides a full picture of every water-	premises. This will show where the major water use	A water balance provides a full picture of every	advice for water management sector.	production.  Origin Green endorse the Irish
consuming component on siteand serves as the first step in	is comingfrom and where savings can be made.	water-consuming component on site and serves as the first step in	Hospitality   Water Conservation in Business	Water Stewardship certification as partof their
uncovering hidden opportunities for savings.	Supports Available& Description	uncovering hidden opportunities for savings.	Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)	sustainability credentials.  Supports
Supports Available& Description  Detailed advice for water management in the	Establish a 'Water Balance' for your pharma site. A water balance provides a full picture of every	Supports Available& Description  Embed Water Cost Savings	Cost Saving	Available& Description  Uisce Eireann provide detailed advice for Review Uisce
manufacturing industry.  Manufacturing   Water Conservation in Business   Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)	water-consuming component on site and serves as the first step in uncovering hidden opportunities for savings.  Pharmaceutical manufacturing   Conservation	Where relevant, also review Uisce Éireann's conservation advicefor the agricultural sector. Agriculture   Water Conservation in		Eireann's conservation advice for the Education sector. Colleges and Universities Water Conservation Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish

	4:	Τ	T
	<u>Uisce Éireann</u>	Business   Uisce	<u>Water)</u>
Enterprise	(formerly Irish	Éireann (formerly	
Ireland, Údarás	<u>Water)</u>	<u>Irish Water</u> )	
na Gaeltachta			
and IDA Ireland's	Enterprise		
GreenStart and	Ireland, Údarás	Undertake Certified	
GreenPlus grants	na Gaeltachta	Water Stewardship	
can support	and IDA Ireland's	Training	
client companies	GreenStart and	Water Stewardship	
with training and	GreenPlus grants	for SMEs - Water	
advicefocused on	can support	Stewardship Ireland	
water	client companies		
conservation	with training and		
projects e.g.	advicefocused on	Enterprise Ireland,	
-Provide advice	water	Údarás na	
onwater risks	conservation	Gaeltachta and	
(financial,	projects e.g.	IDA Ireland's	
reputational,		GreenStart and	
regulatory or	-Provide advice	GreenPlus grants	
physical) and	onwater risks	can support client	
howto mitigate	(financial,	companies with	
them	reputational,	training and advice	
-Assist with	regulatory or	focused on water	
preparation of a	physical) and	conservation	
Water	howto mitigate	projects e.g.	
StewardshipMap,	them	-Provide advice on	
Targets and	-Assist with	water risks	
Action Plan		(financial,	
-Establish a	preparation of a Water	reputational,	
baseline	1 1 1 1	regulatory or	
assessment to	StewardshipMap, Targets and	physical) and how	
identify	Action Plan	to mitigate them	
possible	ACTION Plan		
savings and	-Establish a	-Assist with	
KPIs	baseline	preparation of a	
-Provide training	assessment to	Water Stewardship	
and guidance on	identify	Map, Targets and	
the	possible	Action Plan	
implementation	savings and	-Establish a	
ofsoftware tools	KPIs	baseline	
to measure,		assessment to	
manageand	-Provide training	identify possible	
report	and guidance on	savings and KPIs	
-Provide	the		
introductory	implementation	-Provide training	
training for	ofsoftware tools	and guidance on the	
relevant staff	to measure,	implementation of	
Assist with	manageand	software tools to	
accessto other	report	measure, manage	
tools and	-Provide	and report	
resources to	introductory	-Provide	
maintain	training for	introductory	
performance	relevant staff	training for	
andto improve	TETEVALLE SLALL	relevant staff	
water	Assist with	Assist with access	
stewardship	accessto other	to other tools and	
L-1	-	ı	

https://www.
Enterprise-ireland
.com/en/supports/
become-moresustainable

Embed

Water
Cost Saving
Supports

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.local enterprise.ie/green tools and resources to maintain performance andto improve water stewardship https://www.
Enterprise-ireland .com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

Local Enterprise Office Green for **Business** Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.local

Embed
Water
Cost Saving
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enterprise.ie/green

resources to maintain performance and to improve water stewardship https://www.
Enterprise-ireland .com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

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C. Sector Specific Actions – if: Sector selected

Retail Construction Hospitals

A guide to reducing water use in your retail business.

Water Conservation for the Retail Industry | Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)

Uisce Eireann partnered with industry leaders in sustainability, <u>Sisk</u> and <u>Cairn</u> Homes as well as the <u>Irish Green</u> Building Council and <u>Construction</u> Industry Federation. Together, they produced these essential tips for water use and planning in construction.

Construction | Housing Strategy | Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water) Water conservation is crucial for hospitals, both from a financial and environmental standpoint. By carefully monitoring and managing water use, healthcare facilities can effectively reduce their expenses and contribute to sustainability efforts.

Hospitals | Business Conservation (water.ie)

13. Support staff to use active travel in their commute and work, facilitate, remote and/or flexible work.

#### All Users

Support all staff to adopt more sustainable commutes and work options.

Supporting staff to walk, cycle, use public transport or carpool in their commute will contribute to staff wellbeing as well as reducing transport-related emissions. Install bike racks for staff and customers.

Introduce a remote work/ flexible work policy. Allow more staff to remote work, which will reduce transport-related emissions associated with your business and give staff additional flexibility to manage their work/life balance.

Utilise remote meeting capabilities where possible instead of travelling for meetings and conferences.

Supports Available & Description

Offer employees the bike to work schemehttps://www.biketowork.ie/

Offer staff that commute via public transport the tax saver scheme  $\underline{www.taxsaver.ie}$ 

Use the Government's Remote Working guidance and business checklist to develop a remote working policy for employees where applicable.

https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Remote-Working/https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/Publications/Remote-Working-Checklist-for-Employers.html

Larger businesses, or groups of businesses (for example, in business parks) should consider creating aSmarter Travel Workplaces plan, with resources and guidance available from the National TransportAuthority.

 $\underline{\text{https://www.nationaltransport.ie/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Workplace-Travel-Plans-A-Guide-for-Implementers.pdf}$ 

Embed	
Travel	
Training/ Staff Eng	gagement

#### 14. Provide information and training to staff that commute by car and drive for work

If: Metrics for petrol or diesel are provided

Ensure that everybody who drives as part of their work receives training in efficient driving practices.

When driving is necessary for your business, ensuring that all drivers employ practices to reduce emissions can help save on fuel and on your businesses carbon footprint.

#### Supports Available & Description

The SEAI Energy Academy is a free online training resource and offers a module on eco-driving to help you learn the basics of eco-driving techniques.

https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/

Embed
Travel
Training/ Staff Engagement

#### 15. Make a plan to move internal combustion engine vehicles to low carbon vehicles

#### a. Cars action if: Metrics for vehicle fuels is provided

Make a plan to move towards zero emissions vehicles for your business.

Switching to electric or hybrid vehicles can reduce the cost of fleet maintenance and fuel over the lifetime of the vehicles and will significantly reduce your business's carbon footprint.

Consider installing an electric vehicle charging point to encourage the switch.

#### Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy Transport Leaders Programme from Skillnet Ireland equips businesses and energy professionals with expertise on how to reduce their transport emissions, increase fuel performance, deliver cost savings and protect the environment.

https://www.climatereadyacademy.ie/transport-leaders/

There are a range of grants, motor tax, capital allowances and benefit in kind incentives available for the purchase of electric vehicles. Find out more here:

https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/ev-for-business/grants-and-supports/

The SEAI Energy Academy is a free online training resource and offers modules on electric vehicles and electric vehicle chargers to help you learn the about electric vehicles.

https://www.seai.ie/energyacademy/

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Strategic Travel Supports

b. HGV Action If: Metrics for vehicle fuels are provided AND Sector is Freight, Manufacturing, Food & Drink, Pharmacueticals, Engineering

Make a plan to reduce the environmental impacts of your transport operations and determine when and how to convert trucks, lorries or other heavy-duty vehicles to low carbon fuels.

To date, in Ireland, the transport sector is heavily dependent on imported oil. Reducing this reliance and switching to alternative fuels and technologies will be essential to decarbonise the sector. Major changes toour conventional fuel choices will be needed to achieve this goal. Calculating and reporting the greenhouse gas emissions of your transport operations will inform sustainable transportation decisions and supply chainoptimization.

#### Supports Available & Description

The Alternatively Fueled Heavy Duty Vehicle Purchase Grant Scheme delivered through Transport Infrastructure Ireland awards grants to assist companies and enterprises who wish to buy new alternatively fueled heavy-duty vehicles supported by the Scheme (AFHDVs) as opposed to the diesel equivalent. Grant amounts are calculated as a percentage of the difference in price between an AFHDV and its diesel equivalent. Supported fuel-types include CNG, LNG and electric.

https://www.tii.ie/roads-tolling/tolling-information/afhdv-scheme/

Enterprise Ireland, Údarás na Gaeltachta & IDA's GreenStart and GreenPlus grants can support client companies with training and advice to measurably reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants & improve fuel efficiency based on GlobalLogistics Emissions Council (GLEC) framework or similar. Scope may include all modes (road, rail, sea, air), sub-suppliers, city and reverse logistics, and their internal and external impacts.

 $\underline{\text{https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable}} \text{ and } \\$ 

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

https://www.idaireland.com/scale-with-ida/funding-programmes-incentives/ida-go-green-offer.

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Strategy
Travel
High Impact
Supports

#### 16. Reduce the need for, and the number of business flights

#### If: Metrics for flights are provided

Target a reduction in the number of airline flights taken by your business.

Reducing the number of business flights your company takes per year will enable you to save money and reduce your overall carbon footprint. You should therefore pledge to fly less and optimise the carbon impact of necessary flights.

Consider what meetings, conferences or sales visits could be done effectively via video conferencing or other technologies. Use flight booking comparison sites to assess the carbon footprint if the necessary trips and ensure you are optimising the routes taken to optimise the carbon emissions impact.

#### 17. Segregate your waste

#### If: Metrics for all three bins are NOT provided

Improve the segregation of waste used in your business, ensuring appropriate use of all bins and recycling facilities.

In calculating your carbon footprint, you did not provide a weight for each of your green, brown and black bins. If you already segregate on this basis these weights are available from your bin provider. If you do not segregate waste into these (and any other relevant categories) you need to make a plan to do so.

Your business should make it as easy as possible for staff to correctly segregate waste. By providing clear guidance, labelling and making sure you have accessible bins on your premises you are complying with legal obligations, lowering operating costs and helping to protect human health and the environment.

#### Supports Available & Description

Find more information on managing your waste responsibly, efficiently and in the way that suits you. Browse for your local waste services; bring banks, recycling facilities along with ways to help you prevent waste, reuse and upcycle.

#### www.mywaste.ie/business

The EPA 'Tree Tool' website can enable your business to carry out a quick overview of the level of resource efficiency in your company and identify opportunities for efficiencies or improvements.

Environmental Protection Agency Tree Tool for resource efficiency

# 18. Reduce the quantity of resources used and/or waste produced in your operations by adopting a basic Resource Efficiency Management System in your business.

If user selects "Services"	If user selects "Products"	
Measure and monitor key waste streams weightsgenerated in your business – and set targets to reduce these weights and associated costs.	Create a resource efficiency plan to reduce the environmental impacts of the materials, goods and packaging you purchase, and the waste produced.	
By monitoring and identifying how much of each different type of waste is being produced in your business on a weekly/monthly basis, you can establish a benchmark against which improvements are measured. This can be done by reviewing recordsfrom waste contractors and	You have indicated that your business is material intensive, with products and goods representing a substantial component of your carbon footprint. It's essential that you measure and monitor key waste streams weights generated in your business – and set targets to	

monitoring these regularly.

Ensuring you segregate your waste into refuse, recyclables and organic waste will save your businessmoney. This should incentivise your business to reduce costs through better segregation and recycling, reuse and prevention.

First steps might include:

- Remove general waste bins from individual desks.
- Increase number of bins for recycling andcomposting
- Discontinue use of single use plastics throughout the organisation.
- Request take-back of packaging by suppliers.
- Reduce printing and set printers to print doublesided when printing is necessary.

#### Supports Available & Description

Use the EPA 'Tree tool' to measure resource efficiency – and assess opportunities to prevent andreduce waste.

<u>Environmental Protection Agency Tree Tool</u> <u>forresource efficiency</u>

For more ideas on efficient resource management visit: <a href="https://www.southern">https://www.southern</a>
<a href="https://www.southern">Wasteregion.ie/activities/resource-efficiency-business</a>

Businesses who produce electrical, battery or lightingwaste, or provide these in products to customers need to be aware of their regulatory obligations and opportunities for circularity. <a href="https://www.weeeireland.ie/">https://www.weeeireland.ie/</a> and <a href="https://www.mywaste.ie/what-to-do-with-my-waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-weee/">https://www.mywaste.ie/what-to-do-with-my-waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-weee/</a>

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to improve environmental performance. The Climate Action Voucher to carry out a resource efficiency assessment or to prepare a plan to identify and develop circular economy ideas for a more circular product, process or service. GreenStart/Plus to further develop internal capabilities. RD&I grants to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes.

https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

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<u>Environmental Protection Agency Tree Tool for</u> <u>resource efficiency</u>

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Businesses who produce electrical, battery or lightingwaste or provide these in products to customers need to be aware of their regulatory obligations and opportunities for circularity. Producers should register with the national register at <a href="https://www.producerregister.ie/">https://www.producerregister.ie/</a> and there are two approved compliance schemes for WEEE and Batteries

https://www.weeeireland.ie/and

https://erp-recycling.org/ie/

Use or adapt example Government developed Resource Efficiency Action Plan templates, where appropriate to your operations:

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f7677resource- efficiency-action-plans/

The Climate Ready Academy 'Waste & Circular Economy Leaders' Programme equips businesses with expertise on how to reduce energy waste, optimise cost savings, and protect the environment.

https://www.climatereadyacademy.ie/wasteand-circular-economy-leaders/

Join the EPA National Waste & Circularity Community of Practice for continued support in the transition to a circular economy. Register at communities@central-solutions.com

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https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

#### Sector Specific – if: Sector Selected

#### Food and Drink Retail Other Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals Assess options available to reduce food waste Assess options available to reduce the packaging and the packaging on products you provide, as onthe products you provide and to make sure well as making sure packaging is re-usable or packaging is re-usable or recyclable. recyclable. Request take-back of packaging by suppliers/ Request take-back of packaging by suppliers/ offertake-back of packaging from those you offer take-back of packaging from those you supply. supply. Take measures to minimise packaging used in your business. Packaging waste generally Take measures to minimise packaging used in represents a large percentage of most business's your business. Packaging waste generally

represents a large percentage of most business's total waste, so itis important assess your packaging design, or to consult with suppliers to reduce the amount of packaging and to ensure all packaging is recyclable. Consider if it is possible for deliveries to be supplied in reusable crates or other forms of packaging that can be re-used or sent back to suppliers. The more packaging you can reduce or reuse, the greater the savings in waste management costs for you and your customers.

#### Supports Available & Description

Consult with your supplier to see if there is any waythey can reduce the amount of packaging supplies are delivered in and to ensure all packaging is recyclable. Ask if it is possible for deliveries to be supplied in reusable crates or other forms of packaging that can be sent back to the supplier.

www.REPAK.ie.

Join the EPA's food waste charter initiative for businesses. This resource provides guidance on howto reduce food waste.

https://foodwastecharter.ie/

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to improve environmental performance. The Climate Action Voucher to carry out a resource efficiency assessment or to prepare a plan to identify and develop circular economy ideas for a more circular product, process or service. GreenStart/Plus to further develop internal capabilities. RD&I grants to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes. –

https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

Embed
Materials
Supports

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https://www.enterpriseireland.com/en/supports/become-moresustainable

Can be a helpful resource for advice on reducing packaging waste.
www.REPAK.ie

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

https://www.idaireland.com/scale-with-ida/funding-programmes-incentives/ida-go-green-offer.

Embed Materials Supports 19. Research your materials and value chain to understand what carbon zero means for your business. Assess whether you can make a strategic change to your product, service, operations or business model to be more competitive in a zero-carbon economy.

Sector Specific Actions – if: Sector Selected
Construction

Assess the embodied carbonin the full lifecycle of your projects. This requires gathering information on all the materials used in your manufacturing process, a full emissions LCA (life-cycle analysis) of materials and a lifecycle approach to product design.

Other Manufacturing,

Pharmaceuticals

Consider: What will need to change in your value chain and manufacturing process to be competitive in a zero-carbon economy?

#### Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy
Waste & Circular Economy
Leaders Programme from
Skillnet Ireland equips
businesses and energy
professionals with expertise on
how to improve their waste
management policies and move
to a sustainable model of
circularity.

https://www.climatereadyacade my.ie/waste-and-circulareconomy-leaders/

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonization.

https://enterpriseireland.com/en/ supports/become-moresustainable

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to

Assess the embodied carbon in the full lifecycle of your projects. This requires gatheringinformation on all the materials used in your construction, a fullemissions life-cycle analysis of materials and project design.

Construction sector materials canhave very significant levels of embodied carbon.

Consider: What will need to changein your supply chain or process to be competitive in a zero-carboneconomy?

Consider the use of timber (particularly home grown) as a building material where possible. This has a positive effect on the environment as it can displace higher energy embodied building products and at the same time sequester carbon.

Consider the materials you are using, the amount, recyclability andreparability.

## Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy Waste & Circular Economy Leaders Programme from Skillnet Ireland equips businesses and energy professionals with expertise on how to improve their waste management policies and move to a sustainable model of circularity.

Set targets as part of the Bord BiaOrigin Green to track progress in decarbonising the materials you purchase and ingredient, raw materials, and agriculture supply chains.

Food & Drink

Consider the use of packaging, optimise material use by minimising package size relative to product and consider reduction and recyclability in your material selection. Consider the EU's Packaging Directive.

Origin Green will facilitate you to gain access to specific guidance onpathways to new zero within the retail and food services sector.

Consider whether your value chaincould provide biogas, agricultural by products or biomass that wouldassist you in decarbonising your energy use. For example, could your business use anaerobic digestion or a biomass boiler to meet your energy needs? The Support Scheme for Renewable Heat may be able to assist you.

Consider: What will need to change in your value chain orprocess to be competitive in azero-carbon economy?

#### Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy
Waste& Circular Economy
Leaders Programme from Skillnet
Ireland equips businesses and
energy professionals with
expertise on how to improve
their waste

explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

https://www.idaireland.com/scal e-with-ida/funding-programmesincentives/ida-go-green-offer.

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https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

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https://www.climatereadyacad e my.ie/waste-and-circulareconomy-leaders/

Consider joining the Irish Green Building Council to access assistance on training and certification on Life-cycle assessment, project design for sustainability and producing / using EPDs (Environmental Product Declaration). https://www.igbc.ie/

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonisation.

https://enterpriseireland.com/en/supports/ become-more-sustainable

Review the circularity of your operations and take steps to improve your resource efficiency. Review this webinar titled 'Circular Construction & Demolition, Ireland', highlighting the existing and potential opportunities for Circular Economy within the Irish construction and demolition sector

Strategic
Materials
High Impacts
Supports

manage8/8/2024ment policies and move toa sustainable model of circularity.

https://www.climatereadyacade my.ie/waste-and-circulareconomy- leaders/

Origin Green is Ireland's food and drink sustainability programme, operating on a national scale, uniting government, the private sector and the full value chain from farmers to food producers and right through to the foodservice and retail sectors <a href="https://www.origingreen.ie/">https://www.origingreen.ie/</a>

The Support Scheme for Renewable Heat is a government funded initiative designed to increase the energy generated from renewable sources to meet heating needs. The scheme is open to commercial, industrial, agricultural, district heating, public sector and other non-domestic heat users.

<u>Support Scheme for Renewable</u> <u>Heat | Business Grants | SEAI</u>

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta have a range of supports for client companies to to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonisation.

https://enterpriseireland.com/en/ supports/become-moresustainable

Strategic
Materials
High Impacts
Supports

20. Reduce the carbon footprint of your supply chain by engaging with suppliers and/or logistics providers, introducing a sustainability / carbon / biodiversity assessment in purchasing decisions and/or choosing local supplier options – Assess which aspects of your procurement are likely to have the biggest environmental footprint and focus on these first.

have the biggest environmental footprint and focus on these first.				
Size	Size	Size		
10 or fewer	11 – 249	250 or more		
Do an assessment of sustainabilityperformance, including embodied carbon, when purchasing the goods and services required by your business.	Build an assessment of sustainability requirements, including embodied carbon, intoyour procurement practices.	Require sustainability performance criteria, includingthe disclosure of embodied carbon, into all procurement.  The carbon footprint provided by		
The carbon footprint provided by this Toolkit assesses only the direct emissions, transport or energy sector emissions related toyour immediate activities – but the 'embodied carbon' (emissionsarising from the production, manufacturing, and transport) of the materials and goods consumed could be upward of	The carbon footprint provided by this Toolkit assesses only the direct emissions, transport or energy sector emissions related toyour immediate activities – but the 'embodied carbon' (emissionsarising from the production, manufacturing, and transport) of the materials and goods consumed could be upward of 45% of your business's total.	this Toolkit assesses only the direct emissions, transport or energy sector emissions related toyour immediate activities – but the 'embodied carbon' (emissionsarising from the production, manufacturing, and transport) of the materials and goods consumed could be upward of the materials and goods consumed could be upward of 45% of your business		
45% of your business's totalemissions impact.  Do a strategic review of the goodsand materials your business uses.	Do a strategic review of the goodsand materials your business uses.  Reduce the carbon footprint	total.  Do a strategic review of the goodsand materials your business uses.		
Reduce the carbon footprint of your supply chain by engaging with suppliers and/or logistics providers by introducing sustainability in purchasing decisions. Start by choosing localsupplier options where possible.	of your supply chain by engaging with suppliers and/or logistics providers, by introducing sustainability, carbon measurement and a biodiversity assessment in purchasing decisions. Start by choosing localsupplier options where possible.	Reduce the carbon footprint of your supply chain by engaging with suppliers and/or logistics providers, by introducing sustainability, carbon measurement and a biodiversity assessment in purchasing decisions. Start by choosing localsupplier options where possible.		
When purchasing goods, services, works and utilities your business should ask suppliers to provide information regarding the origin, durability, repairability and recyclability of materials.  By incorporating an ethical supplychain in your business model andachieving green certification you will be able to promote a responsible sourcing process andethical	When purchasing goods, services, works and utilities your business should ask suppliers to provide information regarding the origin, durability, repairability and recyclability of materials.  By incorporating an ethical supplychain in your business model andachieving green certification you will be able to promote a responsible sourcing process andethical	When purchasing goods, services, works and utilities your business should ask suppliers to provide information regarding the origin, durability, repairability and recyclability of materials.  By incorporating an ethical supplychain in your business model andachieving green certification you will be able to promote a responsible		

behaviours in your company, thereby contributing to the challenge of combatting climate change.

## Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy Waste & Circular Economy Leaders Programme from Skillnet Ireland equips businesses and energy professionals with expertise on how to improve theirwaste management policies and move to a sustainable model of circularity.

https://www.climatereadyacade my.ie/waste-and-circulareconomy-leaders/

Undertake the Climate Ready Academy Biodiversity Programme.

https://www.climatereadyacade my.ie/biodiversity-essentials/

Consider buying second hand or sharing or leasing. See <a href="https://www.crni.ie">www.crni.ie</a> for more informationon community resource networks.

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

behaviours in your company, thereby contributing to the challenge of combatting climate change.

# Supports Available & Description

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Undertake the Climate Ready Academy Biodiversity Programme. https://www.climatereadyacade my.ie/biodiversity-essentials/

EPA guidance to public buyers is available online and this is largely transferable to private buyers. <a href="https://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/greenbusiness/GreenPublic">https://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/greenbusiness/GreenPublic</a>
Procurementfinalwebv2.pdf

Consider buying second hand or sharing or leasing. See <a href="https://www.crni.ie">www.crni.ie</a> for more informationon community resource networks.

CIRCULÉIRE is the National Platform for Circular Manufacturing, is the first cross-sectoral industry-led innovation network dedicated to accelerating the net-zero carbon circular economy in Ireland. CIRCULÉIRE mission is to demystify, derisk, and deliver circular business model innovation.

https://circuleire.ie/

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro sourcing process andethical behaviours in your company, thereby contributing tothe challenge of combatting climate change.

### Supports Available & Description

The Climate Ready Academy Waste & Circular Economy Leaders Programme from Skillnet Ireland equips businesses and energy professionals with expertise on how to improve theirwaste management policies and move to a sustainable model of circularity.

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Local Enterprise Office Green

Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

Sector Specific Actions – if: Sector selected

Construction

# Require all suppliers to disclose the carbon footprint of their product to an appropriate accreditation or ISO standard. Compare carbon impacts as

Other Manufacturing

**Pharmaceuticals** 

You can use this information to demonstrate further embodied carbon savings to your customers.

partof procurement decisions.

#### Supports Available & Description

Client companies of Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta can use GreenStart/Plus to gain training/advice in Green Procurement, i.e. integrating sustainability into the procurement process, and Life Cycle Methodology. https://enterprise-ireland.com

/en/supports/become-more-Sustainable

IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only. https://www.idaireland.com/scalewith-ida/funding-programmes-incentives/ida-go-green-offer.

Require Environmental Product Disclosures (EPDs) for materials from prospective suppliers in yourprocurement practices and prioritise low

You should use EPDs and other product standard information todemonstrate embodied carbon savings to your customers.

## Supports Available & Description

carbon products.

Ireland and Údarás na
Gaeltachta can use
GreenStart/Plus to gain
training/advice in Green
Procurement, i.e. integrating
sustainability into the
procurement process, and Life
Cycle Methodology.
<a href="https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-">https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-</a>

Sustainable

Client companies of Enterprise

Require all suppliers of food and agricultural products to be members of the Origin Green programme,

Food & Drink

You should ask food, drink or agri-product suppliers to disclose ambitious sustainability targets fortheir products under the Origin Green programme. Use this information to demonstrate further sustainability to your customers. https://www.origingreen.ie/

Client companies of Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta can use GreenStart/Plus to gain training/advice in Green Procurement, i.e. integrating sustainability into the procurement process, and Life Cycle Methodology. https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-Sustainable

21. Assess how the sustainability or circularity of your products/ service can add value for your customers. Assess opportunities for differentiation, innovation or new products/ services that help your customer reduce their own carbon, waste or other environmental impacts.

Size	Size	Size
10 or fewer	11 – 249	250 or more

Explore how the sustainability or circularity of your product/service can add value for your customers.

New products, services and new business models will emerge as national and global supply chains decarbonise, and customers become increasingly carbon conscious. This presents opportunities for differentiation, innovation or new products/services that helps yourcustomer reduce their own carbon footprint, waste or other environmental impacts.

Supports Available & Description

Embed Materials Supports

training and insight to businesses on leveraging the opportunities ofcircular economy principles.

https://www.localenterprise office/DublinCity/Training-Events/Management-Development/Modos-Circular-Economy-Dublin-Training-Programme.html

The MODOS programme offers

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is

Investigate whether your productor service could be re-designed tobe more sustainable and attract more customers.

New products, services and new business models will emerge as national and global supply chains decarbonise, and customers become increasingly carbon conscious. This presents opportunities for differentiation, innovation or new products/services that helps yourcustomer reduce their own carbon footprint, waste or other environmental impacts.

Supports Available & Description

Embed Materials Supports

Consider applying for an El Innovation Voucher to assist youwith this analysis. Innovation Vouchers worth €5,000 are available to assist your company to explore a business opportunityor problem with a registered knowledge provider.

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Climate Action Voucher and GreenStart/Plus to develop plans and undertake staff training in the adoption of circular economy principles. Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Innovation and

Investigate whether your product or service could be re-designed to be more sustainable and attract more customers.

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#### Supports Available & Description

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Climate Action Voucher and GreenStart/Plus to develop plans and undertake staff training in the adoption of circular economy principles. Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Innovation and R&D Grants; From €5,000 Innovation Vouchers to large scale R&D projects – to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonization.

https://enterpriseireland.com/en/supports/ becomemore-sustainable

https://www.enterpriseireland.com/en/supports/innovationvoucher

Embed Materials Supports available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie

Consider applying for an El Innovation Voucher to assist youwith this analysis. Innovation Vouchers worth €5,000 are available to assist your company to explore a

business opportunityor problem with a registered knowledge provider.

The Innovation Vouchers initiative open to all small and medium-sized limited companies registered in Ireland and applications are not restricted to clients of Enterprise Ireland.

https://enterprise-

Ireland.com/en /supports/ innovation-voucher R&D Grants; From €5,000 Innovation Vouchers to large scale R&D projects – to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonisation.

https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-Sustainable

https://enterprise-Ireland.com/en /supports/ innovation-voucher

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie /green

Sector Specific Actions – If: Sector Selected

Other Manufacturing Pharmaceuticals Food & Drink

Identify how circular economy principles apply toyour product category.

The Circular Economy offers a more sustainableapproach to resource use and product lifecycles.

Could your product be more sustainably provided as a service or circular offering?

Could you re-use packaging or aspects of the productand use resource longevity to your advantage and the advantage of your customers?

#### Supports Available & Description

The MODOS programme offers training and insight tobusinesses on leveraging the opportunities of circular economy principles and is open to SME & Micro companies.

https://www.localenterprise.ie/Du blinCity/Training-Events/Management-Development/Modos-Circular-Economo.html

CIRCULÉIRE will take manufacturers and their supply-chains on a journey from linear to circular business models through baselining, auditing, business case development and deep demonstration innovation projects delivering significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and in waste production across the network.

Manufacturing: www.circuleire.ie

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Climate Action Voucher and GreenStart/Plus to develop plans and undertake staff training in the adoption of circular economy principles. Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta Innovation and R&D Grants; From €5,000 Innovation Vouchers to large scale R&D projects – to support the planning and development of new products, services or processes in the areas of sustainability and decarbonisation.

https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

https://enterprise-Ireland.com/en/supports/innovation-voucher

Strategic
Materials
Training/ Staff Engagement
Supports

22. Identify the appropriate sustainability accreditation or reporting standard for your business, get third party verification, and communicate your progress to your customers.

11 - 249

If NOT Manufacturing/ Food & Drink: and size

Share your net zero journey with customers and suppliers. Consideris there an external certification, accreditation or sustainability badge that is

robust and adds value for your

customers.

10 or fewer

Customers are becoming increasingly conscious of the climate and environmental issueswhich need to be addressed. Thisgrowth in awareness is leading to a rise of many trends in the market such as the promotion of sustainability practices. Implementing an eco-friendly system in your business will helpyou to attract and retain customers.

#### Supports Available & Description

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for your business to understand and plan the next steps in your sustainability journey. https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

Share your net zero journey with customers and suppliers. Consider is there an external certification, accreditation or sustainability badge that is robust and adds value for your customers.

Join an environmental certification scheme or disclosureproject relevant to your businessand useful to your customers, such as BITCI, the Carbon Disclosure Project or similar.

Align to standards such as ISO14005 or ISO 14001 or frameworks such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals, or to disclosure platforms such as the Carbon Disclosure Project.

#### Supports Available & Description

Multiple providers offer fully independent environmental support and helps you improveenvironmental performance, reduce costs and can enhance your standing as an environmentally responsible business.

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta GreenStart/Plus can provide training to businesses to a level where they can then go for third party accreditation appropriate to their business. The supports can also provide training/advice on internal and external sustainability communications, messaging & reporting. https://enterprise-Ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

Share your science-based targetsand net zero journey with customers and suppliers.

250 or more

Seek anexternal accreditation that is robust and adds value for your customers.

This should at a minimum adhere to standardised environmental performance e.g. ISO 14001 (Environmental Management Systems), ISO 50001 (Energy

Management), and ISO 14064(Carbon Management).

Align to frameworks such as the UN Sustainable
Development Goals or the
Science Based Targets Initiative and consider joining voluntary disclosure networks or initiatives such as the Carbon Disclosure Project or to the Business in the Community Ireland low carbon pledge, or others as relevant to your business.

#### Supports Available & Description

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta GreenStart/Plus can provide training to businesses to a level where they can then go for third party accreditation appropriate to theirbusiness. The supports can also provide training/advice on internal and external sustainability communications, messaging & reporting.

https://enterprise-Ireland.com/ en/supports/become-moresustainable Supports don't cover certification only training & advice to a level where a company can then go for certification.

#### Sector Specific Actions – If: Sector Selected

# Other Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals, Engineering

ental Engage with Bord Bia to develop your Origin Greenplan and communicate it with your customers.

Achieve a third party accredited environmental product certification. This might include Ecolabels, Product Environmental Footprints (PEF), Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) or similarinitiatives. Research and select an accreditation that is robust, relevant and recognisable to your customers.

Transparency on the green credentials of your products will increase access to customers who are increasingly demanding more environmentally friendly products.

Supports Available & Description

Enterprise Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta GreenStart/Plus can provide training to client companies to a level where they can then go for third party accreditation appropriate to their business. The supports can also provide training/advice on internal and external sustainability communications, messaging & reporting.

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IDA Ireland supporting you Green Goals. How IDA helps clients to explore sustainable opportunities. The following supports are available to IDA clients only.

https://www.idaireland.com/scale-with-ida/funding-programmes-incentives/ida-go-green-offer.

Local Enterprise Office Green for Business Programme is available to Small and Micro Enterprises (up to 50 staff). The Programme is open to all sectors and provides free expert advice and mentorship and a unique report for Educate your customers as to the sustainability of your product and supply chain, be candid about thechallenges that you are yet to fully solve and ensurethat you are positioning your product to meet customer's evolving preferences. For example, ensure you will be compliant with any necessary Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) reportingto access key customers procurement processes.

Food & Drink

Consider setting a 'science-based' target under your Origin Green plan.

#### Supports Available & Description

Origin Green is Ireland's food and drink sustainabilityprogramme, operating on a national scale, uniting government, the private sector and the full supply chain from farmers to food producers and right through to the foodservice and retail sectors.

https://www.origingreen.ie/

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https://enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/become-more-sustainable

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https://www.localenterprise.ie/green

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