



SOUTHERN & EASTERN
Regional Assembly
Promoting Our Region



Ireland's EU Structural Funds
Programmes 2007 - 2013
Co-funded by the Irish Government
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Sustainable Development Policy Recommendations

Version 1 – August 2009

Introduction:

Projects should not have a negative impact on the environment in any way. A policy document should be created, demonstrating the projects environmental and sustainable development policies and the thinking behind them, preferably an Eco-code. This should draw on the existing policies of Welsh and Irish local authorities and organisations like the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) etc., and should apply to all project partners, staff and participants. An Environmental Management System (EMS) should be drawn up and used to implement these policies. Social progress and environmental sustainability should be shown as equal, conducive priorities.

Resources/Materials:

- Projects should demonstrate their aim to use goods sourced from local and sustainable supply chains, using renewable resources where possible. Particular priority should be given to sourcing goods from SME's who engage in resource management and sustainable development.
- Projects should emphasise their aim to use recycled paper/materials for leaflets, promotional materials, and other such documentation if it is necessary to produce hard copies.

Practices:

- Projects should demonstrate that all buildings and locations being used for the purpose of the project will work with the following determinations in mind:
 - 1) Waste Prevention,
 - 2) Reduction,
 - 3) Re-use,
 - 4) Recycling,
 - 5) Energy Recovery,
 - 6) Safe Disposal,
 - 7) Reduction of Emissions,
 - 8) Water Conservation,
 - 9) Efficient use of resources.
- Projects should demonstrate their aim to minimise the consumption of natural non-renewable resources.

Equipment:

- Projects should demonstrate their aim to use the most energy efficient equipment and materials available, including ICT equipment.



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Venues:

- Projects should make use of venues which are environmentally friendly, where public transport is close and easily accessible, both in their weekly affairs and with regard to specific events like conferences, launches, training events, relevant meetings, workshops, presentations etc.
- Projects should demonstrate their awareness that all staff and project participants have the right to work in safe, healthy working conditions, and ensure that this is communicated to their staff.

Training and Mentoring:

- Training and mentoring should include Environmental sustainability and Sustainable Development principles. Therefore, staff training, dealing specifically with sustainable development, should be organised for all staff and project participants, and should comply with the Project's Eco-code/Sustainable development policy.

Travel:

- In cases where project participants are required to travel regularly, a Travel Plan should be established to minimise CO2 emissions by creating a hierarchy of travel options.

Animals:

- Projects which involve the use of animals, should demonstrate that they understand that animals must be treated fairly and ethically, and should not be subject to experimentation or cruelty of any sort.

Information Dissemination:

- Projects should provide details of how any information gathered will be circulated and shared for the purpose of education and/or research, particularly, but not exclusively, with regard to Priority 2 Theme 1.

Monitoring:

- The project should describe how it will uphold the aforementioned policies/EcoCode and should provide details of the structures and staff that will be put in place to ensure the efficiency and success of the policies.