



Saolta



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Global Goal 7

“My vision is that we will
have a world in which we have
CLEAN ENERGY
for **EVERYONE** &
EMISSIONS FROM NO-ONE.”

Christiana Figueres



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Global Goal 7

“EVERYONE
IS AN OUTLET FOR CHANGE
THAT CAN POWER
**SUSTAINABLE
SOLUTIONS”**

AY Young

SDG 7

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7>



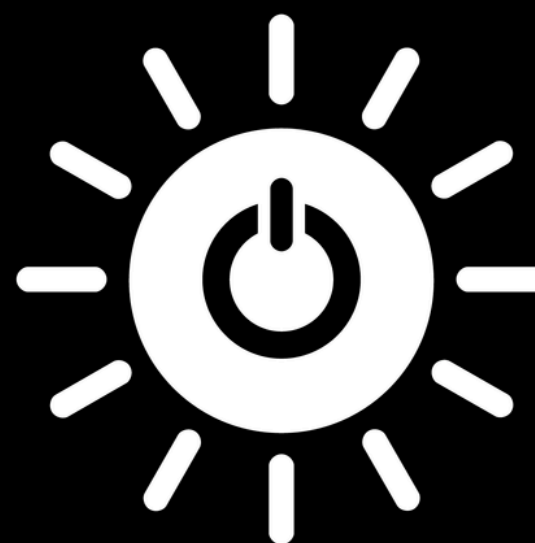
This programme is funded by Irish Aid at the Department of Foreign Affairs. Irish Aid is the Government's overseas development programme which supports partners working in some of the world's poorest countries. Irish Aid also supports global citizenship education in Ireland to encourage learning and public engagement with global issues. The content of this communication represents the views of the author only and does not necessarily represent or reflect DFA policy.



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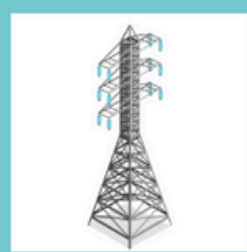


Targets and Indicators
[https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7#
targets_and_indicators](https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal7#targets_and_indicators)



Ireland's Sustainable Development Goal 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 7.1.1 Proportion of Population with Access to Electricity



100%

100% of households in Ireland have access to electricity



€5.117 million

In 2019, clean energy research and development accounted for €5.117 million of ODA

SDG 7.2.1 Renewable Energy Share in the Total Final Energy Consumption

SDG 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption is reported by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

The information provided here for indicator SDG 7.2.1 is summarised from the SEAI 2020 Reports - [SEAI Renewable Energy in Ireland 2020 Update](#) and [SEAI Energy in Ireland 2020 Report](#).



8.9%

Transport renewable energy was 8.9% in 2019 with a target of 10% for 2020



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

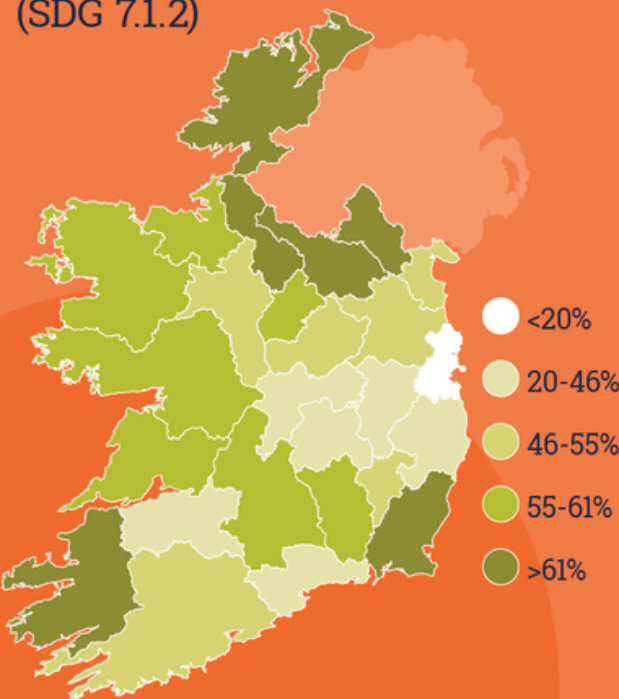
Central Statistics Office

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy

Proportion of Households with Oil Central Heating, 2016 (SDG 7.1.2)



Source: CSO, Census of Population 2016

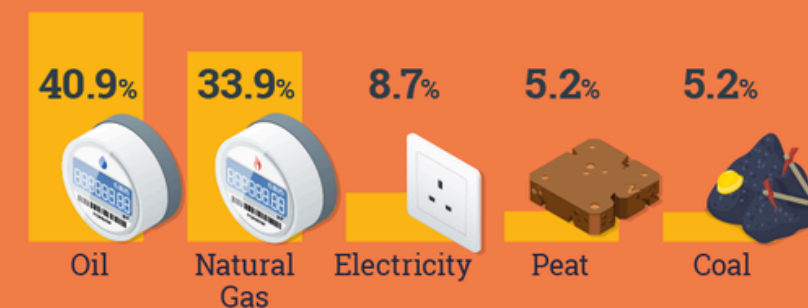
Proportion of Households with Access to Electricity, 2016 (SDG 7.1.1)



100%

Source: CSO, Census of Population 2016

Proportion of Households by Central Heating Fuel Type, 2016 (SDG 7.1.2)



Source: CSO, Census of Population 2016

Renewable Energy Share in the Total Final Energy Consumption, 2019 (SDG 7.2.1)

Overall Renewable Energy Supply

12%

of Gross Final Consumption



8.9% Renewable Transport Energy

Share of:



36.5% Renewable Electricity



6.3% Renewable Heat

Source: Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

Clean Energy R&D - Official Development Assistance, 2019 (SDG 7.a.1)

€5.12m

1% of Total ODA



Source: Department of Foreign Affairs

(cso.ie, 2021)



Addressing Energy Poverty in Ireland

In Ireland, a household is regarded as being in energy poverty if it is unable to attain an acceptable standard of warmth and energy services in the home at an affordable cost (L. & R. S., 2022). This definition is seen to be dependent on three factors – a household's income, the cost of household energy, and the energy efficiency of a dwelling.

Energy poverty measures

The three main approaches for tackling energy poverty in Ireland are:

Reducing demand for energy by improving energy efficiency in homes i.e., by providing State grants via the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) for retrofitting homes.

Supplying income supports like the Fuel Allowance, and subsidising energy bills through the Household Benefits Package. Introducing energy consumer protection measures. For example, every energy supplier in Ireland has a legal responsibility to address energy poverty among their customers and ensure that vulnerable customers are not disconnected during the winter months.

How can we solve this problem?

The Irish Government is due to undertake a public consultation on the development of our Social Climate Plan.

(Dingley, 2025).



Government appointments for Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications 2025

Department Policies

Energy

Electricity

Gas

Transport Energy

Residential Energy

Efficiency

Business and Public

Sector Energy

Renewable Heat

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications; Department of Transport

Darragh O'Brien

<https://www.gov.ie/en/biography/089e0-norma-foley/>

Senior Management for Energy

Assistant Secretary, Energy – Built Environment Retrofit and Heat Policy

Brian Carroll

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-environment-climate-and-communications/roles/assistant-secretary-energy-built-environment-retrofit-and-heat-policy/>

Assistant Secretary, Energy – Renewable Electricity Hydrogen and the Grid

Matt Collins

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-environment-climate-and-communications/biographies/matt-collins/>

Assistant Secretary, Energy – Security of Supply, Markets and Energy Policy

Paul Bolger

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-environment-climate-and-communications/biographies/paul-bolger/>

By 2030
the government aims to
meet the following
targets:

Up to 80% renewable
electricity

30% reduction in CO₂
emissions

32.5% improvement in
energy efficiency

(DECC, 2024)

(DECC, 2024)



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2024 SEAI Energy Awards finalist: Heat Works



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utyckCBnYbo&t=1s>

Case Study: Affordable Clean Energy

The Tallaght District Heating Scheme

First large-scale district heating network of its kind in Ireland
Ireland's first not-for-profit energy utility

The scheme helps to significantly reduce emissions in the area by almost 1,500 tonnes of CO₂/year

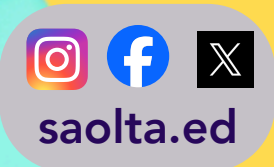
Community engagement and public awareness are carried out regularly through tours of the energy centre

The unique collaboration between South Dublin County Council, Amazon, Fortum (the contractor) and Codema (as well as with government departments such as DECC) has been key to the success of this project

Waste heat from the nearby Amazon data centre supplies 100% of the heat to the network

(EPA, 2016)





**Comharchumann Fuinnimh Oileáin
Árainn Teoranta (CFOAT)
(Aran Islands Energy Co-op)**
(CFOAT, 2025)



**Tipperary Energy Agency is a not
-for-profit company limited by guarantee.**
(Community Solar Tipperary , 2020)



**The Claremorris and Western District Energy
Co-Operative was founded to develop
the benefits of community owned renewable energy,**
(CWDEC, 2024)

Snapshot Community Energy Co-Ops Ireland



Kerry Sustainable Energy Co-operative
A sustainable energy future for Kerry
(KSEC, 2025).

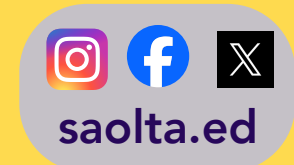


Energy Co-operatives Ireland
**Sustainability Transition – Community
Opportunity**
(ECI, 2025)

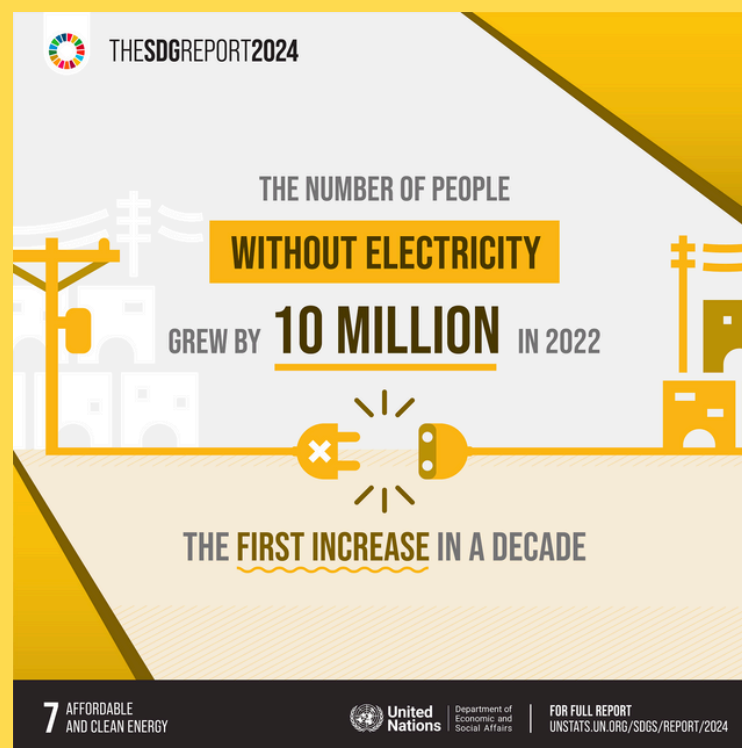


**Ireland's FIRST Community Owned Renewable
Electricity Utility Company**
Ag Cumhachtú Pobail !
(Community Power, 2024)





Global Statistics SDG 7



Modern Renewables Power Nearly 30% of Electricity
But Remain Low in Heating and Transport
Heat: Modern renewables @10.4%
Transport @4%
Electricity: @28.2%





Development Education 38 Resources found for SDG 6

(DevelopmentEducation.ie, 2018)



(Worlds Largest Lesson, 2022)

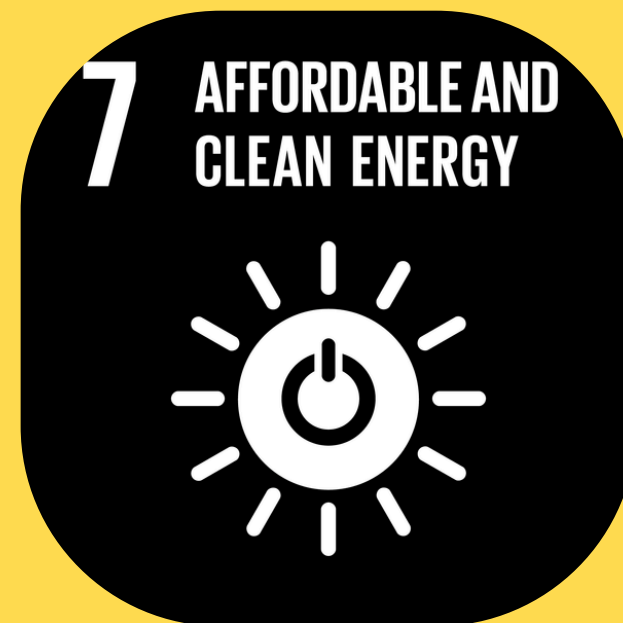
A New Epoch for
Community Renewable
Energy Co-operatives in
Ireland? An exploration
of the factors influencing
their development

(Doyle, 2021)



(Global Goals Impact Games, 2020)

SDG 7 Embedding GCE in ACE



Resources



(Fuller et al., 2024)



Sustainable energy technologies
for the Global South:
challenges and solutions
toward achieving SDG 7

(Kay Lup et al., 2023)

Campaign News



(Friends of the Earth, 2022)

Affordable Energy
European Commission
(Directorate-General for Energy, 2025)



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