



SWITCH TO A RENEWABLE FUTURE

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Scottish Islands Federation

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Scotland's islands: leaders in Low carbon communities



- One of the aims of the Scottish islands Federation is to help islands realise their potential as leaders in low carbon communities.
- We worked with 13 EU island partners to look into Sustainable Energy planning: Our unique Scottish contribution was to show how island community Trusts have been driving the move towards a low carbon society.
- As part of this project, S.I.F. has helped 8 islands carry out their own energy audits with funding from the the Scottish government's CARES programme.
- Today, I would like to tell you about 3 islands in our Federation, Eigg and Mull and Iona to illustrate the way islands are becoming drivers for the low carbon economy.

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The case of Eigg

- One of the first Scottish community buy outs.
- Eigg's electrification was seen as a priority by the community.
- A renewable stand alone grid was the way to achieve this.
- Power was switched on 10 years after the buy-out, giving the island 24 hours power for the first time ever
- The scheme cost £ 1.6 million.
- It was financed by the Big Lottery, HIE Lochaber, Highlands and Islands Community Energy Company, Scottish Households Renewables Initiative, The Energy Saving Trust and the Highland Council.



Islands are resilient communities and are used to identifying their own solutions to their issues.

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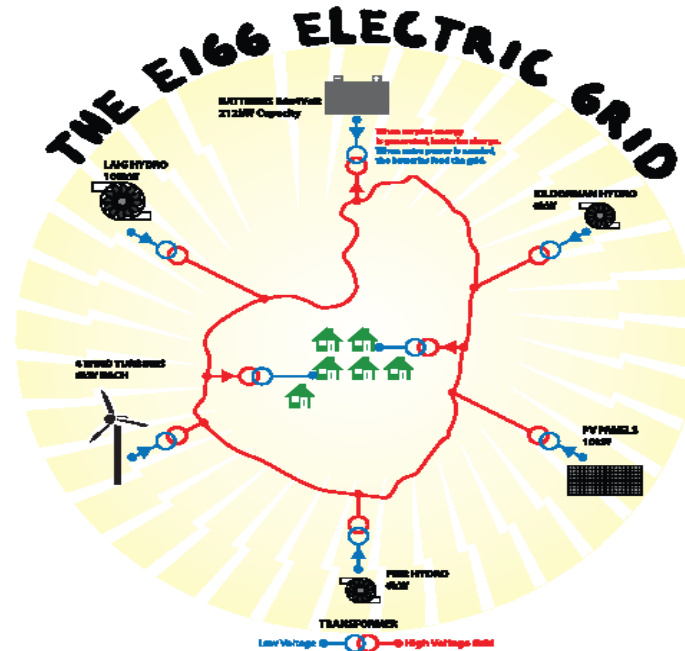


3 Hydros = 110 KW



4 Windmills = 24kW

5 kW for each household



10 kW for businesses



3 photovoltaic panels= 30kW



96 batteries store 24h power

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Eigg's green grid: the multiplying effect

- The green grid is operated and maintained by *Eigg Electric Ltd* a subsidiary company of the Isle of Eigg Heritage Trust.
- Repair and servicing is the responsibility of a trained maintenance team, creating 3 valuable part-time jobs.
- The green grid has been replicated in the neighbouring islands of Muck, Rum and Canna.
- The reduction on CO2 from our grid helped Eigg win the Big Green challenge in 2010, motivating the islanders to reduce their carbon footprint further, growing their own produce, switching to AAA appliances and solar hot water tubes and using and producing more woodfuel.



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Mull and Iona Sustainable Transport (MIST)



- Mull and Iona Sustainable Transport is part of the Mull and Iona Community Trust.
- Travel and transport choices accounts for up to half or more of many households' total CO2 emissions.
- With funding from the Scottish government's Climate Challenge Fund, MIST aims to develop a long term plan for more sustainable transport on Mull and Iona.
- The Energy Savings Trust is collaborating with MIST to present some special local events to bring all interested islanders up to speed with electric cars and incentives to switch.
- MIST is targeting individuals but also island businesses: under a new Scottish government scheme. Scottish businesses keen to reduce their emissions will now be able to apply for up to £100,000 to switch their transport fleet to electric or plug-in hybrid vehicles.

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Information sharing is the key to the switch

- **EV trials:** A Nissan Leaf and a Berlingo have been purchased for individuals, businesses and community groups to test them out.
- **EV training days** include maintenance information
- **Car Club and Community Transport schemes** are being investigated to utilise the EVs beyond the life time of the project.
- **Liftsharing** : 'Mull and Iona Lift-share' operates as a 'closed group' on Facebook to help match willing drivers with willing passengers to share, on or off the islands. A calendar presenting details of lifts offered is easily checked for available opportunities.
- **Efficient driving:** free training opportunities to improve the efficiency of drivers keen to save money by reducing fuel consumption.



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Find out more

- www.scottish-islands-federation.co.uk
- www.sustainableislands.eu
- www.localenergyscotland.org (CARES)
- www.isleofeigg.org
- www.mict.co.uk/projects-services/mist/
- www.mict.co.uk/electric-cars/

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