

Sustainable Development

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." ([Sustainable Development Commission 2018](#))

This factsheet is to help anyone who wants to apply to Community Led Local Development (CLLD) for funding. It has been written to help you understand how to consider, include and apply the Cross Cutting themes (CCTs) in your application.

1. Who do the Cross Cutting Themes apply to?

Any organisation who is applying for European funding will need to consider CCTs in their funding application.

It does not matter how big or small your organisation is, the rules apply to the application for funding. You will need to think about how your project will balance the following points: environmental, social and economic, whether that is at the time of the project or in the future.

Sustainable Development should be included in all aspects of your project planning, development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It must be included not only within the services the project provides, but also in the way the project is delivered.

The level of detail for your application will vary depending on the size of your application; you will still need to make sure you have a Sustainable Development Policy:

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2. Why is this information needed?

All European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) promote sustainable development in accordance with the EU and national requirements. If you want to apply for Community Led Local Development (CLLD) funding you will need to be able to explain how your project contributes to, and meets the requirements of, the ESIF Sustainable Development theme.

Cornwall Development Company, the Accountable body for CLLD, also has its own commitment to Sustainable Development which is available on request.

3. What is CLLD looking for?

You will be asked to produce a Sustainability/Development Policy and where relevant, an Implementation Plan which should be reviewed regularly.

Your policy needs to be relevant to the project you are planning to do. Some of things you may consider could be:

Revenue Costs (ongoing project costs like salaries, room hire etc.):
Can your staff travel by public transport, do you expect people to travel to your course/ venue and/or how do you dispose of recycling and waste from the organisation?

Capital Costs (one off costs to refurbish a building, buy a building or piece of equipment):
This is more detailed in how you will maintain the building taking into consideration all the planning

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permissions that need to be in place, the use of renewable energy and any habitat/environment issues that you need to think about. CLLD, for capital investments, will expect you to go through the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM). We can provide you with more information about that if you need it.

If you need help with putting together a policy, you can find links at the end of this factsheet to help you – section 6.

4. When will CLLD ask for information?

We will expect to see that you have answered all the relevant questions in the Expression of Interest and Full Application. You should be answering the questions with Sustainable Development included in your project.

If you are successful at Expression of Interest stage and you submit a Full Application, we will expect to see your Sustainable/Development Policy and if necessary the Implementation Plan.

5. How to include Sustainable development in your project?

Have you thought about the impact your project is going to have on the community either socially, environmentally or economically? How will you make sure what you are doing will meet the needs of the present community without having an impact on the future of the community?

If you are doing a partnership project or will be sub-contracting, have you thought about who you will be your partners in a project and how they will be supporting sustainable development?

Socially, how will you include your staff, volunteers and/or people who will be accessing your service in sustainable development? Where will you be running your project? Will you be expecting people to travel and/or where would your volunteers/staff be travelling from to deliver? Environmentally, how will your delivery team get around? How will you be advertising the service and engaging with people e.g. face to face, paper based, phone calls, emails etc.? Economically, who will you be using for labour if you need some capital work done?

We are looking for you to create projects that are wanted by the people who will use the service you are providing. If there are potential barriers, how will you manage this and include it in your project to make sure that your project does not have an impact on future generations meeting their needs.

CLLD is targeted in the areas of high deprivation; we want to know how your project will work in an area of high deprivation. You will know the community, environment and target audience more than we will but we will expect you to be thinking about how you present the project information and how to make it sustainable.

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6. Where can you find more information to help you put things in place?

If you need help developing a policy here are some links and templates:

British Assessment:

<https://www.british-assessment.co.uk/guides/writing-a-sustainability-policy/>

Start-ups - The UK's No.1 starting a business resource:

<https://startups.co.uk/how-to-create-an-environmental-policy-statement/>

Cancer Research:

https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/sites/default/files/final_environmental_policy_apr-2015.pdf

Age UK:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/BrandPartnerGlobal/hounslowVPP/docs/policy/Environmental-Policy.pdf>

Meet Green:

https://meetgreen.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/sustain_policy_template.pdf

Like any policy template you need to read through them and adapt them to your organisation and activities.

For further information on what Sustainable Development means to your project and organisations here are some useful resources:

Sustainable Development

Commission:

<http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/pages/what-is-sustainable-development.html>

Contact us:

clld@cornwalldevelopmentcompany.co.uk

01209 615067

Facebook:

Twitter:

Mailchimp: