*Community Fund Guidelines and
Application Form 2016/17*

**Sliabh Bawn DAC are committed to the development of sustainable energy in Ireland and have a fundamental role in Ireland’s 2020 target of achieving 40% of its electricity consumption from renewable sources. When promoting green energy we believe the communities in which we locate our wind farms should be able to experience the benefit of that wind farm in the locality.**

**What is the Sliabh Bawn Wind Farm Community Fund?**

A Community Fund totalling €87,000 (index linked) will be made available each year over the 25 year lifetime of the wind farm to benefit local community projects and initiatives.

**Who will benefit?**

The Community Fund will prioritise projects and initiatives (See Application Criteria) that will benefit the area surrounding Sliabh Bawn Mountain. Priority will be given to projects that bring socio-economic benefit to the area including strategic projects. The Community Fund can be used as matching finance for other grants.

**Who can apply?**

The fund is available to community and voluntary groups, Not for Profit groups and organisations with a charitable status. A key criteria is that the fund is used to benefit the local community as a whole. A maximum of one application can be submitted from each group/organisation per annum.

**NB. *CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS:
Friday November 18th at 5.00pm*\*\*Priority will be given to fund projects and initiatives that support and benefit the area surrounding Sliabh Bawn mountain\*\***

**What do we fund?**

Application Criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Recreation** | Your project delivers community-based sport and recreation activities. |
| **Health and Wellbeing** | Your project delivers a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the local area. |
| **Culture and Heritage** | Your project increases cultural awareness and preserves the local heritage. |
| **Environmental Sustainability** | Your project enhances the local, natural and built environment for the community. Community energy efficiency schemes are also eligible. |
| **Tourism** | Your project develops new and strengthens existing tourism initiatives, which make a contribution to the local economy. |

**How the Community Fund Works?**

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| --- | --- |
| 1 | **Tell Us About Your Project:** Complete the online application form which you can find at [www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie](http://www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie) to tell us about your community project. Remember to include all the quotes/invoices necessary to complete your project. |
| 2 | **Send Us Your Project Details:**Submit your completed application form to SECAD Ltd via the online application portal at [www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie](http://www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie)  |
| 3 | **Coillte Reviews all Projects:**In association with SECAD Ltd., Coillte and Bord na Mona will review all applications – remember the Fund will prioritise projects and initiatives that support and benefit the area surrounding Sliabh Bawn mountain. |
| 4 | **Funding Awards:**All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by post in Spring 2017.  |

**Who will administer the fund?**

****SECAD Ltd has been appointed to act as a grant making organisation overseeing the management, administration, and delivery of the Community Fund on behalf of Coillte. Coillte welcome and encourage funding proposals from local community
groups, and SECAD Ltd will provide necessary support to the projects
throughout the application process.

**The Sliabh Bawn Community Fund is for the benefit of the community and is unable to fund:**

* Applications from individuals
* Applications that promote religious or political activities
* Statutory organisations or the direct replacement of statutory funding
* Applications for funding to cover the cost of;

- salaried positions;

- trips abroad;

- core/general running costs;

- retrospective funding;

- festivals;

- activities which do not directly benefit the local community and are not deemed as ‘charitable’.

**Timeline:**

* The CLOSING DATE for receipt of applications is **Friday, November 18th @ 5pm**.
* All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by post in Spring 2017.
* Successful groups will be expected to complete project activities within six months from date of approval. For capital projects and/or long-term strategic projects an extension on the completion date can be agreed.

 **For more information:**

You can find out more about the Sliabh Bawn Community Fund by contacting SECAD Ltd. Tel: (021) 461 3432 Email: sliabhbawn@secad.ie or visit our project website [www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie](http://www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie)

**The Sliabh Bawn Wind Farm will:**

• produce clean electricity for homes, farms, hospitals, schools and businesses in Ireland;

• comprise 20 wind turbines and a substation;

• have an export capacity of 58 Megawatts (MW) which will supply the equivalent of approximately 37,700 households¹;

• contribute to the local economy by supporting local businesses.

¹Source: IWEA. 1MW = 650 households. 58MW = 37,700 households. Average household consumption 5,300 kWh.