

CASE STUDY

NESCAN North East Scotland Climate Action Network

<https://www.nescan.org/>

Aims and objectives:

To achieve a sustainable North East Scotland through proactively enabling community led climate action with connected, empowered, active communities at its heart. To support and develop community led climate action throughout Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire.

To support communities to be a part of a just transition to a sustainable North-East Scotland, contributing to local, regional and national policy setting & decision making.

NESCAN Hub demonstrate their impact on:

- Health and wellbeing
- Cost of Living Crisis / Social Justice
- Democratic participation
- Climate Justice
- Learning and Education



Evidence of impact:

Key Project Areas Membership & Community Engagement - www.nescan.org/ongoing-projects

Community Development with members and communities, to promote and increase climate literacy and awareness and support and develop community climate action. We do this by:

- Share and Learn Events across the region and members including climate action weeks.
- Develop Member Forums around topics of local climate action.
- Co-ordinate a Community Learning & Development programme – including e.g., “Knowledge into Action” workshops, Forum Theatre workshops, Funding workshops, and “how to develop inclusive and accessible community activities”.
- Community Development support for projects, resources and funding – tailored one to one help alongside more generic resources.
- Delivery/ co-delivery of community assemblies & other deliberative democratic processes
- Developing community capacity & skills in the NE to achieve a fairer greener future Just Transition Green Participatory Budgeting.
- Climate Action knowledge and grass-roots project development support.
- Promote community-to-community peer learning and support.
- Raising awareness and capacity around climate change, associated actions and support in communities to achieve net zero.

NESCAN Just Transition Communities Project - www.nescan.org/community-assemblies

What does community development mean to you?

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We seek to engage with community development through methods that are connecting, supporting, learning and collaborating.

Our core values that underpin our work and delivery are to be sustainable, ethical, inclusive and responsive, placing communities and their interests and needs at the heart of what we do and strive to deliver.

NESCAN

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So what: What does this demonstrate?

Community Development Alliance Scotland is fully committed to driving community development policy and practice by involving our broad range of membership organisations from the voluntary, public, faith and private sectors. This document demonstrates our collective impact on the improvement agenda for various outcomes including health, economic regeneration, human rights and social justice.

These examples of community development action show that building stronger communities can be hard work, and a long-term process requiring skills and the building of trust and confidence. Although we have demonstrated collective, meaningful, partnership working, we also believe we can do so much more to create more equal communities.

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Community development is the answer because it ensures we have more socially just and equal societies. This is demonstrated throughout the world where extremes are not only detrimental to the less able or less fortunate but evidence suggests extremes also come at the detriment of the more able. For the greater good of all, it is our moral obligation to galvanise collective responses to the creation of more socially just, equal societies.

Colette McGarva
CDAS Coordinator
IACD Global Ambassador Award recipient

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