

Environmental Impact Reporting

Guidelines for Heritage Organisations Support Fund Applications

Overview

Applicants to the Heritage Organisations Support Fund (HOSF) should include an Environmental Impact plan demonstrating sustainability and environmental responsibility. This ensures projects align with heritage conservation, climate and ecological goals. This will be assessed as part of the application under *Criteria 4 Heritage, Social and Environmental Impact of the Funding*.

The Environmental Impact of the project may be included in the application under the *Impact* Section in response to the question “*How will you ensure your work will have an overall positive environmental impact? We would like to hear about the consideration given and steps taken to reduce the environmental impact in the actual delivery of your work plan*” or alternatively summarised here and uploaded as a standalone document.

Relevant details should also be summarised in the Template Work Programme under the heading “*Potential climate and biodiversity impacts of the project and steps for mitigation or adaptation*”.

Key Expectations

1. Sustainability: Show how the project minimises environmental harm and supports sustainable practices and the Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Biodiversity: Address potential impacts on local flora and fauna and propose mitigation strategies.
3. Resource Management: Include plans for efficient use of resources, waste reduction, and recycling.
4. Community Engagement: Demonstrate involvement of local communities in addressing environmental concerns.
5. Monitoring: Provide a framework for ongoing environmental monitoring and adaptation.

Suggested Structure for plan

1. Project Overview:
 - Brief description of goals and location.
 - Summary of the environmental context.

2. Baseline Assessment:
 - Key environmental conditions and sensitive features.
3. Impact Assessment:
 - Identify risks and evaluate cumulative effects.
4. Mitigation Plan:
 - Strategies to reduce or offset negative impacts.
5. Monitoring:
 - Indicators, methods, and reporting schedule.
6. Compliance:
 - Evidence of legal and regulatory alignment.

Details of how the plan has been implemented will be required at final reporting stage for successful projects.

Additional Notes

- Highlight innovative or climate-resilient approaches.
- Include partnerships with environmental experts.
- Use checklists and resources available on the Heritage Council website for support <https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/advice-and-guidance/resources>.