

CRNI Training links project – External Evaluator brief

Background

Community Resources Network Ireland (CRNI) is the representative body for community based reuse, repair and recycling organisations in Ireland. Our members make an important contribution to Ireland's Circular Economy efforts.

CRNI has secured funding from The Wheel's Training Links scheme to establish a Training Network among our members and other organisations. Called '*Building Capacity through Impact for community-based circular activities*', the network will participate in a bespoke programme of training.

The aim of the programme is to boost the ability of participants to effectively navigate sectoral challenges and capitalise on opportunities in a rapidly developing sector. As a result, participants will improve their ability to measure and communicate the social impact of their organisations.

The network includes **10 CRNI members** and other organisations in their wider networks - **approx 20 participating individuals**.

Participants will gain a set of tools and knowledge relating to:

- Aligning business objectives and impact definitions
- Developing methodologies and tools for measuring impact
- Understanding social impact discipline
- Stakeholder mapping
- Developing a theory of change
- Communicating impact internally to inform organisational strategy
- Communicating impact externally to target audiences via distilled messaging
- Using impact to attract investment

The following intended benefits will result from the training:

- Negotiating partner working, contracts and collaboration with social emphasis
- Diversifying funding
- Scaling up
- Change management
- Long-term business planning and development

A number of contracted professionals will be involved in the project including the Training Providers, an External Evaluator, and an Independent Consultant. The project's success will benefit from good lines of communication between these professionals, facilitated by the Network Coordinator.



The Training Links programme is funded from the National Training Fund through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation, and Science.



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Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science

External evaluator - brief

The External Evaluator will review the programme in terms of effectiveness to deliver on its stated aims and objectives.

Aspects within the Evaluator's remit include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- Developing an evaluation framework for the project
- Effectively communicating evaluation methodology and requirements to the Network Coordinator to inform their role in collecting evaluation material
- Liaising with Training Providers to a) gather any additional information regarding their planned sessions that may be pertinent to the project objectives, and b) negotiate appropriate ways to observe training (as appropriate)
- Assessing whether the objectives as stated in the original application were achieved or not, and provide commentary to support this
- Inform the Network Coordinator regarding matters of potential relevance or significance that should be communicated to other contracted professionals for the project's benefit

As project funder, The Wheel has also supplied template forms for collecting **participant data** and **participant sentiment** regarding their experience of the training programme. The data collected will be presented to the funder at the end of the project as part of reporting requirements. These should be accounted for in the Evaluator's methodology to ensure alignment, and avoid duplicating data requests from participants.

Outputs: Project evaluation methodology, final evaluation report offering summary of the project's effectiveness in delivering on stated aims and objectives as defined by the methodology.

Delivery schedule: Completion date of report – September 2026.

Fee: €3,900 (inc. VAT). Payment schedule to be agreed

To apply: Proposals from suitably qualified contractors are sought for this project. Your response should include:

- How your skills, qualifications and experience meet the requirements of the brief
- Copy/proof of Tax clearance, professional indemnity cover and public liability insurance which covers the duration of this work contract.
- Cover letter with your name, address, telephone number and email address.

Submission of Quotes: The Closing Date for receipt of proposals is 23:59 on Wednesday 20 August 2025. Quotes shall be emailed to chris@crni.ie. Only proposals received before the closing date will be accepted.



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