



Graduate & Career Development Programme

Green Tech Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and network companies. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.



An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
Department of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science



Co-funded by
the European Union

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Our Mission

At WEI & GTS, we believe that investing in the professional development of new employees in the renewables industry is key to achieving a sustainable future.

Our mission is to provide an innovative and practical training programme that offers trainees a comprehensive understanding of the renewables landscape in Ireland, while enhancing their personal skills through a range of engaging and interactive learning experiences.

We strive to create a supportive and collaborative learning environment that empowers trainees to become more well-rounded professionals and future leaders in the industry.

Our ultimate goal is to contribute to the growth and success of the renewables industry in Ireland by equipping its newest members with the knowledge, skills, and networks they need to thrive.



Meet The Team



Noel Cunniffe
Wind Energy Ireland CEO



Dave Linehan
Head of Research



Dáire Horgan
Programme Coordinator



Mark Ruane
Head of GreenTech Skillnet

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Graduate & Career Development Programme

We are proud to offer our members the Graduate & Career Development Programme, an innovative and practical training programme designed for new employees in the renewables industry in Ireland. This programme is aimed at providing trainees with a comprehensive understanding of the renewables landscape in Ireland while enhancing their personal skills through our five key pillars.

Our programme is unique as it caters to employees working in all sectors of the industry, providing in-depth knowledge of their own area that adds value to their day-to-day activities.

Cohort 2 will be starting in September 2023 and will run until June 2024 with trainee's being brought together two Fridays per month through a mix of in-person and online learning depending on the session.



GCDP Five Key Pillars

Industry Insights

You'll gain a deep understanding of the latest technologies, policies, and trends shaping the Irish renewables industry.

Soft Skills

You'll develop the communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills you need to thrive in a fast-paced and dynamic work environment.

Group Work

You'll work on a real-world research project in a team, applying what you've learned to create a tangible solution to a current industry challenge, presenting your results at the WEI Annual Conference.

Site Visits

You'll have the opportunity to visit some of the most innovative renewable energy projects in Ireland, gaining hands-on experience and making valuable connections.

Networking

You'll have the chance to connect with industry leaders and other professionals, expanding your network and opening doors to new opportunities.



Industry Insights

Industry modules delivered by industry experts
A blend of in-person and online delivery

Industry Insight Modules

- Onshore Wind
- Offshore Wind
- Renewable Energy Finance
- Planning System in Ireland
- Grid Policy in Ireland
- Market Policy in Ireland
- Energy Storage
- Hydrogen
- Biodiversity and Environmental Management
- Stakeholder Management & Communication
- Community Engagement, Communications & Public Affairs

***Programme not yet finalised but we will try to touch on as many topics in some format.**

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Soft Skills

Our training on relevant soft skills optimises communication, interactions, and self-awareness, giving trainees the opportunity to step back from their work and analyse how they work, focusing on external and internal factors.

Soft Skills Development is vital for creating a more rounded employee and better leader of tomorrow.

- **Optimising communication; DISC TTI Assessment**
- **Optimising Interactions; Formal (Presentation) and Informal (Influence)**
- **Optimising Self-Awareness; Resilience, Wellbeing & Mindfulness**



Group Work

As a crucial component of the programme, the group work allows for collaboration between trainees from different companies, working together on a research project related to the industry. Through this they will have the chance to put their soft skills into practice and develop their teamwork.

The goal of this project is to prepare for the WEI Annual Conference, where trainees will have the opportunity to showcase their findings in two formats:

- Showcase their work in the Research Poster Room.
- Present their findings to the conference audience in the main hall.

This unique opportunity will allow them to test their abilities in front of key stakeholders in our industry offering invaluable exposure and experience.



WEI Annual Conference
GCDP Winners
Group 5
Angelo Colucci, ESB
Ruaidhri O'Sullivan, BnM
Ryan O'Hanlon, EnergyPro



Bord na Móna



Site Visit

As part of our commitment to delivering impactful learning experiences, we will be taking the group on a series of engaging site visits throughout Ireland. These visits include green sites, such as wind farms, research centres, and testing facilities, providing an excellent opportunity for hands-on learning.

Hosted Learning Days

We will work with our member companies to host several learning days, offering valuable insights into the inner workings of different organisations in our industry. Through this, students will gain invaluable experience and a real-world perspective on the scale and diversity of our industry.

Networking

Networking is an essential aspect of the Graduate & Career Development Programme, and we pride ourselves on providing unprecedented networking opportunities for the trainees.

Industry Conferences & Networking Events

They not only network with their peers but also gain access to industry experts from across the different sectors. Trainees' involvement and attendance at leading industry conferences and networking events complete the programme, giving them a holistic development opportunity.





On Demand Learning & Certificates

CPL Online Courses

- Health & Safety Awareness
- GDPR Training
- Cybersecurity Awareness
- Working from Home Essentials

New Horizon 1 year subscription

Online Anytime
Business Applications
Collection

Renewable Construction Academy 12 week access

Elements Of An
Offshore
Windfarm

ARMSA Academy 1 year subscription

Professional
Performance Support



Join Today!

Join the Graduate & Career Development Programme today and gain a better understanding of the renewables industry in Ireland, enhance your personal skills, and network with industry experts.

This programme is an excellent opportunity for new employees in the renewables industry and their managers to invest in their professional development and contribute to the growth of the industry.



**Scan the QR
code to apply!**

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Cohort 1



 Graduate & Career
Development Programme

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Cohort 1



Angelo Colucci	ESB
Ann Fahy	SSE
Ayodele Bickersteth	Viotas
Conor Cronin	Gas Networks Ireland
Cormac Breslin	ESB
Darragh Kyne	Gas Networks Ireland
Emma Deegan	Energia
Emma Singleton	Vestas
Fionn McDonagh	Future Energy Ireland
John Burke	Wind Energy Ireland
Josh Rowe	Energia

Kevin Dunne	Bord na Mona
Leo Donlon	Jennings O'Donovan & Partners
Marissa Horan	Future Energy Ireland
Nicola Joyce	ESB
Pat Lambert	Wind Energy Ireland
Ruaidhrí O'Sullivan	Bord na Mona
Ryan O'Hanlon	EnergyPro Asset Management
Sophia Swan	Orsted Onshore Ireland
Stephen Dolan	Beauchamps
Vanessa Pulgarin	EIH2 & Green Rebel



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Fionn McDonagh - Project Manager, Future Energy Ireland	“I would strongly recommend this course to anyone interested or new to the renewable energy sector. It gives a broad but yet highly comprehensive and in-depth overview of the sector”.
Cormac Breslin - Project Control Coordinator – Inch Cape Wind/ESB:	“I have really enjoyed my time on the Graduate & Career Development Programme. The course includes a great blend of industry related topics and learning important soft skills, which enables me to deliver the industry learnings in my workplace. My favourite part of the programme was getting to meet likeminded people working within my industry and the knowledge sharing has been invaluable”
Emma Singleton - Customer Support Engineer - Vestas	“Since beginning the Graduate and career development programme, I’ve formed great friendships with others taking part in the course, improved my industry knowledge, been able to reflect on my soft skills to establish where my strengths and weaknesses lie and had a lot of laughs with the group along the way. Daire has put a great program together”.
Ayodele Bickersteth - Market Operations Analyst – VIOTAS	“I have found the Graduate & Career Development Programme beneficial in bringing together new entrants to the industry and providing relevant modules which are taught by leading experts across the industry.”
Marissa Horan - Future Energy Ireland	“As someone who was new to the wind industry before the course I commenced, I am grateful for the comprehensive breakdown of each facet of the industry. This, coupled with the soft skills component of the course provided a very dynamic development opportunity for me, both personally and professionally. The course instructors struck a good balance of guidance and support, with education. I am very lucky and thankful for taking part in this programme”.
Sophia Swan, Ørsted	”This course has been brilliant not only for giving us a broad overview of the wind energy industry, but also for networking and forging connections with others in the industry. The small class size is really helpful for engaging with the speakers, all of whom have provided relevant and interesting material during their lectures”.

Ann Fahy - SSE	“I have to say I’ve certainly learned a lot more in the short space of time with the tutors & mentors on Fridays than I have in any work environment – the content, especially the technical stuff, is unreal. That’s not taking light from Ina’s work, this is very useful stuff and will certainly help us when moving up the ladder. I think the organising of the who programme, down to you Daire, has been nothing short of slick – everything runs smoothly, and on time. The content for the course is amazing, and I can safely say, I’m telling anyone who will listen about how much I enjoy it”.
Emma Deegan - Energia	“The programme has been excellent. The content of the course is very comprehensive – the renewable energy landscape is being covered from all angles. The speakers are all really interesting and have all been very open to answering any questions we have. As well as developing technical skills, I have also really enjoyed developing and reflecting on various soft skills with Ina who has been phenomenal! The opportunity to network with other graduates/WEI staff members has been great and will definitely be invaluable to us all going forward in our career”.
Angelo Colucci, offshore wind energy specialist, ESB	The WEI program suits every professional in the Irish wind energy sector, both onshore and offshore, offering a wide-ranging overview of the different skills and knowledge required, not only technical, but also legislative and commercial, with the help of the main national experts. A particular focus is given to professional development in terms of office interaction, conflict and stakeholder management, which are key in every role in the field. Last but not least, the environment is extremely friendly and professional and offers a unique opportunity for networking and getting to know the Irish wind sector.

Testimonials



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Cohort 2

- ⚡ September 2023 - May 2024
- ⚡ Two Fridays per month
- ⚡ In-person & online learning
- ⚡ €4000
- ⚡ Limited places available
- ⚡ Aspiring renewables professionals

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