



SUSTAINABLE FOOD TRAINING: PROGRAMME OUTLINE 2021



INTRODUCTION

SECAD's "**Sustainable Food Training Programme**" aims to provide Small, Medium and Artisan food business owners with practical tools and guidance that will enable them to pursue environmentally conscious actions within their business operations. The programme is fully funded through the LEADER Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and there is no cost to participating businesses. It has been designed and developed in collaboration with our expert delivery partners, The Clean Technology Centre (MTU), SustHub, and Change by Degrees and will be delivered through a series of live online workshops, one-2-one training opportunities and case study site visits to explore the best practice in action.

By adopting this holistic approach, we will support individual owner/operators and their key staff to address challenges such as sustainable sourcing & supply chain practices, packaging, energy, water & waste, consumer education, carbon emissions, renewable energy and climate change. This programme can also provide invaluable support to those considering taking the first steps towards achieving accredited sustainability status under programmes such as Bord Bia's Origin Green Programme and BIM's Green Seafood Business Programme.

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE

In today's competitive business landscape, sustainability and authentic green credentials are no longer 'nice to haves', but 'must haves'. Business owners are now accountable for their financial, social, and environmental responsibilities and the legacy they wish to leave in our world. The UN's Sustainable Development Goals reinforce the responsibility of food business across the production and supply chain to feed the world sustainably and reduce their environmental footprint. But how can you, as a business, make practical changes to help achieve this?

Join our expert training providers and immerse your business in the why, the what, the how, the when and the where of sustainability. Gain a clearer understanding of how your business can play a role in addressing issues such as climate change, carbon, stakeholder engagement, resource efficiency, value generation, design thinking and the circular economy. Learn practical skills and avail of tailored business supports to apply immediately in your business. Develop action plans which will drive your sustainability performance while also identifying greener and potentially more cost-effective methods of production.

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The programme will run from May 2021 – December 2021 (with a break for July and August). It aims to provide a practical, holistic framework for supporting participants to address sustainability challenges and identify opportunities specific to their individual businesses. The programme includes:

- Participants will take part in 3 x half-day, live online workshops before the summer.
- Over the summer period, participants may avail of one-2-one on-site/virtual training with our expert trainers who will provide tailored support in developing your action plans.
- A further 7 x half-day, live online workshops will be run after the summer break which will give participants more in-depth knowledge of sustainability issues relevant to the food sector and provide practical tools for completion and implementation of sustainability action plans.
- Case Study site visits will be arranged for businesses considered to be pursuing best practice in the area of sustainability/resource efficiency (Covid restrictions permitting)
- Networking opportunities with other businesses



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Businesses that wish to participate in this training programme must satisfy the following criteria:

- Be based within SECAD's operational area of South or West Cork
- Be an established food business already trading
- Be registered as a food producer or in the process of doing so
- Commit to a representative attending the first three workshops at a minimum (*N.B. it is strongly recommended that participants attend all ten workshops in order to maximize the support available in developing practical sustainability action plans*)

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Live, online workshops will run from 10 am - 1 pm on assigned dates as follows:

Workshop Title	Trainer	South Cork	West Cork
Sustainability - The What and the How: A practical introduction to sustainability, to include green finance and green procurement	SustHub	19th May	21st May
Our Food and Our Environment : Sustainable food production and understanding the impact of food production on biodiversity and implementing sustainable food systems	CTC	2nd June	4th June
Resource Efficiency and Environmental Management Systems: Management energy, water, and waste	CTC	16th June	18th June
Break for Summer Months 1-2-1 Onsite/ Virtual Training will be scheduled in line with the needs and availability of the participating businesses.			
Climate change: Measure your Carbon Footprint	SustHub	8th September	10th September
Communication: Engaging the Marketplace - Understanding Consumer behavior and Sustainable consumption	CBD	22nd September	24th September
Managing Food Waste	CTC	6th October	8th October
Packaging, Storage, Transport & Distribution: Sustainable Supply Chain Design	SustHub	20th October	22nd October
Building a Sustainability Culture: Engaging Employees & Suppliers	CBD	3rd November	5th November
Circular Economy Proposition Design	SustHub	17th November	19th November
Design Thinking, Innovation & Sustainability	SustHub	1st December	3rd December

* Detailed workshop descriptions are available on request.

**Dates for case study visits to follow.

ONE TO ONE TRAINING SUPPORTS

The programme offers tailored one-2-one support (either on-site at your business or virtually) which will focus on the needs of individual businesses and their sustainability goals. Our delivery partners have significant expertise in working directly with client companies across multiple sectors. They will work closely with business owners/key staff to assess existing practices and identify solutions that will enable them to achieve their sustainability goals and improve resource efficiency. A key outcome of the one-2-one training will be to develop an action plan for the business where the business will agree on a number of “key projects” that could be further analysed and costed.

The type of supports available through these one-2-one training sessions include:

- Reviewing data on company resource usage, including energy, water, and waste to ensure that:(a) to better understand current levels of spend (b) to ensure that businesses are getting value for money on their utilities, and (c) to demonstrate how businesses can generate environmental KPIs.
- Reviewing where materials, energy, and water are used in the main operation of the business and identifying opportunities to improve or change these operations in order to meet with best practice.
- Identifying opportunities for improved energy efficiency, energy-efficient technologies, and renewable energy alternatives where practical.
- Reviewing management practices with a view to implementing waste prevention and reuse approaches and reducing waste to landfill where feasible.
- How to engage with staff
- Carbon foot-printing and better carbon management
- Responsible supply chains & being a responsible business
- Sustainability strategy design, target setting, and reporting
- Circular economy
- Design thinking and innovation

ABOUT OUR TRAINING PARTNERS

The program will be delivered by a panel of professional trainers who are each highly experienced in their respective fields. They have supported multiple food businesses, of various sizes and at various stages of their development, to adopt more sustainable business practices while in many instances achieving considerable cost savings.

Our experts include professionals from SustHub; one of Ireland’s leading Corporate Sustainability and Circular Economy companies, The Clean Technology Centre (CTC) based at Munster Technological University; providing consultancy to organisations in all key areas of sustainability, and Change by Degrees; a sustainability consultancy with over 20 years international experience in climate and environment strategy, communications and employee and customer engagement.



SUSTHUB (www.susthub.ie) **A CLEARSTREAM SOLUTIONS BUSINESS**



SustHub is a training division of Clearstream Solutions, one of Ireland's leading Corporate Sustainability and Circular Economy companies. Although the process of Carbon Management and Sustainability training is relatively immature in Ireland, Clearstream has built up a strong local and international client base and has extensive knowledge and expertise in this specialist area over the past 12 years. The company has won the Green Small Organisation Award at the Irish National Green Awards, the EnviroCom Special Merit Category award, and was also awarded the Dublin Chamber Sustainable Business Challenge (SME). ClearStream is also a member of the Enterprise Ireland Green Service Providers.

Clearstream Solutions works with many industry leaders in Ireland including Mercury, Keelings, Kingspan, RDS, United Drug, ESB, Butlers, BOI, and Gas Networks to implement sustainability best practices in their organisations and supply chains. In addition, they support the global operations of a number of multinational organisations including Microsoft, Flex, Cisco, Vodafone, Symantec, Honeywell, GE, and Bertelsmann. Clearstream has delivered numerous training courses, reports, and workshops covering a range of Sustainability, Circular Economy, and Carbon Management subjects as part of its global client engagements. It also provides coordination and project management services to a number of clients on their sustainability projects and is the secretariat for the CDP Ireland Network.

THE CLEAN TECHNOLOGY CENTRE (CTC), MTU (www.ctc-cork.ie)



The Clean Technology Centre is an independent, not for profit organisation established within Munster Technological University and has been providing innovative and effective resource efficiency solutions since established in 1992. The team at the Clean Technology Centre have a proven track record and varied experience in research, technical environmental analysis and reporting, behaviour change, public engagement, training and communication.

CTC's work in resource efficiency approaches and research has been highly acclaimed and has driven national and regional programmes and methodologies. CTC has managed 3 key NWPP Resource Efficiency Programmes between 2018 and 2020 (Green Business Programme, Green Hospitality Programme and Green Healthcare Programme). CTC has successfully carried out over 100 national and international, pure and applied environmental research projects since its inception - both individually and with over 120 partners from 31 countries. CTC has also worked directly with 25 Irish local authorities, provided assistance to 50 Irish hospitals and worked with over 300 Irish companies, through its own consultancy activities and in its past role in the Green Business Programme. CTC has assisted 12 companies in the implementation and certification of their environmental management systems to ISO 14001.

CHANGE BY DEGREES

(www.changebydegrees.com)



Change by Degrees is a sustainability consultancy with over 20 years of international experience in climate and environment strategy, communications, and employee and customer engagement. Our consultancy services enable businesses to grow better, by responding effectively to the increasing demand for sustainable business practice, through workshops, SDG mapping, strategy development, and best practice policy guidance. We bring environmental sustainability and climate change know-how to your business to help you assess climate risk, build resilience, secure supply chains, attract and retain staff, respond to changing regulations and communicate your impact legitimately. Our tailored advice and communications planning will increase employee loyalty and productivity and ultimately reduce business costs. Change by Degrees has delivered training and workshops to businesses in Ireland on all aspects of sustainability policy and strategy, employee education and engagement, and on reporting and communications. We tailor our training services to each clients' needs and industry.

Change by Degrees clients includes Musgrave, the National Treasury Management Agency, Gas Networks Ireland, Ervia, Irish Water, Poppulo, Dept of the Taoiseach, Depart of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Cork City Council, and the Blue Haven Collection.

SECAD 

THANK YOU

For more information or to register for
this course please contact:

info@secad.ie

021 461 3432

www.secad.ie/food