



Scottish
**Marine
Environmental
Enhancement**
Fund

Prospectus

February 2024

£3.5m raised and distributed to date. Act now to play a role in positive change for our coasts and seas.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



Crown Estate
Scotland
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba



NatureScot
Scotland's Nature Agency
Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund

About

The Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund (SMEEF) has fast become a well-respected nature finance programme. SMEEF offers a unique opportunity for business and users of Scottish waters to choose to voluntarily contribute to the health and biodiversity of our seas. Science based, Government aligned, targeted criteria ensure the most effective delivery of the grant pot to projects across Scotland.

The unique placement of SMEEF, which is managed by a Steering Group of the Scottish Government's Marine Directorate, Crown Estate Scotland and NatureScot, provides exceptional insight and assures robust governance and transparency.

SMEEF has already attracted the support and commitment of the offshore renewable energy sector. Since its inception SMEEF has been responsible for the acquisition and distribution of £3.5m to 55 projects and it is currently negotiating circa £4.5m of donations. It is time for your business to be part of this exciting programme fighting climate change and biodiversity loss.

Core Aims

Our core aim is to increase the amount of funding available for marine and coastal enhancement in Scotland and run an effective, science led, long-term funding programme that will:

- Restore marine habitats and address the biodiversity crisis,
- Take a systems view, connecting interventions and considering full ecosystems and life cycles across the Scottish marine seascape,
- Provide demonstrable corporate social responsibility opportunities, and
- Encourage wider research and development.

SMEEF will contribute to a just transition to net zero through grant aided projects that enhance the marine ecosystem services we all rely upon including:

- Recovery, Restoration and Enhancement of marine and coastal habitat and species,
- Marine and coastal nature-based solutions,
- Invasive species management,
- Research which sheds new light on relevant issues and/or makes projects more effective.

Impact Report

Our first impact report details the more than £3m worth of grants given to May 2023, with specifics on our approach to due diligence and fundraising and gives insights into our grant giving, its impacts and aims. It can be downloaded from www.smeeef.scot.



Why do we need SMEEF?

The marine economy accounts for 11% of the overall Scottish GVA, equating to approx. £14.7 billion and this hugely important resource supports a wide range of growing industries.

However, multiple uses, coupled with the impacts of climate change are creating issues for our oceans. The marine ecosystem is under threat and ecosystem services are diminishing. SMEEF offers a mechanism for those who benefit from these services to return value and increase sustainability so that we can provide healthy oceans for future generations.

How your contributions are used

SMEEF is focused on improving marine natural capital, aiming to offer a return which is expressed in terms of increased breeding success, enhanced ecosystem services such as reduced flood risk, and increases in biodiversity or understanding of how marine ecosystems interact with people and industry.

Our grant giving is structured around five different areas. They are:

- Seabed enhancement – to encompass work on seagrass, native oysters and other seabed species and habitats,
- Coastal enhancement – to encompass work on saltmarsh, sand dunes and other coastal species and habitats,
- Marine (ocean) enhancement – to encompass work on all mobile species work and deeper seas,
- Seabirds – to encompass all work aiming to benefit seabirds,
- Research – funding work on strategic data gaps.

Jobs Potential

Nature based solutions, such as those funded by SMEEF, have the potential to quickly increase the range of employment opportunities in some of the most remote and fragile Scottish communities.

Accountability

We want organisations to feel confident in contributing to SMEEF and so we have set up robust governance arrangements to provide clarity and accountability as well as ensuring the projects funded have access to the best advice.



Strategic Fit

SMEEF is part of the Scottish Government's Blue Economy Vision and Statement of Intent on Biodiversity post-2020. It adheres to the Interim Principles for Responsible Investment in Natural Capital and is one of the nine pillars of the Nature Conservation £1Billion Challenge and Route Map.

Award Winning



The Opportunity - Get Involved

SMEEF is reaching out to ALL sectors, and their supply chains, who make use of, or have an interest in, the Scottish marine environment and we welcome businesses to come forward and contribute to the grant pot.

SMEEF will provide your company with:

- Unparalleled expertise to drive the programme of restoration projects,
- A trustworthy and transparent grant management programme,
- Capacity to make it happen.

SMEEF is uniquely placed to ensure the greatest positive impact for nature and people. Get in touch today : manager@smeeff.scot ; 07717 571762

Contact

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www.smeeff.scot