

SUPPORTING CROFTING COMMUNITIES

How Highlands and Islands Enterprise
contributes in partnership with others



Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean



Crofting is a form of land tenure, unique to the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, which continues to be a vital component of this regional economy in the 21st century.

Within crofting communities individual crofts, which are generally small in size, usually occupy the better land, while areas of poorer quality hill ground are shared by crofters for grazing livestock.

The sharing of common grazings within crofting townships has established communities within which crofting plays a central role, with crofters joining forces to manage assets for the benefit of the whole community.

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE (HIE) AND ITS PARTNERS

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) recognises the importance of crofting communities in attracting people to live and work in these areas, while also creating local employment opportunities. HIE works with whole crofting communities – including those with and without direct access to crofting.

HIE works in partnership with several other bodies which support individual crofters and crofting activity, to ensure that crofting communities continue to thrive, becoming more resilient and able to meet opportunities and challenges. Key partners include the Crofting Commission, the Scottish Government (in particular the Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate, SGRIPD), local authorities including Business Gateway, Registers of Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The main organisations and services which support crofters and crofting communities are listed on page 8 of this publication.

COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT

Through each of HIE's eight area teams – covering Shetland; Orkney; Caithness and Sutherland; Moray, Inner Moray Firth; Lochaber, Skye and Wester Ross; Outer Hebrides, and Argyll and the Islands – the agency works directly with a broad range of local communities.

HIE's approach mirrors the way it supports client businesses to grow, and is called community account management (CAM). It recognises that each community is different, but all are resourceful, and many face similar issues such as demographic change, housing, service provision and employment opportunities.

Within HIE account managed communities, there is recognition of the contribution that crofting community development can play in addressing these issues. As a result, many of those communities have prioritised projects associated with crofting community development.

HIE's assistance takes many forms and is always tailored to suit the needs and ambitions of each account managed community. In many cases, HIE has funded the employment of a local development officer who helps the community create growth plans to develop and deliver projects which make a real and practical difference. These projects are invariably led by the communities themselves, and typically generate income as well as providing services and jobs.

Examples include setting up and managing renewable energy projects, and running social enterprises, both of which generate profits to be re-invested in initiatives which benefit the community. In August 2014, HIE was working with a total of 42 account managed communities, 15 of which featured crofting in their growth plans.

COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY

Through supporting account managed communities, HIE has helped local people deliver several successful renewable energy installations. Examples include several communities in the Outer Hebrides which have recognised the potential of using less productive, often communally-owned, ground to develop renewable energy projects which generate not just power, but wider community benefits as well.

HIE's work developing Local Energy Economies – using the energy innovatively within the communities in which it is generated – already involves the Wester Ross village of Applecross and has huge potential for other crofting communities.

ACCOUNT MANAGED COMMUNITIES

- HIE supports 42 account managed communities, of which at least 40 would be regarded as crofting communities.
- 15 of HIE's current account managed communities have crofting elements to their growth plans: Rum; Tiree; Colonsay; Barra and Vatersay Coigach; Ross of Mull and Iona; Glendale and Duirinish; Helmsdale and District; Durness and Laide; Melness, Tongue and Skerryay; Galson; Applecross; Raasay; Scourie and Lochcarron

CROFTING SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME (FIGURES FROM SCF'S ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2014)

- HIE aims to support 480 participants in Entry Level / Intermediate Courses and 40 Practical Skills Learners in 2014-2017
- 130 Entry Level participants achieved in Year 1, exceeding target of 120

By July 2014:

- 425 people had attended Practical Skills Training Courses
- 161 had participated in Entry Level / Intermediate Courses
- A new e-learning Entry Level module had been developed along with Napier University

CROFTING CONNECTIONS

- 127 schools (110 Primary and 17 Secondary) participating along with 75 crofters, 107 community volunteers, 105 small businesses and 49 NGO/LA/Agency staff.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR LARGER-SCALE, INCOME-GENERATING, RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS (CRISP)

- HIE has contributed £412,000 to renewable energy projects, £151,790 of which has assisted six projects with crofting tenure elements.
 - HIE has facilitated finance via the Community Renewables Investment Fund (REIF) to three major projects driven by crofting communities.
 - To date this has entailed £1.54m of direct finance with support to access around £18.7m from market sources endorsed by the Scottish Government.
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Lochs show

GEOGRAPHICALLY FOCUSED COLLABORATION

In September 2013, HIE proposed further public sector collaboration to enhance the vitality and resilience of crofting communities, the crofting system and opportunities for individual crofters to diversify their activities and make the best use of opportunities for funding and other support.

This geographically focused collaboration has been designed to build on existing collaborative work on specific issues including research, co-operatives, stock clubs, marts, and micro abattoirs.

Pilot projects which will be established during winter 2014/15 are expected to integrate and focus support from public sector partners to deliver greater impact through acting together.

What is envisaged is that, in an account managed crofting community which is working with HIE to design and deliver a growth plan, the Crofting Commission will support croft occupancy and purposeful use, Business Gateway will guide and assist croft business development opportunities, the Scottish Crofting Federation will offer access to skills and training opportunities, and the

Scottish Government (through SGRIPD) will provide localised grant support to individuals – all delivered in a carefully integrated and co-ordinated manner. Other organisations which are also expected to play a role include Scottish Natural Heritage and Registers of Scotland.

This collaborative, multi-agency approach will aim to bring forward the development and resilience of crofting communities. If the pilots are successful, HIE expects to continue to work with partners to co-ordinate more widely in crofting communities across the region.

CROFTING SKILLS

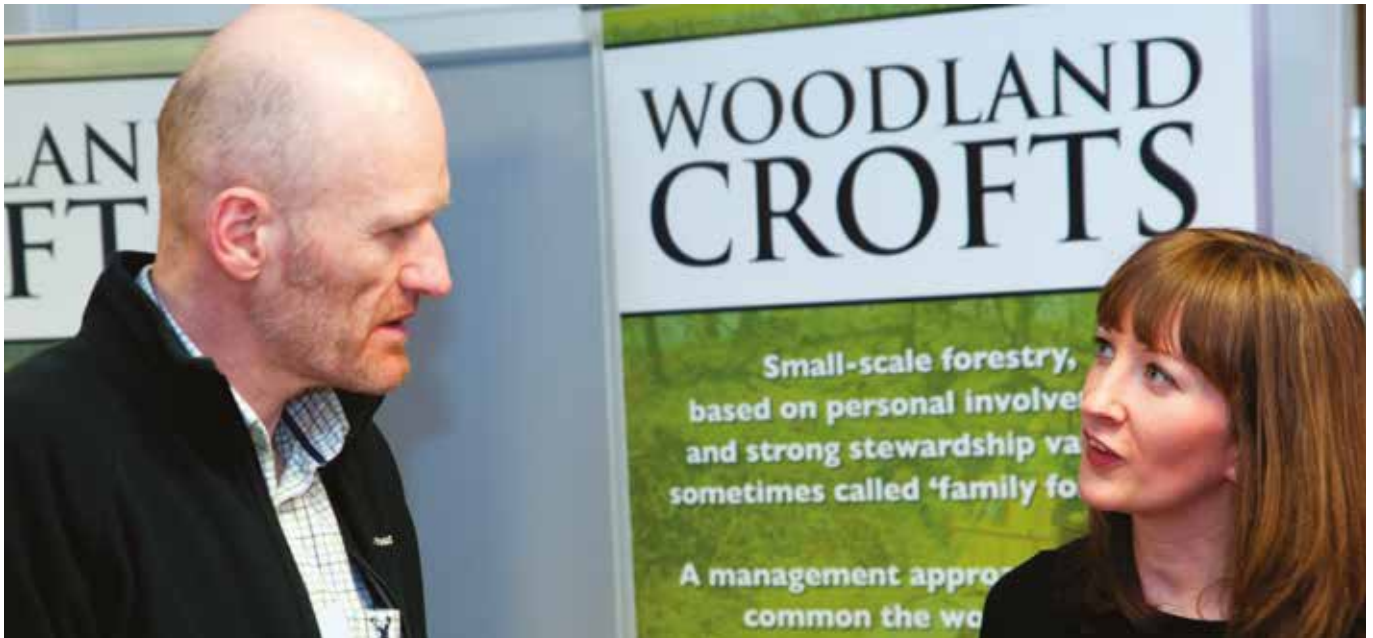
Newcomers and existing crofters can benefit from an extensive programme of practical training delivered by the Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) with funding from HIE and the Scottish Government Skills Development Scheme.

Courses in subjects as varied as dry stone dyking, fencing, soil analysis, sheep shearing, livestock husbandry, poultry keeping, deer management, fruit growing and thatching are available across the region.

SUPPLY CHAIN SUPPORT

HIE has funded the Community Retailing Network, now part of the Plunkett Foundation, which supports rural communities to establish co-operatives and community enterprises, including food initiatives.

In 2013 the Plunkett Foundation successfully ran a series of workshops in the Outer Hebrides, Skye and Shetland, bringing together local food producers and community shops with the aim of increasing the availability of local food in the local shops.



Community Housing Seminar at the Macphail Centre, Ullapool, March 2014.

CROFT CREATION

Through its community account management work, in recent years HIE has helped create several new crofts on the island of Rum.

Several other communities are also recognising that creating new crofts can play a part in helping to retain and grow population.

HIE has also worked with partners to develop a strong rationale for the creation of innovative woodland crofts.

As a result, new woodland crofts have now been successfully established in Mull, and the Community Woodlands Association is supporting communities to create more around Kilfinnan Forest, Colintrave, Glendaruel, Raasay and Lochcarron.

COMMUNITY ASSET ACQUISITION

HIE has a long track record of investment in community asset acquisition and is a core source of advice and support for crofting communities contemplating land ownership.

HIE is also working in partnership with the BIG Lottery Fund across Scotland to deliver the Scottish Land Fund which creates significant opportunities for crofting communities and others to grow through owning and managing their own assets.

With awards ranging from £10,000 to £750,000, and a total value of £9m over four years, the fund is currently open for applications until 30 November 2015.

The appetite for community ownership is nowhere more evident than the Outer Hebrides, as the listings below demonstrate.

As well as showing the extent of current update, this table shows the prospect of communities acquiring a further 100,000 acres of land, supporting a population of over 4,000 people. Throughout the Outer Hebrides, the areas and communities involved are overwhelmingly under crofting tenure.

HIE/SLF SUPPORTED LAND ACQUISITIONS

Galson Estate	56,000 acres
Bhaltos Estate	1,705 acres
North Harris Estate	63,523 acres
Scalpay Estate	1,735 acres
West Harris Estate	16,254 acres
South Uist Estate	93,000 acres
Paicr Estate (funding approved)	26,774 acres
Total	258,991 acres

COMMUNITIES CONSIDERING LAND ACQUISITIONS

Bays of Harris Estate	31,998 acres
Barvas Estate	34,600 acres
Great Bernera Estate	5,397 acres
Barra and Vatersay Estate	16,890 acres
Carloway Estate	11,454 acres
Total	100,339 acres



CROFTING CONNECTIONS

Crofting Connections is an innovative educational project which will enable young people, aged 3-18 and living in rural communities across the Highlands and Islands, to learn about crofting past, present and future.

The traditional crofting principles of providing food, shelter, clothing, energy and entertainment are very much aligned with the 21st century desire for sustainability and offer tremendous opportunity for outdoor learning and place-based education. This £325,000 project is delivered by Soil Association Scotland and funded by HIE, the Scottish Government, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Heritage Lottery Fund and some small private trusts.

Crofting Connections is currently working with 127 schools covering every part of the region. The project is also attracting an 'in kind' contribution, valued at £150,000, from crofters, farmers, volunteers, business people and public and third sector employees. The project is firmly aligned with the Curriculum for Excellence and creates a natural link to sustainable living and working in places where people and the environment are valued and nurtured. It is also providing valuable professional development opportunities for teachers.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Strong leadership and management skills are essential within HIE account managed communities to sustain momentum and ensure that the potential identified in growth plans can be fulfilled, both now and in the future.

HIE also provides access to a range of capacity building programmes and opportunities for aspiring leaders, who are involved with and contributing to our account managed businesses, social enterprises and communities.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

We have commissioned The Highland Small Communities Housing Trust to develop a publication illustrating the options for developing affordable housing opportunities on croft land. This will demystify the process and provide a diverse range of case studies to showcase the community-led housing developments that have been achieved.

"Chan eil gach iuchair
san tìr an crochadh
ri aon chrìos."

"All the keys in the land do not hang from one belt"

SUPPORT FOR CROFTING

Extensive support for crofters, crofting communities and the crofting system is provided through a broad range of public and third sector organisations. These collectively deliver regulation, statutory and discretionary funding programmes, collective representation plus individual and group member services. The diagram below indicates key organisations and the focus of their support.



USEFUL CONTACTS

Many of the major organisations and services which support crofters and crofting communities are listed below, in alphabetical order:

BUSINESS GATEWAY

Business Gateway is delivered through local authorities and offers advice and guidance to small and new start companies.

W: www.bgateway.com
E: info@bgateway.com
T: 0845 609 6611

BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG

Bòrd na Gàidhlig works to promote and improve the status of Gaelic throughout Scotland.

W: www.gaidhlig.org.uk
E: oifis@gaidhlig.org.uk
T: 01463 225 454

COMMUNITY LAND SCOTLAND

Community Land Scotland works to represent the Scottish community landowning movement in different arenas of associated activity.

W: www.communitylandscotland.org.uk
E: info@communitylandscotland.org.uk,
T: 01859 502063

COMMUNITY WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION

Among other things offers:

- advice on woodland establishment and management
- woodland products/crafts
- creation of woodland crofts

W: www.communitywoods.org
E: admin@communitywoods.org
T: 01309 674004

CROFTING COMMISSION

The Crofting Commission regulates crofting and promotes occupancy of crofts, active land use, and shared management by crofters as a means of sustaining and enhancing rural communities.

W: www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk
E: info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk
T: 01463 663439

FORESTRY COMMISSION SCOTLAND

Advises and implements forestry policy to protect and expand Scotland's forests and to increase their value to society and the environment.

W: www.scotland.forestry.gov.uk
E: fcscotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
T: 0300 067 5000

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has a unique remit which integrates economic and community development across more than half of Scotland. Read more about our Strengthening Communities activities, including *Our Gaelic Plan* and our *Ambitious for Culture* policy on our website. Community-led projects benefiting crofting communities are delivered through our eight area teams, located across the region. See the Regional Information section of our website for local details.

W: www.hie.co.uk
E: info@hient.co.uk
T: 01463 234171

JUST ENTERPRISE

Supported by the Scottish Government, Just Enterprise is a comprehensive programme designed to help social enterprises and entrepreneurs achieve their trading ambitions.

W: www.justenterprise.org
E: support@justenterprise.org
T: 0141 425 2939

NFU SCOTLAND

NFU Scotland is the country's leading agricultural organisation representing farmers, crofters, growers and other supporters.

W: www.nfus.org.uk
E: webmaster@nfus.org.uk
T: 0131 472 4000

PLUNKETT FOUNDATION

Plunkett Foundation Scotland:

- inspires more communities to consider community ownership
- develops networking opportunities
- supports rural shops

W: www.plunkett.co.uk
E: kirsty.maccoll@plunkett.co.uk
T: 0845 217 8978

REGISTERS OF SCOTLAND

Registering crofts (individually and collectively) and common grazings.

W: www.ros.gov.uk/croftingregister
E: CroftEnquiries@ros.gov.uk
T: 0141 306 1510

SCOTTISH CROFTING FEDERATION

The Scottish Crofting Federation is a member-led organisation dedicated to:

- promoting crofting
- safeguarding the rights, livelihoods and culture of crofters and their communities

W: www.crofting.org
E: hq@crofting.org
T: 01599 530005

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

The Scottish Government aims to support a vibrant agriculture and rural sector throughout the country.

W: www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Rural
E: ceu@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
T: 0131 556 8400

SCOTTISH LAND AND ESTATES

Promoting and representing the work and contribution which members make on farms, landholdings and estates.

W: www.scottishlandandestates.co.uk
E: info@scottishlandandestates.co.uk
T: 0131 653 5400

SCOTTISH LAND FUND

The Scottish Land Fund supports rural communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and land assets. It is funded by the Scottish Government and delivered in partnership by the Big Lottery Fund and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

W: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_scottish_land_fund
E: enquiries.scotland@biglotteryfund.org.uk
T: 0845 410 2030

SCOTTISH NATURAL HERITAGE

Promotes care for the natural heritage, wildlife, habitats, rocks, and landscapes of Scotland, to which crofting makes a unique and powerful contribution.

W: www.snh.org.uk
E: enquiries@snh.gov.uk
T: 01463 725000

SOIL ASSOCIATION SCOTLAND

Bringing Soil Association expertise closer to producers, consumers and policy makers in Scotland. Promoters of organic growing.

W: www.soilassociation.org/scotland
E: producer.support@soilassociation.org
T: 0131 666 2474

FIOSRACHADH

Tha mòran de na prìomh bhuidhnean is sheirbheisean a tha a' toirt taic do chroitèaran agus do choimhearsnachdan croitèarachd anns an Iosta gu h-ìosal:

A' TOIRT TAIC DO CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN CROITÈARACHD

SLIGHE GNOTHACHAIS

Tha Sìghe Gnòthachais air a' bhhrìgheadh tro dh'ùghdarrasan ionadail agus a' tabhann comhairle is stiùireadh do chompanaidhean beaga is ùra air feadh na h-Alba.

Lìon: www.dgatway.com

Post-d: info@dgatway.com

Fòn: 0845 609 6611

BÒRD NA GàIDHLIG

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig ag obrachadh gus a' Ghàidhlig a chur air adhart, agus a' strì comhail ri Riaghaltas na h-Alba, muinntir na h-Alba agus na buidhnean Gàidhlig gus inbhe a' chànan a thogail air feadh na dùthcha.

Lìon: www.gaidhlig.org.uk

Post-d: offfs@gaidhlig.org.uk

Fòn: 01463 225 454

FEARANN COIMHEARSNACHD NA H-ALBA

Tha Fearann Coimhearsnachd na h-Alba ag obrachadh gus gluasad uachdranas choimhearsnachd na h-Alba a riochdachadh ann an dòighean shuidheachaidhean de ghnìomhan co-cheangailte.

Lìon: www.communitylandscotland.org.uk

Post-d: info@communitylandscotland.org.uk

Fòn: 01859 502063

COMANN CHOILLTEACH

Am measg nìthèan eile, tha iad a' tabhann comhairle air stèidheachadh is riaghladh choillteach, ciùird/stiùthan choillteach agus an cruthachadh de chroitèan choillteach.

Lìon: www.communitywoods.org

Post-d: admin@communitywoods.org

Fòn: 01309 674004

COIMISEAN NA CROITÈARACHD

Tha Coimisean na Croitèarachd a' riaghladh croitèarachd agus a' cur air adhart seilbh chroitèan, cleachdadh fearainn, agus stiùireadh co-roinntè le croitèaran mar dhòigh air coimhearsnachdan dùthachail a chumail beò agus a mheudachadh.

Lìon: www.crofting.scotland.gov.uk

Post-d: info@crofting.scotland.gov.uk

Fòn: 01463 663439

ÌOMAIRT NA GàIDHEALTACHD

Tha dreuchd shònraichte aig Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean (HIE) a tha a' toirt gu chèile leasachadh eaconamach is coimhearsnachd air feadh còrr is leth de dh'Alba. Leughaidh barrachd mu ar gnìomhan Nearrachadh Coimhearsnachdan, a' gabhail a-steach *Ar Plana Gàidhlig* agus ar polisesaidh *Ard-amasach airson Cultar* air an làrach-

Lìon: www.hie.co.uk

Post-d: info@hient.co.uk

Fòn: 01463 234171

JUST ENTERPRISE

Le taic bho Riaghaltas na h-Alba, 's e th' ann an Just Enterprise ach prògram cunbhalach air a dhealbhadh gus cuideachadh a thoirt do dh'iomairtean sòisealta agus do luchd-tionsgalachd gus an amasan marsantachd a bhùileachadh.

Lìon: www.justenterprise.org

Port-d: support@justenterprise.org

Fòn: 0141 425 2939

NFU ALBA (AONADH NÀISEANTA

'S e NFU Alba a' bhuidheann àiteachais as motha san dùthach, a' riochdachadh 9,000 tuathanach, croitear, neach-àiteachais agus luchd-taic eile.

Lìon: www.nfus.org.uk

Post-d: webmaster@nfus.org.uk

Fòn: 0131 472 4000

PLUNKETT FOUNDATION

Tha Plunkett Foundation Alba a' brosnachadh bharrachd choimhearsnachdan agus beachdachadh air seilbh fearainn agus gus deiligeadh ri raon farsaing de cheistean. Tha iad a' cur air bhonn chothroman Ìomraidheachd a tha a' brosnachadh am barrachd ionnsachaidh agus co-roinn de na dòighean-obrach as soirbheachail.

Lìon: www.plunkett.co.uk

Post-d: kirsty.maccoll@plunkett.co.uk

Fòn: 0845 217 8978

CLÀRAN ALBA

A' clàradh chroitèan (fa leth agus còmhla) cho math ri feurach sprèidh.

Lìon: www.ros.gov.uk/croftingregister

Post-d: CroftEnquiries@ros.gov.uk

Fòn: 0141 306 1510

CAIDREACHAS CROITÈARACHD

'S e buidheann a th' air a' stiùireadh le buill a th' ann an Caidreachas Croitèarachd na h-Alba, a tha ag amas air inbhe croitèarachd a thogail, cho math ri bhith a' dìon chòraichean, bhith-beò agus chultar nan croitèaran agus an cuid coimhearsnachdan.

Lìon: www.crofting.org

Post-d: hq@crofting.org

Fòn: 01599 530005

RIAGHALTAS NA H-ALBA

Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba ag amas air taic a thoirt do roinn àiteachais is dùthchail a tha beòthail air feadh na dùthcha.

Lìon: www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural

Post-d: ceu@scotland.gov.uk

Fòn: 0131 556 8400

IONMHAS FEARAINN NA H-ALBA

Tha Iomhas Fèarainn na h-Alba a' toirt taic do choimhearsnachdan dùthchail gus a bhith nas tapaidh agus nas seasmach tro sheilbh is riaghladh an fhearainn agus mhaoin-fèarainn. Tha e air a mhaoinachadh le Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus air a' bhhrìgheadh ann an com-pàirteachas le Big Lottery Fund agus Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean.

Lìon: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/rog_

Post-d: enquiries.scotland@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Fòn: 0845 410 2030

DUALCHAS NÀDAIR NA H-ALBA

A' cur air adhart cùram airson dualchas nàdair, fiadh-bheatha, àrainn, creagan is gus beachdachadh air seilbh fearainn agus gus deiligeadh ri raon farsaing de cheistean. Tha iad a' cur air bhonn chothroman Ìomraidheachd a tha a' brosnachadh am barrachd ionnsachaidh agus co-roinn de na dòighean-obrach as soirbheachail.

Lìon: www.plunkett.co.uk

Post-d: enquiries@snh.gov.uk

Fòn: 01463 72500

TAIC DO CHROITEARACHD

A' TOIRT TAIC DO CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN CROITEARACHD

Tha farsaingeachd taic ga thoirt do chroitearan, choimhearsnachdan croitearachd agus don t-sìostam croitearachd tro raon farsaing de bhuidhnean poblach is treas-roinneil. Tha iad seo, còmhla, a' libhrigeadh phrògraman maoineachaidh riaghaltais, reachdail is a rèir toil, cho math ri riochdachadh lùdach agus seirbheisean bhùill fa leth is bhuidhnean. Tha an clàr gu h-ìosal a' riochdachadh nam prìomh bhuidhnean agus fòcas an cuid taic.

<p>BÒRD NA GàIDHLIG</p> <p>Ag àrach na Gàidhlig</p>	<p>COMANN CHOILLTEACH CHOIMHEARSNACHD</p> <p>Taic airson leasachadh choillteach is cruthachadh chroitean choillteach</p>	<p>FEARANN IS OIGHREACHDAN ALBA</p> <p>A' riochdachadh ghnòthaichean uachdarainn croite</p>	<p>COIMISEAN NA COILLTEARACHD ALBA</p> <p>A' moladh is a' libhrigeadh phoileasaidh coiltearachd</p>	<p>COMANN NA H-ÙIREACH AN ALBA</p> <p>A' libhrigeadh 'Ceanglaichean Croitearachd'</p>	<p>RIAGHALTAS NA H-ALBA</p> <p>Polleasaidh Coitcheann an Àiteachais (CAP) – agus Leasachadh Dùthchail (SRDP)</p> <p>Pàighidhean Dirèach – Colbh 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pàighidhean Bunasach - Tuathanaich Oga (àrdachaidhean) - Cùl-sùr Nàiseanta - Taic Co-cheangailte Saor-thoilteach <p>SRDP – Colbh 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sgeama Taic do Sgìrean Fho-leasachaidhe - Sgeama Taic Chroitearachd - Taic do Luchd-tòiseachaidh - Sgeama Tabhartais Coilltearachd - Sgeama Aimsir Àrainneachd Àiteachais - Taic do Ghnìomh Cho-chomainn - Pasgan Martheòil – ginteachd - Seirbheis Comhairleachaidh is Taic a Bharrachd
<p>CAIDREACHAS CROITEARACHD NA H-ALBA</p> <p>A' riochdachadh ghnòthaichean chroitearan</p>	<p>PLUNKETT FOUNDATION</p> <p>Taic do bhùithlean dùthchail</p>	<p>AONADH NÀISEANTA NAN TUATHANACH ALBA</p> <p>A' riochdachadh ghnòthaichean chroitearan is thuathanaich</p>	<p>CROITEARACHD CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN CROITEARACHD</p>	<p>COIMISEAN NA CROITEARACHD (CC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dion air So-mhaoin Croitearachd - A' meudachadh seilbh is cleachdadh tograch - Aontachadh de leasachadh - Di-chroitearachd is riaghailteachadh - Claradh de Chroitearan - A' toirt taic do Chlàradh Croitearachd - Stiùir a thaobh aithris staid croitearachd - A' toirt buaidh air leasachadh poileasaidh 	
<p>CLÀRAN ALBA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clàradh chroitean - clàradh de fhearann fheuch - clàradh de fhearann runrig 	<p>DUALCHAS NÀDAIR NA H-ALBA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measadh air tabhartasan 'glèidhteachais' (tro SRDP) - Rannasachadh 	<p>ÙGHDARRASAN IONADAIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leasachadh de phoileasaidh dealbhaidh - Co-dhùnadh air iarrtasan dealbhaidh - A' toirt buaidh air leasachadh poileasaidh - A' libhrigeadh Slighe Gnothachais 	<p>IOMAIRT NA Gàidhealtachd S. NAN EILEAN (HIE)</p> <p>Ag amalachadh:</p> <p>LEASACHADH CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN CROITEARACHD</p> <p>LEASACHADH AIR A' STIÙIREADH LEIS A' CHOIMHEARSNACHD IOMLAN</p>	<p>TAIC DO CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN TRO CAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taic do chroitearan - An ath ghinealach de chroitearan - Togail sgliean is chomasan - Co-obrachadh le CC - A' toirt buaidh air leasachadh poileasaidh 	

"Chan eil gach iuchair san tìr an crochadh ri aon chrìos."

Tha Ceanglaichean Croitearachd an-dràsta ag obrachadh còmhla ri 127 sgoiltean, a' buaidh air a h-uile sgrìde den roimn. Tha a' phrìiseact cuideachd a' tàladh thabhartasan 'in-kind', luach £150,000, bho chroitearan, thuathanaich, shaor-thoilich, luchd-

beag eile. Tha na prionnsapalan croitearachd traidiseanta, a bhith a' tabhann biadh, fàsghadh, aodach, lùth is cur-seachd, gu mòr a' ceangal a-steach ri iarrtasan na 21mh linn airson seasamhadh agus a' tairgse cothrom air leth airson ionnsachadh air an t-slig agus foghlam stèidhte ann an àite. Tha a' phrìiseact £325,000 seo air a' libhrigeachd le Comann na h-Ùireach an Alba agus air a mhaoinneachadh le HIE, Rìaghaltais na h-Alba, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Maoin-Dualchais a' Chrannchuir agus urrasan prìobhaideach beag eile.

'S e prìiseact foghlaim ùr-ghnàthach a th' ann an Ceanglaichean Croitearachd, a bheir an cothrom do dhaoine òga, aois 3-18 agus a' còmhaidh ann an coimhearsnachdan dùthchail air feadh na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean, ionnsachadh mu chroitearachd an latha an-dè, an-diugh is a-màireach.

CEANGLAICHEAN CROITEARACHD

Tha HIE cuideachd a' tabhann cothrom air raon de phrògraman co-cheangailte ri togail chomasan cho math ri cothroman airson ceannardan miannach, a tha an sàs ann agus a' cur ri ar gnòthachasan cunntachail, iomairtean sòisealta agus coimhearsnachdan.

Tha ceannas làidir agus sgiilean rìaghlaidh deatamach taobh a-staigh nan coimhearsnachdan cunntachail aig HIE agus sparradh a' chumail suas agus airson dèanamh cinnteach gun tèid comasan a chaidh aithneachadh ann am planaichean fàis am buileachadh, an dà chuid an-dràsta agus san àm ri teachd.

A' TOGAIL CHOMASAN

Gnòthachais agus luchd-obrach poblach is treas-roinn. Tha a' phrìiseact gu dlùth a' fighe a-steach ris a' Churraicealam airson Sàr-mhathais agus a' cruthachadh ceangal nàdarra ri dòigh-beatha sheasmhach agus obrachadh ann an àiteachan far a bheil luach ga chur air daoine agus an àrainneachd. Tha e cuideachd a' tabhann chothroman luachmhor do luchd-teagaisg a thaobh leasachadh proifeiseanta.

Chaidh coimisean a thoirt don Urras Thaighedas Coimhearsnachdan Bheaga na Gàidhealtachd airson leasachadh air foillseachadh a tha toirt cuideam air cothroman taighedas ruigsinneach air fearamn croit. Mìnichidh seo a' phrìiseas agus seallaidh e grunn eisimpleirean mu dheidhinn leasachaidhean taighedas soirbheachail air an stùir le na coimhearsnachdan.

TAIGHEDAS RUIGSNNEACH





CRUTHACHADH CROITE

Tron obair an lúib choimhearsnachdan cunnatachail, anns na bliadhnaichean nu dhéireadh tha HIE air cuidreachadh le bhith a' cruthachadh grunn chroitean úra air eilean Ruma. Tha grunn choimhearsnachdan eile cuidreachd ag aithneachadh gun urrainn do chruithachadh de chroitean úra a bhith feumail a thaobh a bhith a' cumail agus ag árdachadh àireamhan-siuaigh.

Tha HIE cuidreachd air obrachadh còmhla ri com-pàirtichean agus feallsanachd làidir a stéidheachadh airson cruthachadh de chroitean coilteach ùr-ghnàthachte. Mar thoradh air a seo, chaidh croitean coilteach ùra an stéidheachadh gu soirbheachail ann am Mùile, agus tha an Comann Choillteach Choimhearsnachd a' toirt taic do choimhearsnachdan agus tuilleadh a chruithachadh timcheall air Colle Chill Fhionain, Caol an t-Snàimh, Gleann Da-Fhuail, Ratharsair agus Loch Carrann.

COSNADH MAOIN COIMHEARSNACHD

Tha eachdraidh fhada aig HIE a thaobh a bhith a' tasgadh ann an cosnadh maoin coimhearsnachd agus e na phrìomh thobar airson comhairle is taic a thoirt do choimhearsnachdan croitearachd a tha a' beachdachadh air seilbh fearainn.

Tha HIE cuidreachd ag obrachadh ann an com-pàirteachas le BIG Lottery Fund air feadh na h-Alba agus Ionmhas Fearainn na h-Alba a libhrigeadh, a tha a' cruthachadh chothroman air leth airson fàs a thoirt air coimhearsnachdan croitearachd is eile tro bhith a' gabhail seilbh is a' riaghladh an so-mhaoin fhèin.

Le tabhartasan eadar £10,000 agus £750,000, agus luach iomlan de £9m thairis air ceithir bliadhna, tha a' mhaoin an-dràsta fosgailte airson larrtasan gu 30 Samhain 2015.

TAIC BHO HIE/SLF SEALBHACHADH FEARANN

Urras Oighreachd Ghabhaisinn	56,000 acres
Urras Bhaltois	1,705 acres
Urras Ceann a Tuath na Hearadh	63,523 acres
Urras Eilean Scalpaigh	1,735 acres
Urras Taobh Siar na Hearadh	16,254 acres
Stòras uibhrist	93,000 acres
Urras na Pàirc (maoin-airgid air aontachadh)	26,774 acres
Suime uile	258,991 acres

COIMHEARSNACHDAN A' SMAOINEACHADH AIR SEALBHACHADH TALAMH

Urras Bàighean na Hearadh	31,998 acres
Urras Sgìre Oighreachd Bharabhais	34,600 acres
Urras Leasachadh Choimhearsnachd Bhearnaraigh	5,397 acres
Urras Barràigh is Bhatersaigh	16,890 acres
Urras oighreachd Chàrlabhàigh	11,454 acres
Suime uile	100,339 acres

CO-OBRAIGHADH STÉIDHTE AIR CRUINN-ÉOLAS

San t-Sultain 2013, mhol HIE gum biodh tuilleadh co-obrachaidh san raon phoblaich airson cur ri beothalachd is tapachd ann an coimhearsnachdan croitearachd, ris an t-síostam croitearachd agus ri cothroman a leudachadh agus an fheum as motha fhaighinn a cothroman maoinreachaidh agus taic eile. Chaidh an co-obrachadh seo, a tha stéidhte gu cruinn-eòlach, a dhealbhadh airson togall air co-obrachadh a tha ga dhéanamh mar-tha air gnothachais sònraichte, leithid rannsachadh, co-chomhainn, cluabaichean spréidh, margaidhean agus tairghean-spadaidh beaga.

Bidh dùil gum bi na próiseactan pleana, a bhios air an stéidheachadh tron gheamhradh 2014/15, a' fighe a-steach agus a' tarraing tairc bhò chom-pàirtichean san raon phoblaich agus buaidh nas motha a bhunleachadh le bhith ag obrachadh còmhla.

'S e tha san amhaireach, ann an coimhearsnachd croitearachd a tha cunnalachd agus a tha ag obair còmhla ri HIE agus plana fais a dhealbhadh is a bhriogadh, gun cuir Coimisean na Croitearachd tairc ri seilbh croite agus obrachadh croite a tha feumail, stiùiridh is cuideachadh Slioghe Gnothachais cothroman leasachaidh a thaobh gnothachais croite, bidh Cairdeachas Croitearachd na h-Alba a' tabhann chothroman co-cheangailte ri sgilean is tèanaidh, agus bidh Riaghaltas na h-Alba (tro SGRIPD) a' tairgse tairc ionadail do dhaoine fa leth tro thabhartasan – gach ni a tha co-thille is co-òrdanach. Am measg nam buidhean eile a thathar ann dùil a thèid an sàs sa ghnòthachd tha Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba agus Clàran Alba.

Tha am modh-obrach seo, a tha co-obrachail is ioma-bhuidhneil, ag amas air leasachadh is tapachd nan coimhearsnachdan croitearachd a thoirt air adhart. Ma bhios na próiseactan pleana sòrbheachail, tha HIE an dùil gun lean an obair seo am measg nan com-pàirtichean agus co-òrdanachd nas fharsainge a ghabhail os làimh ann an coimhearsnachdan croitearachd air feadh na roinne.

SGILEAN CROITTEARACHD

Gheibh croitearan ùra no feadhainn a th' air a bhith nan croitearan roimhe buannachd a bhò phrògram farsaing de threanadh air a bhriogadh le Cairdeachas Croitearachd na h-Alba (SCF) le maoinachadh bhò HIE agus an Sgeama Leasachadh Sgilean aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

Tha cùrsaichean air cuspair eòlach, eadar-dhealichte ri bhalachan cloiche, feansaichean, sgrùdadh ùir, bearradh chaorach, tuathanas spréidh, àrach chearcan, riaghaildean feidh, fàs mheasan agus tughadh rim faighinn air feadh na roinne.

TAIC DON T-SÈINE SOLAIR

Tha HIE air maoinachadh a thoirt don Lionradh Meanbh-reic Choimhearsnachd, a-nis na phàirt den Plunkett Foundation, a tha a' toirt tairc do choimhearsnachdan dùthchail agus co-chomhainn is iomairtean coimhearsnachd a stéidheachadh, iomairtean bidh nam measg.

Ann an 2013, chuir am Plunkett Foundation air dòigh bùithtean-obrach sòrbheachail anns na h-Eileanan an Iar, san Eilean Sgitheanach agus ann an Sealtainn, a' toirt còmhla daoine a tha a' fàs biadh gu h-ionadail agus bùithtean coimhearsnachd, leis an amas gun tigeadh àrdachadh air na bha de bhith ionadail ga reic ann am bùithtean na sgìre.



TAIC COIMHÉARSNACHD AIRSON PRÓISEACTAN LÚTH ATH-NUADHACHAIL A THA NAS MOTHA NÁN ÁBHAISTE AGUS A' TABHANN TEACHD-A-STEACH (CRESP)

- Tha HIE air £412,000 a chur ri próiseactan lúth ath-nuadhachail, le £151,790 den seo air a chur ri sia próiseactan le feartan còir-feartainn croitearachd.

- Tha HIE air ionnhas a thabhann tro Mhaoin Seilbh Chòimhèarsnachdan Ath-nuadhachail (REIF) gu próiseactan mòra air an stiùireadh le coimhèarsnachdan croitearachd.

- Gu ruige seo, tha seo air gabhail a-steach £1.54m de dh'ionnhas dìreach le taic gus cothrom fhàighinn air timcheall air £18.7m bho thobraichean margaidh air an aontachadh le Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

CEANGLAICHEAN CROITEARACHD

- 127 sgoil (110 Bun-sgoil is 17 Àrd-sgoil) a' gabhail com-pàirt, cho math ri 75 croitear, 107 saor-thoilich às na coimhèarsnachdan, 105 gnòthachas beag agus 49 neach-obrach NGO/LA/Buidhne.

RO Iuchar 2014:

- Bha 425 neach air Cùrsaichean Trànaidh Sgilean Practigeach a fhrithealadh.

- Bha 161 air com-pàirt a ghabhail ann an Cùrsaichean aig Ìre Inntigidh / Eadarraich.

- Chaidh moduì ur ionnsachadh-e aig Ìre Inntigidh a chur air bhonn an lùib Oifithigh Napier.

- 130 com-pàirtiche aig Ìre Inntigidh ann am Bliadhna 1, nas àirde na an targaid de 120.

PRÒGRAM TRÈANAIDH AIR SGILEAN CROITEARACHD (FIGEARAN BHO AITHISG BHIADHNAIL SCF, CÈITEAN 2014)

- Tha HIE ag amas air taic a thoirt do 480 com-pàirtiche ann an Cùrsaichean Ìre Inntigidh / Eadarraich agus 40 Neach-ionnsachaidh Sgilean Practigeach ann an 2014-2017.

- 130 com-pàirtiche aig Ìre Inntigidh ann am Bliadhna 1, nas àirde na an targaid de 120.

COIMHÉARSNACHDAN CUNNTACHAIL

- Tha HIE a' toirt taic do 42 coimhèarsnachdan cunntachail, le co-dhiù 40 dhiubh air am faicinn mar chòimhèarsnachdan croitearachd.

- 15 de na coimhèarsnachdan cunntachail a th' aig HIE an-dràsta le feartan croitearachd nan cuid planaichean fais: Ruma; Tìròdh; Colhasa; Barragh agus Bhatarsaigh; Coigach, An Ros Muileach agus Chalum Chille; Gleann Dail agus Duirnish; Bun lùidh agus an dùthaich; Dìuranaid agus An Leathad; Mealanaid, Tunga agus Sgeiridh Gabhsann; A' Chomraich; Ratharsaidh; Sgobhaidh agus Loch Carrann.

LEASACHADH AIR A' STIÙIREADH

Tro gach aon de na h-ochd sgoibaidhean roinneil aig HIE – a' gabhail a-steach Sealtainn; Arcaibh; Gallaidh is Catalbh; Moireibh, Linne Mhoireibh a-staigh; Loch Abar, An t-Eilean Sgitheanach agus Taobh Siar Rois; Innes Gall, agus Earra-Ghàidheal is na h-Eileanan - tha a' bhuidhean ag obrachadh gu dìreach le raon farsaing de chòimhèarsnachdan ionadail.

Tha modh-obrach HIE a' riochdachadh an dòigh anns a bheil iad a' toirt taic fais do ghnòthachasan, ris an canar Coimhèarsnachdan Cunnatachail (CAM). Tha seo ag aithneachadh gu bheil gach coimhèarsnachd eadar-dhealichte, ach gach aon dhiubh innleachdail, agus tha mòran dhiubh a' fuilg le dìotar dhùiligeadas leithid aitharrachadh sluaigh, taighheadas, solair sheirbheisean agus cothroman cosnaidh.

Taobh a-staigh chòimhèarsnachdan a tha fo stiùireadh HIE, tha aithne ga thoirt dhan dreuchd a th' aig leasachadh choimhèarsnachdan croitearachd ann a bhith a' faighinn fiasgladh air na dùilheadasan sin. Mar thoradh air a seo, tha mòran de na coimhèarsnachdan air pìomhachas a thoirt do phròiseactan a tha co-cheangailte ri leasachadh chòimhèarsnachdan croitearachd.

Tha taic HIE air a thabhann ann an diofar riochdan agus tha e an-còmhnaidh air a dhealbhadh airson coimhèachadh ri feumalachdan is mòr-amasan gach coimhèarsnachd cunnatachail.

Ann an grunn shuidheachaidhean, tha HIE air maoinachadh a thoirt seachad airson oifigear leasachaidh ionadail fhastadh, a bheir cuidichadh ann a bhith a' cur air bhonn planaichean fais gus pròiseactan a stèidheachadh agus a lìbhrigeadh a bheir gu buil toradh a tha fìor is practaigeach. Anns a' chumantas, tha na pròiseactan seo aithist ann an iomairtean a bheir buannachd dhan choimhèarsnachd. San Lùnastal 2014, bha HIE ag obrachadh còmhla ri 42 choimhèarsnachdan cunnatachail gu lèir, agus bha 15 dhiubh sin anns an robh croitearachd mar phàirt de phlanaichean fais.

LÚTH ATH-NUADHACHAIL

COIMHÉARSNACHD

Tro bhith a' toirt taic do chòimhèarsnachdan cunnatachail, tha HIE air cuidichadh a thoirt do dhaoinè ionadail gus grunn uidheaman lùth ath-nuadhachail a chur an sàs. Am measg nan eisimpleirean tha grunn coimhèarsnachdan ann an Innes Gall a tha ag aithneachadh nam buannachdan a dh'fhaodadh tighinn bho bhith a' cleachdadh talamh nach eil cho torach, gu math tric fearann a tha a' buntainn dhan choimhèarsnachd fhèin, gus pròiseactan lùth ath-nuadhachail a chur air bhonn a tha a' gineadh cumhachd ach a tha cuidichidh a' toirt buannachdan dhan choimhèarsnachd. Tha obair HIE a' taboibh a bhith a' leasachadh Eaconamaidhean Lùth ionadail – a' cleachdadh an lùth ann an dòighean innleachdail taobh a-staigh nan coimhèarsnachdan far a bheil gear chruithachadh – mar-tha a' gabhail a-steach A' Chomraich air Taobh Siar Rois agus tha mòran chomasan ann do chòimhèarsnachdan croitearachd eile.

Achina, Am Blaran Odhar



'S e seòrsa de chòir-fearainn a th' ann an croitearachd, àraid gu bhith na phàirt deatamach de dh'eaconamaidh na sgìre seo san 21mh linn.

Taobh a-staigh choimhearsnachdan croitearachd tha croitean fa leth, a tha san àbhaist gu math beag a thaobh meud, rim faighinn air an fhearann as fhèarr, agus tha raointean de thalamh mòintich nach eil cho fallain air a cho-roinn am measg nan croitearan mar fheurach sprèidh.

Tha an co-roinn de thalamh feurach taobh a-staigh bhailtean croitearachd air coimhearsnachdan a stèidheachadh anns a bheil croitearachd na phrìomh phàirt, le croitearan ag obrachadh còmhla gus rian a chumail air seilbh airson math na coimhearsnachd gu leir.

Tha IHE ag obrachadh ann an com-pàrteachas le grunn bhuidhnean eile a tha a' toirt taic do chroitearan fa leth agus do ghnìomhan croitearachd, gus dèanamh cinnteach gun tèid aig coimhearsnachdan croitearachd cumail a' fàs, a bhith nas tapaidh agus a bhith nas ullachte airson deiligiadh ri cothroman is dùbhlain. Am measg nam prìomh chom-pàirtichean tha Coimisean na Croitearachd, Riaghaltas na h-Alba (gu sònraichte Buidheann-stiùiridh Sgrùdaidhean & Pàighidhean Dùthchail Riaghaltas na h-Alba, SGRIPD), ùghdarraasan ionadail a' gabhail a-steach Slioghe Gnothachais, Claran Alba agus Duachas Nàdair na h-Alba. Tha na prìomh bhuidhnean is sheirbheisean a tha a' toirt taic do chroitearan is do choimhearsnachdan croitearachd rim faicinn air lìosta air duilleag 8 aig cùl an fhoilseachaidh seo.

HIE AGUS A CHOM-PÀIRTICHEAN

Tha Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean (HIE) ag aithneachadh cudromachd nan coimhearsnachdan croitearachd ann a bhith a' tàladh dhaoine gus tighinn a dh'fhuireach is a dh'obair dhan na sgìrean sin, agus aig a' cheart àm a' cruthachadh chothroman obrach gu h-ionadail. Tha HIE ag obrachadh còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan croitearachd gu leir; – nam measg, daoine aig a bheil agus aig nach eil seilbh air croitearachd.



Mar a tha Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean ag obair
ag am an compàirteachas còmhla ri buidhnean eile

A' TOIRT TAIC DO CHOIMHEARSNACHDAN CROITTEARACHD