1. Stakeholder Training – Energy on Farms

Teagasc and IT Sligo have developed a pilot training programme for Teagasc Farm Advisors which applies to Strands 1 and 2, i.e. to target and optimise existing policy supports and replicate existing Good Practices.

The outline strategy & structure is illustrated in Fig 1.1. The objective of the training mirrors that of the AgroRES project, i.e. to encourage the uptake of appropriate renewable technologies in the Agricultural sector by clarifying the routes to exploitation. The Teagasc Advisory service is a well-established structure providing a wide range of practical, financial, technical and environmental training opportunities for farming and farm family members. As such the Teagasc Advisors are an ideal pathway to reaching the appropriate farming community.
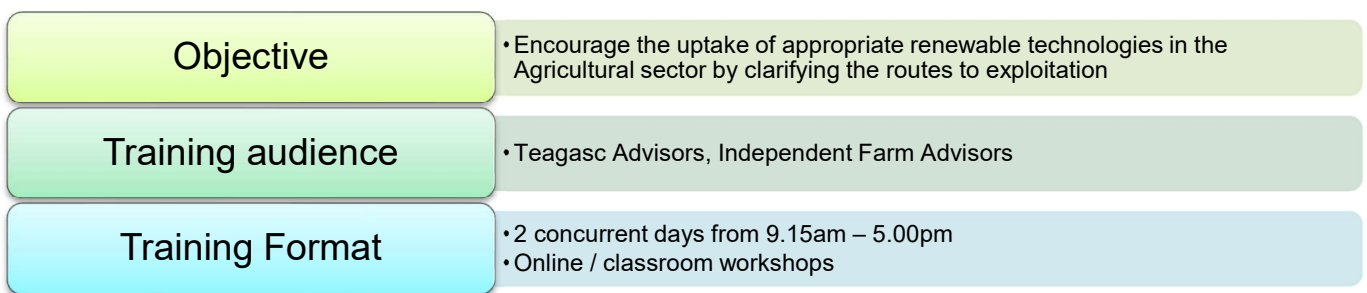
Objective	• Encourage the uptake of appropriate renewable technologies in the Agricultural sector by clarifying the routes to exploitation
Training audience	• Teagasc Advisors, Independent Farm Advisors
Training Format	• 2 concurrent days from 9.15am – 5.00pm • Online / classroom workshops

Fig 1.1 – Training strategy

1.1. Expected Learning Outcomes for the trainees

The training will be designed to empower the Advisors assess the suitability of the farms for Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) technologies and to guide farm businesses through the routes to exploitation if appropriate. The key learning outcomes are outlined in Fig 1.2.
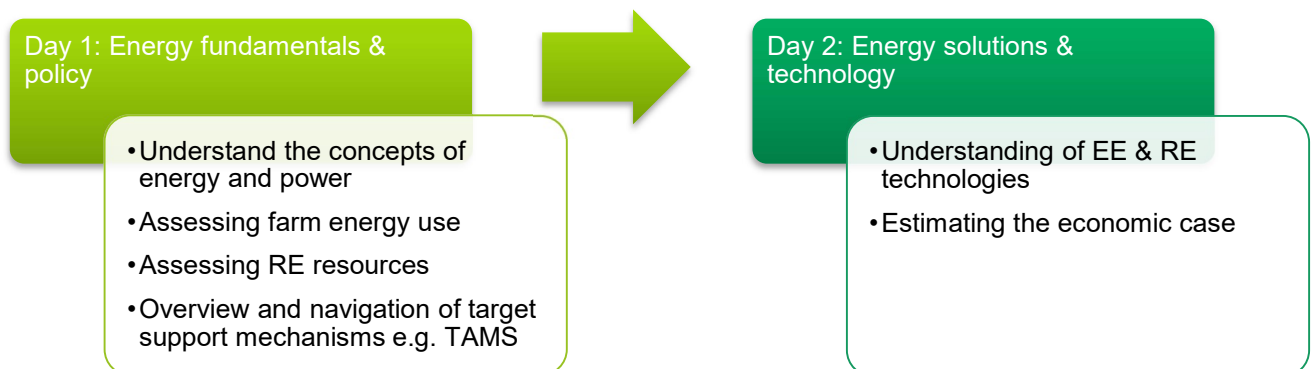
Day 1: Energy fundamentals & policy
- Understand the concepts of energy and power
- Assessing farm energy use
- Assessing RE resources
- Overview and navigation of target support mechanisms e.g. TAMS

Day 2: Energy solutions & technology
- Understanding of EE & RE technologies
- Estimating the economic case

Fig 1.2 – Learning outcomes for trainees

1.2. Pilot training programme design

Agenda - Day 1
Welcome
Intro to Energy - part 1
Tea/coffee break
Intro to Energy - part 2
Lunch break
Energy by Sector
Lunch break
Support mechanisms

Agenda - Day 2
Welcome
Heat energy on farms - part 1
Tea/coffee break
Heat energy on farms - part 2
Lunch break
Electrical energy on farms - part 1
Lunch break
Electrical energy on farms - part 2

2. Pilot delivery

The 2-day course has been piloted in Gurteen College (13 attendees on Nov 4th & 5th 2021) and Ballyhaise College (12 attendees on Dec 9th & 10th Dec 2021). Further courses are being scheduled for 2022 Further content will be developed, focusing on key technology options such as Solar PV and Heat Pumps, and the training is a key task in the project Action Plan to be initiated later in 2022.