

Support for Energy Education in Communities

Funding round 3 recipients — November 2022

A total of \$1.7 million was allocated to 17 projects in the third funding round, announced in November 2022. The SEEC fund was administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) until February 2025, and is now administered by EECA.

Organisation	Project name	Description	Funding
Community Energy Action Charitable Trust	Love Your Home	Funding will further expand Community Energy Action's (CEA) Love Your Home initiative, which provides in-home energy advice and community education, and facilitates solutions tailored to each household. CEA offers free Home Energy Checks to Christchurch homeowners and other areas in Canterbury and the West Coast.	\$90,000
Ecobulb with Auckland Council	Auckland Council Home Energy Saver Pilot	This initiative builds on the success of Ecobulb's earlier pilots by delivering a pilot in Auckland targeting Māori and Pasifika communities. It will be delivered in partnership with Auckland Council. Funding will be used to train energy advisors and for the provision of personalised energy education to make their homes more energy efficient and find the lowest cost electricity retail plan. Households will be given low-cost energy-saving items such as LED lightbulbs and low-flow showerheads.	\$115,000
Ecobulb with Christchurch City Council and Orion New Zealand	Christchurch Home Energy Saver Pilot	This initiative builds on the success of Ecobulb's earlier pilots by delivering a pilot in Christchurch in partnership with Christchurch City Council and Orion New Zealand. Funding will be used to train energy advisors and for the provision of personalised energy education to make their homes more energy efficient and find the lowest cost electricity retail plan. Households will be given low-cost energy-saving items such as LED lightbulbs and low-flow showerheads.	\$115,000
Ecobulb with Counties Energy Trust and Counties Energy	Counties Home Energy Saver Pilot	This initiative builds on the success of Ecobulb's earlier pilots by delivering a pilot in Counties. It will be delivered in partnership with Counties Energy Trust and Counties Energy. Funding will be used to train energy advisors and for the provision of personalised energy education to make their homes more energy efficient and find the lowest cost electricity retail plan. Households will be given low-cost energy-saving items such as LED lightbulbs and low-flow showerheads.	\$115,000

Organisation	Project name	Description	Funding
Ecobulb with Whanganui District Council	Whanganui Home Energy Saver Pilot	This initiative builds on the success of Ecobulb's earlier pilots by delivering a pilot in Whanganui. It will be delivered in partnership with Whanganui District Council. Funding will be used to train energy advisors and for the provision of personalised energy education to make their homes more energy efficient and find the lowest cost electricity retail plan. Households will be given low-cost energy-saving items such as LED lightbulbs and low-flow showerheads.	\$115,000
EA Networks	Warm for Winter	This programme will provide in-home energy assessments in the Ashburton district in collaboration with local community agencies. The assessments will focus on energy efficiency education as well as providing low-cost solutions such as LED lightbulbs, draught stoppers and v-seals to help keep homes warmer for winter and reduce electricity costs. EA Networks will also hold community drop-in events to share information more widely.	\$60,000
Electricity Retailers' Association of New Zealand (ERANZ)	EnergyMate	The EnergyMate initiative is successfully running in 13 locations around the country. This funding will extend the programme into Hawke's Bay and Central Otago. EnergyMate includes in-home energy coaching and small-group hui to help whānau get the best value out of electricity. The coaching includes education on using electrical appliances efficiently and the most efficient forms of heating, conducting checks to ensure the shower flow and hot water are running efficiently, a three-way call to their energy retailer, supplying free LED lightbulbs and referrals to other support services such as curtain banks and budgeting advisors.	\$70,000
Habitat for Humanity – Northern Region	Healthy Homes Programme (including Winter Warmer Packs) – Auckland and Tai Tokerau	Habitat for Humanity – Northern Region will extend its successful pilot to run further workshops with partner organisations to better equip them to help whānau they work with achieve warmer, drier and more energy-efficient homes. Funding will also be used to expand delivery of 'Winter Warmer Packs' on Waiheke Island, Aotea/Great Barrier Island, and Tai Tokerau. The packs are delivered directly and through partner organisations and contain items such as blankets, energy-efficient heaters and condensation removers.	\$85,000
Hokianga Housing Resilience Collective Charitable Trust	Hokianga Energy Wellbeing Strategy & Energy Wellbeing Action Plan 2022–2025	Funding will pilot two energy education programmes in Hokianga. The Trust's 'Home Energy Check' will undertake assessments and offer recommendations to improve energy efficiency tailored to the households' needs. Under the 'Love Your Home' programme, Energy Champs will be trained to provide energy advice and education through in-home assessments and community events. Households will receive LED lightbulbs with personalised information and advice. Wānanga will also provide energy education for households. Funding will also be used to deliver 'Winter Warmer Packs' that contain essential items such as tarpaulins, blankets, hygrometers, hot water bottles and LED lightbulbs to low-income whānau.	\$85,000

Organisation	Project name	Description	Funding
Northpower	Home Energy Education Programme Extension	Building on the success of an earlier pilot, this initiative will reach even more households in the Whangārei and Kaipara districts. Funding will be used for refresher training for up to six home energy assessors who will work directly with households to provide targeted and practical advice to help households make smart choices on energy use and energy-saving measures. They will also ensure they're on the best power plan for their needs. Free LED lightbulbs and low-flow showerheads will be supplied to further help reduce power bills.	\$115,000
NZ Fiji Families Wellbeing Trust	Building Energy Poverty Resilience in Ethnic Communities	This initiative will be delivered by working with other migrant and refugee organisations to identify households in Auckland and other areas of New Zealand, that could benefit from improved energy efficiency and reduced energy bills. This will include in-house visits and online assessments, followed by energy advice and providing items such as LED lightbulbs, timers and hygrometers. It will help communities understand best practices, particularly around heating New Zealand households.	\$100,000
Society of St Vincent de Paul – Hamilton Area Council	Affordable Energy for All LED Programme	This programme will train home assessors to deliver energy education, focusing on Māori, Pasifika, migrants and low-income whānau in Hamilton and North Waikato, building on an earlier pilot. Assessors will provide free in-home energy assessments, education and energy-efficient LED lightbulbs. The programme will bring together iwi and other support services in the area to better reach those in need, and help households more easily access other services such as budgeting and financial support.	\$90,000
Sustain & Enable	Reducing Energy Poverty Amongst the Elderly and Disabled in NZ	The initiative shifts the focus of an earlier successful initiative by expanding it to target households with people with disabilities in rural areas and small towns. Energy assessments and advice will be provided online with follow-up calls to measure progress and ensure households are experiencing warmer houses and energy savings. Households will receive a variety of energy-saving devices to maximise energy efficiency gains.	\$110,000
Sustainability Options	BOP 20Degrees and Energy Wellbeing Initiative	This initiative will extend an earlier successful energy wellbeing programme that involved a hikoi with whānau. The journey involves understanding households' needs and perspectives, developing an action plan, and empowering households with knowledge to improve energy management. The 20Degrees team will work with whānau to help with minor house improvements, in a range of high-deprivation Bay of Plenty communities.	\$100,000
Sustainability Options	Eastern Bay of Plenty – warm homes, low energy costs	Expanding on the success of an earlier pilot in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, this initiative involves working with low-income whānau to develop a joint plan to improve the energy-efficiency of their homes, and provide energy education. Whānau will play an active role in the delivery of the plan through ongoing educational visits, DIY sessions and workshops.	\$125,000

Organisation	Project name	Description	Funding
Sustainability Trust	Toastie – The Power to Do Good (Home Energy Checks)	This project will deliver detailed home energy checks, energy hardship benchmarking surveys and low-cost interventions to low-income households who are customers of Toast Electric, a not-for-profit electricity retailer that operates in Horowhenua and the Wellington region. Households will receive a detailed assessment and report on the condition of their home, advice on how to improve energy efficiency and free low-cost items such as LEDs, heaters, mould cleaning kits and energy monitors and referrals to other support schemes to assist with curtains, heating and insulation.	\$100,000
WISE Charitable Trust	Home Performance Assessments & Warmer Homes and Illness Prevention Installation Team	This initiative builds on an earlier pilot that empowers Taranaki whānau experiencing energy hardship by supporting them to decrease power bills and providing education on how to maintain a warm, dry and healthy home. Following assessments from Home Performance Assessors, the Warmer Homes and Illness Prevention Installation Team (WHIPIT) staff remediate homes to help make them drier, warmer and healthier. Whānau also receive information on how to maintain a healthy and energy efficient home.	\$110,000