

Support for Energy Education in Communities

Funding round 1 recipients — May 2021

A total of \$1.26 million was allocated to 9 projects in the first funding round, announced in May 2021. 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
Anglican Care	Anglican Care Energy Poverty Programme	Anglican Care will door-knock homes in high deprivation areas in Christchurch, Canterbury and Westland and offer to install up to 8 energy efficient LED lightbulbs per household to immediately save on energy bills. They will also offer a follow-up visit or online discussion to assess energy usage and assess the household's electricity pricing plan. A free in-home assessment will also be offered, including education on how to reduce energy costs. Anglican Care may also provide these households free equipment and devices that can help reduce energy costs further and create warmer, healthier homes. One-off community events to promote energy education will help further reach more households.	\$180,000
Community Energy Action Charitable Trust	Love Your Home 2021	The Trust will expand its existing free Home Energy Checks to other demographics and geographic areas, develop an information booklet, create a checklist to help tenants identify warm and healthy homes, and set up a home energy toolkit that households can borrow to get more detailed information on their energy use.	\$90,000
Habitat for Humanity – Northern Region	Healthy Homes Interventions including 'Winter Warmer Pack' delivery	Habitat for Humanity's 'Winter Warmer Packs' provide essential items to low-income whānau, who often struggle with energy hardship, to keep warm and dry over the colder months. Funding will be used to pilot the 'Winter Warmer Packs' in Northland and improve existing delivery in Auckland. Funding will also support its Tō Kāinga Whare programme that provides home interventions for whānau with poor health linked to damp and cold housing and energy hardship. Both programmes include home education.	\$50,000
Electricity Retailers' Association of New Zealand (ERANZ)	EnergyMate	Funding will be directed to expand EnergyMate services, focusing on Māori and Pasifika communities. EnergyMate is an energy coaching service supporting households that struggle to pay their energy bills or keep their homes warm. Through in-home coaching and community hui workshops, ERANZ' EnergyMate delivers better outcomes for whānau and families by engaging them in their energy use, finding the best plan for their needs, educating them to use appliances efficiently, providing free LED lightbulbs, and helping them heat their home within their budget. Energy education will also be provided through community hui workshops.	\$200,000

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Sustainability Trust	Fair Energy	Funding will help the Sustainability Trust pilot and expand ‘Fair Energy’, an intensive energy efficiency and advice service to low-income households. ‘Fair Energy’ is a referral, assessment, advice and support programme for households in energy hardship in the Wellington region. Eligible households are provided with a free home visit by a trained assessor who works with households to upgrade the efficiency of the home and appliances, and lower energy costs. Ongoing monitoring and feedback ensures gains are maintained and households continue to benefit from reduced energy costs and more energy-efficient homes.	\$130,000
Sustainable Taranaki	Supporting Affordable adVice in Energy (SAVE)	SAVE – Taranaki will deliver energy education, motivation and support by using trusted community networks to engage with hard-to-reach households in need. This initiative is designed at pilot-scale leveraging Sustainable Taranaki’s three-year behaviour change toolkit programme to evidence the best pathways and support for energy efficiency impact. A scaled-up programme will be applied for next year, taking the toolkit to wide community use.	\$60,000
Ecobulb with King Country Electric Power Trust	King Country Energy Hardship Reducing Pilot Programme	The King Country Energy Hardship Reducing Pilot Programme targets reducing electricity bills of Taumarunui, Tūrangi and Ohakune households experiencing energy hardship by up to a third. Funding will help train energy advisors, who will provide households with personalised energy education to make their homes more energy efficient and find the lowest cost electricity retail plan. Households will also be provided with Ecobulb LEDs and energy-efficient showerheads.	\$150,000
Sustainability Options Limited	Eastern Bay of Plenty 20 Degrees Energy Hardship Collaboration	The 20 Degrees programme currently operating in the Western Bay of Plenty and Rotorua will be expanded to the Eastern Bay of Plenty. This programme focuses on improving housing conditions to create warm, dry homes. Funding will extend the initiative to include specialist energy education and efficient devices, and enable greater collaboration with other community organisations.	\$200,000
Te Pūtahi-nui-o-Rehua Charitable Trust	Te Hīhiko Ngāpuhi	Te Hīhiko Ngāpuhi is a marae-centred initiative where whānau can participate in hands-on activities as part of a marae collective energy audit, and apply lessons to their individual homes. Findings will be shared at the marae and follow-up visits to individual whare will allow further strategies and solutions to be implemented. This information will be used to support other energy-efficiency measures and may inform larger renewable energy projects in the future.	\$200,000