

KINSHIP

KINSHIP



Creative
Climate Action



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

The KinShip Project Final Report – Creative Climate Action 2021 - 2022

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Cover Image: Seán Taylor and Marilyn Lennon at Tramore Valley Park. Photo by Darragh Kane 2022.

A. Executive Summary

To the south of Cork city, near the famous Nemo Rangers GAA Club sits Tramore Valley Park, the site of The KinShip Project. Established by Cork City Council with artists LennonTaylor (Marilyn Lennon and Seán Taylor) who conceived the project, it is supported by local project partners Cork Nature Network, Cork Healthy Cities, Cork UNESCO Learning City, Green Spaces for Health, Munster Technical University (MTU) Clean Technology Centre and University College Cork (UCC) Environmental Research Institute.

With the support Creative Climate Action funding from Creative Ireland, in 2021 – 2022 it manifested as a socially engaged arts programme of citizen-led skill swaps and knowledge exchanges, artist's placements, The KinShip EcoLab architectural commission and creative interventions in the park. Combined, these elements have engaged local people to inform and enjoy a programme of accessible, inclusive, creative and fun events with potential to grow and develop in future years.

Since launching, this programme of activities has nurtured and developed of a kin-like sense of connection, modelling 'care' as a civic responsibility to the future of urban land use. This report contains an overview of the projects' objectives and outlines how they were achieved and what was learned. It also presents the ongoing impact of the initiative and how that has advanced Cork city's mission to become a Climate Neutral City. We offer these insights to all who are interested in supporting this important work at this critical time for our climate.



Michelle Carew

Creative Ireland Coordinator

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B. Introduction/Background

Tramore Valley Park has been the site of great environmental change. From 1964 to 2009, this site was used as a landfill for Cork city. The area first opened up as a park in 2015 before fully opening to the public in 2019. From the complex engineering works that supported this process, the site has the capacity to harvest rain water and gas produced by the former landfill providing energy to power approximately 500 local homes.

Over the course of the project, through various talks, much more was learned about this unique site. The natural history of the area that has come to be known as Tramore Valley Park and its significance on an inter-species level, dates much further back; roughly 8000 years in fact, to the formation of bogland that is now known as 'Carroll's Bog'. Over time, various parts have been appropriated by humans as commonage complete with traditional Traveller Camping grounds, later becoming more and more enclosed as gentrified estate with some land allocated to the West Cork trainline. Detritus from a devastating city fire during the War of Independence was dumped into the valley, filling it with stone, metal and wood. As the city developed, it became used more and more as a dumping ground for all sorts of waste, including increasing volumes of plastic, by urban residents. When the city expanded to encompass this area, the dump became an issue for residents, particularly due to the smell and presence of gulls and vermin. Interestingly, Travellers living in the vicinity, together with settled peers, spearheaded what we now recognise as an early form of recycling, collecting and cleaning scrap metal for resale or re-use in copper and tinsmith wares. As the 20th century developed, policies resulted in the establishment of a Cork Corporation-managed Traveller Halting Site with facilities that deteriorated over time. Combined with a re-zoning of the land to make way for a dual carriageway, most Travellers residing in the area were moved off the land and into local housing estates where most now live. In the meantime, the developments also impacted hugely on other species who called this their home.

Since Autumn 2021, Tramore Valley Park has been home to The KinShip Project which offers artists and local people an opportunity to gather and respond creatively and critically to the ecological and climate action challenges we face today. The overall aim of the art project has been to develop a sense of connection between all residents of Cork city, human or otherwise, and the ecology of the park. The many activities within this project have provided an opportunity for participants to develop a new relationship with the park, modelling 'care' as a civic responsibility to all the inhabitants. This has been a space to alter our mindset about the relationship we have with the natural world, to address the legacy of 'throw away' culture and to engage with new modes of managing waste.

c. Outline of Team and Key Participants

The KinShip project was conceived through artist collaboration LennonTaylor, Marilyn Lennon and Seán Taylor who have led its delivery in partnership with Cork City Council. Local partners formed a working group that includes Cork Healthy Cities, Cork Nature Network, Cork UNESCO Learning Cities, Green Spaces for Health, MTU Clean Technology Centre, UCC Environmental Research Institute. More information about each of the partners is provided at <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/kinship/the-partners/>



Ill. 1: First in person socially distanced meeting of The KinShip Project partners at Tramore Valley Park. Photo by Seán Taylor, 2022.

Project stakeholders have included mentors, collaborators, artists that were selected for placements and citizens that facilitated events as well as representatives of organisations, groups and staff members at Cork City Council that linked to the project and/or its themes.



Ill. 2: MTU Students perform at Tramore Valley Park as part of The KinShip Project. Photo by Marilyn Lennon 2022. Ill. 3: Marilyn Lennon and Seán Taylor with KinShip event stewards at Tramore Valley Park. Photo by Siobhán Clancy2022.

Many people that participated in the project in the early stages went on to lead on offshoot activities that were incorporated into the programme via the 'Becoming Kin' citizen-led component. There were also some independent initiatives that developed out of conversations and creative interactions into autonomous, self-managed projects that yet supported the principles enshrined in The KinShip Manifesto (See <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/kinship/the-project/>)

D. Outcomes and Outputs

The KinShip Project aims to cultivate the appreciation, motivation and accountability that is necessary to elicit behavioural change in habitat conservation and biodiversity, management of waste and development of a circular economy.



Ill. 4: Colette Lewis, Artist on Placement with (Waste) Fibre Flows Laboratory for The KinShip Project. Photo courtesy of Colette Lewis, 2022.

Artistic and cultural methods have been used to engage the public on climate action through a programme sited at Tramore Valley Park, a 170 acre of a reclaimed landfill site in Cork City. The KinShip Project implements socially engaged arts approaches; an innovative arts methodology that prioritises the participation of lay people, who may be novices or experts in their own field of interest, to work alongside arts professionals engaging in every aspect of delivery from concept development right through to production and presentation. This methodology also creates a space to problematise the systems, processes and concepts it encounters in order to facilitate critical thinking and challenge participants to be truly innovative in their responses. For example, the very use of the term 'resource' in relation to the park in which this project is based, is examined in relation to colonial modes of thinking that situate green spaces as assets that are to be owned, managed or stewarded by humans. This is in contrast to the emerging conceptualisation of green spaces as an integral part of the living and life-giving fabric of an inter-connected habitat that we humans don't own but rather share with other life forms upon which we depend. The purpose of developing a sense of kin is to encourage we humans, on a very basic level, to reconsider how we

relate to the natural world through language, thoughts and actions. Through a programme of artist residencies; creative and learning activities; and the building of a sustainable 'eco-lab' structure, the project has nurtured and developed a kin-like sense of connection, modelling 'care' as a civic responsibility to the future of urban land use. In fact, the project manifesto has been drawn on by some community gardens in Cork city through the involvement of Green Spaces for Health.



Ill. 5: Rosemary Kavanagh harvesting willow in West Cork for KinShip basketmaking workshop. Photo courtesy of Rosemary Kavanagh, 2022.

In terms of outcomes, to date we have witnessed an increase in knowledge re climate change and action amongst participants. Project activities have facilitated the development of practical skills in biodiversity, management of waste, the exploration of future potential circular economies and increased use of park for ecological activities including habitat awareness raising. There is greater comradery and communication between local authority and the representatives of participating stakeholder groups. Some erased and hidden histories have been recognised in formal and informal ways not least of all the heritage of the site as a former Traveller Campsite for centuries. Opportunities have been created to explore ways to come together, organise, take action and share the experience beyond the project. The KinShp Project has facilitated better integration of creative methodologies in local authority processes and promoted more ecologically aware artistic practice.



Ill. 6: Fuinneamh Workshop Architects ram an earthen wall for The KinShip EcoLab. Photo courtesy of Fuinneamh Workshop Architects, 2022.

Ill. 7: Marilyn Lennon at KinShip Construction sign by Ballyphehane Men's Shed. Photo by Siobhán Clancy, 2022.

These outcomes have been achieved through the following activities:

- 10 monthly citizen-led '**Becoming Kin**' weekend events with community and interest groups to engage locals (including arts) and regular park users including a collaboration with UCC NatureWatch for Culture Night;
- 3 **Artistic Commissions** and 8 '**Artists Placements**' with local artists;
- A 2 day '**Big Weekend**' programme with 8 events in May that coincided with World BioDiversity Day and provided a platform to connect and present work in progress by Artists on Placement;
- A 3 day '**Winter Weekend**' programme of over 20 events for November to be launched by Cork City's Deputy Lord Mayor. The programme will showcase placement conclusions including artworks, artists talks, workshops and partner contributions such as skill swaps, tastings, classes and knowledge shares. A large scale 'deep map' project timeline "The Midden Chronicles" by Lennon Taylor depicting outcomes to date will be exhibited at Cork City Council for a three week period. There are also walks and talks planned by a diverse range of contributors with representation by community groups across the city. The programme will be promoted via billboards, flyers and social media;
- Construction of Ireland's first public rammed earth building via The Kinship '**EcoLab**' Design and Build Competition; hosted building demonstrations on site;
- Documentation of the construction of the KinShip EcoLab via **film** with a local documentary film maker;

Creative disciplines facilitated in The KinShip Project include the following:

Art Installation	Graphic Design	Papermaking
Animation	Group Reading and Reflection	Photography
Architecture	History and Heritage	Planting
Basket Weaving	Illustration	Rhythm Mapping
Bookbinding	Ink Making	Sculpture
Botanical Art	Landscape Design	Sound Art
Creative Writing	Literature and Poetry	Storytelling
Cycling	Nature Craft	Technology
Earth Building	Nature Walking	Thatching
Film and Documentary Making	Outdoor Gym Routine	Textile Working
Food Foraging	Creation	Willow Weaving
		Woodwork

Topics explored through The KinShip Project activities include:

Arts and Health	Deep Mapping	Land Ownership and Decolonialism
Biodiversity	Eco-Art and Architecture	Decolonialism
Bog Oak	Eco-Feminism	Mindfulness
Botany	Enclosure of the Commons	Partnership
Climate Change, Climate Action and Climate Activism	Foraging and Urban Farming	Phenology
Circular Economies	Habitat Conservation	Pollination
Community Development	KinShip	Social Practice
Community Gardening	Landfill Remediation	Sustainable Transport
Composting	Local History and Heritage	Traveller Culture
Degrowth		Waste Management
		Wetlands

All activities mentioned are documented at <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/kinship/events/>

Artists Placement Details are outlined at <https://www.corkcity.ie/en/kinship/artist-placements/>

E. Communications



Ill. 8: MTU Students workshop at Tramore Valley Park as part of The KinShip Project. Photo by Marilyn Lennon 2022.

Six press events brought public attention to the project programme via press releases and social media campaigns on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. These included:

- The KinShip Project Soft Launch in October 2022
- The KinShip Project Official Launch in February 2023
- The Launch of The KinShip EcoLab Design and Build Architectural Competition in March 2023
- The Launch of The KinShip Project Big Weekend in April 2023
- The Announcements of Awardees of The KinShip EcoLab Design and Build Architectural Competition in June 2023
- The Launch of The KinShip Project Winter Weekend in November 2023

These campaigns included interviews for press and radio and a set of promotional videos.

A section of the Cork City Council website was dedicated to The KinShip Project. Press releases were also shared by the partners. A project outline and report were provided to Creative Ireland for publication on their national website.

A permanent sign was constructed by Cork City Council's Parks sections that contains a noticeboard regularly updated by The KinShip Project Team. A banner at The KinShip EcoLab construction site provided updates on the design and build process for the information of passersby. A local Men's Shed was commissioned to create a wooden sign for the construction site.

Over 1000 people participated in the project activities and more, up to 500,000 annual park visitors and 330,000 online audience, benefitted from the information communicated via the outcomes presented in the park such as artworks, tips from workshops etc.

F. Public Engagement and Outcomes

Engagement figures are significant when taken into consideration that those who do engage on climate change are likely to experience ‘Ecological Grief’, also known as climate grief, which refers to the sense of loss that arises from experiencing or learning about environmental destruction or climate change. The KinShip Project offers all who engage pro-active, community-building experiences that enable us to process this grief in healthy, holistic ways. In this way, creativity motivates us to take action with a sense of what ecological activists Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone describe as ‘Active Hope’, a concept coined in a 2012 book of the same title. One of the best examples of achievement in this area was evidenced in the testimony of participants in the ‘Waste Fibre Flows Laboratory’ facilitated by Artist on Placement Colette Lewis that demonstrated the potential for a circular economy to develop around the processing of waste fibre.



Ill. 9: The (Waste) Fibre Flows Laboratory team prepare for a workshop as part of The KinShip Project. Photo by Marilyn Lennon, 2022.

The lead artists Marilyn Lennon and Seán Taylor produced a ‘deep map’ in the form of a 10 foot print and zine in collaboration with the design team at Disco Milk to communicate the process of development within the project. This document was exhibited in the public area of Cork City Council November 2022 - January 2023. A documentary of the construction of The KinShip EcoLab was commissioned by local fine art filmmaker Linda Curtain.

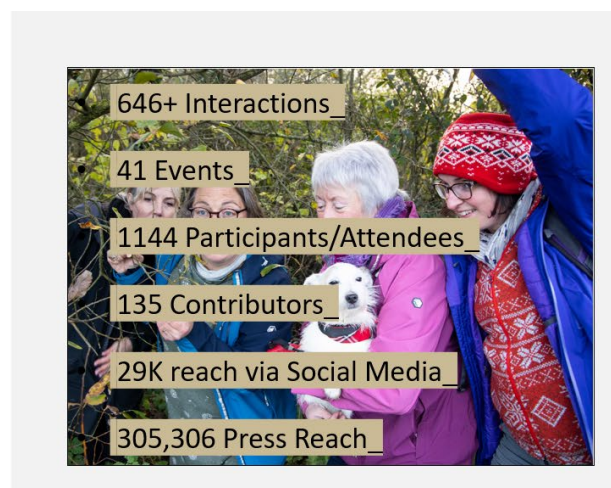


Ill. 10: Marilyn Lennon and Seán Taylor document the site of The KinShip Project with Paul McCarthy. Photo by Marilyn Lennon, 2022.

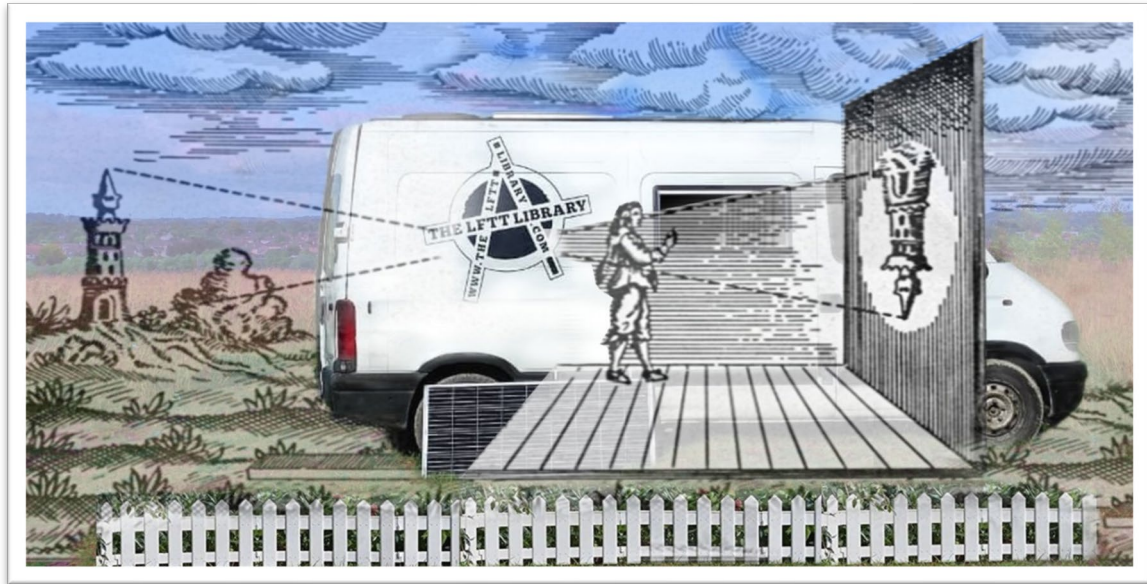
The KinShip Project Team monitored the project via regular reflection sessions. Participant feedback was gathered via online surveys, printed forms and creative response tools. An analysis of all the responses to the KinShip feedback process and a review of media monitoring results presented the following findings:

Participant Profile

- 1/2** Local Residents
- 1/4** Creative Practitioners
- Most** Female Aged 35-55
- 1/2** Weekend Event Participants
- 1/3** Word of Mouth



Ill. 11: Foraging Walk participants with herbalist Jo Goodyear Blackrock Herbal Clinic. Photo by OSM Photography, 2022.



Ill. 12: Graphic for 'Campera Obscura' event by Helen Horgan for The KinShip Project Winter Weekend. Image by Helen Horgan, 2022.

Prior to The KinShip Winter Weekend in November 2022, the greatest impact for respondents was in learning particularly with regard to biodiversity and a sense of kinship. Creativity is an area where marginally more participants felt motivated to take action. Following the KinShip Winter Weekend, more felt motivated to take action on biodiversity and a sense of kinship also. Meanwhile, participants reported a significant change in attitude to The Circular Economy.

These outcomes speak to the original aspirations of this project which were to cultivate the appreciation, motivation and accountability that is necessary to elicit behavioural change in:

- 🕒 Biodiversity and Habitat Conservation
- 🕒 The Circular Economy particularly in relation to
- 🕒 Management of Waste

A full list of collaborators and contributors is attached in Appendix B. Press and social media analytics are provided in Appendix C. Full audience engagement and participation figures are provided in Appendix D. Appendices are available from Cork City Council on request.

G. Project Evaluation

The KinShip Project is one of four local authority-led Creative Climate Action funded projects selected by Creative Ireland to be evaluated as a case study by a research team at UCC tasked with assessing the impact of the Creative Climate Action funding. Lead by Dr Alexandra Revez, Dr. Marguerite Nyhan and facilitated by Dr. Joanne McMahon, invited project participants took part in surveys and interviews. Meanwhile, project partners contributed to reflection sessions and a focus group as part facilitated by the UCC Environmental Research Institute tasked by Creative Ireland. The full findings of this evaluation can be read in the final report by the research team ‘Creative C-Change: Analysing the Impact of the Creative Climate Action Initiative on Climate Change Awareness, Engagement & Action in Ireland’ available to download and read [here](#).

One of the most interesting findings from this research was the achievement of The KinShip Project in education, environmental restructuring, modelling sustainable alternatives and enablement of local people. For example, responses from participants in a Focus Group for project partners facilitated by the MaREI in the Sustainable Futures Lab at UCC concurred with the MaREI’s research findings that The KinShip Project’s main community engagement objective fit into the category of ‘enablement’ specifically “To enable and build capacity by increasing means, capabilities and/or opportunities for communities to act.” There were also objectives regarding education, environmental restructuring and modelling as per the behaviour map below presented as part of a focus group in November 2022.



Mapping Behaviour Change Interventions

	Education	Persuasion	Incentivisation	Coercion	Training	Restriction	Environmental Restructuring	Modelling	Enablement
The Kinship project	✓						✓	✓	✓

Separately, The KinShip Project Team monitored the project through our own means and developed a feedback process for participants to respond directly to their experience of the project and how well it has achieved its objectives. This is distributed in the form of an online and paper survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7CTR6VC> . It will be adapted to facilitate creative methods of feeding back for The KinShip Winter Weekend.

In the following pages is a summary of feedback received by 7th November 2022.

The first four questions of the KinShip Feedback Form ascertain an understanding of who the respondents are and how they have been involved in The KinShip Project. The conclusions are provided in the four charts that follow.

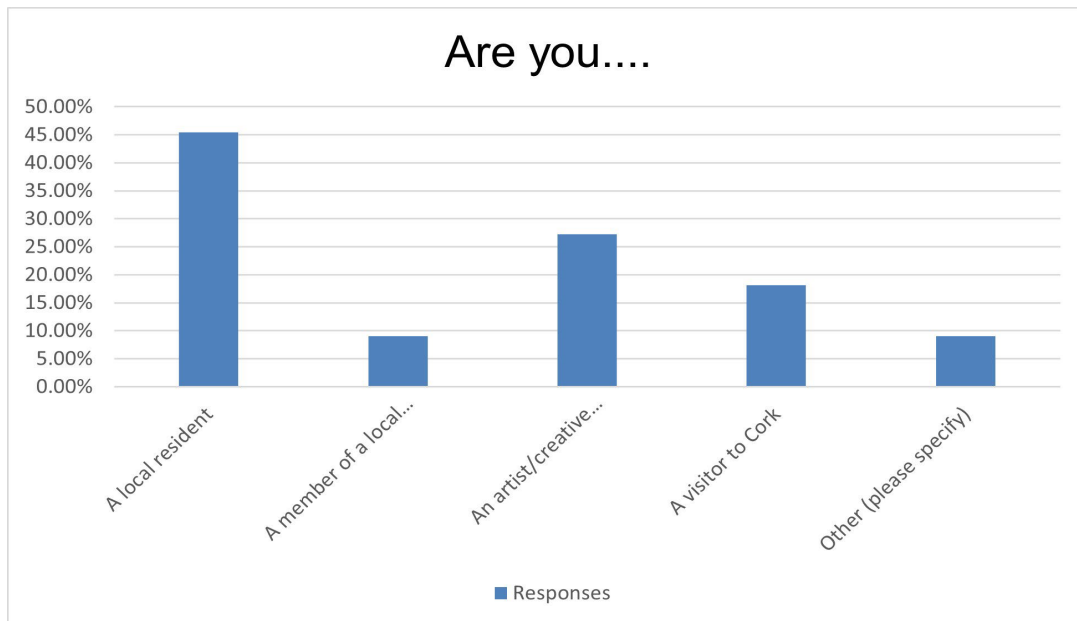


Chart 1: Who is responding?

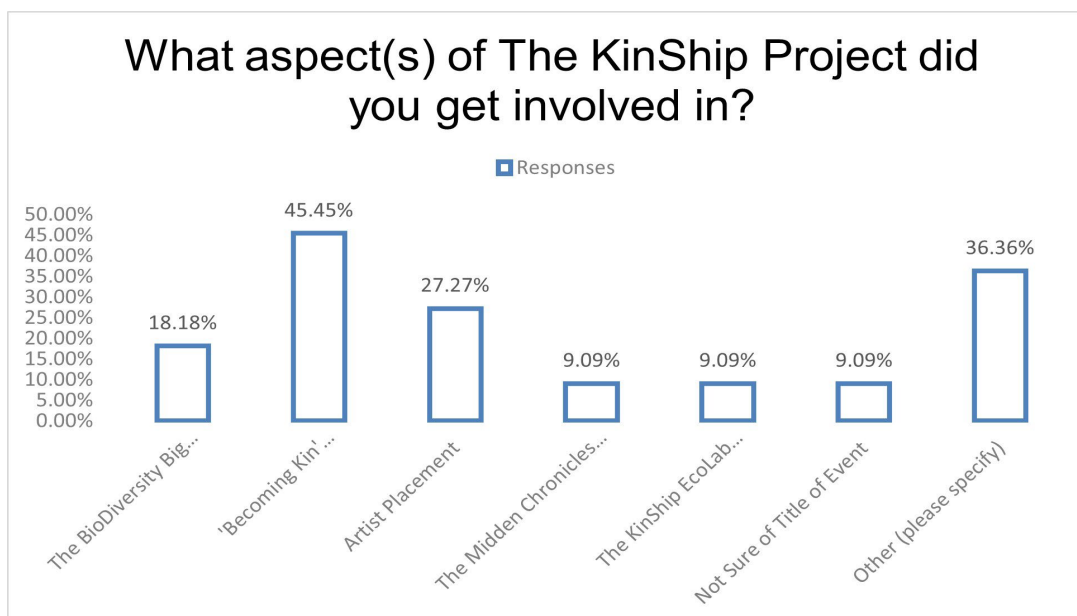


Chart 2 What did they participate in?

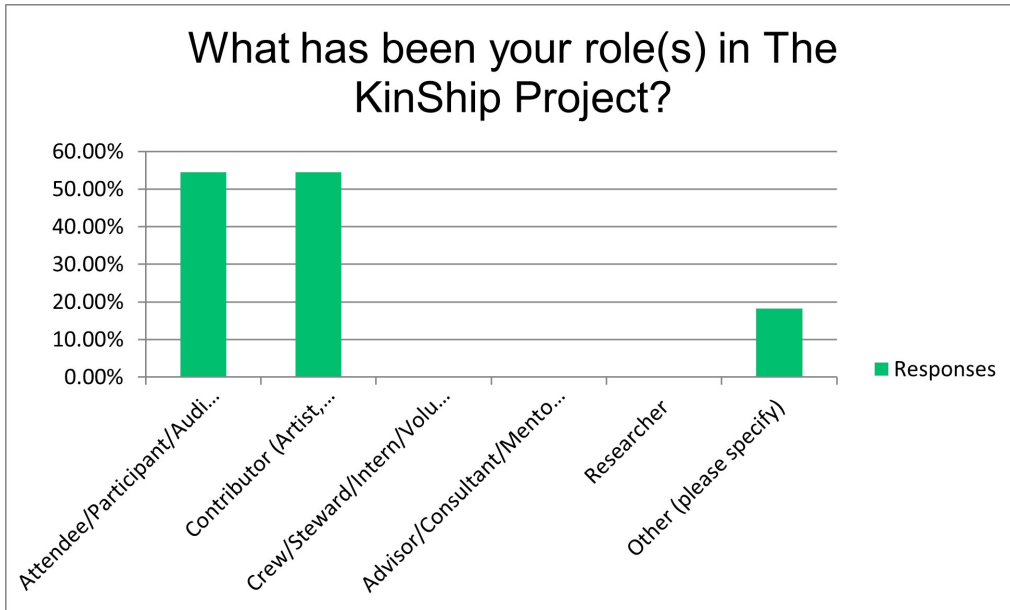


Chart 3: What was their role?

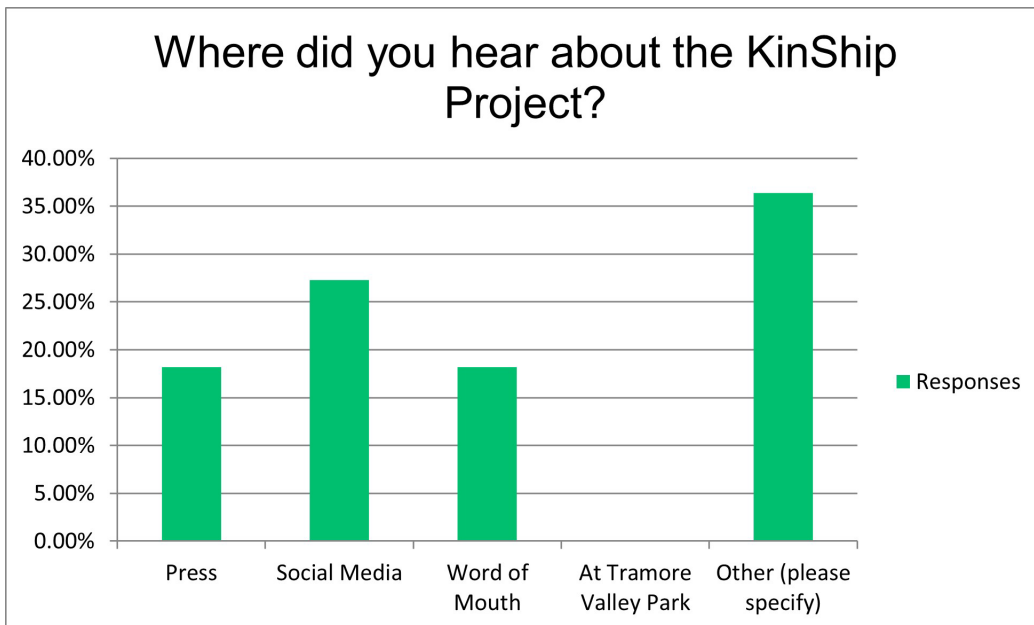
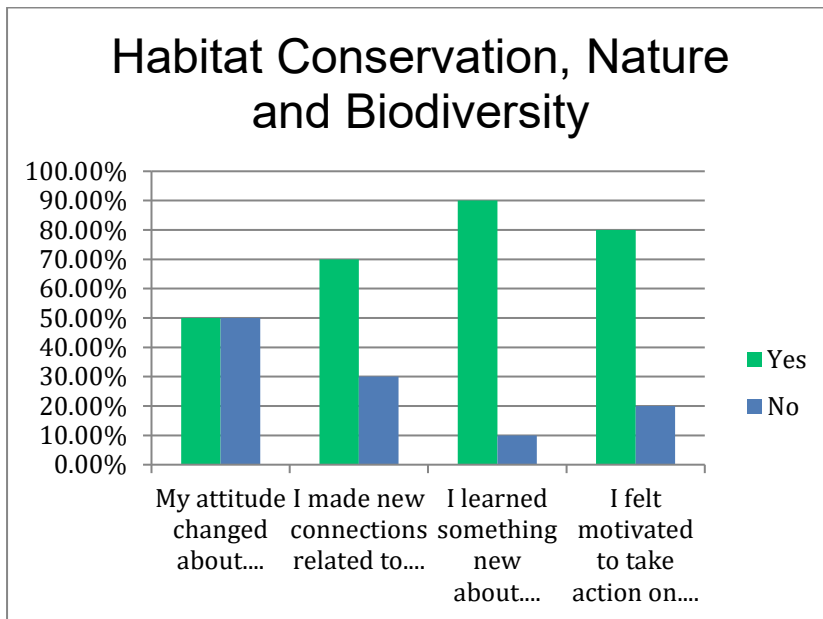


Chart 4: How did they hear of the project?

Question 5 in the KinShip Feedback Form invited respondents to rate the impact of their experience of the project in relation to different areas of focus as outlined on page 13. The impact is evidenced in the charts below.

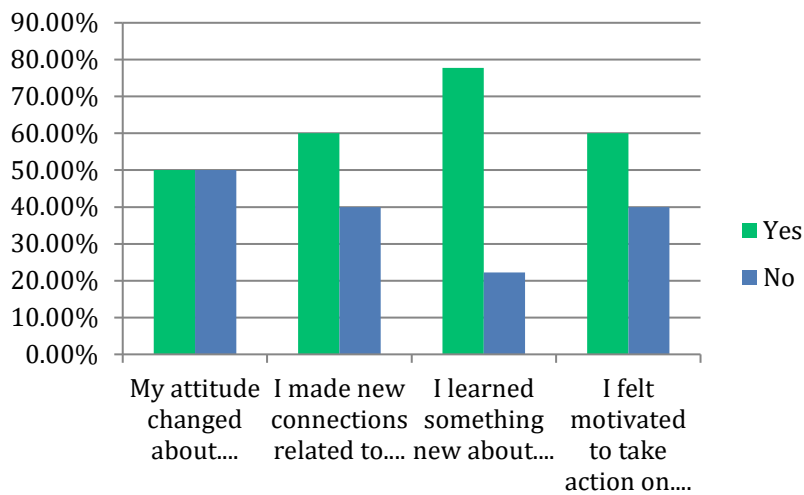
The greatest impact has been in learning particularly with regards to Waste Management, Nature and Biodiversity, Creativity and a Sense of KinShip.



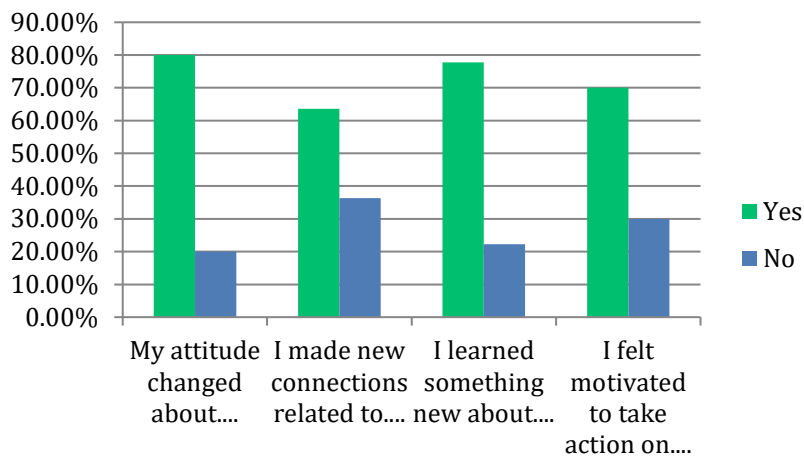
The Circular Economy



Creativity



A Sense of Kinship



Some respondents to Question 5 provided insight into the reasons behind their answers:

Being involved in the project, however briefly, made me appreciate the importance of recycling in view of climate change.

The community element was interesting in the sense that I am now aware of the cohort of people in the city invested in this space - academics, architects, council staff, artists etc.

The project has definitely opened my eyes to many things regarding the environment and biodiversity. Regardless of how small we adapt our habits and behaviours, we can still affect positive change.

It was encouraging to see the love and care of people who manage and are involved in the Tramore Valley Park.

The idea of walking/working and being creative on mounds and mounds of landfill and the biodiversity of the park has totally changed my perception of it and its potential.

At least one respondent demonstrated an appetite for more practical follow up to their experience:

I am already fully on board with biodiversity, waste management etc so the above is not meant as an indicator of failure in these areas. But at the time there was no sense of how our shared concern might be channelled into practical local action centred around the park.

The remaining questions in the Kinship Feedback Form invited responses regarding how the project has influenced the respondent. Below are some sample responses with regard to creativity, some of which challenge their experience of 'awareness raising' and indicate that more action is desired.

Creativity is vital in so many areas and climate action is the last frontier. If we don't get this right, we won't have a place to be creative.

Creative actions are an entry point into many topics. I think the creative activities presented by the Kinship project are an invitation to identify and change our behaviour around ecology and sustainability.

I am not sure what role it has - there is a risk of greenwashing if the purpose is simply 'raising awareness.

I suppose it's a celebration of it though that is something new for me. It has a massive part to play in raising awareness. It allows us to "think outside the box", think of positive, creative solutions and to ensure that everyone knows that they have a part to play and they can make an impact.

Examples of actions were offered in some responses such as this example which indicates some work that is needed with regard to setting realistic expectations and linking to other initiatives in existence.

The park is a wonderful facility which has given me a lot of hope. I attended the Kinship event as I would like to make some contribution to this or other green spaces, but the project hasn't yet offered a way of doing so - perhaps in the future?

There is clearly an appetite for The KinShip Project to develop and grow and provide practical, as well as creative processes, as evidenced in responses to a question on its future:

It should be continued in other parts of the country, if it hasn't already been set up.

Further targeting and recruitment of those that aren't already converted. IE - schools programme.

I would love to see the creativity being combined with practical work - eg planting a garden or trees.

Further actions to maximise biodiversity such as tree planting, rewinding, water protection etc. I would LOVE to see the workshops, community events, promotion of biodiversity care and the expansion of the concept of "Parks" continue to change and adapt in relation to raising awareness and sharing these spaces differently.



III. 13: Willow Weaving Workshop participants with facilitator Alex O'Brien at The KinShip Project Winter Weekend. Image by OSM Commercial, 2022.

H. Impact

The impact of the project has been the establishment of a strong partnership committed to the objectives of The KinShip Project into the long term via an active role in decision-making eg shaping the programme of activities etc. Evidence of the positive impact of The KinShip Project on participants is presented in the previous section and also outlined in the final report of the UCC Research Team 'Creative C-Change: Analysing the Impact of the Creative Climate Action Initiative on Climate Change Awareness, Engagement & Action in Ireland' available to download and read [here](#).

The project also made an impact in many unexpected and indirect ways simply through the positive conversations it elicited and the sense of kinship it engendered between different, autonomous but co-supporting communities. For example, Cork County Beekeepers Association installed several hives in the park and engaged with the public via demonstrations, honey tasters and talks. Another example is the way in which it linked in with Cork Traveller Women's Network.

At the time of meeting, the CTWN were already planning a project to celebrate the strong traditional connections that Travellers had living in the area so the two projects logically linked. The network saw clear connections between the way in which The Kinship Project promoted sustainability and Traveller traditions of recycling and reusing. Independently, CTWN developed the Black Ash Traveller Heritage project in 2022, researching and telling the stories of Travellers who had lived in this area for many years with a new park sign and website (<https://ctwn.ie/programmes/the-black-ash-traveller-oral-history-project/>). The Kinship project welcomed and supported this initiative, inviting the network to share this heritage with a whole new audience and in new ways. Traveller speakers contributed to two major public events in the park which was hugely insightful for the mainly settled audience, both in content and storytelling format. According to the network, this creative cooperation built a new confidence and vision for the Black Ash Traveller Heritage project. Being part of The Kinship Project public events created a launching pad for other events including a public launch event in the Tramore Valley Park for the project in 2023 which was a celebration of Traveller storytelling, art and music launched by Heritage Minister Malcolm Noonan. Events were also held in local libraries. The experience has nurtured a rich and developing relationship, communicated the value of Traveller heritage and stories and supported social inclusion and the principles of the Just City.

A number of presentations were made by partners at various times to different audiences to raise awareness about the project. One such occasion was at a national LGMA training event on climate change strategies presented by Cork City Council Arts Office. This demonstrated the benefit of the initiative to public service nationally as an education and engagement tool.

I. Sustainment of The KinShip Project

As mentioned in section C of this report, it has been a core tenet of the project that participants have an opportunity to lead on areas of interest as per the principles of 'citizen-science'. This was identified as key to the sustainability of the initiative based on the development of a strong, supportive network working together on cross-cutting issues. In addition, groups that engaged by sharing their own skills and concerns were supported to develop autonomous initiatives adjacent to the project which they lead themselves, shaping them in accordance with priorities of the audiences they target including their members and others in the city's communities. This includes the oral history work by Cork Traveller Women's Network with the local Traveller Community and also the work by Cork County Beekeepers Association who now manage 3 hives in the park. It is hoped that opportunities to develop leadership in climate-related areas will positively impact on the governance of The KinShip Project by facilitating dialogue between diverse demographics and inviting them, by virtue of their shared values, to take a role in decision-making on the direction of the initiative. This is key not just to the sustainability of the project but also to the sustainment of those involved who are dealing with multiple challenging intersectional issues.

With regards to ecological sustainability, The KinShip Project address a number of Sustainable Development Goals which are outlined below and illustrate the potential global significance of the achievements of this initiative as a model of creative climate action.

- **Good Health and Wellbeing** –enshrines a feminist ethic of care in relation to climate and inter-species exchange;
- **Quality Education** - provides life long learning opportunities in the form of peer education, skills swapping and socially engaged arts practice;
- **Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** - facilitates innovative thinking and creative problem-solving between partners and via artistic methodologies. For example, The KinShip EcoLab, constructed with rammed earth, timber and redd thatch, represents innovation in infrastructural design and construction for a natural urban setting;
- **Sustainable Cities and Communities** - supports the development of sustainable practices and policies at a local and city-wide level;
- **Responsible Consumption and Production** - promotes alternative, creative strategies in waste management and materials sourcing;
- **Climate Action** - focuses on climate action through educational, enabling and innovative strategies and sustainable infrastructural interventions in relation to biodiversity, waste management and the circular economy;
- **Life on Land** - is concerned with addressing biodiversity loss by educating locals about its importance. In addition, a re-conceptualisation of the urban park as wilderness, commonage and copse is developing;
- **Partnerships** - is founded on the principle of partnership. The socially engaged arts methodologies advocate participation, collaboration and justice-orientated communication;

J. Conclusion

Cork City Council is tremendously proud that The KinShip Project was one of fifteen climate action projects in Ireland funded by the Creative Climate Action fund through Creative Ireland for 2022. We are also privileged to have had the opportunity to work closely with Lennon Taylor and to have the benefit of engaging with all the artists and stakeholders that this project facilitated.

Through The KinShip Project, we have witnessed attitudinal and cultural shifts in our workplace in relation to climate action and how to address climate issues within our several roles. This is underpinned in emerging policies, not least of all the Cork City Council Creative Ireland Strategy 2023-2027 in which one of the 5 Strategic Goals is to 'Be Climate Active'. It is also reflected in the latest Heritage and Biodiversity Plan and will inform climate matters address in the City Development Plan.

Environmental Sustainability has also been written into Cork City Council's Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 as a Connecting Theme across all Strategic Priorities. The KinShip Project addresses all five strategic priorities of Cork City Council's Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026, in particular 'Art for Everyone' and 'Art in the Public Realm' by facilitating local people to engage creatively on climate change in the outdoors in ways that are accessible to them, no matter what their level of artistic experience. The location of the project in a local park increases the opportunity for all who visit to encounter this complex subject presented in positive, thought provoking and inspiring ways in a natural environment in keeping with the themes. The opportunities embedded into the project for engagement of artists and access to The KinShip EcoLab is in support the strategic priority cultivating 'A City for Artists' and 'Space for the Arts'. Finally, the partnership upon which this project is based has addressed the strategic priority 'Capacity and Influence'. Inter-directorate collaboration within the local authority and externally, with city-based organisations and institutions, has enabled Cork City Council's Arts Office to build capacity and exert influence, particularly with regard to the value of the arts to society.

We learned important lessons such as how both the potential and limits of the arts must be clearly communicated. One of the values of the creative practice is that it does not assume or prescribe. Creative Climate Action is best informed by listening, understanding and doing. The appetite for change is apparent but the means less so: peer education and networking is invaluable. Individual behavioural change and systemic change must happen in parallel. Local Authorities have a key role to play in this. In recognition of this, the Cork City Council Creativity and Culture Team have committed Creative Ireland Core Funding to support the development and evolution of the project.