

Missions framework



Introducing our missions framework



This document includes our full missions framework, with the range of community outcomes we expect projects to contribute towards. Some of the words used are a bit more complex, to help us describe the outcomes more specifically. There are definitions at the end of the document to help with understanding.

Two key definitions are:

Community: a group of people connected through a shared identity, which might come from a shared interest or experience, e.g. living in the same place or coming from a similar background.


People: individuals, including project beneficiaries and people working for community organisations. We are thinking about people from all backgrounds.

Equity (treating people according to their needs) is important across the framework, rather than having a separate set of outcomes. Being environmentally sustainable is relevant to all our funding, not just the environment mission.


The following pages firstly show the overall framework, and then how the outcomes overlap across the missions - with some outcomes relevant to more than one mission.

Front cover image: Eco Rangers, a volunteer environmental and litter picking group based in Northern Ireland.

Mission	Who for?	Overarching outcomes
Communities come together	For everyone, focused most on those experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination – and the intersection of these.	1.1 Communities have inclusive places and activities (physical and virtual), that bring people from all backgrounds together
		1.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference to their communities
		1.3 People feel a sense of safety, belonging and trust in other people in their local area
		1.4 People have positive relationships and connections
Communities help children and young people thrive	For infants, children, young people and their families, focused most on those experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination - and the intersection of these.	2.1 Babies and children from all backgrounds (and their families) have the community support they need to have a good start in life
		2.2 Children and young people have positive social and emotional skills development
		2.3 Children and young people have trusted adults in their community for support and advice
		2.4 Communities support young people to fulfil their potential and thrive into adulthood
Communities are healthier	For everyone, focused most on those experiencing poverty, disadvantage and discrimination - and the intersection of these.	3.1 Communities have inclusive places and activities (physical and virtual), that support health and wellbeing
		3.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference to services that support health and wellbeing in their communities
		3.3 People's physical and mental health and wellbeing is supported by their communities
		3.4 Communities contribute to reduced health inequalities
Communities are environmentally sustainable	For everyone, focused most on those at risk of negative environmental impacts, and/or least engaged in environmental action.	4.1 Community organisations have a positive impact on the environment (in relation to nature, pollution and/or climate)
		4.2 People are empowered and make a positive difference to the environmental impact of their communities
		4.3 Communities prepare for and adapt to changes in climate
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Term	Definitions
Activities	One-off or regular events, groups, services and support taking place in communities, either in-person or virtual/digital.
Community organisations	Organisations or groups that help the community. Includes groups that are officially regulated (charities, CICs, etc.) and those that are not.
Empowered	People having the power, knowledge, confidence and ability to make things better in their community. People start from different points: some may need more support.
Families	People involved in looking after children and young people, including adoptive and foster families, and the extended family may play a caring role. Includes expectant parents via pregnancy, adoption or surrogacy.
Inclusive (places or activities)	Addressing any barriers (physical, practical, mental or emotional) so that no one is excluded. Active outreach may be needed to be inclusive.
Natural spaces	Outside spaces where grass, trees and other plants grow, or water/the waterside. This includes both man-made and wild/un-managed places, e.g. parks, public gardens, cemeteries, playgrounds, allotments, farms, community orchards, nature reserves, footpaths / walking trails, forests, rivers, wetlands, and the seaside.
Nature	The variety of all life on Earth, including all species of animals and plants (using DEFRA's definition of biodiversity).
Physical and mental health and wellbeing	Being physically and mentally well – including living well with a diagnosed condition. Wellbeing includes satisfaction with life, feeling worthwhile, having positive day-to-day emotional experiences and lower anxiety. Physical and mental health and wellbeing are combined in one outcome, as they overlap and interact with each other.
Places	Locations or venues where people can do things or meet others, either in-person or virtual/digital spaces. Includes ways to access places (e.g. transport, walkable neighbourhoods).
Relationships and connections	Connections between two or more people. Includes close, ongoing relationships, e.g. with friends, family or a partner and lighter-touch or shorter relationships, e.g. with neighbours or acquaintances in your local area.
Services supporting health and wellbeing	Services that promote, restore or maintain good physical and mental health. This includes preventing/reducing health and wellbeing issues, as well as focusing directly on improving health and wellbeing where issues have arisen.
Social and emotional skills	Life skills to manage your emotions, have empathy for others, build relationships, solve problems, and make responsible decisions.
Trusted adult	A safe person chosen by the young person, who listens without judgment or expectation to support positivity in a young person's life. They may work for or volunteer at a funded organisation or be in the wider community.