



## Scottish Islands Federation

### **Promoting the interests and sustainability of Scotland's island communities**

There are 93 inhabited islands in Scotland, stretching from North Ayrshire, Argyll and Bute, Highland, to the Outer Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland. S.I.F. is the only organisation in Scotland with an island-specific remit and we work to promote, publicise and advance the interests of Scotland's islands. We do this by:

- Connecting island communities to share solutions, ideas and expertise.
- Providing a forum for island-specific discussion and debate.
- Building a strong, collective voice to inform and influence policy.
- Facilitating innovative sustainable projects and inter-island collaboration.

## Responding to Island Challenges

Broadband, housing, transport, healthcare, cost of living and the intense seasonality of tourism are some of the common challenges that need to be tackled if island communities are to release their potential and support permanent and sustainable populations.

**S.I.F.'s role is to highlight the issues and to explore and develop solutions for tackling them.**

## Highlighting Opportunities

Enormous contributors to Scotland's innovative renewable energy sector, its growing tourism market and its national identity, islands hold much potential within their local assets – people, culture, language, art, music, heritage, natural resources, landscape and more. Increasingly it is islanders themselves that are pioneering new ways through community ownership, enterprise and technology to harness opportunities and develop innovative local solutions to overcome island restraints.

**S.I.F. aims to ensure these innovations are shared and publicised to inspire other island communities.**

## Smart European Islands

S.I.F. is a member of and currently chairs the European Small Island Federation (ESIN). Very much valued for the connection it creates between all our island, ESIN is also a key vehicle for campaigning for recognition of the smaller island situation at all levels. Recent outcomes of this work includes the "Smart Islands Initiative" which aims to bring together island groups, local authorities, academic institutions and businesses to enable islands across Europe to take a lead role in sustainable development and the Clean Energy for EU Islands Initiative which will invest 10 million euros to help islands generate their own sustainable, low cost energy.

**S.I.F. will endeavour to maintain strong links with our European island partners and continue to develop opportunities for collaboration.**

# Membership

S.I.F. was set up in 2000 by islanders keen to learn from each other, work together and have a stronger voice on island issues of common concern. Run by a voluntary board of directors, our members include Development Trusts, Community Companies, Community Councils and other bodies concerned with the sustainability of island communities.

By joining you will become part of a unique and growing network of island communities across Scotland and the rest of Europe. Member benefits include:

- Keeping up to date with island news and policy.
- Access to opportunities to connect with islands across Scotland and Europe.
- Having a stronger voice and representation on issues that matter to the islands.
- Access to a wide pool of knowledge, inspiration and projects.
- Access to funded support for project visits through the Community Learning Exchange.
- Taking part in an annual island networking event.

**To join, simply choose a category, fill out the form and email it to us – we will then send you an invoice for the membership fee selected.**

<b>Community</b>	Open to democratically run organisations based on the Scottish islands and includes voting rights at our AGM.	£25
<b>Individual</b>	Open to any Scottish island resident.	£10
<b>Associate</b>	Open to organisations and statutory bodies interested in supporting the work of the Scottish Islands Federation.	£50 - £100
<b>Affiliate</b>	Open to organisations on any island elsewhere in the United Kingdom or British Overseas Territories which has a permanent resident population.	£20

## Find Out More

To find out more or request a membership form please get in touch:

[kirsty@scottish-islands-federation.co.uk](mailto:kirsty@scottish-islands-federation.co.uk)

[www.scottish-islands-federation.co.uk](http://www.scottish-islands-federation.co.uk)



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