

# NESF community support for the year ended 31 March 2025



NextEnergy Solar Fund (**NESF**, or the **Company**) is a specialist solar energy and energy storage fund listed on the London Stock Exchange.

NESF is dedicated to driving the transition to clean energy, aligning its efforts with a broad range of **Sustainability and ESG initiatives** aimed at making a positive societal impact. As part of this, the Company runs a range of community engagement activities. These include investing directly in local communities around NextEnergy Solar Fund assets, through the Company's Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) and other collaborations. In particular, the Company supports local education and skills development projects focused on environmental sustainability.

Examples of projects which NESF supported under two activity streams in the financial year ended 31 March 2025 are provided below.

In the year ended 31 March 2025, NextEnergy Solar Fund provided a total of

c.£155k

in support to community initiatives.\*

\* Note that this is separate from the NESF donation to the NextEnergy Foundation, which is reported separately.

#### **BizGive**

NESF continues its programme of charitable giving through the BizGive community funding platform. NESF has established four regional grant funds, and the platform enables community groups to apply for funding from these.

Examples of projects NESF supported in the year ended 31 March 2025 include:

## **Country Trust Food Discovery**

The Country Trust Food Discovery is an immersive food education programme which includes cooking, gardening, visiting farms, and running playground markets, working specifically with schools in areas of high disadvantage. Funding from NESF has so far contributed to 30 gardening sessions across five Norwich schools, providing resources including compost, seed, and gardening tools.



### Girls Into Coding

NESF supported Girls Into Coding to design and develop a workshop focused on sustainability, renewable energy, and environmental issues. The workshop blends coding, engineering, technology, design, hardware, electronics, and software education, and will be integrated into the Girls Into Coding programme at Plus X Innovation, engaging 250 girls over 12 months. The workshop aims to inspire girls by demonstrating how science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) create renewable energy solutions, fostering a deeper understanding of sustainability and wonder.









#### Somerset Wildlife Trust

NextEnergy Solar Fund supported **Somerset Wildlife Trust** in training local Climate Champions to identify, implement, and advocate for practical climate adaptation strategies. The initiative aims to address the reactive nature of community responses to climate events like flooding and drought by providing Toolkit workshops. These workshops will help communities create local adaptation plans and build a network of skills and knowledge sharing.

#### **Learn and Thrive**

<u>Learn and Thrive</u> supports children and young people with Down's syndrome and special educational needs. The project offers teaching on social, emotional, and independent living skills, helping young people transition safely into adulthood. The funds provided by NESF have, in the words of Learn and Thrive, made "an incredible difference to our progress and the lives of the children and young people we are currently and will serve in the future."

"It was really positive to see families and children, the generation that climate change will really impact, engaging with our workshops and adaptation planning"

- Somerset Wildlife Trust

# **Earth Energy Education**

NESF continues to support a dedicated workstream with **Earth Energy Education**, which provides educational school visits and workshops at solar farms. Across the reporting period, 20 school visits occurred with an average of 45 students per visit. The visits have involved students from reception to university level, offering hands-on experiences to enhance the renewable energy education already included in the national curriculum, and strengthen STEM learning through practical insights into solar energy.





Please note permission was provided for all photos used in this report to be included.