

SEAI EXEED Certified Program

Excellence in Energy Efficient Design



SEAI EXEED

SEAI EXEED (Excellence in Energy Efficient Design) is a certification program that helps businesses achieve optimum energy performance by applying a standardised approach to project design and implementation for new or upgraded buildings and processes.

The SEAI EXEED program provides grant support and a structured approach to energy efficient design management to maximise lifecycle energy and carbon performance.

The grant provides support of **up to €1,000,000 per project** to help businesses embed energy efficient design in their investment projects.

Who can benefit?

The SEAI EXEED grant is open to private businesses and public sector organisations who are planning an investment project.

It can be applied to assets such as:



Brand new
buildings and
facilities



Upgrades or
re-purposing of
existing buildings
and facilities



Manufacturing
processes



Why SEAI EXEED?

By following the SEAI EXEED standard, lifecycle energy consumption is tackled at the design stage of projects. The greatest potential for energy saving with the best return on investment can be implemented, escaping the lock-in effect of poorer performance. This helps **future-proof the investment, reducing operational energy costs and carbon emissions**, improving competitiveness and demonstrating commitment to sustainability, which can also bring a reputational boost.

SEAI EXEED Grant

There are two stages for grant support under SEAI EXEED:

Stage 1

provides grant support for professional fees in the planning and concept design stage, supporting up to **70% of the additional costs** incurred in following the EXEED process.

Stage 2

is for up to **50% of the incremental capital costs** relative to the baseline design with implementation of the EXEED approach.

Businesses can also benefit from the **support of an experienced mentor** to guide you through the process.

SEAI EXEED Certification

SEAI EXEED drives innovation and delivers new best practices in energy efficient design. Achieving SEAI EXEED certification provides assurance of optimum energy performance and sustained energy savings across your facility or process.

There are **three levels of SEAI EXEED certification** depending on the organisation's commitment, find out more here: seai.ie/EXEED





Where to start?

Companies embarking on the SEAI EXEED program must be in the design phase of planning capital projects for new or existing buildings or processes. Beginning at the earliest possible stage will maximise the potential for energy performance improvements. In order to qualify for a grant, participants must commit to achieving SEAI EXEED certification and embed efficient design in their projects.

The SEAI EXEED grant is open year-round for applications at both Stage 1 and Stage 2. Projects that receive a grant letter of offer must be completed by 1st October of the following year at the latest.

Applicants can fill out an online application form at seai.ie/EXEED for evaluation. The evaluation process will take up to 3 weeks at Stage 1 and 4-8 weeks at Stage 2.*

Feedback is sent to applicants on the outcome of their application along with supported opportunities and eligible costs.

** Times may vary for grants of €250,000 and above*

Case Studies

SEAI has supported **137 projects** through SEAI EXEED with CO₂ savings averaging **46% for new build projects and 14% for upgrade projects.**

Significant energy savings have been made across a range of sectors, including manufacturing, warehousing, leisure and hospitality sectors.

Johnson & Johnson

Johnson & Johnson Vision Care in Co. Limerick achieved SEAI EXEED certification following the build of a new gym and medical building. This project is Ireland's first greenfield site to achieve SEAI EXEED certification.

Improved insulation and air handling units with heat recovery were installed, making the facility 25% more efficient than building regulations.



25%
more energy
efficient



Westpark Fitness

Westpark Fitness in Dublin is a premier fitness facility and gym with almost 5,000 members and 35 staff. The SEAI EXEED program allowed Westpark to explore options for sustainable changes and an opportunity to make savings.

New **air handling units with heat recovery, two air to water heat pumps** and a chiller unit that feeds the gym area were installed. Result: one million kilowatt hours being saved in both gas and electricity, with 40% savings in gas use and 10% in electricity.



10%
savings in
electricity
usage



40%
savings in
gas usage





80%
reduction
in onsite
emissions

Aurivo Consumer Foods

Aurivo Consumer Foods is a global agribusiness with brands across dairy ingredients, consumer foods and sports nutrition, retail and animal nutrition and livestock marts. The SEAI EXEED process has allowed Aurivo to future proof the design of their thermal energy systems by installing a **high efficiency heat recovery system** in their fresh milk pasteurisation process. It captures waste heat from the refrigeration plant to use in pasteurisation.

Result: an offset in excess of 780 tonnes of CO₂ annually, reducing onsite emissions for the manufacturing of liquid milk products by over 80%. This brings Aurivo one step closer to their goal of being the first fully renewable liquid milk facility in Ireland.



690
LED lights
installed

80%
energy
savings

DAA

DAA was one of the first organisations to progress its project through all three distinctions of SEAI EXEED certification: EXEED Designed, Verified and Managed. Dublin Airport completed a major **carpark lighting upgrade** project by using a design-led approach to energy savings, installing 690 LED lights, resulting in 80% savings.

Dublin Airport is now able to change the lighting level to suit the operational need and capacity at a given time. As well as saving energy, this has the added benefit of creating a better environment for carpark users. LED lights need less maintenance and have a longer life than traditional lights.

For more information visit the SEAI website:
EXEED Certified
EXEED grant scheme

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