

### Monaghan PPN Network Gathering

19th March 2025



### Leah Woods & Ciara Ní Chionnaith

### Social Enterprises

Social enterprises are not for profit businesses that work primarily to improve the lives of people. Their core objective is to achieve a social, societal, or environmental impact. They frequently work to support disadvantaged groups such as the long-term unemployed, people with disabilities, travellers, etc., or to address issues such as food poverty, social housing, or environmental matters.

#### Background



Need identified

Consultation with key stakeholder

Committee commitment

Funding secured

#### **Funding**

POBAL Community Services Programme

Provide a local service

Social Enterprise Model

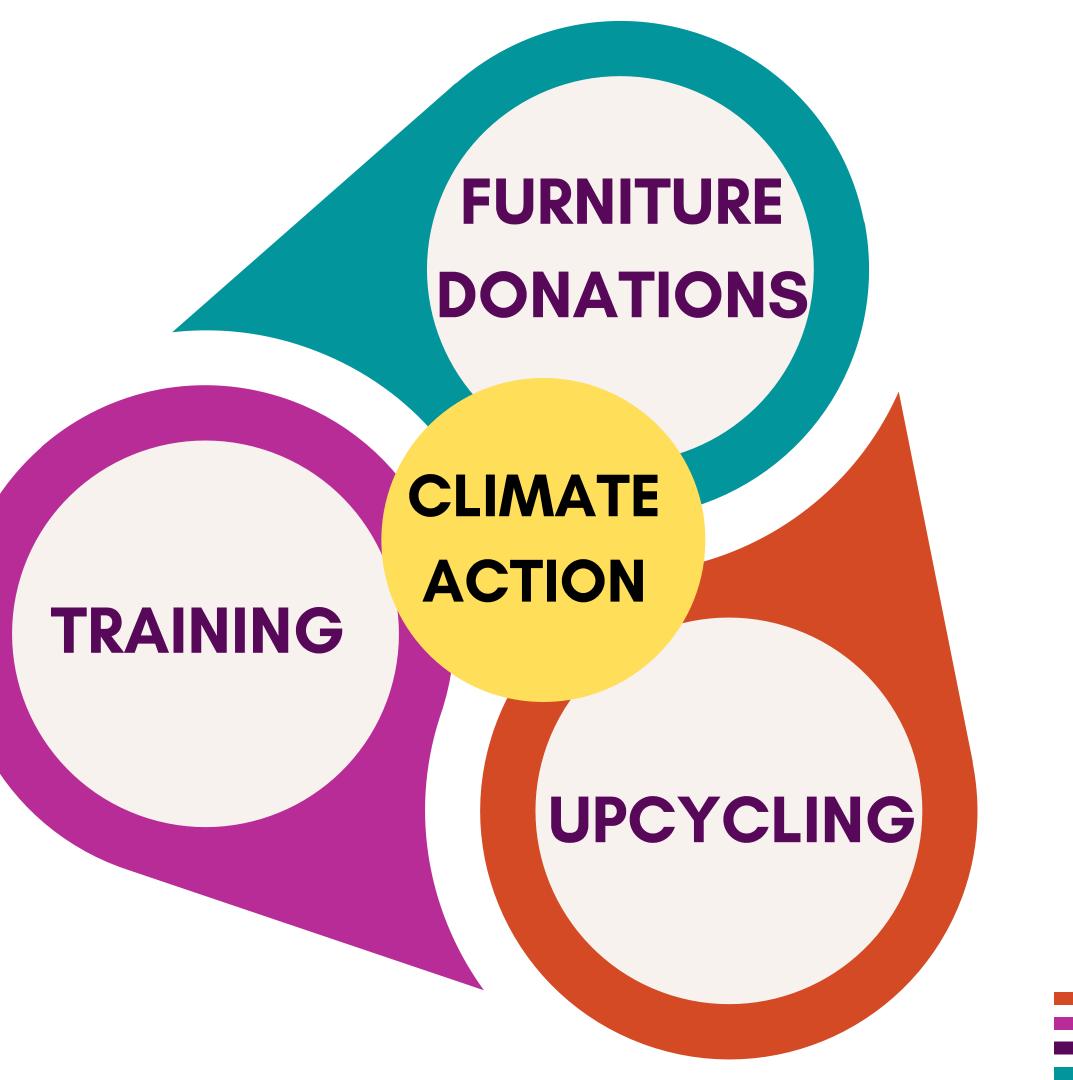
Employment for disadvantaged groups



### Our Aim

The HUB Furniture, upcycling and training aims to make a positive impact on both the community and the environment by providing affordable furniture options, reducing waste, and promoting upcycling.

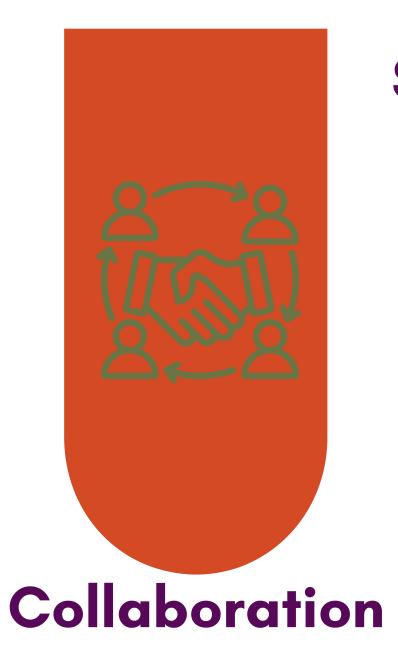
# How we achieve our aim



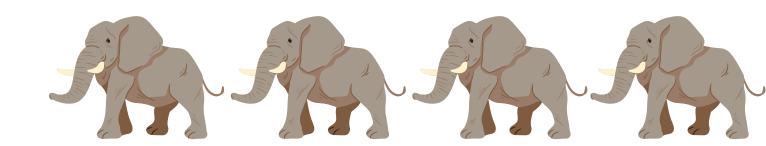
### How we support climate action



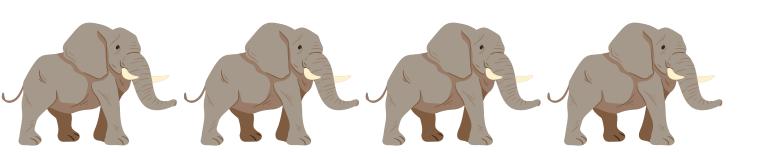








# Diverted from Landfill Tonne\*





### FURNITURE Upcycling Programme

An introduction to upcycling, focusing on basic techniques for restoring and transforming furniture

















# Introduction

6-Week Basic Upcycling Course for beginners

Funding received from MCC - Creative Monaghan

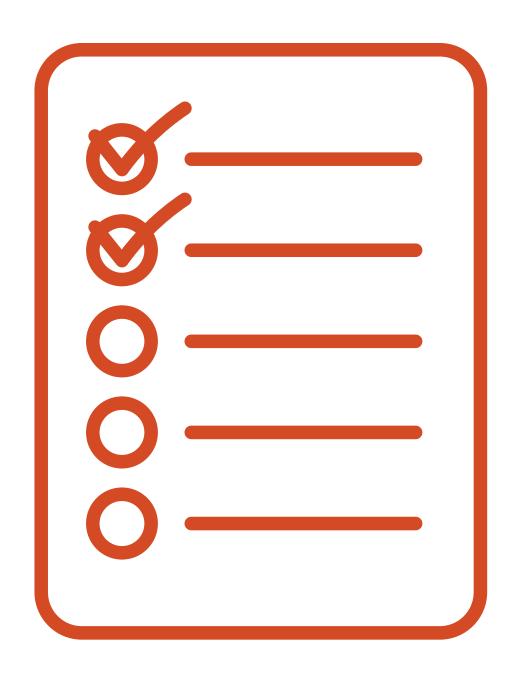
Collaborated with CMETB/workshop facilities

# Aims



- Introduce the Core Principles of Furniture Upcycling
- Encourage Sustainability and Environmental Awareness
- Foster Creativity and Hands-On Learning
- Build Confidence Through Achievement
- Support Wellbeing and Strengthen Community Ties

# Course Content



- Sourcing Furniture
- Tools & Materials
- Furniture Preparation
- Painting and Staining Techniques
- Advanced Techniques
- Finishing Touches
- Repurposing

### Benefits of Upcycling



Reduces the need to extract raw materials or create synthetic materials.



Less manufacturing & **fewer carbon emissions**. Less waste to landfill.



Reduces pollution, and **promotes** a circular economy.



Fosters a sense of community as individuals come together to share ideas, resources, and skills.



The ability to repair an item is a lifelong skill.

### Benefits of Creativity on the Brain & Health



Engaging in arts and creative activities enhances quality of life and reduces stress.



**Increases brain plasticity**, whole brain activity.



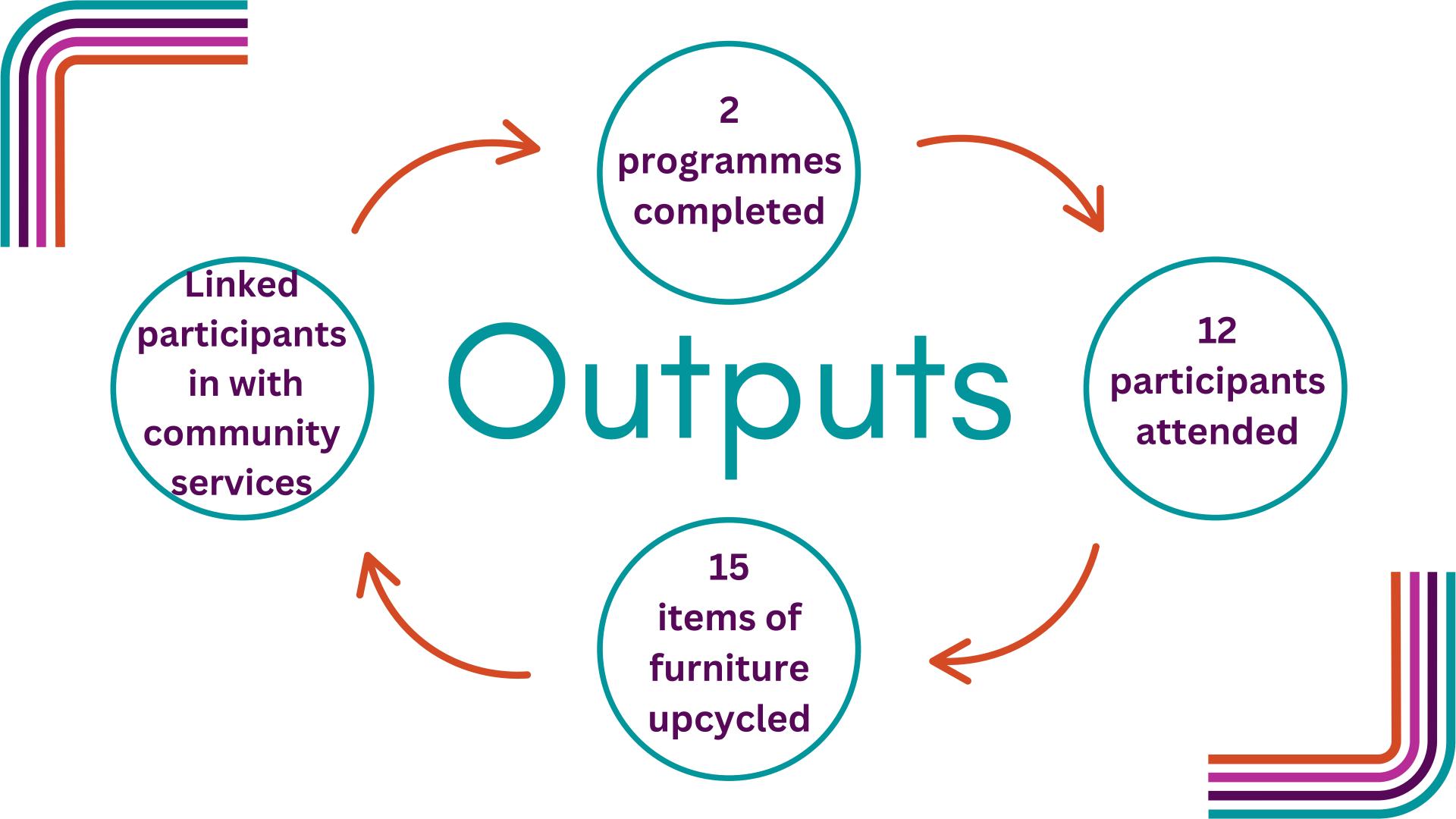
It **focuses your attention**, distracting you from the negative, a form of **mindfulness**.



Helps **relieve stress**, you can enter a mental state called "flow" or "the zone".



Helps you work through **emotions** and **feelings**.



### Outcomes



- Practical Skills and DIY Confidence
- Sustainability Awareness
- Creative Thinking and Design Skills
- Confidence and Personal Growth
- Emotional Wellbeing and Social Connection

# Fedoack

It was a very relaxing and mindful experience; the tutors were supportive & knowledgeable. Perhaps a longer **programme** in the future, as it felt a bit rushed trying to finish our pieces in the 6 week time frame. Thoroughly enjoyable.

I had such a brilliant time on this course I just zoned out forgot about everything else just love it and so proud of my finished piece. I also made some new friends; we had such a lovely group. I definitely recommend this to anyone.

Great programme, plenty of support, encouragement, & comradeship, really enjoyed it.

I had an amazing time at this upcycle course. I just wish it was longer. I learned a lot & will definitely be trying more. I am so happy with the way my piece.

### **Before**

### After





























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TheHUBFurnitureUpcyclingTraining

Upcycling is not just about furniture, it's about sustainability, creativity, and well-being.