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COMMUNITY* LAND SCOTLAND

COMMUNITY
OWNERSHIP
HUB 
GLASGOW AND CLYDE VALLEY



How should land be owned and used?

What is the role of land in delivering climate response?

What are alternative ways of being on the land?

Dúthchas

unity existing between land,
people, all living creatures,
nature and culture.



Place/Work/Folk

Patrick Geddes





Borgie, Highlands. 3 landowners. Photos by Magnus Davidson

Scotland continues to have one of the most unequal patterns of land ownership in the global north.

1,252 owners hold 67% of privately owned rural land (Land Commission Report 2020.)

Absentee land ownership across Scotland:

- Scale and Concentration, monopoly land ownership
- Fragmented land information, ownerless land



Midsteeple Quarter, Dumfries. Photo by OpenAye CIC

What is land for ?

Who decides and who benefits?

What is wild?



Land Reform Is:

Measures that modify or change the arrangements governing the possession and use of land in Scotland in the public interest.

- Key developments:
 - 2003 - Land Reform Act
 - 2015 - Community Empowerment Act
 - 2016 - Land Reform Act
 - 2017 - Scottish Land Commission
 - 2023?- Land Reform Act
- The Scottish Land Fund



Community Land Ownership in Scotland

- Geographic community
- Open membership, led by a Board
- Non-profit distributing
- Community support
- Business plan
- Community Right to Buy





- 2.9% of Land in Scotland is in Community Ownership (191,261 hectares of land)
- There were 612 assets in community ownership as of December 2020
- These assets were owned by 422 community groups
- 72% of residents in the Western Isles live on community-owned land

A rural history...



Isle of Gigha

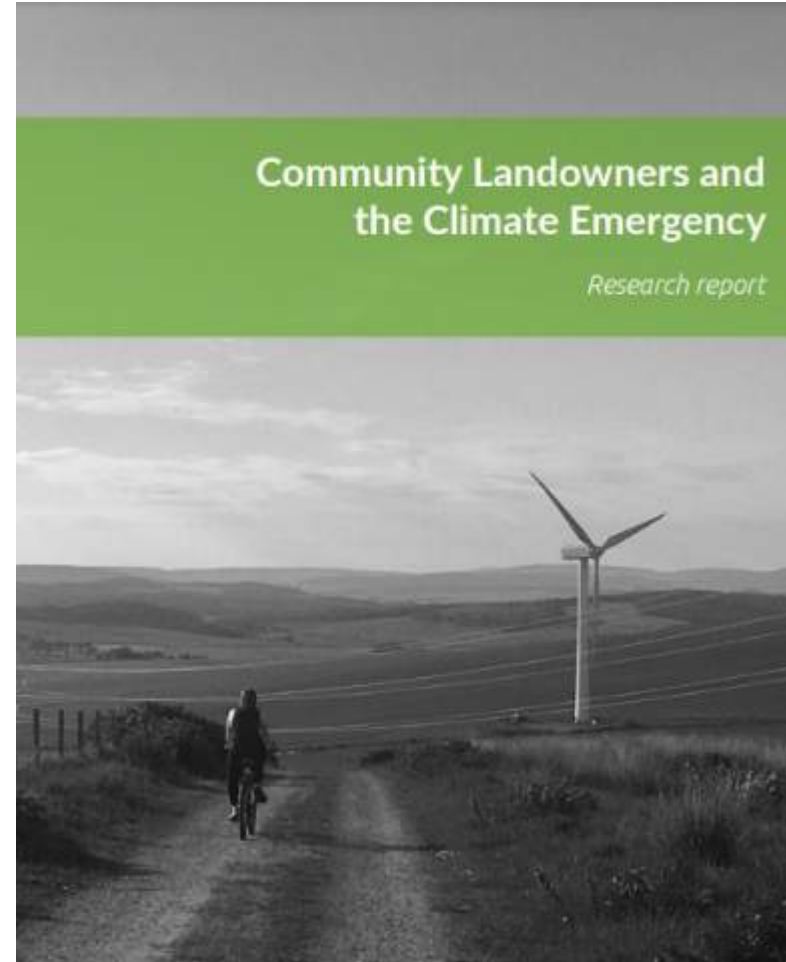
Isle of Eigg



... a Scotland future



1. **Community owners take a holistic approach to climate action**
2. **When community owners lead on climate action, it tends to deliver multiple community and public benefits.**
3. **Community owners demonstrate local leadership and catalyse behaviour change**
4. **Community owners can play a leading role in delivering a just transition to net zero**





Systems for collective effort



Community led + Nature based



Diversification of power

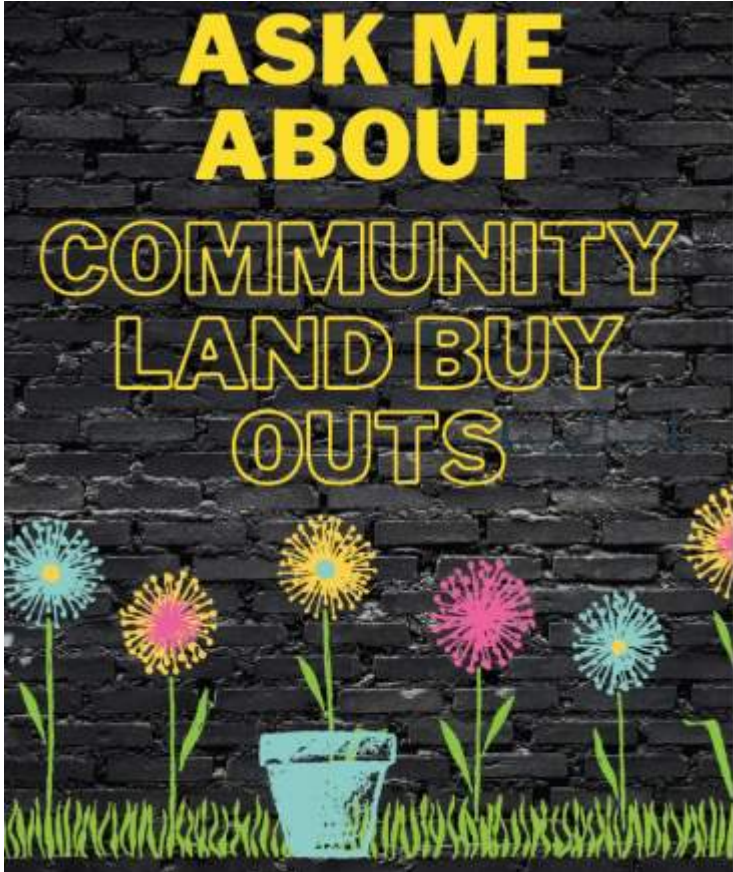


Democracy

What can I do?
Join, volunteer,
collaborate

This is about how we understand land and people

- Land reform is creating a new land system
- Land owners as caretakers with rights and responsibilities.
- Socially-just land ownership.
- For everyone, everywhere.
- Where communities have increased power.
- Caretake land, not unsustainable extraction.
- Land facilitates wellbeing and circular economics, community wealth building, inclusive and sustainable development.
- Bringing transformative change, creating a new system of land management and development.



Thank you!

Twitter: @CommunityLandSc , @COHubCLyde,
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