

Aran Islands

Ireland



Aran Islands in a nutshell

Three islands on the west coast of Ireland



Árainn, Inis Meáin and Inis Oírr
Located at the mouth of Galway Bay
Special Area of Conservation, Natura 2000

Population increases by 200% during the summer



Permanent population: 1,300
Peak during the summer months: 3,900

Well connected to mainland



Thanks to ferries and an airstrip
· ~17 km to Rossaveel
· 1.5 h by ferry, 10 min by flight

Tourism is the main economic activity



Namely hospitality, transport,
and retail

Energy System Description

Final Energy Consumption in 2017 [MWh]

CO₂ [tonne]

Electricity	2,257	1,056
Heating	6,800	1,877
Transport to & from	17,702	4,667
Transport on Island	2,427	641
TOTAL:	29,186	8,241

*Data only for Árainn and Inis Meáin

Electricity

Interconnected with mainland

In recent years, blackouts have occurred on the islands due to problems with the undersea cable

The measured losses of the undersea cable are around 50%

Heating

Primary energy sources for heating of households and hotels are:

	Árainn	Inis Meáin
kerosene	32%	26%
gasoil	26%	-
coal	25%	58%
diesel	10%	8%
other	7%	8%

Transport on the island

Public transportation with diesel mini buses

Main transport mode is private diesel vehicles

Some electric vehicles as part of pilot projects and promotional activity of the energy co-op

Transport to and from the island

Multiple ferries (depending on the season) connect the islands to Rossaveel and Doolin

The airstrip enables minor flights to mainland

Stakeholder mapping

Civil society

Aran Islands energy co-operative
Árainn development co-operative
Inis Oírr development co-operative
Inis Meáin development company

Business sector

The Aran Islands Business Network
Ferry companies

Public sector

Galway County Council
Gaeltacht Authority
Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland

Academia

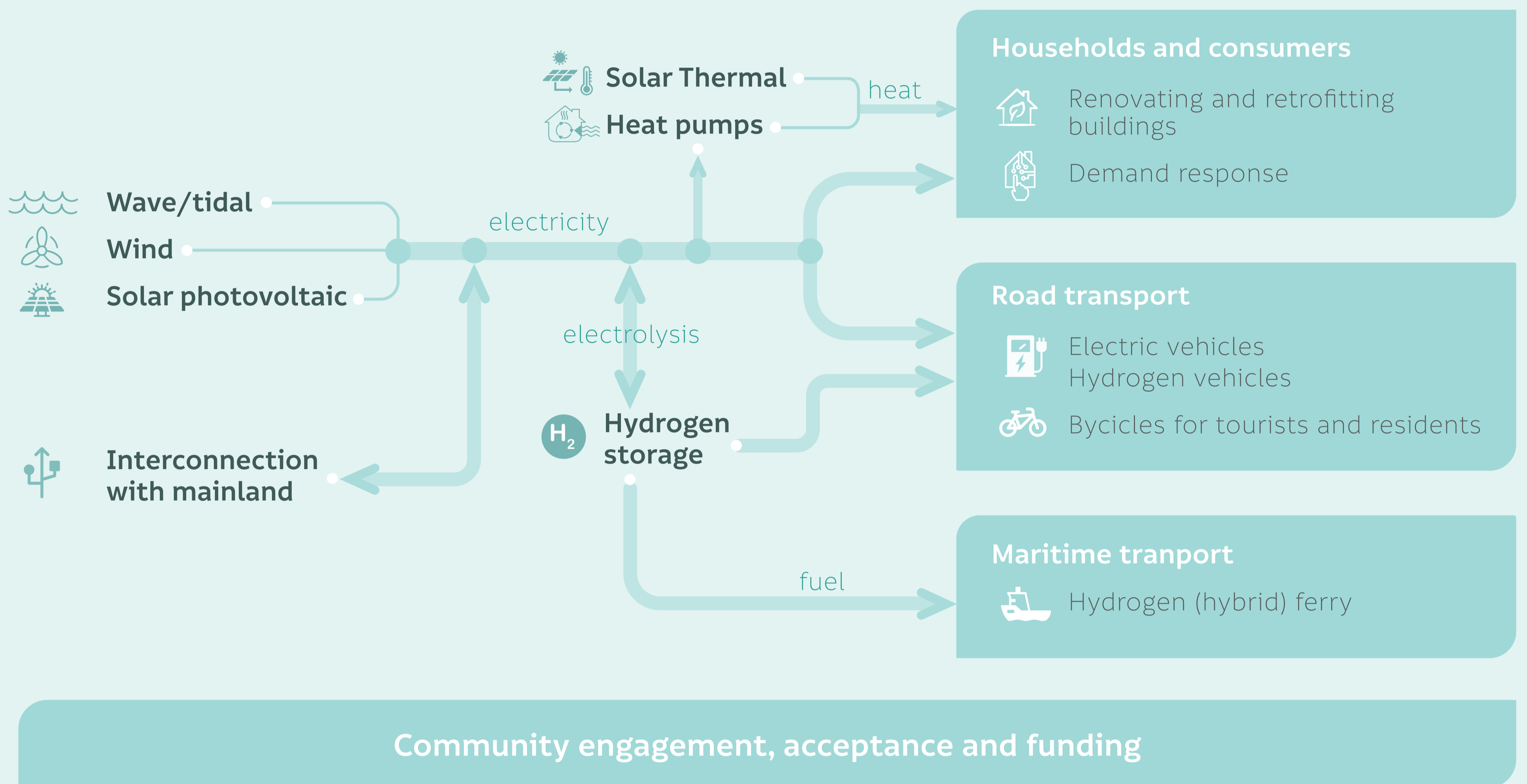
National University of Ireland
Galway Mayo Technical Institute
Primary schools
Secondary schools



Vision

The Aran Islands are self-sufficient in clean, locally owned energy. The economy of the islands is built on the related benefits that accrue from this.

Transition pathways



Transition governance

