



Lessons in sustainability,  
community, biodiversity gain and natural resource  
management

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INFORSE-Europe Power & Place Seminar on Good Practice in the  
Transition from Fossil Fuel Dependency  
Grenville Hall, October 2-4, 2009, CAT, Wales, UK

Or....

How to make lots of money and make people  
happy!

Or...

Why we should teach people to forget the dirty  
word - conservation

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Or...

Why good ideas should be given away for free

## Local Policy Context

- National Park – Highest form of landscape protection available
- Special Area of Conservation – Highest form of ecological conservation in EU
- 10% of buildings are listed
- 10% of homes are in building conservation areas
- Water Framework Directive restrictions

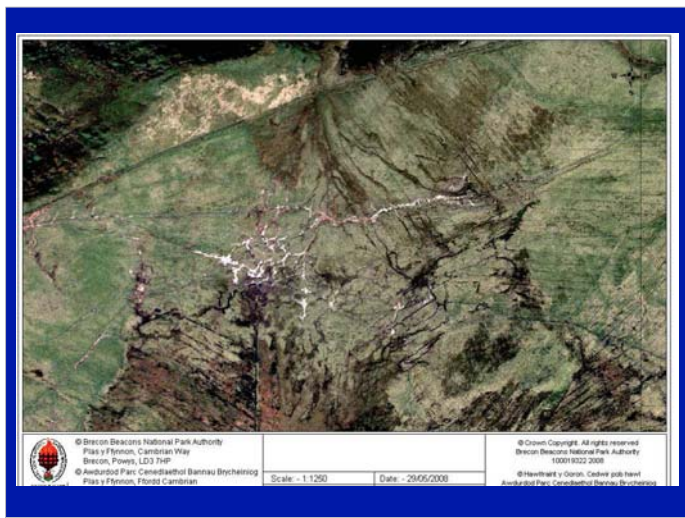
## Local Persons Context

- Heating oil price rise of nearly 400% in 4 years
- Uneconomically viable farms
- Closure of schools, community facilities, shops and pubs
- Loss of Jobs – economic uncertainty
- No public transport
- Lack of affordable homes
- Loss of community cohesion

There's no future....but the  
hills look nice

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## Time for Action

- Climate change is now having a catastrophic effect on our uplands and it is getting worse
- Government policies and usual approaches are



## A Brief History of Rural Economic Development





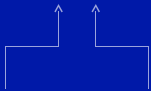
### Loss of biodiversity alongside...

- Loss of farms
- Loss of farmers and skills
- Loss of community
- Loss of local markets
- Loss of rural economy
- Loss of community facilities
- Loss of connection between people, land and economy



## Sustainable Development

## Present Day

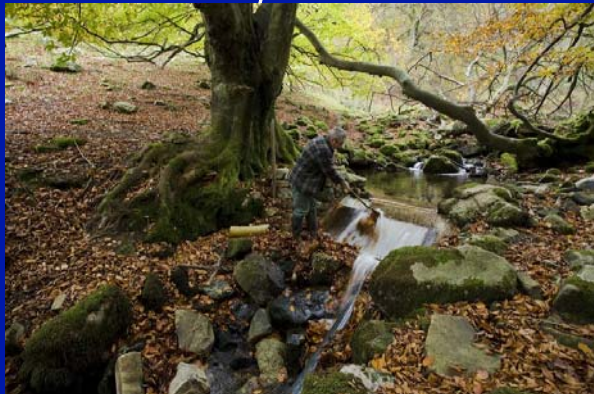


### Talybont Hydro (installed 2006)

*Produces power for 70 homes*



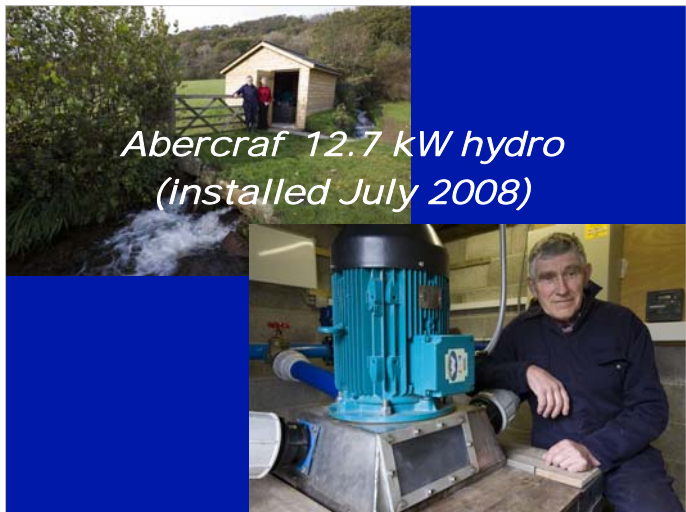
*Llanover 11kW Hydro – Installed Sept 2007*



*Llangynidr Hydro (installed Oct 2007)*



*Abercraf 12.7 kW hydro (installed July 2008)*

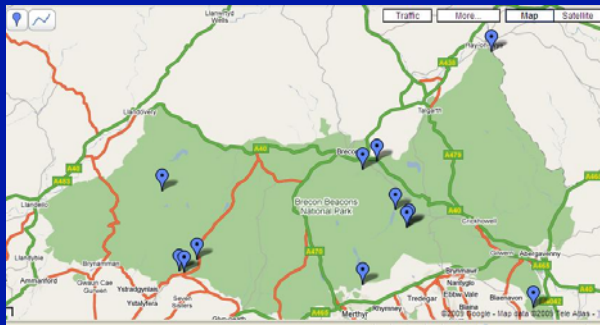


*Cusop Dingle Hydro*

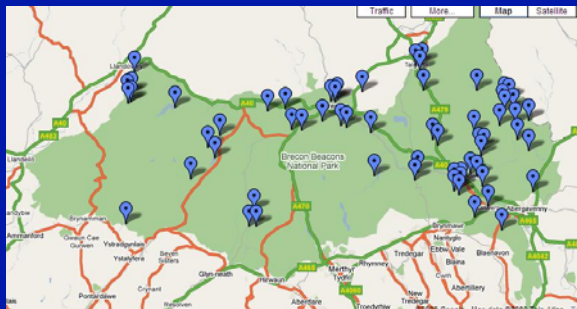
*Completed during June 2009*



### Our Portfolio of Low Risk Businesses



### Our Business Opportunities



### Present Situation

- 3% of The Park's domestic electricity now comes from hydros built in the last 3 years
- The Green Valleys have paid for 94 schemes to be assessed
- The next 15.5% has been identified through these feasibility studies
- 7 Schemes presently going through



### Community schemes

- Invest in:
- More green energy
- Allotments and orchards
- Greenspace
- Shops, pubs, Post Office
- Transport
- Facilities



### Who Can Get involved



### A Role for everyone....

