

SDG 13 CASE (PART 2)

The impact of climate change on St Enochs Farm



This second part of the case study will introduce you with some solutions already in place at St Enochs Farm to face climate change related issues. Read it carefully and take this opportunity to review the solutions you want to present to YFC if you find it necessary.

*(The words in green are explained in a **glossary** at the bottom of this sheet).*

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE CLIMATE-SMART STRATEGIES YOU'VE BEEN EMPLOYING AND HOW SUCCESSFUL HAVE THEY BEEN? WHAT OTHER SOLUTIONS ARE YOU THINKING OF IMPLEMENTING?

The focus on my farm at the moment is managing to improve our native grasslands and increase the **flora and fauna** biodiversity on our farm. We use our wethers to graze areas in a high intensity for a short amount of time, followed by a long rest period, to stimulate grow in these grasses. We use **rotational grazing** on the rest of the farm also, but not in the same intensive manner.

We are looking at using a different form of fertiliser for the farm as the current practices are very expensive and don't seem to improve the soil. We are looking at alternatives such as **compost** that work to improve levels of **soil carbon** and **humus** so we can have better water and **mineral retention**. This will hopefully lead to stronger and healthier plants that will see our sheep through more difficult seasons.

We also plant a lot of trees to help with shelter and create 'windbreaks' in order to reduce our lamb losses in case of extreme weather. It would be great to build shelters, but unfortunately it's quite expensive!



THIS IS A VIEW OF BLACK'S CREEK, WHICH WAS REHABILITATED WITH TREES ABOUT 25 YEARS AGO

GLOSSARY

Hectare: a unit of measurement of a large area. It is equal to 10,000 square metres, or a square with sides of 100 by 100 metres.

Flora and fauna: plants and animals

Rotational grazing: system where a large pasture is divided into smaller paddocks allowing livestock to be moved from one paddock to the other easily in order for the pasture plants to recover and grow after grazing.

Compost: decayed organic material used as a plant fertiliser

Soil carbon: the main component of soil organic matter that helps give soil its water-retention capacity, its structure, and its fertility.

Humus: a dark, organic material that forms in soil when plant and animal matter decays and serves as a source of energy for the growth and development of microorganisms and plants.

Mineral retention: the capacity of the soil to hold water. Soils that can retain a balanced amount of water are able to nourish crops and keep soil organic matter alive.

