

UNEP, DELEGATE OF IRELAND, POSITION PAPER

Committee: UNEP- United Nations Environment Programme

Agenda Item:

Country: Ireland



Ireland, Republic of Ireland, is a country in north-western Europe. The capital city of Ireland is Dublin. Ireland's population is around 5 million. Ireland shares its only land border with Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

We have an action plan for climate change. The Climate Action Plan 2021 provides a detailed plan for taking decisive action to achieve a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting us on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as committed to in the Programme for Government and set out in the Climate Act 2021.

Among the most important measures in the plan is to increase the proportion of renewable electricity to up to 80% by 2030, including an increased target of up to 5 Gigawatts of offshore wind energy. This will not just reduce our emissions from electricity, it will allow us to electrify other sectors such as transport and heat and reduce our emissions in these sectors too. As well as developing improved storage, we will also begin to deploy renewable gas such as biomethane and green hydrogen. The government will review its strategy on data centers to ensure that the sector will be in alignment with sectoral emissions ceilings and support renewable energy targets. [62%-81% reduction in emissions by 2030]

The plan commits to using less chemical nitrogen and more targeted use of fertilizer while maintaining the same level of grass growth through multi-species swards. Other measures include improving the genetics of our herds to reduce emissions and improve productivity. We will also incentivize increased organic farming and diversification into forestry, biomethane and energy production. [22-30% reduction in emissions by 2030]

We will reduce food waste by 50% and will ensure that all plastic packaging is reusable or recyclable by 2030. We will also increase our capacity to recycle packaging waste by 70%, and plastic package waste by 55%.

Climate Action Plan 2021 reflects Ireland's commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Our goal is to achieve this Sustainable Development Goals globally. This will be achieved by engaging proactively in international negotiations relating to climate action, by providing increased financial supports for climate action to developing countries, and by working with like-minded international partners to promote climate action.

- We think that encouraging our citizens is important and necessary. If our citizens use walking or cycling as a transport method more frequent, it would help reducing gas emissions.
- Stopping deforestation. As forests are important parts of the natural carbon management systems, stopping deforestation is a necessity. Decreasing the waste of paper, cutting fewer trees, preventing forest fires and not letting unnatural chemicals get to the forest would be helpful in lots of ways.
- Using renewable energy alternatives instead of burning fossil fuel.
- Encouraging other countries to take action. Even though we will do our best, it is not enough if the other countries don't accompany us on our way.
- Letting people know about the consequences of climate change could persuade people to take action. Climate change has lots of severe consequences such as acid rains, severe windstorm, hurricanes, smog and erosion aggravation. It could also affect human health terribly. It could cause skin diseases. Also because of the increase of carbon dioxide, it will be harder to breath later on.
- Setting solar panels on houses.