

The Irish Environmental Network

Annual Report
2021

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Image Credits

Conor ÓMearáin (p.5)
Courtesy of Green Foundation Ireland (p.7)
Darrell Arnone (p.11)
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Courtesy of Coomhola Salmon Trust (p.14)
Courtesy of Zero Waste Alliance Ireland (p.15)
Courtesy of Rediscovery Centre (p.15)
Courtesy of Global Action Plan in 2021 (p.15)

Design

Lands Studio

Environmental (Ecological)
NGOs Core Funding CLG

1 Green Street,
Dublin 7,
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Company Number 350182

Foreward by Kate Ruddock, Chair of IEN Board of Directors



The emergency of the global climate and biodiversity crises became ever more apparent throughout 2021. The rebound to business as usual across many sectors following the brief respite in 2020, gave rise to both optimism and despair across our sector. We can see now it is possible to achieve rapid changes at the global scale, yet the transformational changes required to our energy, transport and agricultural systems in order to meet the biodiversity and climate challenges have not yet materialised.

Against this context, at the Irish Environmental Network we maintain our mission to facilitate our members in working individually and jointly to protect and enhance our environment, and to promote the interlinked principles of environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Throughout 2021, the Covid 19 pandemic continued to influence the nature and extent of work that our members participated in. This continued to bring both opportunities

and constraints to the work of our member groups. Notable examples where our members thrived included Leave No Trace's successful awareness campaign to enjoy the outdoors responsibly "Love this Place, Leave No Trace", the online Bio Blitz during Biodiversity Week which reached into the homes and local environs of many more participants than were ever reached through in-person events, and the increased opportunities for groups to meet Ministers and Officials from all over the country. Following much advocacy from our member groups, the long awaited update to Irish climate legislation passed in 2021, which included for the first time a target for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The

strength and impact of our members working together on the Government's Agri-Food Strategy also deserves honourable mention, demonstrating our member groups consistent efforts to ensure Ireland maintains a food production system that works with, rather than against nature.

The IEN continued to ensure representatives from a variety of Government bodies, and supported 25 attendees from 11 member groups to attend the International Conference of Parties, COP 27 in Glasgow. Special mention to Kevin Keane of An Taisce who mentioned the IEN during questioning of the COP President Alok Sharma which received international media coverage.

The emergency of the global climate and biodiversity crises became ever more apparent throughout 2021.



The core projects of the IEN continued, including The Environmental Pillar, The Environmental Law Implementation Group, and support for the Public Participation Networks. We continued to host the secretariat of Coalition 2030. I am pleased to report the IEN took the decision to support and host a new coalition with a focus on marine protection. Branded as 'Fair Seas', the coalition includes IEN member groups the Irish Wildlife Trust, Birdwatch Ireland, the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Coomhola Salmon Trust and Coastwatch, together with the Sustainable Water Action Network, and provides essential funding and resources to enable our member groups to increase their efforts to protect and enhance our precious marine environment.

I would like to thank the Directors of 2021 for supporting me and our work throughout the year. I would like to extend special thanks to those who completed their time on the board in 2021, Caroline Whyte, Nikki Keeling and Linda Lawlor. This year the board of directors commenced a review of the IEN's

Strategic Plan and commenced reviewing and updating the Strategic Framework of the IEN. The IEN also became compliant with The Governance Code for the first time.

In 2021, we increased core funding to our groups by an average of 53% compared to 2020 and secured an increase of 66% in annual funding from the Government to support our network. The IEN are committed to ensuring capacity is built across our member groups to allow a strong network of environmental NGO's to thrive.

The Board of Directors are grateful to the staff of the IEN for their ongoing dedication and hard work, led by our CEO Karen Ciesielski, with the support of Justin Byrne COO. 2021 saw a number of staff changes, as we welcomed Aoife O'Mahony to take up the role of Campaign Manager for the Fair Seas project. Fintan Kelly took on the position of Agriculture and Land Use Policy and Advocacy Officer for the IEN, with special funding from the European Climate Foundation

and the Department of Environment, Communications and Climate Action, and Aoife Ní Lochlainn was appointed as the full-time Policy Officer for the Network early in the year. Catherine O'Toole was re-appointed to develop Local Environmental Networks and Environmental Colleges of the Public Participation Network, and Coalition 2030, said goodbye to Jerry McEvilly and his great work, and welcomed Meaghan Carmody as its new Coordinator. The Board of Directors would like to also extend special thanks to Kayle Crosson, Communications Officer, and Attracta Uí Bhroin, Environmental Legal Officer, for their continued hard work and dedication throughout the year.

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Above, left to right Seth Horstmeyer, Oceans 5, Aoife O'Mahony, Fair Seas, Darragh O'Brien, TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Oonagh Duggan, BirdWatch Ireland, Malcolm Noonan, TD, Minister of State at the Department Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Kieran Flood, Irish Wildlife Trust.

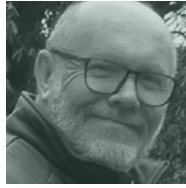
The Board



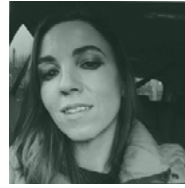
Gary Dempsey



Kieran Flood



Gary Freemantle



Linda Lawlor



Caroline Lewis



Oliver Moore



Eoin Ó'Broin
Vice Chair



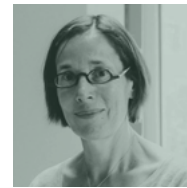
Sibéal Regan



Kate Ruddock
Chair



Clowie Russell



Sally Starbuck



Caroline Whyte

The Board of Directors has a key role in ensuring the IEN is adhering to principles of good governance. During 2021, they worked to ensure the IEN's compliance with the Governance Code for Charities to ensure that the charitable objectives of the IEN are achieved effectively and with integrity. A schedule of meetings for the board was set at the start of the year and they continued to be held remotely.

2021 saw a major increase in funding, which the board saw disbursed to IEN members and establish a new campaign, Fair Seas.

This was also the year of COP 26, held in Glasgow, and 11 different IEN member groups were represented at the event with funding assistance from the IEN.

IEN Directors 2021

Gary Dempsey (Joined in March 2021), Kieran Flood (Joined in October 2021), Gary Freemantle, Linda Lawlor (Stepped down in March

2021), Caroline Lewis, Oliver Moore, Eoin Ó'Broin (Vice Chair), Sibéal Regan (Joined in February 2021, stepped down in November 2021), Kate Ruddock (Chair), Clowie Russell (Stepped down in April 2021), Sally Starbuck (Joined in November 2021), Caroline Whyte (Stepped down in November 2021).

How the Board Makes Decisions

When making decisions, members of the board work to reach them by consensus and vote on proposals if necessary.

Sub-Committees

The Irish Environmental Network had four active sub-committees in 2021, covering Membership, Human Resources, Governance and Finance respectively. The work of each Sub-Committee is set out in its Terms of Reference. Sub-committees carry out vital pieces of work on the IEN's internal policies and processes and regularly report on their progress and make recommendations to the Board.

2021 saw a major increase in funding, which the board saw disbursed to IEN members.



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Attendees from Green Foundation Ireland's event 'Virtual Bat Box Building' install their bat boxes in Balbriggan, Fingal, during Biodiversity Week 2021.

Our Staff

So much of the work of the Irish Environmental Network depends on the hard work of our team who work both independently and in collaboration to protect our natural environment.



Karen Ciesielski
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Our CEO Karen Ciesielski joined our team in 2019 and has worked for over 20 years in non-profit management, fundraising, communications, advocacy and campaigning. As the head of our organisation, Karen promotes the intersectional principles of environmental, social and economic sustainability by supporting our members. She is also the Coordinator of the Environmental Pillar, the advocacy arm of the IEN.



Justin Byrne
Chief Operating Officer (COO)

Our COO Justin Byrne has been a part of the IEN for over ten years. Previously he worked for KPMG as the IT Operations Manager, and prior to that in management for a division of Unigate PLC in London. He also serves as the Administrator for the Environmental Pillar.



Attracta Uí Bhroin
Environmental Law Officer

As so many matters pertaining to the environment require legal expertise, our Environmental Law Officer Attracta Uí Bhroin helps develop both the IEN and our members' capacity to leverage the law to support core missions. She is also the facilitator for the Environmental Law Implementation Group (ELIG), which is a joint initiative with the Irish Government and An Taisce to support the proper transposition and implementation of environmental law.



Aoife Ní Lochlainn
Policy Officer

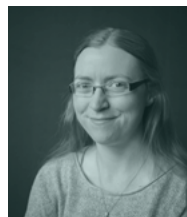
With over thirteen years of experience in economic, social, and environmental policy, Aoife Ní Lochlainn is a public policy analyst and researcher who joined our team in 2020. Her work covers the UK Withdrawal agreement as it relates to the environment, as well as broader environmental policy and advocacy work to advance sustainable policy in Ireland on behalf of the NGO sector for both the Irish Environmental Network and the Environmental Pillar.

OUR STAFF



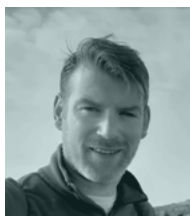
Kayle Crosson
Communications Officer

Having worked in communications for a number of NGOs both in Ireland and abroad as a multimedia climate journalist, Kayle Crosson joined the team in 2020, heading up communications for both the Irish Environmental Network and the Environmental Pillar throughout 2021 also serving as the editor of the Green News, a climate and biodiversity news outlet supported by the IEN. Kayle moved to a role with Client Earth in early 2022.



Catherine O'Toole
Development Officer

As our Local Environmental Development Officer, Catherine is working to increase engagement in the Environmental College of the Public Participation Networks (PPNs). Working with those on the ground for the Irish environmental movement, Catherine works to educate and inspire people in their local communities by providing complimentary training opportunities to environmental representatives.



Fintan Kelly
Agriculture and Land Use Policy
and Advocacy Officer

Fintan works to make Irish agriculture and land-use policies more sustainable for nature and people. He has a MSc in Environmental Biology from Utrecht University and a BSc in Environmental Science from NUI Galway. He specialises in Environmental Policy, Advocacy and Planning and has been working within the Irish eNGO sector since 2012, having previously worked for BirdWatch Ireland, An Taisce, SWAN and the Irish Wildlife Trust.



Aoife O'Mahony
Fair Seas Campaign Manager

Aoife is the Campaign Manager for the Fair Seas campaign, which is working to increase the number of Marine Protected Areas in Ireland (www.fairseas.ie). Aoife has over twenty years of experience in communications and project management working in large multinationals, educational institutions, membership bodies, and start-up organisations in Ireland and Australia.



Meaghan Carmody
Coordinator of Coalition 2030

Meaghan is the Coordinator of Coalition 2030 where she supports Irish civil society organisations in their collaborative efforts to bring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to fruition. She has 6+ years' experience in the non-profit sector pushing for social, environmental and financial justice, during which time she has developed a skill-set ranging from DevEd, facilitation, and management to campaigning, communications & mobilisation. She has a Masters in International Political Economy from UCD.

Our Work

Our work in 2021 has involved strengthening connections between environmental representatives across the country.

On the Ground

Catherine O'Toole heads our effort to increase environmental engagement with the Public Participation Networks (PPNs) and to assist local environmental networks in building their capacity to operate locally and take part in their PPN. Work in 2021 has involved strengthening connections between environmental representatives nationally, continuing with our series of monthly online meet ups to train and discuss topics of interest with representatives across the country. A monthly newsletter shares announcements from both local and national groups. A full day training and networking event was held online for environmental reps and the wider public. Expanding the Environmental College of the PPN has focused on the delivery of information sessions to PPNs regarding the new criteria, and encouraging environmentally focused groups to switch to the Environmental College. Catherine also drove work on National Biodiversity Week, which returned in 2021 with over 75 events held throughout the country and online. Work began in 2021 to prepare for the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss.

How we engaged with Environmental Law

The Environmental Law Implementation Group (ELIG) aims to protect the

environment through the leverage and improvement of environmental law.

Attracta Uí Bhroin, the IEN Environmental Law Officer, serves as coordinator of the ELIG project. Throughout 2021, this work involved engaging with members of the Oireachtas, departments, IEN member groups, media and other stakeholders against a backdrop of numerous proposed potentially damaging legislative changes to environmental law in Ireland. This work involves undertaking legal analysis and liaising to create awareness, with the aim of resolving potential environmental issues on over a dozen initiatives including bills, heads of bills and statutory plans across marine spatial planning and development and jurisdiction, land reform and conveyancing, planning and development, and climate action.

Other work included: contributions to consultations, studies and conferences; submissions and engagement to highlight ongoing issues with Ireland's response to the Derrybrien windfarm; supporting the Oireachtas scrutiny of the EU Canada Trade Agreement (CETA); preparation and input regarding the EU Commission's package meeting with member of the environmental NGO sector; the provision of support on multiple legal queries and initiatives

including on amicus cases; and active preparation for and engagement on key Aarhus Convention Events, including the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.

Coalition 2030

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed to in 2015 as part of Agenda 2030 offer the only universally agreed blueprint for poverty-proofed policy making that leaves no-one behind and reaches the furthest behind first. Coalition 2030 is an alliance of Irish CSOs across the anti-poverty, international, environmental and trade union sectoral pillars of society. It fosters collaborative partnerships to ensure that Ireland keeps its promise to achieve the SDGs, both at home and abroad. In order for this to be achieved, Coalition 2030 advocates for the SDGs to operate as the overarching framework for policy-making in Ireland, at all levels of Government.

The Coalition 2030 Coordinator is hosted by the IEN. Broadly, their role is to: create the conditions for the Steering Committee to strategise; implement systems and structures for collaboration and communication across the coalition; generate and cultivate opportunities for advocacy on the SDGs; and cultivate rapport between the membership. Jerry McEvilly was in the role of coordinator



for the first half of 2021. Meaghan Carmody was appointed to the role of coordinator in December 2021.

In 2021, Coalition 2030 succeeded in securing a meeting with Minister Eamon Ryan and remained consistently engaged with the SDG Unit in DECC. It held a 'Just Recovery' fortnight in July which culminated in a 'Just Recovery' conference. It also developed a review of the SDG National Implementation Plan 2020-23, which was submitted to the government consultation in advance of the next plan's publication. Finally, the Member Project Fund was launched which provided a mechanism for the Coalition to support members in their SDG related work.

Fair Seas

Fair Seas is a new campaign run by a coalition of eight eNGOs and networks. Their aim is to see Ireland, with a renewed appreciation of the ocean, become a world leader in marine protection, giving our species, habitats and coastal communities the opportunity to thrive.

Work on Fair Seas commenced in June 2021. The first step was to build the team. Recruitment began in July, and Aoife O'Mahony joined as Campaign Manager in October 2021. From then a plan was put in motion to brand

the campaign, continue to build the team and work on key deliverables for year one. This included deciding on key pieces of work needed to engage the Irish people and government with the topic of MPAs and to ensure the government sticks to its commitment of 30% MPA coverage by 2030. A key deliverable was identified as crucial to the MPA conversation – a report to identify key areas in Irish waters that would benefit from MPA designation. Specialists were identified and recruited through coalition partner organisations that would become the lead authors of this report.

Initial political and industry stakeholder mapping was carried out by members of partner organisations in the summer of 2021. This work was used to identify key stakeholder groups and potential political allies that the Fair Seas campaign should be aware of. The year closed with the recruitment of a full-time communications officer to start in early 2022 and plans to recruit a full-time policy officer for the Fair Seas team.

Fair Seas Vision

To see Ireland, with a renewed appreciation of the ocean, become a world leader in marine protection, giving our species, habitats and coastal communities the opportunity to thrive.

Fair Seas Mission

To build a movement of ocean stewardship across Ireland that energises and empowers people, to campaign for ambitious and robust legislation, provide impartial scientific data and research, and secure a network of effective well-managed Marine Protected Areas.

Fair Seas is a network of individual environmental Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) campaigning together for Marine Protected Areas in Irish waters. Fair Seas partners include; **Irish Wildlife Trust, BirdWatch Ireland, Coastwatch, Coomhola Salmon Trust, Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, SWAN and Irish Environmental Network.**

Fair Seas is funded by **Oceans 5, The Becht Family Charitable Trust, Blue Nature Alliance and Wyss Foundation.**

Winner of the Biodiversity Photographer of the Year competition 2021

Duckling catching flies – By Darrell Arnone. Young duckling catching flies out of the air at The Irish National Stud, Kildare.

The Environmental Pillar

Established in 2009, the Environmental Pillar is the advocacy arm of the Irish Environmental Network and it represents 32 national independent environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs) all of whom are members of the IEN. It is a National Social Partner and has its own line of funding to support its policy, advocacy and campaigning work. Karen Ciesielski serves as the Coordinator of the Environmental Pillar. Overseeing its activities is a Steering Committee, made up of eight members who are elected by the members of the Environmental Pillar and serve one-year terms. Its members have a huge reservoir of knowledge and expertise. Their work is diverse, covering a broad range of areas, which includes wildlife and habitat protection and restoration, environmental education, forestry, marine issues, waste, circular economy, planning and development, well-being, community resilience and energy. The Pillar continued to work remotely during 2021, while continuing to both meet with and put pressure on elected representatives on all matters related to the climate and biodiversity crisis and the protection of nature.

Throughout the year, the advocacy group engaged on a number of different issues when it came to the climate and biodiversity crisis, a snapshot of which included:

- In February 2021, the Environmental Pillar made the reluctant decision to withdraw from the Agri-Food 2030 Strategy Committee after faithfully engaging in the process over a period of 14 months, having come to the conclusion that the draft Strategy is woefully inadequate to meet the social and environmental challenges we face.
- With regard to further engagement and advocacy on agriculture and land use, representatives of

the Environmental Pillar Charles Stanley-Smith and Oonagh Duggan engaged extensively with members of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) Consultative Committee throughout 2021, advocating for a CAP that is aligned with our climate and biodiversity targets. Further, The Environmental Pillar worked collaboratively with the Sustainable Water Network and Stop Climate Chaos coalitions to produce, “Towards a New Agriculture and Food Policy for Ireland,” outlining key policy proposals and recommendations for a more sustainable food system in Ireland.

- Engagement with the National Parks and Wildlife Service review, including submissions, letters to Ministers, meetings with officials and Ministers. Funding for NPWS was massively increased in Budget 2022 and the review with major reforms of the service was published.
- For Climate Action, the Pillar wrote a submission to Government and press release on the upcoming 2022 Climate Action Plan, and engaged with Ministers on Carbon Budgets.

The Environmental Pillar also made a submission to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and Department of Finance, outlining the key considerations for the environment in relation to Budget 2022.

Throughout 2021, the Environmental Pillar continued its role as an active member of National Economic and Social Council and also took part in the virtual National Economic Dialogue sessions, as well as informal social dialogue sessions and bi-lateral meetings with stakeholders.

As part of her role as Policy Officer, Aoife Ní Lochlainn has been working on issues of North-South environmental cooperation post-Brexit in partnership with Northern

Ireland Environmental Link (NIEL) and with the Centre for Cross Border Studies. This work includes meetings with key EU, UK, NI and Irish parliamentarians and government officials. NIEL and IEN have also partnered to undertake a research project on post-Brexit environmental governance and mechanisms for civil society engagement in Ireland. It was funded by the Community Foundation for Ireland. The report will be published late 2022 and will contain recommendations on how to improve all-island environmental cooperation and ENGO and civil society participation in north/south cooperation. The IEN also secured a position on the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement Domestic Advisory Group (DAG). The DAG is a consultative body which provides for the involvement of civil society in advising on the implementation of the Agreement. The IEN is represented on this group by Aoife Ní Lochlainn and Justin Byrne.

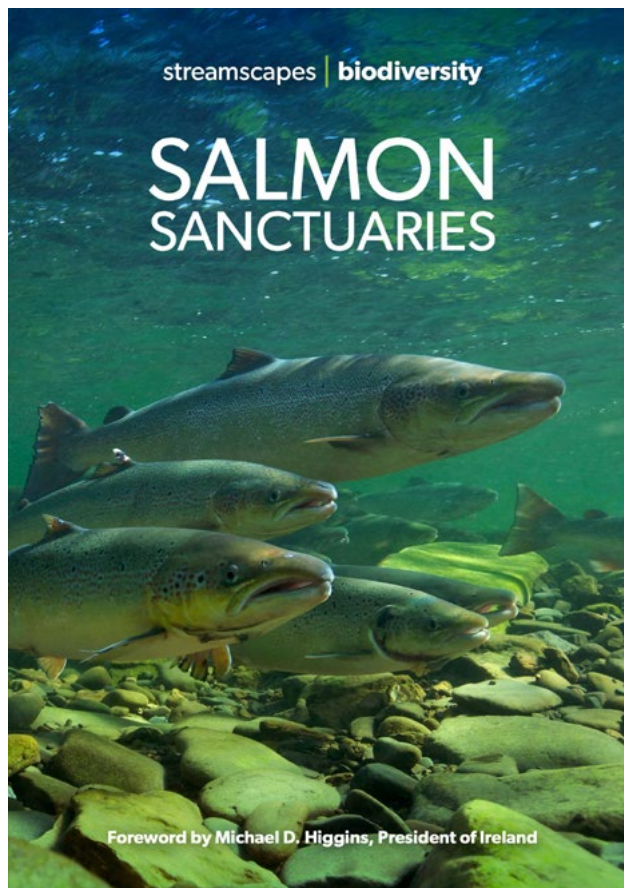
With the addition of Fintan Kelly as the Agriculture and Land Use Policy and Advocacy Officer, the Pillar’s ability to engage on policy has been significantly enhanced. Throughout 2021, Fintan supported our members working on Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use as part of our overarching efforts to address biodiversity loss, climate change and water protection. He has supported our engagement with key decision makers such as Ministers and European Commission’s staff, and led in our response to a number of consultation responses. He’s engaged with EU level NGO coalitions and partners including the European Environmental Bureau, Forest Movement Europe, Good Food Good Farming, and Client Earth and worked to support engagement with key stakeholders such as farming representatives and researchers.



The Environmental Pillar worked collaboratively with the Sustainable Water Network and Stop Climate Chaos coalitions to produce, “Towards a New Agriculture and Food Policy for Ireland,” outlining key policy proposals and recommendations for a more sustainable food system in Ireland.

Member Testimonials

The Irish Environmental Network exists because of, and for, its members, who continued to demonstrate their expertise and commitment to their missions and values throughout their work in 2021.



Leave No Trace

As a result of increased outdoor activity and demand for environmental resources, Leave No Trace Ireland experienced exponential growth in 2021.

In 2021 we launched the Accredited Trainer network, with 120 Accredited Trainers registered. The received the Charity Impact Award for medium organisation from The Wheel, and The Most Impactful NGO from the All-Ireland Business Foundation.

We launched the Love This Place, Leave No Trace interagency public awareness campaign, reaching over 4 million people. We also launched NFQ Level 6 Certificate in Nature Animation award, collaboration with MTU and the NPWS, and the award-winning Hotspots Programme Corporate projects.

www.leavenotraceireland.org

Coomhola Salmon Trust

During 2021 IEN member Coomhola Salmon Trust developed a new School- and Community-Engagement resource, 'Salmon Sanctuaries', launching a dedicated Booklet with a Foreword by President Michael D. Higgins, and a supporting short 'Salmon Sanctuaries' film for use by communities throughout Ireland. The 'Salmon Sanctuaries' booklet can be read [here](#), and the film watched [here](#).

The Project has been supported by the Local Authorities Water Programme (LAWPRO) and Cork County Council and benefitted from Core Funding provided through Irish Environmental Network. There was further significant support from the European Commission and the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO).

www.streamscapes.ie

Left Leave No Trace Ireland and Gas Networks Ireland announce the 2021 Hot Spot Programme. Leave No Trace Ireland has designed a bespoke programme to undertake vital restoration work in the chosen site, Glengarra Wood, Co. Tipperary.

Above 'Salmon Sanctuaries' Booklet which was launched in 2021, together with a film and course materials.



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Left Ollan Herr, Director of ZWAI, stands next to plants grown from nutrients harvested from recycled waste water.

Below Left Kildare County's Mayor Naoise Ó Cearúil with the winners of Ireland's first-ever Climate Competition for Businesses, organised by Global Action Plan, with support from Intel Ireland.

Below Minister Ossian Smyth TD on a visit to the Rediscovery Centre, pictured with Dr Sarah Miller, Rediscovery Centre Chief Executive.



Zero Waste Alliance Ireland

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, 2021 was quite an active year for ZWAI. We increased our membership, and hired a part time administrator who has helped us better manage our correspondence and workload, we joined the EEB task force on the built environment and we were invited to join other environmental organisations and universities in making a proposal to the EU LIFE programme, led by the Italian town of Gubbio.

ZWAI also initiated the project of transforming Limerick into a Zero Waste City and in November 2021, one of our directors made a joint proposal with Cloughjordan Ecovillage Trust to the IEN to financially support a project which would utilise collected human urine to produce struvite. We also made six submissions in response to open public consultations in Ireland and the EU.

www.zwai.ie

Rediscovery Centre

2021 was a monumental year for the Circular Economy in Ireland culminating in the publication of the Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy and the EPA's Circular Economy Programme. Despite the challenges resulting from Covid-19 it was also a fantastic year for The Rediscovery Centre with an action-packed calendar of events, exciting new projects in digitalisation, paint reuse, bike upcycling and education and great advances made in supporting the transition towards the Circular Economy.

Highlights include 267 school workshops delivered with over 75,000 participants, demonstrations including 91 upcycling workshops and the launch of the National Paint Reuse Network, and the delivery of over 30 events, talks and campaigns throughout the year.

www.rediscoverycentre.ie

Global Action Plan in 2021

With its aim of building a society of active and informed citizens who lead sustainable lifestyles, during 2021 Global Action Plan continued to help people to discover their potential as change makers, hosting 170 workshops and events with 6,500 participants.

Using innovative educational and hands-on learning approaches, we supported individuals in schools, community groups and businesses in making connections between local phenomena and global challenges, providing them with tools and suggestions to reduce their ecological footprint and to promote a greener lifestyle.

www.globalactionplan.ie

Funding Statement by Justin Byrne, Chief Operating Officer



We are very grateful for all the of the funding that we receive, without which our work would not be possible.

The IEN had a large increase in income in 2021, rising to €2,703,756. This is due to two main events. Our grant from the Department of the Environment Climate and Communications (DECC) was increased to €1,764,000 and we commenced a new project on Marine Protected Areas, funded through philanthropic organisations, which accounted for most of the balance of the increase. Our main source of funding is the DECC grant. The rise has enabled us to increase the support that we provide for our members.

Our 2021 accounts are presented in SORP format for the first time.

In the year, our outgoings were €1,603,828, of which 76% went to our members. €870,000 of this was Core Funding for our members, distributed according to scoring of an application form by a panel of independent assessors. The IEN uses independent assessors to decide on all large funding decisions. We finished the year with a surplus of €1,099,940. Because of the

change to SORP accounts, this figure includes our strategic reserves and funding that we hold on behalf of our projects and Coalition 2030. As the Fair Seas Campaign was building their team and developing their one year workplans in 2021, very little of their funding was spent during the year. The IEN is in a healthy position to face into 2022.

We are still dealing with the effects of the COVID pandemic and adjusting to new ways of working, collaborating and meeting. We were unable to run physical events for National Biodiversity Week – our annual celebration of nature and biodiversity; which is funded by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. However, we ran some very successful virtual events including a back garden bioblitz. The COP 26 Meeting in Glasgow was a very important event

for Environmental NGOs and, as we had spent very little on other travel in 2021, we were able to support a large presence at COP. In all there were 25 different attendees supported by the IEN, over the 2 weeks of the COP.

Following the successful completion of our EU funded DEAR project, in late 2020 we started work on a bid for funding from a number of international philanthropic organisations for a significant 3-year project on Ireland's Marine Protected Areas. This proposal was successful and commenced in late 2021. It is branded as the Fair Seas project (www.fairseas.ie).

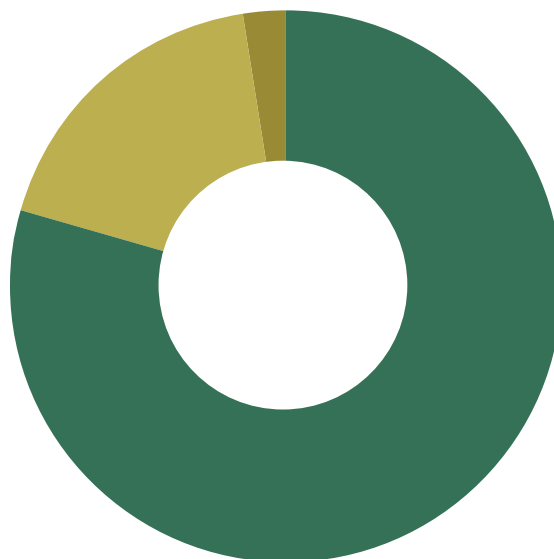
Some highlights of the 2021 audited accounts can be found on page 18 of this report. The full accounts are available on www.ien.ie.

Our grant from the Department of the Environment Climate and Communications (DECC) was increased to €1,764,000

Main Outgoings

Core Funding.....	€894,650
Policy Submissions.....	€32,604
COVID Adaption Support	€46,469
Fundraising Support.....	€28,633
COP 26 Support.....	€25,602
Wages and salaries	€271,299
Rent, rates, office costs,professional fees	€37,323
Sustainable Agriculture project.....	€17,797

Expenditure



Funding to Groups
€1,204,749

Wages
€271,299

Establishment Costs
€37,323

80% of our Funding went to
Member Groups and 20% on Costs

Statement of Financial Activities

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total 2020 €
Income				
Charitable activities				
—Grants from governments and other co-funders	2,703,756	2,703,756	1,276,534	1,276,534
Other income	12	12	13	13
Total Income	2,703,768	2,703,768	1,276,547	1,276,547
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	1,603,828	1,603,828	1,024,051	1,024,051
Net Income / (expenditure)	1,099,940	1,099,940	252,496	252,496
Transfers between funds	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds for the financial year	1,099,940	1,099,940	252,496	252,496
Reconciliation of funds				
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2021	406,153	406,153	153,657	153,657
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2021	1,506,093	1,506,093	406,153	406,153

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year. All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 €	2020 €
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net movement in funds	1,099,940	252,496
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	4,722	2,701
Interest receivable and similar income	(12)	(13)
	1,104,650	255,184
Movements in working capital:		
Movement in debtors	(11,689)	(4,815)
Movement in creditors	(372,129)	(160,558)
Cash generated from operations	720,832	89,811
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest received	12	13
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(10,565)	(1,239)
Net cash used in investment activities	(10,553)	(1,226)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	710,279	88,585
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2021	789,406	700,821
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2021	1,499,685	789,406

Supplementary Information Relating to the Financial Statements Operating Statement

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	Schedule	2021 €	2020 €
Income			
Core Funding		769,956	561,374
Specific IEN Strands and Projects		524,276	397,666
Environmental Law Implementation Group		153,483	58,283
Environmental Pillar		456,393	161,022
Coalition 2030		150,459	32,110
Other Grants		234,004	5,733
DEAR Project		52,845	60,346
Rockerfeller Philanthropic Foundation		320,000	—
Conservation International		42,340	—
		2,703,756	1,276,534
Charitable activities and other expenses	1	(1,603,828)	(1,024,051)
		1,099,928	252,483
Miscellaneous income	2	12	13
Net Surplus		1,099,940	252,496

The supplementary information does not form part of the audited financial statements.

Supplementary Information Relating to the Financial Statements Schedule 1: Charitable Activities and Other Expenses

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 €	2020 €
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	279,754	259,362
Social security costs	32,453	28,086
Staff defined contribution pension costs	27,021	9,912
IEN: Training	4,968	4,497
IEN: International NGO meetings	25,712	8,436
IEN: Participation Government Bodies	3,565	12,966
IEN: Policy Subs	32,604	15,000
IEN: Fundraising Capacity Building	28,633	—
IEN: Office expenses	6,633	2,012
IEN: PPN Project	2,189	3,668
IEN: Covid Adaption fund	44,369	23,913
IEN: MPA Project costs	44,490	—
DEAR Project	—	33,701
Biodiversity awareness project	18,195	2,400
Pillar expenses	86,364	69,563
ELIG expenses	18,026	4,477
Coalition 2030	23,696	3,842
Core Funding	845,054	511,127
Core Funding Capacity Building	25,000	—
Hustings project	—	1,022
CFI SDG Project	15,000	2,250
Rent payable	7,026	7,026
Rates	1,613	1,062
Insurance	1,836	585
MPA (Fairseas) Project	5,535	—
Telephone	6,466	5,945
Directors expenses	—	299
Legal and professional	4,566	3,359
Auditor's remuneration	7,011	6,050
Bank charges	372	306
General expenses	955	484
Depreciation	4,722	2,701
	1,603,828	1,024,051

The supplementary information does not form part of the audited financial statements.

Grant Income

for the financial year ended 31 December 2021

Grantor	Grant	Purpose of Grant	Amount €
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	Core Funding	Core Funding to IEN Member Groups	750,000
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	IEN Grant Funding	Funding for specific IEN Strands and Projects	406,000
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	IEN Grant Funding	Environmental Pillar Funding	403,000
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	IEN Grant Funding	Environmental Law Implementation Group	95,000
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	IEN Grant Funding	Coalition 2030 Funding	110,000
European Environmental Bureau	DEAR project	Support for Make Ireland Sustainable for All Project	22,351
Miscellaneous smaller grants	IEN Miscellaneous Funding	IEN Miscellaneous Funding	177,810
Rockerfeller Philanthropic Foundation and Conservation International	MPA (Fair Seas) Project	Support for Fair Seas Project	362,340

The supplementary information does not form part of the audited financial statements.

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