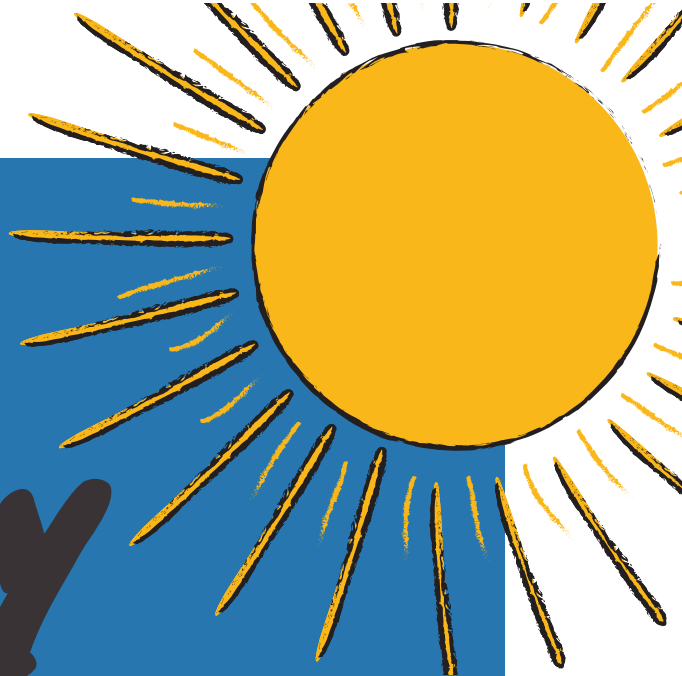


OUR ENERGY FUTURE



How to improve national and local responses to biodiversity protection and environmental assessment while meeting renewables targets

3RD MAY 2023

**RADISSON BLU ROYAL HOTEL
DUBLIN 8**



**Friends of
the Earth**



ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Friends of the Earth is delighted to welcome you to an expert workshop organised as part of the Our Energy Future project, a partnership with the Renewables Grid Initiative and EirGrid. This event, facilitated by Harriet Emerson, builds on the previous Our Energy Future workshop on the 26th of October, 2022.

The morning session will be a dedicated workshop bringing together Environmental Pillar members and other civil society groups from 10 am to 1 pm. The purpose of this session is to allow for a sharing and mapping of views among civil society experts.

This will be followed by lunch and registration for the afternoon session from 1 to 2 pm. The afternoon session will bring together civil society, industry and academic experts from 2 pm to 4:30 pm. The purpose of the afternoon session is to build on the previous workshop in October and to provide a more focused discussion specifically on areas of common ground between expert stakeholders in terms of necessary responses to challenges raised.



WORKSHOP AGENDA

9.45AM **Registration**

10.00AM **Welcome, outline of the day, housekeeping**

MAPPING OF CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AMONG ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR MEMBERS AND EXPERTS

10.10AM **Introductory Presentations**

- Introduction and context – Jerry Mac Evilly, Head of Policy, Friends of the Earth
- Renewables Development and Climate Targets – Sadhbh O’Neill, Coordinator, Stop Climate Chaos Coalition
- Environmental Assessment Challenges – Dr. Elaine McGoff, Natural Environment Officer, An Taisce
- Karen Ciesielski, Coordinator, Environmental Pillar



MAPPING OF CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AMONG ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR MEMBERS AND ALLIES (CONTINUED)

10.30AM Plenary Discussion

- Participants to introduce themselves and briefly highlight relevant issues for their organisation from introductory presentations.

11.05AM Small group work focussed on the following questions:

- What do you consider to be the primary impediment to environmental protection and renewables/grid rollout and is this impediment national, local or site-specific?
- What policy change (in law or mandates or resources) would you recommend to overcome this impediment and which specific actor(s) have primary responsibility for delivering this change?

11.40AM Coffee break

12.00PM Small group feedback

12.25PM Discussion of next steps

12.45PM Close of morning session

JOINT REFLECTION ON WAYS FORWARD – CIVIL SOCIETY, INDUSTRY AND STATE STAKEHOLDERS

- 1.00PM** **Lunch and Registration for afternoon session**
- 2.00PM** **Outline of the day and introductions**
- 2.10PM** **Summary of October 2022 workshop and morning
discussion – Jerry Mac Evilly, Head of Policy, Friends
of the Earth**
- 2.20PM** **Summary of relevant recommendations from
Citizens’ Assembly on Biodiversity Loss, Pádraic
Fogarty, Campaigns Officer, Irish Wildlife Trust**



JOINT REFLECTION ON WAYS FORWARD – CIVIL SOCIETY, INDUSTRY AND STATE STAKEHOLDERS (CONTINUED)

2.30PM Small group work on priority responses re environmental and biodiversity protection

State/Industry representatives invited to respond to questions below and exchange views with other stakeholders.

- What do you consider to be the primary impediment to environmental protection and renewables/grid rollout and is this impediment national, local or site-specific?
- What policy change (in law or mandates or resources) would you recommend to overcome this impediment and which specific actor(s) have primary responsibility for delivering this change?

3.05PM Group feedback

- Opportunity for each group to report back on emerging themes or common priorities.

3.25PM Coffee break



JOINT REFLECTION ON WAYS FORWARD – CIVIL SOCIETY, INDUSTRY AND STATE STAKEHOLDERS (CONTINUED)

3.45PM Consensus Forming

- Participants to prioritise necessary responses/action areas, based on contributions and group feedback

4.10PM Next Steps

- Discussion of Future Output/Activities in light of Consensus Forming

4.30PM Close



This workshop has been organised as part of Our Energy Future - a 3-year collaborative project of EirGrid, Friends of the Earth and the Renewables Grid Initiative to engage communities and groups around the country on Ireland's energy transition.

The project is supported by the Mercator Foundation (Stiftung Mercator).

