



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Food Vision 2030

A World
Leader in
Sustainable
Food
Systems



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FOOD VISION 2030 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

A key element of successfully delivering the Food Vision 2030 Strategy is a clearly defined implementation plan. This plan sets out the assignment of responsibility for the actions contained in the Strategy, the key deliverables for those actions and the timeframe for their implementation. Additionally, the plan includes alignment of the actions with the most relevant Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target(s).

As set out in the Monitoring and Implementation Framework of Food Vision 2030, implementation will be overseen by a High Level Implementation Committee (HLIC), Chaired by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF FOOD VISION 2030 HIGH LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Background

The Government Decision of 21 July 2021 states, "the Minister will establish and chair a high-level committee to progress the actions in the Strategy in order to achieve its vision that Ireland will become a world leader in Sustainable Food Systems and its four missions:

- (a) *Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being;*
- (b) *Food that is safe, nutritious and appealing; trusted and valued at home and abroad;*
- (c) *A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector; and*
- (d) *An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, driven by Technology and Talent".*

Food Vision 2030 was launched by the Government on 3 August 2021. The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has now established a High Level Implementation Committee (HLIC) in line with the Government Decision.

Objectives

The HLIC will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of Food Vision 2030 and its key tasks will be to:

- a) Progress the delivery of the four Missions. This will be achieved by driving delivery of the implementation plan and monitoring the key high-level indicators.
- b) Consider each Mission at least once annually and focus on particular issues or priorities in the agri-food sector. In this context, the HLIC may select priority actions for delivery.
- c) Review the annual report of the Environmental Working Sub-Group.
- d) Engage with all the key stakeholders on a regular, planned basis, including through stakeholder dialogues and engagement with the sectoral stakeholder groups.
- e) Communicate the work of the HLIC in progressing implementation, including the publication of an annual review. In the context of this review and the work of the HLIC generally, the missions, goals and actions should be kept under review in light of changing circumstances within the sector or the evolving policy environment.

As per the Government decision, the Strategy should not be seen as a final or definitive roadmap. It is a framework within which more detailed plans and processes will need to be developed.

The Environmental Working Sub-Group should meet regularly and is responsible for the annual report to the HLIC. This annual report should review progress towards achieving the Strategy's high-level environmental goals and actions, considering any significant environmental effects arising, including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) monitoring of Food Vision 2030, and proposing potential remedial measures which will be put in place should negative environmental trends be identified as a direct result of implementation of the Strategy.

The Minister may establish other Working Groups as required on specific sectors or issues, which will report to the HLIC.

Meetings

The Committee will meet at least quarterly to drive delivery of priority actions and to monitor progress across the four missions. However, the frequency of meetings is subject to change depending on issues arising. The Committee will meet and take submissions from stakeholders, as required.

Membership of the Committee

The composition of the Committee is as follows:

- **Chair** – Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- **DAFM** – Secretary General and relevant Management Board members (Assistant Secretary General level).
- **CEOs of State Agencies** – Teagasc, Bord Bia, Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Enterprise Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. Other agencies, such as the Health and Safety Authority, will also be invited, as required.
- **Senior Officials (Assistant Secretary General level) from Other Government Departments including** – Enterprise, Trade and Employment; Environment, Climate and Communications; Public Expenditure and Reform; Other Departments, including Health, Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science will also be invited to attend, as required.
- **Secretariat** – Economics and Planning Division, DAFM.

Committee membership will be on an individual basis. If attendance is not possible, attendance by an alternate may be agreed in advance with the Secretariat.

Environmental Monitoring

An Environmental Working Sub-Group has been established to oversee monitoring, review and reporting on environmental issues within the confines of the Strategy. This Group will report into the Food Vision High Level Implementation Committee on an annual basis.

This Group will be responsible for

- (a) Assessing and monitoring the SEA indicators to identify any significant environmental effects of implementation of Food Vision 2030.
- (b) Reviewing progress towards achieving the Strategy's high-level environmental goals and actions set out in Mission 1.
- (c) Overseeing and contributing to the preparation of an annual report to HLIC.
- (d) Collectively proposing potential remedial measures to the HLIC should negative environmental trends be identified as a direct result of implementation of the Strategy.



MISSION 1

A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector



GOAL

A climate-neutral food system by 2050, with verifiable progress achieved by 2030, encompassing emissions reductions, carbon sequestration, air, biodiversity and water quality.

KEY INDICATORS

- Biogenic methane level
- Ammonia and Nitrous Oxide emissions
- Water quality
- Biodiversity – land and sea
- Afforestation level
- Level of organic farming
- Food Waste statistics
- Enhanced Origin Green Programme

PROGRESS BY 2030

The Committee acknowledges that in general, future environmental targets are likely to be set by legislation and commits to participating in the various target-setting processes with a view to the ultimate commitment to be climate neutral by 2050.

Biogenic Methane: The Strategy commits to a reduction of at least 10% by 2030 (on 2018 level), recognising that this will need to adjust in line with emerging national and international targets for the sector and in line with the development of scientific solutions.

The target for biogenic methane will be updated when specific sectoral targets are agreed under the framework of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021.

Nitrous Oxide: Emissions associated with chemical fertiliser use to reduce by more than 50% by 2030.

Water Quality: The Strategy commits to reduce nutrient losses from agriculture to water by 50% by 2030.

Biodiversity: It is envisaged that by 2030, 10% of farmed area will be prioritised for biodiversity, spread across all farms throughout the country.

Air Quality: Ammonia emissions to reduce to 5% below 2005 levels by 2030.

Forestry: Increase afforestation from existing levels to at least 8,000 ha per year and double the sustainable production of biomass from forests to 2 million tonnes by 2035.

Organic Farming: At least 7.5% of utilisable agricultural area is targeted to be farmed organically by 2030.

Seafood: Achieve 30% of marine protected areas by 2030.

Food Waste: The Strategy aims to halve the level of food waste per person by 2030.

Origin Green Programme: Achieve a high participation rate by both primary producers and the food industry in an enhanced Origin Green programme.

Note: Ag Climatise has already set additional targets relating to chemical nitrogen use, abatement through LULUCF, the management of peat soils, genotyping, milk recording, slurry application, slurry stores, protected fertilisers and renewable energy.



MISSION 1: A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector

GOAL 1

Develop a Climate Neutral Agri-Food System, so that by 2050, the Climate Impact of Methane is Reduced to Zero and Remaining Agricultural Emissions are Balanced by Removals; and Improve Air Quality

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

2.3; 2.4; 7.2.1; 8.2; 12.2; 12.8; 13.1; 13.2; 13.2.2; 13.3; 14.2; 14.4; 14.b; 15.1; 15.2; 15.4; 15.5; 15.9

Action 1: Immediately implement the Ag Climatise Roadmap.

‘Ag Climatise’ sets a vision for a ‘climate neutral agriculture sector by 2050’. It was developed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine on foot of extensive engagement with stakeholders from industry, research, policy, farmers and environmental groups. It includes 29 actions, with specific and challenging targets aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of agriculture. These aim to reduce emissions of agricultural green house gases (GHGs) and ammonia, which are close to being joint products in that reducing the former will also lead to reductions in the latter. Many of these actions are being acted upon and they provide the key tools for carbon storage and emissions abatement. The establishment of a ‘Signpost Farm Programme’ will guide farmers on how to implement many of the actions in Ag Climatise. Collaboration among all stakeholders, particularly knowledge exchange services both public and private, will be the key to its successful implementation. Ag Climatise foresees a significant reduction in methane emissions, in the order of 24-47%, out to 2050. This Strategy to 2030 adds to this ambition by aiming to achieve a minimum 10% reduction in biogenic methane by 2030. This aligns with the international position of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and mirrors the approach being taken elsewhere. In conjunction with measures to reduce emissions, technology will play a key role in underpinning this ambition. Ag Climatise also recognises the importance of increasing afforestation significantly above existing levels to at least 8,000 ha per year. Forestry’s role in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by sequestration, substituting materials and energy from fossil fuels and the importance of carbon storage in harvested wood products will play an important part in achieving a climate neutral economy.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, Farming Organisations, BB, AHI, Processors, Forestry Stakeholders

DELIVERABLE

Ag Climatise roadmap implemented.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q1) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Produce detailed plans by Q2 2022 to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the dairy and beef sectors.

Ag Climatise makes clear that any increase in biogenic methane emissions from continually increasing livestock numbers will put the achievement of this target in doubt. While suckler cow numbers have gradually reduced over recent years, the number of dairy cows continues to increase, meaning that overall, total cattle numbers are relatively stable. However, the substantial increase in dairy cow numbers in some regions is posing challenges to some environmental indicators.

These plans should:

- Reduce total methane, nitrous oxide and ammonia emissions, and make a positive contribution to improved water quality and biodiversity;
- Address regulatory and legislative environmental requirements, taking into account future Climate Action legislation regulatory targets to 2030, and revised Nitrate’s regulations;
- Recognise the linkages and inter-dependencies between the two sectors;
- Build on the Ag Climatise measures; particularly the impact of management practices and the application of existing technologies at farm level, as well as emerging methane and ammonia mitigation technologies, promotion of better pasture management, including reducing chemical nitrogen use and increasing clover (and use of PastureBase Ireland), genetics and feed additives; and
- Consider incentives required to deliver and implement practices and technologies on farms, which are delivery/performance based.

Initiatives such as “Dairy Sustainability Ireland” (the first ‘whole of sector/whole of government’ approach to addressing the challenges of the industry), the Teagasc Signpost Farms (and proposed “Sustainable Dairy Farm of the Future” blueprint) and advisory services (public and private) are crucial here to support and assist farmers in implementing new practices.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BB, EPA, Research Organisations, Farming Organisations, Processors, ICBF, AHI, ICOS, DII, DSI, Macra na Feirme	Plans published.	Quarter 2 2022.

Action 3: Update Ag Climatise, as required, to ensure consistency with the targets agreed nationally and internationally for the agri-food sector.

Ag Climatise is only a first step in agriculture making its contribution to climate mitigation. The Climate Action and Low Carbon (Amendment) Bill 2020, sets out Ireland’s National 2050 climate objective to achieve a ‘climate neutral economy,’ that balances emissions and removals within the State by the end of 2050 and in subsequent years. It is important to note that the draft Bill recognises the distinctive characteristics of biogenic methane and the fact that it is neither necessary nor feasible to reduce methane to zero. It will introduce a system of successive 5-year, economy-wide carbon budgets starting in 2021, and agriculture will be subject to a sectoral target - these will be reflected in updates of Ag Climatise. These updates on the measures needed to realise the revised targets will have a particular focus on abatement technologies likely to come on stream in the near future, such as feed additives, advancements in livestock genetics that make a significant impact on emissions output and greater offsetting through improved carbon sequestration and storage. Teagasc, Bord Bia, knowledge exchange practitioners and a range of other stakeholders will be crucial in this process of both implementing and updating Ag Climatise (see also Goal 7).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, BB	Ag Climatise updated.	Ongoing, with first update due following the agreement of the sectoral carbon budget in 2021, and annually (Q1) thereafter.

Action 4: Roll out 'Carbon Farming'

Ag Climatise commits to a pilot scheme for on-farm carbon trading, to reward farmers for the public goods they are providing. There are benefits to C-trading especially when it can mobilise greater positive action and support innovation at farm level that can result in verifiable emissions reduction and CO₂ removals in the agricultural and LULUCF inventory. There is also scope to consider the role of forests and voluntary carbon markets. This should align with the proposed EU Carbon Farming Initiative as set out in the Farm to Fork Strategy, whereby a new regulatory framework for certifying carbon removals will underpin a payment to farmers. This will require a number of elements, as follows:

- a) The pursuit of environmentally sustainable land management practices that reduce CO₂ loss from land. Irish grassland is a net source of carbon dioxide and this needs to be addressed. The core aspects to achieve this are; the maintenance of existing soil organic carbon stocks, the plugging of hotspots in organic soils, the prevention of new emissions on emission sensitive soils and the enhancement of long-term sequestration in grassland soils. A fuller understanding of the sequestration potential on farms is required, with a view to including all of the relevant elements in the inventory in the future.
- b) The development of measures that give farmers credit for practices that sequester carbon, i.e. carbon credits or carbon farming. This requires evidence-based measurement, reporting and verification. One of the first steps will be the establishment of the 'National Carbon Observatory', as an integral component of the 'Signpost Farms', which will provide top down measurement of GHG fluxes from a range of different soils types. Improvements to a range of other datasets such as farm & field level activity data, lidar survey data, grass growth & crop modelling, climate & soils data and soils maps are needed to provide national level sequestration rates which will inform on-farm sequestration. This should align with the plans of the European Commission to develop a regulatory framework for certifying carbon removals based on robust and transparent carbon accounting, to monitor and verify the authenticity of carbon removals.
- c) Ongoing engagement with Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSI) and the EPA to complete the detailed national land cover and land use map.
- d) The introduction of an independent, robust, trustworthy certification mechanism that provides high quality monitoring, reporting and verification will be required (which could be modelled on the Woodland and Peatland carbon codes currently in operation in the UK). A first step in this is to carry out a feasibility study on developing a voluntary carbon trading market that also investigates the potential to use private sector funding to support investment in carbon farming schemes that will increase sequestration and/or reduce emissions in soils, forestry and peatlands.
- e) A working group should be established to examine the practicability of developing a Carbon Market to enable farmers monetise the benefit from additional carbon sequestered on their farms. Climate Financing, from both public and private sources will be crucial in this and other measures. This is discussed further in the Monitoring and Implementation Framework.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, OSI, EPA	Development of 'Carbon Farming'.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Ireland will play a leading role in shaping how greenhouse gas emissions from livestock farming are understood and addressed.

As research progresses on the different characteristics of various GHGs, especially short-lived emissions such as methane, these need to be recognised and reflected by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Crucial to this and to driving down GHGs and ammonia will be the role of innovation and research, and four research areas in particular should be prioritised:

- Novel feed additives to reduce the level of biogenic methane emissions, including their safety and efficacy. Closely related to this is the potential to develop new aquaculture opportunities, particularly the role anti-methanogenic properties of certain seaweed species could play in ruminant livestock diets.
- Grass, herbs and fodder varieties that deliver required sward yields and longevity at lower levels of nitrogen application.
- Grass Biorefining for increased nitrogen and protein use efficiency and lowering of emissions to air, soil and water.
- Animal genetics enabling the breeding of livestock with lower emissions.

In addition:

- a) Collaborate within the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural GHGs and with countries that face similar challenges (such as New Zealand), particularly in areas such as; research to reduce biogenic methane at scale, including through animal breeding, techniques to improve soil carbon sequestration under grazing systems and approaches to realising climate neutrality. Deepening strategic partnerships, through research and development, learning by doing, and farmer engagement should deliver faster progress on these issues of mutual interest.
- b) A desk-top exercise currently being carried out on the establishment of a National Centre of Excellence in Environmental Sustainability Research and Innovation (GHGs, Ammonia, water quality and biodiversity) is expected to conclude in 2021 and this should form the basis for how to proceed with such an initiative. In addition, the following points should also be taken into consideration:
 - o Ireland needs to increase its resource and expertise in climate and greenhouse gas and ammonia emission science and be in a position to provide expertise to international projects and efforts, in particular IPCC reports.
 - o There is an urgent need to develop expertise in methane science and soil carbon sequestration. Enteric methane accounts for 56% of total agricultural emissions and solutions are urgently required to reduce this at scale.
 - o Public-private research models such as Food for Health Ireland, VistaMilk and BiOrbic have proven very impactful in dealing with large research questions and this collaborative model should underpin sustainability research and innovation.
 - o The research programme should align with the Environmental Protection Agency’s proposals for the delivery of five-year Assessment Reports (5YAR) on understanding of climate change, its impacts and response options.
 - o To maximise the prospects of success in these research efforts, particularly with regard to reducing enteric methane, this will take dedicated leadership, a mission focus (see Goal 1, Mission 4), sufficient resources both private and public, and the best talent the world has to offer.
 - o As a general principle, all research activities need to take better account of environmental sustainability. In particular, primary production research needs to take a more holistic approach so that productivity or competitiveness ambitions are not considered in isolation from environmental ambitions such as maintaining functioning ecosystems.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EPA, Teagasc, RPOs	Increased research into climate mitigation from Irish agriculture including international collaboration, appropriate measurement and reporting of livestock GHGs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Research and promote the concept of ‘Regenerative Agriculture’, particularly under Irish conditions.

This form of agriculture aims to improve the productivity potential of soil, reduce carbon levels in the air by recapturing and storing it in the soil and managing animal grazing to replicate nature.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, RPOs, Teagasc, ACA, NGOs	Regenerative Agriculture researched and promoted.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Scale up renewable energy (RE) sources, especially anaerobic digestion and biorefining and biomass supply, and solar PV; focus on energy efficiency; and examine potential barriers to the roll-out of RE at farm level, including necessary support of microgeneration and access to the grid.

Ag Climatise recognises that the agriculture sector has a key role to play in helping Ireland meet its renewable energy targets through the supply of bioenergy and biobased materials in displacing fossil fuels and energy intensive materials. In addition, adoption of energy efficiency and renewable technology generation at farm level can enhance the green image of the agri-food sector both nationally and globally. Citizens and farmers alike want to be paid for home production of surplus renewable energy electricity. Adoption of renewable microgeneration at a farm level can be a cost saving measure, with excess electricity providing an additional income generation stream. In addition, these offer important farm diversification opportunities. The roll-out, in 2021, of an enabling framework for micro-generation, which tackles existing barriers and establishes suitable supports, as foreseen in the Climate Action Plan 2019, will be crucial to the delivery of this action. Finally, it is important that relevant assessment be carried out for any renewable energy projects that could impact on protected or sensitive sites. Appropriate inter-planting, wildlife corridors and boundaries/screens should be considered where appropriate. Careful consideration of scale and siting of developments should be taken.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, DECC, TAMs	Scaled up renewable energy sources.	Ongoing, with annual report to the 2030 Implementation Committee by Q1 2022.

Action 8: The food and beverage industry will continue to drive down GHG emissions and develop zero waste approaches.

As highlighted in the Bord Bia Readiness-Radar Report, all supply chain actors need to prioritise reducing their CO2 emissions. The Radar also highlights a readiness gap that has developed between food companies at different levels of turnover. Smaller companies have fallen behind larger manufacturers in prioritising their CO2 emission reduction and so should prioritise addressing this. Government (including Bord Bia, BIM, Enterprise Ireland, EPA & the SEAI) should continue to provide supports to businesses for climate action, energy efficiency, sustainability mentoring, green enterprise and green support programmes in order to develop low carbon business models. Businesses should also develop new collaborations with farmers to drive down their emissions. This will help to ensure companies keep pace with the increasing sustainability demands of global customers. An enhanced Origin Green Programme will be crucial in this regard (see Goal 7 below).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DECC, BB, BIM, EI, DAFM, Teagasc, SEAI, DETE	Reduced emissions from industry.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Prepare for climate change through implementing the actions contained in the statutory Agriculture, Forest and Seafood Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan.

The agri-food sector will be one of the sectors most impacted by climate change through changing and more severe weather such as floods, droughts and storms. Therefore, there is a need to ensure systems are future proofed in order to reduce any associated threats and build resilience including against disruptions to markets and supply chains. Along with implementation of the Sectoral Adaptation Plan, capacity building and awareness raising to improve resilience both at primary and industry level is essential.


STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BIM, Forestry Stakeholders	Implement Sectoral Adaptation Plan.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 10: Carry out a risk analysis to assess the impact of climate change on Irish food production and food safety in the following areas in particular:

Soil health, crop production - their nutritional value and toxicity-particularly mycotoxins (i.e. toxic compounds naturally produced by certain moulds), animal health and onwards to human health, and animal welfare, algal bloom and aquaculture, pathogens across the food chain and biodiversity.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, FSAI	Risk analysis carried out.	End of 2024.



GOAL 2	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Restore and Enhance Biodiversity	 <p>TARGETS</p> <p>2.3; 2.4; 2.4.1; 6.6; 11.4; 12.2; 12.4; 12.8; 12.b; 13.2; 13.3; 15.1; 15.2; 15.3; 15.4; 15.5; 15.9; 15.a; 15.b</p>

Action 1: Build on the ‘Farm Environmental Survey Pilot’ to establish baselines of biodiversity habitats, including hedgerows, on every farm to inform future policy development and measure progress.

This is particularly important in relation to Natura 2000 sites (SACs and SPAs) in order to avoid or reduce impacts from agriculture, such as changes of existing semi-natural grassland of ecological value to some other type of land use. Relevant studies of potential direct and indirect impacts will be made available to agri-environment advisors and relevant agricultural workers (including farmers), where Natura 2000 sites or other high value ecological receptors are present on a landholding. This will include, but not limited to, an appreciation of appropriate buffer zones (e.g. in terms of disturbance effects on Annex II/IV (Habitats Directive) and Annex I (Birds Directive) species) or other proximal high value nationally and internationally important ecological receptors. As a matter of good practice, appropriately assessed mitigation should be applied to any unforeseen or uncertain effects of the Strategy. Scientific literature on habitat buffer zones will also be made available (e.g. the hydrological effects of forestry on peatlands). Training in the identification of these habitats will supplement existing in-house measures. In addition, Teagasc has been a leader in the EU incorporating sustainability reporting into its farm survey reporting. While challenging, DAFM and Teagasc should collaborate to consider building further biodiversity measurements into the National Farm Survey.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, NPWS	Establish Baseline biodiversity surveys at farm level for approximately 6,500 pilot farms.	Q4 2022 for Pilot Phase Completion.

Action 2: Put in place more targeted agri-environmental schemes under the next Rural Development Programme (RDP) to protect and enhance Ireland's habitats and species.

These schemes should include results-based actions, including payments for delivery of specific measures across biodiversity (e.g. hedgerow conservation and addressing the decline in farmland birds, in collaboration with the NPWS), carbon sequestration and water quality. Natura 2000 sites should be suitably considered in these schemes, while recognizing the importance of implementing the most appropriate measures in the most appropriate places with respect to Natura sites, and screening relevant plans or programmes to ensure they are sufficiently targeted to avoid impacts on Natura 2000 sites. The introduction of locally led and results-based projects which farmers themselves have input into the design, such as through EIPs, offer many learnings on which to build initiatives. There should be consideration of the development of a targeted programme for High Nature Value (HNV) farmland, ideally locally adapted to different landscapes and with result-based payments to encourage optimal management. Ireland has over 1m ha of High Nature Value (HNV) farmland, extensively managed areas which are repositories of nature and culture that contribute positively to livelihoods. This consideration should reflect the quality and value of these habitats, as well as the high cost of restoring degraded and lost habitats.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, NPWS, DHLGH	Targeted agri-environmental schemes in next CAP Strategic Plan (CSP).	Q1 - Q4 2023.

Action 3: Undertake a national land use review and support the DECC led development of a land use strategy.

The national land cover map currently being designed by the OSI and EPA in collaboration with DAFM and other key stakeholders will be completed in 2021. Significant resources are being invested in this using remote sensing. This map will provide valuable information on the national land cover and land use. In addition, work has begun by Natural Capital Ireland on devising Natural Capital accounts for Ireland and these should be linked through, for example, the accounts facilitating cost-benefit analysis. In addition, the ongoing work by BIM with the UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) for the Irish Seafood sector should continue in order to contribute to the sustainable management of the sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DECC, EPA, OSI, Teagasc, and Others	National Land Use review undertaken and DECC led Land Strategy developed and supported.	TBC.

Action 4: Ireland will play an active and constructive role in the development of measures to realise the objectives for pesticide use reduction in the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and the Farm to Fork Strategy and in particular, the objective of reducing pesticide use by 50% by 2030.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, Industry, Farming Organisations, FSAI	Measures to reduce pesticide use.	Ongoing through EU processes.

Action 5: Conduct appropriate and relevant assessments of the impact of the more detailed Commission proposals for pesticide use reduction at the same time, especially the potential for increased in-field crop losses and food waste further down the chain, as well as loss of competitiveness, which could lead to farm system and land use change. Whilst acknowledging the comparatively low level of pesticide use in Ireland and continued compliance with the EU Sustainable Use Directive, pesticide use across the agricultural sector should be reviewed and work should be advanced on: (i) the generation of new crop varieties using New Plant Breeding Techniques (i.e. precision breeding tools), (ii) more widespread use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce pest pressure, (iii) crop rotations that involve more diverse crops, and (iv) further research and knowledge transfer in these areas as well as the efficacy of biological products for Irish cropping systems.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs	Assessments of impact of Commission legislative proposals from an Irish perspective.	TBC.

Action 6: Input into the next National Biodiversity Action Plan, particularly on how the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors can contribute to the conservation and restoration of threatened habitats, species and protected areas.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DHLGH	Input by DAFM into the next National Biodiversity Action Plan.	Ongoing.

Action 7: Ensure the necessary actions for agriculture are included in the new All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and that they are disseminated to farmers. Appropriate land management practices are essential to conserve pollinators in Ireland.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DHLGH, Teagasc, NPWS	Ensure agriculture actions are included and disseminated in the new All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.	Ongoing.

Action 8: Ensure that farms and forests do not contribute to habitat destruction and isolation, and also protect features of cultural heritage and traditional landscapes.

This should include better enforcement of existing environmental rules, including strengthened implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Agricultural Regulations in order to avoid habitat removal and loss of carbon pools. Any risk(s) to any Natura 2000 sites as a result of new agricultural activities or enterprise should be subject to suitable environmental assessment requirements under AA and EIA (Agriculture) criteria. In addition, operations should be avoided in known areas of Annex II/IV (Habitats Directive) mammal (volant and non-volant) and Annex I (Birds Directive) bird species during the breeding or wintering season in order to minimize disturbance. This approach will also consider transboundary effects where appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, NPWS	Sensitive Habitat and Species protection reflected.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Carry out restoration management of grazed peatland habitats (through, for example, European Innovation Partnerships).		
STAKEHOLDERS DHLGH, Teagasc, NPWS, DAFM	DELIVERABLE Restored or improved grazed peatland habitats conditions.	TIMEFRAME TBC.

Action 10: Build on the measures introduced to protect and foster greater biodiversity in forests. Such as minimum broadleaf composition, setbacks from watercourses and archaeological features, Areas of Biodiversity Enhancement and the Woodland Environmental Fund, whilst recognising the need to maintain their economic viability as forests with rich biodiversity offer significant public goods and societal benefits.		
STAKEHOLDERS DAFM, Teagasc, NPWS	DELIVERABLE Enhanced forest biodiversity.	TIMEFRAME Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 3	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Protect High Status Sites and Contribute to the Protection and Restoration of Good Water Quality and Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems, as set out in the Water Framework Directive	    <p>TARGETS 2.4; 6.3; 6.6; 6.b; 12.4; 15.1; 15.8</p>

Action 1: To protect waters from agricultural pollution, transition the agricultural sector to a lower chemical nitrogen use system, and urgently in regions with identified water quality problems, particularly from diffuse losses of nitrogen. Ag Climatise focuses strongly on reducing fertiliser use and loss of nitrogen to the environment. Reducing nitrogen surpluses will have a number of co-benefits by reducing both GHG and ammonia emissions, while also benefiting water quality and biodiversity.		
STAKEHOLDERS DAFM and DHLGH, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, ACA, BB, Processors, Fertiliser Industry	DELIVERABLE Lower chemical nitrogen use.	TIMEFRAME Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: To further protect waters, including surface waters, from agricultural, forestry and urban/industry pollution (including microbiological pollution), land use activities need to manage and mitigate the losses of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment to water.

Key elements in the realisation of this action include:

- a) Complete the review of Ireland’s Nitrates Action Programme in 2021, and subsequent reviews, and adjust the regulatory baseline accordingly for nitrogen and phosphorous.
- b) Make adjustments to the research and advice on agricultural systems of production (grassland, tillage etc) to bring them into line with the transition to a lower chemical nitrogen use system and implement these as soon as possible.
- c) Recover more nitrogen and phosphorus from livestock manures, increase the use of multi-species pasture swards (building on learnings from projects such as ‘SmartGrass’ and ‘SmartSward’) and incorporate more clover in grass swards (in line with Ag Climatise provisions).
- d) Target, recognise and implement critical source areas for the protection of waters for both nitrogen and phosphorus across all farms to support the spatial targeting of measures both for voluntary and nationally supported schemes. Measures (e.g. attenuation zones, riparian zones, buffer strips) based on on-farm assessments in sub-catchments designated as ‘at-risk’ will be important in intercepting nutrient pathways, particularly phosphorous, between critical source areas and watercourses.
- e) Establish at a national level a baseline soil health assessment through mapping soil carbon and the nutrient profiles for both micro and macro nutrients at a field scale to support future balanced soil specific nutrient advice to reduce potential nutrient losses to water while reducing agriculture dependency on chemical fertilisers.
- f) Develop an approach through scientific modelling at the catchment level that can inform policy and mitigation strategies to protect and restore water quality. The modelling approach should include Climate impacts on agriculture and its impact on water quality.
- g) Enhance Forest Service oversight where forestry related operations are planned in high status catchments.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DHLGH, DAFM, EPA, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, ACA, Processors	Improved water quality.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Reduce the risk of agricultural use of pesticides impacting water, particularly drinking water, in terms of safety and the health of the aquatic environment.

The use of MCPA and other herbicides in agriculture that are impacting on drinking water quality should be reduced to the maximum extent possible by fully implementing the principles of integrated pest management. This means that the possibility of using non-chemical methods for weed control must always be carefully considered in the first instance and prioritised where feasible. In cases where herbicides are absolutely necessary, best practice use guidelines for the protection of water quality must be followed. In relation to rush management, there is no requirement to use MCPA or other herbicides to ensure that land remains eligible for payments. Publicly available guidance on the sustainable management of rushes to minimise herbicide use should be followed.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EPA, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, ACA, Irish Water, The National Federation of Group Water Schemes, Industry Bodies (APHA, FARM) and Amenity Sector Organisations	Reduce level of pesticides residue in water.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Support farmers to target the right measure in the right place.

Agriculture and forestry have a significant role to play in protecting and restoring water quality, and three key approaches should be taken:

- a) Multi-stakeholder (including public/private) collaboration in programmes such as the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advice Programme (ASSAP) and the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO), as well as bottom-up and community networks such as BASE Ireland and Farming for Nature.
- b) Implementation of the targeted regulations via the Water Framework Directive and Nitrates Directive. From an implementation perspective, ensure there is a shared responsibility and ownership approach across all Government Departments and Agencies, while ensuring Industry guides responsibly to ensure farmers operate within the National regulatory boundaries.
- c) More targeted support (across climate, water and biodiversity) under the next CAP and the CAP Strategic Plan alongside results-based payment schemes. These should be designed to ensure participation by more intensive farmers who typically do not engage with Agri-Environment Measures, while also including Natura sites where relevant. Where possible, forestry measures should encourage the planting of native riparian woodland to protect watercourses.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DHLGH, DAFM, Teagasc	Collaborative and targeted measures improving water quality.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Launch a National Soil Sampling and Analysis Programme to develop a baseline of information in relation to nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration functions in soils and develop a National Soils Strategy that will assess all appropriate soil health parameters and will inform future policies on good soil management practices, including at a regional level.

Good soil health is critical in sequestering Carbon, producing nutrient-dense food, supporting biodiversity, building resilience against climate change and much more besides. Good soil fertility and structure is a fundamental of sustainable production systems but only around 15% of Irish soils have good overall fertility. It should be a priority to address this issue as soils at optimum fertility and pH recycle nutrients more efficiently and should lead to a reduction in inputs for the same or increased levels of grass or crop production while also reducing nutrient loss. The Strategy should also take account of the role of soil as a habitat, and farmers should adopt sustainable soil management practices to reduce soil compaction, soil erosion, increase organic matter and enhance biodiversity. The National Soil Sampling and Analysis Programme will be an important element in the development of the National Soils Strategy.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc	Launch soil sampling programme and develop National Soils Strategy.	TBC.

GOAL 4

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Develop Diverse, Multi-functional Forests



TARGETS

2.4; 6.6; 15.1; 15.1.1; 15.2; 15.2.1; 15.6

Action 1: Develop a new Forestry Strategy for Ireland (in line with the recommendations of the McKinnon Report). This should be prepared with the following key needs in mind:

- (i) Maintain and protect the existing forest estate and reduce deforestation.
- (ii) Increase forest cover, including continuous cover forestry and agro-forestry.
- (iii) Enhance delivery of ecosystem services from new and existing forests, including climate change mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity.
- (iv) Grow the circular bioeconomy by supporting actions that underpin the importance of forest biomass. In meeting these needs the direction should be towards diverse, multifunctional forests that strengthen the economic viability of rural communities, protect our environment and are resilient in the face of climate change.

This Strategy should underpin the new Forestry Programme by setting out a pathway that not only supports the future economic viability and development of the sector but introduces new measures that will maximise the multiple benefits forestry delivers for society. The new Strategy should focus on sustainable forest management, afforestation, maximising the potential of the exiting forest estate and reducing deforestation.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Forest Policy Group, Forest Stakeholders, Teagasc	Implementation of Mackinnon recommendations including a New Forestry Strategy.	TBC.

Action 2: Examine options for afforestation on state owned lands, building on initiatives from Coillte and Bord na Mona.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Coillte, Bord na Móna	Increased afforestation on state owned land.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Place farmers at the centre of a new and improved afforestation scheme.

If afforestation targets are to be met, there needs to be greater flexibility in how trees are planted on farms in order to provide farmers with more options that complement their existing farming model. Harmonisation and coherence with other agriculture support measures is also needed. A revised afforestation scheme could include: farmers undertaking the strategic planting of trees to create filtration buffers for example which can reduce sedimentation of adjacent water courses and intercept nutrient runoff from dairy and cattle farms to protect water quality; new native woodlands which can provide habitat corridors for wildlife while at the same time providing a source of domestic fuel wood; or small forest areas, rewilding and pioneer woodland, shelterbelts, riparian planting and continuous cover forestry, with an increased focus on expanding and connecting areas of native woodlands. The scheme should encourage the principle whereby the greater the ambition in terms of delivering ecosystem services, the greater the reward. Further, it must encapsulate a whole of society approach and public afforestation should also be included in this new vision for tree planting. This should encourage public bodies to review their land bank and in doing so establish native woodlands on suitable bare land.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, Forest Stakeholders	Farmers central to new afforestation scheme.	TBC.

Action 4: Encourage businesses to play their part when it comes to increasing forest cover.

The existing Woodland Environmental Fund is a good example of how businesses can be mobilised to create additional incentives to farmers to plant trees. New initiatives will need to be developed in order to harness this opportunity for forestry.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Increased business participation in the Woodland Environmental Fund.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Implement Project Woodland, to ensure that the licensing system for tree felling, thinning, roads and afforestation provides a predictable and efficient service for applicants and to ensure that forests play a positive role in the environment.

The positive contribution of forests and agriculture to the environment is recognised and continued participation in the Blue Dot Catchments Programme and the LIFE-IP Waters of Life Programme will continue to highlight best practice. The important role of forests in the implementation of measures in the *Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Irelands River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021* will continue to have positive impacts on water quality.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Forest Stakeholders	Implement Project Woodland to ensure effective licensing system.	TBC.

Action 6: Promote and develop the benefits of increased use of wood and wood products as a pathway to reducing carbon footprints.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc	Increased use of wood and wood products to reduce carbon footprints.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Work with the European Commission initiative to introduce a regulation that aims to minimize the risk that products linked to deforestation and forest degradation are placed on the EU market and to develop a definition of deforestation-free supply chains.

In addition, use the EU Timber Regulation to prevent the introduction of illegally harvested timber on the EU market.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Improve EU Regulation.	TBC.

Action 8: Promote the positive role of woodlands in relation to human health and mental wellbeing.

Also acknowledging the benefits of trees for animal welfare for shelter and shade.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc	Positive benefits of woodlands promoted.	Ongoing.

GOAL 5

Enhance the Environmental Sustainability of the Seafood Sector

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

13.2; 14.1; 14.2; 14.4; 14.5; 14.5.1; 14.6; 14.a; 14.b; 14.c; 17.14

Action 1: Contribute to the development of a successor to 'Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth', the integrated marine plan for Ireland encompassing all aspects of the marine, with a greater focus on sustainability.

This will require greater stakeholder engagement with new targets and indicators, which will be a key element in enhancing the environmental sustainability of the seafood sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
D/Taoiseach, DAFM, BIM, Seafood Stakeholders	Successor to 'Harnessing our Ocean Wealth'.	TBC.

Action 2: Total Allowable Catches (TAC) should continue to be informed by science and then implemented under a robust fisheries control system underpinned by sustainable fishing practices.

To avoid overfishing and ensure a sustainable long-term seafood industry, fisheries are managed through the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). This includes the setting of annual TACs for most commercial fish stocks from which national quotas are derived. Fishing at maximum sustainable yield and fishing smarter to avoid juvenile fish or unwanted catches should be followed.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Marine Institute, BIM	Scientifically informed TACs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Continue towards improved fisheries sustainability and meet the 'Landing Obligation'

Continue to develop technical solutions and approaches which help eliminate the wasteful practice of discarding; contribute towards improved fisheries sustainability; and meet the 'Landing Obligation' (or discard ban) and other legal requirements. Ireland has been very proactive, through the conservation work of BIM, in developing ways of omitting juvenile fish and non-target fish in fishing gear and this work should intensify. In addition, efforts to develop infrastructure to handle and store unwanted catches should continue. Close collaborative relationships between all stakeholders including third level institutes will be required to further develop technical conservation measures to reduce or avoid exploitation of certain fish stocks.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Marine Institute, Seafood Stakeholders	Meet landing obligation.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: It will be essential to maintain a level playing field between the EU and UK on issues such as the landing obligation and technical conservation measures to ensure the long-term conservation of fish stocks and protect the ongoing sustainability of the Irish fleet.

The fish stocks of importance to the Irish fleet and the related fishing grounds are to a large extent shared with the UK and are partly within the UK EEZ. While the UK is now an independent Third Country, the TCA commits to applying proportionate and non-discriminatory measures for the conservation and management of fish stocks, while preserving regulatory autonomy. The agreement of appropriate and ambitious technical and conservation measures with the UK will be a high priority.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Marine Institute, BIM	Agreement with UK on technical and sustainability conservation measures.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Implementation of the Irish Inshore Fisheries Sector Strategy 2019-2023: Development of sustainable inshore fisheries will need to be balanced with safeguarding fishing-related livelihoods and protecting marine environments.

The majority of Ireland's marine Natura 2000 sites are located in and around inshore waters. This means that in some circumstances, fisheries management measures must be specifically designed to take account of the conservation objectives of relevant habitats and species. A key theme identified in the Irish Inshore Fisheries Sector Strategy 2019-2023 (task 11) is changing environmental conditions. Those involved in the inshore sector require additional information, education and training to future proof their businesses by mitigating the potential impact of changing environmental conditions.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Seafood Stakeholders, NIFF	Implementation of the Inshore Fisheries Strategy.	Ongoing to end 2023, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Follow the 11 objectives of the new National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture (NSPA) development for the period 2021 - 2030.

(Administrative procedures, Spatial planning and access to water, Consumer information, Producers and market organisation, Human and animal health and welfare, Environmental performance, Climate change, Innovation, Control of aquaculture products, Integration of aquaculture in the local economy and Data and monitoring). The sector should be developed in a sustainable way, including shellfish aquaculture and implement the recommendations of the report of the Independent Aquaculture Licencing Review Group, to ensure that feed products for aquaculture are sourced and produced in the most sustainable manner possible. Shellfish plays an important part in improving coastal water quality and may also have a part to play in climate change mitigation through the carbon sequestration potential for shellfish.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Aquaculture Stakeholders, IGFA, FSAI	National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture Development implemented by 2030.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Realise our outstanding target of 10% of Marine Protected Areas under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive as soon as is practical and aim for 30% of marine protected areas by 2030.

Seafood activities in or adjacent to protected areas are subject to Appropriate Assessment and aquaculture operations are also screened for EIA. Furthermore, under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), EU Member States must achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES) in the marine environment by 2020. The programme of measures to aid in achieving and maintaining good environmental status of the various criteria examined under the MSFD is important in this regard. Industry stakeholders should continue to work with relevant agencies to deliver on the EU Biodiversity Strategy, MSFD, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and the Green Deal in the protection of marine ecosystems.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DHLGH, DAFM, Marine Institute, BIM, Seafood Stakeholders	Marine Protected Areas targets reached.	2030, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Seafood Sustainability Programmes should be further developed to provide independent evidence to customers of good practice.

The accredited certification programmes provided by BIM together with Fishery Improvement Projects as well as external certifications that have been achieved provide a strong platform from which to build greater proof of the sustainability and circularity credentials of Irish seafood, in line with Origin Green.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BIM, DAFM	Enhanced seafood sustainability programmes.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Prioritise the 'Clean Oceans Initiative' in the effort to collect, reduce and reuse marine litter.

The initiative has seen significant interest by fishing trawlers in addressing the serious problem of plastic and marine litter in the ocean.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BIM, DAFM, Seafood Stakeholders	'Clean Oceans Initiative' prioritised.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 10: Carry out an assessment of the potential impacts of climate change for the seafood sector, including issues such as the changing distribution of fish, rising sea temperatures, the possibility of exotic species, and the industry's contribution to GHGs.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Marine Institute, FSAI	Assessment of climate change on the sector.	TBC.

GOAL 6	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Embed the Agri-Food Sector in the Circular, Regenerative Bioeconomy	 <p>TARGETS 2.4; 4.7; 7.2; 9.1; 9.5; 9.b; 12.3; 12.5; 17.14</p>

Primary Sector

Action 1: Develop new bio-based value chains based on Ireland's comparative advantage in the production of grass, legumes and other perennial species.

This should be undertaken, where possible, with the participation of local communities, in areas such as:

- o The bioeconomy will seek to provide for an integrated approach to achieve climate neutral farms by reducing GHG emissions and by increasing farm-based carbon sequestration and storage including by displacing fossil fuel, mineral based or non-sustainable inputs with local renewable, nature-based or biobased input alternatives and by achieving increased resource efficiency and value with agricultural outputs such as grass, crops, forestry and bio-marine resources. Small scale biorefining e.g. grass, organic matter or reuse of nutrients can also contribute to climate mitigation efforts.
- o Timber production, which is currently estimated to double in the years up to 2035. Potential exists to develop and test new technologies and environmental solutions for the use of wood-based materials in the (re)construction and/or retrofitting of buildings as well as more novel opportunities for forest-based and forestry processing residues.
- o The oceans and seas offer huge potential for cascading use of biomarine resources in the bioeconomy. These include: the use of fisheries discards, algal biorefineries, seaweed farming, the multi-use of marine space in off-shore platforms, zero-waste, digitalised and circular aquaculture, new products from jellyfish, biodiscovery and new pharmaceuticals from marine ecosystems, and carbon sequestration.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, Industry	New bio-based value chains developed.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Scale up resource-efficient, circular and low carbon solutions based on principles of renewable energy, cascading and circular use of sustainable biological resources.

- o Examine biorefining, anaerobic digestion and other technologies, including bioenergy, which can convert low-value material to higher-value material and provide for treatment of waste, protection of the environment, and the production of chemical building blocks, fuels, power and heating (see also Goal 1). Cross-sector collaboration and investment, nationally and internationally, should be pursued for the development of circular and climate-neutral industries.
- o Industry will take initiatives to advance a circular business model, e.g. develop microbiome-based and smart protein-based solutions, the recovery of nutrients, bioactives from food and fibre processing to generate biobased materials and energy, thereby mitigating emissions, reducing energy use and increasing energy efficiency.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, Industry, BIM	Scaled up circular and low carbon solutions.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Cross-cutting

Action 3: Develop a plan for the scaling up of circular bioeconomy approaches.

- a) This should seek to scale up and deploy the bioeconomy locally, capitalising on and going beyond successful research and innovation investments in order to create growth and job opportunities at the local level.
- b) Develop further policy and regulatory coherence, research and innovation agenda setting enhancing entrepreneurship, innovation, finance and education approaches, to enable a sustainable and circular bioeconomy.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DECC, BIG, Teagasc, BIM, EI, National Bioeconomy Forum, FSAI	Bioeconomy Action Plan published.	December 2022.

Action 4: A Knowledge Hub including an Observatory for Biomass Resources should be considered for development to establish a comprehensive monitoring system to measure and analyse biomass flows and implement comparative sustainability assessments. Such a resource could also interact with industry and aid the development of a bioeconomy network.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, Industry, BIM	Assessment and feasibility study completed.	TBC.

Food loss & waste and packaging

Action 5: The DECC is the lead on food waste prevention and the draft Waste Action Plan contains twenty actions many of which relate to the agri-food sector. DAFM will work collaboratively with the DECC in implementing these, and on linking with work already underway in this area.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DECC, DAFM, EPA, DOH, FSAI	Implement agri-food actions in Waste Action Plan.	TBC.

Action 6: In line with the commitment in the Waste Action Plan, work with stakeholders to develop a National Food Waste Prevention Roadmap that sets out a series of actions to deliver the reductions necessary to halve our per capita food waste by 2030, meet any other related targets, and promote our transition to a circular economy.

All relevant stakeholders in the agri-food sector, as well as retailer, food service and consumer representatives, should participate in this, building on the work of the existing National Waste Prevention Programme and related initiatives. Activities within the roadmap should include behavioural change and educational initiatives for trade customers, consumers and businesses, technical support interventions, data gathering research, monitoring and evaluation. An important element will be developing a common methodology for measuring and reporting food waste across food processing companies. As the responsible body for reporting food waste statistics, the EPA has a number of projects ongoing in this area. Origin Green could act as a vehicle for facilitating food industry actions, in close collaboration with the EPA. Redistribution is a further important element so that the food waste hierarchy is followed, and this can also play an important role in dealing with shocks in supply chains due to unforeseen events (e.g. Covid) while additionally offering positive social impacts.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DECC, EPA, BB, Teagasc, DOH, FSAI	National Food Waste Prevention Roadmap developed.	TBC.

Action 7: Research the extent of food loss at the production (primary) stage in an Irish context and develop innovative ways of reducing it.

The research should seek possible synergies in measures to address this food loss, with those aimed at reducing food waste in food processing and in households and the commercial sector. It should also connect with ongoing EPA research projects on data from primary production which will initially inform the development of innovation approaches.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, EPA, RPOs	Research on food loss at primary production.	2024.

Action 8: Along with efforts to reduce packaging, the industry should urgently pursue more sustainable packaging.

Plastic packaging has been identified by the food industry as one of its most significant sustainability risks, but it is often necessary for food safety reasons, and in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, for consumer acceptability. Advances in the bioeconomy, particularly recycled polymer and bio-based packaging, offer potentially important solutions. Greater collaboration and research between food companies and others in the supply chain, such as packaging companies, should be encouraged. These collaborative research projects can be supported through EI's programmes including Technology Centres & Gateways and Innovation Partnerships among others.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Industry, Teagasc, RPOs, EPA, DAFM, BIM, BB, EI, DOH, DECC and FSAI	Sustainable packaging solutions.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 7

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Strengthen and Invest in Origin Green and Other Sustainability Supports to Reflect the Higher Level of Ambition for the Agri-Food Sector



TARGETS

2.4 2.c; 4.7; 7.3; 8.3; 12.6; 14.b; 17.16

Action 1: Promote and encourage participation in the new Origin Green Gold Membership, thus working towards higher levels of ambition.

With the introduction of the Origin Green credits system in early 2020, Bord Bia now distinguishes food company members which are excelling in sustainability performance in a particular year. It has enabled a new level of membership, 'Origin Green Gold Membership'.

STAKEHOLDERS

BB, Teagasc, DAFM, BIM, NPWS, Farming Organisations

DELIVERABLE

Greater participation in Origin Green.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Emissions targets: there is a need for an enhanced focus on mandatory and ambitious emissions reduction targets within the Origin Green programme and additional guidance provided to companies on mapping their net zero pathways. Sector targets and pledges should also be explored.

STAKEHOLDERS

BB, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

More ambitious emission reduction targets.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: The metrics and evidence base from Origin Green need to be improved. A framework for delivering this involves building on Origin Green participant companies performance and metrics on sustainability, and the associated quality assurance programmes at farm level.

Improvements should enhance how information is gathered, analysed and shared, both with participants (primary producers and processors) to drive engagement, and the market to provide proof of sustainably produced food and drink. Bord Bia, DAFM and other State agencies will collaborate and share information to enhance the farm sustainability and quality assurance programmes (incorporating recommendations from the Signpost Farms where appropriate), with toolkits and supports which are robust and easy to use at farm level, particularly in measuring carbon emissions, utilising the latest technologies available. Bord Bia will also develop tools for supporting companies to drive sustainability improvements such as learning modules, guidance documents and feedback reports. Metrics need to be market relevant and able to stand up to independent, critical scrutiny. Primary producers need to see and understand a benefit from Origin Green membership, for example through improved information on their own environmental performance, policy supports and market positioning of their products.

STAKEHOLDERS

BB, Teagasc, DAFM, EPA

DELIVERABLE

Metrics and evidence base improved.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Develop closer links to AKIS.

On-farm assessments constitute a key component of the Origin Green programme with sustainability assessments rolled out at farm level through Bord Bia's Sustainable Assurance Schemes. This now needs to also help deliver the Ag Climatise roadmap. Drawing on the respective strengths of both agencies, Bord Bia and Teagasc will collaborate on using the data and findings from Bord Bia audits, along with the research and advisory expertise in Teagasc, in conjunction with the findings of the Signpost Programme and engaging proactively with private agricultural advisory and extension services to develop Farm Sustainability Plans with the aim of developing a virtuous cycle of on-farm sustainability improvement. This will also involve increasing the practical application of Farmer Feedback Reports by farmers and advisors. Communicating sustainability messages in a coordinated and clear manner to farmers will be a key element of this partnership. Improved linkages between knowledge exchange, advisory services & sustainability assessments would also lead to the development of cooperation activities between farms led by innovation brokers such as advisors to manage natural resources such as biodiversity, water, soils and air.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, BB, ACA, DAFM, Processors	Formal links between Origin Green Programme and Sustainable Assurance Schemes.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Further explore the health and sustainability benefits of grass-based food.

Bord Bia will build on the recently agreed grass-fed standards for dairy and beef. Ireland has a strong reputation on the international stage as a producer of sustainable grass-fed livestock-based products. This should tie in with research organisations exploring the health benefits of grass-based foods.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, BB, FSAI	Scientific evidence on health and sustainability benefits of grass-based food.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Encourage companies and farmers that are not already signed up to Origin Green to urgently get on board.

The agri-food industry needs to incorporate sustainability into its business strategies and corporate governance frameworks. The EU Farm to Fork Strategy indicates an intention by the Commission to require the food industry to integrate sustainability into corporate governance strategies so it will be important to be ahead of this initiative. In this regard, Origin Green membership offers extensive support and advice and the most comprehensive, joined-up vehicle for a company to address these issues. Furthermore, a concerted effort should be made to encourage farmers who are not involved in the farm assurance schemes to join.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, BIM	Increased businesses participation in Origin Green and farmers encouraged to join assurance schemes.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Communicate credible, market relevant environmental and social sustainability credentials to trade customers and consumers in both national and international markets.

More efforts are required to improve the ability of sales and marketing teams to understand and communicate the benefits of sustainability when making claims in the marketplace. There is training and advice available to Origin Green members from Bord Bia in this regard, to support companies to differentiate and realise the commercial benefit in the global marketplace.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Teagasc, BIM	Effective communication of Origin Green to trade customers and consumers in national and international markets.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Establish thought leadership and market insight platforms to contribute to, and better understand, evolving food sustainability developments in the marketplace.

Origin Green should incorporate additional forums to shape the discourse on emerging food and drink sustainability topics and support the evolution of food sustainability in Ireland via the Origin Green programme. This should include business leaders, sustainability and agricultural experts and intergovernmental organisations and NGOs focussed on a common goal.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Teagasc, BIM	Thought leadership and market insight platforms established.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Drive industry engagement with SEAI programmes such as the recently updated Exeed Grant Scheme and the Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme to support companies to meet their energy saving targets.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
SEAI, EI	Increased engagement with SEAI programmes.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 10: Increase focus on awareness building of sustainability supports among Enterprise Ireland's Food & Drinks clients.

Enterprise Ireland's suite of environmental supports, including the new Green Enterprise Fund, can support companies to ensure they scale and grow their businesses sustainably. Enterprise Ireland, working in tandem with colleagues in SEAI, Bord Bia, and other relevant Government Agencies and Departments, will support companies across the stages of the investment journey to achieve reduction in carbon emissions.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
EI, BB	Increased take up of sustainability support.	Ongoing, with annual (Q1) report to the Implementation Committee.

MISSION 2

Viabile & Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Wellbeing



GOAL

Competitive, productive primary producers with improved economic and social sustainability.

KEY INDICATORS

- Family Farm Income (Family Farm Income per hectare)
- Economic Sustainability of farm business
- Economic return to land (Gross output per hectare) and Profitability (Market-based gross margin per hectare)
- Economic performance of the Seafood sector (as reported by BIM 'The Business of Seafood')
- Total primary output and output by sector
- Formal agricultural education
- Age Profile
- Number of new entrants
- Number of farm families
- Isolation risk
- Health and Safety statistics
- Market transparency

PROGRESS BY 2030

The Strategy is ambitious for primary producers, envisaging an upward trend in Family Farm Income towards 2030, with an increased share of viable and sustainable farms, reflecting improved economic returns to land and profitability per hectare, an upward trend in primary output value with increased diversification across sectors. The Strategy also foresees the seafood sector continuing on a path of sustainable economic and environmental development by carefully managing the utilisation of sea-fisheries and aquaculture.

The Strategy aims to improve the social sustainability of primary producers, increasing the share of younger and trained farmers and fishers, reducing the risk of social isolation, and ensuring a much improved record on health and safety.



MISSION 2: Viable and Resilient Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being

GOAL 1

Improve Competitiveness and Productivity of Primary Producers

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

2.3; 2.4; 2.5; 2.a; 6.6; 8.2; 8.8; 8.10; 10.5; 12.4; 12.6; 13.2; 14.2; 14.4; 14.b 15.1; 15.1.1; 15.2; 15.2.1; 17.14; 17.16; 17.17

Dairy

Action 1: Promote greater integration of the dairy and beef sectors, especially in relation to the production of beef coming from the dairy sector, to ensure that there is a market outlet for male calves from the dairy herd, and to provide an alternative business option for beef farmers.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, BB, Processors

DELIVERABLE

Increased integration of dairy and beef sectors.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Address societal concerns of relevance to the sector's reputation, for example through measurable commitments to high standards of animal welfare and anti-microbial stewardship

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, BB, AHI, Processors

DELIVERABLE

Continuous improvement in high standards of commitments to animal welfare and anti-microbial stewardship (One Health One Welfare).

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Under the auspices of the 2030 process, produce a detailed plan by Q2 2022 to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the dairy sector, including minimising total emissions, while making a positive contribution to improved water quality and biodiversity, in line with government policy. Further details are included in Mission 1, Goal 1.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BB, EPA, Farming Organisations, Processors	Plan published to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the dairy sector.	Q2 2022.

Action 4: Continue progress on genetics, including genomic breeding strategies focused on animal health and welfare, production efficiency and methane efficiency, and market suitability of all off-spring, including sexed-semen.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, ICBF, Teagasc, BB	Continue progress on genetics.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Continue measurable improvements in animal health and welfare.

This has benefits both in terms of reputation and economic and climate efficiency.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, AHI, Teagasc, BB, ACA	Improvements in animal health and welfare through National Farm Animal Health Strategy.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Address labour issues facing the sector, including implementation of the ‘People in Dairy Action Plan’.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, Dairy Processors	Implementation of People in Dairy Action Plan.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Explore potential for the development of specific volatility and risk management measures, within both the private and public sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DFIN	Consider public and private sector volatility and risk management tools.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Continue the move to higher-quality, value-added dairy produce, positioning Irish dairy as a premium grass-fed product with strong environmental credentials.

Opportunities exist to grow and develop new markets. The benefits arising should accrue proportionately to primary producers.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Teagasc, Processors	Move to higher dairy value-added produce while developing new markets.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Build a strategy for the development of new markets for Irish organic dairy products and encourage participation at farm level.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Organic Stakeholders, BB	Develop a Strategy for growth of new Irish organic dairy markets.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 10: Continue to work in collaboration across the sector.

The stakeholders will continue to meet and to engage strategically on all the key issues above in various fora, including the Dairy Forum and Dairy Sustainability Ireland.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Dairy Stakeholders	Continued and increased collaboration across the dairy sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Beef and Sheep

Action 11: Recognise the suckler herd as a key asset to Irish agriculture and agree an approach to its development including addressing productivity and efficiency challenges, taking into consideration environmental and other factors.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Farming Organisations, BB, Teagasc, Processors, ACA	Plan for the development and promotion of the suckler beef sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 12: Promote Irish Grass-Fed beef and lamb as premium products, nationally and internationally.

Increased farmer participation in the Beef and Lamb Quality Assurance Scheme is important in pursuing this premium market position. Opportunities also exist to grow and develop new markets, **including for organic lamb and beef.**

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM	Grow and develop new and existing markets for beef and lamb including organic.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 13: Develop and support dairy calf-to-beef systems.

These have a number of advantages, including providing an alternative income stream for beef farmers; earlier maturing; and significant potential to increase genetic potential through the dairy-beef index.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ICBF, ACA	Dairy calf-to-beef systems developed and supported.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 14: Under the auspices of the 2030 process, produce a detailed plan by Q2 2022 to manage the sustainable environmental footprint of the beef sector, including minimising total emissions, while making a positive contribution to improved water quality and biodiversity, in line with government policy. (See Mission 1, Goal 1)

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BB, EPA, Farming Organisations, Processors, ACA	Plan to manage environmental footprint.	Q2 2022.

Action 15: Continue to drive improvements in breeding strategies for cattle and sheep, focused in particular on genomics programmes which contribute to improved environmental and economic efficiency, and improved animal health and animal welfare.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ICBF	Breeding strategies improved.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 16: Continue improvements in pasture management: key areas for progress include soil fertility and the promotion of better pasture management, including reducing chemical nitrogen use, increasing clover and multi-species swards and use of PastureBase Ireland.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, DAFM, ACA	Pasture management improved.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 17: Continue measurable improvements in animal health and welfare. This has benefits both in terms of reputation and economic and climate efficiency.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, AHI, BB, UCD	Measurable improvements in animal health and welfare.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 18: Increase targeting of farm income supports to environmental, economic and social sustainability. Extensive farming practices can contribute to economic sustainability and the social and cumulative economic value of small-scale beef and sheep farming should also be recognised and valued.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Targeted farm income supports for improved sustainability.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 19: Continue to work in collaboration across the sector. The stakeholders will continue to meet and to engage strategically on the key issues facing the sector, as currently with the Beef Taskforce for example.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BB, Processors, Farming Organisations	Continued collaboration across the sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Pigmeat and Poultry

Action 20: Develop the sector both in terms of domestic market share for Irish-produced product and new export markets. Developing the domestic market should include increased marketing & promotion activities and examining the issue of labelling.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, Pigmeat and Poultry Stakeholders, DOH, FSAI	Develop domestic market share for Irish-produced product and new export markets.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 21: Continue to improve productivity in terms of breeding and feed input.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, DAFM, IGFA	Improved productivity in terms of breeding and feed input.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 22: Address specific environmental targets and actions for the sector, encompassing GHG emissions reductions, including ammonia, and better energy efficiency, including renewables. Explore bioeconomy opportunities e.g. for the use of pig manure.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DECC, Teagasc	Improved performance for the sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 23: Address wider societal concerns such as animal welfare, anti-microbial stewardship and food safety; risks for example by building on progress to date in tackling campylobacter in poultry, and salmonella in pigmeat.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, FSAI	Address societal concerns in the sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 24: Develop measures to improve biosecurity, verify animal health and welfare standards and best practice, including through Bord Bia QA Scheme.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM	Continued Implementation of the National Farmed Animal Biosecurity Strategy, the Animal Health Surveillance Strategy for Ireland and Ireland's Animal Welfare Strategy. Enhance Bord Bia QA Scheme.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 25: Develop targeted supports and advice to these specialised sectors.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc	Targeted supports developed.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 26: Examine measures to improve financial and operational risk management.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DFIN	Assessment of financial and risk management to be completed.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Tillage

Action 27: Stakeholders will work to develop the sector to take advantage of potential growth in:

- 1) high value output (malting barley, wheat, oats and rye) to distilling and brewing;
- 2) high value food markets such as oats (particularly organic oats), oils and salad & chipping potatoes;
- 3) meeting domestic protein crop demand for livestock diets. When pursuing these areas of potential growth, it will be important to avoid conversion of extensive or biodiversity rich permanent pasture, unless it can be demonstrated to be not damaging to biodiversity, soil, water, climate and other environmental parameters.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Tillage Stakeholders, Teagasc	Increase high value output, including high value markets and domestic supply of protein crops.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 28: Continue the focus on soil management including nutrient use efficiency and soil quality.

A focus on the basics by adopting agronomic practices that optimise soil pH, soil structure, and soil organic matter. Encourage greater nutrient integration with other sectors through the use of organic manure in addition to a greater emphasis on cover crops and other initiatives to reduce soil erosion and nutrient loss. Implementation of this action should seek to synchronise with the objectives of Action 5 in Goal 3 of Mission 1 (the National Soil Sampling and Analysis Programme and developing a National Soil Strategy).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, DAFM, ACA, EPA	Improved nutrient use and soil quality.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 29: Research should continue in the effort of developing effective Integrated Pesticide Management techniques. This is a constant challenge for researchers as crop pathogens and pests continue to evolve and circumvent both genetic resistance and pesticide efficacy.

The increasing loss of Plant Protection Products (PPPs) is also a significant challenge, and this will continue. Precision breeding techniques, if legislation permits, as well as developing pest management (or “Integrated Pest Management”) approaches will be required to minimise the impact.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs	Research conducted on Integrated Pesticide Management techniques.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 30: Stakeholders will consider aligning the Irish Grain Assurance Scheme (IGAS) with Origin Green.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, Farming Organisations	Consideration given to aligning Irish Grain Assurance Scheme with Origin Green.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 31: Investment in precision and other technologies will be required within the sector as they are both environmentally and economically sustainable.

The sector has traditionally been one of the leading adopters of new technology and this is envisaged to continue.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Tillage Stakeholders	Increased investment in precision and other technologies.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Horticulture

Action 32: Develop a strategy to set out the road map for the horticulture industry to 2030, taking advantage of the growing demand for fruit and vegetables, whole-foods and amenity; to increase production and consumption of Irish produce on the domestic market and, where possible, to take advantage of expanding opportunities internationally. The Strategy should seek to carry forward the environment and sustainability focus of the Agri-Food 2030 Strategy, particularly around the key themes of emission reduction, restoration of biodiversity and climate neutrality. The strategy should also:

- i. Formalise specific environmental targets and actions for the sector, encompassing the maximisation of carbon sequestration.
- ii. Continue to address labour issues, including better use of automation technology and development and training opportunities for workers in the sector.
- iii. Promote and enhance collaboration within the sector through the producer organisation structure and with research providers. Given the fall in grower numbers and the increasingly competitive nature of retail markets, growers need to engage in greater collaboration to exploit market opportunities, combat the current structural control of the multiples and to meet the challenges and opportunities posed by UK exit.
- iv. Identify market opportunities including
 - a. focusing on the significant potential for import substitution
 - b. working with the health industry to promote the physical and mental health dividends that would accrue from increased consumption of fruit and vegetables
 - c. product innovation
 - d. small-scale market garden type horticultural enterprises (both organic and conventional), supplying Farmers' Markets, restaurants and other local food initiatives, for example
- v. Identify the required areas and resources for further research and development in order to enable innovation, technology adaptation, strategic development, new product development and alternative growing media.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, HIF	Horticulture Sector report published. Draft strategy, including action plan to deliver on report recommendations, published. Final strategy after stakeholder consultation published.	Report published Q1 2022. Draft strategy published Q4 2022. Final strategy published Q1 2023. Action plan implemented 2023-2030.

Forestry

Action 33: Develop a new Forestry Strategy for Ireland (see also Goal 4, Mission 1), including new approaches to improving the overall perception of tree planting on farms.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Coillte, Forest Stakeholders, Farming Organisations, RPOs, EPA, NPWS	New Forestry Strategy published.	2022.

Seafood

Action 34: The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has set up a Seafood Sector Taskforce involving seafood industry representatives and other stakeholders to provide recommendations on the appropriate measures that will best support the sector and the local coastal communities.

The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) became applicable from 1 January 2021 as the UK officially exited the transition period. Quota transfers will begin in 2021 and on a phased basis will result in a transfer by Ireland of stocks worth €26 million in 2021 rising to €43 million by 2026 and each year after that. In proportionate terms this means that 15% of Ireland's quotas will be transferred based on 2020 prices. The effects are immediate, with 60% of those transfers to take effect from April. The cost of the final quota transfer by Ireland will amount to 15% loss of the overall value. The Task Force will examine the implications arising from the EU/UK TCA for the Irish Fishing industry and coastal communities particularly dependent upon it. It will, in particular, outline initiatives that could be taken to provide supports for development and restructuring so as to ensure a profitable and sustainable fishing fleet and to identify opportunities for jobs and economic activity in coastal communities dependent on fishing. The Taskforce will consider the extent to which all available funding streams could be used to address, to the extent possible, the initiatives identified and the State agencies to support those initiatives. The Task Force will also consider and recommend constructive actions that would help to alleviate the inequitable relative contribution of quota share by Ireland in the EU/UK TCA. In its interim report, published in June 2021, the Taskforce recommends that a voluntary tie-up scheme be put in place for the period September to December for the approximately 220 polyvalent vessels and beam trawlers directly impacted by the quota transfers under the TCA. The interim report also recommends a range of initiatives to address the quota reductions in the TCA. These recommended actions will be considered further by the Taskforce and will be set down in detail in the Taskforce's main report.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Seafood Sector and Coastal Communities	Publication of final report of the Seafood Sector Task Force.	Final report published 11 October 2021.

Action 35: The Seafood sector will continue on a path of sustainable economic and environmental development by carefully managing the utilisation of sea-fisheries and aquaculture including:

- Expand and invest in fishing operations and gear technology to develop the industry and improve productivity.
- Manage non-quota stock particularly in the inshore sector to deliver maximum sustainable yield.
- Streamline the administrative procedure in the National Strategic Plan for sustainable aquaculture development. The aquaculture licensing system needs to be adaptive to technology advances and local environmental conditions during the lifetime of the licences and at renewal. These issues need to be addressed through legislative change to maximise market demand and growth in the Aquaculture sector.
- Encourage investment in seafood communities to allow for growth and long term economic and social sustainability. This will support a vibrant and growing local seafood sector and the economic and demographic health of rural coastal communities.
- The competition for space for inshore fisheries is greater than ever. Space within the marine sector is required by fisheries and aquaculture, but also in demand for shipping, marine leisure and, more recently, renewable energy. The increased level and diversity of activity in the marine space highlights the need for efficient and co-ordinated management to avoid conflict and to identify, where possible, synergies both within and between. Ireland's future Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) will also impact on the inshore sector.
- Improve economic capability through training and broadening technical and business acumen of primary producers.
- Attract global investment in aquaculture technology. Promote Ireland as a knowledge base for aquaculture technology and research to attract investment on our knowledge base.

The sector has a significant number of specific national policies and strategies, including the EU Common Fisheries Policy, the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development, the Inshore Fisheries Sector Strategy, amongst others.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM, Seafood Stakeholders	More sustainable development of seafood and aquaculture.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.



GOAL 2

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Improve the Creation and Equitable Distribution of Value



TARGETS

2.3; 2.4; 2.b; 2.c; 8.2; 14.b; 17.10; 17.13

The Unfair Trading Practice Directive

Action 1: Ensure that the UTP Directive is transposed in Ireland and the office of the National Food Ombudsman (or equivalent) is established, with appropriate powers.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, DETE

DELIVERABLE

- UTP Directive transposed in Ireland.
- National Food Ombudsman established.

TIMEFRAME

Q3 2021

Ongoing

Market and Price Transparency

Action 2: Ireland will engage fully with the Commission work and continue to develop national initiatives on market and price transparency.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, EC

DELIVERABLE

New national initiatives on market and price transparency.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Co-operatives & Producer Organisations (POs)

Action 3: Support the establishment of Co-operatives and Producer Organisations across all sectors of farming and enhance the role of the fishery producer organisation Co-operative.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, BB, BIM, Teagasc

DELIVERABLE

Establishment of additional Producer Organisations (POs) in farming and continued strengthening of fishery PO Co-operatives.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Origin Green / Quality Assurance (QA) Schemes

Action 4: All farms and seafood operators will participate in a quality assurance scheme, where possible. Sectoral stakeholder groups will consider how to address barriers to entry and increase participation.

STAKEHOLDERS

BB, BIM, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Increased participation by all farms and seafood operators in Origin Green / quality assurance scheme, where possible.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Quality assurance schemes will be continuously reviewed and updated to ensure they are in line with enhanced expectations in areas such as environmental performance, food safety standards, the animal health and welfare sustainability credentials of seafood and market requirements.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, BIM, DAFM	Quality Assurance Schemes reviewed and updated.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Contractual Arrangements

Action 6: Promote and develop contractual arrangements to bring more production and price certainty to primary producers.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, CCPC, Farming Organisations, Processors, Seafood Stakeholders, DETE	Increased promotion of production and price certainty contracts.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: The fishing industry should explore these arrangements to ascertain if improvements in the first sale price can be achieved for the different fleet segments.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BIM	Analysis of arrangements for improvement in the first sale price.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Certification, Accreditation and Geographical Indicators

Action 8: Support food producers to apply for Geographical Indicators and other quality indicators as a way of adding value.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, BIM, Teagasc, Producer Groups	Support and promotion of Geographical Indicators and Other Quality indicator applications.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Continue the development of grass-fed certification and branding, including building on research into the nutritional and other benefits of grass-fed output. The benefits arising from any premiumisation should be passed back proportionately to primary producers.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Teagasc	Certification, branding and marketing of grass-fed products.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 3	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Increase Primary Producer Diversification & Resilience	     
	<p>TARGETS</p> <p>2.3; 2.4; 7.3; 7.b 8.2; 12.2; 14.b; 17.14; 17.17</p>

Organic Farming

<p>Action 1: The recommendations in the “Review of Organic Food Sector and Strategy for its Development 2019-2025” should continue to be implemented and reviewed, including taking on board the new EU Organic Action Plan and its three axes of boosting consumption, increasing production, and improving the sustainability of the sector. All stakeholders should re-double efforts to exploit opportunities in organic horticulture, tillage (oats in particular), dairy and poultry. In addition, Teagasc should establish organic grassland demonstration and tillage farms and conduct a competitiveness analysis of Irish organic farming. Increase the availability of advisors and knowledge exchange practitioners with experience and expertise in organic farming, including the provision of tailored advice for different land types and production systems.</p>		
STAKEHOLDERS DAFM, Organic Stakeholders, Teagasc	DELIVERABLE Implementation of Review of Organic Food Sector Development Strategy including new EU Organic Action Plan.	TIMEFRAME 2025.

<p>Action 2: Continue to support the organic sector to achieve at least 7.5% of Utilisable Agricultural Area under organic production by 2030.</p>		
STAKEHOLDERS DAFM, Farming Organisations, Teagasc, ACA, Organic Stakeholders	DELIVERABLE Support the Organics Sector.	TIMEFRAME 2030.

Forestry and Afforestation, The Bioeconomy, Horticulture

Action 3: See Goal 4 of the Mission “A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector”.

Action 4: See Goal 6 of the Mission “A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector”.

Action 5: See Goal 1 of the Mission on “Viable and Resilient Primary Producer with Enhance Well-Being”.

Other Options

Action 6: Develop a protein strategy to reduce dependence on imported protein crops and open up opportunities in the bioeconomy. A range of research projects are ongoing nationally and internationally, particularly in the area of ‘smart-proteins’, that could inform such a strategy.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, DECC, Bioeconomy Implementation Committee	Protein Strategy developed.	TBC.

Action 7: Communicate the broad range of options for diversification more effectively to farmers, who will need support to adopt them. The main providers of advisory and knowledge transfer services should develop dedicated ‘Diversification Services’ (see also Action 14).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, DAFM, ACA	‘Diversification Services’ developed.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Broaden the seafood product range and develop seafood protein leadership. This growth should also extend into the marine proteins, minerals and ingredients and the potential to maximise value from further processing of raw materials. Fish products have the potential to drive added value as key input ingredients.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BIM, DAFM, Seafood Industry	Seafood product range broadened including development of sea food protein.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Using Just Transition Principles, build socio-economic resilience through diversification, including by building on Action 13 of Ag Climatise, which aims to review and analyse the full suite of land diversification options that offer economic opportunities while also reducing and/or sequestering emissions (note, this will need to link closely to the actions contained in Mission 4 Goal 3 ‘Develop a Dynamic Knowledge Exchange Environment’).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, BIM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations, Organic Stakeholders, All Stakeholders	Diversification options available.	Ongoing.

GOAL 4

Improve the Social Sustainability of Primary Producers

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

1.4; 1.b; 2.3; 2.4; 2.a; 3.8; 3.d; 4.4; 4.5; 4.7; 5.1; 5.4; 5.5; 5.a; 5.b; 5.c; 8.3; 8.5; 8.8; 8.9; 9.c; 10.2; 10.3; 11.4; 11.a; 12.8; 12.b; 13.3; 14.4; 14.a; 15.4; 15.6; 15.9; 16.b; 17.13; 17.14; 17.15; 17.16; 17.17

Cross-Cutting

Action 1: Teagasc Sustainability Reporting should broaden to incorporate issues such as: generational renewal and collaborative farming models; gender balance; diversity and inclusion; education and training; and health and safety (including incidence of farm accidents, stress and rates of isolation). The new 'Whole Farm Sustainability Planning Service' to be offered by Teagasc should include social sustainability measures.

STAKEHOLDERS

Teagasc, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Strengthen Reporting.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Protect and enhance cultural heritage, physical and intangible, which is an important source of wellbeing and of broader social sustainability of rural areas.

STAKEHOLDERS

NPWS, Heritage Ireland, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Cultural heritage protected.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Generational Renewal

Action 3: Continue to provide appropriate CAP and CFP supports to encourage generational renewal.		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BIM	CAP and CFP supports provided to encourage generational renewal.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Pursue progressive taxation policies especially to promote land mobility and assist succession, including the early inter-generational transfer of farms, to support both younger and older farmers.		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DPER	Agri-taxation policies pursued to support generational renewal.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Support and further develop collaborative farming models.		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations	Collaborative farming models promoted.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Ensure adequate access to finance for young farmers and fishers in the context of access to finance generally (see also Goal 5, Action 3 in Mission 4 “An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology and Talent”).		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DETE, DFIN, SBCI	Access to finance supports where appropriate.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 7: Promote the diversity of careers in agriculture and seafood and address negative perceptions of farming and fishing. (Note, this is closely linked to Goal 6 in Mission 4 ‘An Innovative and Competitive Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology and Talent’).		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BIM	Careers in agriculture and seafood promoted.	Ongoing, with annual Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Gender Balance

Action 8: Promote women’s participation in farming through KT Groups facilitated by a female advisor: This is in keeping with the spirit of the KT Programme where like minded farmers who experience similar challenges and opportunities form groups.		
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, Farming Organisations	Female farmer’s KT group(s) established and supported.	2024 (subject to approval of the CAP Strategic Plan and interest from female farmers and advisors).

Action 9: Hold a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Farming Organisations	National Dialogue held.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 10: Capture and publish gender data on policy implementation e.g. participation by women in schemes and measures.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Improved gender data captured across schemes and measures.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 11: Represent the agri-food sector in the development of the next National Women and Girl's Strategy (with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth) due to be published in 2022.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DCEDIY	Agri-food Sector represented at Strategy development.	2022.

Diversity and Inclusion

Action 12: Promote LGBTI+ inclusion and combat isolation Primary producers are a diverse community just like any other cohort. All people, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, age and sexual orientation, are necessary to build strong, thriving rural communities and should feel welcome and valued. All stakeholders should work to improve visibility of LGBTI+ people and issues while simultaneously working to reduce isolation.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BIM	LGBTI+ inclusion promoted, and measures developed to combat isolation.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Education and Training

Action 13: Ensure education and training course content keeps up with the changing demands of farming, forestry and seafood (e.g. managing staff, technology training, best practice in environmentally and socially sustainable farming, forestry and seafood production, etc).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BIM, Educational Providers, FSAI	Education and training content updated.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 14: Promote education and training including life-long learning and peer to peer learning by continuing to support young, trained farmers and seafood workers.

Examine the feasibility of establishing a CPD framework for young, trained farmers / seafood workers.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, BIM, Educational Providers	Education and training promoted.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 15: Empower farmers to become educators, trainers and leaders in areas such as environmental sustainability wherever possible. Peer to peer learning can be impactful and routes to this include through discussion groups, farm walks and networks such as Farming for Nature.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ACA	Environmental sustainability education and training promoted.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Health and Safety

Action 16: Introduce mandatory health and safety skills training for all those working on farms, particularly in the areas of livestock handling and machinery. This could potentially follow the ‘Safe Pass’ example for construction sites. While mandatory safety training exists for the fishing industry there is a need to develop and redefine the culture of safety in the seafood industry through increased education and communication campaigns.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Farming and Seafood Organisations, DAFM, Teagasc, BIM, HSA, Training Providers	Mandatory health and safety skills training introduced for all those working on farms.	TBC.

Action 17: Enhance awareness of health and safety throughout the sector, including among farm families and schools, including among farm families and schools. Include health and safety training as a component of existing and new schemes. Develop education, awareness and communication campaigns, across various media platforms, targeted at high risk cohorts, particularly on the main causes of accidents and fatalities.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
HSA, DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, Farming Organisations, BIM	Enhanced health and safety awareness throughout the sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 18: LEAN programmes will be mainstreamed to all primary producers. Pilot initiatives have demonstrated that the application of ‘LEAN’ principles on-farm not only deliver greater efficiencies and financial savings, but lead to improvements in farm safety, better resource efficiency, including time, as well as reduced stress and physical labour.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Dairy Processors, EI, DAFM, BIM, Teagasc, Farming Organisations	Increased application of LEAN principles on farms.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Mental Health and Well-Being (including isolation)

Action 19: Continued roll-out of actions in the Teagasc/Mental Health Ireland manual ‘Coping with The Pressures of Farming’ by both public and private advisory service, and the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy and the National Wellbeing Framework and engage with the Roadmap for Social Inclusion.

In addition, advisory and KT providers should enhance their rural resilience services with a focus on farmer well-being. Develop programmes to support the health and wellbeing of the seafood sector and communities.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, BIM, Mental Health Ireland, DAFM, DSP	Implementation of actions and continued roll-out of strategies.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 20: Continue to support the Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Council’s Early Warning/ Intervention System now called the Farmer and Animal Welfare Network (FAWN) which provides assistance to farmers where they may be experiencing problems that may lead to animal welfare difficulties, consistent with the theme of One Health, One Welfare.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Farm Animal Advisory Council	Farmer and Animal Welfare Network is supported.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 21: Create social opportunities for primary producers within their localities (such as discussion groups, farm walks, cultural and heritage events, men’s sheds, etc.)

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DRCD, Teagasc, Macra na Feirme	Increased social sustainability opportunities.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 22: Continue to promote “social farming”. Social Farming supports placements on a family farm, using the natural assets of the people, the place, the activities and the community to support a person to achieve some of their own chosen goals.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Social Farming Ireland	Social Farming programme promoted.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Rural Development

Action 23: Government will continue to focus on Rural Development; The Government has published a new rural development policy, Our Rural Future 2021 to 2025. It builds on and goes beyond the Action Plan for Rural Development 2017-2019 by adopting a more strategic, ambitious and holistic approach to investing in and maximising opportunities for rural areas. There is an increased understanding nationally and internationally that rural development is integrally linked to policies across a wide range of areas including spatial planning, enterprise growth, job creation, social cohesion, community development, public services, communications infrastructure, agriculture, the marine, climate adaptation, tourism, heritage, health and leisure. Our Rural Future contains fourteen actions that relate to agriculture, the marine and forestry. For example, there is a commitment to encourage and support Local Authorities to expand the number of farmers’ markets, farm shops and community-owned markets. The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine will work with the Department for Rural and Community Development and others, including the agri-food stakeholders, to deliver this framework for the economic and social development of rural areas over the next five years.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DRCD, Other Government Departments, Teagasc, DAFM	Implementation of Rural Development Policy.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 24: Rapid roll-out of the National Broadband plan (including broadband connection points and digital hubs) will be critical to realising many of the actions in this Strategy – see Mission 4, Goal 4, action 6.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DRCD	High speed rural broadband rolled out.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 25: DAFM will ensure that the contribution of the entire agri-food sector to the economic and social fabric of the country is recognised in public policy.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DRCD, DAFM	Agri-food sector recognised in Cross Government Policies.	Ongoing, with annual (Q2) review by the Implementation Committee.



MISSION 3

**Food Which is Safe,
Nutritious and
Appealing, Trusted
and Valued at Home
and Abroad**



GOAL

Coherence of policies for food, health and nutrition; Enhancement of consumer trust through providing evidence of safe and ethical food production; Creation of value-add, through insight and innovation, supporting the food sector and continuing to develop market opportunities at home and abroad.

KEY INDICATORS

- Development of coherent national and international food, health and nutrition initiatives
- Enhanced food safety, animal health and welfare
- Value and value-added in the agri-food sector
- Value of Agri-food exports

PROGRESS BY 2030

The Strategy aims for an integrated food systems approach to food and health policy.

Continued world-class standards in food safety, animal health and welfare.

Increased value-addition, and an increase in the value of agri-food exports to €21billion by 2030, built on sustainable steady value growth.

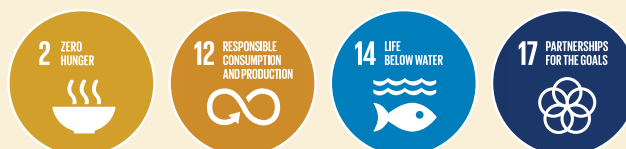


MISSION 3: Food which is Safe, Nutritious and Appealing, Trusted and Valued at Home and Abroad

GOAL 1

Prioritise Coherent Food and Health Policies to Deliver Improved Health Outcomes

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

2.1; 2.4; 2.c; 12.6; 12.7; 14.b; 17.13; 17.14; 17.16; 17.17

Action 1: Improve coherence of policies for food, health and nutrition through the establishment of a high-level implementation group co-chaired by the Departments of Health and Agriculture, Food and the Marine. This should act as a starting point for the development by Government of a National Food and Health Policy. There is already a substantial agenda where the work of both Departments overlap, including aspects of Healthy Ireland and the National Obesity Strategy. These various initiatives should be advanced through effective citizen engagement and informed by scientific evidence and expert advice and input from stakeholders representing all aspects of the food and health systems. From this process, clear guidance on sustainable healthy diets that is science and evidence-based should be published for different audiences.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM and DOH, FSAI, RPOs, Teagasc, Processors

DELIVERABLE

Establishment of High Level Implementation Group.

TIMEFRAME

Q2 2022.

Action 2: Ensure that the healthy and sustainable choice is made as accessible to consumers as possible.

Great efforts in this regard have been made in recent years and these should be intensified. Food processors, food service operators and retailers influence consumers' dietary choices through the types and nutritional composition of the food they produce and sell, their choice of suppliers, production methods (including primary production systems) and packaging, transport, merchandising and marketing practices. Nutritious foods should also be affordable and acceptable from a sensory (flavour and texture) and cultural perspective to consumers.

STAKEHOLDERS

Retailers, Food Service, DOH, FSAI, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Improve healthy and sustainable choice accessible to consumers.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Promote best practice on labelling. Farm to Fork includes ambitious proposals for harmonised mandatory labelling; including front of pack nutrition labelling; as well as enhanced origin labelling; and a sustainable food labelling framework. Ireland should contribute positively towards this workstream, ensuring that labelling initiatives are evidence based, contribute to greater consumer awareness and knowledge, but without creating unintended barriers to trade. Bord Bia should also follow this approach in relation to standard for voluntary labels such as the Q-mark and grass-fed logo. Successful pilot projects testing blockchain technology to enhance traceability across supply chains has been carried out by BIM. It is intended to incorporate this in future seafood sustainable assurance initiatives. Blockchain and other digital technologies offer significant potential for the whole agri-food sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DOH, FSAI, BB, BIM, Processors, Food Service, Retailers	Evidence based labelling providing greater awareness to consumers.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Agree a stakeholder Roadmap for Food Product Reformulation. Self-regulation has been the primary approach to product reformulation in the Irish food industry, where good progress has been made in recent years.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DOH, FSAI, Teagasc, Processors, RPOs	Stakeholder Roadmap for Reformulation agreed.	Published December 2021.

Action 5: Develop public procurement policies to promote healthy and sustainable diets, particularly in schools and public institutions.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
OGP, DAFM, DOH, EPA, DFHERIS	Public procurement policies agreed.	Engagement plan developed 2021, with implementation thereafter.

Action 6: Continue to invest in the food, health and diet/consumption systems research required to generate the evidence base to inform our national policies.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DOH, FSAI, Teagasc, RPOs	An enhanced evidence base to inform national policies on food health and diet consumption.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 2	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</h2>
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Enhance Customer and Consumer Trust in our Food System, Providing Evidence of a Safe, Ethical Food Supply</h2>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div> <p style="color: #e91e63; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">TARGETS</p> <p>2.3; 2.4; 3.d; 14.a; 17.17</p>

Safe and Authentic Food

<p style="color: #e91e63; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Action 1: Implement the 'Food Safety and Food Authenticity Strategy' action plan.</p>		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>DAFM, FSFA, FSAI, SFPA, DOH/HSE, LAVS and Marine Institute</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE</p> <p>Food Safety and Food Authenticity Action Plan implemented.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME</p> <p>Mid 2023.</p>
<p style="color: #e91e63; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Action 2: Revise the 'National Farmed Animal Health Strategy' when the current one expires in 2022. These strategies should be developed and implemented in consultation with stakeholders, to ensure coherence and alignment with the 'One Health One Welfare' approach.</p>		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>DAFM, AHI, Teagasc, Farming Organisations</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE</p> <p>New National Farmed Animal Health Strategy agreed.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME</p> <p>Q3 2022.</p>
<p style="color: #e91e63; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Action 3: Leverage the expertise and resources of all organisations involved in control of the food system to continue to enhance the reputation of Irish food and drink, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct risk assessments and enhance testing capability (using data analytics and digital technology), along the complete food chain, to quantify the threats caused by food-borne hazards to human health, and to identify, assess and implement appropriate measures of intervention and control. Enforce robust food safety and authenticity measures at all points along the food chain to maintain trust and to prevent damage to the system through a lack of confidence. Work collaboratively and deploy appropriate resources to continually strengthen the regulatory food control system. Build on existing collaborative structures between regulators and the agri-food industry to ensure a capacity and capability for adequate contingency responses in the event of serious incidents. 		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>DAFM, FSAI, Teagasc, BB, BIM, DOH, HSE</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE</p> <p>Risk assessments and testing, enforcement and development of collaborative structures.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME</p> <p>Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.</p>

Action 4: Publish a new National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance (iNAP), co-sponsored by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Health, to replace the current plan which expired in 2020. Develop, introduce and promote necessary systems that assist in the delivery of the iNAP objectives in areas such as improved animal health (e.g. Animal Health Ireland (AHI) promoted programmes), improved herd biosecurity, measuring antibiotic usage, increased use of milk recording, rapid sensitivity testing, etc. In addition, continue to advance the science of AMR and seek alternatives to antibiotics, such as exploring the use of novel by-products from food production and processing. Further, continue the work of the Anti-Parasitic Resistance Group to address this issue.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DOH, FSAI, AHI, Farming Organisations, Processors, Teagasc and Others	New National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance published.	November 2021.

Action 5: Implement the newly launched National Farmed Animal Biosecurity Strategy which informs and guides actions on the prevention of disease and the maintenance and improvement of Ireland's herd and flock health status, while also having positive impacts on food safety.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, AHI, Farming Organisations, Teagasc	National Farmed Animal Biosecurity Strategy implemented.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: DAFM and other relevant agencies should ensure that vulnerability assessments are conducted on the food chain and that measures are taken as appropriate to maintain and safeguard the authenticity and integrity of food standards and marketing claims.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, FSAI, Teagasc, RPOs	Vulnerability assessments conducted on the food chain.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Transparency and Trust

Action 7: Continuously review systems for transparency, traceability, food safety, food authenticity and animal welfare information along the food chain, for example by harnessing emerging technologies that are verified and robust and integrating them into existing traceability and control systems in line with the regulatory framework.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, FSAI, RPOs, Teagasc	Continue to review systems for transparency, traceability, food safety, food authenticity and animal welfare information along the food chain.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: New technologies and platforms will be created and used to:

- Develop focused, factual and clear messages for trade customers and consumers, including the promotion of more direct contact with producers, around food safety, how food is produced, how it is processed, sustainable food and healthy diets.
- Connect and facilitate knowledge transfer among producers, and to consumers.
- Review all relevant datasets currently available within government and state agencies and in industry or in open data sets, to ensure evidence can be provided to demonstrate safe, authentic food. Build data-hubs to support enhanced use and inter-operability of data across the food system.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Teagasc, FSAI, Processors	New technologies to deliver and improve information across food systems including focused messaging, knowledge transfer and data hubs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Implement the new National Animal Welfare Strategy (2021 – 2025). The new national overarching strategy takes a One Health One Welfare approach, recognising the strong interconnections and interdependencies between human, animal and environmental health and wellbeing. It is underpinned by five guiding principles: working in partnership; science and evidence-led policy making; improving education and knowledge; consistent evaluation and assessment and an effective regulatory system. It provides the framework within which all animal welfare matters can be considered and advanced through the collective effort of stakeholders, such that the vision of Ireland being increasingly recognised as a country that actively promotes and safeguards the welfare of animals is achieved. This will reflect positively on our society and in the international marketplace on our livestock industries.

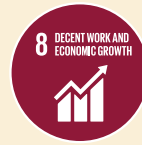
STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, AHI, Farming Organisations, Teagasc	National Animal Welfare Strategy implemented.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.



GOAL 3

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Increase Value add in Food & Drink Through Insight, Product Development and Differentiation



TARGETS

2.3; 7.2; 8.2; 8.3; 9.1; 9.5; 14.a; 14.b

Action 1: Develop the evidence to demonstrate the differentiating attributes of sustainably produced Irish food and beverages, particularly around taste, nutritional profile and health inducing properties, that are in line with lifestyle trends particularly in the area of convenience. Prioritise food products derived from grass-fed systems in the first instance, while also exploring new opportunities that may arise in the horticulture and organic sectors, particularly for substitution of imports.

STAKEHOLDERS

Teagasc, RPOs, DAFM, DOH, BB

DELIVERABLE

Evidence to demonstrate and differentiate attributes of sustainably produced Irish food and Beverages developed.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Develop value-added functional foods and ingredient solutions with proven health benefits.

The ability to monitor health and nutrition more closely is a growing consumer interest, especially for older adults and young children. This can be achieved by building on existing platforms such as Food for Health Ireland and the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre (APC). Note, this action is closely linked to Goal 2, A Strategic Funding Approach for Research, Development and Innovation, in Mission 4.

STAKEHOLDERS

Food and drink manufacturers, RPOs, Teagasc, DAFM, BB, EI, BIM, FHI

DELIVERABLE

Increase level of value added food ingredients with health benefits.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: The food and beverage industry should take advantage of digital innovations and artificial intelligence (AI) to:

- Assist consumers live active healthy lives, and enable smart & personalised food choices, e.g. of the nutritional content/allergens in food;
- Develop versatile and affordable sensors applied for the real-time, control of food processing, thereby minimising waste and enhancing food quality for customers and consumers;
- Facilitate the development of food systems and decision-support tools to assess and improve Irish crop production including its nutrient profile;
- Develop new sales and distribution channels such as online and home delivery;
- Tell the story of how Irish food is produced, bringing trade customers and consumers closer to primary producers.

Note, this action is closely linked with Goal 4, Enhance the use of Technology and data, Mission 4.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
RPOs and Teagasc	Increased application of Digital Innovations and Artificial Intelligence in food and beverages industry.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Industry will use R&D and innovation to progress reformulation of energy-dense and nutrient-poor processed foods to reduce the levels of disadvantageous components (e.g. sugar, salt, nitrites and/or trans fats) – see also Goal 1.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
FSAI, DOH, RPOs, Teagasc, DAFM	Industry progress on reformulation of energy-dense nutrient food to reduce level of disadvantageous components.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Further develop on Bord Bia’s ‘Thinking House’ model of targeting product and market segments based on consumer and market insights, while leveraging regulatory expertise to ensure new products and innovations are compliant with relevant legislation. The ability to utilise foresight into market and consumer behaviour should also continue to be developed. Retailers and brand suppliers also have an insight into consumer trends, attitudes and behaviours, and with the growing amount of data collected in this area, there is an opportunity to leverage this through the supply chain. Efforts should also be made to improve the transmission of market insights to primary producers, as part of a move to greater transparency in the food chain.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM	Continued enhancement of the ‘Thinking House’ model.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Industry will further leverage the various sectoral technology centres to further drive innovation, value-add, new product development and reformulation, lean manufacturing, automation, and circularity. The establishment of the Prepared Consumer Food Centre, National Food Innovation Hub, Meat Technology Ireland and the BIM’s Seafood Development Hub, as well as other research centres such as Food for Health Ireland, the Dairy Processing Technology Centre and VistaMilk, have been hugely beneficial to the industry in carrying out collaborative research on key areas of common interest to companies in the sector. The opening of the new National Food Innovation Hub located at Teagasc Moorepark in 2021 will be another significant development.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
EI, Teagasc, BB, BIM, DAFM, SFSI, RPOs	Collaborative innovation to further leverage the various sectoral technology centres.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.






Action 7: Consider the feasibility of extending innovation hub models to new sectors (e.g. brewing and distilling). Learnings and synergies across the various research centres, and with other industries, should be explored.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EI, BB, Teagasc	Assess extending innovation hubs to new sectors.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Support for early-stage food businesses (Teagasc and other research institutions are developing innovation and pilot processing centres) should be networked and linked to each other and to initiatives (including Enterprise Ireland’s High Potential Start Up programme), as well as larger scale national innovation centres.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
EI, Teagasc, BB, DAFM, BIM , FSAI, RPOs	Comprehensive support for early stage food businesses.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.



GOAL 4	<h2 style="color: #e91e63; margin: 0;">Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</h2>
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Develop Market Opportunities at Home and Abroad</h2>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div> <p style="color: #e91e63; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">TARGETS</p> <p>2.3; 2.4; 2.b; 8.2; 8.3; 8.9; 12.b; 14.6; 14.b; 17.10; 17.7</p>

Export Markets

<p>Action 1: Prioritise markets and target segment(s) by continuing to conduct and use trade customer and consumer and market insights, both at company, sector and national level. This should include building on the reputation of Irish food and beverages to reinforce existing retail and food service customer relationships and attract new customers and routes to market.</p>		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS BB, DAFM</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE Target consumer and market insights prioritisation.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.</p>
<p>Action 2: Defend and build market share in the UK, building on British trade customer and consumer confidence in Irish food and beverages as quality, trusted, sustainably produced and 'close to home'. The relatively high proportion of exports to the UK market can be attributed to a mix of economic, geographic, and cultural reasons. Although the trading relationship has changed, Great Britain will remain a significant market for Irish food and drink.</p>		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS BB, DAFM, DFA</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE Maintain and continue to build strong trade links with the UK.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.</p>
<p>Action 3: Increase efforts to gain and maintain market access for key product categories to priority international markets. Maintaining and building on existing market access will require an intensified programme of inward and outward Government to Government meetings and technical discussions, as well as utilising the network of DAFM attachés located in Irish Embassies across the globe. New markets with different cuisines offer opportunities to add value (for example by finding markets for meat offal's).</p>		
<p>STAKEHOLDERS DAFM, BB, DFA</p>	<p>DELIVERABLE Market access for priority international markets achieved and maintained.</p>	<p>TIMEFRAME Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.</p>

Action 4: Intensify the programme of Ministerial trade missions to priority international markets.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB	Comprehensive programme of Ministerial Trade missions.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Enhance the presence of DAFM and Bord Bia in those markets where a need is identified. The placing of such resources should also be responsive to market developments. These efforts should be effectively coordinated with other Government Departments and agencies, particularly Enterprise Ireland, to maximise the benefits for Ireland’s trade agenda and food and drink exports.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, DETE, EI	Continuously review DAFM and BB resources and enhance where appropriate.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Carry out an update on the 2018 ‘Prioritising Markets: Opportunities for Growth’ exercise in 2022 in conjunction with industry stakeholders.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM	Update ‘Prioritising Opportunities for Growth’.	2022.

Action 7: Tailor new product development to the needs of trade customers and consumers, particularly those in high value markets and market segments, having regard for new consumer buying habits such as online shopping and home delivery. Ensure investment in Research & Development and NPD is supported by innovation in branding and customer experiences to differentiate and premiumise products and increase targeted marketing campaigns in these markets.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Food and Drink Manufacturers, BB, EI, RPOs, Teagasc	Food and Drink product development should respond to BB market insights and market research.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: Further integrate primary producers into market engagement in order to keep them informed of market developments and product requirements in their main export markets and to help them plan their business for the medium term. Identify a select sub-set of credible ‘champions’ to help make the case directly to customers and consumers.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, Farming Organisations	Greater understanding by primary producers of market research and product requirements.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: The relevant Irish authorities will work to maintain and enhance a rules-based and equitable multilateral trading system, particularly in international fora such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and OIE. In addition, imports into the European Union should meet the same high standards for food safety and authenticity, traceability and environmental standards as food produced in the EU.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DETE, DAFM, DFA	Continuation of rules-based and equitable multilateral trading systems.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Domestic and Local Markets

Action 10: Explore domestic market opportunities, particularly for horticulture, organic, prepared consumer foods, tillage crops, pigmeat and poultry and support initiatives to encourage retailers, food service operators and the public sector to source Irish food and drinks, while at all times respecting the EU Single Market Principles and Regulations.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, HIF, Organic Stakeholders, Retailers, Food Service, Teagasc, DRCD, Local Authorities, FSAI	Increased domestic markets for agri-food products.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 11: Promote short, efficient routes to market that connect small food producers to the consumer and provide advisory, investment and marketing support for those who wish to diversify into new products. Examine how other countries have been successful in developing premium markets from family-farm produce.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM	Promote small food producers.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 12: Support opportunities for direct local sales e.g. through developing farmers' markets, community agri-food initiatives and online direct sales platforms. Local community initiatives where food practices are shared, and which are often non-commercial, can be empowering and have also proven to be positive in terms of improving health and wellbeing.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, Local Authorities Stakeholders, DRCD, FSAI	New opportunities for direct local sales platforms supported.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 13: Support small and artisan food producers to develop, market and sell their products into the local and wider domestic markets.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
BB, DAFM, DETE, Teagasc, FSAI, LEOs, DRCD, Leader Groups	Small and artisan food producers supported.	Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.

Action 14: Continue to develop linkages between local food and tourism offerings, including support for business development and marketing initiatives to support and promote food and drink visitor attractions including the distillery, brewery and tourism sector. For example, the seafood sector’s approach to augment their value and connect with other economies in their area with the Taste of the Atlantic – a seafood journey. The Taste of the Atlantic a joint programme between BIM, Bord Bia and Fáilte Ireland runs along the entire Wild Atlantic Way route and offers a platform to showcase Ireland’s exceptional seafood producers from the Inishowen Peninsula at the top of Donegal right down to Oysterhaven Bay in Cork.

STAKEHOLDERS

BB, Fáilte Ireland, DAFM, DTCAGSM, DRCD

DELIVERABLE

Further development of linkages between local food and tourism offerings developed.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q3) review by the Implementation Committee.



MISSION 4

**An Innovative,
Competitive &
Resilient Agri-Food
Sector, Driven by
Technology and
Talent**



GOAL

An innovation, knowledge and technology driven sector; with improved competitiveness and resilience along the food chain; and the attraction and nurturing of diverse talent.

KEY INDICATORS

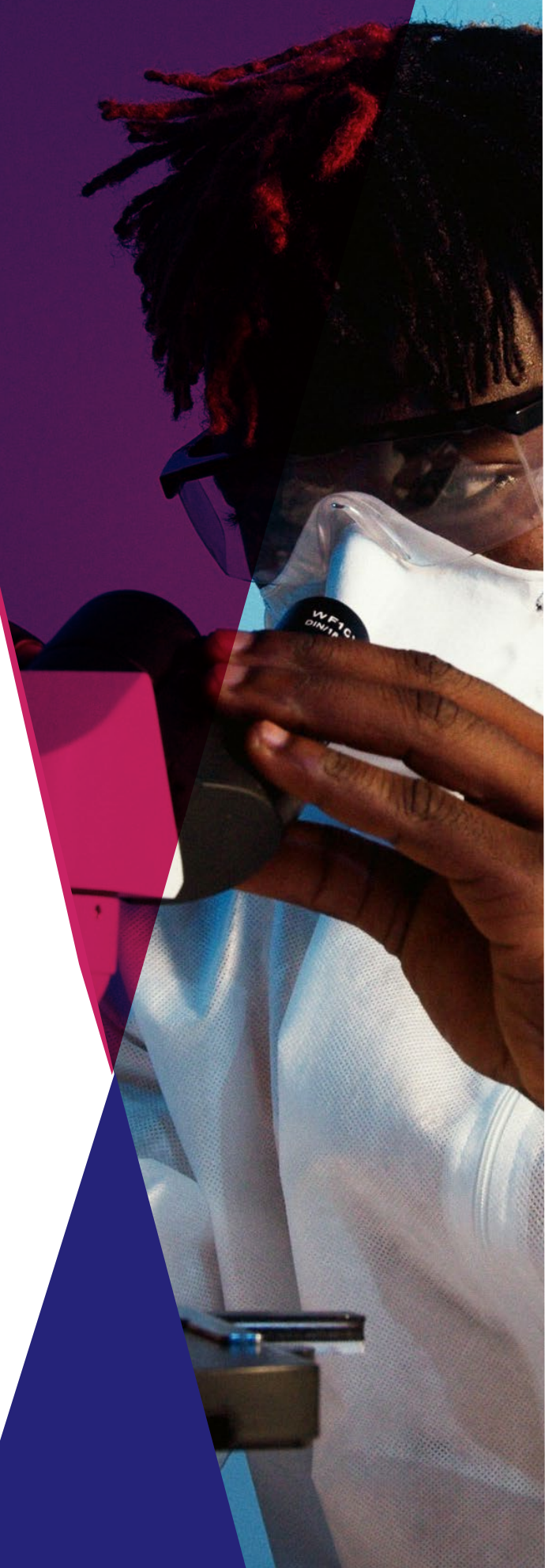
- Level of implementation of the recommendations of the High-Level Innovation Team
- Level of private R&D
- Availability of public policy supports, including R&D, access to finance and on competitiveness issues specific to the agri-food sector.
- Development and implementation of a strategy for the agri-food sector on education, skills and talent attraction and retention.
- Promotion of food and nutrition security, and SFSs, as an important part of delivering on Ireland's ambition of achieving the UN aid target of 0.7% of GNI by 2030

PROGRESS BY 2030

The Strategy envisages a more output-focused collaborative innovation system by 2030; with private R&D to reach 1% of turnover. The agri-food sector should be more competitive resilient, and seen as attractive by a young, diverse and talented workforce.

Ireland will advocate for Sustainable Food Systems internationally and for the development of a recognised SFS measurement or index to supplement and strengthen its vision for 2030.

Ireland's advocacy that SFSs are an important part of the deepening strategic relationship between Africa and the EU, and within Ireland's overall relationship with Africa.



MISSION 4: An Innovative, Competitive & Resilient Agri-Food Sector, Driven by Technology and Talent

GOAL 1

Move to a Challenge-Focused Innovation System

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

2.3; 8.2; 8.3; 9.5; 17.16; 17.17

Action 1: Implement the recommendations of the High-Level Innovation Team through the development of a roadmap (the Agri-Food Innovation Strategy) including:

- Develop a mission-oriented, output-focused approach with stakeholders to address key challenges, while acknowledging the requirement for research and knowledge creation on new and developing concepts and policy.
- Improve the cohesion of public and private actors in the agri-food innovation system through a framework approach and the identification of key performance indicators.
- Promote increased collaboration among all stakeholders (public, private and academic institutions) including to create, design, demonstrate, test and learn about new ideas in real world settings. European Innovation Partnerships and national collaborative research, technology and cluster programmes such as those initiated by Enterprise Ireland are good examples of such initiatives.
- Businesses should be supported to develop an innovation culture throughout their organisations that supports all types of innovation (near, medium and longer term) and pursuing innovation that is output-focused and built on trade customer and consumer insight.
- Build on ongoing initiatives and develop further strategic international partnerships and collaboration and examine international initiatives to support the addressing of identified grand challenges.
- Appoint a single point of oversight with responsibility for driving this Agri-Food Innovation Strategy.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, DFHERIS, DETE, EI, Teagasc, SFI, EPA, SEAI, IRC, Marine Institute, RPOs

DELIVERABLE

Implementation of Roadmap.

TIMEFRAME

TBC.

Action 2: Engage with EU and international partners to co-develop a coordinated set of innovation actions, collaboration and networking focusing on aiding an environment and climate-led transition to a climate neutral agri-food sector and circular bioeconomy. Collaboration with Northern Ireland partners on all-island research priorities will be important in this regard.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, EPA, EI, SFI, Teagasc, Marine Institute, RPOs, EU

DELIVERABLE

Coordination and enhanced engagement with EU and International partners on research priorities including Northern Ireland.

TIMEFRAME

TBC.

Action 3: Examine the development of ‘Targeted Innovation Activities’ for specific agri-food sectors within the challenge-orientation approach focused on problem-specific societal challenges.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EI, BIM	‘Targeted innovation activities’ examined and developed where appropriate.	TBC.

GOAL 2	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<p>A Strategic Funding Approach for Research, Development and Innovation</p>	    
	<p>TARGETS</p> <p>2.3; 2.4; 2.a; 7.a; 9.5; 9.b; 14.a; 17.1; 17.4; 17.10; 17.17</p>

Action 1: Maintain publicly-funded research in agri-food at an appropriate funding level. Publicly-funded research should have a strong output focus and adopt a challenge-based approach, with a view to co-developing practical solutions for farmers, fishers, forest owners and agri-food businesses that are easy to implement. It should also be aligned with EU policies, particularly strategies, partnerships and the Mission Boards (on adaptation to climate change including societal transformation, healthy oceans, seas coastal and inland waters, and soil health and food) under Horizon Europe.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DETE, DFHERIS, EI, SFI, Teagasc, Marine Institute	Maintain publicly-funded research calls at an appropriate funding level.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Target privately funded R&D to reach 1% of turnover on average by 2025. A pathway to realise this should be developed which would include a focus on collaborative research, including between sub-sectors, as well as company specific R&D and innovation, customer sponsored research, public-private and private-private partnerships.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DETE, DFHERIS, EI, Teagasc, RPOs	1 % R&D funding target met.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Strengthen links between agri-food R&D and other national research priority areas through research co-operation, platforms or networks such as data, digitalisation, AI & ICT; advanced and SMART manufacturing, biobased and novel materials; climate science & carbon mitigation; biodiversity; and circular economy (nutrient & water recycling, food loss and waste).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, RPOs, DETE, DFHERIS, EI, SFI	Assess and strengthen links to other research areas.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Review R&D tax credits to address specific issues that relate to the agri-food sector, such as definitions and guidelines that currently do not adequately reflect R&D in the sector and that could also help to improve uptake among SMEs in particular.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DFIN, Revenue	Review of R&D tax credits in agri-food sector.	TBC.

GOAL 3

Develop a Dynamic Knowledge Exchange Environment

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

2.3; 2.5; 4.7; 13.3; 14.a; 17.17

Action 1: Develop an Agricultural Knowledge & Innovation System (AKIS) in line with the CAP Strategic Plan. This should include enhancing knowledge flows and strengthening links between research and practice; strengthening all farm advisory services and fostering their interconnection within the AKIS; enhancing cross-thematic and cross-border interactive innovation; and supporting the digital transition in agriculture. This will require developing the full range of digital skills that primary producers will need, including up-skilling and re-skilling.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, BB	Develop AKIS in line with CAP Strategic Plan.	Q1 2023 and ongoing.

Action 2: Embed knowledge exchange principles and include a knowledge exchange component in publicly funded research. Where feasible, seek to involve individual farms and advisors and allow for research to be co-created, designed, tested, demonstrated, and adopted by the target end-user.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc, ACA, BB	Knowledge exchange component included in public funded research.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Strengthen primary producer advisory and extension services to cover environmental and climate performance, innovation and digitalisation, as well as agronomic, animal health and welfare, technical and financial aspects.






- a) Primary Producers & Advisors will require continuous professional development so as to aid the uptake and adoption of sustainable technologies and practices particularly on climate and biodiversity (e.g., hedgerow management) in a timely fashion.
- b) Current AKIS providers should develop initiatives to engage with farmers who currently do not engage with the farm advisory system.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, ACA, DAFM, AHI, BB	Primary producer advisory and extension services strengthened.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Develop, test and share knowledge and experiences through for example focus groups, living labs, incubators, and other co-operative activities. Prioritise more farmer engagement and peer to peer learning and advice should be tailored to the primary producers in their local area. Capitalise on the expertise and communication skills of farmers through more farmer-led talks, videos and other outreach activities.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, ACA, BB, DAFM	Increased collaboration of focus groups, living labs, incubators, etc.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.



GOAL 4	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Enhance the Use of Technology and Data	     <p>TARGETS 2.3; 2.4; 5.b; 8.2; 14.a; 17.14; 17.16; 17.6.1; 17.7; 17.8.1</p>

Action 1: Develop the digital transition of the agri-food sector in line with policies such as the CAP Strategic Plan process and the National Digital Strategy. Key principles which should be followed include:

- a) Develop a coordinated approach for the use of data and digital technologies in agri-food, focusing on the specific needs and requirements of primary producers, processors and consumers.
- b) Examine the opportunity for the use of public data sources to support the design and implementation of agri-food and bioeconomy policies addressing productivity, sustainability and transparency.
- c) Promote ‘fit for purpose’ technology that is backed up by a robust business case around the adoption of such technology at farm level. In addition, develop ways of communicating with society, trade customers and consumers how these technologies are used in food production so that they are understood and not feared, such as through Origin Green.
- d) Foster greater collaboration between research organisations and non-traditional partners.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, RPOs, Teagasc, Farming Organisations	Delivery of the four key principles using a coordinated approach to using data and technology in agri-food.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Develop the digital transition in fisheries in line with the EMFF and the national digital strategy and the EU Mission Starfish 2030 including to align with activities to fully map, sequence, observe and predict our ocean, seas and rivers to allow the development of trusted and fit for purpose science-based deliverables (observation system, modelling capacity, maps) that can be used as services to underpin a sustainable blue bioeconomy.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Develop digital transition in fisheries.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Increase co-investment between the public and private sector for ag/food-tech and bio-economy accelerator programmes. In addition, foster an investment culture that supports the scaling of early stage ag/food-tech & bioeconomy companies.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EI, RPOs, ISIF, DECC, DETE	Increased co-investment between public and private sector.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Undertake research and increase engagement with initiatives to address the socio-economic impact of agri-digitalisation with a particular focus on data governance issues. This should build on the findings from an ongoing Irish research project, 'Agri-Discrete', that aims to contribute to good data governance practices in agriculture and forestry and which is also considering the EU code of conduct on agricultural data sharing by contractual agreement (developed by Copa-Cogeca).

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, RPOs, Teagasc, Farming Organisations	Undertake research on socio-economic impacts of agri-digitalisation.	TBC.

Action 5: Labour-saving automation research and development, including a focus on advanced manufacturing, should be pursued by all available means, public and private, particularly for lower-skilled and repetitive manual roles. SMEs may require assistance in this. Re-training should be offered where necessary for those whose jobs may change or be displaced.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, EI, RPOs, Teagasc	Conduct labour-saving automation research.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: Rapid roll-out of the National Broadband plan (including broadband connection points and digital hubs) will be critical to realising many of the actions in this Strategy. All relevant stakeholders should work in a spirit of collaboration to deliver this plan as its importance has only grown since the Covid-19 pandemic. Along with being a critical part of the National Digital Strategy, high speed broadband can also facilitate the increase in remote working seen during the pandemic and it will also have an important role to play in helping agri-food businesses to develop their presence online.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DECC	Broadband roll-out.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 5

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Improve Competitiveness and Resilience



TARGETS

2.3; 2.4; 8.2; 8.3; 15.a; 17.13; 17.14; 17.16; 17.17

Action 1: Promote the take-up of appropriate supports for companies, particularly SMEs, of Enterprise Ireland supports, aimed at developing company competitiveness, capability and resilience (e.g., the Capital Investment Initiative and Operational Excellence supports including the 'LEAN Offer' and 'Green Offer' and the Market Discovery Fund) and Science Foundation Ireland competitiveness tools (e.g., Spokes Partnerships) to build capability. In addition, utilise the services of Bord Bia in trade customer and consumer-led insights through for example the Brand Development Service which can improve value-add and enhance business resilience and competitiveness.

STAKEHOLDERS

EI, SFI, DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Provision of supports for agri-food companies.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Review current levels of state aid to support increased levels of indigenous and foreign direct investment in enabling technology, including ensuring the needs of food & drink companies are fully reflected in Ireland's inputs to the upcoming review of State aid rules scheduled for 2022 with a particular focus on ensuring state aid continues to be available for investment in innovation, enabling technologies such as biorefining, advanced manufacturing and digitalisation, plant renewal and expansion, refinancing, and market development.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, DPER, DETE, FDI

DELIVERABLE

Review of state aid levels and represent Ireland's input into state aid rules.

TIMEFRAME

TBC.

Action 3: Continuously review access to finance, particularly for SMEs, including farmers and fishers, to ensure businesses can innovate and grow, intervening with additional state supports such as those provided by the SBCI and others, as appropriate, as well as exploring finance opportunities offered by specialist funds.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, DETE, SBCI, Banks

DELIVERABLE

Access to support provided where appropriate.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Actively engage with the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council (NCPC) and other relevant stakeholders on competitiveness and ease of doing business issues especially on issues specific to the agri-food sector. Consider an action plan to drive implementation of the NCPC recommendations most relevant to the sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, NCPC, DETE, DPER	Issues specific to agri-food addressed.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Facilitate closer economic interactions between SMEs and MNEs through trade linkages, demand-led research collaboration and open innovation approaches (e.g. EI/IDA technology centres, Regional & Technology Clusters and SFI Research centres), and labour mobility.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DETE, EI, DAFM, DETE, BB, SFI	Closer trade research and innovation links between SMEs and MNEs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.



GOAL 6

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Attract and Nurture Diverse and Inclusive Talent



TARGETS

2.3; 2.a; 4.4; 4.7; 5.c; 8.3; 8.8; 14.a; 17.14; 17.17

Action 1: Employers in the agri-food industry will develop an education, skills and talent attraction and retention strategy.

This should balance short-term needs with a vision of how new skills and talent from apprenticeship level through to Post-Doctoral level can contribute to strengthening the long-term resilience and development of the sector.

- Supports such as those offered by the Further Education Sector and organisations such as Enterprise Ireland, Teagasc, Solas, and SkillNet, and initiatives such as Alumni Networks and Diversity and Inclusion Master classes should be highlighted, continued and promoted.
- Build upon Bord Bia's Talent Academy master's degree programmes to address food industry skills requirements in export business development, category management, sustainability and insight.
- One of the key drivers of talent development is strong leadership and leadership teams. Senior managers in agri-food businesses should prioritise their participation in Enterprise Ireland's suite of leadership development programmes, including the Leadership 4 Growth and Innovation 4 Growth programmes.
- The food and drink sector should continue to pursue the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs in the Food and Drink sector. Priority should be given to ensuring the skills base reflects not just the current business demands but also the challenges of future growth in existing and new markets.
- The promotion of agri-food education and careers needs to be improved in order to catch up with other sectors of the economy competing for prospective students or graduates. For example, the private sector could collaborate with the public sector in the financing and operation of an agri-food careers portal which would inform, promote and attract people, including non-traditional agri-food groups.
- Map how roles in the sector will change over the next 10-20 years.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, BB, BIM, DETE, EI, DFHERIS, Teagasc, SOLAS, Skillnet, IBEC

DELIVERABLE

Education, skills and talent attraction & retention strategy developed.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: To ensure decent work and address labour shortages:

- a) Employers across the agri-food sector will make roles, particularly those that are operational in nature, more attractive, including ensuring that pay and conditions are comparable with similar roles in other sectors, that appropriate working conditions are in place, and the provision of training and development opportunities, including language skills.
- b) More responsive and flexible labour and immigration policies will be pursued. Where recourse to employment permits is needed and recognising that this should be the last resort for filling vacancies, stakeholders should work together to prove that this option is necessary. In addition, efforts should continue by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in introducing a seasonal employment permit facility in new employment permit legislation. Greater efforts should also be made by employers to ensure that these workers are fully integrated into the workforce and offered attractive career progression opportunities.
- c) The People in Dairy Action Plan will be implemented in order to address specific labour issues in the dairy sector.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, HIF, Teagasc, DETE, Farming Organisations	Enhanced terms and conditions, and Seasonal Employment Permit facility, People in Dairy Action Plan implementation (see Mission 2, Goal 1, Action 6).	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: Education and training programmes, (note, education and training of primary producers is also addressed in Goal 4, Mission 2) including new apprenticeships, will be kept under review to ensure they respond to needs such as in the areas of environmental sustainability (e.g., the inclusion of organic farming as an option in relevant Teagasc courses), social sustainability, new technologies, management and accounting, animal welfare, animal health and food safety, LEAN principles etc. In the seafood sector, relevant stakeholders working with the skills and training offering provided by BIM should promote and fund the development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning. In addition, to help in attracting new entrants and upskilling the current workforce, provide new learning options including accredited programmes with global recognition, on-line learning and bespoke on-site training. Virtual classes, e-learning, blended training (virtual and on-site) and digital innovation hubs will become even more important in a post-Covid world.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
Teagasc, BIM, DAFM, DES, BB	Appropriate education, training and apprenticeships.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Promote and improve gender balance at all levels but particularly at senior management and board level (note, gender balance at primary production level is addressed in Goal 4, Mission 2). Greater gender equality in businesses opens untapped talent sources, makes companies more innovative and responsive and, ultimately, more sustainable.

- a) Promote women in leadership roles in the agri-food sector, including improving gender balance in stakeholder organisations and State and company boards in the sector.
- b) Promote and support women’s networks, such as CERES, and mentoring programmes for rural female entrepreneurs such as ACORNS.
- c) Promote and support women’s return to work programmes, such as that developed by UCC and Taste4Success Skillnet ‘Rejuvenate’. These are important for increasing female participation in the agri-food labour force.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, BB, BIM, EI, Skillnet, Farming Organisations	Improved gender balance and cultural diversity in organisations and management.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Promote and develop initiatives to improve diversity and inclusion. Diversity of people, talent, backgrounds and skills will be critical to the future development of the sector and all stakeholders will participate in this. Appropriate and proactive management of cultural diversity can help businesses to address challenges in the areas of labour attraction and retention, language skills and building culturally competent businesses

- a) Employers should engage proactively with The Agri-Food Diversity & Inclusion Forum, a collaborative initiative between industry, Bord Bia and Aon and in partnership with The 30% Club, is a useful resource in this regard, particularly the online Diversity and Inclusion Toolkit designed for the industry.
- b) Employers should utilise the recommendations of the recently published Skillnet Ireland report ‘*Cultural diversity challenges and opportunities in the Irish agri-food sector*’. These are particularly useful in improving diversity in culture and backgrounds, which can also be an advantage in increasing innovation and exploiting new business opportunities.
- c) Ensure that workplaces are inclusive of LGBTI+ people and work to ensure they are made positively visible, valued and welcome.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM	Initiatives developed to improve diversity and inclusion.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

GOAL 7

Policy Coherence and Synergies in Sustainable Food Systems between Ireland’s Domestic Policy and its Development Cooperation and Foreign Policy

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



2 ZERO HUNGER



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

TARGETS

2.3; 2.4; 2.a; 10.a; 12.1; 12.2; 12.3; 12.a; 14.6; 14.7; 15.b; 17.2; 17.15; 17.16; 17.17; 17.9

Action 1: Promoting food and nutrition security, and Sustainable Food Systems (SFSs), will be a central part of delivering on Ireland’s ambition of achieving the UN aid target of 0.7% of GNI by 2030, recently re-affirmed in the 2020 Programme for Government. An early priority should be that Government should take decisions on the recommendations in the report of Ireland’s National Task Team on Rural Africa (NTTRA), including on those regions/countries and sectors which will be central to developing an integrated approach involving the governmental, private sector, civil society and the university sector. This should be the platform for supporting Ireland’s efforts towards sustainable development in Africa as well as enhancing its developmental and wider economic interests.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DFA, DAFM, SFSI	Promotion of food and nutrition security and SFSs internationally.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Continue to promote and enhance the Africa Agri-Food Programme to ensure it meets its objective of developing partnerships between the Irish agri-food sector and African countries.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DFA	Delivery of AADP.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: DAFM will align policy development and implementation with Ireland's commitments under the SDGs taking account of specified goal targets and indicators.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DECC, DAFM	Policy Development aligned with SDGs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 4: Ireland will advocate that SFSs are an important part of the deepening strategic relationship between Africa and the EU and should commit to an active role in working with other EU member states and with African countries to deliver on this over the coming decade. One aspect which can contribute to strengthening the relationship is in the area of research and innovation for sustainable food systems, food security, and inclusive, sustainable agri-food production and value chains.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, Teagasc	Promotion of SFSs.	Ongoing, with annual (Q4) report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Ireland will play a leadership role at the FSS in September 2021. Ireland's record of the transformation of its own agri-food and rural sector, as well as its practice of developing strategy on an inclusive, multi-stakeholder basis, is of interest to a wide range of countries. The FSS will seek to encourage and support countries which use a food systems approach for their future national planning. By virtue of its own experience, Ireland should be in a position to provide leadership in this area, as well as making a specific policy input to one of the FSS's five objectives – Action Track 1: 'Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all'.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DAFM, DFA	Ireland to play leadership role in FSS.	Delivered 2021.

Action 6: Work to secure the establishment of a network of international experts to develop a composite indicator or index of sustainable food systems. Organisations such as the FAO and OECD should be the first point of contact. The index should help in providing an independent, reliable and trust-worthy measurement of sustainable food systems, empowering countries and citizens to become more informed in what can improve the sustainability of their food systems.

STAKEHOLDERS	DELIVERABLE	TIMEFRAME
DFA, DAFM	Explore options to establish a sustainable food system indicator.	TBC.

MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK



Retailers, Food Service and Consumers

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

12.5; 17.16; 17.7

Action 1: Retailers and the food service sector will engage with processors to agree initiatives and incentives for their primary producer suppliers that would encourage and reward greater adoption of sustainability practices.

STAKEHOLDERS

Teagasc, Retailers and Food Service Sector, Farming Organisations, BB, BIM

DELIVERABLE

Initiatives agreed to encourage and reward primary producers for greater adoption of sustainability practices.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 2: Retailers and the food service sector will work in a coordinated manner to reduce packaging and other wasteful practices.

STAKEHOLDERS

Retailers and Food Service Sector, EPA, BB, BIM, RPOs, Teagasc, DAFM, DECC, DOH, FSAI

DELIVERABLE

Reduced packaging and other wasteful practices.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 3: The agri-food sector should proactively inform the consumer agenda as well as responding to it. All stakeholders should participate wherever possible, but particularly retailers and food service providers who are the direct interface with many consumers.

STAKEHOLDERS

Retailers and Food Service Sector, DAFM, BB, BIM

DELIVERABLE

Initiatives to better inform consumers.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

'Bottom-up' and Public/Private Approaches, including Financing

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

17.4; 17.7

Action 4: Models such as the ASSAP, EIPs and fully sponsored private sector initiatives need to be replicated and scaled-up in the period to 2030 across a range of environmental areas. Stakeholders such as industry representative bodies and private companies and co-operatives should come forward with such proposals. Initiatives should ensure that there is a credible estimate of the baseline ('before') such that the benefits ('after') can be clear, evidence-based and stand up to independent scrutiny. More private sector investment will require measurable outcomes and proof points – results-based payment schemes generate evidence based data on environmental performance and would work particularly well here.

STAKEHOLDERS

Farming Organisations, DAFM, Teagasc, BB, BIM, Industry

DELIVERABLE

Increase number of 'bottom-up' and public / private initiatives and replicate and scale up models across a range of environmental areas.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 5: Multiple sources of finance and funding (including climate finance) will be required, both from the public and private sector. While the CAP, the CFP and other EU and national sources of funding will be key in bringing about a climate smart, environmentally sustainable agri-food sector, In accordance with Action point 10 of the Climate Action Plan, the NTMA through New Era and the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF) should work with Government Departments and the private sector to develop suitable funding models to contribute to environmental programmes. This is addition to current financing arrangements, including the successful partnership with the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland. In particular, ISIF has indicated that it can assist in working towards a functioning carbon market, and in providing long-term and flexible finance for the delivery of climate change and agri-tech measures proposed in the Strategy.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, DPER, DHLGH, DFIN, NTMA

DELIVERABLE

Multiple sources of public and private finance and funding.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 6: DAFM should lead a multi-stakeholder project, facilitated by 'EIT Climate KIC', on a Deep Demonstration activity to develop a coordinated set of innovation actions focusing on aiding an environment and climate-led transition to a carbon neutral agri-food sector.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, EIT Climate KIC, RPOs, Teagasc

DELIVERABLE

A Multi-stakeholder project to develop a set of innovation actions aiding environment and climate-led transition to a carbon neutral agri-food sector.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Dialogue & Partnership

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



TARGETS

17.5; 17.6; 17.7

Action 7: All stakeholders should work together to identify leaders or ambassadors to educate, encourage and advocate for greater environmental and social sustainability. Farmers and fishers are not just quality food producers but also are in the right place to respond to environmental challenges. Farmers and fishers need to take the lead here and be more proactive. Consideration should be given to acknowledging pioneers or leaders in these areas through a system of awards (e.g. www.farmingfornature.ie) and other activities such as festivals, local markets and local farm walks should also be rolled out.

STAKEHOLDERS

Farming Organisations, Agri-Aware, DAFM, BB, Teagasc, BIM

DELIVERABLE

Leaders or ambassadors identified and promoted.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 8: The agri-food sector needs to engage with children and students. A working group should be established to consider how best this might be done and may include the sector convening a “Youth Summit”.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM, Farming Organisations, BB, BIM, Agri-Aware, NDC, Teagasc

DELIVERABLE

Working Group for the agri-food sector to engage with children and students established.

TIMEFRAME

Ongoing, with annual report to the Implementation Committee.

Action 9: Build on the experience of the national dialogues, held in 2021 as part of Ireland's preparations for the UN Food Systems Summit, by continuing the culture of dialogue and stakeholder engagement, which is an important component of a food systems approach.

STAKEHOLDERS

DAFM

DELIVERABLE

Completed.

TIMEFRAME

Stakeholder dialogues and engagement through Food systems approach.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Member States of the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015. The aim of this resolution is to achieve these 17 goals by 2030 with a view towards ending all forms of poverty, fighting inequalities and tackling climate change while ensuring that no one is left behind.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals set out a bold vision for a safer, fairer, more prosperous and sustainable world by 2030. Food Vision 2030 agreed to embed the SDGs into the programmes and policies of the Department.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>



SDG TARGETS LINKED TO THE FOOD VISION ACTIONS

- 1.4** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- 1.b** Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.
- 2.1** By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
- 2.3** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through
 - secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.
- 2.4** By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.
 - 2.4.1** Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture.
- 2.5** By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.

- 2.a** Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.
- 2.b** Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round.
- 2.c** Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility.
- 3.8** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- 3.d** Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.
- 4.4** By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- 4.5** By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
- 4.7** By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.
- 5.1** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- 5.4** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- 5.5** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life.
- 5.a** Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
- 5.b** Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- 5.c** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- 6.3** By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.
- 6.6** By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.
- 6.b** Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.
- 7.2** By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.
- 7.2.1** Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption.
- 7.3** By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.
- 7.a** By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.
- 7.b** By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.
- 8.2** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.
- 8.3** Promote development-oriented policies that

- support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.
- 8.5** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- 8.8** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.
- 8.9** By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.
- 8.10** Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.
- 9.1** Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
- 9.5** Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending.
- 9.b** Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities.
- 9.c** Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.
- 10.2** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- 10.3** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.
- 10.5** Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations.
- 10.a** Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements.
- 11.4** Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.
- 11.a** Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.
- 12.1** Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.
- 12.2** By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
- 12.3** By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.
- 12.4** By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
- 12.5** By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
- 12.6** Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle.
- 12.7** Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.
- 12.8** By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.
- 12.a** Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- 12.b** Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.
- 13.1** Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

- 13.2** Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.
- 13.3** Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
- 14.1** By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.
- 14.2** By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
- 14.4** By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.
- 14.5** By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.
 - 14.5.1** Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas.
- 14.6** By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and over fishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.
- 14.7** By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.
- 14.a** Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries.
- 14.b** Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.
- 14.c** Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of “The future we want”.
- 15.1** By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.
 - 15.1.1** Forest area as a proportion of total land area.
- 15.2** By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.
 - 15.2.1** Progress towards sustainable forest Management.
- 15.3** By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.
- 15.4** By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.
- 15.5** Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
- 15.6** Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed.
- 15.8** By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.
- 15.9** By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts.
- 15.a** Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.
- 15.b** Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management,

including for conservation and reforestation.

- 16.b** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.
- 17.1** Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.
- 17.2** Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries.
- 17.4** Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress.
- 17.5** Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries.
- 17.6** Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism.
- 17.6.1** Number of science and/or technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries, by type of cooperation.
- 17.7** Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.
- 17.8.1** Proportion of individuals using the Internet.
- 17.9** Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.
- 17.10** Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading

system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda.

- 17.13** Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy Coherence.
- 17.14** Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development.
- 17.15** Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development.
- 17.16** Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries.
- 17.17** Encourage and promote effective public, public/private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

ABBREVIATIONS

AA	Appropriate Assessment	DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
ABC	Applied Biotechnology Centre	DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine
ABP	Anglo Beef Processors	DALYs	Disability-adjusted life-years
ACA	Agricultural Consultants Association	DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
ACE	AgriTech Centre of Excellence	D/Education	Department of Education
ACORNS	Accelerating the Creation of Rural Nascent Start-ups	DECC	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
AEOS	Agri Environment Options Scheme	DETE	Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
AHI	Animal Health Ireland	DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
AI	Artificial Intelligence	DFHERIS	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science
AKIS	Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems	DFIN	Dept of Finance
AMBER	Advanced Materials and BioEngineering Research	DG	Director General
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance	DHLGH	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
APC	Alimentary Pharmabotic Centre	DII	Dairy Industry Ireland
APHA	Animal and Plant Health Association	DOH	Dept of Health
ASSAP	Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advice Programme	DPER	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
AU	African Union	DPTC	Dairy Processing Technology Centre
BASE	Biodiversity, Agriculture, Soil and Environment	DRCD	Department of Rural & Community Development
BB	Bord Bia	DSI	Dairy Sustainability Ireland
BIG	Bioeconomy Implementation Group	D/Taoiseach	Dept of Taoiseach
BIM	Bord Iascaigh Mhara	DTCAGSM	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media
BMA	Biodiversity Managed Area	EBI	Economic Breeding Index
BRIDE	Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairying Environment	EC	European Commission
CAN	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy	EGD	European Green Deal
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	EI	Enterprise Ireland
CCPC	Competition and Consumer Protection Commission	EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	EIF	European Investment Fund
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy	EIPs	European Innovation Partnerships
CMO	Common Market Organisation	EIT	European Institute of Innovation and Technology
CO₂	Carbon dioxide	EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
CO₂eq	Carbon dioxide equivalent	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
COP	Conference of the Parties	ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
CPD	Continuing Professional Development	ESRI	Economic and Social Research Institute
CQA	Certified Quality Aquaculture		
CSO	Central Statistics Office		

EU	European Union	IGAS	Irish Grain Assurance Scheme
EUMOFA	European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture	IGFA	Irish Grain and Feed Association
F2F	Farm to Fork	IMR	Irish Manufacturing Research
FA	Food Authenticity	iNAP	Ireland 's National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2017-2020
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
FARM	Federation of Agrochemical Retail Merchants	IPM	Integrated Pest Management
FAWAC	Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Council	IRC	Irish Research Council
FDI	Food Drinks Ireland	ISIF	Ireland Strategic Investment Fund
FFN	Farming for Nature	IT	Institute of Technology
FGLS	Future Growth Loan Scheme	IUU	Illegal, unreported and unregulated
FHI	Food for Health Ireland	KIC	Knowledge and Innovation Community
FIPS	Fishery Improvement Projects	KT	Knowledge Transfer
FS	Food Safety	LAVS	Local Authority Veterinary Service
FSAI	Food Safety Authority Ireland	LAWPRO	Local Authority Waters Programme
FSD	Food Systems Dialogues	LEOs	Local Enterprise Offices
FSFA	Food Safety and Food Authenticity Programme Steering Committee	LESS	Low Emissions Slurry Spreading
FSS	Food Systems Summit	LGBTI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex
GAP	Global Action Plan	LO	Landing Obligation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry
GES	Good Environmental Status	MACC	Marginal Abatement Cost Curve
GHGs	Green House Gases	MCPA	2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxyacetic acid
GI	Geographical Indicators	MI	Marine Institute
GLAS	Green , Low-Carbon, Agri-Environment Scheme	MNEs	Multinational Enterprises
GNI	Gross National Income	MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
GSSI	Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative	MSC	Management Systems Certification
GVCs	Global Value Chains	MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
HIF	Horticulture Industry Forum	MSP	Maritime Spatial Plan
HLIC	High Level Implementation Committee	MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
HNV	High Nature Value	MTI	Meat Technology Ireland
HSA	Health and Safety Authority	N4G	Nutrition for Growth
HSE	Health Service Executive	NCPC	National Competitiveness and Productivity Council
ICBF	Irish Cattle Breeding Federation	NDC	National Dairy Council
ICOS	Irish Co-operative Organisation Society	NFGWS	National Federation of Group Water Scheme
ICT	Information and Communications Technology	NFS	National Farm Survey
IDA	Industrial Development Authority	NGOs	Non-governmental Organisations
IFA	Irish Farmers Association	NI	Northern Ireland
IFQA	Irish Food Quality Awards	NIFF	National Inshore Fisheries Forum
		NPD	New Product Development
		NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service

NSMC	North South Ministerial Council	TSSG	Telecommunications Software and Systems Group
NTMA	National Treasury Management Agency	UAA	Utilisable Agricultural Area
NTTRA	National Task Team on Rural Africa	UCC	University College Cork
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	UCD	University College Dublin
OIE	Office International des Epizooties	UK	United Kingdom
OGP	Office of Government Procurement	UN	United Nations
OSI	Ordinance Survey Ireland	UNDF	United Nations Decade of Family Farming
PCF	Prepared Consumer Food	UPROTEIN	Unlocking Protein Resource Opportunities To Evolve Ireland's Nutrition
PDO	Protected Designation of Origin	UTP	Unfair Trading Practices
PfG	Programme for Government	WEF	Woodland Environmental Fund
PGI	Protected Geographical Indicators	WHO	World Health Organisation
POs	Producer Organisations	WTO	World Trade Organisation
PPPs	Plant Protection Products	YAR	Year Assessment Reports
PUFAs	Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids		
QA	Quality Assurance		
R & D	Research and Development		
RDP	Rural Development Programme		
RE	Renewable Energy		
REPS	Rural Environment Protection Scheme		
RPOs	Research Performing Organisations		
SBCI	Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland		
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals		
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment		
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland		
SEEA	System of Environmental-Economic Accounting		
SFI	Science Foundation Ireland		
SFSI	Sustainable Food Systems Ireland		
SFPA	Sea Fisheries Protection Authority		
SFS	Sustainable Food Systems		
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises		
SPA	Special Protection Area		
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary		
STI	Science, technology and innovation		
TACs	Total Allowable Catches		
TAMS	Targeted Agriculture Modernisation Schemes		
TCA	Trade and Cooperation Agreement		
TFA	Trade Facilitation Agreement		
TSG	Traditional Specialities Guaranteed		



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