



EPA Climate Science, Evidence and Services

Climate Adaptation and Climate Ireland

June 22nd, 2023

EPA Climate Activities



Emissions Statistics



Climate Adaptation & Climate Ireland



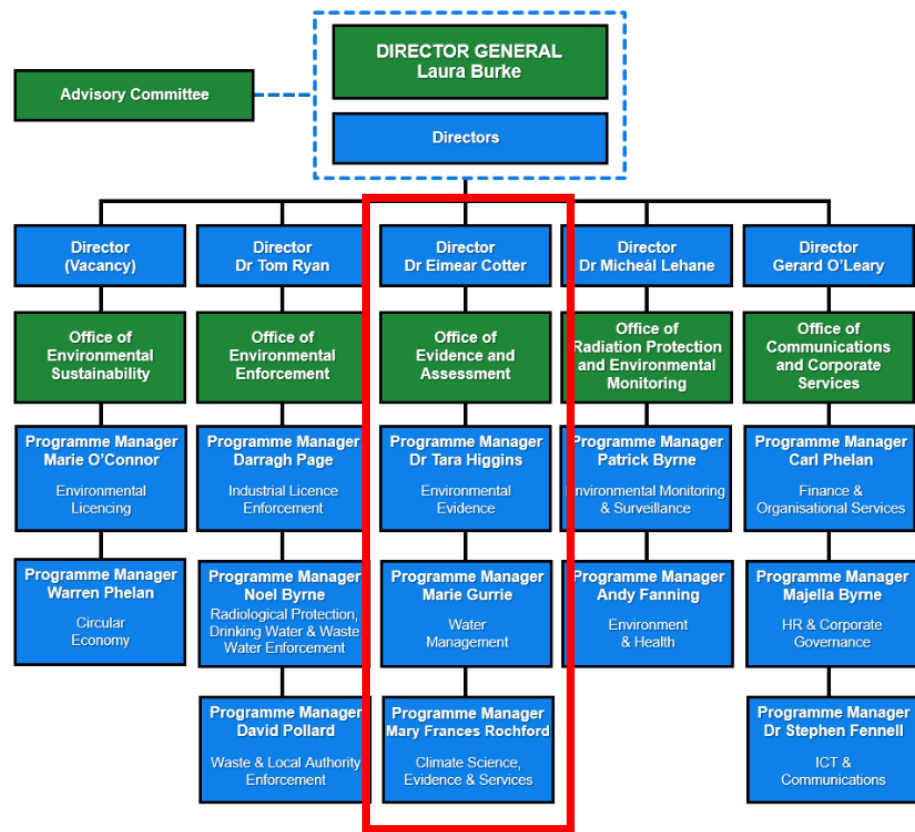
Climate Research and Science



Climate Dialogue, Behavioural Change








EU Emissions Trading Scheme



EPA Strategic Plan 2022-2026



-  **We are an effective voice for Ireland's Environment**
-  **We use our knowledge to drive climate action**
-  **We deliver a protected and healthy environment**
-  **We promote the transition to sustainable production and consumption**
-  **We create a culture of excellence where people are supported and can give their best**

STRATEGIC OUTCOME



We use our knowledge to drive climate action

We drive the transition to climate neutrality and resilience through our evidence and engagement work

We lead by example by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions

By 2026

- We will have actively engaged a wider audience, driving action across all sections of society to address the urgent climate challenge
- Our information on greenhouse gas emissions will be more timely and targeted to support national ambitions on climate and to influence policy
- We will have reduced the EPA's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 30 per cent on our transition to carbon neutrality
- **We will have integrated climate priorities with our work on other environmental challenges to optimise co-benefits for the environment and public health**
- **Our evidence and data on the impacts of climate change will inform Ireland's approach to adaptation and enable the transition to a climate-resilient environment, economy, and society**

EPA Adaptation Strategic outcomes



1. Delivery of the National Climate Change Risk Assessment by Q1 2025 and EPA established as the national competent authority for climate change risk assessment.
2. Enable adaptation planning and implementation by delivering Climate Ireland as the national adaptation platform.
3. Informing Ireland's progress towards resilience by implementing, monitoring and reporting on adaptation indicators.
4. Permeate adaptation action throughout EPA work programmes.

EPA adaptation work



- **Providing data and information to inform policy**
 - National climate change risk assessment (AD/25/2)
 - Pilot adaptation indicators project with TII (AD/23/1)
 - Redeveloping Climate Ireland national adaptation platform, including new map viewer for climate projections (AD/23/7/A)
 - Mainstreaming implementation project
 - Annual adaptation report (AD/23/8/A)
- **Raising awareness**
 - Guidance rollout for semi-quantitative climate risk assessment with wider set of LAs
 - Climate Ireland national adaptation network and annual seminar (AD/23/18, AD/23/18/A)
 - Supporting ECCA 2023 (AD23/18/B)
- **Providing data and information to inform policy**
 - UNFCCC reporting (AD/23/8)
 - EU Energy Governance Article 19 reporting
 - National climate change risk assessment scoping report (AD/23/8)
- **Building capacity**
 - Training and development for local authorities and sectors on adaptation
 - Guidance developed for semi-quantitative climate risk assessment
 - Fellowships – three two-year fellowships to be launched: risk assessment, MRE, national adaptation platforms

Challenges



- **Capacity & resourcing**
 - Public, university, and private sectors all seeking experienced staff with climate risk assessment and adaptation planning skills from a relatively small talent pool
- **Comprehensive and consistent use of standardised information**
 - Climate data and information will be greatly enhanced and standardised by the National Framework for Climate Services (NFCS, Met Éireann lead)
 - Therefore there is a need to ensure that NFCS data is used in an appropriate and consistent way within and across sectors for risk assessment and adaptation planning (CAP Action AD/23/8/B, EPA lead)
- **Engagement**
 - Some sectors more engaged with adaptation than others
- **Timing**
 - Differing delivery timelines not ideally aligned (LACAPs, SAPs, NCCRA, regulatory reporting requirements etc.). Requires a pragmatic, open approach.

Opportunities



- **National Climate Change Risk Assessment**
 - Overarching document – identifying and prioritising key risks for Ireland
 - Improve quality of sectoral and local action plans
 - Identify cross-sectoral links
 - Develop national competency in climate risk assessment
- **Mainstreaming implementation**
 - Putting clear high-level risk assessment guidance in place for practitioners
 - Ensuring consistent use of NFCS outputs
 - Formalising elements of adaptation planning
 - Ensuring standardisation and equity
 - Structure in place for subsequent updates
- **New Climate Ireland platform and map viewer**
 - EPA creating new climate services data viewer
 - Aiming towards an image-based viewer as practitioners will download datasets
 - Strong collaboration between M^É and EPA
 - Non-GIS based viewer is easily scalable to incorporate all envisaged data sets
 - Lower cost than interactive map viewers
 - Additional projections aligned to NFCS produced by competent authorities (e.g. sea level rise (MI), river flow (EPA), and groundwater (GSI) will be incorporated also)
- **Climate Ireland network & annual seminar**
 - First national practitioner network for climate risk assessment and adaptation
 - Learn from and link to existing national and international networks (EIONET, NIECE etc.)