

# Ireland's Multilateral Assessment

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## **National Context**

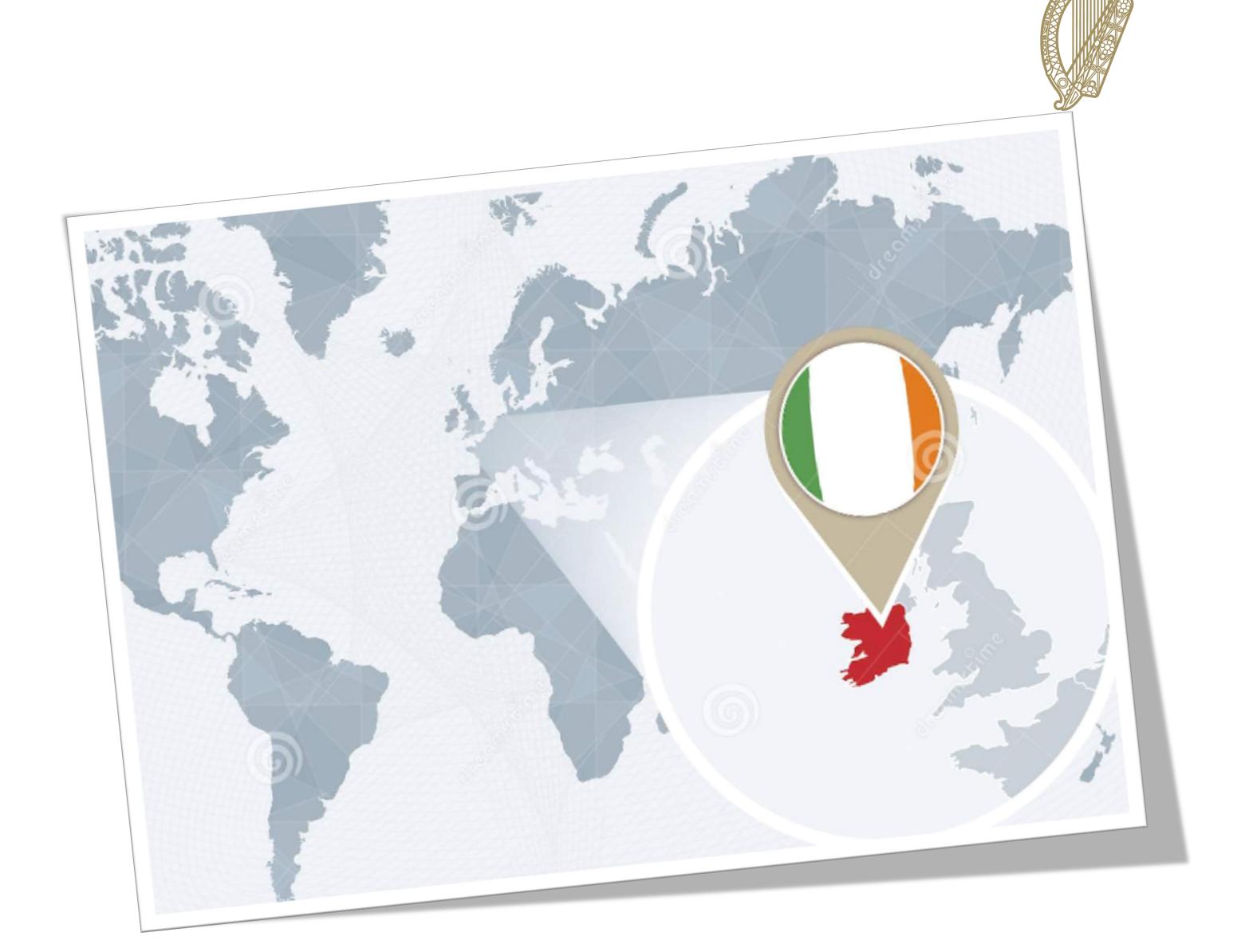
North-west coast of Europe

Population 4.98m (increase of 41% since 1990)

One-third in greater Dublin area

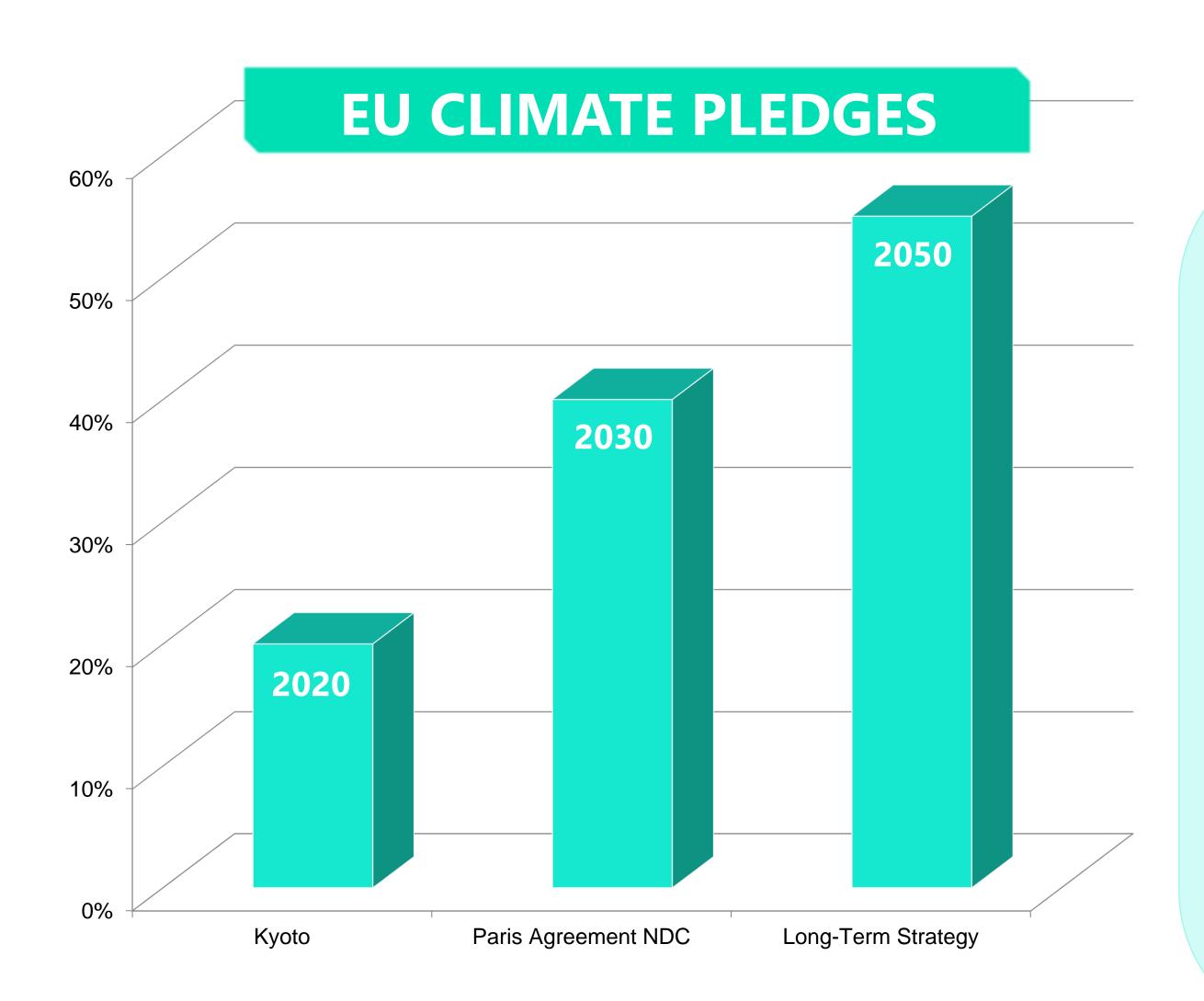
Significant dispersed rural population

Parliamentary democracy



### Ireland's Commitments



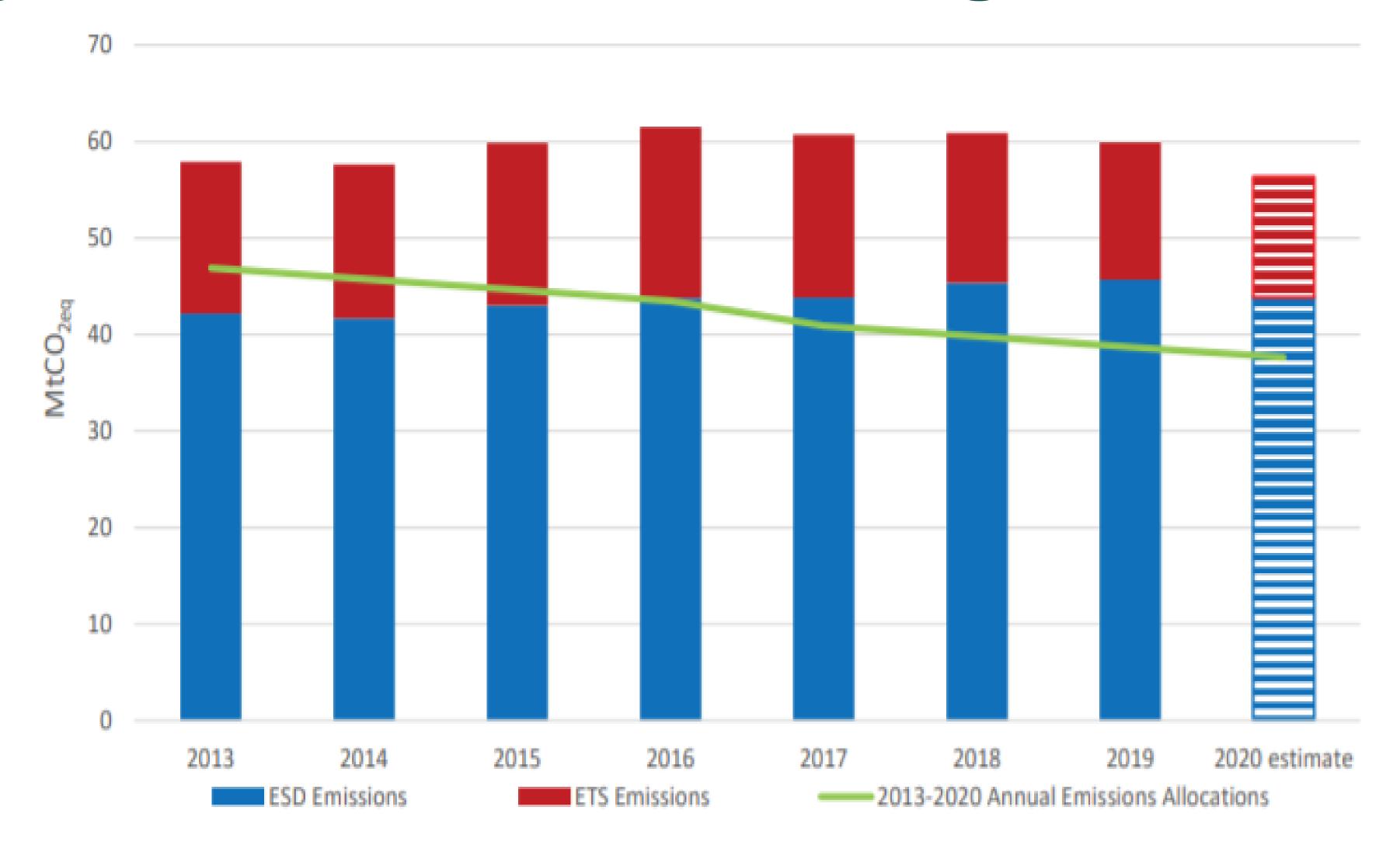


# National Commitments (non-ETS sector)

- 20% reduction by 2020
- (relative to 2005 levels)
- 30% reduction by 2030
- Ireland's emission reduction target for the non-ETS sector applies to roughly 70% of all Irish emissions
- Will be increased following the new EU 2030 target

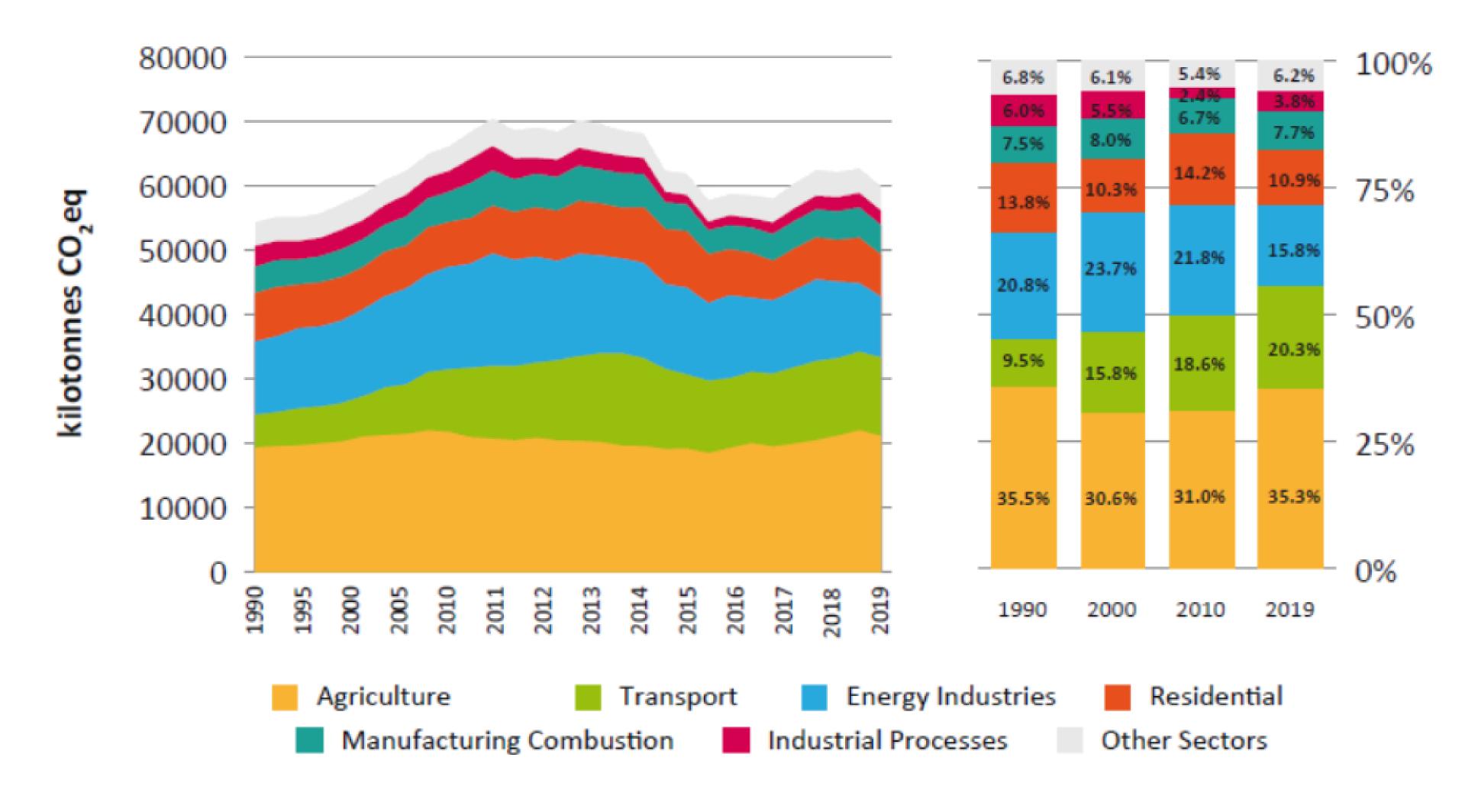
# Progress towards our ETS targets





# 1990-2019 Emissions by Sector





# Ireland's Domestic Climate Policy



# National Policy Position 2014

Climate Action & Low Carbon Development Act 2015 National Mitigation Plan 2017

National Adaptation Framework 2018

Climate
Action Plan
2019

'To Tackle Climate Breakdown' Climate Action & Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021

Interim Climate Actions 2021

Climate Action and Low-Carbon Development

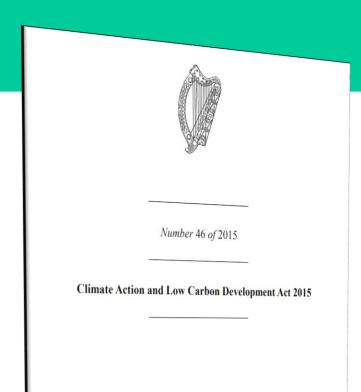
National Policy Position Ireland

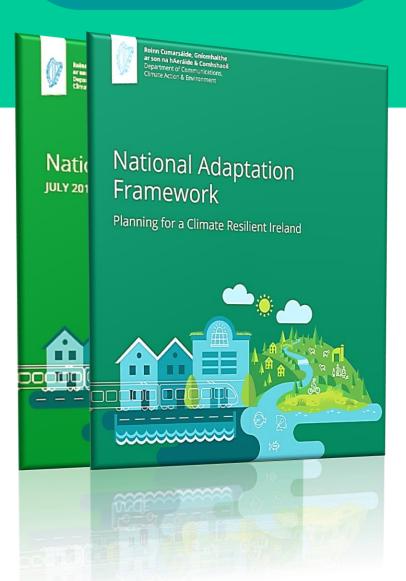
#### National climate policy in Ireland -

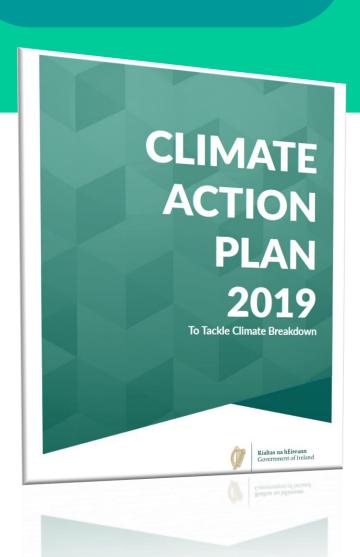
- recognises the threat of climate change for humanit
- climate change and supports mobilisation of a comprehensive international response
- recognises the challenges and opport
- and and
- aims, as a fundamental national objective, to achieve transition to a competitive, lo carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050

#### The wider context for national climate policy includes

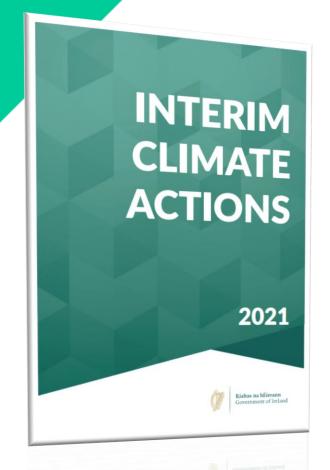
- existing and future obligations of the State under international agreements.
- the commitment by Ireland to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate
  Change (herein after referred to as the Convention), and its ultimate objective of
  achieving stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that
  would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system to be
  achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate
  change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic
  development to proceed in a sustainable manner;
- the European Union objective, in the context of necessary reductions according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change by developed countries as a group, of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80-95% by 2050 compared to 1990;
- existing and future obligations of the State under the law of the European Union; and
   the evolution of climate policy within the European Union and at a wider international
- level under the Convention.











6 Rialtas na hÉireann | Government of Ireland

### 2021: Climate Bill & Climate Action Plan



- Climate Action & Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021:
  - Commitment to achieve climate neutral economy no later than 2050;
  - 51% reduction in GHGs by 2030;
  - A series of economy-wide 5-year carbon budgets, on a 15-year basis;
  - Sectoral emission ceilings for relevant sectors, within the limits of carbon budget;
  - Annual update of the Climate Action Plan; and
  - National Long Term Climate Action Strategy at least every five years.
- 2021 Climate Action Plan will:
  - Drive continued delivery of climate action and set out pathway to achieve 51% reduction in emissions by 2030; and
  - Demonstrate commitment to achieving a broad political and societal consensus bringing communities with us on a just transition.

# Climate Action Plan 2019 - Progress



**Carbon Pricing** 

New **legislation** in place giving greater clarity and transparency on the carbon tax rates to 2030

Buildings

Over €221m in funding provided for residential and community retrofit programmes

**Transport** 

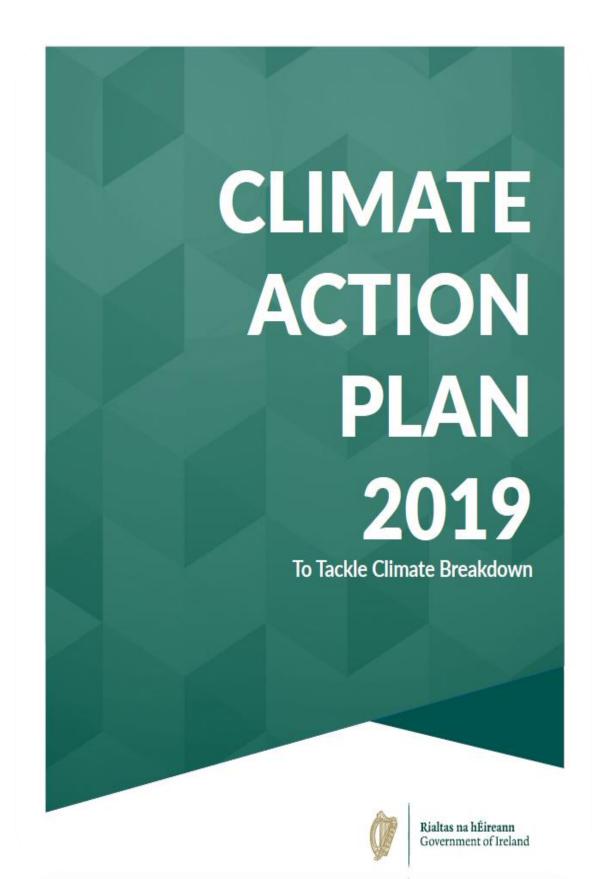
**€360m granted** to support the delivery of improved walking and cycling infrastructure

Peatlands

Work underway to **restore 22,107 hectares** of raised bog habitat, halting carbon losses

Citizens

Development of **low carbon towns**, bringing climate action to the local level



# Moving Towards a Just Transition



The closure of longstanding peat-fired power stations in the Midlands Region and the end of peat harvesting by the semi-state Bord na Mona is Ireland's first test of just transition.

Ireland has responded to a just transition in the Midlands Region in three main ways:

#### **Just Transition Fund**

for innovative projects that contribute to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the region > €26m over 3yrs

#### Just Transition Commissioner

to act as a broker and facilitate discussions with stakeholders and workers to develop, mobilise and deliver opportunities

#### Peatlands Restoration Project

will protect the storage of 100 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, create 310 jobs (including former workers) and will deliver significant benefits and contribute to Ireland's target of being carbon-neutral by 2050

# Ireland's Renewable Electricity Journey



- Positive developments in 2019, most recent data available year.
- Carbon intensity of electricity fell by 14% in 2019 to 324 gCO2/kWh.
- Lowest level recorded in over 70 years.
- Due to a 70% reduction in coal use for electricity generation.

**2019 Snapshot** 

ECONOMIC GROWTH (Modified Domestic Demand) + 3.2%

OVERALL ENERGY USE -1.2%

ENERGY-RELATED CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS -4.5%

# Support for Global Climate Action



- 99% adaptation-minded and grantbased, focused on Least Developed Countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and Small Island Developing States.
- Implement the target in *A Better World* to double the overall percentage of our development assistance that counts as climate finance.



0.7% GNI for ODA by 2030



# Questions?

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