

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20th May 2022, Dublin

Coalition 2030 outlines 7 tests for the draft National Implementation Plan for the SDGs, marking 7 years since agreement in 2015

Ireland's leading coalition of civil society organisations has published a set of [key tests](#) [1] for Ireland's second National Implementation Plan on the Sustainable Development Goals to coincide with its draft publication [2].

Commenting on the upcoming publication, Louise Finan, Chair of Coalition 2030 and Head of Policy at Dóchas said:

“The SDGs provide the only universally agreed and universally applicable framework for global evidence-based policy-making in this Decade of Action before 2030. What we’re looking for in this plan is clarity on how the Government will go beyond awareness-raising and instead use the SDGs as a transformative tool for policy-making. We also want to know how they plan to meaningfully engage stakeholders and communities, how they will communicate progress and roadblocks to the public and how they will prevent policy trade-offs between different SDGs. Ireland was instrumental in driving the agreement of the SDGs in 2015 along with Kenya and we now have an opportunity to show the people of Ireland and the people of countries we support with ODA¹ that we are serious about achieving the SDGs.”

Ireland's last National SDG Implementation Plan was for the period 2018 - 2020, and publication of the second plan had been scheduled for 2021 but was delayed.

Coalition 2030 Coordinator Meaghan Carmody added:

“The SDGs provide the only universally agreed framework for ensuring both social and planetary boundaries are not breached [3]. Yet over a fifteen year period for implementation, Ireland has lacked a national plan for nearly two of them. The year 2022 marks the halfway point between when Agenda 2030 was agreed and when it is due to be achieved, and so our next national plan therefore comes at a crucial moment in the trajectory of SDG implementation. In order to recover lost time and demonstrate real political leadership, the Government needs to show how each Department will have a responsibility to achieve targets under the SDGs, how policy trade-offs will be avoided and how those left furthest behind by marginalising policies will be meaningfully included in delivering Agenda 2030.”

In September 2015, UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ‘Agenda 2030’. The 17 goals and 169 targets contained within are integrated and indivisible, and balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, providing a holistic vision for the wellbeing of people and the planet, and placing

¹ Overseas Development Assistance

equality and resilience at the core. The publication of the draft coincides with the launch of the public consultation to harness feedback on the Government's plan. All members of the public are encouraged to submit their views [3].

ENDS

Notes to editor

[1] The 7 tests are as follows:

Test 1: Does the plan embed a 'whole-of-government' responsibility for achieving the SDGs?

Test 2: Does the plan commit to ensuring all new government policies use the SDGs as a framework, uplifting the SDGs as a tool for policy-making, rather than as a 'retrospective stamp' on policies?

Test 3: Does the plan provide for policy coherence in sustainable development?

Test 4: Does the plan meaningfully acknowledge the crucial role of local authorities, communities and volunteering?

Test 5: Does the plan demonstrate a clear rationale and purpose for stakeholder engagement, and a commitment to have input from marginalised and under-represented groups and individuals, also stating how this input will be gathered, and used?

Test 6: Have the terms of the National Stakeholder Forum been improved?

Test 7: Do we see a commitment to public communication on the SDGs, informed by timely and comprehensive data collection?

[2] <https://assets.gov.ie/224776/32844dfc-d348-4fd5-b605-68c6ee00e7f5.pdf>

[3]

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/b1f2b-final-consultation-on-the-draft-of-the-second-sdg-national-implementation-plan-2022-2024/>

About Coalition 2030

Coalition 2030 is an alliance of civil society organisations working to ensure that Ireland keeps its promise to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, both at home and abroad. Its mission is to transform our world through collaborative partnerships that will free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want, and to heal and secure our planet. Showing solidarity with those marginalised in society is a key value and organising principle of Coalition 2030, with the goal of 'leaving no-one behind', both in Ireland and throughout the world.