



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Planning Ireland's Climate and Energy Transition

OPR Councillor Training 2023

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Planning Advisory Division, DECC
22 September 2023*



Planning Ireland's Climate and Energy Transition

- **Introduction**
- **Need for Accelerated Transition to Renewable Electricity**
- **Climate Policy Context**
- **Energy Security Policy Context**
- **Emerging EU Policy Context**
- **DECC Policy Initiatives**
 - *Onshore Renewables*
 - *Grid, Hydrogen and Storage*
 - *Offshore Renewables*
- **Wider Supporting Measures**



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2023 CAP23

Changing Ireland for the Better



Need for Accelerated transition to Renewable Electricity



➤ Climate Crisis



➤ Energy Crisis



National Climate Policy Position

National objective of achieving a competitive, low-carbon, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050.

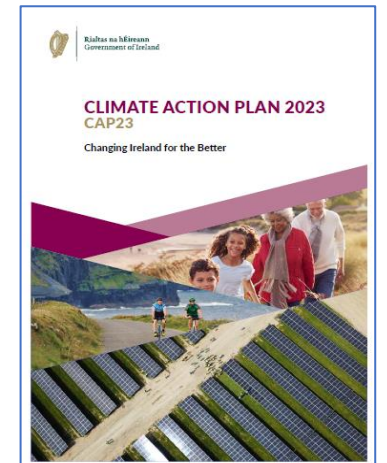
Climate Policy Context

EU Policy

- **European Green Deal** - reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 + achieve 42% emission reductions in 2030 compared to 2005 levels.
- **RED Directives 1 & 2** – 32% renewables target by 2030.

Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021

- Legally binding 51% GHG emissions reductions by 2030 & net-zero by 2050
- Provides for the introduction of a carbon budget programme and sectoral ceilings
- Strengthens statutory framework for governance
- Ensures delivery of Climate Action Plans, Long-Term Strategies & Adaptation Frameworks
- Requires public bodies to carry out their functions consistent with national climate objectives as expressed in latest Climate Action Plan, National Adaptation Framework and Sectoral Adaptation Plans
- Requires Ministers to carry out their functions consistent with carbon budgets and sectoral emissions ceilings



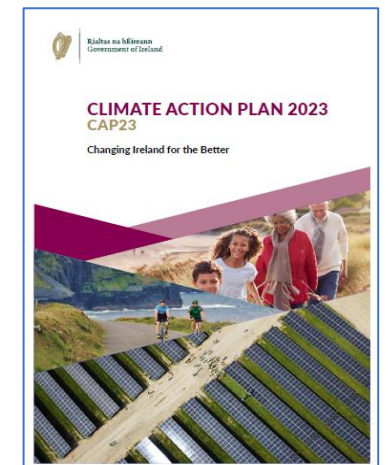
Climate Policy Context

Climate Action Plan 2023

- *Approved by Govt & published on 21 December 2022 - First CAP delivered under 2021 Climate Act*
- *Actions, plans, policies and measures for Chapters relating to Agriculture, Built Environment, Transport, Electricity, etc.*
- *Reflects Carbon Budgets and Sectoral Emission Ceilings*

Commitments:

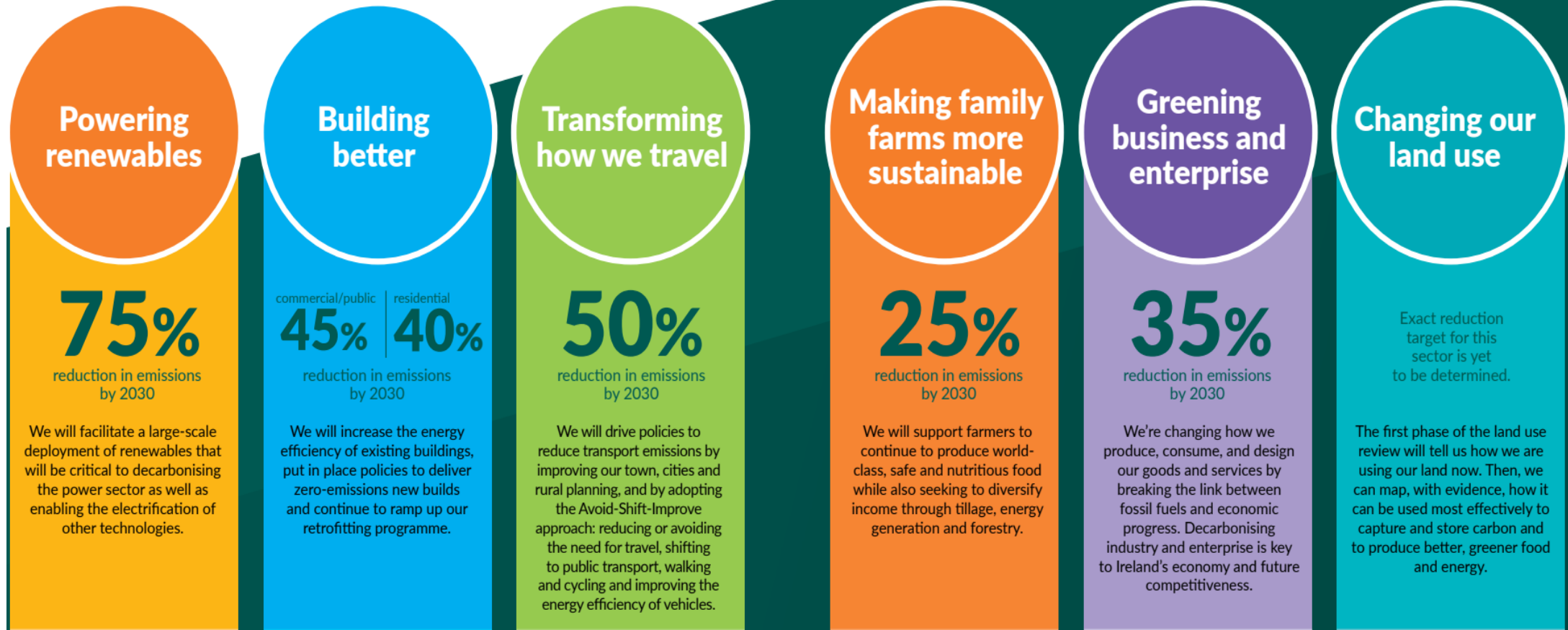
- *80% renewables by 2030*
- *500k sustainable journeys per day by 2030*
- *National Retrofit Plan*
- *Faster uptake of Carbon-neutral heating & electrification of high-temp heating*
- *Various actions/initiatives to reduce Agriculture & Land-Use emissions*



Key sectors



The Six Vital High Impact Sectors



Energy Security Policy Context



REPower EU

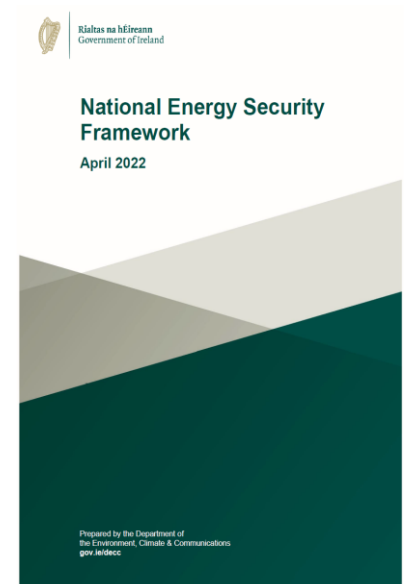
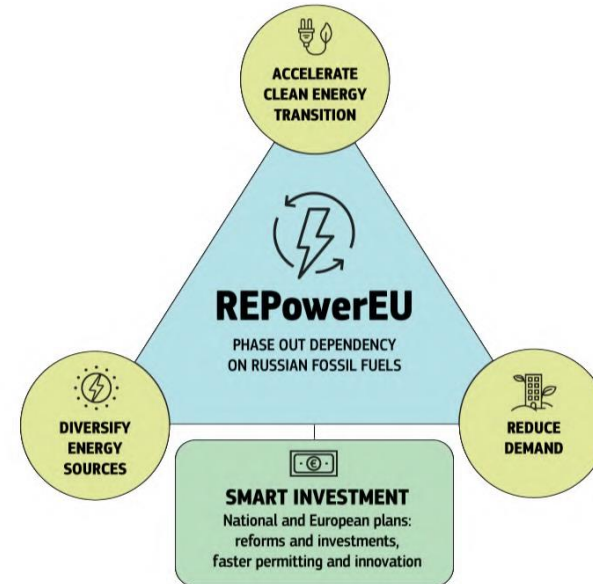
- Saving Energy
- Accelerating Renewables
- Diversifying EU supply

National Energy Security Framework

- Ireland's response to situation in Ukraine
- Supporting households and businesses
- Accelerate shift to renewable electricity and indigenous renewable energy systems
- Commitment to align all elements of the planning system to fully support accelerated renewable energy development.

Energy Security Package

- Review of the security of energy supply of Ireland's electricity and gas systems and oil supply
- Address challenges arising
- Consultation in September 2022 – 450 submissions



Emerging EU Policy Context

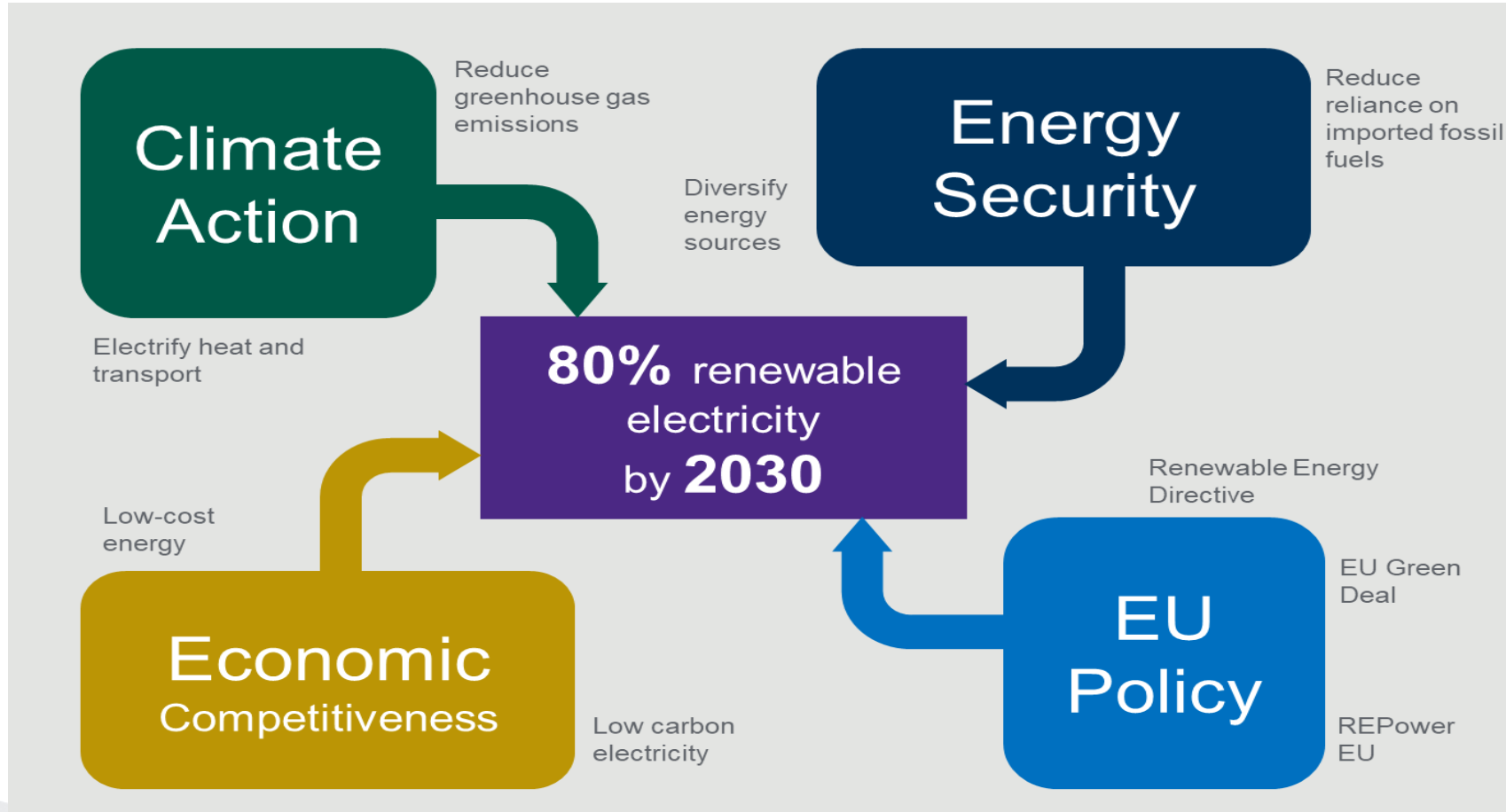


- REDIII passed by EU Parliament on 12th September
- EU-wide renewable targets increase to 42.5% (overall objective of 45%) by 2030
- Integrates RePowerEU Plan into EU Law
- Expected to be in force in October
- Many aspects to be transposed into Irish law by July 2024
- 18 months to map areas required for renewable targets
- 27 months to designate “renewables acceleration areas” (subset)
- Renewable energy projects and related grid infrastructure considered to be in the “overriding interests of the public”
- Revised consenting timelines
- Single point of contact role (SEAI)

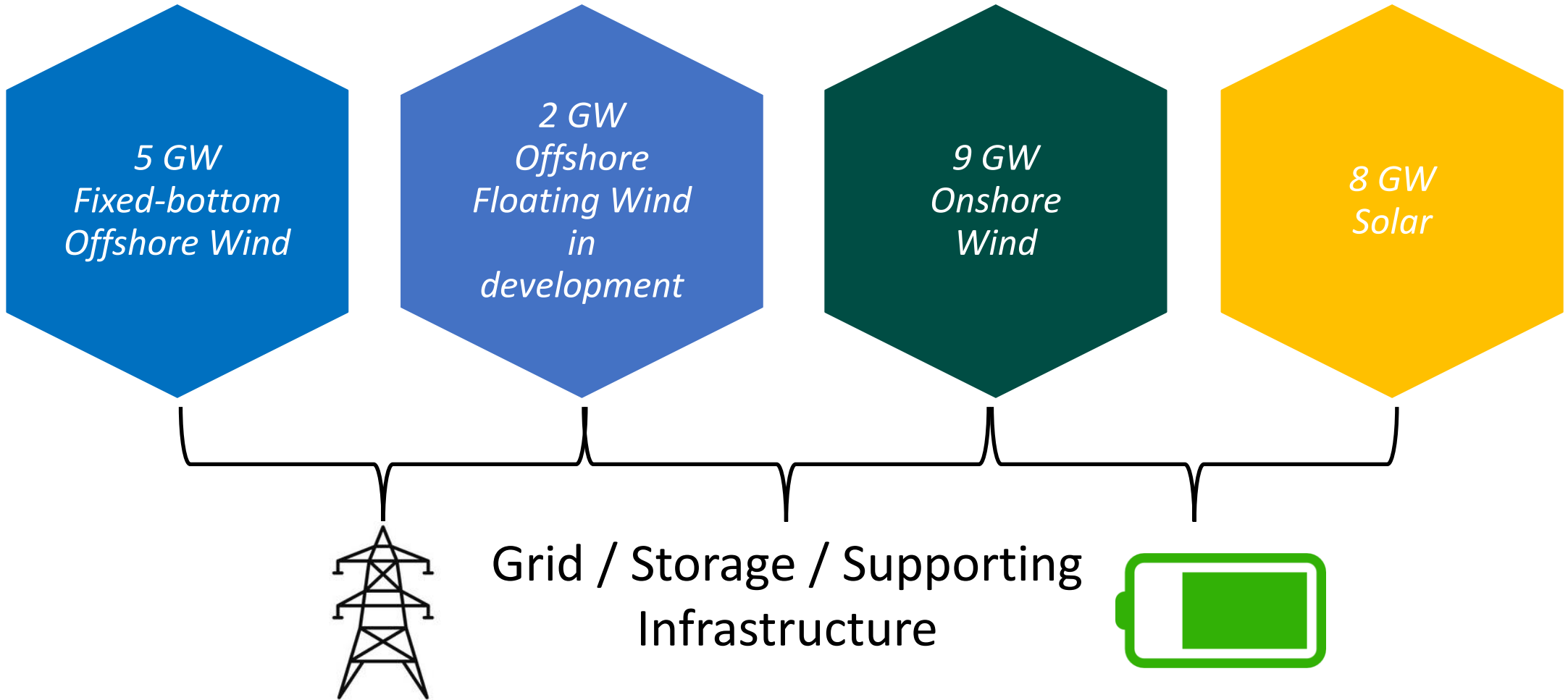
Evolution of renewable energy targets



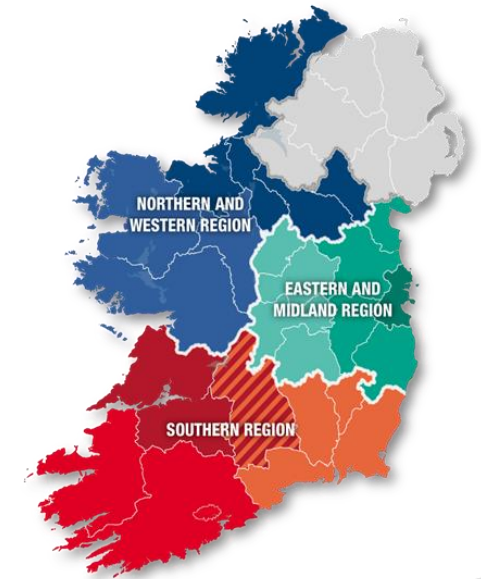
Factors and Functions of Renewable Electricity Targets



80% Renewable Electricity by 2030



Spatial Planning for Onshore Renewables – Renewable Electricity Spatial Planning Framework



Grid, Hydrogen and Storage Initiatives



Grid and Supporting Infrastructure Critical in meeting

Climate and Energy Security Targets

- *Hydrogen Policy*
- *Storage Policy*
- *Grid development and funding*
- *Grid Connection Policy*
- *Private Wires*
- *Hybrid connections*



Offshore Energy:- Phased Deployment + Simultaneous Policy Development



Phase 1

to contribute to 5GW by 2030
deploying from 2027+

Phase 2

to provide remainder of 5GW by 2030
deploying from 2028+

Phase 3

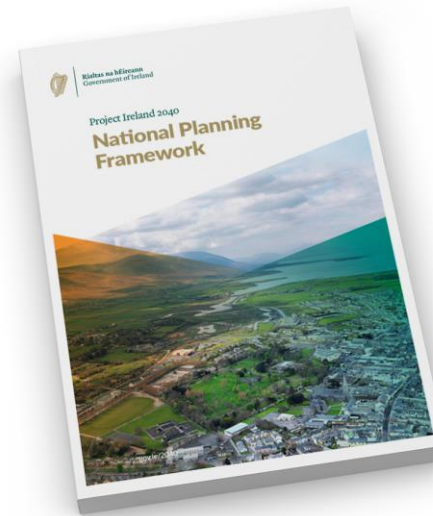
to provide 2GW for Green Hydrogen
in development by 2030

Future Framework

Long-term plan, Export potential
deploying post-2030

Wider Supporting Measures

- *Existing Planning code*
- *Wind Energy Development Guidelines*
- *Planning and Development Bill*
- *Resourcing An Bord Pleanála*
- *Resourcing the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority*
- *National Planning Framework Review*
- *Development of National Industrial Strategy for Offshore Wind underway (DETE)*
- *D/Transport identifying and working to resolve barriers to delivery of ports infrastructure*
- *ARE and ORE Taskforces*



Number 30 of 2000

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000

REVISED

Updated to 9 September 2021

This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the *Planning and Development Act 2000*. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1975* (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.

All Acts up to and including the *Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021* (32/2021), enacted 23 July 2021, and all statutory instruments up to and including the *Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2021* (S.I. No. 459 of 2021), made 8 September 2021, were considered in the preparation of this Revised Act.

MARA
An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuiri
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority

Public Attitudes – SEAI Survey on Wind and Solar Projects



People's attitudes towards wind farms



67%
Positive



18%
Neutral



12%
Negative



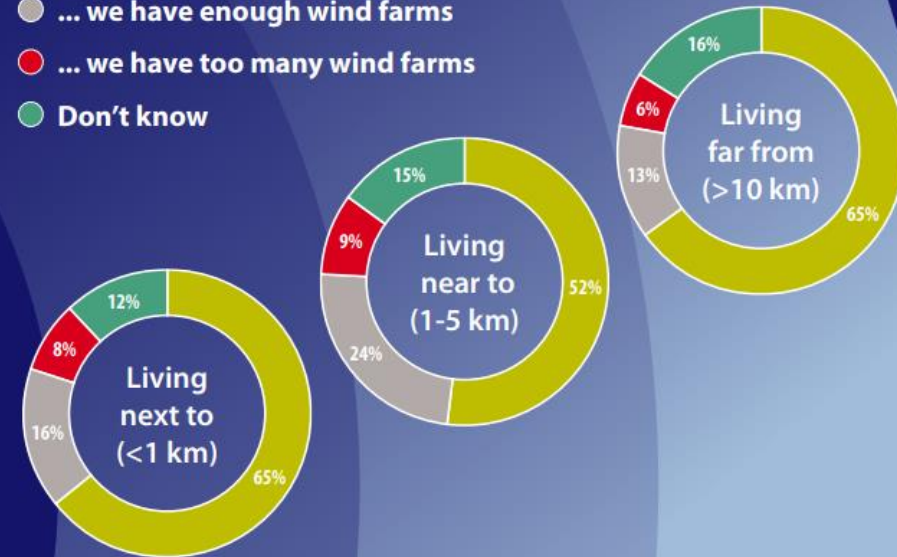
3%
Don't know

DETAILED RESULTS:

	People who live next to (<1 km):	People who live near to (1-5 km):	People who live far from (>10 km):
	72%	62%	70%
	13%	20%	17%
	13%	14%	11%
	1%	4%	3%

People who believe...

- ... we have too few wind farms
- ... we have enough wind farms
- ... we have too many wind farms
- Don't know



Public Attitudes – SEAI Survey on Wind and Solar Projects



People's attitudes towards solar farms



81%
Positive



11%
Neutral



4%
Negative



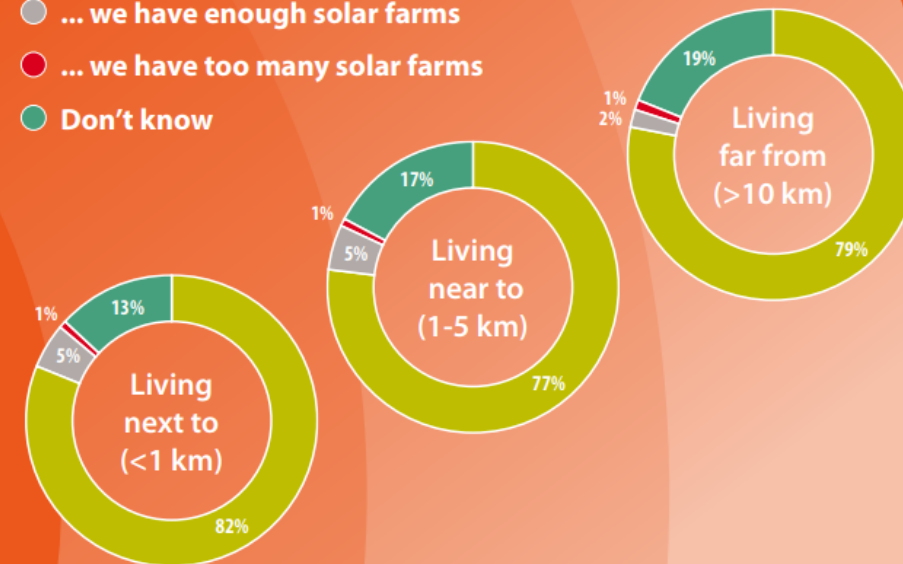
4%
Don't know

DETAILED RESULTS:

	People who live next to (<1 km):	People who live near to (1-5 km):	People who live far from (>10 km):
	81%	81%	80%
	14%	10%	11%
	1%	5%	3%
	3%	4%	6%

People who believe...

- ... we have too few solar farms
- ... we have enough solar farms
- ... we have too many solar farms
- Don't know





An Roinn Comhshaoil,
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications

Thank You