



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

The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications Research and Innovation Survey — Public Consultation

Fields marked with * are mandatory.



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

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Research and Innovation Strategy — Public Consultation

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications has set out a vision of a climate neutral, sustainable, and digitally connected Ireland. This will involve leading ambitious climate and environment action across Government and society together with a fundamental shift in sustainable resource use and a transformation of our energy system while at the same time delivering world-class connectivity and cyber security. The Department has identified research and innovation as important enablers of its goals, and is one of a group of five Government Departments which invest significantly in research and innovation. Impact 2030, the national research and innovation strategy, outlines a strong role for the Department in delivering on Strategic Objectives in Climate, Environment and Sustainability (including Energy), and in Digital Transformation (including cyber security). During 2023, the Department is now developing its inaugural Research and Innovation Strategy.

Please complete this survey by 5:30 pm on Friday 11th August.

Note 1: There are no mandatory consultation questions. Fields can be left blank if you do not wish to answer a particular question.

Note 2: Responses to each of the consultation questions is limited to 2000 characters.

Note 3: Copying and pasting text into the boxes directly from Microsoft Word may cause user experience issues. To avoid this, it is recommended to 'paste as plain text'.

Note 4: You can download a PDF copy of your completed survey after you have submitted it.

* Please enter your name

Text of 5 to 200 characters will be accepted

* Please enter your email address

* Please enter your occupation

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please enter the name of that organisation.

200 character(s) maximum

Job Title (if applicable)

What gaps do you see in the Department's current research and innovation activities? How should we address those gaps in the Department Research and Innovation Strategy?

2000 character(s) maximum

There is a significant investment in wind energy green hydrogen etc however an elephant in the room is animal agriculture. Little investment has been delivered towards alternative proteins including the development of cell based/ cultivated meat. SFI recently closed a call for innovation in alternative proteins however from my research to date I do not believe any university has developed cell based meat technologies. This is a gap which should be addressed.

What actions can the Department take to identify future trends in the areas under our remit?

2000 character(s) maximum

Reach out to the IDA encourage FDI of companies such as Upside meats to invest in Ireland. Identify universities such as University of Galway to develop alternative course trainings this university already as stem cell research and manufacturing programmes in play, ensure that this knowledge could transfer to developing programs with meat manufacturing.

Are there specific thematic areas relevant to the Department's remit which you would like to see more research and innovation activity in? How can this be achieved?

2000 character(s) maximum

Alternative proteins as a solution to support future farmers in providing meat for the nation and beyond. This technology cannot be kept exclusively to a few commercial entities limiting access as keeping prices elevated.

Have you views on the impact of disruptive technologies such as AI, Quantum and 6G as part of the digital transformation agenda and the implications of these technologies for the Department?

2000 character(s) maximum

I do not.

How can the Department better communicate its research and innovation needs?

2000 character(s) maximum

N/A.

How can the Department work more effectively to source evidence from the national research and innovation community to support its work in policy development, policy implementation, and the uptake of new technologies?

2000 character(s) maximum

N/A.

How can the Department engage more effectively with all stakeholders in the national research and innovation system? If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please state how the Department could more effectively engage with your organisation.

2000 character(s) maximum

N/A.

Should the Department seek to grow its capacity to carry out in-house research? If yes, how can this be achieved?

2000 character(s) maximum

N/A.

Are there examples internationally of Government strategies on research and innovation in climate, communications / digital, circular economy, cyber security, energy or environment that we should examine? If so, can you provide details?

2000 character(s) maximum

The Good good institute is a US based NGO which supports policy on the development of alt proteins and have many examples of government investment in alt protein research.

Are there any other matters you wish to raise in relation to the development of the research and innovation strategy?

2000 character(s) maximum

For every gram of beef we produce to eat, it requires 15 grams of cow to make (bones skin non edible tissue). Our global population has an ever growing appetite for beef, we need an alternative. Ireland can be a leader in this area given our skill set in the biotech and medtech manufacturing industries. Departmental investment can drive innovation in this important area.

Contact

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