



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

Developing the Department's Research & Innovation Strategy

Waste Advisory Group

20th July 2023

Gerry Clabby, Principal Advisor, Environment and Climate Research and Advisory Unit

Le Chéile 23 – Statement of Strategy



Strategic Goals

1. Be a recognised leader in climate action
2. Transform our energy system for a net zero emissions future
3. Transition to a circular economy: protecting & restoring our environment through sustainable resource use
4. Deliver world class connectivity & communications
5. Ensure best in class governance & regulation

State Bodies under DECC's Aegis

Climate, Environment & Natural Resources



Mining
Board

Communications

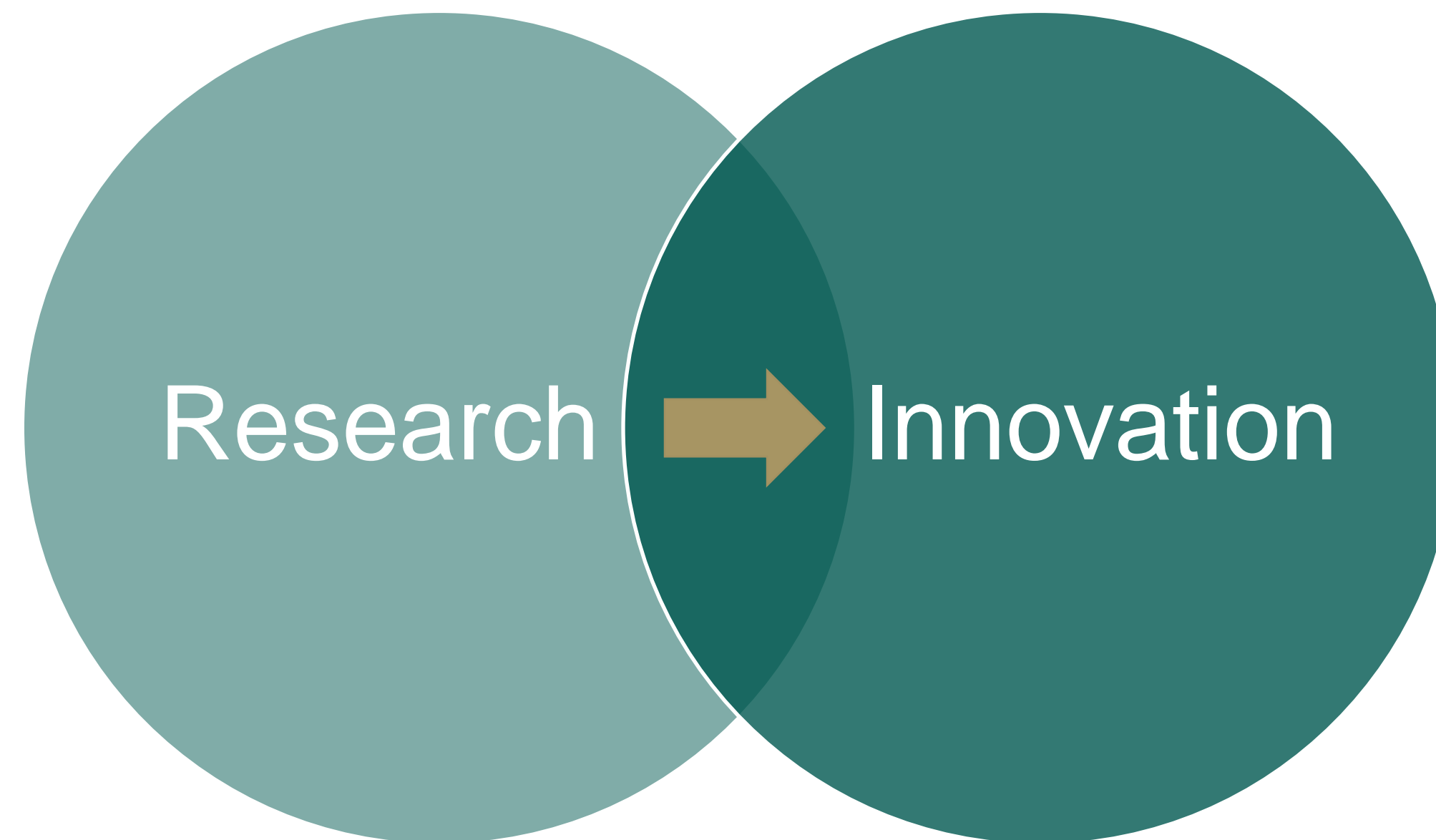


Energy



Irish
National
Petroleum
Corporation

Research & Innovation: Working Definition



- **Research** is the creation of new knowledge
- Source of:
 - *Evidence*
 - *Data*
 - *Analysis*

- **Innovation** is the application of research
- E.g., Creating new:
 - *Technology*
 - *Policy*

Importance of R&I for DECC



- Vision of a climate neutral, sustainable and digitally connected Ireland
- Requires transformative action across climate, environment, energy, communications and cyber security areas
- Research and innovation are important enablers of the Department's Goals
- The Department is the fifth largest spender on R&I across Government
- National R&I Strategy *Impact 2030* calls out climate, environment, sustainability & digital goals



The Digital Connectivity Strategy for Ireland

2022



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2023 CAP23

Changing Ireland for the Better



Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022 - 2023

Living More. Using Less



Our Process



DECC Steering
Group

- Internal Consultation
- External Stakeholder & Public Consultation

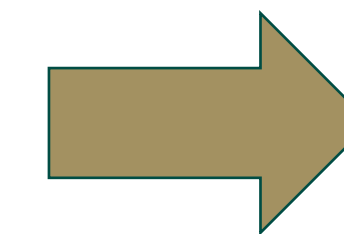
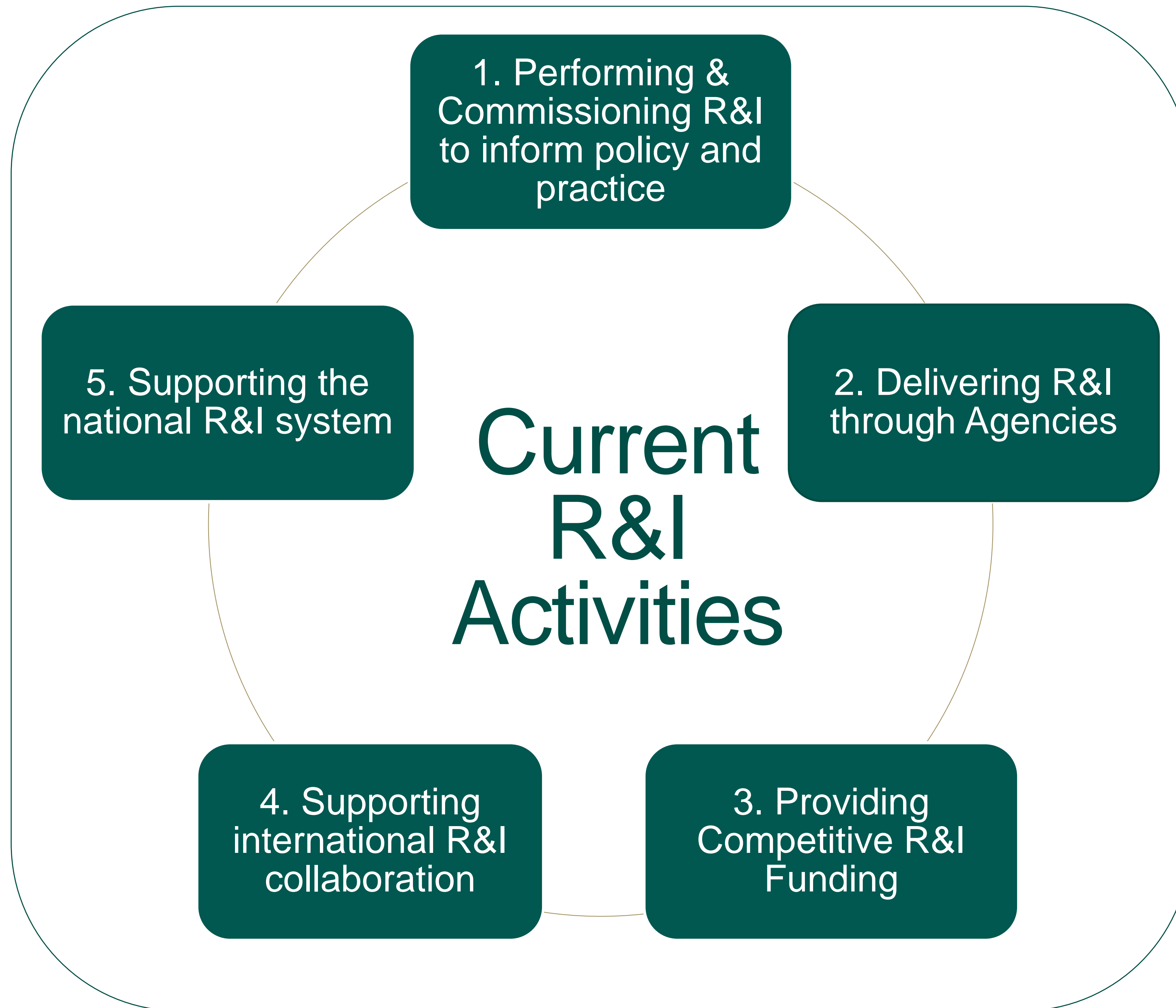
Advisory
Group

Project Team (Dr Jennifer Brennan & Evan Argue)

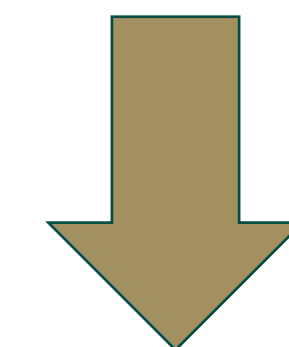


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Review



Knowledge Transfer



Innovation in Policy and Practice

National Comparative Study



We are examining:

- How other Departments* structure, coordinate and fund their R&I activities
- The frameworks used to manage & deliver R&I, including financial governance
- How research is used to support policy development
- The mechanisms that have been established to link with research in academia, state research bodies etc.

*D/AFM, D/ETE, D/ECDIY, D/J, D/H

International Desk Review



- Similar focus to National Comparative Study
- Examining how comparable Ministries/Departments in other countries structure, coordinate and fund their R&I activities
- Countries chosen are UK, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Portugal, New Zealand, Singapore, The Netherlands
 - *Innovation Leaders (EU Innovation Scoreboard)*
 - *and/or members of Small Advanced Economies Initiative*



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Consult

Internal & External Consultation



External Advisory Group

- 32 organisations
- Depts, agencies, local government, industry, academia, third sector

1-1 Meetings
with key EAG
members

Workshop

Public Consultation

- Launched 28th June
- Closing 11th August



Advisory Group



Dept. of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation & Science	Inland Fisheries Ireland	Teagasc	National Standards Authority of Ireland
Dept. of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	Office of Public Works	Marine Institute	Local Government Management Agency
Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	Commission for Regulation of Utilities	Science Foundation Ireland	IBEC
Dept. of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Enterprise Ireland	Irish Research Council	Industry Research & Development Group
Environmental Protection Agency	IDA Ireland	Royal Irish Academy	Irish Environmental Network
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland	Heritage Council	Irish Universities Association	Climate Change Advisory Council
National Parks & Wildlife Service	CyberIreland	Technological Higher Ed Association	Bord na Mona
Loughs Agency	ComReg	Met Éireann	EirGrid

Public Consultation



- Launched this week – open until 11th August
- Seeking input from stakeholders on the content of the R&I Strategy
- R&I will cover all areas of the Department's responsibility:
 - *Communications*
 - *Cyber Security*
 - *Energy*
 - *Environment*
 - *Climate Action*
- Online consultation – short survey with 10 questions
- <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/6cf65-public-consultation-on-the-department-of-the-environment-climate-and-communications-research-and-innovation-strategy/>



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Thank You