

Sir,

I am writing this as an individual, but also as a founder member of [REDACTED]

My concerns over climate change arose during 4 years living in Uganda 2003 - 2007 when the 'on ground' effects of climate change were becoming obvious.

We lived in Fort Portal, near the Congo border; until about two years before we arrived it had been a malaria free area but the climate had now warmed by approximately 0.1deg which was sufficient to establish malaria, a killer disease, Farmers were finding it very difficult to know when to plant or harvest. In, I think it was 2006 the rains continued into January instead of stopping in early December.

These are some of the considerations that led to the establishment of [REDACTED].

I have only read volume 3 on the Mitigation Plan and these are my comments

Section B7: Integration of local knowledge. This is **absolutely** essential, but not something we are very good at. [REDACTED] is due to undergo significant changes to accommodate the BusConnect [REDACTED]. When I spoke to one of their engineers and seemed to be getting nowhere, I asked if they had visited [REDACTED], walked the streets, talked to the locals and observed the traffic dynamics. The answer was short: in essence "Good God No". If we have that attitude in climate adaptation we will get nowhere. A second example is a wind farm in Germany which never generated any power because they had not visited the local community or studied the local terrain at the micro-level and missed that the chosen site was in a wind shadow.

B11: Agroforestry and adaptation: We know that this is necessary and can, if properly managed, lead to increased incomes for the individual farms concerned. However it is essential that the overall planners are aware that these changes do not suit the short term goals of the Dairy and beef industries and these have the capacity for very powerful push-back. The answer will almost certainly involve the need for substantial financial inputs to ease this necessary transition.

B12. This section is important because it emphasises the importance of information exchange and coordination. This entire process of adaptation requires a much increased public information drive. Our experience in [REDACTED] is that although people are generally well aware of Climate Change, a point emphasised in the annual EPA lecture a couple of years ago, There is an almost total lack of awareness what this means in changes to life styles and day to day living. This is because, so far, all climate mitigation has been at the macro-level and has not impinged on individual behaviours: whether children walk to school, the reluctance to use public transport, etc, etc.

B14. Reference is made to storminess as if there is uncertainty about it. One of the earliest observations on the drivers for Climate Change and weather patterns was Chaos Theory, which predicted that rather than the weather becoming gently warmer it would fluctuate between extremes. Casual observation would suggest this is exactly what is happening around the world,

B33. First and most obvious requirement that there is a national prohibition on building on flood plains. This should have been decades ago.

B47. Climate Change risks to business: Businesses will shortly be required to report their Carbon 'footprint' under Scopes 1 - 3. It is crucially important that these requirements are policed to ensure that they are comprehensively and accurately reported and not being used to 'Greenwash' the business.

Currently there is very little evidence that the financial sector, fund management, banks, insurance and reinsurance are taking any serious notice of the Climate risks posed by their activities. We know that all fossil fuel use must be stopped by 2050 and must be 50% reduced by 2030 but the Fossil fuel companies are still obtaining finance and insurance for major infrastructure which should never be used. Ireland has a growing financial sector which should be pressured strongly in this regard to look to their long term responsibilities to the world rather than a small number of shareholders whose resources would be much better used elsewhere.

C2. The importance of **Justice** cannot be overemphasised in our response to Climate Change. Unless we are just, and seen to be just, society will not accept the necessary changes.

C7. Information exchange. This is absolutely essential: accurate information as a prerequisite for cooperation with the community. In many areas where change is essential there will be powerful vested interests looking for special treatment, i.e. exemption from making change. We have already seen this in the recent national climate sectoral mitigation agreements. It will be necessary to listen to these special interest groups BUT everyone must be in the same boat and where essential, financial supports put in place for the short term to allow reaching the same point as everyone else. This is a matter of Justice, and practicality, if we are to reach Carbon Zero by 2050 in such a way that we also keep to the 1.5deg, C pledge.

C13. We need to move to realising and taking actions that Climate Adaptation needs is an investment and not a cost. This will no doubt require the development of tools to show the capitalised return, at a technical level that the financial industry will understand and accept. If

Climate adaptation can be taken out of the world of politics into the world of finance where it can be seen as good business, then progress will become rapid.

D3. If communities need to move, or more probably parts of the community need to move off a flood plain, or away from a coast at risk, it is important and a matter of justice that the entire community is engaged in agreeing how the adaptation is to be managed. We have seen too often the havoc caused by demolition and re-housing of entire communities without recognition of the vital importance of the community life being disrupted.

In many cases we can see now which locations and communities will need to move or adapt, and when, so it should be possible to spend the available time to engage, discuss and plan in a manner which not only assists the community affected to come to terms with the situation and plan for the future but which simultaneously allows a coherent and long term National Strategy to be developed