

## Straitéis Náisiúnta um Athrú Aeráide

2007-2012

## National Climate Change Strategy

2007-2012

### Príomhphointí Main Points



**Finding out more**  
The *National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012* is available at [www.environ.ie](http://www.environ.ie) and in Public Libraries. Copies can also be obtained by writing to:  
Air Quality and Climate Change Section,  
Department of The Environment, Heritage and Local Government,  
Custom House, Dublin 1  
or e-mailing [climatechangeinfo@environ.ie](mailto:climatechangeinfo@environ.ie)

**Tuilleadh eolais**  
Tá an *Straitéis Náisiúnta um Athrú Aeráide 2007-2012* ar fáil ag [www.environ.ie](http://www.environ.ie) agus i Leabharlanna Poiblí. Is féidir cóipeanna a fháil freisin ach scríobh chuig Rannóg Aeircháilíochta agus Athrú Aeráide, An Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil, Teach an Chustaim, Baile Átha Cliath 1 nó seol r-phost chuig [climatechangeinfo@environ.ie](mailto:climatechangeinfo@environ.ie).



feithiclí na hearnála poiblí go meascán bithbhreosla agus déanfar soilse tráchtta agus sráide níos fuinneamh-éifeachtúla. Tosóidh scéim chun teas bithmhaise a thabhairt isteach i scoileanna i mbliana. Déanfar seach-chuir ar astuithe uile a bhaineann le aer thaisteal oifigiúil de chuid Aírí Rialtais agus státseirbhísigh.

### Ag comhlíonadh sprioc Kyoto na hÉireann trí chomhoibriú idirnáisiúnta

Bainfear amach 21% de laghduithe i ngás ceaptha teasa atá de dhíth chun sprioc Kyoto na hÉireann a chomhlíonadh trí laghduithe astuithe lasmuigh den Stát. Aithníonn an Prótacal go mbaineann an tairbhe céanna le hastuithe gáis ceaptha teasa a laghdú i dtéarmaí dul i ngleic le hathrú aeráide pé áit ar domhan ina tharlaíonn na laghduithe agus táthar tar éis meicníochtaí a sholáthar chun a cheadú do pháirtithe Phrótacal Kyoto a gcuid gealltanais a chomhlíonadh sa bhealach is éifeachtaí i leith costas atá ann dóibh.

Tá na meicníochtaí seo tábhachtach d'eacnamaíochtaí forbartha toisc go spreagann siad infheistíocht isteach i dteicneolaíocht nua-aimseartha ghlan agus cuidítear leis na tíortha seo forbairt i mbealach níos inbhuanaithe don chomhshaoil.

### Ag oiriúnú chuig aeráid athraithe

Tá obair suntasach déanta chun réamh-mheas a thabhairt ar na tionchair dhóchúlacha ag athrú aeráide d'Éire. Beidh impleachtaí le haghaidh soláthar uisce, tuilte, creimeadh cósta, talmhaíocht, talamhúsáid, pleanáil agus sláinte. Ní foláir dúinn sinn féin a ullmhú le haghaidh na hathruithe seo. Forbrófar straitéis oiriúnaithe um athrú aeráide laistigh de dhá bliain chun déileáil leis na saincheistanna seo uile.

### Ag Seachadadh na Straitéise

Tá Coimisiún um Athrú Aeráide á bhunú chun comhairle a thabhairt don Rialtas i dtaobh déileáil le hathrú aeráide agus chun feasacht a mhéadú in earnálacha uile ar na deiseanna agus dúshláin a bhaineann le haistriú go heacnamaíocht ísealcharbóin.

Tá na struchtúir idir-Rannach le haghaidh feidhmiú na Straitéise á láidriú agus cuirfear tuarascálacha bliantúla ar dhul chun cinn chuig Tithe an Oireachtais.

Cuirfear críoch le soláthair bhulgáin solais traidisiúnta, ghealbhruthach agus cuirfear roghanna malartacha níos fuinneamh-éifeachtúla chun cinn. Soláthrófar méadair chliste, a thairgeann deiseanna sábhála-fuinneamh níos mó, do chustaiméirí leictreachais uile.

### Gnó agus tionscal

Cé go bhfuil éifeachtacht fuinnimh na heacnamaíochta tar éis méadú, is féidir le gnó agus tionscal na hÉireann níos mó a dhéanamh agus déanfar amhail. Tá gnóthachain éifeachtúla breise indéanta. Cruthóidh teicneolaíochtaí ísealcharbóin deiseanna gnó do chomhlachtaí na hÉireann - oibreoidh an Rialtas go dlúth le gnó trí Chláir um Chomhaontú Fuinnimh, cláir Cumhachta agus Teasa Comhcheangailte agus Bith-theas agus tacaíocht le haghaidh teicneolaíocht eco-éifeachtúil.

### Talmhaíocht agus foraoiseacht

Is féidir le talmhaíocht agus foraoiseacht cuir go mór le gáis cheaptha teasa a laghdú. Samhlaíonn an Straitéis leathnú mór i bhforaoiseacht agus barraí-fuinnimh, tacaíocht leanúnach le haghaidh na tionscail seo agus d'fheirmeoirí chun a bheith páirteach.

Is foinse shuntasach de ghás ceaptha teasa í talmhaíocht agus tá sí freagrach as ucht 28% d'astuithe iomlán na hÉireann. Tá an Straitéis ag díriú ar laghduithe breise trí bhainistíocht chomhshaoil feabhsaithe ar fheirmeacha, le húsáid leasacháin laghdaithe agus bainistíocht aoiligh níos fearr.

### Bainistíocht dramhaíola

Leathnófar scéimeanna dea-bhunaithe i dtacaíocht seachaint, íoslághdú, athúsáid agus athchúrsáil dramhaíola. Freisin samhlaíonn an Straitéis úsáid bithmhais dramhaíola i dtáirgeadh fuinnimh agus tionscadail dramhaíl-go-fuinneamh.

### Ár n-earnáil phoiblí

Feidhmeofar cláir trasna an earnáil phoiblí chun coigiltí fuinnimh de 33% a bhaint amach. Aistreoidh cabhlaigh



### An fuinneamh a úsáidimid

Ní foláir dúinn ár dtuilleamaí trom ar bhreoslaí iontaise a laghdú agus leathnú a dhéanamh ar an úsáid d'fhuinneamh in-athnuaite, ar nós gaoth, tonn, grian agus bithmhais. An aidhm ná chun 15% de leictreachas a fháil ó fhuinneamh in-athnuaite faoi 2010 agus 33% faoi 2020. Spreagfaidh an Straitéis fuinneamh a úsáid níos éifeachtúla agus aschur CO<sub>2</sub> na n-astaíirí tionsclaíoch móra a laghdú trí scéim trádála astuithe an AE

### An tslí ina thaistealaímid

Tá astuithe gáis ceaptha teasa ag fás níos gasta ó iompar ná ó aon earnáil eile. Tá níos mó gluaisteáin & trucaíil againn, tá siad á dtiomáint againn níos mó agus tá cineálacha níos mó, nach bhfuil chomh breosla-éifeachtúil á rognú againn.

Leanfaidh iompar poiblí ar aghaidh ag leathnú agus ag feabhsú chun aistriú a spreagadh ó ghluaisteáin phríobháideacha. Tá díolúintí cánach infhaighte le haghaidh feithiclí leictreach, hibrid agus fleisc-bhreosla. Déanfar athrú ar Cháin Cláraithe Feithiclí (CCF) agus cáin bóthair mar dhuais ar cheannach agus úsáid feithiclí níos breosla-éifeachtúla. Méadófar úsáid bithbhreoslaí go 5.75% de bhreosla uile a úsáidtear faoi 2010.

### Ár dtithe agus láthair oibre

Tá an Rialtas tar éis caighdeán chaomhnaithe fuinneamh níos airde a thabhairt isteach cheana féin. Leanfaidh an Rialtas leis seo agus tabharfar isteach caighdeán foirgníochta atá 40% níos ardaidhmeannaí i bhfeidhmiú teirmeach ná na cinn atá ann faoi láthair. Tá scéimeanna deontais ag tabhairt tacaíocht d'úinéirí tí agus do ghnóthaí chun aistriú go fuinneamh in-athnuaite agus tá athruithe pleanála tar éis é a dhéanamh níos easca chun grianphainéil agus tuirbíní gaoithe beaga a chuir isteach. Tá eolas ar conas is féidir le sealbhóirí tí fuinneamh a shábháil á sholáthar trí an feachtas leanúnach um éifeachtacht fuinneamh *"The Power of One"*. [www.powerofone.ie](http://www.powerofone.ie)

Tá deimhniú sainordaitheach um rátáil fuinnimh foirgneamh á thabhairt isteach le haghaidh foirgnimh uile á dhíol nó á léasú. Tabharfaidh sé seo soiléireacht d'fheidhmiú fuinnimh foirgneamh agus soláthrófar spreagadh chun éifeachtacht fuinnimh a uasghrádú.

### Conas a dhéanfaimid é?

Tá iarracht mharthanach de dhíth ar bhaint amach na hastuithe seo. Ní foláir dúinn uile – Rialtas, údarás phoiblí, gnóthaí, feirmeoirí, teaghlaigh agus daoine aonair – páirt a bheith againn.

Ag oibriú le chéile is féidir linn ár spriocanna a bhaint amach gan iomaíochas, feidhmiú eacnamaíoch agus cáilíocht na beatha a chomhghéilleadh. Beidh tairbhe le fáil againn ó smacht a fháil ar fhuinneamh in-athnuaite, fuinneamh a úsáid níos éifeachtúla agus glacadh le teicneolaíochtaí ísealcharbóin.

### Ár spriocanna

Faoi Phrótacal Kyoto, ní foláir d'Éire an fás ina cuid astuithe a theorannú chuig 13% os cionn leibhéil 1990 sa tréimhse 2008-2012. Le na bearta ata á thógáil cheana féin agus na bearta sa bhreis sa straitéis, beidh laghdú éifeachtach inar gcuid astuithe de CO<sub>2</sub> comhionann ó bheagnach 80 milliún tonna in aghaidh na bliana go 63 milliún tonna, ár sprioc faoin Phrótacal Kyoto.

### Ár n-astuithe

Is í dé-ocsaíd charbóin an príomh-ghás ceaptha teasa a astaímid. Scaoiltear í nuair a dhóimid breosla iontaise ar nós gual, ola, gás nó móin chun ár dtithe a théamh, ár ngluaisteáin a rith, fuinneamh a ghiniúint agus cumhacht a sholáthar d'ár dtionscail. Is foinse shuntasach de meatán agus ocsaíd nítriúil í talmhaíocht.

### Ag comhlíonadh ár spriocanna

Leathnú atá sa Straitéis Náisiúnta um Athrú Aeráide, 2008 – 2012 ar chéad Straitéis um Athrú Aeráide de chuid na hÉireann agus a haidhm ná:

- chun léiriú soiléir a thabhairt ar na bearta lena gcomhlíonfaidh Éire a gealltanais Prótacal Kyoto 2008-2012; agus
- chun a thaispeáint conas mar a fhágann na bearta seo sinn don tréimhse iar-2012, agus chun na limistéir a aithint ina bhfuil taighde agus forbairt á dhéanamh ar bhearta breise chun sinn a chumasú chun ár ngealltanais deiridh 2020 a chomhlíonadh.



### What's the problem?

Our planet is warming up and our climate is changing because of man-made emissions of greenhouse gases.

Many human activities can generate greenhouse gases: manufacturing, farming, running your car or heating your home. The resulting gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane and nitrous oxide are building up in the atmosphere, trapping more and more heat from the sun and slowly warming the planet.

This warming is already disrupting climate patterns, and without strong counter-measures this will intensify. In Ireland, we are threatened with wetter winters, more flooding and summer droughts. Rising sea levels will increase risks to our coastal cities and towns and we will have more intense storms. Other countries are likely to experience more severe impacts. Poorer countries and peoples would suffer most, as the impacts would be greatest where they live and they are less well equipped to adapt.

### What can be done?

Delaying action will be more costly than implementing the necessary steps now. Ireland is playing its part and will meet its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol. But this is just the first step. The international community is working towards an agreement on strengthened global action to control emissions, which will follow on from the Kyoto Protocol. The EU, including Ireland, has already committed to further significant reductions in emissions by 2020.

### How will we do it?

Achieving these reductions requires sustained effort. All of us – Government, public authorities, businesses, farmers, families and individuals - must play a part.

Working together we can achieve our targets without compromising competitiveness, economic performance and quality of life. We will benefit from harnessing more renewable energy, using energy more efficiently and embracing low-carbon technologies.



### Our targets

Under the Kyoto Protocol, Ireland must limit the growth in its emissions to 13% above 1990 levels over the 2008-2012 period. Measures already in place and additional measures outlined in the Strategy will effectively reduce our overall emissions from almost 80 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year to our Kyoto target of 63 million tonnes.

### Our emissions

The main greenhouse gas we emit is carbon dioxide. It is released when we burn fossil fuels like coal, oil, gas or peat to heat our homes, run our cars, generate electricity and provide power for our industries. Agriculture is a significant source of methane and nitrous oxide.

### Meeting our targets

The National Climate Change Strategy 2007-2012 builds on Ireland's first Climate Change Strategy and its purpose is:

- to show clearly the measures by which Ireland will meet its 2008-2012 Kyoto Protocol commitment; and
- to show how these measures position us for the post-2012 period, and to identify the areas in which further measures are being researched and developed to enable us meet our eventual 2020 commitment.

### The energy we use

We must reduce our heavy reliance on fossil fuels and expand the use of renewable energies, like wind, wave, solar and biomass. The aim is to source 15% of electricity from

renewable energy by 2010 and 33% by 2020. The Strategy will promote using energy more efficiently and further reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> output of large industrial plants through their participation in the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.

### The way that we travel

Greenhouse gas emissions are growing faster from transport than from any other sector. We have more cars & trucks, we are driving them more and we are choosing larger, less fuel-efficient models.

Public transport will continue to be expanded and improved to encourage a switch from private cars. Tax exemptions are available for electric, hybrid and flexi-fuel vehicles. Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT) and road tax will be changed to reward the purchase and use of more fuel-efficient vehicles. The use of bio-fuels will be increased to 5.75% of all fuel used by 2010.

### Our homes and workplaces

The Government has introduced progressively higher energy conservation standards through building regulations. It will build on these and will introduce building standards that are 40% more ambitious in thermal performance than the present ones. Grant schemes are supporting homeowners and businesses to switch to renewable energy and planning changes have made it easier to install solar panels and small wind-turbines. Information on how householders can save energy is being provided through the ongoing energy efficiency campaign "*The Power of One*". [www.powerofone.ie](http://www.powerofone.ie)

Mandatory building energy rating certification for all buildings offered for sale or lease is being introduced. This will give clarity on a building's energy performance and will provide an incentive to upgrade its energy efficiency.

Traditional, incandescent light bulbs will be phased out and the use of more energy efficient alternatives encouraged. Smart meters, which offer greater energy-saving opportunities, will be supplied to all electricity customers.

### Business and industry

While the energy efficiency of the economy has increased, Irish business and industry can and will do more. Further efficiency gains are achievable. Low-carbon technologies will create business opportunities for Irish companies. Government will work closely with business through Energy Agreement Programmes, Bioheat and Combined Heat and Power programmes and through support for eco-efficient technology.



### Agriculture and forestry

Agriculture and forestry can make a big contribution to reducing greenhouse gases. The Strategy envisages considerable expansion of forestry and energy-crops, continued support for these industries and for farmers to get involved.

Agriculture is also a significant source of greenhouse gas and is responsible for 28% of Ireland's overall emissions. The Strategy is targeting further reductions through improved environmental management on farms, with reduced fertilizer use and better manure management.

### Waste management

Well established schemes in support of waste prevention, minimisation, reuse and recycling will be expanded. The Strategy also envisages the use of waste biomass in energy production and of waste-to-energy projects.

### Our public sector

Programmes will be rolled out across the public sector to achieve energy savings of 33%. Public sector vehicle fleets will move to a biofuel blend and street and traffic lights will be made energy efficient. A scheme to introduce biomass heating to schools will commence this year. Emissions associated with all official air travel by Government Ministers and civil servants will be offset.

### Meeting Ireland's Kyoto target through international cooperation

21% of the cuts in greenhouse gas required to meet Ireland's Kyoto target will be achieved through emissions reductions outside the State. The Protocol recognises that reducing greenhouse gas emissions has the same benefit in terms of tackling climate change wherever in the world the reductions occur and has provided mechanisms to allow Kyoto Protocol parties meet their commitments in the most cost effective manner available to them.

These mechanisms are important to developing economies as they stimulate significant inward investment in modern clean technology and help these countries to develop in a more environmentally sustainable way.

### Adapting to a changing climate

Significant work has been done to predict the likely impacts of climate change for Ireland. There will be implications for water supply, flooding, coastal erosion, agriculture, land use planning and health. We must prepare ourselves for these changes. A climate change adaptation strategy will be developed within two years to address all these issues.

### Delivering the Strategy

A Climate Change Commission is being established to advise the Government in addressing climate change and to increase awareness in all sectors of the opportunities and challenges presented by the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The inter-Departmental structures for implementing the Strategy are being strengthened and annual progress reports will be made to the Houses of the Oireachtas.



### Céard é an fhadhb?

Tá ár bpláinéad ag téamh suas agus tá ár n-aeráid ag athrú de bharr astuithe saorga de gháis cheaptha teasa.

Is féidir le go leor gníomhaíochtaí daonna gáis cheaptha teasa a ghiniúint: déantúsaíocht, feirmeoireacht, do ghluaisteán a rith nó do theach a théamh. Tá na gáis dá bharr, ar nós dé-ocsaíd charbóin (CO<sub>2</sub>), meatán agus ocsaíd nítríúil ag bailiú suas san atmaisféar, ag gaistiú níos mó agus níos mó teasa ón ngrian agus ag téamh an pláinéad diaidh ar ndiaidh.

Tá an téamh seo ag cuir isteach ar phatrúin aeráide cheana féin, agus gan frithbhearta láidre dianóidh sé seo. In Éirinn, tá baol de gheimhrí níos fliche, níos mó tuilte agus triomach samhraidh. Méadóidh an ardú i leibhéil na mara rioscaí do chathracha agus do bhailte ar an gcósta agus beidh stoirmeacha níos déine againn. Tá se dóchúil go mbraithfidh tíortha eile tionchair níos troime. Bheadh an fulaingt is mó ar thíortha agus ar dhaoine níos boichte, toisc go mbeadh na tionchair is mó sna háiteanna ina mhaireann siad agus níl siad trealmhaithe ró maith chun oiriúnú.

### Céard is féidir a dhéanamh?

Beidh tionchar i bhfad níos mó ag moilliú na gníomhaíochta ná mar a bheidh ag feidhmiú na céimeanna riachtanach anois. Tá a chuid féin á bhaint amach ag Éire agus comhlíonfar a gealltanais faoi Phrótacal Kyoto. Níl anseo ach an chéad chéim. Tá an comhphobal idirnáisiúnta ag oibriú i dtreo comhaontú ar ghníomhaíocht domhanda láidirthe chun astuithe a rialú, rud a leanfaidh ar aghaidh ó Phrótacal Kyoto. Cheana féin tá an AE, lena n-áirítear Éire, tar éis gealltanais a thabhairt de laghdúithe suntasach bhreise in astuithe faoi 2020.