

EPA Water Conference 2021

16 & 17 June

Water: Integrating Policy and Practice

#epawater2021



Thursday / 17 June 2021
09:00 – 13:00

Chair:

Mary Gurrie
*Water Programme Manager,
EPA Office of Evidence and Assessment*

09:00
Log in to Conference

09:15
Welcome & Introduction

Session 3:
**Looking forward –
pressures and solutions**

09:20
**Standardisation of National
Climate Services: supporting
water decision making**
Keith Lambkin
Senior Climatologist, Met Éireann

09:35
**What does the new Drinking Water
Directive mean for water protection?**
Dr Michelle Minihan
*Senior Inspector, Drinking Water, EPA
Office of Environmental Enforcement*

09.50
**Securing drinking water supplies
into the future**
Angela Ryan
Water Resources Specialist, Irish Water

10.05
AgriFood 2030: the future for agriculture
Tom Arnold
Chair, 2030 Agri-Food Strategy Committee

10.25
Q&A

10:45
Tea/Coffee Break

Session 4:
**Working with communities:
valuing water**

11:15
**Communities and water:
a vision for the future**
Bernie O’Flaherty
*Regional Coordinator, Local Authority
Waters Programme*

11.30
**Behavioural change: learning from
SEAI’s work with Communities**
Ruth Buggie
*Sustainable Energy Communities
Programme Manager, Sustainable Energy
Authority of Ireland*

11.45
**The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan:
sharing stories to change behaviour**
Dr Úna FitzPatrick
*Chair of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan,
National Biodiversity Data Centre*

12.00
Citizen Science: DCU’s Water Blitz
Dr Susan Hegarty
Dublin City University Water Institute

12.15
**Panel discussion with
questions and answers**
Chair: Professor Tom Collins
Chair, An Fóram Uisce / The Water Forum

12:50
Summary & closing remarks
Dr Tom Ryan
*Director, EPA Office of Environmental
Enforcement*

13.00
Close of Day 2

Day 1 Speakers

Dr Eimear Cotter

Dr Eimear Cotter was appointed in 2017 as Director of the EPA initially with responsibility for the Office of Environmental Sustainability. She is currently Director of the Office of Evidence and Assessment. She previously worked in the EPA and Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland. Eimear holds a BA (Mod) in chemistry from Trinity College Dublin, a PhD in atmospheric chemistry from Oxford University and an MBA from UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School.



Laura Burke

Laura Burke is the Director General of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), appointed in 2011 and served as a Director within the EPA since 2004. As Director General she has the responsibility to lead and strategically manage the EPA. Laura is the Chair of the European Environment Agency (EEA) Management Board. Prior to joining the EPA, she worked in the private sector. Laura is a graduate chemical engineer of University College Dublin (UCD), holds an MSc from Trinity College, Dublin, is a Fellow of the Institute of Engineers of Ireland and is a Chartered Director. In 2016 Laura was awarded the UCD Engineering Graduates Association (EGA) Distinguished Graduate Award.



Dr Stéphane Isoard

Since 2016 Stéphane Isoard is leading the freshwater and marine activities at the European Environment Agency (EEA, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/>). For further details please visit EEA web site for water and marine activities at <https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water> and WISE Marine (Marine Information System for Europe) at <https://water.europa.eu/marine>

Since joining the EEA in 2002, Stéphane Isoard has been responsible for developing outlooks across sectoral and environmental themes, before moving on to work on integrated assessments of climate change adaptation, and now leading the freshwater and marine operations. Before joining the EEA, Stéphane Isoard worked for the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (European Commission-Joint Research Centre) and the consulting and software firm Caminus Ltd. on short and long-term energy and environmental forecast issues. He published extensively in international academic and scientific journals. Stéphane's background is in mathematical economics and modelling, and he took a Ph.D. from the University of Paris I - Panthéon Sorbonne in Economics.



Feargal Ó Coigligh

Feargal Ó Coigligh is Assistant Secretary at the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government heading up the Water Division of the Department. He previously served as Assistant Secretary in the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht where he headed up both the Heritage and Culture Divisions of that Department in successive periods. During his time in charge of the Culture Division he had responsibility for commemorations as part of the Decade of Centenaries including the successful Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme.

In the past he has worked on land-use planning policy, the reform of the local government system in Ireland, on modernising waste management policy - including the introduction of Europe's first levy on plastic bags, and as an adviser to the Minister for the Environment.



Day 1 Speakers

Dr Richard Boyle

Richard is an independent research consultant and former head of Research, Publishing and Corporate Relations at the Institute of Public Administration, where he worked from 1986 to 2020. He has carried out a wide range of research and consultancy studies on aspects of public service management including public sector reform, performance measurement, evaluation, the management of cross-cutting issues, and long-term policy thinking. He is an expert in evaluation, and served on the board of the European Evaluation Society. He has provided support to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on a number of reform initiatives.

In recent years, Richard has been engaged in a number of major consultancy projects for public sector organisations in Ireland, particularly in the fields of public service reform, programme evaluation, strategic management, organisational restructuring and performance management. Internationally, he has conducted research on behalf of the European Commission, the OECD, and the World Bank.



Prof. Jane Stout

Jane Stout is an internationally renowned expert on pollinator and pollination ecology, and a prominent voice for biodiversity and its value. Her research seeks to understand how land management practices, including agriculture and urbanisation, affect ecological processes and the benefits of nature for humans. Jane works across disciplines, and with a broad range of stakeholders in public and private organisations, to improve environmental policy and practice. She leads a large team of researchers in the Plant-Animal Interactions Research group in Botany, in the School of Natural Sciences in Trinity. She is co-founder and Chair of the Board of the Irish Forum on Natural Capital www.naturalcapitalireland.com, and co-founder and deputy Chair of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan www.pollinators.ie



Caitríona Nic Aonghusa

Caitríona is a Section Manager in the Marine Institute. She ensures that the necessary marine scientific services are available for Government, so that they can balance the different demands for using the sea and protection of the marine environment. This is achieved through the delivery of the Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and the Marine Strategy Framework Directives (MSFD). Both Directives require evidence across a wide range of marine disciplines, including data management and analysis, fisheries and ecosystems science, chemistry, policy support and mapping.

With over twenty years of strategic and technical experience, Caitríona has led cross-functional, policy-driven activities and has extensive knowledge of Ireland's marine sectors, the marine environment and related research. She was instrumental in the delivery of key strategic marine programmes, such as the National Marine Planning Framework, European Maritime Fisheries Fund, Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan and the National Marine R&I strategy. She is currently co-Chair of the ICES Working Group on Marine Planning and Coastal Zone Management.



Enda McDonagh

Enda McDonagh, BSc Eng. MIEI. CEM. IPMA is the Environmental Manager at Bord na Mona's Land and Habitats Department. He looks after a team of seven Environmental/Energy Officers/Samplers/Leads in the Compliance Department, primarily looking after compliance with a number of Integrated Pollution Control and Waste Licences, but also ISO9001, Archaeology, Community Liaison and the associated IPC Licence requirements to rehabilitate its industrial peatlands under the Peatlands Climate Action Scheme. There are significant existing licence obligations regarding water quality and one of the main success criteria of the PCAS scheme and associated Rehabilitation Plans includes assessing, measuring and verifying all expected water quality improvements that will arise from the rehabilitation of 33,000ha of Bord na Mona's peatlands under this scheme.



Day 2 Speakers

Mary Gurrie

Mary Gurrie manages the Water Management Programme in the EPA's Office of Evidence and Assessment.



Keith Lambkin

Keith is the Senior Climatologist at Met Éireann. Here he works with government departments, academia and international organisations to help promote the development of climate services at home and abroad. With a background in physics and earth science measurements he previously held the role of Chief Scientist at Met Éireann's flagship weather station, 'Valentia Observatory'. Here he led the development of numerous national monitoring networks including Ireland's weather balloon, solar radiation & stratospheric ozone programmes. His interests today have changed from measuring the climate to instead using this knowledge to assist sectors adapt to our changing environment.

Keith currently represents Europe on the World Meteorological Organization's Expert Team on Communication and User Interface for Agriculture, is a member of the Irish National delegation to the IPCC and is Ireland's representative to the EUMETNET European Climate Expert Team.



Dr Michelle Minihan

Dr. Minihan joined the EPA in April 2018, where she leads the drinking water team within the Office of Environmental Enforcement and has responsibility for the regulation of Irish Water, ensuring the quality of drinking water delivered through the public supply in the Republic of Ireland meets legislative requirements.

Dr. Minihan is a member of the EU Drinking Water Expert Group and a ministerial appointee to the Water Advisory Body, whose role is to report on how well Irish Water is performing and to help increase public confidence in Irish Water

After completing her PhD in Chemistry at the University of Limerick, Dr. Minihan has worked in the private and public sectors before joining the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, where she worked for over 10 years in a variety of roles before joining the EPA.



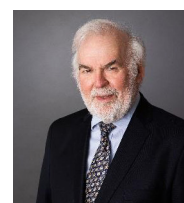
Angela Ryan

Angela Ryan is a chartered civil engineer and water resources planner with the asset management sections of Irish Water. Angela is currently the project lead for the National Water Resources Plan, the 25 year strategic plan for water services, which will set out how the company will meet the present and future challenges of water supply.



Tom Arnold

Tom Arnold currently serves as Chair of the Irish 2030 Agri-Food Strategy Committee; the Irish Government's Special Envoy for Food Systems; Member of the Champions Network for the UN Food Systems Summit (FSS); Chair, EU Commission's High Level Expert Group to assess the Need for an International Platform for Food Systems Science (IPFSS); Member, Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition (GloPan); Member, Board of Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN); Member, Malabo Montpellier Panel. He has previously served as Coordinator, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement; Director General, Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA); Chair, Irish Constitutional Convention; Chief Executive, Concern Worldwide; Chair, OECD Committee of Agriculture; Chief Economist and Assistant Secretary General, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Administrator, EU Commission. His primary degree is in agricultural economics from University College Dublin (UCD) and he has Master's degrees from the Catholic University of Leuven and Trinity College, Dublin.



Day 2 Speakers

Bernie O'Flaherty

Bernie works with the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) as Regional Coordinator for the Border and Western Regions. Our work programme, commenced in 2016 and involves community engagement, coordination of public bodies at regional level and catchment assessment and LAWPRO is part of the new approach to water management, as outlined in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018 - 2021. Prior to her current role, she worked for over 30 years with Monaghan County Council, working in environmental regulation, water quality and farmer engagement.

Her qualifications include a BSc (UCD) Diploma in Environmental Science & Technology (Sligo): Higher Diploma in Education (Maynooth) and MSc Environmental Toxicology and Pollution Monitoring (UU)



Ruth Buggie

Ruth Buggie is the Sustainable Energy Communities and Community Renewable Electricity Support Scheme Programme Manager with SEAI. She joined SEAI in 2005 and has managed a number of national grant programmes including the SEAI Energy Poverty programme, the Better Energy Homes Scheme and the Area Based programme.

Ruth is responsible for the development and deployment of the Sustainable Energy Communities programme to support the development of a community approach to energy and to stimulate a national move towards sustainable energy practice through demonstration in exemplar communities. More recently this role has extended to develop supports for communities interested in developing large renewable electricity projects.

Ruth holds a Degree in Building Services and a Masters in Energy Management from the Dublin Institute of Technology.



Dr Úna FitzPatrick

Úna has a Ph.D. in botany. She worked on a project on the conservation of Irish bees before joining the National Biodiversity Data Centre in 2007. The Centre is responsible for the collection, collation, management, analysis and dissemination of data on Ireland's biological diversity. As Senior Ecologist, she is responsible for the plant, vegetation and pollinator work programmes of the Centre. In 2015, she co-founded the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. She is Chair of the Steering Group and also oversees implementation of the Plan.



Dr Susan Hegarty

Susan Hegarty is a geographer and Associate Professor in the DCU School of History and Geography. Her research focuses on citizen science for monitoring water quality, and on the evolution of the Irish landscape and our use of that landscape. She has researched the role of the Quaternary ice-sheets on this landscape and the role Quaternary sediments play in the vulnerability of water sources to pollutants. She is also interested in the exploitation of Irish mineral resources in the nineteenth century. She is enthusiastic about transmitting the importance of Geography to the wider public, and to this end has taken part in a number of documentary series on both Irish and British television channels, including co-presenting three seasons of Building Ireland on RTÉ1, and is involved in a number of citizen science projects looking at water quality in Ireland. She is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and is a PI in the DCU Water Institute.



Day 2 Speakers

Prof. Tom Collins

Professor Tom Collins is Chair of the Water Forum and the founding Chair of Ireland's newest and largest university-Technological University Dublin. He is former Professor of Education in Maynooth University where he also served as Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Vice President. Prior to this, 2001-2006, he headed up Dundalk Institute of Technology.



Dr Tom Ryan

Tom Ryan was appointed in August 2018 as a Director of the EPA with responsibility for the Office of Environmental Enforcement. Prior to being appointed Director Tom served as a Programme Manager with EPA, as Director of Radiation Protection Regulation with the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) and also worked with the European Commission based in Luxembourg. Tom holds a BSc and PhD in experimental physics from UCD, an MSc in management practice from TCD and an LLM from the Sutherland School of Law, UCD.



Register: ti.to/waterconference/2021

Conference Platform: www.crowdcomms.com/epawater21

#epawater2021
epawater2021@gowest.ie

