

**The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) have partnered to undertake a Prioritisation Exercise on the future direction of Environment and Health research in Ireland. Through research and engagement with stakeholders the objective is to identify knowledge gaps, research needs, and areas of strategic opportunity for Ireland. This will enable the production of a comprehensive Roadmap capable of informing the future direction of the EPA and HSE's (and other national funders) research support in this area.**

**Environment and Health research is defined as research that seeks to advance our understanding of the *associations between environmental opportunities and threats, and human health and wellbeing*. It encompasses three broad environmental dimensions: Natural Environment, Built Environment, and Lifestyle Consumption and Behaviour.**

**The prioritisation exercise will be undertaken in several stages and the CIRCA Group has been commissioned to assist the EPA and HSE with the process. This survey forms an integral part of the exercise and your cooperation in completing it would be greatly appreciated. Individual views will be kept confidential, and only the overall results and anonymous opinions will be included in CIRCA's report to the EPA and HSE.**

1. How relevant to your organisation's activities or interests is a proposed Environment and Health Research Roadmap ?

*The agenda or 'Roadmap' will be used to guide the EPA and HSE in defining funding levels and topics in future research programmes in the field of environment and health. Environment and Health research seeks to advance understanding of the associations between environmental opportunities and threats, and human health and wellbeing.*

- Very relevant
- Relevant
- Not relevant

2. In what ways might the output of an Environment and Health research programme be used by your organisation to develop, modify or deliver your activities or services ? (click all that apply).

*As noted above, environment and Health research is defined as research that seeks to advance our understanding of the associations between environmental opportunities and threats, and human health and wellbeing.*

- Development of national regulatory standards or guidelines
- Contribution to improved work environment, facilities or new buildings
- Management of emissions or waste
- Provision of advice to clients, the public or other groups
- Climate change planning
- Contribution to policy development in Environment & Health
- Other (please specify)

3. Please rank the following research themes in order of their importance for your organisation

<input type="text"/>	Ecosystem Benefits for Health
<input type="text"/>	Safe Water
<input type="text"/>	Clean Air & Noise
<input type="text"/>	Chemicals, Pollutants and Other Threats
<input type="text"/>	Radiation Protection
<input type="text"/>	Climate Change and Health
<input type="text"/>	Environmental health impact assessment
<input type="text"/>	Lifestyles, behaviours and health
<input type="text"/>	Housing and health
<input type="text"/>	Environmental threats to/for food safety
<input type="text"/>	Workplace safety and wellbeing

4. From your experience does the research expertise required to address your organisation's needs exist within Irish institutions? (click all that apply)

- Don't know
- Yes - in public / academic research organisations
- Yes - in industry
- No
- Yes - elsewhere (please specify)

5. From your perspective what areas of research activity or expertise require greater focus in Irish institutions?

This will help identify those areas of research expertise needing to be developed.

6. Has your organisation published any policy or information material relevant to determination of national policy on environment and health?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please specify (or provide a link to the relevant material)

7. What do you believe to be the major national policies, strategies or frameworks supporting a national Environment and Health Research Roadmap?

8. Do you perceive any barriers to Environment and Health research in Ireland. If so, please specify below:

- Infrastructure
- Availability, suitability and access to environmental or clinical data
- Funding
- Capacity (specialist expertise or services)
- Collaboration between scientists and clinicians
- Linkages between scientists and officials in relevant public sector organisations

Other perceived barriers or views

9. Please provide up to 10 Environment and Health research topics/needs which you deem to be a national priority over the next 5-10 years, and also provide a short rationale for each, i.e. why is research on this environmental opportunity, threat or other issue of significance to Ireland's health and wellbeing

**Topic 1**

Rationale

**Topic 2**

Rationale

**Topic 3**

Rationale

**Topic 4**

Rationale

**Topic 5**

Rationale

**Topic 6**

Rationale

**Topic 7**

Rationale

**Topic 8**

Rationale

**Topic 9**

Rationale

**Topic 10**

Rationale

10. Please specify your organisation, and your contact information for possible further discussion

Organisation

Division or section within  
organisation

Contact Phone number

## Thank you

We appreciate your taking the time to complete this survey. Individual views will be kept confidential, and only the overall results and anonymous opinions will be included in our report to EPA and HSE. If you have queries on its purpose, or how the data will be used, please contact Jim Ryan in CIRCA Group at: [jim.ryan@circa.ie](mailto:jim.ryan@circa.ie) or 087 2456402. CIRCA Group is an Irish consulting company specialising in research management and science policy issues.

[www.circa.ie](http://www.circa.ie)