NWPP HIGHLIGHTS 2020

Resources & Raw Materials
Maximising use of products and materials towards a circular economy.
- 26 leading Irish manufacturers committed to a >20% reduction in GHG emissions and waste production through joining CIRCULÉIRE, the national circular manufacturing platform.
- 10 circular economy enterprises mentored through the Rediscovery Centre’s Circular Economy Academy.
- Community Resources Network Ireland supported their members to reuse over 18,000 tonnes of materials saving over 117,000 tonnes of carbon.
- 1,374 companies & public bodies used the TREE online resource efficiency tool by end 2020.
- RepairMyStuff online repair directory connected more than 800 repair businesses with over 73,000 users.

Plastics
Displacing single-use plastic items through prevention, reuse and recycling actions.
- Green Enterprise: Innovation for a Circular Economy funded two plastic projects:
  - Developing an innovative manufacturing process using recyclable, reinforced plastic to produce wind turbine blades.
  - Showcasing a novel solution to recycle waste farm plastics into livestock drinking troughs.
- EPA procured research into preventing and reducing soft plastic waste in the provision of school meals under Enterprise Ireland’s Small Business Innovation Research programme.

Local Waste Prevention
Mobilising & empowering communities to make changes for sustainable and circular living.
- 15 local authorities funded €89,000 to carry out 36 community circular economy initiatives.
- Seven civic amenity sites in Meath, Cork and Waterford began accepting paint for reuse and four social enterprises were mentored and supported to deliver paint reuse enterprises.
- Public drinking water fonts were installed in two public buildings in Drogheda and Dundalk Co. Louth to reduce consumption of single use plastic bottles.

Construction & Demolition
Working with industry and others to tackle high-volume wastes in this critical sector.
- Circular construction best practice factsheets and case studies published to EPA website.
- Supported C&D waste prevention and management training for local authority staff through the Local Authority Prevention Network.

Food Waste Prevention
Reducing waste in households, hospitality, retail and along the food production chain.
- 4.6 million people reached during a national Stop Food Waste ‘Eat It or Freeze It’ media campaign.
- 29,000 followers engaged on food waste by social media, with a 17% increase in stopfoodwaste.ie website users.
- A new 3-year strategy has been developed to strengthen the approach of food waste prevention activities through enhanced collaboration, impact and measurement.
- A national survey on food waste attitudes and behaviours was published and the results used to prepare targeted communications.
- The application of behavioural insights from the survey identified priority areas and established a baseline to monitor and evaluate progress.

Agriculture
Increasing output efficiency and reducing carbon emissions for sustainable food production.
- Smart Farming assessments on 25 farms across 16 counties identified potential for average greenhouse gas emission reductions of 9% and average savings of €5,602 per farm.
- Smart Farming website saw a 40% increase in traffic compared to 2019.
- As a Sustainable Development Goals Champion, Smart Farming’s Summer Virtual Farm Talk focussed on linking the practical actions promoted by Smart Farming to delivering sustainable development.