

# NWPP HIGHLIGHTS 2021

## Resources & Raw Materials



Maximising use of products and materials towards a circular economy.

- **39 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 40 members to reuse **12,400 tonnes of materials** saving over **171,000 tonnes of carbon**.
- **194 reports** issued to organisations on how to improve their resource efficiency using the TREE tool.
- The RepairMyStuff national online repair directory connected **more than 1,100 repair businesses** with over **98,000 users**.

## Food Waste Prevention



Reducing waste in households, hospitality, retail and along the food production chain.

- **7.5 million people** reached during a national Stretch Out and Save media campaign.
- Organic traffic to the Stop Food Waste website continued to increase showing a growing awareness and interest in the programme by the public.
- **53 per cent increase** in 25–34-year-old male visitors to the Stop Food Waste website during the 3-week period of a campaign targeting busy young males.
- EPA standardised food waste measurement methodologies are being developed and tested by businesses in the supply chain.

## Plastics

Displacing single-use plastic items through prevention, reuse and recycling actions.



- Green Enterprise innovation programme funded:
  - A project to **optimise plastics recycling** in smart vending machines through visual Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things technologies.
  - A project to **develop a composite plastic from recycled PET** completed.
- A project under Enterprise Ireland's Small Business Innovation Research programme estimated the **nature and scale of plastic waste produced in school meals** in Ireland.

## Local Waste Prevention



Mobilising & empowering communities to make changes for sustainable and circular living.

- **16 local authorities** funded €190,000 to carry out 17 community circular economy initiatives.
- **40-businesses** in the Dublin Region were trained on circular economy under the MODOS programme.
- Work began on the sourcing and installation of **36 public drinking water fountains** in schools, at beaches in Wexford and Waterford, on the Blueway in Laois and the Greenway in Limerick.
- **Rush TidyTowns** in Co. Dublin won the inaugural Tidy Towns EPA Special Award for Circular Economy.

## Construction & Demolition



Working with industry and others to tackle high-volume wastes in this critical sector.

- Revised **Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Resource & Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects** published in December.

## Agriculture



Increasing output efficiency and reducing carbon emissions for sustainable food production.

- Smart Farming assessments on **40 farms across 19 counties** identified potential for average GHG emission reductions of 6.5% and average savings of €5,400 per farm.