



Improving our understanding of Ireland's Air Quality

LIFE EMERALD Project - LIFE19 GIE/IE/001101

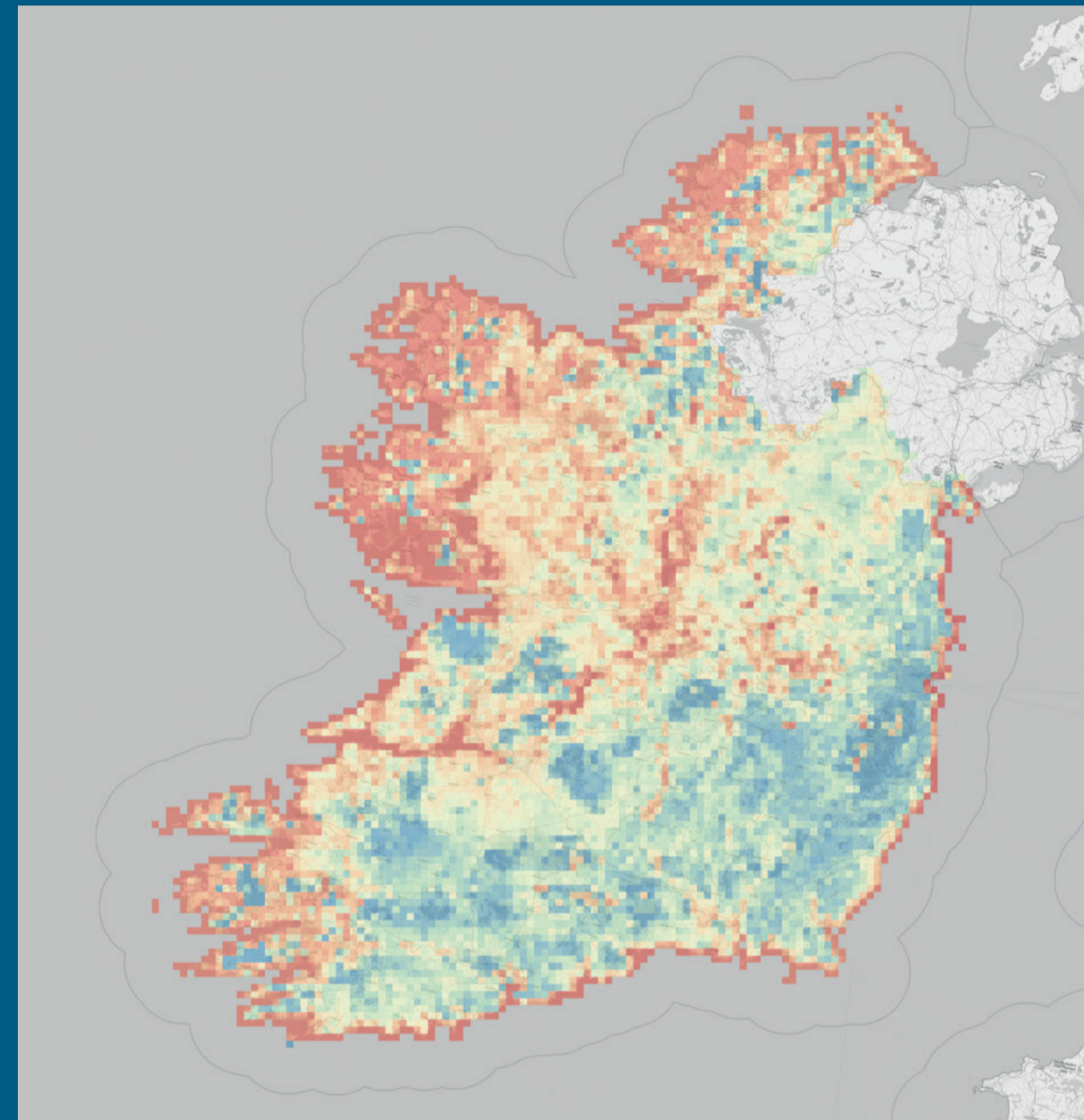
Funded by the EU LIFE Programme.

Expected results of the project include:

- ▲ A 3-day ambient air quality forecasting system for Ireland;
- ▲ Detailed near real-time maps for main pollutants - Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Ozone (O₃), etc.;
- ▲ Increased awareness of the sources and health impacts of air pollution among the general public and policymakers;
- ▲ Significant reductions in the levels of the main pollutants in the medium term.

The project is led by the EPA together with:

- ▲ Main Project Partners: ASI, DECC, HSE, UCC & VITO;
- ▲ Supported by Local Authorities throughout Ireland.



Illustrative image of future air quality forecast to be developed under the LIFE Emerald Project.

Air Quality in Kilkenny

LIFE Emerald project is led by the EPA, with the National Ambient Air Quality Unit based in EPA's Regional Inspectorate Office in Seville Lodge, Kilkenny. Under the project, the EPA has worked together with VITO (a Belgian research organisation) and University College Cork to develop air quality modelling and forecasting systems for Ireland.

The EPA has a permanent air quality monitoring station at the Seville Lodge office in Kilkenny; this station provides real-time information on Particulate Matter (PM₁₀), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Ozone (O₃). EPA and Kilkenny County Council have also installed an air quality monitor in Thomastown to monitor PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} as part of the local monitoring network, which provides an indication of the air quality in local areas. Data for all monitoring stations is available at www.airquality.ie.



Air Quality Monitor at Seville Lodge in Kilkenny.

Poor air quality leads to a significant number of premature deaths each year in Ireland. Ireland's two main pollutants of concern are:

- ▲ Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), where the dominant source is residential solid fuel burning;
- ▲ Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), where the dominant source is transport.



Find out more about the Life Emerald project

