

SUSTAINABLE NATION IRELAND

Background:

In the context of the Irish government's *Ireland for Finance* strategy, Sustainable Nation Ireland works to position Ireland as a world-leading hub for sustainable finance. Founded in 2015, Sustainable Nation Ireland is supported by both the public and private sector.

Objectives:

Sustainable Nation Ireland provides thought leadership, raises awareness on excellence and best practice, builds capacity in the sector, and catalyses innovation with supportive frameworks and tools. Further, SNI collaborates with partners at home and abroad to ensure Ireland's financial eco-system achieves a leading position in sustainable finance contributing to a sustainable and prosperous economy.

Priorities for 2020:

Outputs of the Irish government's *Ireland for Finance 2025* strategy, Sustainable Nation Ireland's 2020 priorities include:

- support the development of the European Commission's renewed Sustainable Finance strategy;
- finalise Ireland's first national sustainable finance roadmap;
- continue to support the UNEP hosted Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S) Network and, within the activities of FC4S Europe, by means of a senior secondment and funding support;
- publish Ireland's third ESG State of Play annual report measuring progress to date across all asset classes;
- undertake a deep dive analysis into the ESG data opportunity for Ireland;
- in partnership with [EIT Climate-KIC](#), strengthen alignment between two transformative agendas – Sustainable Finance and FinTech by establishing a Sustainable Finance innovation intrapreneurship platform to support Irish efforts in this space. The platform will focus on the development of new products and services within large Irish located financial institutions to support the reorientation of capital to the climate action agenda, at home and abroad. In addition, this platform will support innovations in ESG related data infrastructure and scaling green data and analytics innovations and the development of anti-green washing tools for investors;
- by means of the [Sustainable Finance Skillnet](#), deliver sustainable finance talent programmes across banking, insurance, asset management, asset ownership and large corporates by supporting the development of a suite of programmes focused on general awareness; baseline technical knowledge; climate risk; knowledge of regulation and frameworks; the EU taxonomy; disclosure including TCFD; Financing a Just Transition and convergence of sustainable finance and technology;

- host Ireland's third Climate Finance Week, which aims to showcase Ireland's commitment to mobilising the financial sector in support of meeting the Paris Agreement and UN Sustainable Development Goals; and
- with a focus on financing international development climate action, co-host the second Sustainable Finance Development Day event with the Irish Department of Finance.

Highlights:

- 1 Leader in the listing of ESG Bonds: At over €165bn, 231 ESG bonds from 95 issuers are featured on the new Euronext ESG Bonds section in Dublin. In addition, Euronext were the first stock exchange globally to endorse the UN Global Compact's nine Ocean Principles and UN Blue Bond Principles, which will provide support to the continued growth of the blue economy.
- 2 Establishment of a \$1mn two-year sustainable finance skills programme to support capacity development of Irish located financial services sector firms.
- 3 The Irish Government's *Ireland for Finance* strategy puts sustainable finance at the heart of a five-year plan which will run until 2025.

Membership of any other sustainable initiatives/networks:

- TCFD
- Climate Bonds Initiative

Links to Social Media:

