



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Statement of Strategy 2021-2024

Appendix - Programme for Government Commitments





Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)		
Establish a well-funded CAP transition period and new CAP to maintain investment levels in the rural economy and safeguard direct payments	Policy and Strategy	3.7
Seek reforms to the CAP to reward farmers for sequestering carbon, restoring biodiversity, improving water and air quality, and producing clean energy and developing schemes that support results-based outcomes	Policy and Strategy	3.7
Utilise CAP funding and the expertise of state agencies to develop more profitable routes to market for farmers	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.8
Continue to support farmers to embrace farming practices that are beneficial environmentally, have a lower carbon footprint and better utilise and protect natural resources	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Support beef, dairy, sheep, pig, poultry, tillage and horticulture sectors in the context of the next CAP through on-farm investment, the development of producer groups, animal welfare measures, and marketing tools such as Protected Geographical Indicator (PGI) status	Policy and Strategy	3.8
Introduce a new cap on basic payments, in line with the outcome of CAP negotiations	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.1
Advocate for a fair system of eligibility conditionality under reform of Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) rules, recognising that farmers should not be unfairly penalised for maintaining land that contributes to biodiversity principles	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.1
Invest in enhanced farm safety and wellbeing measures under the next CAP	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Protecting farm incomes and sectoral supports		
Build upon schemes such as Areas of Natural Constraint, the Beef Data and Genomics Programme, Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme - Suckler, the Knowledge Transfer Scheme and the Sheep Welfare Scheme, in a way that enhances farm incomes while contributing to climate change, biodiversity and animal welfare objectives, while recognising their significant contribution to net farm incomes	Policy and Strategy	3.8
Beef		
Ensure the Beef Market Taskforce implements the agreement reached with stakeholders in the beef sector	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Ensure greater transparency, co-operation and fairness in the beef industry throughout the supply chain from farm to fork	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Ensure that the challenges that beef farmers have been dealing with are recognised and supported under the next CAP	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.7 / 3.8
Encourage the establishment of more producer organisations in the beef sector, to provide farmers with the opportunity to build strength in the marketplace	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Work at EU level for the development of a Protected Geographical Indicator (PGI) for Irish beef	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.7
Prioritise funds for the promotion of beef in key markets through Bord Bia	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Acknowledge the important and unique role that the suckler sector plays in the beef industry and commit to developing supports that recognise this critical role	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Dairy		
Invest strategically in the future development of the dairy sector, focusing on greater efficiency and sustainability	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Work with dairy farmers and other stakeholders through the Dairy Forum to consider emerging challenges and continue to focus on developing new markets	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.6 / 3.10
Encourage investment in renewable infrastructure on farms to reduce energy costs	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Consider further taxation measures to manage evolving issues such as market volatility	Policy and Strategy	3.2
Work with farmers to improve the viability of dairy calf-to-beef systems	Policy and Strategy	3.2/ 3.4
Support farmers who wish to add value through on-farm processing of their milk	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Sheep		
Support the sheep sector under the next CAP, and recognise the vital role it plays in food production, demonstrating our commitment to maintaining farm incomes in the sheep sector	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.8
Deliver on further export opportunities for the Irish sheep sector	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Defend the interests of the sector in trade negotiations	Policy and Strategy	3.7
Undertake a review of the potential demand in domestic and international markets for wool based products such as insulation and fertilisers	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.4
Pigs		
Support pig farms through on-farm investment under the next CAP, focusing on energy efficiency, biosecurity, and animal welfare	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Work with stakeholders in the pig sector on opening new markets	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Focus on animal health in the sector, preventing emerging threats such as African Swine Fever	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.1
Poultry		
Support further investment in the poultry sector, providing further improvements in the areas of welfare, biosecurity and energy efficiency	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Tillage		
Work with tillage farmers in the context of the CAP and in the development of the successor strategy to Foodwise 2025 to build growth in the sector	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Focus particularly on maximising potential opportunities in the organic sector, the supply of quality Irish grains to an expanding food and drinks industry, and opportunities for homegrown proteins in animal feeds	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.2
Work to increase the adoption at farm level of Teagasc recommendations for climate smart cultivation methods	Policy and Strategy	3.3



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Horticulture		
Review the supports available to the horticulture sector and encourage greater expansion and growth in this sector, supplying both the domestic and international market	Policy and Strategy	3.3 / 3.4
Invest in the promotion of Irish horticultural products and enhance capital investment available to horticulture producers	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Fibre Crops		
The potential for growing fibre crops such as hemp will be fully explored, considering whether these crops have a viable market	Policy and Strategy	3.3 / 3.4
Young farmers		
Invest further in the next generation of farmers under the next CAP, encouraging generational change and land mobility to young, educated, trained farmers	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.8
Continue to prioritise access to entitlements for young trained farmers under the National Reserve	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.1
Ensure an increased emphasis through our agricultural colleges on education in the areas of sustainability, agroecology, climate action and biodiversity and the link to land use, soil health, and agriculture	Corporate Development	5.1
Examine how other countries have supported and encouraged young farmers into the sector	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Seek to resolve under the next CAP the issue of support for the category of farmers known as 'Forgotten Farmers'	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.1
Agri-food Policy		
Implement these strategies (EU Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies), ensuring the competitiveness and financial viability of food production systems are maintained and enhanced while increasing environmental and biodiversity benefits to the economy and society	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Publish a successor strategy to Foodwise 2025, within six months of Government formation, providing an ambitious blueprint for the industry for the years ahead, adding value sustainably in the agri-food sector into the future and supporting family farms and employment in rural Ireland	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Ensure that in addition to growing international markets and value-added export growth as a key priority, a strategic focus of the Foodwise 2025 successor strategy will be on environmental protection, reversing biodiversity decline and developing additional market opportunities for primary producers closer to home	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.6 / 3.10
Ensure fairness, equity and transparency in the food chain by establishing a new authority called the National Food Ombudsman (NFO) to enforce the Unfair Trading Practices Directive. This new authority will enforce EU wide rules on prohibited unfair trading practices in the food supply chain and will have powers to enforce this Directive, penalising those who breach regulations. The NFO will have a specific role in analysing and reporting on price and market data in Ireland	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Provide the necessary supports for primary producers and the agri-food sector to respond to potential market disturbances arising out of COVID-19 and Brexit	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Review the role, structures and strategic focus of state agencies in the food sector to ensure their programme of work is fully aligned with future Government and emerging EU policy	Corporate Development	5.1
Establish an Independent Agriculture Appeals Review panel in legislation as a priority and ensure the panel includes participants with practical knowledge and experience of farming	Corporate Development	5.1



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
International market diversification and trade		
Seek to protect existing markets and open new markets. We will support the promotion of sustainable, high-quality Irish produce in premium target markets, to give our farmers a competitive advantage	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Firmly defend Ireland's interests in international trade deals that may emerge, working with our network of colleagues in the European Commission and representatives in the European Parliament	Policy and Strategy	3.7
Work closely with the agri-food sector to secure access to priority markets and to avail of opportunities that existing markets such as China and Japan afford the sector	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Maintain the strongest possible trading relationship with the UK post-Brexit while recognising that market diversification is necessary, continue to support industry in doing so, by opening new markets for Irish produce	Policy and Strategy	3.9
Develop premium, sustainable markets closer to home for Irish producers	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4 / 3.6 / 3.7 / 3.9 / 3.10
Carry out an economic and sustainability assessment of the headline EU/Mercosur trade agreement, to inform future action in this area	Policy and Strategy	3.10
Increase the number of trade missions with a focus on premium Irish products and continue targeted supports in the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) and Bord Bia	Policy and Strategy	3.6 / 3.10
Domestic Market/Local Supply Chain: relevant supports are available as set out below under initiatives by DAFM, Bord Bia, Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs), LEADER and Local Authorities. Bringing together these strands and identifying gaps and opportunities will be a new workstream, with resource implications.		
Promote short, efficient routes to market that connect small food producers to the consumer and provide advisory, investment and marketing support for those who wish to diversify into new products	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Encourage/Support local authorities to expand the number of farmers' markets, farm shops and food emporiums, and support the formation of community-owned markets in all towns, showcasing local food produce from local farmers, growers and food producers	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Work with local authorities and local communities to develop community gardens, allotments and urban orchards	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Encourage schools and colleges to provide access to land where students can grow their own food	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Support the small food producer, providing support for on-farm diversification enterprises and investment in local processing facilities, allowing farmers to sell their products into the local and wider domestic markets	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Examine how other countries have been successful in developing premium markets from family farm produce	Policy and Strategy	3.2 / 3.4
Introduce local food procurement policies for the public sector to encourage the availability of nutritious, locally sourced food in public sector areas such as schools, hospitals, government buildings, prisons, etc.	Policy and Strategy	3.2
Continue to work to minimise food waste across the economy and promote food education in the school curriculum	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Climate and Biodiversity		
Carry out a baseline biodiversity survey on every farm to inform future policy development	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Publish a new National Pollinator Plan and encourage public bodies to promote and protect biodiversity	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Complete a national hedgerow survey	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Incentivise the re-wetting of carbon rich soils	Policy and Strategy	3.3

Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Invest in research in the agri-food sector, prioritising investment in areas such as climate and the bioeconomy. We will implement the National Policy Statement on the Bioeconomy, providing the agri-food sector with new opportunities, using biological resources from the land and sea in a sustainable and circular manner	Policy and Strategy	3.5
Explore and develop potential opportunities for farmers from Anaerobic Digestion	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Develop climate action 'signpost farms' to provide on-farm experience of the benefits of farming sustainably	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Establish an 'Energy Efficient Farming' scheme to include a farm efficiency rating, educational support and grant subsidies for onsite renewable energy options and the promotion of energy efficient technology for farm use	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Expand programmes such as the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme (ASSAP), working with farmers, industry and advisory services to deliver real improvements in water quality	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Continue to enhance dairy and beef breeding programmes	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Implement the climate adaptation plan for the agri-food and seafood sector, and assist these sectors, to adapt with the changed environment	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Review pesticide use across the agricultural sector, whilst acknowledging the comparatively low level of pesticide use in Ireland, and provide supports to farmers who are undertaking practices to reduce their dependence on such chemicals	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare / Policy and Strategy	1.1 / 3.3
Continue to enforce the EU's Sustainable Use Directive	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare / Policy and Strategy	1.1 / 3.4
Flagship environmental scheme Design a flagship environmental scheme under the new CAP which is user friendly for farmers, delivering broader environmental and biodiversity benefits and aligning financial support with climate, forestry and land use objectives	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.1
Land Use Review The Government will undertake a National Land Use Review including farmland, forests, and peatlands, so that optimal land use options inform all relevant Government decisions. The review will balance environmental, social and economic considerations, and involve a process of evaluation of the ecological characteristics of the land. It will include consideration of emissions to air and water, carbon sequestration, as well as climate adaptation challenges. Policy co-benefits, such as rewetting or forest regrowth to mitigate flooding risks in river catchments, will be considered	Policy and Strategy	3.3



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Soil Health and Nutrient Management		
Deliver an incremental and ambitious reduction in the use of inorganic nitrogen fertiliser through to 2030	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Publish a National Soils Strategy that will assess all appropriate soil health parameters, and will inform future policies on good soil management practices	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Review the effects of the nitrates derogation on water quality in conjunction with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) which will inform future policy in this area	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Work with nitrates derogation farmers to improve environmental outcomes on their farms, ensuring the sustainable use of the derogation, in line with our environmental objectives	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Encourage farming practices which preserve or enhance soil organic matter	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Introduce a national liming programme to improve nitrogen use efficiency	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Encourage the use of protected nitrogen (urea) on grassland and greater take up of Low Emissions Slurry Spreading	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Improve nutrient management planning and investigate and support dry manure systems for housed livestock	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Encourage better grassland management, and support the use of clover and other mixed species in grass reseeding, and the protection of older swards	Policy and Strategy	3.3 / 3.4
Invest in research and innovation in areas such as feed additives, protected nitrogen and other climate action areas of advancement	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Focus on improving knowledge transfer in the area of nutrient management and soil health	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Publish a roadmap with specific targets and action on each of these measures within the first 100 days of Government	Policy and Strategy	3.3
Organic Farming Scheme		
Set an ambitious new target for organic farming, to meet changing consumer trends in this area	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.2
Commit to aligning Ireland's organic land area with that of the current EU average over the lifetime of this Government	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.2
Focus on developing domestic and international organic markets to ensure farmers have access to premium paying markets for their produce	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.2
Forestry		
Publish a successor forestry programme to deliver an ambitious afforestation plan reviewing grant and premium rates across all categories in this area, with a particular focus on an increased farmer rate of support	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Implement the MacKinnon Report and review the forestry appeals process to ensure it is aligned with other comparable appeals processes and ensure the licensing system is sufficiently resourced to clear the existing backlog and ensure prompt issuing of licences in the future	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Support the development of on-farm forestry initiatives through the new CAP post-2020, aligning agri-environment schemes with climate change objectives and investing further in knowledge transfer	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.2 / 2.3

Programme for Government Actions

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Incorporate afforestation into the new CAP to provide incentives for farmers to plant woodland on their farm, acting as a carbon store, help promote wildlife corridors and provide a future fuel source for the household	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Actively promote and support farm forestry/rewilding options that do not impact on agricultural production, and support biodiversity and habitat creation. We will incentivise the option of small scale (e.g. one hectare) forestry/rewilding	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Embark on an ambitious programme of afforestation on state-owned lands, building on the Coillte/Bord na Móna initiatives	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Task Climate Action Regional Offices to work with public bodies to review land available for planting, providing feedback on the potential in this area by the end of 2020	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Institute a state-sponsored national Tree Planting Day and provide communities across the country with trees to plant on this day annually	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Engage with local authorities and local communities in a radical expansion of urban tree planting and neighbourhood and community forests	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Promote Close to Nature-Continuous Cover Forestry systems to ultimately create permanent biodiverse forests containing trees of all ages	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Encourage the private sector to meet corporate social responsibility or sustainability objectives by investing in native woodlands, building on the Woodland Environmental Fund programme	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Promote planting of 'protection forests' along rivers and lakes to protect water quality and assist in managing flood risks	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Provide increased support for the development of agroforestry/silvopasture on Irish farmlands	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Continue to uphold the objectives of the Forest Consent System, the Bird and Habitats Directive, the catchment management approach of the Water Framework Directive and the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) regulation	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Invest in schemes that promote recreational forestry, and work with Coillte on projects such as Coillte Nature, to provide the public with access to recreational forests across the country	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Expand the NeighbourWood Scheme, providing communities with amenity woodlands for local access and enjoyment and increasing tourism opportunities	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Ensure Coillte's remit supports the delivery of climate change commitments and the protection of biodiversity. We are fully committed to the retention of the commercial forests of Coillte in public ownership	Farm/Forestry Sector Supports and Controls	2.3
Animal Health Introduce a TB 2030 Eradication Strategy, following on from the work of the TB Forum	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.1
Monitor emerging health and disease threats, and work with Animal Health Ireland to develop new programmes in partnership with farmers, working continuously to make improvements to animal health	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.1



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Commence a 10-year renewal programme of the Regional Laboratory Network. This will bring existing facilities up to date and provide farmers with an enhanced level of customer service and diagnostic support	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.1
We will fully implement the 'One Health' Strategy, placing particular focus on the connections between human, animal and environmental health and encouraging the optimal use of animal health products	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.2
Animal Welfare Ensure the continued robust enforcement of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 and review the sentencing regime underpinning the legislation	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Immediately prioritise the drafting of legislation for the phasing out of fur-farming, publishing legislation in this area as soon as possible	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Uphold the EU Pigs Directive	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Support the development of high-welfare outdoor-reared pig and poultry sector, in addition to existing production systems	Policy and Strategy	3.4
Support a doubling of the ex-gratia funding for animal welfare organisations within two years	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Promote responsible pet ownership	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Extend the badger vaccination programme nationwide and end badger culling as soon as possible, consistent with the best scientific and veterinary advice	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Regulate the breeding, ownership, sale or supply of exotic species	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Prioritise equine welfare based on a robust traceability system, building on existing inspectorate supports across the country and ensuring a consistent approach to dealing with horse welfare issues across local authorities	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Develop additional urban horse welfare programmes, working with local authorities, charities and community stakeholders to provide stabling facilities and educational programmes	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3
Research potential into the utilisation of dual-purpose breeds, and the viability of 'calf-at-foot' dairy models on Irish dairy farms	Policy and Strategy	3.4



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Live Exports Recognising the importance of animal welfare, the new Government will provide additional resources to monitor welfare standards by increasing the veterinary presence available on all live export consignments to third countries. We will vigorously pursue value-enhancing alternative market avenues	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.3 / 1.4
Horse Racing Work with Horse Racing Ireland in developing the industry over the coming years, continuing to invest in the horseracing industry and in essential infrastructure, such as the Irish Equine Centre	Corporate Development	5.1
Encourage the implementation of climate and biodiversity friendly strategies across the sector	Corporate Development	5.1
Work with the industry to put in place workable solutions for the movement of horses in a post-Brexit environment	One Health One Welfare; Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health and Animal Welfare	1.4
Greyhound Racing Ensure strict monitoring takes place of this sector to ensure that the animal welfare commitments made to date are fully implemented	Corporate Development	5.1
Insist that funds committed to investment in greyhound welfare and rehoming programmes are delivered	Corporate Development	5.1
Fully implement the Greyhound Racing Act 2019, strengthening integrity in the industry and providing for a new system of traceability	Corporate Development	5.1
Horse Sport Ireland Continue to support the Sport Horse sector, recognising the need for increased ambition in this area to exploit the enormous potential of the sector from the perspective of competitive sport, welfare, traceability and breeding standards, ensuring there is greater co-ordination between Government Departments on the delivery of Reaching New Heights	Corporate Development	5.1
Harness Racing Explore the potential development of the harness racing sector	Corporate Development	5.1
Marine Develop a new integrated marine sustainable development plan, as a successor to Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth, focusing on all aspects of the marine, with a greater focus on sustainability and stakeholder engagement, and centrally co-ordinated by the Department of the Taoiseach to be implemented over the life of the Government	Seafood	4.1
Ensure protection of the interests of the Irish Fishing industry by insisting that a Fisheries Agreement with the UK is concluded as an integral part of an overall EU Free Trade Agreement with the UK, recognising that the critical issue in these negotiations for the Irish industry is continued access to UK waters and quota share and the danger of displacement of the EU fleet into Irish territorial waters	Seafood	4.1 / 4.2
Seek EU Commission contingency supports and market disturbance funding for the fisheries sector to mitigate against the impact of COVID-19 and Brexit	Seafood	4.1 / 4.2
Ensure that inshore waters continue to be protected for smaller fishing vessels and recreational fishers and that pair trawling will be prohibited inside the six-mile limit	Seafood	4.1 / 4.2



Programme for Government Actions

	Business Area	Statement of Strategy Objective Number(s)
Support the inshore fishing fleet in generating greater marketing and promotional capacity by facilitating the establishment of a Producer Organisation for these smaller fishing vessels, thereby providing additional opportunity for the island and coastal communities involved in the inshore sector	Seafood	4.1 / 4.2 / 4.3
Aggressively tackle the issue of waste, ghost nets, and illegal waste dumping in the marine environment through rigorous implementation of the Port Reception Facilities Directives and by requiring all Irish fishing trawlers to participate in the Clean Oceans Initiative, ensuring that plastic fished up at sea is brought ashore	Seafood	4.2
Continue to invest in coastline communities through the Fisheries Local Area Group (FLAG) programme, providing support for innovative projects to boost economic growth and job creation	Seafood	4.1
Invest strategically in harbour infrastructure to attract increased landings into Ireland of sustainably caught fish in our waters, driving the development of the seafood processing sector and the blue economy in coastal communities	Seafood	4.1 / 4.2
Work to develop the aquaculture sector in a sustainable way, including shellfish aquaculture using native species and implement the recommendations of the report of the Independent Aquaculture Licencing Review Group, to ensure that feed products for aquaculture are sourced and produced in the most sustainable manner possible	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Common Fisheries Policy		
Actively promote setting annual quotas in line with Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) principles	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Promote the introduction of constructive technical measures that promote sustainability, decreased by-catch and protect fish stocks for the future	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Protect Ireland's interests in the future review of the Common Fisheries Policy	Seafood	4.1
Work to eliminate illegal fishing and promote a culture of compliance by all EU vessels in our 200-mile zone, in order to protect the fish stocks on which the Irish Fishing industry depends	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Implement the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) capability review with a view to enhancing governance issues and consider any other measures that may be necessary	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Implement a fair EU points system in order to protect fish stocks and ensure the release of suspended EU funding	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Work to retain factory weighing of pelagic fish in the context of negotiations on the new EU control regulation	Seafood	4.2
Support the completion of the new Fisheries Control Regulation to increase the effectiveness of existing control measures and agree rules that will ensure a level playing field for all EU vessels. Increasing the level of transparency and access to information in regards to infringements within Irish waters will be key to measuring the effectiveness of the new system	Seafood	4.2 / 4.3
Coastal Blue Carbon		
Task the Marine Institute with a collaborative EU wide research initiative, aimed at investigating the climate change mitigation potential of blue carbon and working towards a means of creating a validated inventory that will in the future assist the EU in meeting our climate change objectives	Seafood	4.1



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