

Creating Our Future is a conversation with the people of Ireland to gather their ideas on what research and innovation they believe could be undertaken to address their challenges and create a better future for all



**A National Conversation
on Research in Ireland**

Over the coming years, Ireland will need to find solutions to the most significant challenges facing our society. To improve the quality of life for all we must find a way of rebooting and future-proofing the economy, delivering on health and housing, addressing climate change, promoting sustainable development, and much more.

The starting point for all research and innovation is curiosity and a good idea. This campaign aims to gather ideas from the public as inspiration for research that could be undertaken in Ireland.

The experience of COVID-19 teaches us that if we are to tackle grand societal challenges effectively, we need to work together, with researchers and the general public informing government policies and decision making.

Creating Our Future will promote a conversation between people from all corners and strands of Irish life on ideas for future research and innovation.

This conversation will be about what research is already happening and, crucially, it will ask the Irish public what problems and opportunities they think could be solved using research

All ideas will be captured, shared, and will help inform the future direction of research and innovation in Ireland.

www.creatingourfuture.ie



Why is Creating Our Future happening?

- While we might not always think about it, research and innovation shape nearly every aspect of our lives.
- Research into our past provides insight and perspective on how to navigate our future.
- The Covid-19 pandemic has shown the importance and value of research and innovation in our lives — medically, socially, politically and economically.
- Ideas and inspiration are the starting point for all research projects, and the public can now share their ideas on research and innovation projects that they would like to see undertaken in Ireland.
- By contributing ideas and information on the challenges for which you would like solutions, you can assist researchers and innovators to shape their work to respond to society's needs.

How can you get involved?

- Consider the opportunities or challenges in your life that could be improved by research and innovation.
- Provide your ideas, perspective, and inspiration to researchers as part of the national conversation taking place from July to November.
- Consider ways research and innovation could benefit you (or your community/sector), be it centred around local community and heritage, in a rural, coastal, or urban environment, support national infrastructure, technology that aids us or the laws and governance that guide us (groups can add own examples).
- If you are involved in an organisation or community group, we can assist you in sharing your collective views. Why not hold your own event or discussion group? Guidance on how to do this is available on www.creatingourfuture.ie.
- From July to November events will be taking place throughout the country. Visit the website and find one that is taking place in your area or even online.
- Submit ideas through the online platform which will be live from July to November at www.creatingourfuture.ie

What difference will it make?

- Once you have had your say, each idea will be collected and considered by an expert panel. From this work a report will be generated based on the submitted suggestions and topics of interest inspired by the national conversation.
- Contributing to this unique opportunity will help ensure the direction of research in Ireland will be informed by the people of Ireland.
- Researchers will consider the ideas and thoughts generated by the public in the context of their current research and there is also the potential for additional Government funding to be made available to address challenges identified by the public.
- The report will also contribute to informing Ireland's next national strategy for research and innovation.

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