



IDWG Meeting 25 June 2021 – Online

Minutes

Attendees

- DECC –Hannah Gilmartin, Niamh Hamill
- D/Taoiseach - Bríd Ní Ghruagáin
- DFA – Ciaran Breen, Nigel Huston
- D/Education –; DFHERIS - Siobhan Sleeman
- D/Finance –Patrick Mulhall
- D/Justice – Eileen Leahy
- DETE –, Cairen Power, Monika Mura
- DPER – Criona Brassil, Fiachra Kennedy
- DSP – Paul Dockery
- D/Health - Greg Straton
- DTTAS –; DTCAGSM –, Darragh Morgan, Sinead O’Hara
- DHLGH – Deirdre Lynn, Martin McMahon, Lyn Carroll
- DRCD – Aisling Penrose

Agenda

1. Consultation on the 2nd National Implementation Plan

HG DECC provided an overview of work to date on the NIP public consultation process including deliverables achieved and next steps. The consultation subgroup have held 2 meetings to-date, have agreed the groups Terms of Reference and work plan, and are now working to develop the design of the online broad consultation. The next meeting is due to take place in the 2nd half of July and will focus on the additional strands of consultation process.



Points raised by members:

- The importance of communicating and circulating details of the consultation was raised to ensure as wide a reach as possible
- When developing the targeted surveys, 'bodies under the aegis' of all Departments should also be engaged with
- When developing the targeted surveys, an additional question to capture grade should be considered and consideration needs to be given as to how to reach the relevant policy areas.
- Use of prompt questions should be reviewed and style of 'yes/no' questions evaluated
- The sourcing of analysis assistance considered to review consultation responses, in particular open ended questions

2. Resources and budgeting

HG DECC opened discussions on the identification of key points to be highlighted at the next meeting of the SDG SOG regarding SDG resources and budgeting across Government Departments.

Points raised by members:

- The inclusion of the SDGs in each Departments annual budget process
- Churn within divisional areas, and the part time output of the role is affecting IDWG member capacity. Discussion around SDG units.
- Awareness of SDGs at senior level needs to be evaluated
- It was raised that often SDG implementation is being carried out across all Government Departments, but is not necessarily being captured



- Question raised regarding whether budget allocations should be reviewed by accounting officers to ensure the SDGs have been allocated required funding
- Requirement to build the SDGs into procedural mechanisms e.g. Memos to Gov, Regulatory Impact Assessments, consultations etc.
- Proposal that the SDGs be aligned with Programme for Government commitments and tracked through quarterly updates
- Training options should be assessed to roll out potential online courses which staff can complete at own pace

3. SDG Champions

HG DECC provided an overview of plans for the next call for the SDG Champions Programme. HG DECC thanked nominees for the champion's subgroup which includes membership from D/Finance, DETE, DTACGSM, DHLGH and DRCD. A survey has issued to all to existing champions requesting feedback on their experience with the programme which is due back 2nd July. Following a review of this feedback, it is intended that the subgroup will meet to discuss and develop next steps in late July.

4. High-Level Political Forum 2021

HG DECC provided an update on preparations for the upcoming HLPF Tuesday 6 July to Friday 16 July 2021.

All meetings will also be live streamed on UN WebTV [LINK: <http://webtv.un.org/>], Facebook [@UNwebTV], or YouTube: [@UNwebTV] allowing for observation by all interested parties.

The HLPF Agenda has circulated to IDWG members, and reminder was given for all material to be included in the National Statement to be provided to DECC by COB Tuesday 29 June.

There will be an Irish Ministerial response to first Thematic Debate, 6 July on: “**Building**



resilience against future shocks through structural changes and investment in sustainable infrastructure”

HG DECC reminded all IDWG members that Departmental input and Interventions Departments would like DECC to raise during the debate should be provided to DECC by COB Tuesday 29 June.

5. AOB

Proposed date of the next IDWG meeting Friday 30th July 2021.