



Steps to Success 2016



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

LOCAL ROOTS GLOBAL REACH
Food Wise 2025
A 10-year vision for the Irish agri-food industry

"Since its launch last July, Food Wise 2025 has evolved from a high level strategy into a shared blueprint for all involved in the sector."

MINISTER'S FOREWORD



I am pleased to introduce the first annual progress report of Food Wise 2025.

Since its launch last July, Food Wise 2025 has evolved from a high level strategy

into a shared blueprint for all involved in the sector. Food Wise was agreed by a committee of stakeholders – from farm organisations, the food industry, the retail sector, NGOs and academics – with the secretariat provided by my Department in collaboration with all relevant State agencies.

The Programme for Partnership Government (PfP) identifies agriculture as the heartbeat of the rural economy. The agri-food commitments in the Programme for Government align closely with Food Wise 2025.

The implementation process for any strategy is vital for its success. I will continue to chair the

Food Wise High Level Implementation Committee (HLIC), with representatives from all the relevant Departments and State agencies. This committee reviews progress on a quarterly basis, in order to identify and solve problems quickly. Stakeholders regularly present to the committee on their priorities for particular sectors or themes and by the end of this year, the HLIC will have reviewed in detail progress on the five cross-cutting themes and the twelve individual sectors outlined in Food Wise 2025. So it is very much a live and continuously updated process.

Progress on each of the recommendations in Food Wise is measured on a quarterly basis. Of the 330 actions which were due to commence in 2015 or 2016, 28% have been achieved or substantial action has been undertaken; and a further 67% have commenced and are progressing well. This is a good start and I will press on with getting as many actions as possible complete within the next year. A detailed report on the status of all the ongoing actions is available on the Department's website at <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/foodwise2025/>

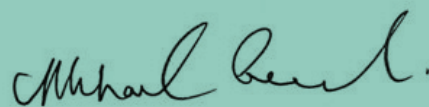
I believe that Ireland is well positioned to be the world leader in sustainable food production.

Commodity price volatility has been an increasing feature of agricultural markets, and I will prioritise measures to assist the sector to better manage and

plan for volatility. The result of the UK vote will also bring challenges for the sector and addressing these challenges will be given the highest priority by Government in the year ahead.

In the longer term, future prospects are advantageous and exciting for all stakeholders: farmers and rural Ireland, processors and manufacturers, agri-business and exporters; and the sector will continue play a pivotal role in our economic recovery.

Finally, I would like to thank all who have worked so hard to ensure we got off to a good start. I encourage everyone involved in the agri-food sector to work together to build on the success of year one and move towards achieving the vision for the sustainable growth set out in Food Wise 2025.



Michael Creed, TD
Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine



HLIC membership

"future prospects are advantageous and exciting for all stakeholders: farmers and rural Ireland, processors and manufacturers, agri-business and exporters."

PROGRESS TO DATE

It is a year on from the publication and launch of Food Wise 2025. Food Wise 2025 is a strategic plan developed by leading experts from the agri-food sector and sets out in detail a ten year strategic plan for sector. It underlines the sector's unique and special position within the Irish economy, and it illustrates the potential which exists for this sector to grow even further. Food Wise 2025 sets a course for the industry of innovative and sustainable growth over the next decade.

Food Wise 2025 identifies the opportunities, challenges, advantages and constraints ahead and devises an enabling strategy that will allow the sector to grow and prosper. Food Wise 2025 is a statement of intent. Its essential message is that if we follow the actions identified in the strategy, we can expect to achieve the following growth projections by 2025:

- > a **85%** increase in the value of exports to €19 billion
- > a **70%** increase in the sector's value addition to the economy to over €13 billion
- > a **65%** increase in the value of primary production to €10 billion and
- > the creation of **23,000** additional jobs all along the supply chain from producer level to high-end value-added product development.



2025 GROWTH PROJECTIONS

There are over 400 actions to implement to achieve these ambitious projections.

The theme of Food Wise 2025 is “Local Roots, Global Reach”, reflecting the importance of gaining a deep understanding of what consumers, often in distant markets, really want, and communicating those messages back to Irish farmers and food companies. Equally important is to communicate key messages about what makes Irish food unique to the international market.

Now is an opportune time to review the process that has been achieved to date and set out a decisive and achievable strategic plan of action for the next 12 months.

Environmental sustainability is at the heart of the Food Wise strategy. An Environmental Analysis was carried out in parallel with the development of the Food Wise strategy, and fed into the process. In response to the final Environmental Analysis Report, the Food Wise Implementation Plan (published in December 2015) has added several new sustainability actions to the implementation process.

The Food Wise High Level Implementation Committee (HLIC) was established to coordinate the State response and has met six times in the last year and is chaired by the Minister of

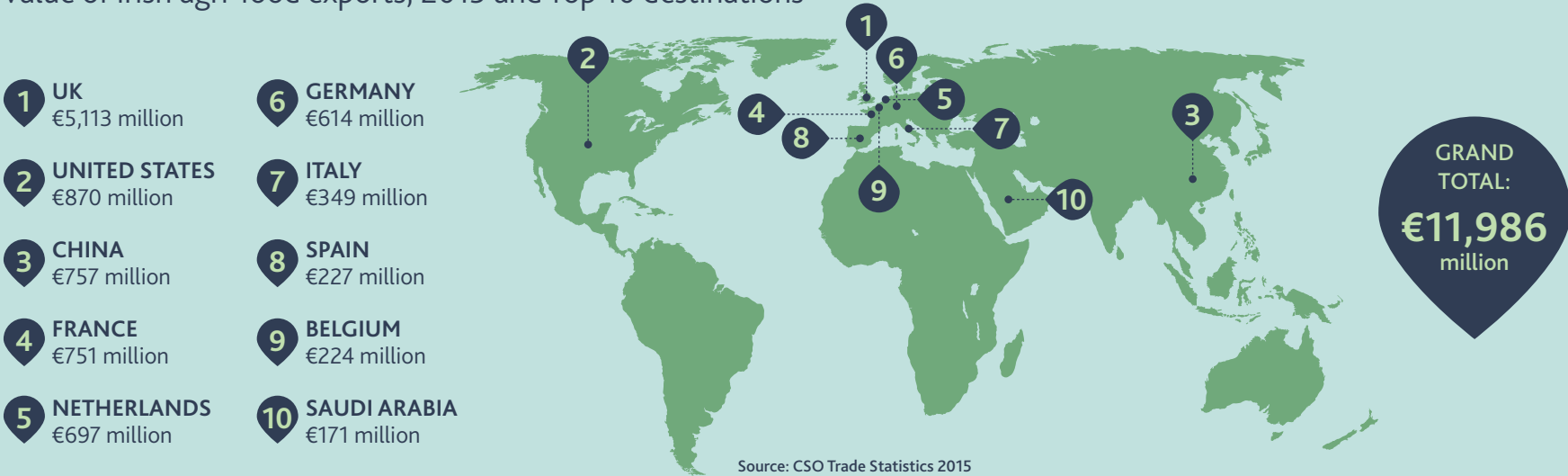
Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The HLIC is committed to designing a robust implementation process to monitor progress and deliver on the ambitious projections in Food Wise 2025. To aid the HLIC, an Environmental Sustainability Subgroup and a Meat Implementation Group have been established to monitor and drive the implementation of the sustainability and meat actions.

Progress on Food Wise actions

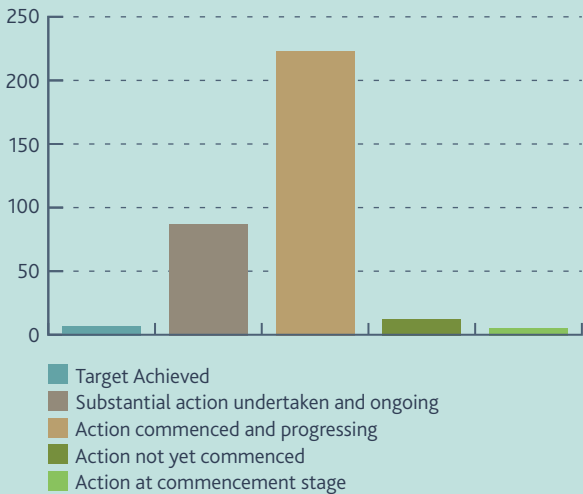
Of the 414 actions in the Food Wise Implementation Plan, 330 were due to commence in 2015 and/or 2016. Of these 330 actions, 28% have been achieved or substantial action has been undertaken; and a further 67% have commenced and are progressing well.

“The theme of Food Wise 2025 is “Local Roots, Global Reach”, reflecting the importance of gaining a deep understanding of what consumers, often in distant markets, really want.”

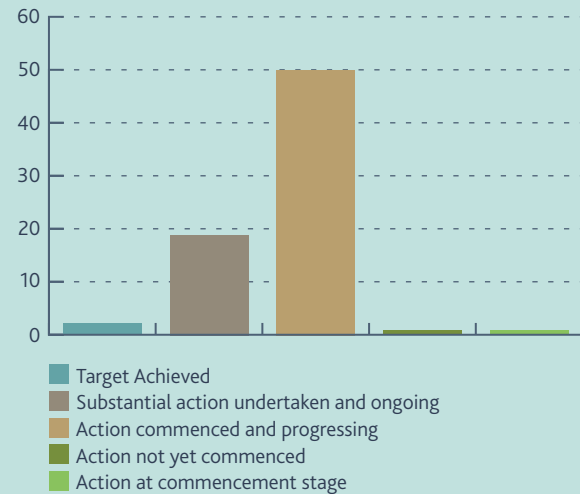
Value of Irish agri-food exports, 2015 and Top 10 destinations



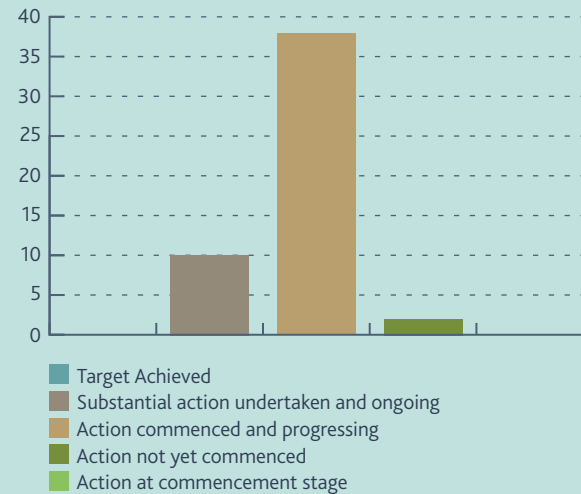
Food Wise 2025 Summary of Actions for Year



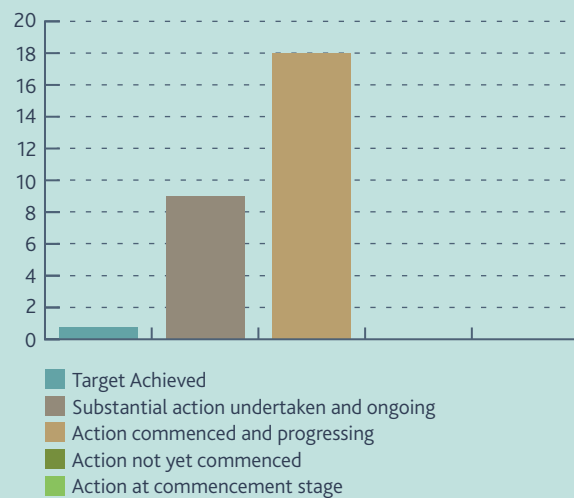
Food Wise Sustainability Summary One Year On



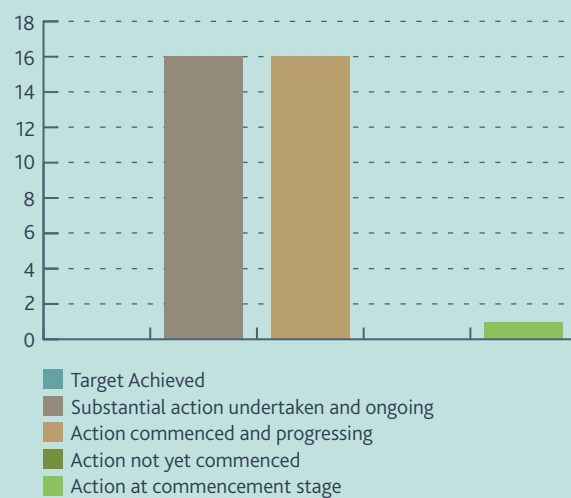
Food Wise Human Capital Summary One Year On



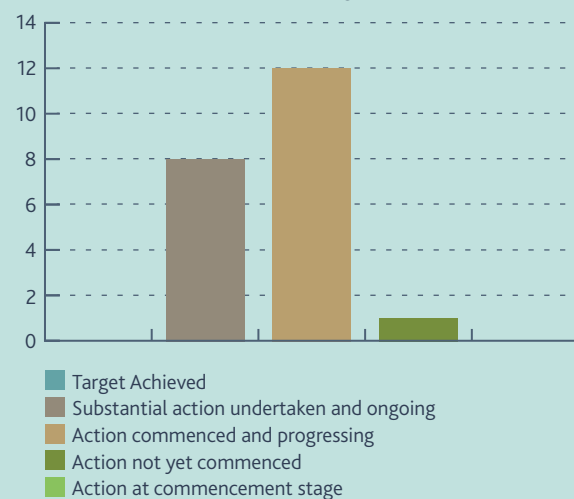
Food Wise Competitiveness Summary One Year On



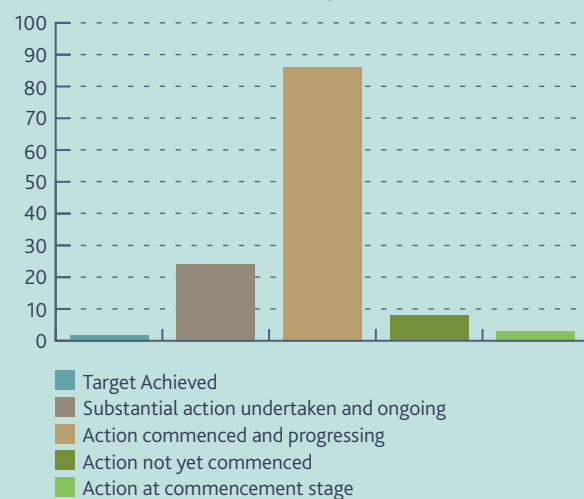
Food Wise Market Development Summary One Year On



Food Wise Innovation Summary One Year On



Food Wise Sectoral Summary One Year On





*“BETTER Farm
Beef Programme
delivered a 53%
increase in gross
margins across the
31 monitor farms.”*

ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

DAFM – secured market openings in 2015 for:

- Beef – USA, Canada, Iran (reopened), Philippines (extension), Oman and Maldives.
- Sheepmeat – Philippines (extension), Oman and Maldives.
- Pigmeat – Philippines (extension), South Africa and Maldives.
- Appointed agricultural attaché in Abu Dhabi.
- Commenced roll-out of Rural Development Programme.
- Established a water forum network to strengthen the parallel delivery of good water quality and safe sustainable food production.

Enterprise Ireland:

- Job Commitments to EI Approvals - more than 850 jobs created.
- Significant Client Investments - 39 Projects > €500k investment.
- Food High Potential Start-ups - 9 High Potential start-ups.
- Foreign Direct Investments - 6 (includes 3 expansions).

Bord Bia:

- Centre of Consumer Insights launched.
- Participated in various trade fairs including: Gulfood 2016, Anuga in Germany, SIAL in Paris plus UK and French Trade receptions in December.
- Bloom celebrated its 10th birthday in June with the key messages of Origin Green and sustainability. It provided an unrivalled platform for the country's amenity horticulture sector and its craft food and drink producers.
- Developed Trend Trackers.

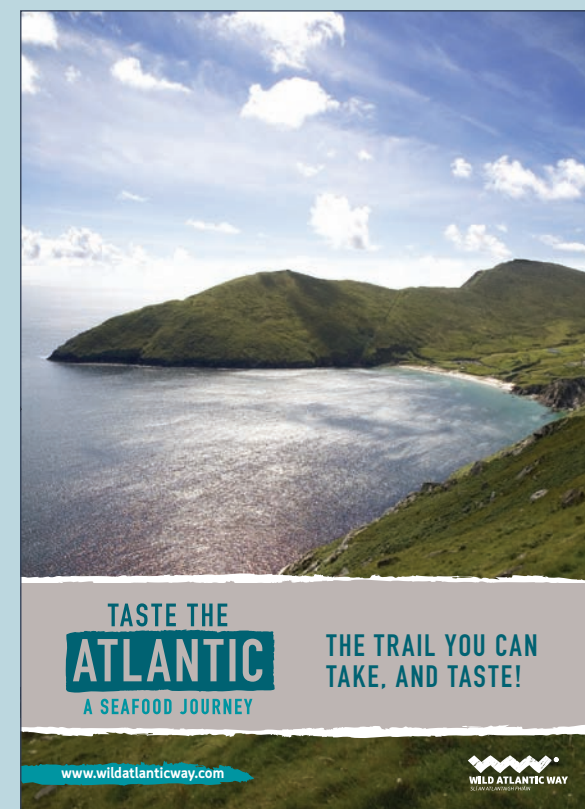
BIM:

- Opened Taste the Atlantic: A seafood Journey – a new way to experience the Wild Atlantic Way.
- Rolled out a communication strategy between the Responsibly Sourced Standard (RSS) and Origin Green prepared by BIM and Bord Bia.
- Held the first Seafood Innovation Academy for large companies on 3 May.
- Approved five applications under BIM Seafood Scaling & New Market Development Scheme.

Teagasc:

- Launched the new Meat Technology Centre to drive research, innovation and technology transfer.
- Operated Phase II of the Teagasc/Irish Farmers Journal BETTER Farm Beef Programme delivered a 53% increase in gross margins across the 31 monitor farms. Over 87% of the financial performance increase was due to technical on farm improvements.

- Commenced the roll out of the Beef Data Genomics Programme (BDGP) training.
- Published a new booklet, Guidelines to Long-term Land Leasing.



SUSTAINABILITY

Ireland's road to a low carbon economy includes an approach to carbon neutrality in the agriculture and land-use sector, including forestry, which does not compromise the capacity for sustainable food production.

Food Wise states that "Environmental sustainability and economic sustainability are equal and complementary – one cannot be achieved at the expense of the other". Food Wise enthusiastically supports technology and processes that result in a more efficient use of resources.

A Food Wise 2025 Environmental Sustainability Subgroup has been established, to focus specifically on monitoring and driving the sustainability recommendations in the Food Wise Implementation Plan. This Committee reports to the HLIC.

The Department is in the process of preparing its Sectoral Adaptation Plans for the agriculture, forest and marine sectors. This will feed into the first National Adaptation Plan.



"Environmental sustainability and economic sustainability are equal and complementary – one cannot be achieved at the expense of the other"

DAFM's Rural Development Programme (RDP)

The main vehicle for driving sustainable agricultural production in Ireland is the Rural Development Programme. The RDP covers the period to 2020 and is strongly targeted towards environmental benefits including:

- The agri environmental scheme (GLAS) which includes specific measures to help mitigate the effects of climate change and improve biodiversity.
- Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS) which includes grant aid for low emission slurry spreading equipment (LESS), minimum tillage and rainwater harvesting.
- The Beef Data and Genomics Programme which will improve the economic and environmental sustainability of beef production.
- Knowledge Transfer programmes which will bring the latest innovative sustainability research and practices direct to farmers.

The RDP is supplemented by the following other actions on sustainability:

- Agricultural Catchments Programme.

- Pasture Profit Index which compares the economic benefits of various grassland production systems.
- Animal health improvements which contribute to reducing carbon emissions per unit of output produced.

Origin Green

- Origin Green makes Ireland the first country in the world to introduce a sustainability programme for its entire food and drink industry. Predicated as Ireland's world class animal/plant health, animal welfare and food safety standards, Origin Green involves a process of continuous improvement – inspecting, advising, improving and setting targets. The reporting tools used are designed to be practical and easily understood by farmers and food companies. Independent verification and measurement of our sustainability credentials has been crucial to the success of Origin Green. Strong stakeholder involvement and feedback is key to the success of the Origin Green initiative, both at farm and at processing level:
- At food industry level, companies develop and commit to clear targets in key areas of sustainability, including raw material

sourcing, manufacturing processes and social sustainability.

- This is a national sustainability programme: by June 2016, 508 companies, accounting for almost 95% of food and drink exports, had signed up to Origin Green:
 - 169 companies, representing over 85% of food and drink exports, were verified members;
 - 155 companies had submitted their sustainability plans; and
 - A further 184 companies had registered to start the process.
- At farm level, farms are audited on a variety of measures, including animal health and welfare, traceability, water and feed, and pasture management. This audit includes carbon foot-printing using the Carbon Navigator tool, developed by Bord Bia and Teagasc, which enables farmers to focus on improving both economic and environmental efficiency. 800 farms are audited per week and Bord Bia has completed almost 100,000 audits since the programme launched in 2012. This audit process is independently verified. Independent verification and measurement of our sustainability credentials has been crucial to the success of Origin Green.



Expo Milan 2015

Ireland was one of 145 countries showcasing on the Expo theme “Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life” which linked technology, innovation, culture, traditions and creativity with global food and diet issues. It allowed Ireland to showcase our commitment to sustainable food production, exemplified by Origin Green, a first in terms of a national sustainability initiative.

The exhibition featured Origin Green and The Wild Atlantic Way. Ireland Pavilion attracted over 2.5 million visitors to Expo from May to October 2015 including Bono. The Department co-hosted an event with Italy in support of World Food Programme (WFP). The event led to Ireland doubling our annual contribution of untied aid to WFP to €20 million per annum for the next three years.

Global Sustainability Forum

Bord Bia hosted the Global Sustainability Forum in association with the World Wildlife Fund and SAI Platform last November, with a large and influential international audience, and launched the first Origin Green Sustainability report.

Seafood-specific Origin Green

Bord Bia have collaborated with BIM to host a series of seafood-specific Origin Green planning workshops. These practical workshops are an important first step in the development of individual Origin Green sustainability plans and they have set many companies on the path to full membership of the programme.

During the workshops, participants are guided on how to develop their Sustainability Charter with guidance from Bord Bia and BIM's Green Seafood Business Programme team.

DAFM Water Forum

DAFM hosted a Water Forum in October, bringing together all of the Department and agency staff working on research, analysis and schemes which impact on water safety and quality. Following on from this successful forum, a DAFM Water Network was set up with representatives from the Department and the relevant agencies whose purpose is to provide strategic direction and leadership to strengthen the parallel delivery of good water quality and safe sustainable food production.



CENTRE FOR CONSUMER INSIGHTS

Food Wise 2025 recommended that the development of a Centre for Consumer Insight be pursued by relevant sectoral stakeholders. Such a centre would identify key consumer trends and insights in specific markets and inform the industry on further product innovation and product development research. The goal would be to develop solutions that would be easier to commercialise and would focus on value-added solutions driven by market demand.

Bord Bia's centre for consumer insights, The Thinking House opened in June. It will be a world-class insights and innovation centre. This centralised innovation hub will offer client companies access to cutting-edge global research, and opportunities to host focus groups and other events that take full advantage of Bord Bia's research and innovation resources. The Thinking House will be a state-of-the-art, outward looking, and world class facility and will be supported by an increase in the number of Bord Bia marketing specialists working in the areas of qualitative research, data mining and analysis, brand and innovation.

The vision for the Thinking House is to elevate Ireland as a 21st century contemporary food producing nation that commercialises food production in line with genuine consumer needs.

Consumer Lifestyle Trends



BUSY LIVES

"I want help managing and making the most of my time"



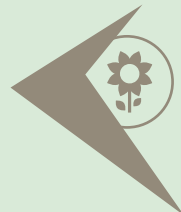
SHARED EXPERIENCES

"I'm seeking experiences I can share with others, to enrich my daily life and escape life's pressures"



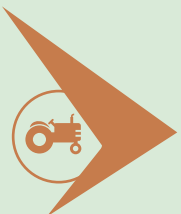
PERSONAL VALUE SEEKERS

"I'm willing to spend money on the things that are valuable to me, and am pursuing more creative ways of getting what I want"



RESPONSIBLE LIVING

"I want to live more responsibility and make better choices that make a difference without having to compromise"



KEEPING IT REAL

"I am looking for products and brands that have real, authentic and honest origins"



HEALTH AND WELLBEING

"I want to achieve a holistic approach to physical health and emotional wellbeing"

Bord Bia's Trend Trackers is a new initiative to keep Irish food and drink companies up-to-date with what's happening from around the world. As well as Ireland, they have personnel in 17 markets overseas whose remit is to bring companies what's new in these markets – including new products, innovative packaging, quirky menu ideas or something weird and wacky that just may spark off an idea for an Irish business (<http://trendtrackers.bordbia.ie/>).



MEAT TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

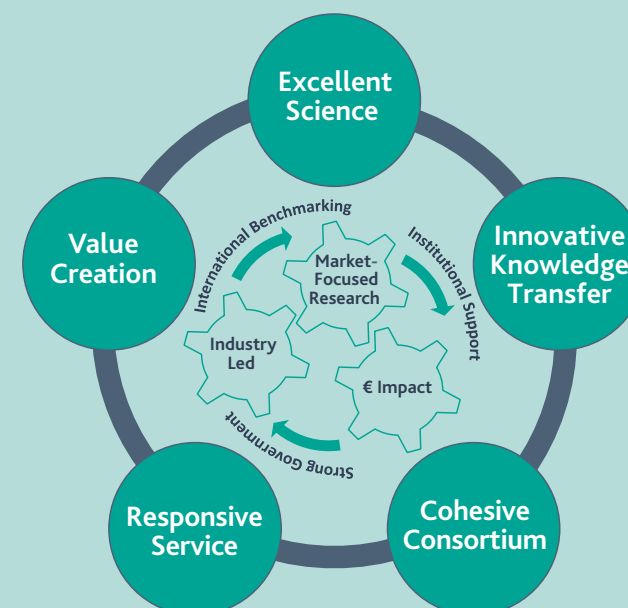
The Meat Technology Centre (MTC) is hosted in Teagasc Food Research Centre, Ashtown and is designed as a technology centre of excellence in beef and sheep meat processing. It will encompass the facilities and expertise of each of the Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) involved (Teagasc, UCC, UCD, DIT, ICBF) and significant activities will be carried out within the factories of those meat companies involved.

The MTC's overall strategy is to establish an internationally leading centre of excellence for meat processing research and innovation.

This Centre will fuel growth in the Irish beef and sheep meat sector by creating, validating and commercialising a pipeline of science and technology based innovations, leading to enhanced processes and product development. The MTC will expand and accelerate technology translation and bridge the gap between traditional academic research providers and the industrial adaptors of research results. By embracing leading meat firms and expert meat research capabilities throughout the entire cycle of technology creation, development and implementation, the MTC will be unique and internationally distinctive.

The MTC will be market-led, informed by its stakeholders and underpinned by a proprietary R&D programme. The MTC will plan, create, validate and transfer technology for the benefit of member companies.

Key Features of the Meat Technology Centre





WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

Food Wise 2025 highlights the importance of collaboration and coordination of resources between DAFM, State agencies and other Government Departments.

1. Sustainability Collaboration

- The Carbon Navigator is a tool developed in a joint venture by Bord Bia and Teagasc, which allows for the measurement and improvement of carbon efficiency on Irish farms. Under the Origin Green programme, almost 800 farms per week are audited using the Carbon Navigator tool.
- The DAFM-funded Teagasc Agricultural Catchments Programme is being progressed through a collaborative industry proposal to improve water quality.
- BIM, with support from the Marine Institute and in collaboration with the Sea Food Protection Authority is intensifying its programme of gear selectivity and technical

conservation measures, particularly to fulfil landing obligation requirements.

2. Human Capital collaboration:

- The Cheese Institute is a multi-tier initiative which was rolled out in 2015 and was designed by Bord Bia in collaboration with Teagasc. Cheese Institute Starter focuses on micro enterprise operators and the 2016 programme is underway. Cheese Institute Advanced commences in September 2016 and will focus on enhancing operational capability, market insight and management know-how.
- Enterprise Ireland and Bord Bia are collaborating with industry on the development of a pilot support programme for agri-food companies to support overseas business development initiatives.

3. Competitiveness collaboration:

- BIM, Bord Bia and Enterprise Ireland are working collaboratively to scale up companies in the pelagic, whitefish and shellfish sectors and to bring a number of companies to PLC level.



- DAFM through the Dairy Forum in collaboration with Teagasc, co-ops and the main banks, have developed a coordinated approach to engaging dairy farmers in cash flow and financial management training.

4. Market Development collaboration:

- DAFM led the first ever dedicated trade mission with Bord Bia and Enterprise Ireland to Africa visiting Ghana, Nigeria and Democratic Republic of Congo in December. DAFM also led a trade mission to US in September for promotion of food and in particular beef.
- Bord Bia partners with SuperValu and the Local Enterprise Offices on Food Academy and on Taste Buds with Tesco.

- Industry and state agencies are working collaboratively to develop an Irish Whiskey and food pairing trail as a major tourist attraction and to differentiate Irish food and drink produce.

5. Innovation collaboration:

- Food Works, the food entrepreneurship programme focused on high-potential start-ups, is undertaken on behalf of Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and Teagasc, who collectively run and support the programme.
- Teagasc in collaboration with relevant Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) and others are researching emerging precision technologies, data analytics, sensor technology, DNA technology and possibilities for mining big data to improve decision making, availing of existing resources and capabilities.

- DAFM, Enterprise Ireland and other research funders are working collaboratively to implement Sustainable Healthy Agri-Food Research Plan (SHARP) with oversight from National Agri-food Research and Innovation Group (NAFRI).
- DAFM has engaged with Enterprise Ireland on the detailed description of needs developed for the Prepared Consumer Food sector and with Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and the Health Research Board (HRB) on 'A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life' (HDHL) Implementation Plan.



“There will be a year-long programme of events in 2017 focussing on building on our natural advantages in grass production.”

KEY ACTIONS FOR 2017

2017: Year of Grass

2017 will be designated the Year of Grass to celebrate and optimise Ireland's comparative advantages in terms of our sustainable, grass-fed production system. The strong reputation of Irish grass fed beef, sheep and dairy production can be further leveraged in the period to 2025 to ensure greater penetration of high value markets both in the EU and in third countries.

Grass is by far the cheapest feed source for dairy, beef and sheep production and underpins our competitiveness in these sectors.

Maximising grass in the diet benefits the bottom line for the farm but is also recognised as a key environmental ambition with for example 'extended grazing' contributing to reduced emissions.

Grassland is the predominant farming system but it is also clear that there is a lot of potential for improvement in capacity to grow grass, and also to improve utilisation of what is grown.

Food Wise 2025 has a series of actions relating to grass which will be prioritised during the 'Year of Grass'.

There will be a year-long programme of events in 2017 (one major event per month) focusing on building on our natural advantages in grass production, using the latest research, advisory and communication tools.

Key Actions for 2017

Sustainability	Human Capital	Competitiveness	Market Development	Innovation
DAFM to finalise a sectoral plan for agriculture and forestry to inform the National Mitigation Plan under the National Climate Action and Low-Carbon Development Act.	Review of Level 5 and 6 QQI Agricultural Awards.	Teagasc and other research providers to develop measures such as improved grazing management practices, increase soil fertility and sward renewal to increase grass utilisation by 2t/ha on livestock farms.	DAFM to optimise the use of strategic trade missions to emerging markets to ensure market entry conversion.	Establish a high level core team to review current agri-food sector innovation capacity, the utilisation of this capacity ad to better mark the Irish agri-food sector's innovation skills.
Prioritise the process of bringing fishermen into the Origin Green programme using BIM's responsible fishing standards and other environmental programme as an entry point.	Completion of Teagasc Education Strategic Vision Project.	Enterprise Ireland and BIM to develop a financial model for seafood sector which provides funding opportunities that both increase scale and deliver commercial return.	DAFM to explore with relevant state agencies measures to better link in the agri-food sector with the experience of tourists, including the promotion of food, beverages and marine trails.	Successful initial results of the Meat Technology Centre.
DAFM to work closely with all stakeholders to ensure that the scientific findings from the Agricultural Catchments Programme are integrated fully and appropriately into agri-environmental policies.	Enterprise Ireland and BIM to continue to develop a series of tailored executive development programmes in the Seafood sector to prioritise leadership and management development, technical development (including safety and green manufacturing), and sales and marketing.	To develop scale and export capability in the seafood processing sector, BIM, Bord Bia and Enterprise Ireland to work collaboratively to scale up companies in the pelagic, whitefish and shellfish sectors and to bring a number of companies to PLC level.	Successful initial results of The Thinking House.	Enterprise Ireland to create a FDI and Innovation portal to improve connectivity across the Irish system for food and beverage companies.

Sustainability	Human Capital	Competitiveness	Market Development	Innovation
DAFM to develop suitable monitoring programme in line with proposals under RDP 2014-2020 (GLAS) to monitor and report on the impact of RDP measures on biodiversity, climate and water quality.	BIM to build market scaling of companies through its co-opetition programme.	Explore FDI opportunities through partnerships and Joint Venture approaches between Irish processors and MNCs in particular in areas such as life-stage nutrition.	DAFM to continue to enhance and support Ireland's animal health status and reputation for producing safe, high quality food.	Improve coordination between industry, state agencies and research institutions to support the delivery of research which will deliver commercial outputs and products.
Adaptation and resilience of agri-food sector to future climate effects will be considered in policy development.	Continue the Bord Bia 'Marketing Fellowship, 'Food Marketing Graduate' and Origin Green Ambassador programmes.	Ongoing review and updating of agri-taxation measures to address competitiveness issues.	Further enhance the Origin Green programme as a tool to measure and demonstrate in domestic and global markets, Ireland's credentials as a producer of sustainable, safe, nutritious and high quality food.	Develop a food innovation hub to promote greater collaboration between industry and public research.



CASE STUDIES

Food Wise 2025: Local Roots, Global Reach

Promoting Food Wise 2025 in the US

The US market continues to offer significant export opportunities for Ireland's agri-food sector. In 2015, the US became our second most important market after the UK, with exports of almost €870m. The US public continue to be fascinated by the sustainability journey our sector is on. More than ever, people want to know how their food is produced and this creates a fantastic opportunity for Irish sustainable, family farm produced, grass fed beef and dairy products.

The Department's US agriculture attaché, Dale Crammond, working closely with Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and embassy personnel, has helped promote Food Wise 2025 and Origin Green to a wide audience.

The Little Milk Company

The Little Milk Company acts as the product development and marketing body for 10 organic milk producers located throughout Ireland. The Little Milk Company has multi award winning cheeses and is establishing a strong market at home and abroad. Two of their products: Organic Brie and Mature Cheddar are available in Mariano's, a Chicago based premium supermarket chain.

The Little Milk Company have shown a commitment to sustainability since they began organic farming and are members of Origin Green. They have shown that they are willing to take action and farm in a sustainable way, mindful of animal husbandry and the effect we all can have on the land around us.



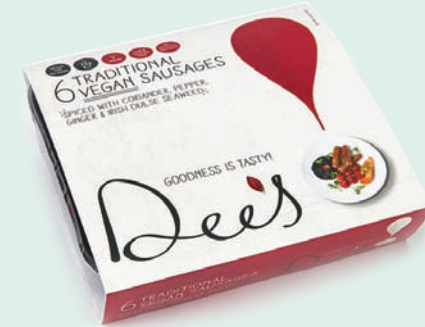
Kerrigan's Mushrooms

Kerrigan's Mushrooms are one of Ireland's leading producers of mushrooms, and the first mushroom grower to obtain Origin Green Status for Sustainability Credentials. All of their mushrooms are picked, packed and delivered to our customers on the same day to guarantee freshness. They are looking at introducing new innovative ideas, of developing branding and packaging to communicate and educate customers on tasty ideas and recipes using the best quality mushrooms.



Brookfield Farm

Brookfield Farm specialises in delivering artisan food fresh from farm to kitchen. They carefully produce delicious wild flower honey, farm made beeswax candles and tender lambs. Sustainable farming produces delicious farm food, minimally processed. They participated in the successful Acorns programme and were awarded alumnus IFOAM (Organics International) Global Organic Agriculture Leaders programme scholarship winner 2015.



Dee's Wholefoods

Dee's Wholefoods has launched its innovative 100% vegan sausages in the UK. The products were developed by working closely with BIM at its Seafood Development Centre in Clonakilty with the support of Enterprise Ireland. The sausages are low calorie, gluten free, dairy free, egg free, soy free, wheat free, GMO free and completely free from artificial additives. The demand for meat-free food is increasing as consumers are becoming more aware of what they eat, how its produced and if its produced sustainably and the impact it has on the environment. Dee's Whole foods also include vegan burgers, veg pots and quinoa pots.



Bia Food Initiative

Bia Food Initiative is an Irish charity formed in 2012 that provides a socially responsible, environmentally sensitive, business friendly alternative to wasting good food. It has three depots in Cork, Dublin and Galway. It acts as bridge between the Irish Food Industry and local charities to allow the safe and secure re-distribution of surplus food from Irish Food businesses to local charities that can use that food.



Carlow Brewing Company

Carlow Brewing Company is one of Ireland's leading independent craft breweries with its award winning range of O'Hara's craft beers. It is celebrating 20 years in the business. Each beer is crafted using classic brewing methods to create the traditional Irish beers styles that have long since been forgotten by many of the larger breweries. Only four main ingredients: water, malts, hops and yeast are used to produce the highest quality craft beer range. They are verified Origin Green members and work closely with Bord Bia on trade events including beer tastings.



“Local Roots, Global Reach”



Department of
**Agriculture,
Food and the Marine**

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**Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**

designed by **CATALYSTO^o**