Public Consultation on the *Draft Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan for Agriculture, Forest and Seafood Sector*

**Consultation Questionnaire**

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine welcomes feedback on the *Draft Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan for the Agriculture, Forest and Seafood sector*.

Please consider the Draft Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan before submitting a response. All opinions are welcome and will be considered in the further development of the Adaptation Plan.

**Terms and Conditions**

All submissions, including the name of the person making the submission, will be published on the Department’s website.

**Freedom of Information**

All submissions and comments submitted to the Department for this purpose are subject to release under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 and the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007-2014. Submissions are also subject to Data Protection legislation.

Personal, confidential or commercially sensitive information should not be included in your submission and it will be presumed that all information contained in your submission is releasable under the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

**Data Protection**

Please note that if you make a submission you are agreeing for it to be published in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR EU 2016/679), the Data Protection Acts 1988-2018, the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the DPER Consultation Principles and Guidance.
Privacy Statement

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy and employs appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect your information from unauthorised access. The Department will not process your personal data for any purpose other than that for which they were collected. Personal data may be exchanged with other Government Departments, local authorities, agencies under the aegis of the Department, or other public bodies, in certain circumstances where this is provided for by law.

The Department will only retain your personal data for as long as it is necessary for the purposes for which they were collected and subsequently processed. When the business need to retain this information has expired, it will be examined with a view to destroying the personal data as soon as possible, and in line with Department policy. Further information on Data Protection can be found on our website at:
https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/dataprotection/informationondataprotection/

1. Details:

Full Name: RUAIRI WARD

Organisation where applicable: Agricultural/Environmental Consultant and ACA Member

or

Member of the public: □

Subsector:

- Dairy □ Mixed □ Fisheries □
- Beef □ Arable □ Industry □
- Sheep □ Horticulture □ Prepared Consumer Foods □

Other: __________________________________________
2. What do you think are the changes in climate that are having the most impact on those working in the agriculture, forest and seafood sector?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme Rain</th>
<th>Storminess</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drought</th>
<th>Flooding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extreme heat</th>
<th>Seasonal stability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other: ____________________________________________

The climate is now changing rapidly with hotter summers and extreme rainfall. The Winters are becoming milder but with the risk of extreme cold winters as well.

3. What do you think the main impacts from climate change will be on the agriculture, forest and seafood sectors?

- Less grass for forage conservation
- Extreme difficulty in harvesting crops at seasonal times of the year.
- Too much political emphasis of producing more and more from one sector (ie Dairy) but at the expense of other sectors. We need long terms stability for all Agri sectors.

4. How are those working in the sector currently adapting to climate change?

The science is being recognised, however it is not being implemented nor encouraged to be implemented by the sectors and advisory stakeholders. This is due to a short term vision such as Food harvest 2020 and foodwise 2025 and the recent abolition of milk quotas. All large farmers are encouraged to concentrate on one enterprise (dairy). His is not sustainable.
5. Where do you get climate related information?

The local farming press, eg Agriland and the Journal

6. What additional information do those working in the sector need to adapt to a changing climate?

Our agricultural consultants must be briefed and involved in more conferences and seminars where a common goal can be reached between all of the stakeholders. In turn, all farmers need education through compulsory training and attendance at meetings so they can hear from the experts and give their own views.

7. How do you perceive and use weather and climate information to inform management decisions?

N/A

8. Is the source of inputs to your farm or business affected by climate change; if so what supply chains?

N/A
9. When making investments and management decisions how far ahead do you plan?

- [ ] 0 - 1 year
- [ ] 1 - 5 years
- [ ] 5 - 10 years
- [ ] 10 years +

Please Explain:

10. Does the Draft Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan adequately demonstrate the potential impact climate change may have on Agriculture, Forestry and Seafood in Ireland (see section 4 of Draft Plan)?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [x] Need more information

Please Explain:

11. The Adaptation Plan’s focus is on actions that can be undertaken over the next five years. Therefore, do you think the Adaptation Objectives are appropriate for the duration of this plan (see section 2 of Draft Plan)?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [x] Unsure
12. What three things could the Department do to help you be better prepared to adapt to future climate change?

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Compulsory regional meetings for Consultants with professional opinions and structures in place so the correct information is distributed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Compulsory meeting for farmers to attend</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Any other comments?