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

**Consultation Questionnaire**

1. **Details:**

   Full Name: _____ Thomas O’Brien __________________________

   Organisation where applicable: ______________________________

   or

   Member of the public:  

2. **Subsector:**

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<th>Dairy</th>
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<th>Fisheries</th>
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   Other: _____ Biopharmaceutical __________________________

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?**

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<th>Extreme Rain</th>
<th>Storminess</th>
<th>Drought</th>
<th>Flooding</th>
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   Extreme Rain  
   Storminess  
   Drought  
   Flooding

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

Please Explain: For the agricultural sector, it will be drought, damaged buildings and flooding, both of land and slurry tanks. Which all will affect animal health and fodder availability.

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

Please Explain: Look at the fodder shortage. There is definitely a subset of farmers not preparing for the seasonal instability. How does a fisherman prepare for stronger and stronger storms?

5. Where do you get climate related information?
6. What additional information do those working in the sector need to adapt to a changing climate?

Please Explain: Information: none. They need enforced directives, ideally through the CAP (for farmers)

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

Please Explain: N/A

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

Please Explain: N/A

9. When making investments and management decisions how far ahead do you plan?
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 X
- No
- 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 X
- No
- Unsure
12. What three things could the Department do to help you be better prepared to adapt to future climate change?

1. Changes to the CAP, encouraging the move from going from “clean” grasslands to trees planted within fields, not just the edges. A type of silviopasture. Trees are good for drainage during wet seasons, are water pumps during droughts, fertilise the land around them, trap carbon and give shelter to cows and other animals, and reduce wind over the land. And not Sitka Spruce, but native deciduous, thus increasing biodiversity

2. Grow an indigenous seaweed industry, providing another source of fodder to the agricultural industry, one that studies suggest actually reduce the amount of methane cows produce when 10% of their diet is seaweed. Also macro-algae can reduce the strength of waves hitting Ireland, soak up carbon from the sea and de-acidify

3. Any other comments?