

# CORCA DHUIBHNE / DINGLE PENINSULA 2030

## INTRODUCTION

FEEDBACK CARD 1 OF 4 IN SERIES

### Background

Established in early 2018, Corca Dhuibhne/Dingle Peninsula 2030 is a multi-partner initiative on the Dingle Peninsula, Co. Kerry. For the four years between 2018 and 2021, it involved the Dingle Creativity and Innovation Hub, ESB Networks, North East & West Kerry Development (NEWKD) and MaREI, the SFI Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine. Partners actively collaborate with each other and with the local community, schools, business, transport and farming sectors to support and enable the broader societal changes required for the sustainable transition.

ESB Networks concluded its Dingle Project at the end of 2021, while MaREI continues to work with The Dingle Hub and NEWKD on a number of specific projects. Work on the ground is developing and expanding through a number of sector themed projects across such areas as Energy, Agriculture, Marine, Sustainable Travel and Tourism & Hospitality.

### Dingle Peninsula

Located in the south west of Ireland, the Dingle Peninsula is defined by the territory to the west of a line connecting Blennerville to Castlemaine and with an area of 583 sq km and extending 48 km into the Atlantic. It has a resident population of 12,764, with 2,500 living in Dingle Town (CSO, Census, 2016). Second (or holiday) homes account for c. 26% of all houses on the Peninsula and tourism accounts for c. 30% of the local economy. Dingle Peninsula 2030 is an initiative aimed at transitioning the Peninsula to a low carbon and resilient community by 2030.



## Stakeholder Feedback

In early 2022, as part of our on-going impact evaluation and reflective practice we sought the input and views of external stakeholders on the impact the Corca Dhuibhne/Dingle Peninsula 2030 initiative has had. The responses have been compiled and presented in this series of Stakeholder Feedback Cards.

38 external stakeholders were identified by MaREI and the Dingle Hub, representing government departments, public bodies, researchers, energy and community organisations. They were selected from across a number of sectors in order to gain a variety of insights from different perspectives. Each stakeholder was asked to complete an online survey and then invited to participate in a focused interview. 21 respondents filled in the survey, 18 agreed to a follow up interview and 11 of these were selected across the sectors. A team at MaREI at University College Cork was responsible for designing the survey and interview questions, conducting and transcribing interviews, and compiling and presenting the feedback.

Interviews lasted approximately half an hour and were guided by the following questions regarding Corca Dhuibhne/Dingle Peninsula 2030:

- What learnings are there from your perspective and how might this help us shape policy and inform practice?
- Did your interaction inform (or has the potential to inform) policy or practice in your organisation or in any other organisation of which you are aware?
- What are your thoughts in relation to engaging society in large-scale change of this nature? And do you think this initiative is making any strides in that regard?

Feedback from the online survey is outlined below whilst feedback from the interviews is detailed in another 3 cards focused on emerging impacts, learnings, and recommendations.

## Feedback From The Online Survey



A significant majority of the **21 respondents (57%)** heard of the initiative through one of the key partners suggesting that significant networking/communication takes place at partner level. Industry partners and Government/political representatives also play a key role in communicating about the initiative.

Engagement by external stakeholders in the initiative was in the following priority order:



Meeting with Dingle Peninsula 2030 representatives (52%)



Attending knowledge - sharing events (almost 43%)



Attending webinars (38%)

Almost **86%** said that the initiative is highly innovative with **76%** suggesting that it resonated with their own work and **38%** got ideas to reflect upon. These last two characteristics would suggest that a level of diffusion is already taking place among external stakeholders.



Almost **86%** stated that engaging with the Dingle Peninsula 2030 initiative encouraged them as external stakeholders to think differently and/or change their pre-existing ideas or take action.



Over **90%** of respondents rated their experience of engagement in the initiative between 8 and 10 (on a scale of 1-10).



While the Dingle Peninsula 2030 website was the highest viewed media platform by respondents, there was similar traction and access to videos, media, policy and learning briefs.

### OUTPUTS:



Case studies



Webinars



Short videos



Policy Briefs



Infographics



Showcase Event in Dingle



Learning Briefs

Interviews conducted by Dr Maria Power of Community Consultants

**Interviewees:** Aoife MacEvilly, Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU); Eimear Cotter, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Enda Gallagher, (formerly) Dept Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC); Ian O'Flynn, Gas Networks Ireland (GNI); Laura Devaney, Dept. of the Taoiseach (DoT); Mark McGranaghan, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI); Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh, Udarás na Gaeltachta; Rebekah Keaveny, Green Offaly; Ruth Buggie, Sustainable Energy Authority Of Ireland (SEAI); Ruth Freeman, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI); William Parnell, (formerly) Dept Rural and Community Development (DRCD).