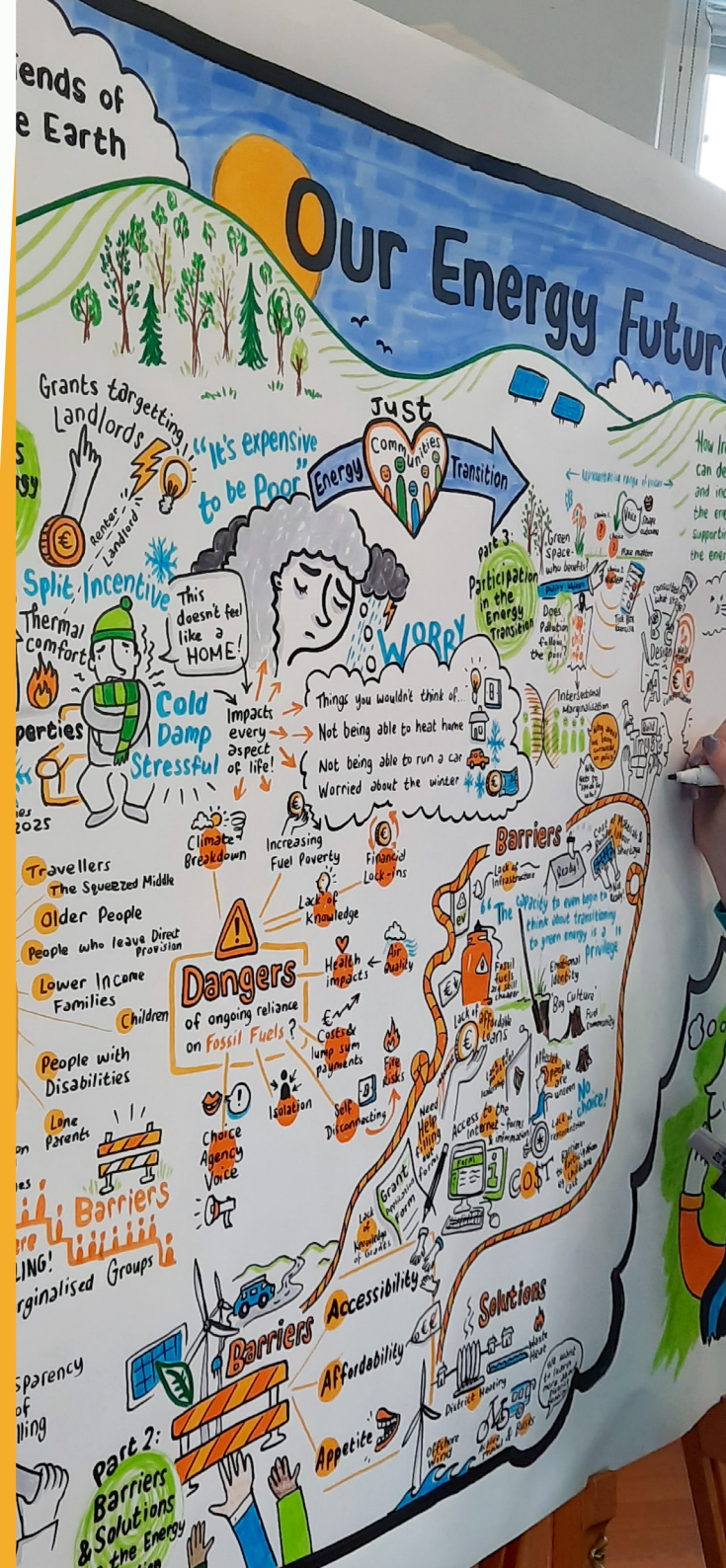


Impact Report September 2022

A Just World Where People and Nature Thrive





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Message from the Chief Executive



Dear Friends,

The last year has demonstrated the impact of our campaigning like never before, but it has also highlighted how much more there is to do, and revealed in the most stark terms what failure looks like.

I had my first meeting about the idea of a climate law in April 2005. It took three four-year campaigns led by Friends of the Earth, over 16 years, with 10 different climate Bills introduced in the Oireachtas, before we finally got the Climate Act 2021 passed into law. Friends of the Earth supporters sent thousands, if not tens of thousands, of emails and held hundreds of conversations with TDs during that time. And we convened a diverse array of allies along the way, from our partners in the Stop Climate

Chaos Coalition to the Irish Corporate Leaders Group on Climate Change. But at the heart of that long campaign was the Friends of the Earth community. Your commitment and persistence made the difference.

An academic review found the new Irish climate law was “in the realms of international best practice”. But we know well it only gets us to the starting line in the race to zero climate pollution. It’s the end of a marathon and the start of a sprint. And as we saw in this summer’s debacle over the sectoral emissions ceilings, there are still powerful voices chorusing “not this, not now, not us”. More than ever, Friends of the Earth was the essential counterweight in that debate, and while we didn’t get everything we wanted nor did the vested interests looking to dilute or delay action. Their effective veto on Irish climate policy is broken.

Now, it gets interesting. The abstract debate on emissions targets is over. Ministers are preparing the first Action Plan under the climate law. The focus shifts to the actual policies and measures to reduce pollution. It is also our chance to think creatively and radically about the kind of Ireland we want to build over the next 8 years and beyond.

We choose a future that combines social justice with climate justice, here in Ireland as well as globally. With the Russian invasion of Ukraine driving skyrocketing fossil fuel prices we recently brought together 42 social and environmental organizations to demand the Government act urgently to end both energy poverty and energy pollution. The war demonstrates that getting off fossil fuels is a social and economic imperative as well as an environmental one.

That enriching dialogue with social justice organizations has been building over three years, and it is part of a wider movement building effort that has seen our small team organize a huge variety of education, training and activism support activities for Friends of the Earth members, One Future groups and the wider activist community. I'm particularly heartened by our renewed focus on reaching marginalized groups whose voices have been under-represented in the climate movement.

We have also seen, in the starkest human terms, what climate breakdown looks like in the last year, with the awful floods in Pakistan and the deadly drought in the Horn of Africa. That's at one degree of global overheating. That's why every tenth of every degree matters, that's why every tonne of pollution counts. That's why you matter, that's why we matter. Together we need to keep building the power of the movement for climate justice.

We are in the race of a lifetime. The race to eliminate emissions fast enough to prevent complete climate breakdown and fairly enough to leave no one behind.

Let's get going,



Oisín Coghlan, Director,
Friends of the Earth

September 2022

Our Organisational Goals

Our Mission

We campaign and build movement power to bring about the system change needed for a just world where people and nature thrive.

Our Role

Friends of the Earth supports people to come together to transform our world until social justice is the foundation of resilient and regenerative societies that flourish within the ecological limits of our one planet.

We have particular experience in participatory education, campaign strategy, shaping public debate and driving policy change. We are committed to joining forces with other organizations and networks, of diverse experiences and perspectives, to build our collective power. We support people and groups working autonomously to connect their local work to the bigger national and international picture. We work with others to try to make sure our focus is transformational change, often by creating moments that exert maximum pressure on decision-makers.

Our Values

- Solidarity, Participation & Inclusion
- Nature and Social Ecology
- People and Communities
- Science and Education
- Social Justice and Climate Justice
- Culture and Creativity
- Transparency and Accountability

Our Theory of Change

Our Theory of Change is rooted in a commitment to an ongoing process of educating ourselves, engaging and listening to those most impacted by the issues we work on, and in taking collective action to make change.

We are committed to a process of consistently learning and unlearning about the systems of power and oppression that influence our lives and the world around us. We believe that we need to understand

systems in order to effectively change them. We believe that it is important to be clear in our messaging and so we don't shy away from occupying difficult conversational spaces. However, we believe that finding common ground is an important element of change-making, and so we strive to do so with all who want to make a positive difference in the world.

We believe in challenging ourselves to consistently create more welcoming spaces for people to engage in a process of interrogating the root causes of global injustice. By doing this we aim to help grow and work with a more critically informed network of change makers across Ireland.

When individuals and groups are nurtured to engage in a process of critically informing themselves as well as being supported to learn-by-doing, they are more likely to take effective collective action to bring about changes in their own communities and as part of a mass political movement.

When policy makers are the target of both mass movement campaigns and targeted, evidence based advocacy, they are compelled to bring about changes in policy and practice.

Friends of the Earth is two years into our five year Strategic Plan which sets out what we hope to achieve through to 2025 and how we hope to achieve it. We have covered a lot of ground since 2020 and with this plan we will continue to achieve our goals and aims.

Our Organizational Goals

Friends of the Earth has four organizational goals to advance our mission:

- **Building movement power**

To contribute to building a diverse and inclusive movement strong enough to bring about system change in a way that supports others' social justice struggles and that aligns with our values.

- **Driving policy change**

To drive a fair and fast transition to a zero pollution future.

- **Cultivating our community**

To ensure Friends of the Earth supporters feel they are members of a mutually supportive community and present ways for them to participate in and sustain the work of the organization for as long as it is required.

- **Developing our organization**

To ensure Friends of the Earth has the robust governance and effective management systems, and the appropriate financial resources, to maximise our impact and to cultivate a positive working environment.

Impact Highlights & Activity Snapshot

Impact Highlights

- Climate Act signed into law after 14 years of campaigning!
- Carbon budgets to 2030 approved on a cross party basis and are now legally binding
- Kilshane Gas Plant denied permission after Fingal One Future's organising
- Microgeneration Scheme now up and running after Power to the People Campaign

2,429

signatures on
4 petitions for
faster and fairer
climate action



A survey of **900+**
One Future
members with
responses from 14
counties



200+

people participated in 12
training and capacity building
workshops

3,000+

submissions made
on the Climate
Action Plan
Consultation



13 Learning
Hub Webinars
with **63%** of
participants
reporting
increased
understanding



2,491

signatures on a petition
to object to mining
licenses in Leitrim

In the Media

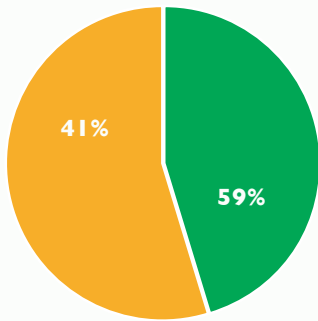
Public debate on climate change and the environment is growing and Friends of the Earth is increasingly called upon to provide insight and expertise to the media. We regularly appear in print, radio and online coverage of all things climate and seek to represent the need for fast and fair climate action. For the second year running we used a media analysis agency to measure Friends of the Earth's media impact in print and on line. Their analysis does not include TV and radio where we also had a very strong showing.

- Friends of the Earth received 434 mentions across print and online in 2021. There were 175 print articles with 259 online articles.
- 95% of the total coverage is categorised as positive with 8% being categorised as 'Prime Positive'.
- During 2021 our key messages were found in 30% of coverage. The top message with a 27% share of voice was 'The climate can't afford new fossil fuel infrastructure' followed by a 23% share of voice was 'The Carbon Budgets/Climate Action Plan is the start of an urgent and radical transformation' and then at 18% was 'Milestone for climate action'.
- Spokespeople featured 50% of the time with Oisín Coghlan, CEO appearing on 60 occasions. Up from 23 appearances in 2020!
- One Future's was mentioned 21 times and Stop Climate Chaos' total volume was 111 items.

Headline Results

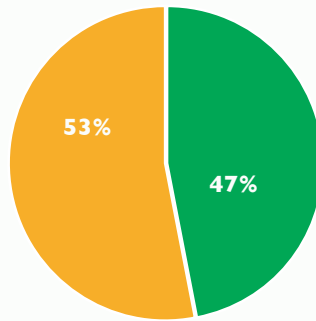
January - December 2021

**Media Volume
Friends of the Earth**



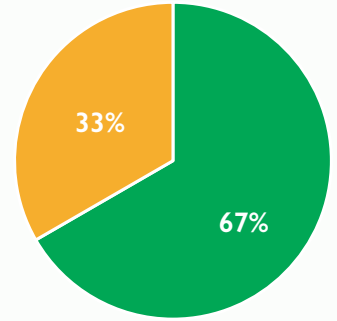
■ Online ■ Print

**Media Volume
One Future**



■ Online ■ Print

**Media Volume
Stop Climate Chaos**

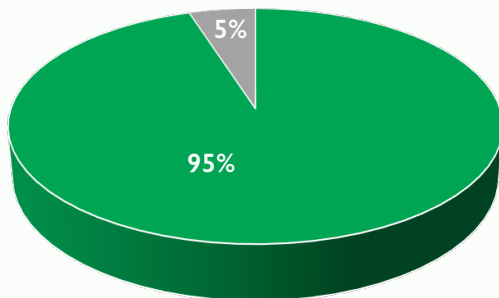


■ Online ■ Print

Media Type	Volume Friends of the Earth	Potential Media Reach Friends of the Earth	Volume One Future	Potential Media Reach One Future	Volume Stop Climate Chaos	Potential Media Reach Stop Climate Chaos
Online	259	72.38 M	8	1.59 M	62	18.29 M
Print	175	7.56 M	13	0.196 M	49	1.40 M
Total	434	79.94 M	21	1.78 M	111	19.69 M

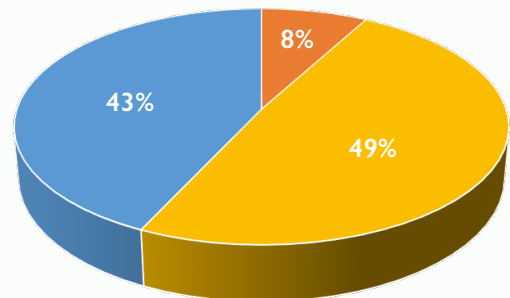
KPI	2021 Result	2020 Result
Volume (%)	175%	164%
Prime Positive (%)	8%	5%
Key Campaigns Presence (%)	80%	46%
Spokespeople Presence (%)	50%	24%
Key Messages (%)	30%	48%
Media Score (%)	86%	83%

Sentiment 2021



■ Positive ■ Negative ■ Neutral ■ Balanced

Prominence 2021



■ Prime ■ Significant ■ Passing

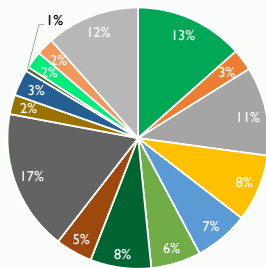
Key Campaign Analysis

January - December 2021

Key Campaigns Presence

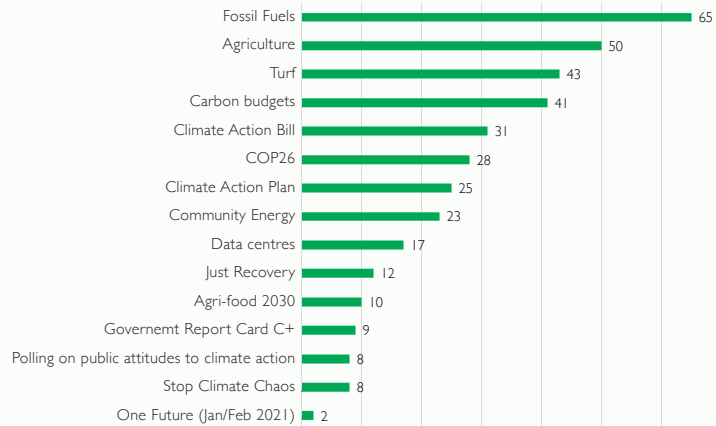
80%

Key Campaigns of Voice



- Agriculture
- Carbon budgets
- Climate Action Plan
- COP26
- Fossil Fuels
- Just Recovery
- Polling on public attitudes to climate action
- Turf
- Agri-food 2030
- Climate Action Bill
- Community Energy
- Data centres
- Government Report Card C+
- One Future (Jan/Feb 2021)
- Stop Climate Chaos

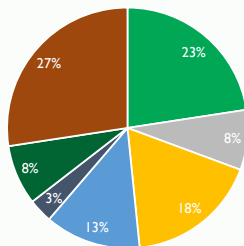
Key Campaigns by Volume



Key Messages Presence

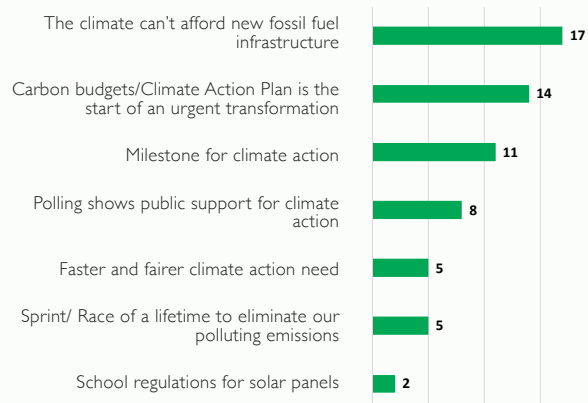
30%

Key Messages Share of Voice



- Carbon budgets/Climate Action Plan is the start of an urgent transformation
- Climate Bill/Law/Action Plan is the end of a marathon
- Faster and fairer climate action need
- Milestone for climate action
- Polling shows public support for climate action
- School regulations for solar panels
- Sprint/ Race of a lifetime to eliminate our polluting emissions
- The climate can't afford new fossil fuel infrastructure

Key Messages Share by Volume



Building Movement Power

Through our Movement Building programme we aim to:

1. Be a central and trusted hub for training and capacity building for individuals and groups who identify as being part of the movement for social justice and environmental sustainability. Our role is to train, mentor, promote reflection and develop increasing levels of ownership and leadership.
2. Support the development of opportunities and structures for local organizing and campaigning that contribute to advancing the missions of Friends of the Earth Ireland and International.
3. Collaborate directly and supportively with other groups and organizations whose work intersects with our mission and aligns with our values, and to participate actively in efforts to facilitate connections, coordination, collaboration and mutual support between intersecting causes in the climate movement and wider civil society.

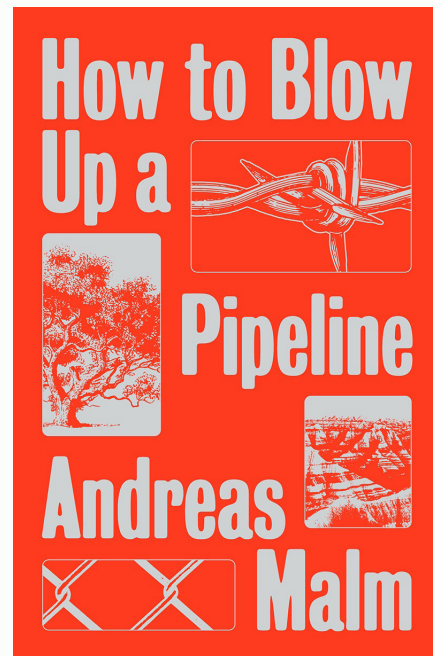
Learning Hub

We have now held two successful series of our Learning Hub reaching almost 500 participants! The Learning Hub was developed as part of our commitment to a process of learning and unlearning about the systems of power and oppression that influence our lives and the world around us as well. Since May 2021, we have held 13 Learning Hub events comprised of webinars with participatory and interactive workshops. These events pose the question of **how can we be global citizens and take informed and effective action?** The participants found these workshops to be really helpful in understanding the intersecting root causes of global injustice.

This year's Learning Hub has looked at many different topics through film, poetry, reading, writing and other creative learning tools. Some of the themes we explored include climate justice, migrant justice, a just transition, eco anxiety, movement building, energy poverty and energy and gas. We've loved hearing from our varied and special guest speakers but also hearing from our amazing learners, who have sent us music, drawings and fascinating articles about earth, energy, eco-anxiety, and activism.

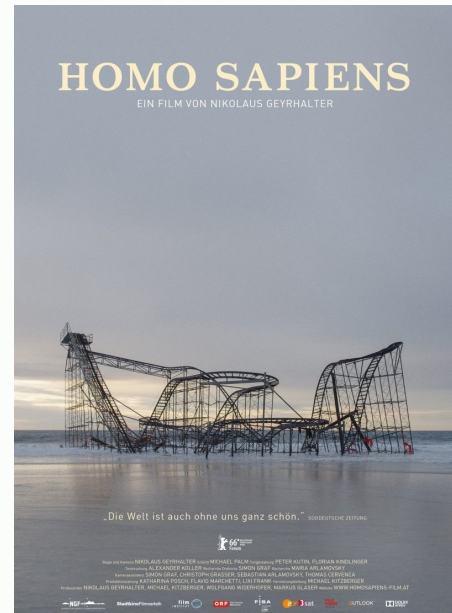
In Focus:

What level of action is needed to inspire a mass movement for system change? This tough question was the basis of a webinar Friends of the Earth facilitated in May. We were joined by author Andreas Malm who wrote the book, *How to Blow Up a Pipeline: Learning to Fight in a World on Fire*. We had a deep discussion with various perspectives on how far should we go to address climate breakdown.



This provocative topic spurred insightful debate not only in our panel discussion but also in the participant chat which raised a number of other topics to explore such as socialist revolutions, boycotting, defining violence, intergenerational action, the rights of nature, water charge protests and diverse action opportunities. The Learning Hub is all about making connections and so the group also learned about the tactics of the women's suffrage movement in Ireland and how Irish women won the right to vote.

We look forward to continuing our Learning Hub and delving into questions that spark our imagination and inform our activism!



One Future Campaign

The One Future Campaign for faster and fairer climate action was launched by Friends of the Earth and the Stop Climate Chaos Coalition in January 2020 in the lead up to the General Elections. One Future campaigns to see real action on energy systems, transport, homes, emissions and more to make our communities fairer, healthier, more inclusive and more accessible places to live. **This dynamic network of both individual activists and groups has gone from strength to strength over the last year.**

In order to support our One Future members we collaboratively developed a charter which serves as a unifying set of aims, strategies and values for the entire One Future network. The One Future Charter is guided by the core message of Faster and Fairer climate action. Faster because we are running out of time to stop the worst effects of climate change and fairer because climate change and poverty have many of the same root causes. One Future believes that taking action to prevent climate change has the potential to create a much fairer and equal society based on improving quality of life and doing away with economic systems that value profit over people and nature.

The One Future network has grown enormously and so Friends of the Earth undertook a survey to understand more about how to support the members. We surveyed over 900 people and received feedback from a number of members spread across 14 counties. The One Future network is all about enabling people to become further involved in climate campaigning and the survey showed the enormous appetite that One Future members have for growing their activism. The results of the survey showed a need for training programmes that focused specifically on campaigning as well as the need for supporting



activists outside of electoral moments. To meet this need One Future offered a webinar that covered the tools to strengthen campaigns and groups to be able to achieve real change.

Finding ways to take action on climate change at a local and national level can be difficult. That's why we ran our One Future Summer Series - a set of action focused online workshops and meetings. It gave people a chance to make connections in their local area, to learn from each other and to see what can lead to real and meaningful change. It was a forum to foster community and discuss what actions they had been taking over the previous months. These regional meetings also provided space for discussion and exploration around the values that our activism puts forward and root causes of the climate crisis.



We have all been a part of different groups, some better run than others! But good group dynamics don't happen by accident and it requires planning, participation and preparation. We were delighted to give a participatory workshop on Group Dynamics, facilitated by Seeds for

Change. This workshop explored how effective groups actually work and the steps we can take to create groups that can tackle the climate crisis. As a result of the session and the insights which emerged around relationship building and peer support, participants from the Fingal One Future group decided to hold meet ups and build relationships within the group. One participant of this training said that **“[they] have more ideas on how to get started building a bigger and more active group...I’m more aware that forming relationships can be just as important as the campaign work.”**



The Fingal One Future group has since gone on to organise further. They ran a campaign opposing the Kilshane Gas Plant that was proposed for the Fingal area. Friends of the Earth supported the group to lodge an objection to the plant as well as supporting their local outreach efforts. Friends of the Earth created its own objection in solidarity and reached out to other One Future Members to sign in solidarity with the Fingal group. This objection received 700+ signatures and the Kilshane Gas Plant was denied permission! This is just one example of the people power that our One Future network is cultivating with the support of Friends of the Earth.

System Change Seminar Series

Our System Change Seminar Series kicked off on Earth Day 2022 for a week full of webinars exploring how climate justice connects with social justice, economic justice, racial justice, accommodation justice and more.

These online seminars touched on local and global perspectives on global justice issues while highlighting solutions championed by groups in Ireland and around the world. Inspiring speakers from a range of experiences shared information and resources to connect the dots between global justice issues and our activism in Ireland.



Some highlights from the series include:

- 'Climate Justice' with Kwami Kpondzo from Friends of the Earth Togo taking a global view of injustice - our collective struggle to save the planet while tackling global injustice and inequality. Kwami shared some great advice for networking, organising, and campaigning.

- 'Unity in Struggle for a Different World: Climate Change & Racism' with Memet Uludag from United Against Racism and Myriam Douo from Equinox/ Friends of the Earth Europe. Myriam spoke about historical and current forms of colonialism - including multi-national corporations exploitation of both natural resources and people for profit while Memet connected different social and environmental struggles to the same broken system with an emphasis on the urgent need for solidarity.

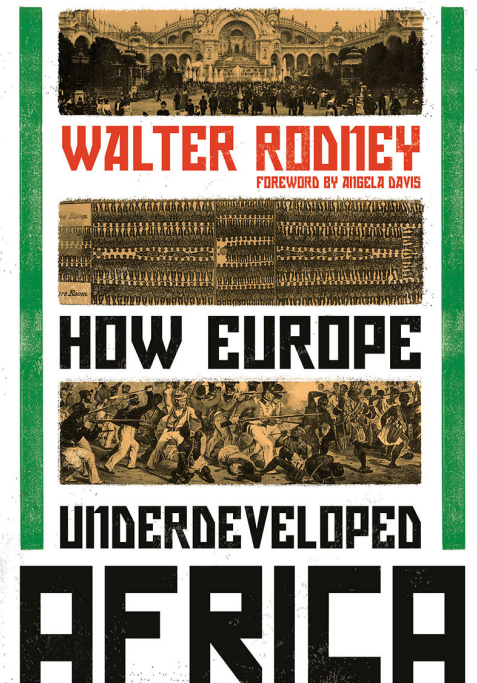
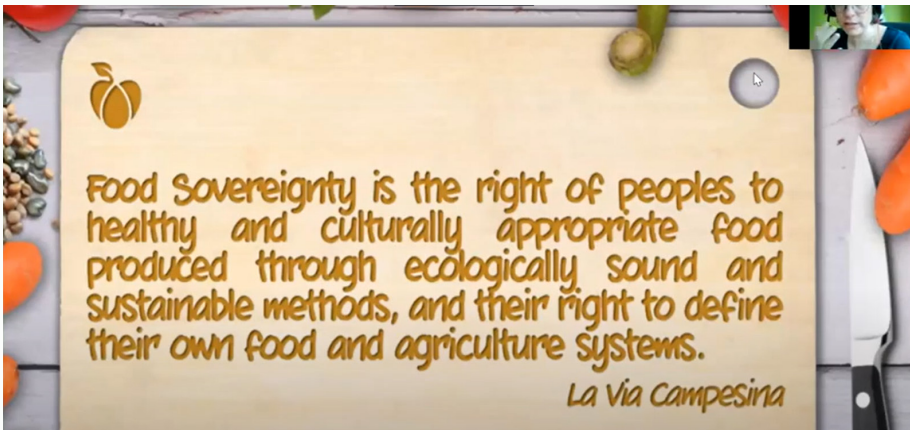


- 'Food Sovereignty & Climate Justice' with Annelies Schorpion from Friends of the Earth Europe connecting agriculture with other social and environmental justice issues. Annelies highlighted fair and sustainable food systems and global peasant movements resisting the current industrial food system.

All of our online seminars are recorded and available on the Friends of the Earth Youtube channel.



"There are no jobs on a dead planet." -Yvonne O'Callaghan from SIPTU (Trade Union)



UN Climate Conference: Cop 26 in Glasgow

COP26 was the 2021 United Nations climate change conference held in Glasgow. For nearly three decades the UN has brought together nation states, civil society, climate justice activists, researchers and journalists from across the globe to global climate summits - called COPs. It is one of the biggest forums for high level commitments to address the climate crisis. Held in the shadow of climate reports and studies pointing to us being in one of the last moments to address the accelerating climate crisis - COP26 held enormous potential. However, in the end COP26 was full of false solutions and saw rich countries refuse to do their fair share to address COVID 19, rising inequality and climate apartheid.



Friends of the Earth's Head of Movement Building, Emma Jayne was joined by 16 year old youth activist Amy O'Brien in Glasgow. Among the many events they attended was the Global Youth Strike march and rally - a huge gathering of thousands of children and young people. The climate crisis was created by adults and is

an intergenerational child rights crisis. Young people are not given seats at the table and that's why they took to the streets to make visible what is so often made to be invisible and to show that they are true leaders in the climate movement.



In reflecting on their journey to COP26 Emma Jayne said that despite the greenwashing, the vetoing of tangible actions and false solutions there was a sense of movement, of growth and of hope. **'It made me realize, more than ever, that another world is possible. We just have to believe it, to organise, to build our people power to the point where we are unstoppable. People lead, politicians follow.'**

We must look at COP26 as a stop along the journey and a moment to intensify and strengthen the global climate movement. Despite COP26's claim that collective agreement from governments is the limit on global action, in reality it showed that people power in all of its diversity and strength is the true path to a liveable planet. Our international movement is growing and with COP27 around the corner we need to have our sights set on pushing for action that follows the science and is equitable.

Driving Policy Change

Through our Driving Policy Change programme we aim to:

1. Establish a new climate governance regime in Ireland that drives the development and adoption of policies to eliminate emissions in all sectors, based on legally-binding carbon budgets, expert-advice, and parliamentary accountability.
2. Ensure Ireland's climate-polluting emissions are on track for a 50% reduction by 2030, and Ireland's actual fair share of climate action is a key issue in the next electoral cycle.
3. Prevent a lock-in to fossil gas and enable Ireland to become an international example for the struggle to break the grip of the fossil fuel industry on policy-making.
4. Shape public debate on key issues related to our mission. To create public understanding that much of the change we wish to see will generate positive impacts and opportunities, not costs and hardships. To bring justice and fairness to the centre of the debate about climate and environmental issues-change should happen when justice and fairness requires it, even if it is not popular with everyone, especially the rich and powerful.

Faster and Fairer Climate Action

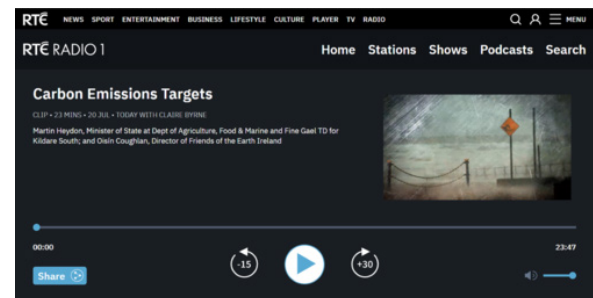
Faster and Fairer Climate Action is our campaign to get to zero polluting emissions fast enough to prevent climate breakdown and fairly enough to leave no one behind. Much of our work on this campaign is pursued through our coordination and participation in the Stop Climate Chaos Coalition. There were a lot of developments since our last impact report including the passage of the Climate Law by 129 votes to 10 which put into law a commitment to cut our emissions by 51% by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest. This was a big victory for the climate movement in Ireland!



In response to pushback and attempts to water down the impact of the Climate Law - Friends of the Earth produced recommendations on new carbon budgets and briefed political stakeholders on carbon budgets ahead of Oireachtas debates. The carbon budgets place a legally binding limit on the amount of greenhouse gases that may be emitted across all sectors of the Irish



economy between 2021-2025 and 2026-2030. Ireland must stay within the limits of this 5-year emissions “pot” - each sector of the Irish economy must do their fair share to reduce their emissions. Our submission to the Government emphasised that Ireland will only meet its 2030 target if all sectors achieve the upper range of their reduction targets. As always, the Friends of the Earth community joined us in taking action to get the message across to TDs by picking up the phone and sending emails through our e-actions. Once again, the climate movement in Ireland was able to hold Government to account and the Dáil adopted national carbon budgets.



The next barrier to delivering on the Climate Law came with the division of carbon budgets into sectoral emissions ceilings (SECs). When the Government published indicative pollution reduction ranges for each sector it was clear that every sector would have to

achieve the maximum reduction if we were to meet our targets. There was powerful and influential interests, particularly from the agri-sector, who sought to oppose a fair target for agriculture. Friends of the Earth appeared in the media, engaged with the Government and relied upon science to advocate for all sectors to adopt the upper range of their reduction targets. Over a 1,000 of our supporters contacted TDs through our e-action calling for fast and fair action across every sector. Ultimately, the Government reached a deal on sectoral ceilings that aligns well enough with the national emissions ceiling for 2021-2025 but doesn't add up for the 2026-2025 carbon budget period. The figures will have to be reviewed in a couple of years and all sectors will have to do more in the second half of the decade. First though, it's time to stop talking about targets and start implementing measures that actually reduce emissions.

The climate movement must continue to demand implementation and accountability at every step, and we are committed to supporting this growing movement all the way. Government urgently needs to get on with transformative action in every sector and in every community. As our CEO Oisín Coghlan said, **“The time for talking is finally over, it's time for a relentless focus now on delivery, delivery, delivery.”**



Healthy Homes

The Healthy Homes campaign is built upon Friends of the Earth's core values of social and climate justice and with the key tenant that we have to reduce dependence on fossil fuels as fast as possible. Europe is now experiencing a three part energy crisis of affordability, pollution and supply. These issues have only been exacerbated by the abhorrent Russian invasion of Ukraine and the cost of living crisis. The invasion and associated gas crisis has only served to highlight the dangers of our fossil fuel dependence. Ireland is now being impacted by the most significant energy shock since the 1970s oil crisis and we need further coordinated action to help those struggling to pay their energy bills.

Some 43% of all Irish households are now estimated to be living in energy poverty, the highest ever recorded rate. Average household energy bills have increased by €1100 in one year. The rising costs of energy prices continues to disproportionately impact households in the bottom 20% of the income distribution who spend a larger



percentage of their income on energy.

Friends of the Earth is committed to responding to these pressure on households and communities, that's why we produced a 5 Point Plan to cut energy bills, save energy and reduce pollution. The challenges we face cannot be tackled by individual behaviour change alone. It is the result of long-standing structural and political failings and requires a comprehensive Government response. This plan contains over 48 recommendations for Government with five key points.

1. **Help With Energy Bills:** Take immediate steps to help those in fuel poverty and those struggling to pay their energy bills.
2. **Drive Home Energy Savings:** Insulate 100,000 homes before next winter, prioritising those at risk of energy poverty.
3. **Reduce Our Car Dependence:** Make it possible, safe and convenient for every child to come to school without using a car.
4. **Prioritise Community Energy:** Drive public participation in renewable energy with a rooftop revolution.
5. **Say No to More Fossil Fuels:** Plan and invest to end our dependence on dirty, pricey, unreliable fossil fuels as fast as possible.



These policies are overwhelmingly supported by the Irish public. Friends of the Earth commissioned polling by 'Ireland Thinks' of over 1,000 people in June that showed large majorities in favour of more Government action in line with our 5 Point Plan. Friends of the Earth also partnered with 40+ leading Irish NGO's from across sectors to call for a range of targeted measures to tackle both energy poverty and climate pollution while supporting households most impacted by the energy crisis.

The topic of energy efficiency and making homes warmer and healthier is not one that always gets a flashy news headline but it is a key step to achieving Ireland's climate goals. Ireland's housing stock remains some of Europe's most inefficient, leaving many with high energy bills and vulnerable to shocks like the current energy crisis.

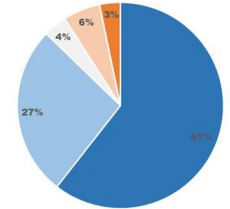
We published an expert report on the barriers to retrofitting in Ireland to identify the challenges faced by Irish households, policymakers, and government bodies in achieving Ireland's retrofit and heat pump targets. Current SEAI grants are not sufficiently accessible for tenants, low-income households, the Traveller community, or those living in older homes. Government Departments, the SEAI and local authorities must urgently respond to these barriers in order to get Irish households off polluting, expensive fossil fuel heating, particularly oil and gas. The solutions this report puts forward would make sure that no one is left behind in efforts to retrofit half a million homes by 2030.

Friends of the Earth believes that the Government must support homes and communities to become warmer, healthier and fossil-free. As we head into colder months we will continue to listen to those suffering from energy poverty who are experiencing the brunt of an energy crisis made worse by fossil fuel dependence.

Question 1: Windfall Tax

"Would you support or oppose an additional one tax on energy companies and all companies that have seen larger profits due to energy prices?"

- Strongly support
- Tend to support
- Don't know
- Tend to oppose
- Strongly oppose

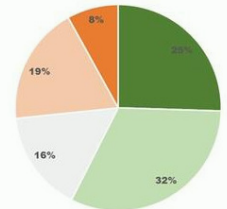


June 3/4th, Sample size 1,211

Question 3i: Measures to deal with the energy crisis (ordered from lowest to highest support)

In response to the energy crisis/ Russian invasion of Ukraine do you support or oppose the following measures

- Strongly support
- Tend to support
- Don't know
- Tend to oppose
- Strongly oppose



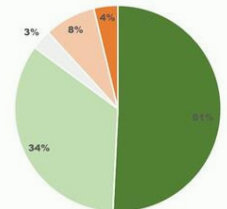
"An indefinite pause on connecting new data centres to the electricity grid"

June 3/4th, Sample size 1,211

Question 3ii: Measures to deal with the energy crisis

In response to the energy crisis/ Russian invasion of Ukraine do you support or oppose the following measures

- Strongly support
- Tend to support
- Don't know
- Tend to oppose
- Strongly oppose



"Focusing government grants and support for home insulation and heat pumps on low income households/ those most at risk of energy poverty"

June 3/4th, Sample size 1,211

No New Gas

Our No New Gas campaign is focused on preventing Irish communities from becoming locked into use of fossil gas (often misleadingly called 'natural' gas). Friends of the Earth is campaigning to stop the Government making decisions and investments now that would keep Ireland dependent on fossil gas for years to come. Gas is a harmful fossil fuel. At the very least half of all existing gas reserves need to stay in the ground unburned to keep global heating to less than 2C, more if we are serious about the Paris goal of 1.5C.

Fracked gas in particular is extremely polluting and its production has resulted in terrible impacts on human rights, public health and the environment in the US. Ireland is uniquely well-positioned to lead the effort against fracked gas as we already have a strong legislative ban on fracking in the Ireland. Friends of the

Earth is an organisation that realises that the fight for a liveable planet is a global issue that extends across borders. That's why we helped to organise a webinar on the fracking risks in Northern Ireland, ahead of a key Stormont vote on the issue of issuing fracking licenses in Northern Ireland. This webinar featured grassroots organisations and activists, local community groups and international anti-fracking campaigners, including Mark Ruffalo. This event helped produce sustained pressure on the issue of petroleum licensing policy across the island of Ireland and moved forward the possibility of a ban on fracking in Northern Ireland.

We have also been fighting against fracked gas imports to Ireland, including the proposed Shannon Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal. Such a massive fossil fuel project will not improve Ireland's energy security. What it would do is increase Ireland's dependence on fossil gas as well as negatively impacting frontline communities





in the United States. The Government rather needs to end this gas reliance and reduce gas demand through a range of measures, including a ban installation of oil and gas boilers in new homes and a moratorium on new data centres. The current energy security crisis is being abused by industry to call for new LNG infrastructure. The need for persistent and sustained pressure against new fossil gas projects is necessary now more than ever.

Friends of the Earth along with our supporters are committed to opposing fossil gas. The fight against fossil gas is supported by a broad range of local grassroots groups across the island of Ireland. Friends of the Earth



has joined with these groups and participated in a climate camp at the proposed Shannon LNG site in July that saw hundreds of protesters and a range of local and front line communities represented.

It's now more important than ever that Ireland responds to the Russian invasion by getting off fossil fuels rather than swapping one source for another and increasing our dependency on polluting, expensive fossil gas. To quote the UN Secretary General who said recently that **“investing in new fossil fuels infrastructure is moral and economic madness”**.



Our Energy Future

As part of the joint 'Our Energy Future' project, in June Friends of the Earth organised an in-person participatory workshop with groups across the country on how Ireland can deliver a pro-active and inclusive



response to the energy price crisis while supporting communities in the energy transition. The workshop gave the chance for groups to meet and share insights

on the impacts of increasing energy prices, as well as on barriers and opportunities for households and communities to engage in the energy transition. The workshop also featured a range of experts in the fields of science, law and housing. Friends of the Earth supported in-depth discussions on how energy prices impact different communities, on barriers to the energy transition and on how we can empower marginalised and vulnerable groups.



Image Credit: Iris Aghedo

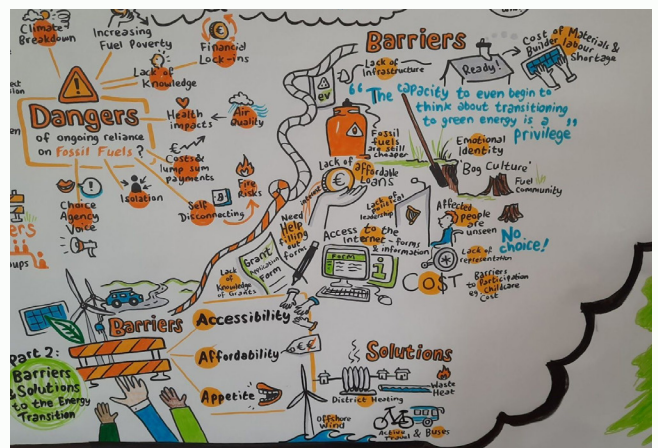


Image Credit: Hazel Hurley

Cultivating Our Community



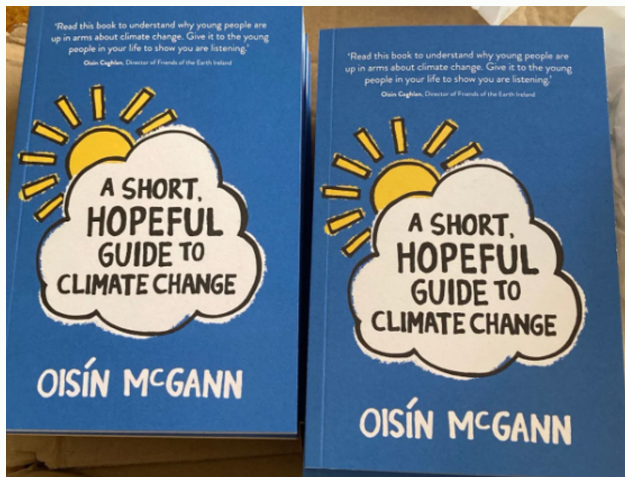
Our Supporter Care work aims to make Friends of the Earth supporters feel they are members of a mutually supportive community and present ways for them to participate in and sustain the work of the organisation for as long as it is required. We wouldn't exist without all of you! Everyone on the Friends of the Earth team is grateful for the community we have in each other.

The Covid-19 pandemic made us find new ways of coming together as a community, working as groups and creating change together. All of these challenges have collectively left us with a lot of food for thought and new ways of interacting. Friends of the Earth has embraced remote working and now our team members, just like our supporters, are spread across the entire

country. This change has enabled us to see the benefits of remote work, like reduced emissions, and to welcome the work-life balance it can provide to our team. However, we can also celebrate that this year has brought us back together in person! We have supported events all over the country and have highlighted some of them in this report. From recurring One Future meetups in Dublin to our in person Sustainers Celebration for supporters - being able to support networks across Ireland at in person events has been a highlight. In particular, the bringing together of Young Friends of the Earth members at an in person event in Glendalough at the end of Summer was a high point. We all know the extraordinary impact that the Covid-19 pandemic has had on young people and it was great to provide a

welcoming space for sharing their thoughts, reflections and plans for action.

While on the topic of young people and their role in the climate movement, our crowdfunded book, 'A Short, Hopeful Guide to Climate Change' by Oisín McGann that was so generously funded by Friends of the Earth supporters has sold out! We are now in the process of getting a re-print so we can continue to offer this book to the public and in particular to young people. Thank you to everyone for supporting this effort.



Our Friends of the Earth team has continued to grow and we have welcomed on a number of new staff members this year across our Movement Building, Communications, Operations and Supporter Care teams. This growth is only possible through our community who supports us to have more capacity and in turn create systematic change! Thank you!

Nurturing Our Community

In the time since our last Impact Report Friends of the Earth has developed a new website! This website serves

as a hub for information on actions such as petitions and protests, opportunities to engage and learn such as our webinars and updates on all of the activities the Friends of the Earth team is engaged in. This helps us operate in a transparent and accountable way and serves to bring you and all of our supporters on board with our mission and work.

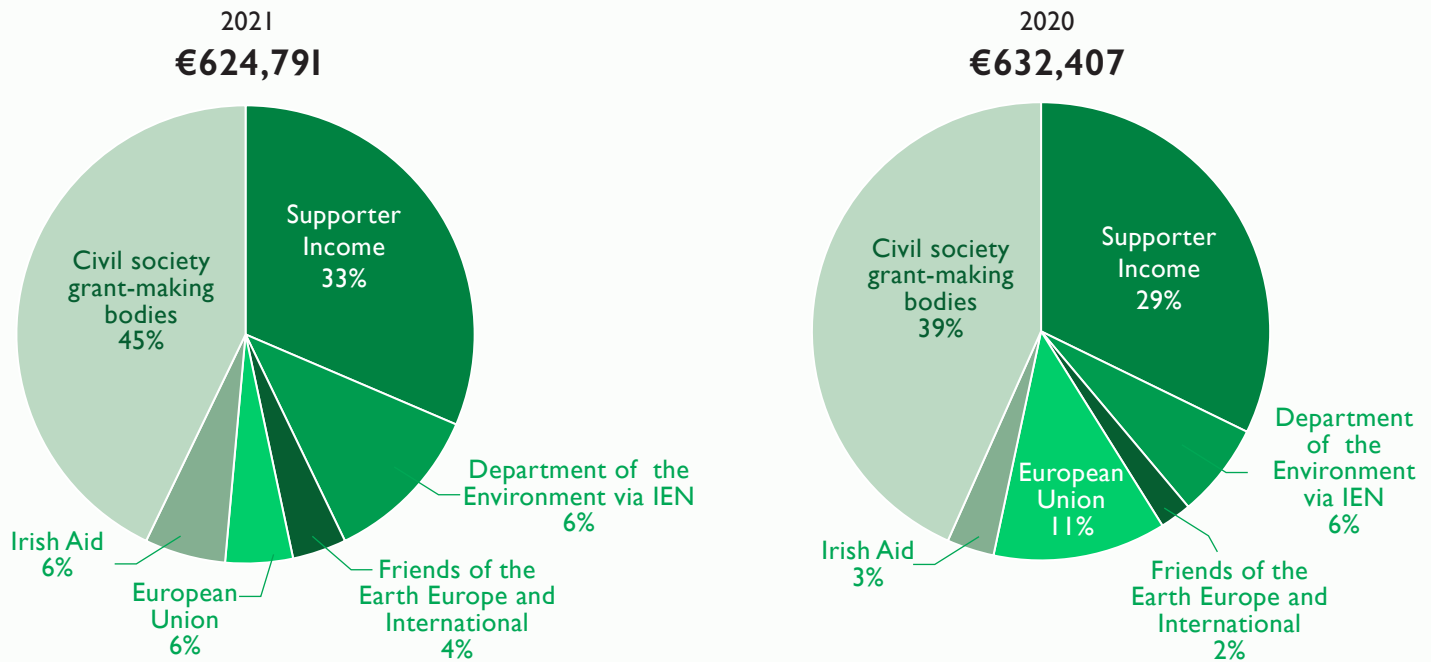
A key part of our work over the last several months has been in supporting new voices be heard in the climate movement, specifically through providing training and resources to supporters to approach the media. This can be seen in our workshop we ran with an organisation called NEON, a UK based organisation who offer high quality, hands-on support and training for campaigners, organisers, communications and operations teams working across social movements. We helped to deliver this training to anti-mining groups who are operating on the front lines against extractive industries in Ireland.

As part of Friends of the Earth's No New Gas campaign we helped grassroots activists from the United States have their voices be heard in the Irish media following the Climate Camp to oppose Shannon LNG. We also supported Ukrainian NGO's to raise concerns regarding nuclear power and helped get their message heard by the Irish media. Friends of the Earth also provided support to various One Future members to become engaged in speaking to the media, including activists from One Future Fingal and One Future Dun Laoghaire.

This work shows the people power of using our collective resources to have a positive impact on climate coverage in Ireland and the wider climate movement.

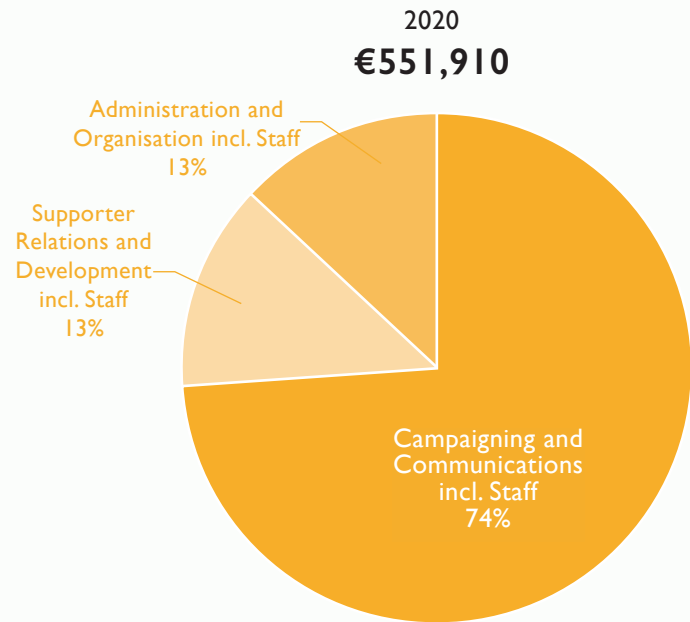
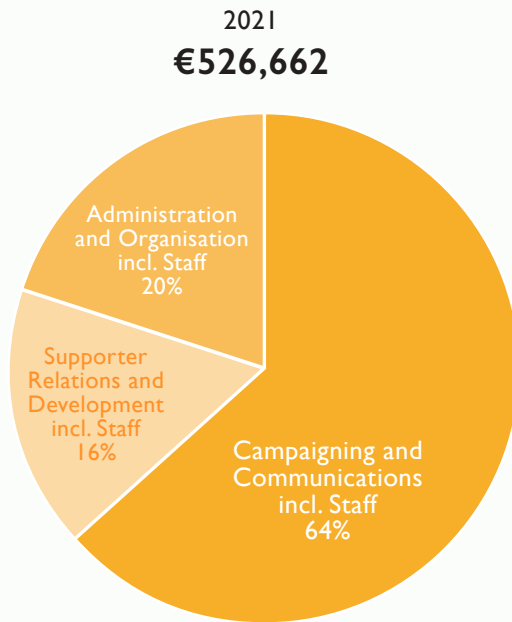
Financial Information

Income



	2021		2020	
Supporter Income	33%	€209,219	29%	€182,128
Department of the Environment via IEN	6%	€37,779	6%	€37,361
Friends of the Earth Europe and International	4%	€23,152	2%	€12,670
European Union	5%	€32,477	11%	€71,622
Irish Aid	6%	€38,097	3%	€21,380
Civil society grant-making bodies	45%	€284,071	49%	€307,246
Total	100%	€624,791	100%	€632,407

Expenditure



		2021		2020
Campaigning and Communications incl. Staff	64%	€339,063	74%	€407,316
Supporter Relations and Development incl. Staff	16%	€84,064	13%	€72,911
Administration and Organisation incl. Staff	20%	€103,045	13%	€71,683
Total	100%	€526,172	100%	€551,910

Thank you

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Impact Report and seeing what we have all achieved. It is only possible through you, the members of the Friends of the Earth community. Our organisation would not be able to thrive without your support. Whichever way you show this support, whether organising in your local One Future group, participating in workshops, donating funds or calling your TDs, makes the difference. We are united in our common goal of securing a fast and fair transition away from fossil fuels and pollution. Without you we cannot achieve our goals of action, inclusion and justice - it is only through collective action that we can sustain this movement.

The staff at Friends of the Earth are committed to our role in holding up and supporting the larger community. You have probably seen us on video webinars, at in person events, speaking to the media or as the person at the other end of an email or phone call. Our organisation has grown enormously since Friends of the Earth's beginnings as a team of one person. We then grew to a team of five and we now employ fourteen people! The Friends of the Earth staff are driven to achieve our organisational goals in order to enact real and meaningful change to address the climate crisis. They are willing to go the distance and to champion creative and imaginative solutions to one of the biggest social and environmental problems we are faced with today.



Friends of the Earth is governed by a volunteer Board, who set out our strategic direction and should the legal responsibilities and duties as an employer, a not-for-profit company and a charity. Our mission and vision is extraordinarily well served by their expertise, energy and dedication. Our chairperson is Marion Briggs and you can find out more about our board and our staff on our new website.

It is only through people power that we can achieve our goals. Thank You for your involvement and commitment to our work and to the wider climate movement - supporting a fair and just transition to a world where people and nature thrive.

Our Staff Team

Oisín Coghlan, Chief Executive
Audrey Vallier, Head of Operations and Finance
Claudia Tormey, Head of Supporter Care and Fundraising
Jerry Mac Evilly, Head of Policy Change
Emma Jayne Geraghty, Head of Movement Building
Deidre Duff, Head of Communications
Rose Anne White, Administrator and Assistant to the CEO
Rosi Leonard, Network Development Coordinator
Bríd Walsh, Climate Policy Coordinator
Clare O'Connor, Energy Policy Officer
Megan Maria Ayers, Supporter Care and Fundraising Officer
Laragh McCann, Communications Officer
Kevin O'Farrell, Events Support Officer

And thank you to our colleagues who moved on in the last year:

Áine O'Gorman - Activism Support Coordinator
Sadhbh O'Neil - Climate Policy Coordinator
Del Thorogood - Accounts and Administration Officer

And thank you to our volunteers who helped in all areas of our work:

Karen Aguiar, Emily Meuleman and Willemein Koelink

Our Board of Directors

Marion Briggs, Chairperson
Colm Ó Cuanacháin, Vice Chairperson
Ciara Kirrane, Secretary
Sarah O'Suilleabhain, Treasurer
Valery Molay
Emma Lane-Spollen
David Heller
David Joyce
Celeste Roche

Impact Report September 2022

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