

Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2015



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**INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR
ADOPTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE
MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION
POLICY MEASURES**

National Transition Objective (NTO)



- Transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by the end of the year 2050.
- NTO contains within it the concepts of both mitigation (“low carbon”) and adaptation (“climate resilient”)
- NTO to be achieved by the preparation and implementation of National Mitigation Plans and National Adaptation Frameworks.

National Mitigation Plans



- Iterative, five-year Plans to specify the policy measures that would be required to manage greenhouse gas emissions and removals at a level that is appropriate for furthering the achievement of the National Transition Objective.
- Contains sectoral mitigation measures to be adopted by relevant Ministers from the largest emitting sectors (agriculture, transport, energy, and the built environment).
- Approved by Government as a ‘whole-of-Government’ response to mitigation challenge.

National Adaptation Frameworks



- Iterative Frameworks to specify the national strategy for the application of adaptation measures in different sectors and by local authorities in order to reduce the vulnerability of the State to the negative effects of climate change.
- Local authorities to incorporate adaptation measures in their development plans.
- Approved by Government as a ‘whole-of-Government’ response to the adaptation challenge.

Sectoral Adaptation Plans



- Having regard to National Adaptation Plan, selected Ministers will be required to make ‘sectoral adaptation plans’ to enable adaptation to the effects of climate change within specified sectors.
- Specified sectors may include flood defence, agriculture, biodiversity, and health.
- Sectoral adaptation plans are also approved by the Government.

National Expert Advisory Council on Climate Change



- Establishment of a National Expert Advisory Council on Climate Change (NEACCC) to advise Ministers and the Government on climate change matters, including the various plans/frameworks.
- Chairperson and 8 to 10 ordinary members, 4 of whom shall be the heads of the EPA, SEAI, Teagasc and ESRI.
- Preparation and publication by NEACCC of annual and periodic review reports.

Annual Transition Statement to Dáil Éireann



- Exercise in transparency and accountability.
- Every year, relevant Ministers will be required to make a statement on:
 - progress in implementing the mitigation and/or adaptation policy measures for which they are responsible; and
 - the effectiveness of those policy measures.
- Opportunity to signal required change in policy measures and revision of relevant national plans.

Duties on Public Bodies



- General duty on public bodies to observe National Mitigation Plan, National Adaptation Framework and sectoral adaptation plans.
- Relevant Minister can direct the provision of a report on how those plans have been observed by the public body.
- Relevant Minister can also direct the public body to adopt measures for the purpose of compliance with those plans.