

An Fóram Uisce | The Water Forum

Looking after Ireland's water resources

WEBINAR – 3rd February 2022 – 10:00-12:30

A discussion on: **Public Participation in catchment management and community action to protect biodiversity, water quality and climate mitigation**

The webinar will provide an opportunity to discuss the need for public participation to deliver environmental objectives; introduce tools for participative and deliberative democracy and learnings from community engagement in the 2nd cycle.

Time	Item
10:00	Welcome and introduction to the day
Session 1: Public participation for water quality, climate change mitigation and biodiversity	
10:05	<i>The Framework for Integrated Land and Landscape Management FILLM</i> ; Gretta McCarron
10:15	<i>An introduction to best practice in public participation</i> ; Dr Patrick Bresnihan, Maynooth University
10:30	<i>Participatory and deliberative approaches to climate mitigation - Imagining 2050 project</i> ; Dr Clodagh Harris, UCC
10:45	<i>Deliberative democracy tools - Imagining 2050 project</i> ; Dr Alexandra Reves, UCC
11:00	<i>Panel discussion and Q&A</i>
11:25	<i>Break and POLL</i>
Session 2: Public participation in practice	
11:30	<i>Learnings from Ballinderry & Oriel Rivers and Coastal Catchment Association</i> ; Mark Horton, Rivers Trust Ireland
11:40	<i>Roles of Catchment communities in protecting water, nature and heritage</i> ; Micheál O'Cinneide, Corrib Beo
11:50	<i>Using biodiversity to engage communities on catchment actions</i> ; Sean Corrigan, National Federation of Group Water Schemes
12:00	<i>Enabling community engagement and participation, learnings from the second cycle</i> ; Fran Igoe, LAWPRO
12:10	<i>Panel discussion and Q&A POLL Results</i>
12:25	<i>Closing address</i>

The Speakers:

<p>Dr Patrick Bresnihan is a Lecturer in the Department of Geography at Maynooth University. He works across the interdisciplinary fields of political ecology, science and technology studies, and environmental humanities. He has published extensively on a range of environmental governance topics, including fisheries, water infrastructure, and energy</p>	<p>Dr Clodagh Harris is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Government and Politics, University College Cork. Her research focuses on deliberative and participatory democracy and democratic governance and climate change. She has served on the advisory boards of Ireland's first Citizens' Assembly 'We the Citizens' (2011), Ireland's Constitutional Convention (2012-2014). She was a co-PI on the EPA funded Imagining 2050 project.</p>	<p>Dr Alexandra Reves is a Senior Postdoctoral Researcher in MaREI the SFI Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine. She is a practiced academic with expertise in Human Geography and Community Development. Her research work with the Imagining2050 project has focused on democratic innovations, co-creation, leveraging collective imaginations, and engagement with communities on issues linked to climate action.</p>
<p>Mark Horton is All Ireland Director overseeing the growth and development of Rivers Trusts in Ireland. He is also Chief Executive of Ballinderry Rivers Trust and has many years of experience working with communities to develop and deliver community visions and actions plans in their river catchments.</p>	<p>Micheál O'Cinneide spent 10 years as Director with the EPA and a decade as head of the Marine Environment team with Marine Institute, Galway. He reviewed LAWPRO in 2020 and the National Parks & Wildlife Service, 2021 Since returning to Galway, he was a co-founder of Corrib Beo Partnership.</p>	<p>Dr Fran Igoe is the Southern Regional Co-ordinator with the Local Authority Waters Programme since 2016 where he collaborates with RBMP implementing agencies and communities to deliver water quality objectives. Prior to that Fran led catchment-based nature projects and river restoration projects with IFI.</p>
<p>Sean Corrigan is on secondment to the National Federation of Group Water Schemes from Irish Water. Sean has worked with communities on water projects for 15 years.</p>	<p>Gretta McCarron is Communications and Education Lead with the Water Forum and worked as a Community Water Officer with LAWPRO before this role. Gretta has worked over 20 years in education and community development.</p>	<p>Register at the following LINK Public Participation Research Report</p>