



Impact Report

For a Just World Where People and Nature Thrive

September 2025





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Message from the Chief Executive

"Hope has never trickled down, it has always sprung up"

- Naomi Klein

Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to be writing to you in my new role as Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth Ireland.

I know I have big shoes to fill. Oisín built Friends of the Earth into the strong, respected, and impactful organisation it is today. He worked tirelessly, often against the odds, to help secure the Climate Law and advance so many other wins for climate justice. His dedication left us with a solid foundation and a vibrant movement. I feel incredibly fortunate to be stepping into a role shaped by that dedication, and I'm determined to carry forward the spirit, ambition, and values he championed.

When the doors of Friends of the Earth Ireland first opened, our ambition was limitless. Today, in 2025, we live in more uncertain times, where hope and possibility can feel harder to grasp. But as Naomi Klein reminds us, hope doesn't trickle down. It springs up.

Our power lies in communities. Those most directly affected by change and the transitions still to come, must be at the heart of everything we do. By finding our common cause and strengthening the ties that bind us, we can nurture possibility.

Many of you have walked this path with us for a long time, and I want to sincerely thank

you for the steadfast support you have given Friends of the Earth. As I begin this journey, I am energised to shape a new Strategic Plan for the organisation, working with you to listen, learn, and look ahead.

That plan must live the values of the movement. Equity, courage, collaboration, and building a movement that dares to imagine and achieve a different, fairer future.

Our work must meet the continuing threat posed by fossil fuels, the rise of new polluters such as data centres, and the urgent need for rapid and fair decarbonisation at scale.

We also know that the economic and social systems we have built, such as extreme wealth concentration, are fueling climate breakdown. At a time when we need greater cohesion, those same systems are eroding democratic politics. In the super-election year of 2024, we saw climate denialism rise among elected representatives across the globe. While Ireland has so far been spared that trend, we are not immune.

In the face of such challenges, building solidarity and seeding kindness has never been more important. I believe that caring for ourselves

and one another, embracing joy, rest, and creativity, is not a luxury but a necessity.

If we are to build a movement which is capable of transforming everything, we need everyone.

Facing the future my magic wand would see every treaty, law, and policy for climate and human rights enacted swiftly and fully. And then one more wave to ensure no one is left behind—that all of us, everywhere across the world, could enjoy safety, dignity, shelter and a healthy environment.

I look forward to working with you to ignite and grow our movement for change, so that it continues not only to endure, but to flourish.

Belief in renewal, in community, in resilience, that is the path forward.

With hope, determination, and a deep belief in the power of people like you,

Deirdre Duffy, Chief Executive
Friends of the Earth

Our Organisation 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 unite 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 organisations 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 make sure our focus is transformational change, often by creating moments that exert maximum pressure on decision-makers.

Our Values

These values are the foundation of our work. We endeavor to consciously incorporate these into everything we do both internally and externally. They underpin our work and we strive to adopt and integrate them into all of our activities.

- 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 consistently learning and unlearning about the systems of power and oppression that influence our lives and the world around us. We believe we need to understand systems in order to change them effectively.

We believe it is important to be clear in our messaging so we don't shy away from occupying difficult conversational spaces. However, we believe that finding common ground is an essential element of changemaking, 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 the 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 critically inform themselves and be supported to learn by doing, they are more likely to take effective collective action to bring about changes in their communities and as part of a mass political movement.

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

2025 brings Friends of the Earth into the final year of a five-year Strategic Plan, which sets out what we hope to achieve and how we hope to achieve it for that period. We have covered a lot of ground since 2020 and the board and team are excited and energised to be working on a new Strategic Plan for the next cycle.

Our Organisational Goals

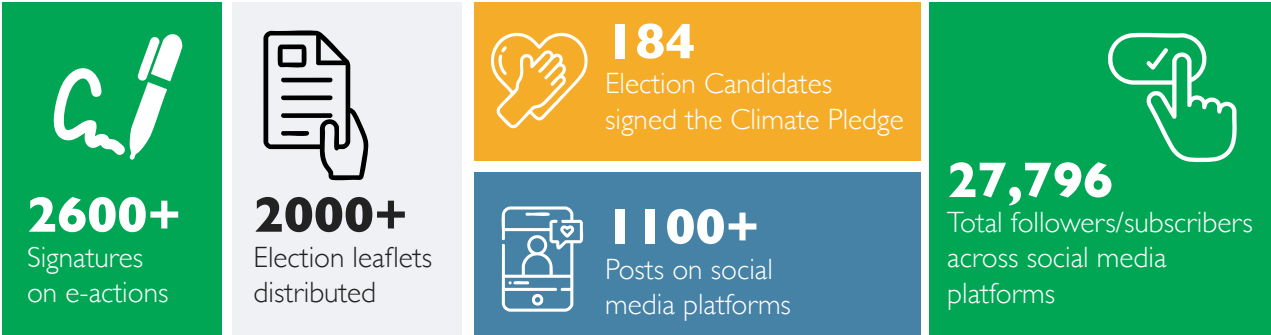
Friends of the Earth has four organisational goals to advance our mission:

- 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 organisation for as long as it is required.
- Developing our organisation - To ensure Friends of the Earth has robust governance and effective management systems, and appropriate financial resources, to maximise our impact and to cultivate a positive working environment

Impact Highlights & Activity Snapshot

Impact highlights

- In June 2025, after years of campaigning by Friends of the Earth and our supporters and allies, Moneypoint Power Station- Ireland's coal burning giant - finally shut down and stopped producing energy from burning coal.
- Thanks to the help of our supporters, 184 election candidates signed our climate pledge ahead of the General Election; 56 of them have been elected as TDs.
- We played an important role in shaping public debate around data centres, in particular drawing attention to their climate impacts and huge energy requirements. Our media coverage to highlight the climate impacts of data centres was particularly strong throughout the last 12 months. A highlight of this coverage came in December 2024, when research that we commissioned on this issue got extensive media coverage, across both broadcast and print media channels.
- Friends of the Earth Cork has now been established, marking an exciting new chapter for local climate and environmental action.
- The National Economic and Social Council's report No.170, Connecting People to the Energy Transition, takes on our recommendations, backing our calls for affordable energy, action on energy poverty, and a faster transition to clean, sustainable heating.
- The Climate Advisory Council's Annual Review aligns with our calls for a roadmap to phase out fossil fuel boilers in homes, introduce minimum energy efficiency standards for rental properties, accelerate local authority retrofit delivery, and establish a national network of independent retrofit advisors.



Social Media Highlights

To make real change, we need to be seen and heard everywhere. That's why we've been putting more energy into growing our social media presence, sharing the inspiring actions of our supporters, deepening our connections, and shining a light on our campaigns.

In 2024 we made the decision to step away from X (formerly known as Twitter) because of the platform's contradictions with our values. To broaden our reach and engage with wider and diverse audiences, we joined Bluesky and TikTok, giving us more ways to connect with and reach more people.

Moving beyond focusing merely on our number of followers on Facebook (currently 15,691 followers) and Instagram (currently 6056 followers) we've been doing some specific work to build up an engaged, interested audience on these platforms; our engaged audience across both Facebook and Instagram now consists of approximately 14,000 people. We've been working to increase the engagement rate of our posts, with a particularly significant increase on Facebook, where we've increased our post engagement rate from 3.81% to 12.87%

None of this would be possible without the many supporters who have shared their stories with us, helping to communicate our work and impact on social media, and those of you who share our posts across networks to broaden our reach. Thank you for being such a vital part of growing our impact!

Number of posts on each channel from 1st September 2024 to August 2025



33 posts



542 posts
(this includes stories)



172 posts



311 posts



75 posts

Here are a few posts that really struck a chord with our community on social media.

“I used to find climate change quite overwhelming. I knew that playing my part was important. But where to even begin I wondered? It was hard to see what I could do as an individual - this problem is far too big for any one person to solve!

Then I went to a Friends of the Earth Cuppa for Climate event. That led me to connect with people who care about climate in my local community. Soon we were having exciting conversations about what we could do together, to really make a difference.



Before long, I had joined my local environmental group, Sustainable Skerries. We hosted another coffee morning to talk about climate change in a local café, the Rock Bakery. Over hot drinks and lovely cake, we had some great discussions about the power of individual and collective actions that we can take.

Talking about climate action with friends, neighbours, and coworkers is a great way to spread awareness of climate solutions and find common ground. Now I’m involved with a community of passionate and hardworking people. Together, we’re working on a wide array of projects to help make our area more sustainable.

It’s through this community action that we can play a real part in tackling the climate crisis.”

- Katie, Cuppa for Climate participant.



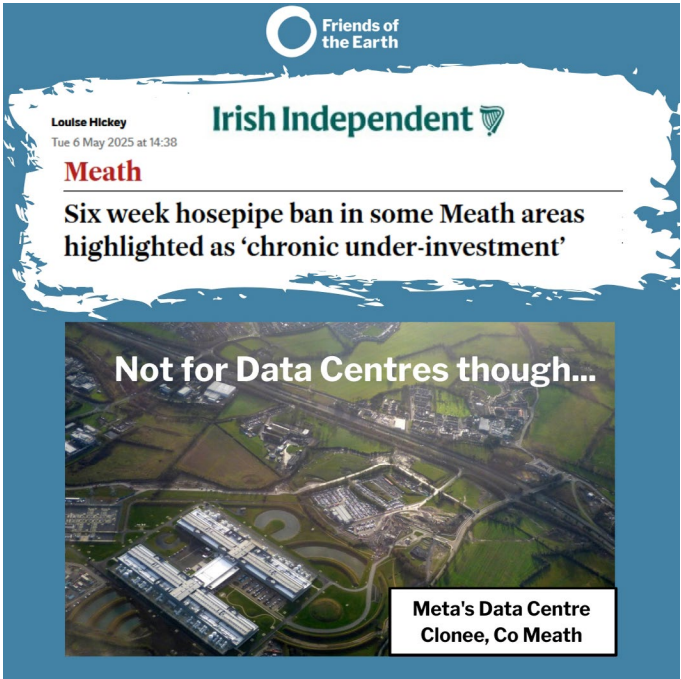
“6-week hosepipe ban has been announced for some areas of Co. Meath. Meta’s Data Centre in Clonee faces no water usage restrictions. Meta’s Data Centre in Clonee uses over 900,000 cubic metres of water annually, more than any other of its data centres worldwide. It’s using as much water as a town the size of Ashbourne. The average household in Ireland uses about 125,000 litres of water per year.

Why so much water? It’s primarily used for cooling. As servers run, they generate a lot of heat. To keep them operating safely, that heat has to be removed. In summer months

especially, this means millions of litres of water are used to keep things from overheating.

Why does this matter? Water is our most vital natural resource. We need it for drinking, for farming, and for nature. And as climate change makes weather patterns more unpredictable and droughts more common, we simply can’t afford to waste it — especially on non-essential industrial use without proper oversight

If current trends continue, and with more hyperscale centres being planned, the demand on our water system will only grow. The question we must ask is: how sustainable is this model?”



Below are a few highlights from the past year.

Other Content on Social Media

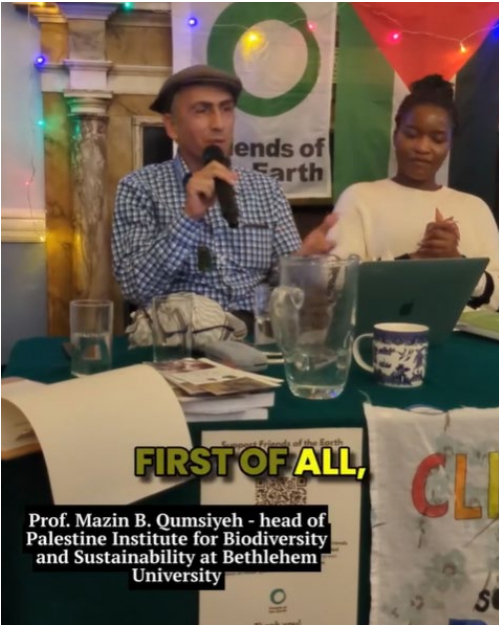
Acting for change begins with becoming informed — knowledge itself is a form of resistance. After all, knowledge is power. Understanding climate justice and its social, political and historical contexts is vital, especially as disinformation and erasure grow globally. That's why we use our social media to raise awareness of climate justice (the understanding that the impacts of climate change and systematic inequality are not shared equally, with marginalised and vulnerable communities bearing the heaviest burden) and intersectionality (the understanding that people's experiences of injustice, like climate change, racism, sexism, or poverty, overlap and combine)



Energy efficiency of homes is a linked environmental, social, health and economic necessity. Living in a cold, damp, and poorly insulated home doesn't just feel miserable — it drives up energy bills, harms health, and worsens the climate crisis.



Demystifying waste colonialism, which is essentially the practice of wealthy Western countries shipping their rubbish to lower income countries to avoid accountability. Some of the countries credited to be the world's top recyclers are also the largest plastic waste exporters.



A snippet of what Prof. Mazin B. Qumsiyeh, the head of the Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability at Bethlehem University, said at our event in December: In Gaza, people survive unimaginable hardship because of their deep sense of community and mutual support, a powerful reminder that connection is essential to our survival, he said.

In the Media

Public debate on climate change and the environment is increasing, especially now that we are experiencing the real negative impacts of climate change, such as continuing high energy prices in winter, record-high temperatures, and floods. Friends of the Earth is increasingly asked to provide insight and expertise to the media.

It's important that we appear regularly in print, radio, and online coverage of the climate crisis so we can make sure the government makes the decisions needed to create positive and lasting change. Below is some insight of the 2024 calendar year:

Key Terms:

Volume

Number of print, broadcast or online clips.

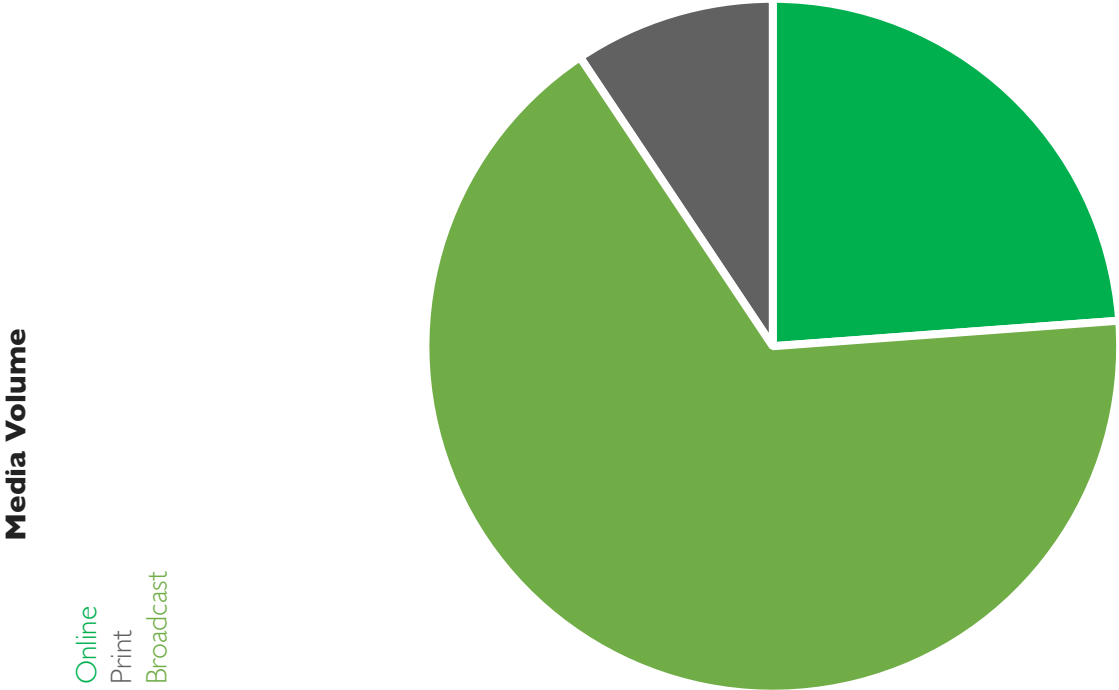
Potential Media Reach

Potential audience exposed to media content. Readership for print, listenership and viewership for broadcast, article-level reach for digital content, based on unique monthly visitors of the website, positioning of the article and average lifetime of visibility of the article on the given section of the website.

Media Score

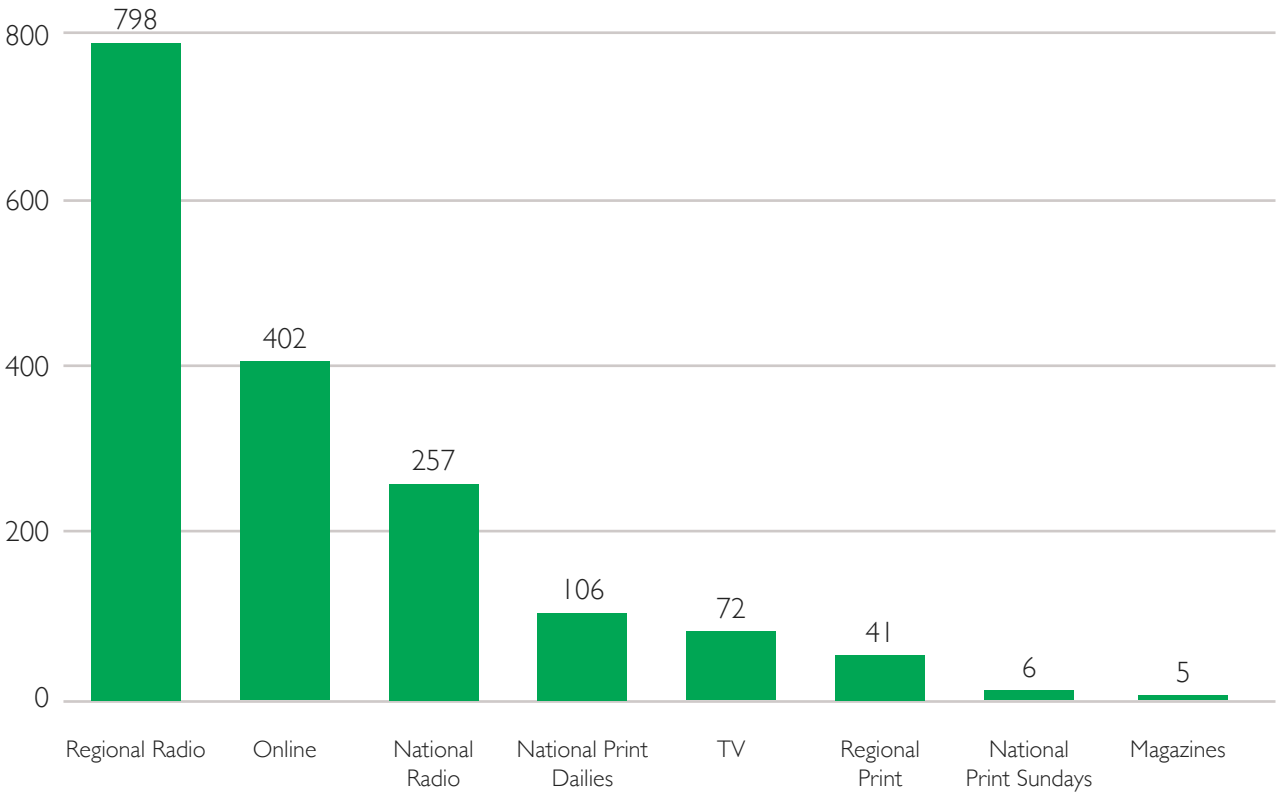
Media Score is scored out of 100, it evaluates media coverage rated as Prime and Significant in prominence only. A score out of 100 is assigned to each media piece based on the prominence (Prime or Significant) and sentiment (Positive, Negative or Neutral) of that piece. The overall score is the average score across all the media pieces being analysed.

Headline Results

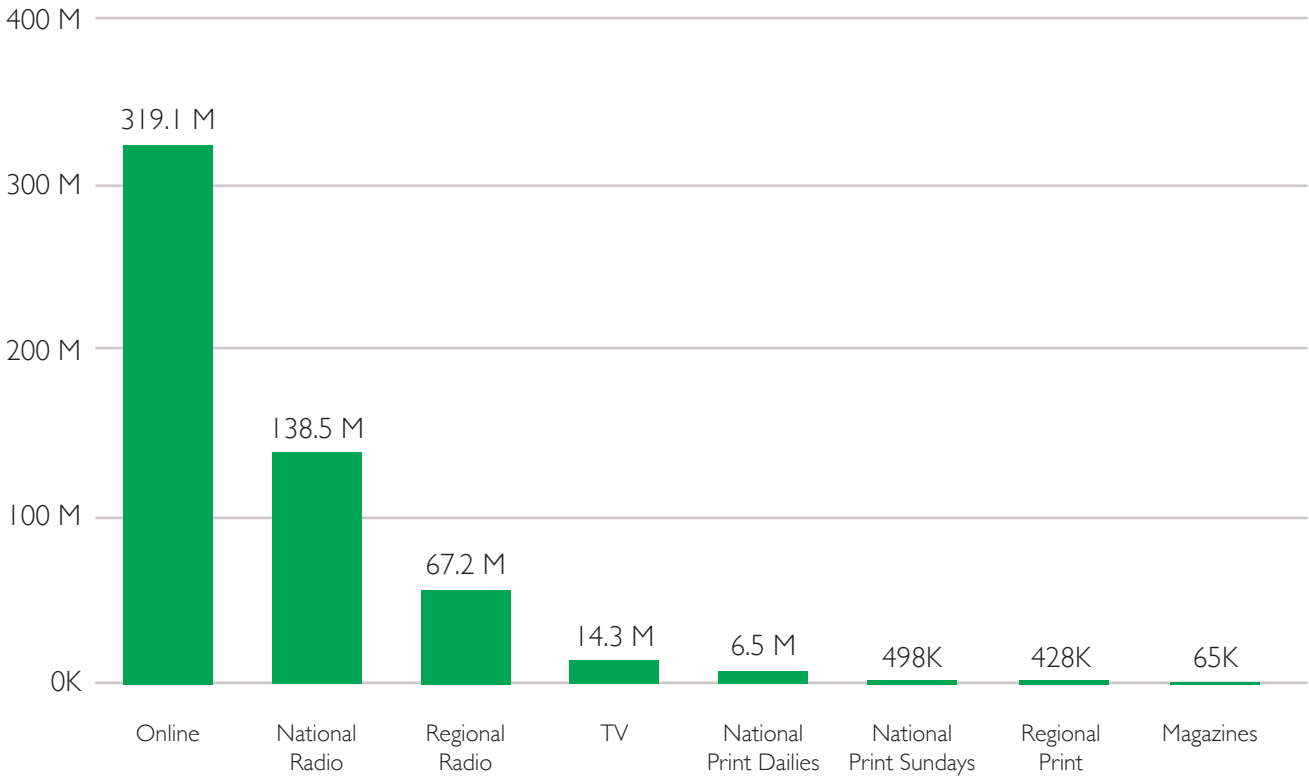


Media Type	Volume	Potential Media Reach
ONLINE	402	319.05 M
BROADCAST	1,127	220.01 M
PRINT	158	7.44 M
TOTAL	1,687	546.5 M

Total Volumes



Total Potential Media Reach



Here are some key moments where we had prime coverage:

- In January, CEO Oisín Coghlan commented how close we are now to the 1.5-degree threshold that was set in the Paris agreement following the EU climate monitor reports that global temperatures hit record highs in 2023.
- Discussion around whether Dublin should introduce higher parking charges for SUVs in February.
- Sadhbh O'Neill spoke about sustainable diets, explaining what they are and talked about how we manage manufacturing, food processing and the disposal of food waste.
- Jerry Mac Evilly featured in a KCLR FM series called Powering Progress discussing transitioning away from fossil fuels and how damaging they are to the climate.
- April saw peak coverage and the key driver was the research commissioned by Friends of the Earth to coincide with Earth Day. The research showed concerns over climate change are growing, with over half of people more worried now than two years ago, with broadcasts featuring Oisín Coghlan.
- The ongoing discussion surrounding data centres. Coverage began in July, focusing on concerns about data centre energy consumption, with Oisín Coghlan advocating for a moratorium on new data centres. In August, media attention shifted to the refusal of planning permission for a Google data centre, featuring commentary from Jerry Mac Evilly. Further coverage in December highlighted research conducted by University College Cork, commissioned by Friends of the Earth.
- In November, media discussions focused on EU figures indicating that 2024 was on track to be the warmest year on record. Commentary from Oisín Coghlan and Jerry Mac Evilly contributed to the conversation, which addressed phasing out fossil fuels and referenced the upcoming COP29.

Here are some other key articles that were popular:

Data centre growth poses threat to climate targets, says Friends of the Earth

Updated / Tuesday, 10 Dec 2024 22:26



Friends of the Earth says data centre growth poses a significant threat to Ireland's climate commitments (Stock image)



By **George Lee**
Environment Correspondent



Party manifestos leave renters — 20% of households — out of energy efficiency schemes

Election 2024 presents a critical opportunity for the next government to address energy poverty while ensuring a fair transition away from fossil fuels, writes Clare O'Connor



Energy deprivation, or not being able to meet your basic energy needs, disproportionately affects renters, many of whom live in older, poorly insulated properties with higher energy costs. File picture: iStock

TUE, 26 NOV, 2024 - 00:42
CLARE O'CONNOR



Ireland facing up to €20 billion in climate fines by 2030

CLIP • 16 MINS • 09 DEC 24 • TODAY WITH CLAIRE BYRNE

Oisín Coughlan, Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth and Kevin O'Sullivan Environment and Science Editor, The Irish Times





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 of 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 a 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 require it, even if it is not popular with everyone, especially the rich and powerful.

Faster and Fairer Climate Action

We continue to champion for faster and fairer climate action, especially as the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) repeatedly raises concerns over stalled progress and the fact that Ireland is behind its legally binding climate targets.

Faster and Fairer Climate Action is our overarching campaign to eliminate polluting emissions fast enough to prevent complete climate breakdown and fairly enough to leave no one behind. Some of this work is done through the Stop Climate Chaos coalition of which Friends of the Earth is the secretariat. We know that the sooner first steps are taken the less disruptive and complex it will be.

General Elections & Holding Government Accountable

As Ireland faced a pivotal General Election back in November 2024, our team, supporters and allies worked tirelessly to keep climate firmly on the political agenda. In collaboration with a broad civil society effort, we called on the next government to show urgency and ambition in addressing the climate crisis. Climate action must not be sacrificed for short-term political gain, energy security must be built on renewables, not fossil fuel dependency, and the new government must be accountable for delivering real and lasting climate progress.

Thanks to the help of our supporters and donors, we mobilised public pressure and brought thousands of people into the conversation to demand that climate action remain front and centre during the elections. We did this through hustings, online actions and in-person actions such as

leafleting and holding Cuppa for Climate meetings in different areas of the country.

During the General Election we held a major Climate Hustings event in the Royal Irish Academy. Senior TDs and Senators from 7 political parties that backed the climate law participated in the lively panel discussion that was chaired by Pat Leahy of the Irish Times.

In October and November we engaged the Earth Institute in UCD to coordinate academics from UCD, UCC and Maynooth to assess the election manifestos of nine political parties against our Programme for Faster and Fairer Climate Action. It received extensive media coverage in the run up to election and just before the final Leaders Debate.



During the General Election campaign we turned the 5 headline recommendations of our Programme for Faster and Fairer Climate Action into a candidate pledge which we invited all candidates in the election to sign. We created an e-action that allowed people to email their local candidates asking them to sign the pledge. The leaders of five political parties from the outgoing Dáil signed Friends of the Earth's candidate climate pledge. The leaders of Sinn Féin, Labour, Social Democrats, People Before Profit and the Greens have pledged "to uphold the climate law and champion faster and fairer climate action to reduce pollution in line with the binding limits on emissions adopted by the Dáil".

Thanks to our extensive advocacy, several political parties came out in support of a ban on Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals and supported a pause on data centre expansion in their manifestos/ election commitments. Despite a disappointing lack of climate ambition in the new Programme for Government, one positive and encouraging shift did emerge: climate continued to gain ground as a national conversation.

Once the Government formation process concluded, we continued our efforts to ensure that climate remains at the top of the political agenda. A new poll organised by FoE also showed that even among Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael voters, there was growing support for stronger climate policies

and action. This marks a significant cultural shift and reflects the increasing awareness across the public that climate breakdown affects us all, and that urgent solutions must be prioritised.

As 2025 unfolded, we worked to champion faster and fairer climate action as not just a necessity, but as a chance to build a better Ireland for all. As the dangers of backsliding on climate targets seem to loom larger and larger, we are continuing to hold leaders accountable, champion equitable climate action, and demand the transformative change that the climate crisis requires. We prepared and sent a briefing to all TDs, calling for stronger government leadership and robust Dáil accountability regarding climate action. We also wrote to the incoming Minister for Climate, Energy and Environment, Darragh O'Brien to emphasise the incoming Government's moral and legal obligations to pursue climate justice and a swift, just transition away from fossil fuels. We organised advocacy meetings with climate spokespeople of political parties and undertook extensive policy work on the Government's new Climate Action Plan.

We have also engaged the new Oireachtas Committee on climate particularly regarding their responsibility to hold the Government to account on meeting carbon budgets. We are now working to ensure that strong carbon budgets for the period 2031 to 2040, aligned with the principle of climate justice, are adopted.

Ending Fossil Fuels and Getting off Gas

Momentum keeps growing to finally end Ireland's reliance on fossil fuels. We were happy that after years of campaigning, Moneypoint, Ireland's biggest coal power plant, is no longer part of Ireland's energy mix, meaning that no more coal is to be burned in Ireland. For years, Friends of the Earth called for an end to this dirty coal burning and for a just transition for workers and communities in Clare. This journey is a cause for real celebration as it took decades of campaigning, and persistence by communities, our supporters, unions and activists to get this over the line. Thank you all for helping to make this happen.

While celebrating this win, we continue fighting against one of Ireland's biggest threats of fossil fuel dependency, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). We have continued to call out the Government on their recent decision to proceed with a state-owned emergency terminal. We don't believe an LNG facility is the right way to address any of the suggested energy security issues. There are major gaps in the Government's decision, particularly leaving the door open to dangerous commercial LNG terminal at Shannon. There are real risks not only of huge emissions and polluting fossil fuels but also big costs being added to customers' bills.

The risk of LNG development has featured prominently in our engagement with politicians. We have highlighted that the new Government has made a decision in favour of a state-owned facility

without producing relevant analysis of alternative zero-carbon options. We have also continued to engage regarding proposed planning approval for a terminal in Shannon.

Several parties supported our rejection of LNG before the general election. The Climate Change Advisory Council also raised serious concerns with emissions and underlined that new investments in fossil fuels cannot be supported. Through our engagement, the National Economic and Social Council has also raised risks regarding LNG development in Ireland.

Together with other groups and organisations, we will keep pushing the Government to phase-out fossil fuels, prevent new LNG terminals, and ensure a just and fair transition away from fossil fuels to affordable clean renewable energy that supports communities and leaves nobody behind.

Act now before Dáil debate on Wednesday

Ask your local TD right now to reject LNG in the Planning Bill

Email them today!

50 Friends of the Earth
Celebrating 50 years



Clean renewable energy is something we keep on pushing as a reliable and cheap alternative. In June 2025, Wind Energy Ireland and Solar Ireland, Ireland's leading renewable energy groups, teamed up with the Environmental Pillar to call for urgent government action to accelerate clean energy deployment while safeguarding nature. Our joint declaration urges a balanced approach to building

wind and solar farms, ensuring that biodiversity and environmental laws are upheld as we meet our climate obligations. The collaboration highlights that the Irish public desires affordable, clean, and secure energy, and that renewable energy growth must be achieved sustainably to protect and support natural biodiversity.



COP29: Baku, Azerbaijan

COP (Conference of the Parties) is the annual UN Climate Summit where governments from across the globe meet to try to agree on how to address the climate crisis.

Ahead of these negotiations we organised a photo stunt, with members of the Stop Climate Chaos coalition, to call on global leaders to step up action to break the grip of the fossil fuel industry on our futures. This photo shoot depicted Lady Justice – a world-renowned symbol of justice, fairness and equality – holding a weighing-scales and dripping in oil in the centre of Dublin. It attracted attention from curious early morning strollers through Dublin city centre, helping us to highlight global injustice around the impacts of climate change. Photos from the stunt were published in the Irish Times and the Irish Independent.

Seán McLoughlin, our Climate Policy Campaigner, and Sara Hurley, our Global Citizenship Education & Outreach Officer, attended COP29 in Azerbaijan as part of our delegation. They were joined by two members of Young Friends of the Earth, Aine Dempsey and Molly O'Shea. At COP29, members of the FoE team attended meetings with Ministers, shared briefings and working closely with other SCC member organisations in our advocacy efforts to push for a fossil fuel phaseout and a fair finance deal. With allies, and Friends of the Earth International, we called out the hypocrisy of global leaders who made bold speeches while failing to

deliver concrete commitments. Our commentary on this got media coverage in local and national Irish media outlets, including on the front page of the Irish Times.

As COP29 concluded, the outcome was a betrayal of the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities. Once again, rich nations dodged their historic responsibilities and failed to agree on binding commitments to phase out fossil fuels. The final texts were weak, vague, and heavily influenced by corporate interests, far from the transformative change the climate crisis demands.



While political leaders fell short, movements around the world grew stronger. We believe that true climate solutions come from the grassroots, from the people defending their land, water, ecosystems and wildlife, and their futures. The fight for climate justice is far from over, and we will continue to organise, resist, and demand a future free from fossil fuels and rooted in equity and solidarity. Especially as COP30, taking place in Brazil in 2025, will be a key moment to review the Paris Agreements.



Data Centres

Ireland's data centre boom is consuming a staggering share of our energy - already over 20% of the national electricity supply, and projected to rise to 30%. That's more electricity than all urban homes combined and twice as much as all rural households. This rapid growth is locking us into continued reliance on climate-damaging fossil fuels, placing an enormous strain on the grid and threatening energy security, while increasing our dependence on future LNG imports. Despite repeated warnings from us, the Climate Change Advisory Council, and growing public concern, government policy continues to favour corporate

expansion. The push for LNG terminals and the bending of planning and regulatory rules for data centres highlight a system that prioritises private profit over the public interest.

The choice is clear: we must curb fossil fuel use to protect our climate or allow unrestrained data centre growth to burn through our carbon budget. Every new fossil-fuel-powered data centre makes it harder to meet our legally binding climate targets. Not only that, but data centres are using up vital renewable energy resources that should be used to serve human wellbeing. Data centres are placing



huge demands on water resources, too. Our energy and water resources should be prioritised for homes, schools, public transport and community infrastructure, not multinational tech corporations. Our data centres campaign aims to put a stop to this. From our protest at the Data Centres Conference in November 2024, to opposing further planning permission for data centres, to challenging the government on Private Wires Policy and data centre expansion - we're pushing the fight to the next level. We highlighted to elected representatives the risk posed by data centre expansion to Ireland's carbon budgets and called for the introduction of an immediate moratorium on the connection of new data centres. Our data centre work has featured prominently in the media, including dedicated pieces on RTE news, as well as an editorial and Op Ed in the Irish Times.

Our Government briefing on the research report "Data Centres and Ireland's carbon budgets", written by Professor Hannah Daly, was well attended by politicians from all major political parties in Ireland, including the chair of the climate committee and several members of the AI Committee which has recently been established. This was a useful opportunity to develop relationships with members of the AI Committee at a very early period of the Dáil term. We developed new relationships also with TD's in areas of emerging data centre development such as Ireland's South-East.

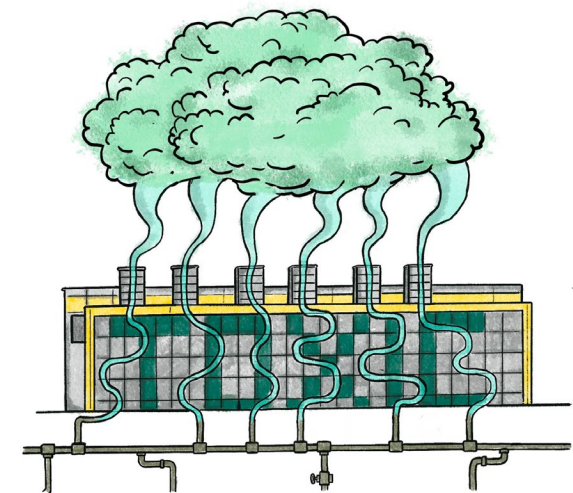
Photo: November Demo & Walking tour.



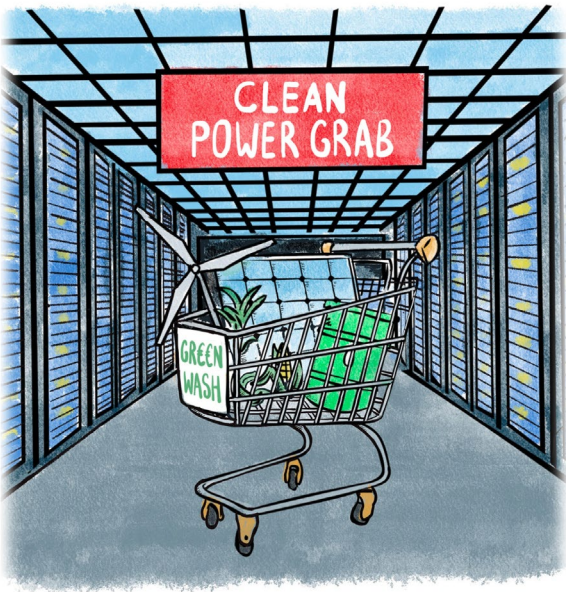
On Earth Day 2025, we invited Pierre Terras from Beyond Fossil Fuels to speak at our event in Dublin's Patagonia store where we brought communities together to explore both the local and global impacts of data centre expansion. It was a great evening where we connected the dots between what happens on our doorstep and the wider climate crisis.

In early May, our first-ever Dublin City data centre walking tour lifted the lid on the politics, economics, and environmental consequences behind the data centre boom as we explored questions such as: "What is all the data for? Who is involved? What does this mean for water, resources and energy at home in Ireland and abroad? And how did Ireland become such a dumping ground for data?" Alongside our data centre campaign team, we were joined by guest speakers Vicky Donnelly, Dr. Patrick Brodie and Sinéad Mercier. Over the summer, we took this awareness on the road, bringing walking tours to Naas and Clondalkin. We also mobilised our supporters to take part in our online e-action and our data centre postcard action, making demands to the Government for action.

Together, we are amplifying the urgent call to confront Ireland's unchecked data centre expansion. Go to our website friendsoftheearth.ie/data-centres for more information.



We have developed stronger relationships with community stakeholders in South County Dublin—an area of high data centre development. We will progress this in order to strengthen local activism and awareness of the impacts of data centres on climate, environment and socio-economic conditions.



Warm Homes for All

Poorly-insulated housing and fossil fuel dependence harms both people and our planet. Leaky houses heated by oil and gas means that Ireland's homes use 7% more energy than the EU average and emit nearly 60% more CO₂. This also leaves many people living in cold, unhealthy homes. We need to step up retrofitting across Ireland to cut emissions, lower bills, and ensure warm, safe housing for all - especially for social housing tenants, renters and vulnerable communities. Climate action must start where people live, with a just and fair transition that puts people and our planet before profit. We have led the way in developing and coordinating the energy poverty network of environmental, housing and anti-poverty NGOs.

The strengthening of this network on energy poverty was a standout success. Friends of the Earth facilitated regular meetings, joint submissions, and shared media action across a wide range of NGOs: housing, disability, rural, ageing, and environmental groups. This coordination created a trusted, strategic platform now recognised as a "go-to" stakeholder by the Department of Climate. Our policy recommendations were also adopted and promoted in reports by the SEAI, the Climate Change Advisory Council and the National Economic and Social Council.

Thanks to our campaigning, there is significant support for community-led retrofitting and Sustainable Energy Communities in the new Programme for Government. Local energy advice



services were also raised in General Election manifestos. Also due to our campaigning, the Programme for Government also includes major commitments to prioritise lower-income households for home retrofits, to expand the Fuel Allowance to families receiving the Working Family Payment, and to make retrofitting schemes accessible to older people.

Our proactive engagement with political parties during the pre-election period worked well. Through the development and dissemination of the Warm Homes for All coalition manifesto and Friends of the Earth's Faster and Fairer Climate Action Manifesto, we influenced the policy priorities of major parties.

Through regular press releases and consistent media outreach, we shaped public and political discourse on energy poverty, retrofit, and heat policy, helping to elevate our message and apply pressure on decision-makers. Many of our recommendations on retrofitting for low income and rural households, minimum BERs, and energy advice services were reflected in General Election manifestos across the political spectrum and in the Programme for Government as noted above.

Tenants for Climate Justice

As part of our climate justice approach – the understanding that the impacts of climate change and systematic inequality are not shared equally, with marginalised and vulnerable communities bearing the heaviest burden – we aim to centre those most affected by housing policy in Ireland. That's why we have brought tenants in private rental and those living in social housing into focus through our "Warm Homes for All: Tenants for Climate Justice" campaign. Just like everyone else, tenants have the right to warm, healthy, and energy-efficient homes but they are being left behind. We are demanding urgent, publicly funded retrofit and regeneration of all local authority homes and enforcing minimum energy efficiency standards for the leakiest, lowest BER rental properties.

In June 2025, together with Community Action Tenants Union (CATU) and the Just Housing research project, we held a photo-exhibition at Tailors' Hall in Dublin: *Homes Not Hazards: 'There's Something About These Flats'*. It showcased tenant-taken photographs and interviews revealing damp, mould, broken heating, and systemic neglect in council flats. The event included a panel discussion and a workshop, "Just Transition for Tenants", facilitated by Aaron Downey, our Global Citizenship Education and Activism Support Officer, where we explored how current policies are failing to protect renters, both in private and social housing. This collaboration made it clear that energy justice

and housing justice are inseparable, and that renters must not be left out in the cold by policies that favour homeowners.

We launched our "Tenants for Climate Justice" toolkit and pledge, which you can find on our website friendsoftheearth.ie/warm-homes-for-all



We raised how lack of Government action is impacting vulnerable communities, including Roma, and we have directly supported local campaigns, including the need for retrofitting in the Inchicore area of Dublin. Based on Friends of the Earth recommendations, the opposition party People Before Profit also put forward an opposition bill to enforce Minimum Building Energy Rating standards for Private Rented Accommodation. We are also working with Dublin city councillors regarding the development of a motion in support of minimum BERs.

The energy crisis is far from over. Thousands of people are falling into arrears, energy prices are far from decreasing and new tailored supports are urgently needed to help those most in need get off polluting expensive fossil fuel heating. This is why we are pushing for Budget 2026 to prioritise tackling energy poverty and the cost of climate inaction. Failing to invest now will lock households into higher bills and leave vulnerable people struggling, while also missing emissions targets, risking Ireland paying billions abroad in non-compliance fines.

We are calling for binding commitments from the Government to deliver these measures on a scale that matches the crisis. We need to redirect public money from fossil fuel subsidies into community-led climate solutions, retrofit schemes, and affordable housing upgrades, ensuring cleaner, cheaper energy is for people, not polluters.



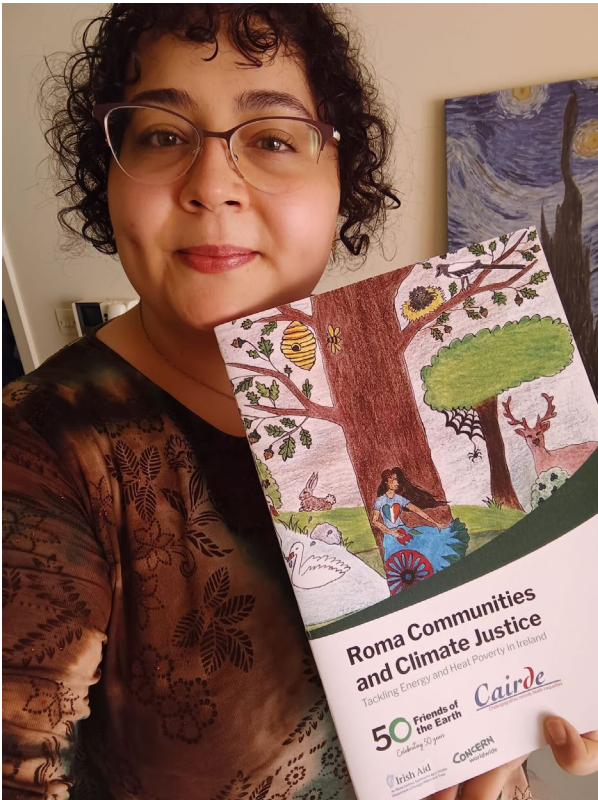
Roma Climate Justice

Friends of the Earth has been working in partnership with Cairde and their Roma Education Programme since 2022 as part of our Irish Aid Global Citizenship Education project. This collaboration aims to support the empowerment of Roma in taking climate action to address the unique climate challenges faced by the Roma community in Ireland, including discrimination, living conditions, health and energy poverty. This project is rooted in a climate justice framework, recognising that marginalised communities, like the Roma, are disproportionately affected by climate change but are often left behind or excluded from decisions relating to these issues or from opportunities to co-create sustainable community led solutions to the climate crisis.

The Roma community are living at the frontlines of social, environmental and health injustices in Ireland. Through our educational workshops we identified that the Roma community is being left behind in the energy transition. Over the past year, we undertook a pilot piece of peer-led research to examine and better understand Roma lived experiences of energy and heat poverty, and their attitudes towards climate change. Our publication Roma Communities and Climate Justice, led by Roma Climate Justice Peer Education Officer, Elena Manciu, highlights the need for policies that are informed by Roma lived experience, ensuring they're not excluded from climate-resilient supports. Additionally, our joint report outlines strong recommendations: retrofitting schemes targeted at rental housing (with tenancy

security), funding peer-support and English-literacy programmes, guaranteeing access to basic energy essentials for all by 2026, and embedding voices of the most affected in policymaking processes and decisions.

Together, these efforts are forging an inclusive climate justice movement—one that links housing quality, energy equity, our climate, and the rights of marginalised communities.



Building Movement Power

Through our ‘Building Movement Power’ 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 organising and campaigning that contribute to advancing the missions of Friends of the Earth Ireland and Friends of the Earth International.
3. Collaborate directly and supportively with other groups and organisations whose work intersects with our mission and aligns with our values. We participate actively in efforts to facilitate connections, coordination, collaboration and mutual support between intersecting causes in the climate movement and wider civil society.

Grassroots Local Groups

Lasting change begins with a community focus, powered by grassroots groups. Every action matters, and when communities come together, we can create the change we want to see. To support this, we aim to create spaces for groups to flourish. We are lucky enough that we now have several more local action groups affiliated with us, building our people power from the bottom up.

Late last year with the local and general elections, it was a real moment to mobilise. In autumn of 2024, we held several regional gatherings in Dublin and in Galway, focusing on reflecting on past campaigns, assessing the current political landscape, and strategising for the upcoming general election. We highlighted Friends of the Earth’s election demands and ran interactive workshops on communicating climate action, aiming to inspire and equip attendees to engage their communities in meaningful climate conversations.

This culminated on November 12, 2024 with our Climate Justice Day of Action, mobilising communities across the country to demand urgent climate action ahead of the upcoming General Election. Activists in Dublin, Tipperary, Carlow, Galway, and beyond engaged in activities such as canvassing, hosting ‘Cuppas for Climate’ conversations, and distributing leaflets to raise awareness. In Dublin, the group ‘B-OLD Climate Action’ staged a powerful visual stunt on Grafton Street, featuring an activist dressed as Old Father Time and others holding clocks reading “5 minutes to midnight” to symbolise the urgency of the climate crisis.



Our movement has grown - thanks to the dedication of everyone who has been, and continues to be, involved. To not lose that momentum, we continue to support grassroots groups. In March 2025, we hosted a Springtime Network Day in Dublin bringing together local groups from across the country for a collaborative day of introductions, skill-sharing, campaign updates, and we explored ways to expand our collective reach and impact.

We're proud to have several local action groups affiliated with Friends of the Earth, all doing inspiring work in their communities.

Dublin Friends of the Earth has been a cornerstone of our movement for years, connecting people across Dublin and beyond. They continue to host online calls with speakers from a range of environmental and climate organisations. Their new book club is helping people learn, discuss and find practical ways to drive change. Letter writing is a next key part of their work, empowering members to influence decisions on important environmental issues.

Dún Laoghaire Friends of the Earth has been making waves locally, including participating in the St. Patrick's Day parade. They host monthly talks in People's Park and weekly "Talk & Walk" sessions, providing spaces for discussion, learning and action. Most recently they have been taking to the streets to talk to other locals about the impacts of data centres on the climate crisis, and supporting protests by residents in Sallynoggin to demand healthier, warmer homes that use less polluting fossil fuels.

Dundalk Friends of the Earth has been focusing on housing too, linking their work to our "Warm Homes for All" campaign, as well as vacancy. They have organised walking tours of dereliction in the town alongside others exploring the pollution of local rivers. Currently they are involved in organising a series of "climate conversations" and exhibitions

to inspire practical action, most recently inviting Dr. Peter Doran to discuss the Rights of Nature in an Irish context.

This year we were excited to welcome Cork Friends of the Earth, a new group that has recently joined our network, bringing fresh energy and ideas to our movement. Watch this space as they get up and going!

B-OLD Climate Action group has grown from strength to strength and continues to empower older people in the climate movement, ensuring their voices and actions are seen and heard.

A particular highlight was in July, when we successfully brought together young activists from across Ireland for a weekend of learning, connection, and collective visioning in Sligo. Through inclusive facilitation methods such as storytelling, skill-sharing, breakout discussions, role



plays, and reflective exercises, participants explored just transition, climate justice, and youth activism in practice. Guest speakers from Save Leitrim, Roscommon's community resilience project, and youth-led campaigns provided powerful case studies, while workshops on organising skills and campaign strategy equipped participants with

practical tools. Most importantly, this momentum has directly spurred the formation of a new Young Friends of the Earth network, ensuring that the connections, skills, and energy built over the weekend will continue to grow into a sustained youth-led movement for climate justice in Ireland.



If you'd like to get involved with any of these groups, find out more on our website:
www.friendsoftheearth.ie/get-involved/join/

Learning Together

The climate movement takes many forms and at its heart are strong relationships and a caring connecting community. That's what keeps us powerful and resilient. This means creating spaces where people can connect, learn from one another, and strengthen the bonds that keep activism alive. As part of this, we organised several in-person workshops.

We partnered again with facilitators Oana Marian and Lelo Mary Thebe in delivering our second "Sowing the Seeds for Healing Justice Ireland" retreat, also hosted at Cloughjordan's Ecovillage in May. We were additionally joined by our very own Claudia Tormey who contributed towards the facilitation of the training this year which focused on healing justice principles. This retreat brought together migrant activists from across Ireland and Northern Ireland, seeking to explore how embodied tools for navigating grief and generating resilience can support activists. Practices like movement, dance, artmaking and nervous system navigation were incorporated to help with resilience and collective healing.

"I learned so many practical activities that I can adapt to my own community. I also learned from guest speakers and received practical information about community initiatives around power cooperatives."
- Feedback from one of the participants.

We partnered again with inspiring facilitators Oana Marin and Lelo Thebe in delivering our second "Sowing the Seeds for Healing Justice Ireland" retreat, also hosted at Cloughjordan's Ecovillage in May. We were additionally joined by our very own Claudia Tormey who contributed towards the facilitation of the training this year which focused on healing justice principles. This retreat brought together migrant activists and members of Traveller and Roma communities from across Ireland and Northern Ireland, seeking to explore how embodied tools for navigating grief and generating resilience can support activists. To do this we incorporated practices like movement, dance, artmaking and nervous system navigation to help with resilience and collective healing.

"Grief lives in the spaces between the homeland I left and the new place I've come to inhabit. It's the ache that surfaces when I smell a familiar spice or hear the language of my childhood, reminders of what was left behind. Grief marks the ruptures in my life: family separations, lost cultural connections, and abandoned dreams."

Yet this grief connects me to others with similar journeys, creating community through collective mourning. In my activism, grief transforms into determination. Each story of identity loss becomes both wound and call to action. Grief has taught me that healing doesn't mean forgetting, but carrying all versions of ourselves forward with purpose and dignity."
- Comments shared by a participant after the retreat.

We promote education as a tool to expose the systems we live under and the root causes of injustices – from climate change to racism, sexism, and beyond. Which is why we were glad we could organise the third edition of our successful "Climate Change, Extractivism and Colonialism Training" in Sligo. With this training we have been partnering with climate justice educator, activist and researcher Sian Cowman. The training aims to deepen participants' understanding of how historical and ongoing colonial and extractive systems continue to drive and perpetuate climate injustice, and supports

participants to incorporate decolonial and justice-focused perspectives into their activism.

"This training helped me understand that climate justice is not just about protecting the environment - it's about fairness, history, and human rights. It highlighted the importance of challenging systemic issues and standing in solidarity with the communities most affected."
- Jeyald Rasaratnam, one of the participants on this year's course.



Solidarity

Friends of the Earth recognises that the climate crisis is an intersectional issue, and it does not affect everyone equally, it disproportionately impacts communities and people who have been systematically marginalised and oppressed. When different types of social and environmental injustices intersect, their combined impact is compounded, further exacerbating already existing inequalities. Friends of the Earth continues to express solidarity with various groups to highlight intersectionality and injustice beyond what we campaign on here at Friends of the Earth. Because there can be no climate justice without social justice.

Standing with Palestine

This year, a series of pivotal moments around the world has deepened the urgency to speak out and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with oppressed communities. In the face of the continued atrocities unfolding in Palestine, Friends of the Earth remains steadfast in opposing the injustices impacting the Palestinian people and our colleagues and partners in PENGON (Friends of the Earth Palestine), many of whom have been killed in this genocide. The struggle of the Palestinian people is not only a human rights crisis: it is intrinsically linked to the fight for climate and environmental justice. We cannot credibly claim to champion climate justice while turning a blind eye to Israel's brutal assaults on the Palestinian people.

We joined and endorsed multiple national demonstrations, which brought thousands together in a united call for an end to the genocide. Alongside other civil society organisations we have called on the Irish Government to pass a strong Occupied Territories Bill that includes both goods and services. We have urged supporters to provide financial assistance to our comrades in PENGON, and have signed open letters pressing Irish leaders to hold to account those Governments enabling war crimes and violations of international law. We also took to social media to highlight the connections between the climate crisis and the genocide in Palestine and call for action, in addition to blogs and statements on our website.



In August 2025, we held an event with Afri (Action from Ireland) 'Climate Justice, Militarism, and Palestine: Unlearning Empire, Rooting Resistance', exploring the historical and ongoing colonial structures that drive climate injustice and war, to build our collective resistance to systems of oppression and violence. This educational workshop connected local and global struggles for justice, using Ireland and Palestine as interconnected lenses to explore how settler colonialism, militarism, ecological destruction and imperial power structures operate globally.

As Nandana James, Friends of the Earth Communications Content Officer, so eloquently

stated at the event; *"Rather than focusing only on reducing emissions, we should also be tackling the root injustices and exploitative systems that caused and prolong the climate crisis—such as colonialism, militarisation, extractive capitalism etc. Such a way of understanding and tackling the climate crisis is what climate justice and intersectionality is essentially about. It's about centering human rights and justice".*

We will continue to advocate, educate and mobilise, ensuring that Palestine's fight for dignity and self-determination remains part of our climate justice mission. Until all people can live free from oppression, in peace and environmental security, our work will not stop.

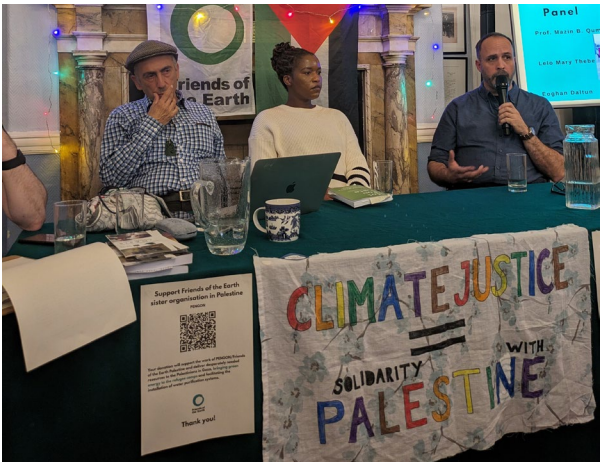
Our struggles are interconnected

Our panel event in November 2024, 'From Despair Into Action', drawing inspiration from Rebecca Solnit and Thelma Young Lutunatabua's book *Not Too Late*, was a reminder that all our struggles are interconnected. We were joined by Prof. Mazin B. Qumsiyeh of the Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability, who offered powerful reflections on the intersection of environmental sustainability and justice in Palestine. We were also joined by Lelo Mary Thebe, a Zimbabwe-born Healing Justice facilitator and writer who spoke on the importance of centring healing and resilience in our fight for climate justice. In addition, we were joined by Eoghan Daltun, an Irish rain forest rewilding author, who shared the importance of Ireland's native ecosystems and the transformative potential of rewilding.

The event highlighted the grief caused by ongoing crises but emphasised how grief can fuel solidarity and action, reminding us that the fight for environmental justice is inseparable from broader struggles for human rights and dignity. From this place of connection and solidarity, we can take meaningful action. Change begins with relationships – with the land, with each other, and with a shared vision of what's possible.

"My struggle is the same as Lelo's struggle, it's the same as Eoghan's struggle - it is a struggle of survival as a species that we face. Our earth is in deep trouble, we can all feel it and see it, and it is all connected. We need to reframe and re-educate ourselves that this is a joint struggle."
- Prof. Mazin B. Qumsiyeh, Palestine Institute for Biodiversity and Sustainability.

This event was part of the Learning Hub and was followed up by a reading club in February to discuss the themes of the book *Not Too Late*. Through essays from activists, scientists and poets, the book offers practical solutions and emotional and moral frameworks. Highlighting, that despite the push back, there is progress, solutions and activism already happening globally. It highlights hope, encouraging readers to take action to counter inertia and ensure a livable future.



Back in autumn of 2024, we had the pleasure of inviting Maxwell Atuhura for a solidarity event, "Struggles against fossil fuel multinationals' pipeline in Uganda", in Cork city. Maxwell is a member of the Ugandan NGO TASHA and at this event he spoke to us about his activism fighting the controversial East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). Stretching over 1,400 km through Uganda and Tanzania, this pipeline threatens to displace around 100,000 people, destroy vital habitats, and emit an estimated 379 million tonnes of CO₂ over 25 years. Yet communities



and activists, like Maxwell Atuhura, have bravely resisted, facing arrests, repression, and human rights violations. The battle against EACOP is not just environmental - it's a fight for human rights, equity, and systemic change. It's about affirming that communities, not corporations or fossil fuel interests, deserve to determine their future.

Lasting change is built on solidarity. Thank you to everyone who took part in these events, bringing climate justice to the heart of your conversations and turning that commitment into action.

Cultivating our Community

To grow and nurture our community and to sustain Friends of the Earth



Friends of the Earth simply wouldn't exist without our community of supporters. Our work relies on the power of the collective to push for and create change. It's the community and fellowship we have in each other at Friends of the Earth that helps to strengthen and sustain all that we do. We are so grateful to have so many wonderful and diverse supporters joining us to help achieve a just world where people and nature thrive. Thank you for making all of this possible!

Our supporter care work aims to remind Friends of the Earth supporters that they are members of a mutually supportive community and to create space for us to come together in solidarity. Through this work, Friends of the Earth presents ways for you to participate in and offer support to help sustain the work of the organisation and the wider climate movement.

This year we've kept the momentum going with a great mix of in-person and online events, so no matter where you are, there's a way to join in. It's helped us stay connected with our long-time supporters and meet plenty of new ones too. From in-person workshops to walking tours, and hands-on learning sessions, to Cuppa for Climate meet-ups and online webinars, there have been countless ways to come together and take action.

We know the climate crisis can feel overwhelming. The constant news of environmental damage and injustice can take a real mental and emotional toll. That's why being part of a supportive group

matters so much. When you can share your worries, find encouragement, and turn those feelings into real, positive action - you're not just helping the planet, you're helping yourself too.

Support comes in many forms

Fossil fuel giants and corporate polluters are spending millions to delay climate action—but we have something stronger: people power. By coming together and raising funds, we can continue to push back, campaign for real change, and grow the environmental movement that we desperately need right now. It has been, therefore, great to see people using community fundraising as a way to support our movement by directly funding our campaigns, advocacy work, and to help us grow the grassroots movement to challenge the systems driving the climate crisis, all the while connecting with neighbours, friends and colleagues.

Eamonn Keaveney is one of those amazing individuals who embarked on an extraordinary journey this year - a barefoot walk covering over 5,500 km from Istanbul to his hometown of Claremorris, Ireland. This remarkable challenge aims not only to break the world record for the longest barefoot walk but also to raise funds for Friends of the Earth and Jigsaw, supporting climate justice and youth mental health. Eamonn's barefoot journey is a powerful symbol of commitment, inspired by his previous barefoot records and his passion for combining personal endurance with meaningful causes.

Community fundraising is a simple yet powerful way to do something really effective and useful when often we feel powerless and hopeless in the face of big overwhelming issues. Your personal challenge doesn't have to be as physically demanding as walking across Europe barefoot - it's about getting out of your comfort zone and bringing your community together to raise awareness and funds for a cause that you really care about.

Our supporters have shown up to fundraise for us in lots of creative ways, from Cuppa for Climate - our flagship coffee morning, with a difference, to beach cleans, to visits to botanical gardens.



Inspired to take on a personal challenge or run a community fundraiser to support our work? Drop us an email at info@foe.ie for support and more info.



Cuppa for Climate

It's been over 3 years since Cuppa for Climate was launched on Earth Day in 2022. Our coffee morning, with a difference, continues to bring people together for climate action. It offers a relaxed setting for discussing climate issues over a cup of tea while raising funds to support our essential climate work. With the help of our toolkit, participants can access prompts and ideas to facilitate meaningful climate conversations and explore ways to drive action within their local areas

This year, Cuppa for Climate played a big role in the lead up to the elections, offering many people an opportunity to connect with their communities and discuss the issues at hand. In a time when the climate crisis can often feel isolating or overwhelming, Cuppa for Climate helps spark meaningful conversations, strengthen local networks, and reminds us that change starts with engaged, informed communities speaking up together.



In 2025, Earth Month gave many the perfect reason to organise Cuppas across the country, and it's been truly amazing to see so many people open their doors to climate conversations. From Letterfrack to Dublin, and even as far away as Vancouver, Canada! People of all ages came together to chat about our beloved planet earth and how we can protect it.

It has been amazing to see the fruits of our labour through Cuppa for Climate, with a number of people starting local climate action groups or joining existing groups. Others have found like minded people to connect with in their local area while others have started local initiatives in their community or at the workplace. We'd like to express huge thanks to all those who took part in Cuppa for Climate this year.



"I think people are always happy to have a bit of an event like that to break up the work week and have something to look forward to. And knowing that the money was going to a worthy cause meant we got a fair few donations. It was a great opportunity to informally review some of our sustainability policies and think about what else we could do. And for me personally, it was really nice to feel proud of an event that I'd organised, and that my colleagues all enjoyed."

- Peter, Cuppa for Climate host



If you've been inspired to host your own Cuppa for Climate with your friends, family, colleagues or neighbours, email us at info@foe.ie and we can help you get started!

Your Climate Action Legacy

Have you ever thought about your climate action legacy? Planting a seed for the future is something we should all consider; no matter what age or stage of life we are at.

Friends of the Earth is working to create a brighter, safer and more equitable future for people and nature. Including Friends of the Earth in your will would make such a positive impact for future generations, and for the future of our natural world.

We need to truly believe in a better future. And what better way to do that than to invest in it. In facing the climate crisis, Friends of the Earth needs to be robust, resilient and capable to take on immense challenges, to be brave enough to push for bold action and change today and long into the future. To achieve this we need to ensure we have a strong and reliable financial base to keep us going for as long as we are needed. That financial base needs to be majorly people powered, free of corporate or government agendas.

Our supporter income is the bedrock of our independence, and legacy gifts add so much power to this. Visit our website and reach out for more information and support.

Donating as Climate Action

When we think about climate action, we often think of actions such as protesting or talking to our political representatives. But there’s another crucial aspect to this global challenge that doesn’t always get the spotlight it deserves, and that’s donating what you can to support and sustain the fight for a better future.

Raising money and donating is a form of activism in itself. Financial support is vital for the existence of and continuation of organisations and projects dedicated to addressing environmental issues. Your donation is an invaluable contribution to the collective effort to create a better world. As you will have already read in this impact report, there are many ways to give and to raise funds.

This year we offered two opportunities for donors to receive a gift from us when they made a donation. This gave us the chance to form new partnerships and work together with creatives and others working to protect and preserve nature. In spring we ran a campaign for our donors to receive native Irish wildflower seeds sourced from Irish Seed Savers and in summer we ran a campaign for donors to receive “Save What We Love” and “Climate Justice Now” t-shirts designed by Irish-based artist Marina Marinina.



These fundraising campaigns gave people a simple, meaningful way to support our work and the wider movement. Every donation helps raise vital funds while our donors can inspire climate action every time they wear their t-shirt. The wildflower seeds invite supporters to connect with nature directly, creating small pockets of beauty and biodiversity. These gifts to our donors are reminders of what we’re fighting for: a thriving, healthy planet where people and nature flourish side by side.

Thanks to the continued support of people like you, who put their hands up to fundraise and chip in to support our fundraising appeals, the Friends of the Earth team has continued to push for climate action, grow in skills, expertise and strength. **We cannot exist without your support - thank you!**

Developing our organisation

Dear Supporters, Partners, and Friends,

What a year this has been for Friends of the Earth Ireland!

As you know we have just been through a significant change in leadership with our CEO of 20 years Oisín Coghlan moving on in March 2025, and Deirdre Duffy coming in in late August.

Alongside achieving major campaigning wins over the years, Oisín grew this organisation from one person to the incredibly strong and diverse team it is today. With the wider Climate movement, we keep building on his unique legacy

People

Throughout this exceptional year, as I stepped up to support a smooth transition, I was struck over and over by the commitment and energy of both our staff team and our Board. The team didn't miss a beat and continued to work as tirelessly and effectively as ever, and the Board ran a prompt and highly successful CEO recruitment process.

Organisational Sustainability

We continue to diversify our income to ensure long-term sustainability and this is more important than ever as the international landscape for charity funding changes. This year, as well as securing grants from several new institutional funders, and among many other fundraising initiatives, we launched our Legacy Appreciation Plan, and we are so grateful to have already received over 10 bequest commitments from exceptional Friends of Earth supporters. Do reach out if you would like to know more.

Also of note, last year we acquired our CHY number and this came into effect on January 1st. This means that any of you who donated €250 or more in 2025 can now provide us with an additional 45% of your donation amount at no cost to you, through the

Revenue Charities Refund Scheme - all you need to do is fill out a short form! Our Supporter Care colleagues Claudia and Ruth Jedidja are on hand to make this very easy.

Transparency and Accountability

As always we strive for the highest standard in Governance: we are successfully reporting as compliant to the Charities Regulator for the fifth year, and for the third year as a Complex Charity. We also just received our 21st consecutive unqualified Audit.

Friends of the Earth scored very highly again at 90/100 (maintaining our 2023 score of 89.7/100) in the annual review of effectiveness and value for money by the independent assessors working for the Irish Environmental Network.

Looking Ahead

These are challenging times for those of us working to protect our shared home planet Earth and to build a kinder, more equitable world. More than ever, we need and appreciate all the support you give us. As we move into a new strategic planning cycle from 2026, we will be mobilising communities across the country to campaign alongside us for a healthy future where people and nature thrive.

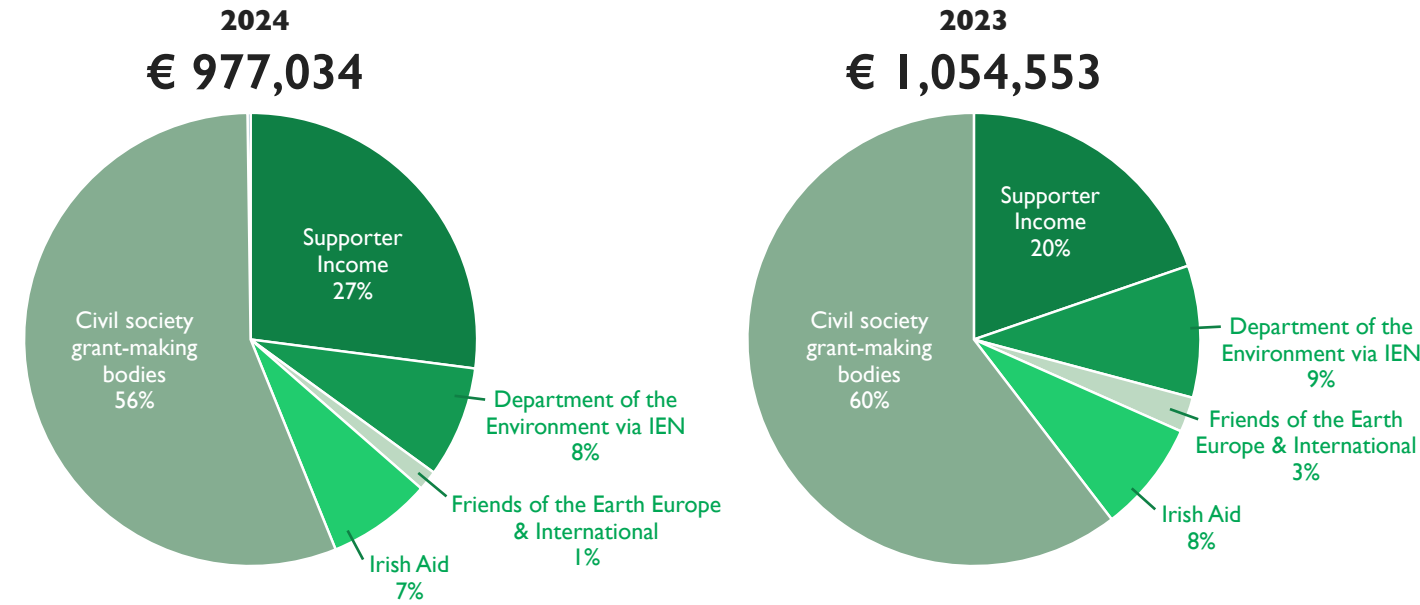
In solidarity,



Anne L'Hénoret
Deputy Chief Executive
Friends of the Earth

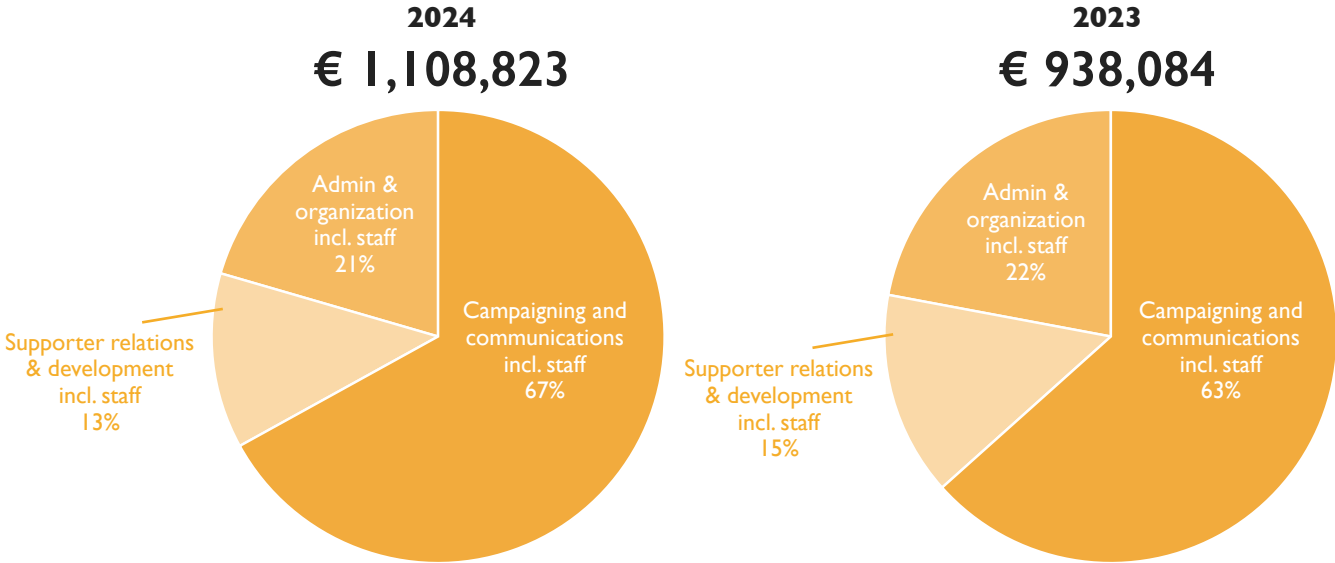
Financial Information

Income



	2024		2023		Change from 2023
Supporter Income	27%	€ 264,879	20%	€ 208,049	127%
Department of the Environment via IEN	8%	€ 77,803	9%	€ 99,310	78%
Friends of the Earth Europe & International	1%	€ 14,000	3%	€ 26,368	53%
Irish Aid	7%	€ 72,930	8%	€ 83,800	87%
Civil society grant-making bodies	56%	€ 549,996	60%	€ 637,026	86%
Other income	0%	€ 2,137			0%
Total	100%	€ 979,608	100%	€ 1,054,553	93%

Expenditure



	2024	2023	Change from 2023
Campaigning and communications incl. staff	67% € 742,652	63% € 594,583	125%
Supporter relations & development incl. staff	13% € 138,837	15% € 136,592	102%
Admin & organization incl. staff	21% € 227,333	22% € 206,909	110%
Total	100% € 1,108,822	100% € 938,084	118%

Our progress this year was made possible thanks to the generosity of our individual donors, supporters, and funding partners.



A Fond Farewell

In spring 2025, Oisín Coghlan, broke the news that he would be stepping down after 20 years as CEO.

We'd like to express our deepest gratitude to Oisín for his commitment to building the Friends of the Earth team and for making Friends of the Earth a powerful, respected and trusted voice. Oisín will be fondly missed but we know that he will remain a valued member of our community as a supporter, ally and friend.

See opposite, Oisín's parting message to our supporters:



It's 20 years ago this week that I started working at Friends of the Earth, full of enthusiasm for the work of communicating the climate challenge, driving campaigns to change law and policy, and helping to build a movement strong enough to push for the transformative change we need.

We've made real progress over the last two decades. We led the 14-year campaign for a strong climate law that culminated in the passing of the 2021 Climate Act. Our Run on Sun campaign resulted in the first payments to households for supplying electricity to the energy grid, and pushed the Government to promise to "make every school a solar school". We supported the grassroots-led campaign to ban fracking and, with our colleagues in VOICE, the Sick of Plastic campaign paved the way for the successful Deposit Return Scheme.

Joining forces with others has always been important to me through the years, co-founding the Stop Climate Chaos coalition with overseas aid agencies, the Environmental Pillar with environmental NGOs, the Irish Corporate Leaders' Group with business leaders, and the Just Transition Alliance with trade unions.

It's been an enormous privilege to work for Friends of the Earth, and my appetite for climate campaigning and communication is undimmed. But after 20 years, I feel it is a good time to step aside and allow new leadership to build on these strong foundations.

Friends of the Earth is as strong as it's ever been. My colleagues are ramping up new campaigns to stop data centres colonising our power system and blowing our carbon budgets; and to make sure tenants, both social and private rental, get fair access to retrofitting and warmer homes with lower bills.

I have been so lucky with the Boards I have served over my time who have brought a fantastic mix of campaigning and management skills. They have been an amazing succession of dedicated volunteers who give willingly of their time.

Our impact would not exist without your support. You make our campaigning possible, and your participation makes it powerful. I want to particularly thank all of you who support financially through donations. At the heart of the Friends of the Earth community, you are the bedrock of our independence and influence.

Everyone who supports us and takes part in our activities are members of the Friends of the Earth community. In these increasingly fraught and frightening times, that sense of solidarity and shared commitment is more important than ever.

I will end by quoting the words of David Roberts in "Hope and Fellowship". Words that more than any others keep me going through thick and thin:

"Remember, there is no "too late" here, no "game over" — it will be a tragedy to shoot past 2 degrees to 3, but 4 is worse than 3, and 5 is worse than 4. Being unprepared for any of those will be much worse than being prepared. The future always forks; there are always better and worse paths ahead. There's always a difference to be made.

When we ask for hope, then, I think we're just asking for fellowship. The weight of climate change, like any weight, is easier to bear with others. And if there's anything I've learned in these last [20] years, it's that there are many, many others. They are out there, men and women of extraordinary imagination, courage, and perseverance, pouring themselves into this fight for a better future.

You are not alone. And as long as you are not alone, there is always hope."

They are "out there" and they are "in here" at Friends of the Earth. If we are going to survive and thrive, we must strive now to bring more of us together, to build our movement power to overcome the dead weight of the fossil fuel tyrants sacrificing our common future for their private profit. As Stop Climate Chaos's first slogan said: "Together we are irresistible".

Although I will cease to be the chief Friend of the Earth, I will always be a friend of the Earth.

In hope and fellowship,
Oisín

Thank you

We hope you have enjoyed reading our Impact Report and seeing all that we have achieved together.

We'd like to give a big thank you to each and everyone of you in the Friends of the Earth community. Friends of the Earth thrives because of your involvement and support. Whether you contributed financially, organised a community fundraiser, joined our workshops and events, started or became part of a local group, or took action online, you've made a difference. Even if you haven't had much time to get involved, simply being part of our community shows that you care — and there are so many of you who care across the country. You are making a difference and helping us advocate for a better world.

Everything we've achieved in this report is thanks to you. We are proud to have such a strong community working together for a fairer and better world. It's only through our collective action that we can keep pushing for real and effective change. Thank you for making our impact possible.

The staff at Friends of the Earth are committed to our role in supporting the wider climate movement. Together, with your support, we'll keep advocating for solutions to the most prominent social and environmental problems we are faced with today.

Thank you for your involvement and commitment to our work.

Taking action on climate change can look different for everyone. You can volunteer your time, use your talents, or donate money. Every bit of effort counts, and together, our diverse actions make a big difference. Thank you for being part of the fight for climate justice, protecting the Earth and all it gives life to, and for supporting a fair transition away from fossil fuels to a just world where people and nature thrive.



Our Staff Team

Deirdre Duffy, Chief Executive
Anne L'Hénoret, Deputy Chief Executive
Claudia Tormey, Head of Supporter Care & Fundraising
Jerry Mac Evilly, Campaigns Director
Emma Jayne Geraghty, Head of Movement Building
Deidre Duff, Head of Communications
Charlotta Kauranne, Head of Finance & Compliance
Caoimhe Flynn, Administrator & Operations Manager
Rosi Leonard, Network Development Coordinator
Clare O'Connor, Programme Coordinator - Heat
Ruth Jedidja Stael, Supporter Care & Fundraising Officer
Kevin O'Farrell, Communications Officer
Nandana James, Communications Content Officer
Seán McLoughlin, Climate Policy Campaigner
Cheng Fang, Finance Officer

Our Board of Directors

Anna Pringle, Chairperson
Colm Ó Cuanacháin, Vice-Chair
David Heller, Secretary
Siún Ní Raghallaigh, Treasurer
Emma Lane-Spollen
Dr Kenneth Keavey
Justin Moran
Carol-Anne O'Brien
Molly O'Shea

Thank you to our colleagues & board members who moved on in the last year:

Audrey Vallier, Head of Operations & Finance, Special Projects Manager
Claudia Dallek, Finance Manager
Sorcha Tunney, Head of Campaigns
Oisín Coghlan, Chief Executive
Aaron Downey, Global Citizenship Education & Activism Support Officer
Sara Hurley, Global Citizenship Education & Outreach Officer
Valery Molay, Board Member
Denise Charlton, Board Member

Friends of the Earth Ireland CLG is a company limited by guarantee (a not-for-profit company), registered with the Companies Office in Dublin (No. 383678). We are registered with the Charities Regulator and our Registered Charity Number (RCN) is 20205807. CHY #: CHY23145



Impact Report

September 2025



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