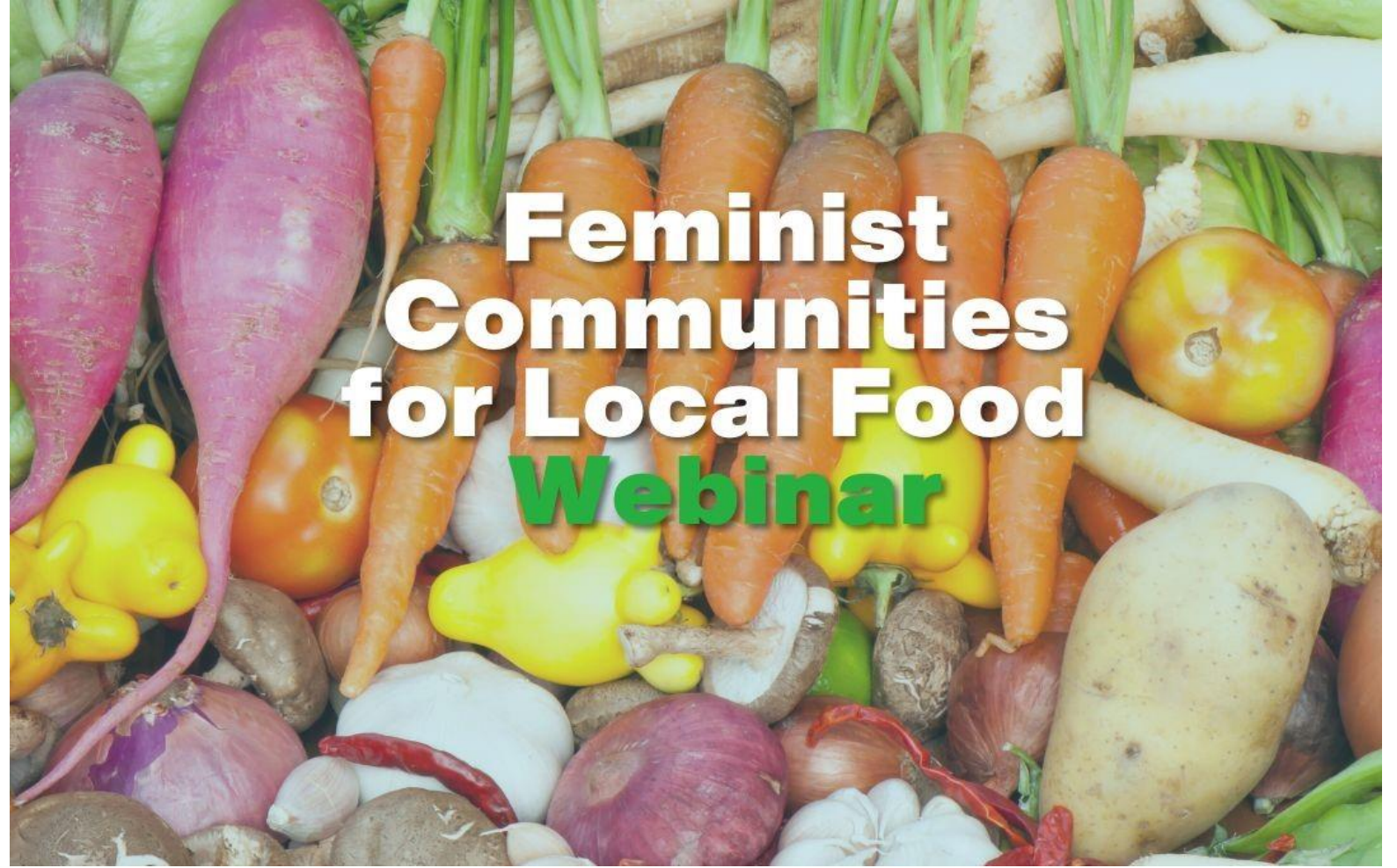


 **feminist communities**
for climate justice



**Feminist
Communities
for Local Food
Webinar**



Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040



The project is funded under the Community Climate Action Programme: Climate Education, Capacity Building and Learning by Doing (Strand 2) through the Department of Environment Climate and Communications.

7.30-7.37pm	Introduction / welcome
7.37-7.45pm	Food Land Use Agriculture & Biodiversity chapter summary
7.45-7.53pm	Mary Hoy – Food systems
7.53-8.01pm	Polly Rowley-Sams – Urban Growing
8.01-8.09pm	Joanne Butler
8.09-8.17pm	Janet Power
8.17-8.25pm	Questions and Answers
8.25-8.30pm	Call to action/s and close



introducing the
project



Feminist Climate Justice

is about **paying attention to the gendered and intersectional characteristics** of all dimensions of climate justice

Voices from FCCJ

Opportunities and challenges in
achieving climate justice.

Exploring a different way of farming.



Amplify the voices of women and marginalised communities most impacted by climate crisis

Advocate and influence policy with women and marginalised communities

Mobilise communities to support and learn from one another, with the establishment of the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network

Strengthen capacity & raise consciousness of those working with or active within women's and marginalised communities through *Community Work in a Changing Ireland Certificate Programme* in partnership with the Department of Applied Social Studies at NUI Maynooth; and the development of toolkits for communities and community workers



why this project?

Responding to community workers – climate impacts coming, but a need for more information, guidance and tools

Responding to data and policy gaps – existing climate policy does not adequately pay attention to the domestic gendered impacts of the climate crisis

For a feminist analysis of climate justice

Response to National Women's Council members who wanted climate justice integrated in the Council's work



why women?

Women are more likely to be hardest hit by the impacts of climate emergency, in Ireland and globally:

Gender Pay Gap: **9.6%**, Gender Pension Gap: **35%**

disproportionately represented in deaths related to air pollution

excluded from the economy and work in unpaid caring or domestic roles which impact food use/consumption/production and vulnerability to food/energy/transport poverty

caring roles are directly linked to food, energy, transport choices & security

care work is key to how women experience and are impacted by the climate crisis. In Ireland, women carry out twice as much unpaid care work as men



why a feminist community work approach?

Addresses and tackles the root causes of inequality and climate injustice – **system change, not climate change**

Cares – it champions caring work, paid and unpaid, and calls for it to be appropriately valued and recognised as green work

Transforms consultation into meaningful, non-tokenistic participation in decision-making

Focuses on the issue of women's representation in decision-making as well as other marginalised groups – those most impacted by the climate crisis need to be at the centre of decision-making spaces

Champions a collective focus – we must fight for the many, not the few

Means better public services to benefit people and the planet!



feminist communities for local food working group

Talamh Beo Women as members of NWC submitted a motion at the most recent AGM

'We advocate for access to local, nutritious, chemical-free food produced according to agroecological and feminist principles, practices and values. This gendered analysis approach in collaboration with the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice Project prioritises people, land and communities, aligning with values of peace, care, well-being and social justice.'

Agroecological approach which promotes food systems focused on equality, sustainability and empowerment, fostering value laden approaches for farming and community well-being – creating a synergy with feminism.

Create an action group within the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice project focusing on Feminist Communities for Local Food.

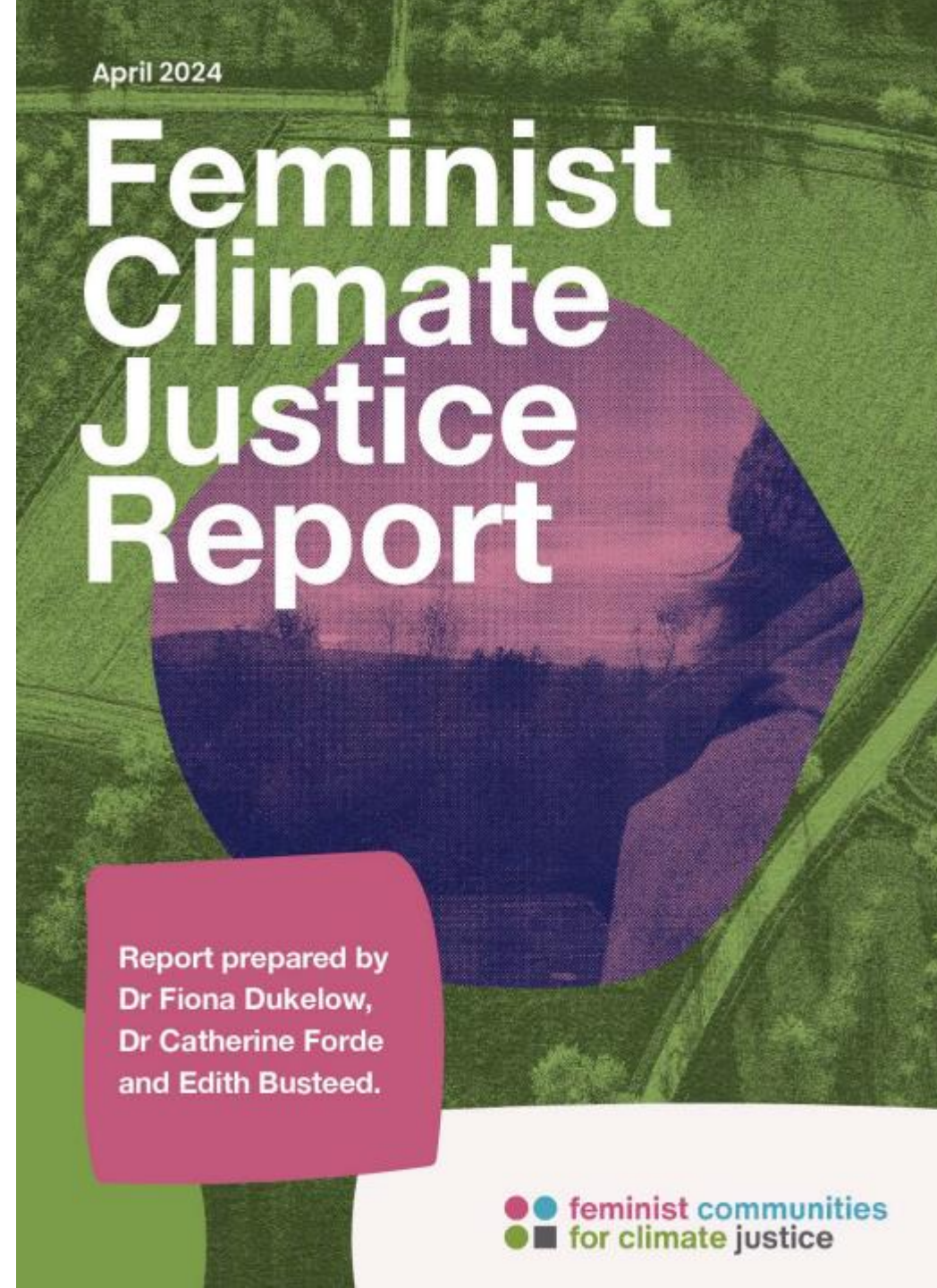


feminist climate
justice report



Feminist Climate Justice: Gaps explored, what does the research tell us?

1. Just Transition
2. Care
3. Energy Poverty and Housing
4. Transport
5. Health
6. **Food, Land-use, Agriculture & Biodiversity**



feminist climate justice report: key findings

- In its production and consumption, food is not gender or class neutral and instead harbours several persistent inequalities which have become more entrenched due to climate and weather shocks, the COVID-19 pandemic, political dysfunction, and civil unrest and displacement.
- Example: food supply shortages due to the war in Ukraine have already had a significant impact on food availability and pricing in the EU, with knock-on effects for EU producers and consumers.
- Women struggle to achieve recognition as farmers and food producers, despite making up 16% of the Irish agriculture, fisheries and forestry workforce.
- Intersectional dimensions to women's disadvantage as migrant women who work in agriculture and food production have suffered exploitation at the hands of employers, which can be compounded by racism and discrimination, language barriers, legal status, and precarious forms of employment.



feminist climate justice report: key findings

- **There is no official indicator of food poverty in Ireland.** Definition created by the ESRI has been used to enable its measurement, and the results indicate that 8.9% of the population experienced food poverty in 2021.
- Barnardos reported that food poverty is increasing in Ireland and nearly one third of people have experienced food poverty, with many parents cutting down on portion sizes or going without meals in order to feed their children.
- Groups most at risk of food poverty in Ireland include women, the unemployed, people who are ill or disabled, all households with children and people at risk of poverty.
- ESRI definition of food poverty excludes the cultural dimensions of food poverty including access to, preparing, and sharing culturally appropriate foods in the context of the direct provision system in Ireland.
- In 2020, women accounted for 12% of farmers and farm workers, while from 2010 to 2020 there was just a 1% increase in the percentage share of female farm holders.



mary hoy:
talamh beo
women





WELCOME TO TALAMH BEO

Talamh Beo is a member-led organisation, run by farmers who have direct experience of the issues they campaign on.



Farmers & citizens fighting for Food, Fuel & Fibre Sovereignty

We want to create a better food system in Ireland, where all people have access to healthy, nutritious and affordable local food.

We want to farm in ways which benefit and restore natural ecosystems and build soils, leaving the land better than when we started.

We want to show solidarity with rural communities across Ireland and the world and ensure that living from the land and with the land continues into the future.

Food policies by the people, for the people!

We believe that farmers and communities should be at the centre of decision-making for food and agriculture systems and developing agricultural policies.

We stand for a system which puts the power back into the hands of farmers, communities and citizens instead of corporate interests and industrial agriculture and food production.

Talamh Beo are Ireland's only members of the European Coordination Via Campesina – itself part of La Via Campesina, the international movement of farmers with more than 180 member organisations in 82 countries.

By supporting Talamh Beo, you are supporting an international movement working for agroecology, regenerative farming and food sovereignty.



TB Events - AGM, Brookfield Farm & awards....

Our Current Projects



Living from
the Land



Local Food
Policy



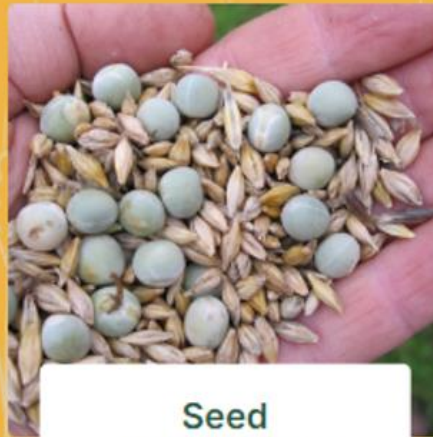
A CAP Fit For
Purpose



Talamh Beo
Women



Climate Change
& Biodiversity



Seed
Sovereignty



Food
Sovereignty &
Trade



Soil
Biodiversity
EIP

Our current Food System? Is it working?

Difficulties and challenges as a grower

- weather pattern changes caused by climate change,
- retaining a consistent supply for market,
- working 17/18 hours a day for a fraction of living wage - need to price up?,
- complaints if food unwashed or misshapen or wonky,
- shops supply a fraction of cost,
- seasonal food not always popular,
- government (and organic) regulations
- more appreciation from people who grow their own food.

Cheap food – but at what cost? What is the nutritive value and what chemicals are being used to attain that – artificial fertilisers, pesticides and fungicides?

More health issues, illnesses, more people in hospitals and some cases earlier deaths. How is that beneficial to us?

Who does our present system benefit? Not farmers or consumers but big corporations. The ABCCD companies - big ag.

Cracks in this system have been exposed - during COVID-19 when the Suez Canal was blocked and the Covid vaccine was delayed.



What kind of food system are we looking for?

- **We need a just transition** - that means we want production and consumption cycles holistic and waste-free and for this transition to be just and equitable to all people.
- We want everyone in Ireland to have access to high quality, locally produced food. We also want farmers to earn a fair living from providing that food into their communities. Creating pathways for local food production, through a positive policy framework which incorporates income supports, labour and finance incentives, pilot projects for land access and short supply chain supports and infrastructure.
- A food system that puts peoples' needs before commercial needs. We need to change the long distance to short distances. Everyone should be entitled to chemical-free food. Local food is one of the solutions.

Chemical-free food should not be a luxury for those who can afford it – it should be for everyone.

Janet has some good news for us - I will let her tell us later...



polly rowley-sams:
richmond barracks
community garden



introduction – busting the urban/rural divide myth

Polly Rowley-Sams and the Richmond Barracks Community Garden



growing local food – urban spaces

What growing delivers to people, land and community in urban spaces:



Every Friday enjoy delicious food at Richmond Barracks, Inchicore.

Visit the FoodCloud Kitchen café from 10 am to 3 pm.

FoodCloud Kitchen showcases how surplus food can be spectacular. They serve hot drinks, tasty snacks and delicious lunch options. Menus are created using seasonal ingredients sourced from FoodCloud's suppliers and change weekly.

Your Friday meal will greatly benefit vulnerable communities. All profits generated are reinvested into FoodCloud's core activities, redistributing surplus food to over 600 community and voluntary organisations nationwide.

- No booking required
- Small groups welcome
- Sweet treats available

Find out more at <https://food.cloud>

Find out more about the FoodCloud Kitchen

[@foodcloudkitchen](https://www.instagram.com/foodcloudkitchen)

FoodCloud Kitchen
A delicious way to protect the planet

- Building / Growing Community
- Learning how & what to grow
- Different growing initiatives – as varied as our communities and needs
- Feeding our soils in small ways
- Urban Pollinators
- Food Surplus Initiatives



Eat the Streets 2024 Festival!

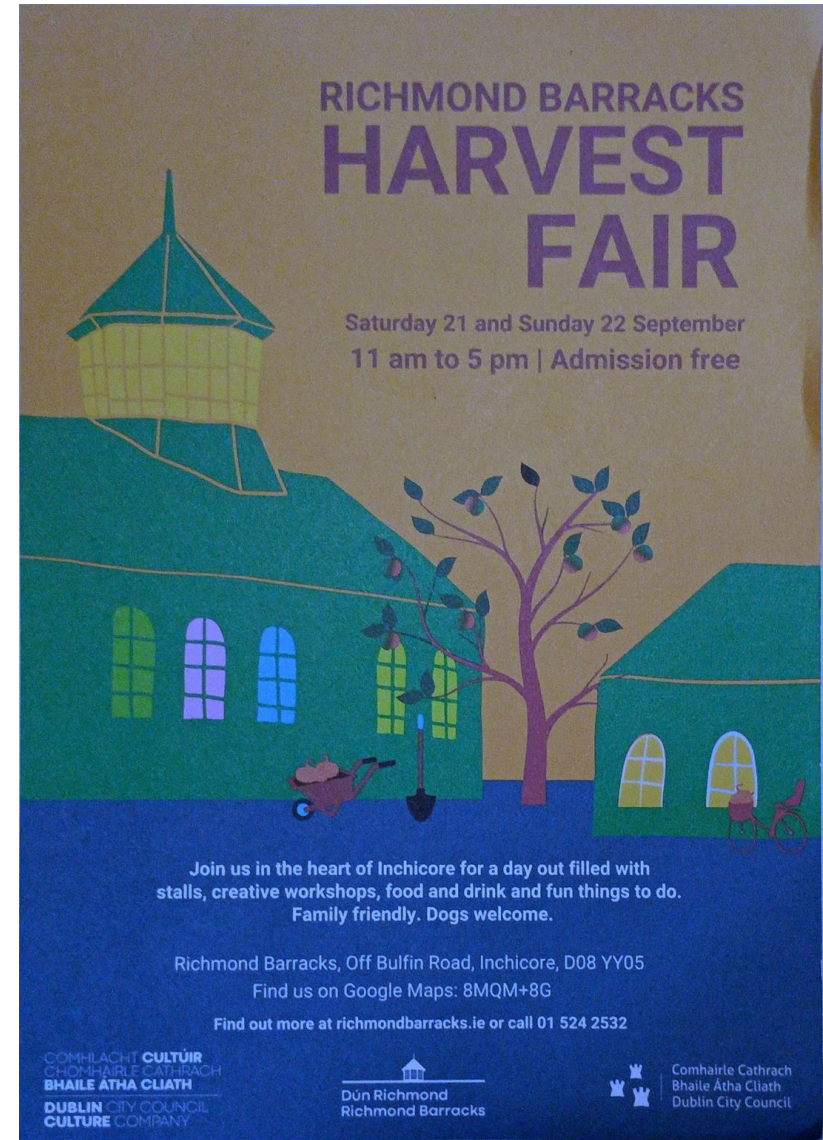
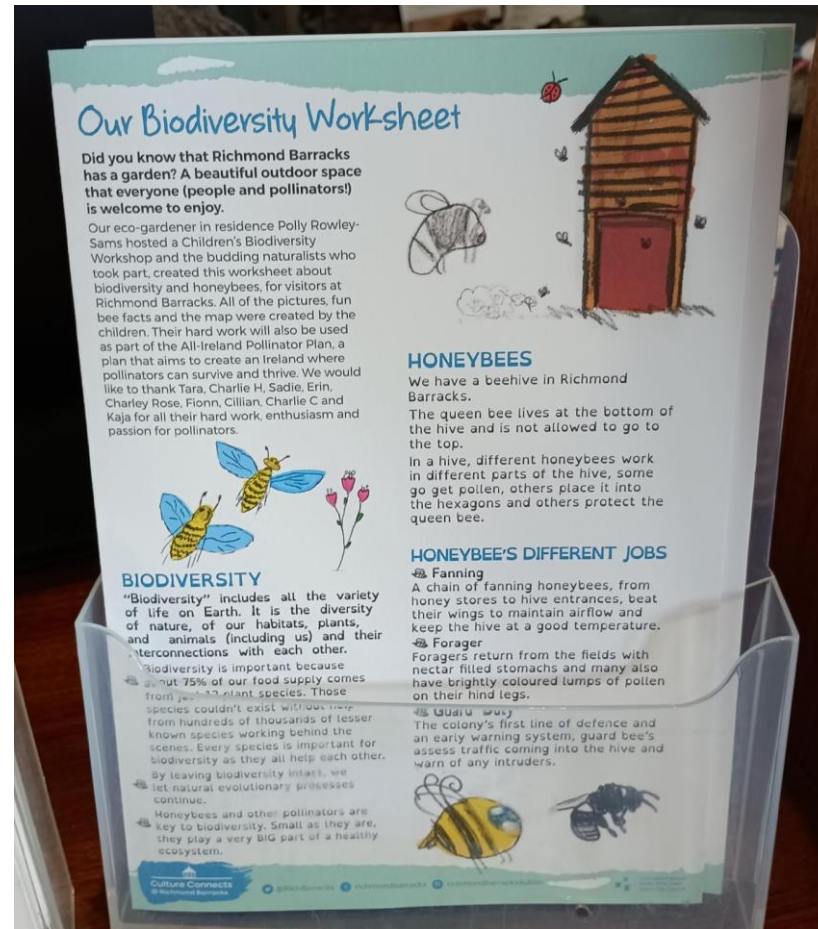
Bringing together families, farmers, urban growers and chefs to grow, cook, create and discover!

Sat 14 Sep
1-6pm
Richmond Barracks
D08 YY05

www.eatthestreets.ie

involvement takes many forms!

Where to go to get involved:
artists@dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie
0862030842



joanne butler:
talamh beo,
donegal local
development









Introduction To Growing Your Own Food

WINTER SPECIAL ONLINE
COURSE STARTING EARLY
OCTOBER 2021 6 WEEKS- €40
PER COURSE

www.ourorganicgardens.ie



Donegal Food Response Network

Addressing food insecurity & food waste in donegal



Donegal Local
Development CLG
Forbairt Áitiúil
Dhún na nGall

DLDC 



2023 GROWER'S PROJECT DONEGAL FOOD RESPONSE NETWORK



Impact of the Project

The pilot resulted in the redistribution of 23000kg of produce that would otherwise have remained unharvested or sent for animal feed. • The approximate emissions avoided total 57,500kgs of CO2eq. • in total 122 Groups were provided for with 617 individuals and 316 families.



Five growers participated in the pilot and recovered some costs by redistributing this produce rather than wasting it, which contributed towards their financial sustainability.



Community Food Wholeshare
Letterkenny

Main Building /Wholesale Space

Soft Fruit Growing Space

Orchard

Food Cooking /Prep

Growing Teaching space

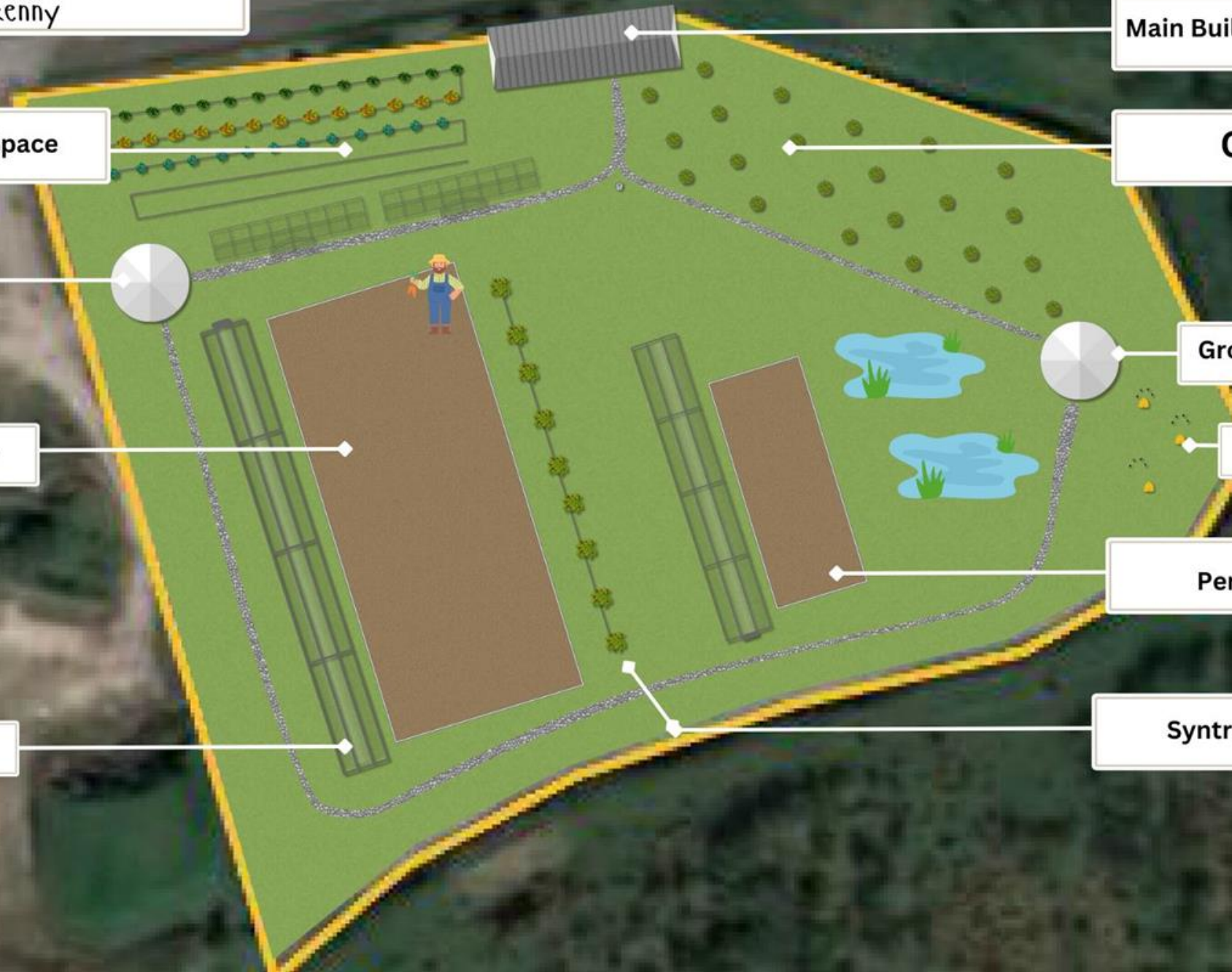
Main Growing Space

Bees

Polytunnels

Perennial Gardens

Syntropic Gardening



janet power:
talamh beo





A Local Food
Policy
Framework



We want everyone in Ireland to have access to high quality, locally produced food **and for farmers to earn a fair living from providing that food to their communities.**

why are local food producers important?

- Benefit to communities (social, health, economic)
- Positive for environment/climate
- Positive for nature (biodiversity & soil)

what does this framework hope to achieve for local food producers?

- Redress the competitive disadvantage when competing with cheaper/subsidised food model

foundational element of the framework:

establishment of a local food producer status

Definition of a Local Food Producer

A local food producer adheres to the principles of agroecology & are engaged in primary food production as their main economic activity.

- Local is defined as the island of Ireland but establishment of Short Supply Chains is encouraged

supports & actions required to develop local food systems:



Income supports:

- A direct payment linked to sales.
- 50% Match funding up to €15K

Finance:

- Government backed low/zero interest loans

Labour:

- Farm-bridge - subsidise employment on farms dedicated to local food supply.
- Department funded apprenticeship scheme

Access to Market:

- Community Food hubs

Social Inclusion:

- **Local food credit** – for lower income households

Access to Land, Young Farmers

conclusion



Talamh Beo advocates that local food producers are the backbone of a thriving local food system.

Equally vital is an informed, engaged community that values and demands access to nutritious, locally produced food.

This framework, we believe, lays out the pathway to create and sustain such a system & we welcome engagement with all citizens and agencies who support this aim.

q&a





thank you!

Follow up actions:

- Join the Feminist Communities for Climate Justice National Network, including our Feminist Communities for Local Food working group
- Become a member of Talamh Beo
- Other ideas? Contact us!



Scan QR code to join the Network!



upcoming events

Talamh Beo:

- Ploughing Championships 17th - 19th September
- Cork Environmental Forum World Food Day 16th October
- Environmental Conference Ireland Thursday 17th October 9am – 5pm
- Burren Winterage Weekend 25th - 27th October

