

Submission by Tom Roche of Just Forests  
on the

# Draft Cork City Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029



**UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO COP28:  
“WE ARE IN A RACE AGAINST TIME”**

December 15, 2023

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Just Forests welcomes the  
opportunity to make a  
submission to the

**CORK CITY DRAFT  
CLIMATE ACTION PLAN  
2024 - 2029**

under the call for  
Public Consultation

<https://consult.corkcity.ie/en/consultation/draft-cork-city-council-climate-action-plan-2024-2029>

# Context



## **UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO COP28: WE ARE IN A RACE AGAINST TIME**

The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) closed today with an agreement that signals the “beginning of the end” of the fossil fuel era by laying the ground for a swift, just and equitable transition, underpinned by deep emissions cuts and scaled-up finance.

“To those who opposed a clear reference to a phaseout of fossil fuels in the COP28 text, I want to say that a fossil fuel phase out is inevitable whether they like it or not. Let’s hope it doesn’t come too late,” added the Secretary-General.

In his statement, Mr. Guterres said limiting global heating to 1.5°C, one of the keystone targets set in the landmark 2015 the Paris Agreement, “will be impossible without the phase out of all fossil fuels”, and this is being recognized by a growing and diverse coalition of countries.

He said the world cannot afford “delays, indecision, or half measures” and insisted that “multilateralism remains humanity’s best hope.”

He stressed that the era of fossil fuels must end with justice and equity.

UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres

13 December 2023

# What are the Major Sustainability Challenges?

- CLIMATE CHANGE
- POLLUTION
- LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY

Just Forests proposes the following policies be adopted by Cork City Council with immediate effect in order to strengthen their

## Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

### **PROPOSAL # 1.**

ADOPTION OF A 'RESPONSIBLE TIMBER PROCUREMENT' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL

### **PROPOSAL # 2.**

ADOPTION OF A 'FOSSIL FUEL ADVERTISEMENT FREE ZONE' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL

### **PROPOSAL # 3.**

ADOPTION OF A 'INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES FREE PARKS' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL

### **PROPOSAL # 4.**

ADOPTION OF A 'GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (GCED) PROGRAM' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL - AS A MEANS TO SUPPORT THE UN 'SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

# PROPOSAL #1.

## ADOPTION OF A 'RESPONSIBLE TIMBER PROCUREMENT' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL



Photo ©Just Forests: Marine-grade-plywood panels (60) made in Malaysia from tropical timber used in hoarding around Bishop Lucy Park, Grand Parade, Cork City.

Photo taken on Monday December 11 2023 - Apple iPhone X



**SOLAS**  
November 18 - December 21  
First job in Emerald Place

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# Introduction

While visiting Cork City on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023, I was very impressed by the giant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) banner hanging over the main entrance of Cork City Library for all the world to see. As you already know, the 17 SDGs are the United Nation's "blueprint" for a sustainable, just and liveable planet.

While the reason for displaying the SDGs banner is to send out the message that Cork City Council takes sustainable development matters seriously, the reality I observed on the ground on Monday gives out a completely different message. I refer to the Council's use of marine-grade, engineered plywood, in hoarding 50 meters down from the City library at Bishop Lucy Park on Grand Parade.

The plywood in question was made in Malaysia. Marine plywood made from over-exploited and endangered species of tropical timber such as Okoume, Sepelli, Meranti and other Shorea species such as Bangkira, Philippean Mahogany and Luan is destroying the worlds rainforests and is a major driver of global warming, biodiversity decline and human rights abuse.

My concern regarding this matter comes on the day that INTERPOL and the World Customs Organisation (WCO) released the following statement on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023:

*"Important and endangered animals, birds and plants are being put at risk of extinction by wildlife and timber traffickers. These appalling crimes not only deprive the world of unique animals and plants but also countries of their natural assets and resources.*

*"The costs to communities are even greater, because as this Operation shows, almost all environmental crime has links to other forms of crime including violence, corruption and financial crime, but also has strong links to transnational organized crimes groups.*

Marine plywood is mainly designed for use in boat and shipbuilding, dock work and other marine-related facilities. Cork City Council's use of marine-grade plywood in hoarding is total overkill. And considering the present climate and biodiversity crises we face there is in my opinion, no justification whatsoever for the use of marine-grade, tropical timber-based plywood in the hoarding at Bishop Lucy Park.

A more responsible alternative would have been for the Council to use 'SmartPLY' an Irish-made panelboard. SmartPLY is made by Coillte in Clonmel and Waterford from the thinning of Irish forests and is ideal for hoarding. By using SmartPLY in all their construction projects the Council would also be supporting local jobs and creating economic incentives for farmers to plant much needed trees as a means of transitioning to more sustainable livelihoods.

The carbon footprint of marine-grade tropical plywood all the way from Malaysia is enormous. On the other hand, SmartPLY is made from fast growing locally sourced FSC certified timber, SMARTPLY OSB panels are fully certified, structurally approved, CE compliant, legal and a truly sustainable alternatives to tropical plywood of very questionable credentials.

**GOAL 12 of the Sustainable Development Goal's calls for 'Responsible Consumption and Production' patterns and is key to sustainable livelihoods. As we all know good intentions and official policies no matter how well intentioned they are, are not worth the paper they're written on if not followed up by practical action on the ground.**

As the world grapples with the devastating consequences of environmental degradation and species extinction and related human rights abuse, Just Forests is calling on Cork City Council to cease the use of tropical timber in all construction projects going forward commencing with the 'regeneration' of the Grand Parade quarter in 2024.

Photo right ©Just Forests. A giant-size Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) banner hangs in prominent public view over the entrance to Cork City Library on Grand Parade.



Photo above ©Just Forests. Just Forests founder confronts former Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, on the use of illegally-logged timber used in the refurbishment of the former Irish Aid Education Centre, O'Connell Street, Dublin, during the official opening of the Centre by Mr Ahern in January 2008.

Photo below by kind permission of ©Governor's Office, State of Pennsylvania. Just Forests founder Tom Roche presents a wooden replica of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) logo to Mr. Tom Ridge, Governor of Pennsylvania and former (first) Director of the office of Homeland Security. The presentation took place when Mr Ridge visited the Pennsylvania-owned AMES True Temper Garden Tools manufacturing facility in Cork in 2001.



This [Cork City Council] Draft Plan sets out what Cork City Council will do to reduce emissions from its own buildings and operations. However, because this is a plan for Cork City, the actions that residents, businesses, community groups, and public sector institutions will have to take are a vital contribution to the achievement of our vision of Cork as a climate neutral and resilient city.

## Objectives

The plan specifies those actions for which the **City Council is fully accountable**, concerning emissions from its own assets, and those for which it **facilitates and coordinates, influences others, and advocates for**.

## The DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan is based on clear principles which are:

- Cork City residents support climate action. Our proposals will be bold and ambitious. Business as usual will not be enough. (underlining by Just forests)
- We will take risks through innovation and learn from our mistakes.
- Our transition to net zero will be fair. It will help the most vulnerable groups in the city so that climate action does not push them further behind.
- We will seek out creative and high-impact partnerships with our community organisations, businesses, and academic institutions, among others, to drive and accelerate progress.

### Extracts from DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

“We are the custodians of our forests and we have a moral responsibility to pass them on to future generations in a much improved and environmentally enhanced form. Naturally, the better our forests are managed here in Ireland and the more timber we produce, the less the demand for imports from the environmentally more sensitive and challenged regions of our world.”

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Brian Cowen, T.D., During the official launch of Just Forests GOOD WOOD Policy Guide in the offices of the Royal Institute of the Architects in Ireland (RIAI), Merrion Square, Dublin. **September 2002**

Minister Cowen’s full speech and GOOD WOOD Policy Guide and photos available at: [https://justforests.ie/?page\\_id=30256](https://justforests.ie/?page_id=30256)



# **PROPOSAL #1.**

**ADOPTION OF A 'RESPONSIBLE TIMBER PROCUREMENT' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL**

## **ACTION REQUIRED**

**In the true spirit of leadership on Climate Action and as a means of allaying any public concerns that Cork City Council might revert back to a 'Business As Usual' scenario, Cork City Council will remove the existing tropical timber plywood hoarding and replace it with an Irish-made alternative - OSB SmartPLY made in Waterford**

## **TIMELINE**

**BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY 2024**

## **NOTE**

**In an act of good public relations, the 'removed' tropical timber plywood will be donated to Post-primary schools undertaking Woodwork & Construction Studies, Women's Sheds and Men's Sheds in Cork City for their woodwork projects.**

# PROPOSAL #2.

ADOPTION OF A 'FOSSIL FUEL  
ADVERTISEMENT FREE ZONE' POLICY BY  
CORK CITY COUNCIL





## **Introduction**

# **IS CORK CITY COUNCIL READY TO BE A REAL CLIMATE FRONTRUNNER?**

**YOU CAN PREVENT FOSSIL FUEL-RELATED ADS FROM GREENWASHING OUR PUBLIC SPACES, PROMOTING EXTRA AIR POLLUTION AND UNDERMINING THE URGENCY OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS.**

**LET'S FREE OUR STREETS FROM FOSSIL ADS, SO WE CAN RECLAIM PUBLIC SPACE, BREATHE CLEAN AIR AND GROW THE SOCIETAL SUPPORT FOR THE JUST, SWIFT AND GREEN TRANSITION WE NEED!**

**THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CORK CITY COUNCIL TO JOIN A HOST OF OTHER CITIES ACROSS EUROPE WHO HAVE BANNED FOSSIL FUEL ADVERTISEMENTS.**

- **FOSSIL FUELS IMPACT AIR POLLUTION, WHICH IS KILLING PEOPLE**
- **AIR POLLUTION CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS IS ESTIMATED TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR 8.7 MILLION DEATHS ACROSS THE WORLD IN 2018, WHICH IS MORE THAN TOBACCO RELATED DEATHS.**
- **IF FOSSIL FUELS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATHS VIA AIR POLLUTION AND OTHER MEANS, WHY IS IT STILL ACCEPTABLE THAT FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES HAVE A PUBLIC PLATFORM?**
- **THE EU BANNED TOBACCO ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP, SO SURELY BANNING FOSSIL FUEL ADVERTISEMENTS AND SPONSORSHIPS IS A NO-BRAINER.**

# Cork City Library to drop fossil fuel sponsored exhibition

Mr O'Brien said that sustainability is a core value of Cork City Libraries and that it is important to listen to those making bona fide cases.

“To be fair, Texaco have always been excellent at organising the exhibition, with some brilliant people involved. The young artists deserve to have their exceptional talents showcased so we didn't think it would be fair to them to have it pulled at the last minute this year.

“However, we felt Tom's arguments were compelling, so next year we won't host it if sponsored by a fossil fuel company.”

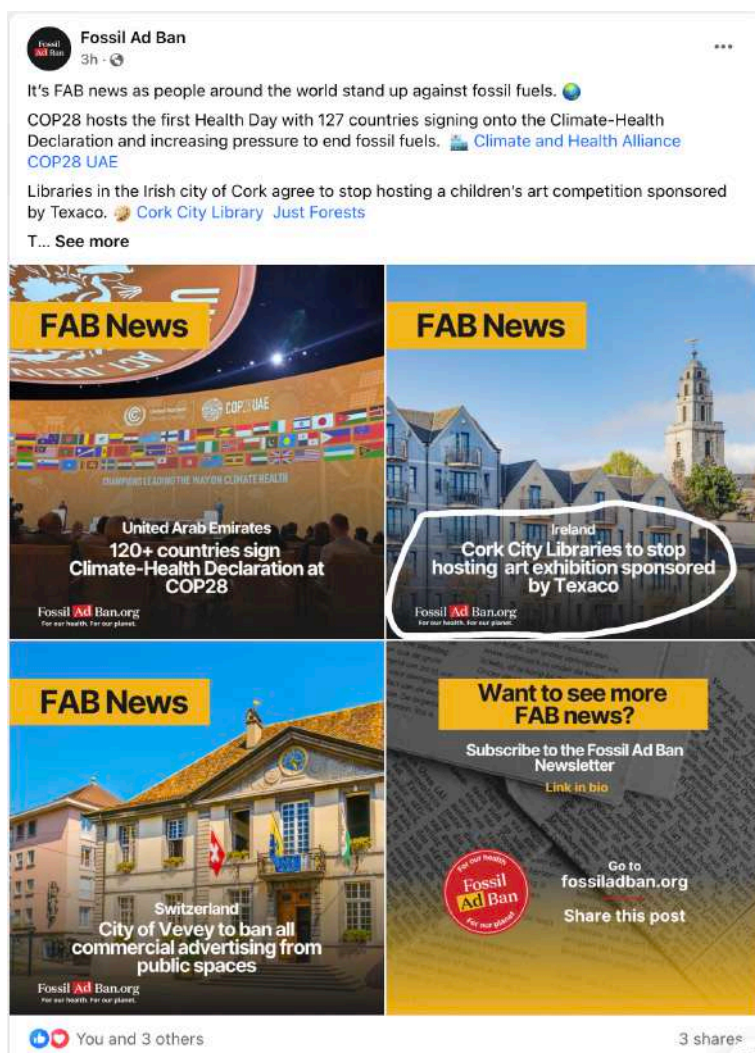
Read the full story in The Examiner:

<https://spoarts.ie/just-forests-persuades-cork-libraries-to-reconsider-hosting-art-competition/>

**IS CORK CITY READY TO BE A REAL CLIMATE FRONTRUNNER? YOU CAN PREVENT FOSSIL ADS FROM GREENWASHING OUR PUBLIC SPACES, PROMOTING EXTRA AIR POLLUTION AND UNDERMINING THE URGENCY OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS.**

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[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FOSSILADBAN](https://www.facebook.com/FOSSILADBAN)



This [Cork City Council] Draft Plan sets out what Cork City Council will do to reduce emissions from its own buildings and operations. However, because this is a plan for Cork City, the actions that residents, businesses, community groups, and public sector institutions will have to take are a vital contribution to the achievement of our vision of Cork as a climate neutral and resilient city.

## Objectives

The plan specifies those actions for which the City Council is fully accountable, concerning emissions from its own assets, and those for which it facilitates and coordinates, influences others, and advocates for.

The DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan is based on clear principles which are:

- Cork City residents support climate action. Our proposals will be bold and ambitious. Business as usual will not be enough. (underlining by Just forests)
- We will take risks through innovation and learn from our mistakes.
- Our transition to net zero will be fair. It will help the most vulnerable groups in the city so that climate action does not push them further behind.
- We will seek out creative and high-impact partnerships with our community organisations, businesses, and academic institutions, among others, to drive and accelerate progress.

Extracts from DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

# **PROPOSAL #2.**

**ADOPTION OF A 'FOSSIL FUEL  
ADVERTISEMENT FREE ZONE' POLICY BY  
CORK CITY COUNCIL**

## **ACTION REQUIRED**

**In the true spirit of leadership on Climate Action and as a means of allaying any public concerns that Cork City Council might revert back to a 'Business As Usual' scenario, Cork City Council will remove all existing fossil fuel related advertisements and ban any future advertisements relating to the fossil fuel sector industries**

## **TIMELINE**

**BEFORE THE END OF JUNE 2024**

## **NOTE**

**Just Forests has teamed up with a number of international organizations calling for a ban on fossil fuel sponsorship in arts, sports and advertising:**

**<https://www.worldwithoutfossilads.org>**

# **PROPOSAL #3.**

**ADOPTION OF A 'INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES  
FREE PARKS' POLICY BY CORK CITY  
COUNCIL**





## Introduction

In 2019, the IPBES Global Assessment Report found that invasive alien species are one of the five most important direct drivers of biodiversity loss – alongside changes in land- and sea-use, direct exploitation of species, climate change and pollution.

On the basis of this finding, Governments tasked IPBES to provide the best available evidence and policy options to deal with the challenges of biological invasions. The resulting report was produced by 86 experts from 49 countries, working for more than four and a half years.

It draws on more than 13,000 references, including very significant contributions from Indigenous Peoples and local communities, making it the most comprehensive assessment ever carried out of invasive alien species around the world.

**“Invasive alien species are a major threat to biodiversity and can cause irreversible damage to nature, including local and global species extinctions, and also threaten human wellbeing,”**

said Professor Helen Roy (United Kingdom), co-chair of the Assessment with Prof. Anibal Pauchard (Chile) and Prof. Peter Stoett (Canada).

**Source:** <https://www.ipbes.net/IASmediarelease>

Report Provides Evidence, Tools & Options to Help Governments Achieve Ambitious New Global Goal on Invasive Alien Species

Invasive Alien Species Pose Major Global Threats to Nature, Economies, Food Security and Human Health

Key Role in 60% of Global Plant & Animal Extinctions

Annual Costs Now >\$423 Billion – Have Quadrupled Every Decade Since 1970

**Invasive alien species destroys local flora and fauna and poses a serious threat to local ecosystems as well as tourism**

**EXAMPLE: THE PROBLEM WITH RHODODENDRON IN KILLARNEY NATIONAL PARK**

[HTTP://SAVEKILLARNEYNATIONALPARK.COM/BEEES-AND-RHODODENDRON/](http://savekillarneynationalpark.com/bees-and-rhododendron/)



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Extracts from DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

# **PROPOSAL #3.**

## **ADOPTION OF A 'INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES-FREE PARKS' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL**

### **ACTION REQUIRED**

**In the true spirit of leadership on Climate Action and as a means of allaying any public concerns that Cork City Council might revert back to a 'Business As Usual' scenario, Cork City Council will remove all existing 'invasive alien species' of plants in all Cork City Council owned Parks and other Public Places with immediate effect**

### **TIMELINE**

**BEFORE THE END OF SEPTEMBER 2024**

### **NOTE**

**After Cork City Council has adopted this proposal a ban on the sale and distribution of invasive alien species of plants and animals will be enacted city-wide in Garden Centers, D.I.Y Stores, Supermarkets.**

**Inhabitants of Cork City must also play their part by removing invasive alien species of plants from their gardens and replacing them with native plants.**

# PROPOSAL #4.

## ADOPTION OF A 'GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (GCE) PROGRAM' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL



Photo ©Just Forests: Micháel Martin, T.D., Minister for Foreign Affairs officially opens Just Forests Wood of Life exhibition in Bishopstown Public Library. January 2010



# What is Global Citizenship Education (GCED)?

***“We learn how to make decisions that benefit our community environmentally, economically and socially. In particular GCED is a great way to better understand the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and make decisions that actually meet the spirit of each goal.”***

Tom Roche - Founder Just Forests

Just Forests believes global citizenship education (GCED), sometimes called development education (DE) or education for sustainable development (ESD), is a great way to introduce adults and youth to becoming active global citizens. GCED enables us to ‘read the world’ and to discover how our daily actions on a local level can have far-reaching impacts on the global level. The interactions, interconnections and implications of our daily lives and actions become ever clearer.

We learn how to make decisions that benefit our community environmentally, economically and socially. In particular GCED is a great way to better understand the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and make decisions that actually meet the spirit of each goal.

Becoming an active global citizen helps us to work on challenging and sometimes complex global problems that improve the conditions of plants, animals, the environment and, of course, people. As active global citizens we learn to empower others to improve their own life, those around them, and to pass on their success in a sustainable manner to others.

In my own case, I take a ‘livelihood’ approach to societies’ dependence on forests by using wood, the basic raw material of my livelihood as a furniture maker, as the ‘hook’ for my activism. Over the years, I have thought a lot about these things. Privately and publicly. And over the years, I have become a public advocate for forests and their inhabitants. For the forests of the world. For the people of the forests of the world. In 1989, I founded Just Forests, an advocacy organization/social enterprise that speaks to hands, hearts and minds.

This is my political work. Social Justice in a time of climate emergency, biological decline and associated human rights abuses. It is easy to be silent. Turn a blind eye. For me that wasn’t an option. It was like an itch. Scratching away. This is who I am. I can’t leave things be.

**According to the United Nations, global citizenship education provides the understanding, skills and values people need to cooperate in resolving the interconnected challenges of the 21st century, including climate change, conflict, poverty, hunger, and issues of equity and sustainability. These same educational outcomes prepare us to be successful in the workplace of the 21st century as well.**

# UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030

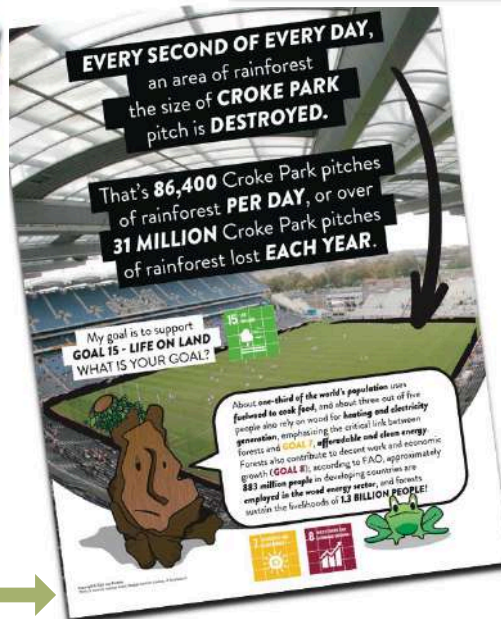
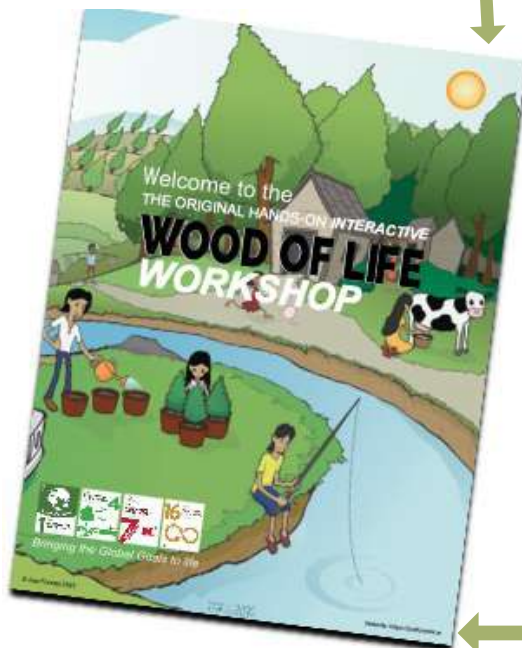
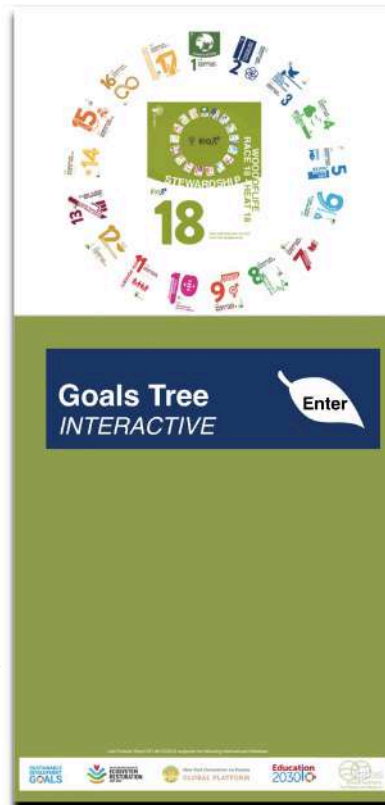
Earth needs help. The climate emergency, the loss of nature and deadly pollution threaten to destroy our home and eliminate many of the millions of species that share this beautiful planet with us. But this degradation is not inevitable. We have the power and the knowledge to reverse the harm and restore the Earth – if we act now. That is why the United Nations has declared the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

## Will Cork City Council take the lead?

Starting on **World Environment Day June 5, 2024**, Just Forests will invite individuals, groups, government departments, local authorities, businesses and organizations of all kinds to join forces in a national movement to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation and secure a sustainable future for all.

Just Forests GCED resources supports the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and brings the Sustainable Development Goals to life.

Examples of some of Just Forests GCED resources



The UN Decade runs from 2021 through 2030, which is also the deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals and the timeline scientists have identified as the last chance to prevent catastrophic climate change.

<https://www.decadeonrestoration.org>



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### Extracts from DRAFT Cork City Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

“Now more than ever it is important that all members of our society, particularly our young people, have an opportunity to deepen their understanding of global development. The support offered by principals and teachers in encouraging the global perspective among their students is to be acknowledged and applauded.

Also, the focus by Just Forests on the curriculum, at primary and post-primary level, will ensure that the message on sustainable development has relevance for our education system and has a lasting impact.”

Micheál Martin at the official opening of Just Forests’ Wood of Life Exhibition, January 2010, Bishopstown Public Library, Cork City.

Minister Martin’s full speech, photos, press coverage and report available at:

<https://justforests.ie/?project=wol-bishopstown-library-cork-2010>



# **PROPOSAL #4.**

## **ADOPTION OF A 'GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (GCED)' PROGRAM' POLICY BY CORK CITY COUNCIL**

### **ACTION REQUIRED**

**In the true spirit of leadership on Climate Action and as a means of allaying any public concerns that Cork City Council might revert back to a 'Business As Usual' scenario, Cork City Council will work with an agreed GCED provider**

- to develop a Global Citizen Education (GCE) program**
- and deliver training workshops to all Cork City Council staff and elected Councillors as a matter of urgency**

### **TIMELINE**

**BEFORE THE END OF JUNE 2024**

### **NOTE**

**Such GCED training will be an enormous help and confidence-booster in guiding participants in aligning policy decisions with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - the UN "blueprint" for a just, habitable and sustainable world and with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration - both of which are deadlined for 2030**

# A seminar proposal

## Awash in Greenwash

### *The Dangers of Green Washing and Sports Washing*

A seminar proposal

*“Everything clean can be soiled and everything beautiful can be corrupted. There’s no better example for it than greenwashing” (Kippar,2022).*

In the context of climate change, environmental destruction and the pivotal role of fossil fuel companies, greenwashing and sportswashing are now key points of conflict. In order to attempt to maintain a ‘business as usual’ model, fossil fuel companies make extensive (and growing) use of both greenwashing and sportswashing.

Ireland is not immune to the strategy as companies make use of art, education, sport, and community life to burnish their image and to undermine critics. The NGO sector itself has also been dragged into the agenda.

We have explored the issue in some detail: <https://spoarts.ie/download-spoarts-wash/> and in <https://www.developmenteducationreview.com/issue/issue-37/awash-greenwash>

We feel it is now urgent that the issue is debated more broadly especially in the context of directly challenging it and its negative consequences.

**Seminar proposal:** a one-day event focused on 4 specific issues:

- The scale, ubiquity, intensity, and seductiveness of greenwashing and sportswashing and their inherent dangers.
- The questions and issues that arise for many sectors including schools and other educational settings, community-based organisations and sports and arts organisations.
- A number of case studies that highlight the issues in terms of human rights, sustainability, ethics and public information and awareness.
- Strategies and opportunities to challenge the fossil fuel ‘washing’ agenda.

The seminar is intended for those directly involved in education, public administration, NGOs, arts, and sports organisations. We anticipate the seminar would take place in February 2024.

At this stage, we are approaching a number of organisations and institutions to invite them to join us in organising and shaping the seminar.

Peadar King, Tom Roche and Colm Regan

November 2023

**P.S. The above invitation for ‘expression of interest’ was sent to University College Cork (UCC) in November and a very positive response has issued from the School of Education @UCC.**

# About Just Forests

- Founded Just Forests, a development education (DE) NGO in November 1989.
- Awarded a certificate by the Irish Institute at Boston College for successfully completing the Non-Profit Development Program 2001
- Awarded the silver medal for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) Forestry Awards for Education in Wood 1999
- First FSC-endorsed Contact Person for the Republic of Ireland (1995-2001). Organised and hosted the first conference in Ireland for key stakeholders on Independent Forest Certification and Responsible Timber Sourcing  
Established the Irish Forestry Certification Initiative (IFCI) -the precursor to FSC IRELAND
- Developed the first 'responsible timber procurement policy' for local authorities in Ireland. Was appointed Chain-of-Custody (CoC) Auditor in Ireland for the SmartWood program of the Rainforest Alliance of New York
- Coordinated the EU Government Barometer on Illegal Logging 2014-2012 & 2007

## CAREER HISTORY

**1989- to present:** Coordinator of the day-to-day activities of Just Forests (voluntary for the past 10 years - without funding)

**1986-1989:** Worked as a carpenter in Boston, USA.

**1974-1986:** Operated my own self-employed small furniture making business in Tullamore.

**1971-1974:** Worked as furniture maker for William Dann, Furniture Maker, Tullamore.

**1967-1971:** Worked as a carpenter/furniture maker in Melbourne, Australia and as a 'rouseabout' on a sheep station in Sunday Creek, Broadford, Victoria, Australia.

**1962-1967:** Served an apprenticeship as carpenter with Mr. Barney O'Connor, Market Square, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, Ireland.

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

**1962-1967:** Served an apprenticeship as carpenter with Mr. Barney O'Connor, Market Square, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, Ireland.

**1954-1962:** St Bridget's Boys National School, Tullamore, Co Offaly.

*In relation to Just Forests work:*

Over the past 32 years I have attended numerous training workshops on independent forest certification and responsible timber purchasing and chain-of-custody (CoC) auditing with the following institutions:

FSC-USA, FSC-Oaxaca (3 visits), Rainforest ALLIANCE, WWF-Netherlands, WWF-Germany, WWF-Belgium, WWF-Switzerland, WWF-Spain and WWF-UK.

I also attended a number of meetings on illegal logging at Chatham House and Brussels.

Just Forests is a member of:





Sports & Arts Washing

# SpoArts WASH

Exposing Ireland's Fossil Fuel  
Sponsorship Culture

**Download SpoArts WASH**

<https://spoarts.ie/download-spoarts-wash/>