

# NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

TO PROTECT AND RESTORE URBAN, RURAL, COASTAL AND RIVERINE ENVIRONMENTS



This Nature-Based Solutions Conference is Engineers Ireland CPD-approved

## ONE DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MUIRHEVNA BUILDING, DKIT  
DUNDALK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
EIRCODE: A91 K584



## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 16TH MAY '24  
TIME: 9.30AM - 4.30PM

**09:30-10:00** REGISTRATION AND TEA/COFFEE

**10:00 - 10:10** WELCOME ADDRESS: *Dr Diarmuid O'Callaghan, President, DkIT (10mins)*

**10:10 - 10:20** MINISTERIAL ADDRESS: *Minister Malcom Noonan, T.D. Minister of State for Nature, Heritage & Electoral Reform*  
*Chaired by Dr Fran Igoe Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO)*

### THEME 1: URBAN

**10:20 - 10:30** INTRODUCTION TO RESIRIVER INTERREG NW EUROPE: *Stanford Wilson, Project Manager, EU Interreg project ResiRiver & advisor Flood Risk Management, RWS, The Netherlands*

**10:30 - 10:40** NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR IRELAND (LAUNCH):  
*Adrian Conway, Project Lead, NBS Strategy*

**10:40- 10:50** NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: THE PRIVATE SECTOR VIEW  
*Pat Roberts, MKO: Ireland Planning & Environmental Consultancy*

**10:50 - 11:00** RECAST OF THE URBAN WASTEWATER DIRECTIVE, NBS AND INTEGRATED URBAN WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLANS. *Francis Finnerty, Wastewater Networks, Performance Manager, Uisce Eireann*

**11:00 - 11:30** TEA/COFFEE BREAK - NETWORKING

### THEME 2: RURAL

**11:30 - 11:40** NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO PROTECT AND RESTORE WATER QUALITY, THE FARMING FOR WATER EIP: *Mairead Whitty, Project Manager, LAWPRO*

**11:40 - 11:55** COILLTE NATURE - RESTORING WOODLANDS FOR MULTIPLE BENEFITS BY WORKING WITH NATURE: *Dr Declan Little, Ecological Lead, Coillte*

### THEME 3: YOUTH

**11:55 - 12:05** IMPLEMENTING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS THROUGH SCIENCE-BASED EXPLORATION: *representative from St. Vincent's, Secondary School, Dundalk*

### Q & A SESSION

**12:15 - 13:30** LUNCH: POSTER SESSION AND NETWORKING *A selection of posters showcasing Nature-based Solutions case studies and plans will be on display.*

### THEME 4: RIVERINE

**13:30 - 13:35** FOCUS ON RIVERS - SETTING THE SCENE: *Dr Suzanne Linnane, Director, Centre for Freshwater & Environmental Studies, DkIT*

**13:35 - 13:45** NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: AN INLAND FISHERIES IRELAND (IFI) PERSPECTIVE  
*Karen Kelly, Ecologist, Habitat Management team, IFI*

**13:45 - 13:55** RESIRIVER PARTNER CASES STUDY - CHALLENGES WITH APPLYING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN THE LYS RIVER BASIN (FRANCE): *Victoria Soubeiran, CPIE*

**13:55 - 14:10** APPLYING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN URBAN SETTINGS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES  
*Defne Osmanoglu RWS & World Bank*

### Q & A SESSION

**14:30-15:00** TEA/COFFEE BREAK: NETWORKING

### THEME 5: COASTAL

**15:00 - 15:10** DUTCH COASTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: IS IT NATURE BASED?  
*Quirijn Lodder, Principal Advisor at RWS, The Netherlands*

**15:10 - 15:20** ENHANCING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN MARINE AND COASTAL AREA: POLICY DRIVERS AND AMBITIONS  
*Dr Katherine Cronin, Scientific Policy Advisor, Marine Environment Section, Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage*

**15:20 - 15:30** THE CHALLENGES OF IMPLEMENTING COASTAL AND MARINE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN IRELAND  
*Dr Eugene Farrell, Lecturer & Researcher, University of Galway*

### Q & A SESSION

### THEME 6: PANEL DISCUSSION ON POLICY AND NEXT STEPS

**15:45 - 15:55** A VISION FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS AS A DRIVER FOR NATURE RESTORATION  
*Dr Norma O'Hea, Ecologist, National Parks and Wildlife Service*

**15:55 - 16:25** PANEL DISCUSSION ON POLICY AND NEXT STEPS: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS - BUILDING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS INTO LAND USE MANAGEMENT

**16:25 - 16:30** CLOSING REMARKS: *Anthony Coleman, Director, Local Authority Waters Programme*

