

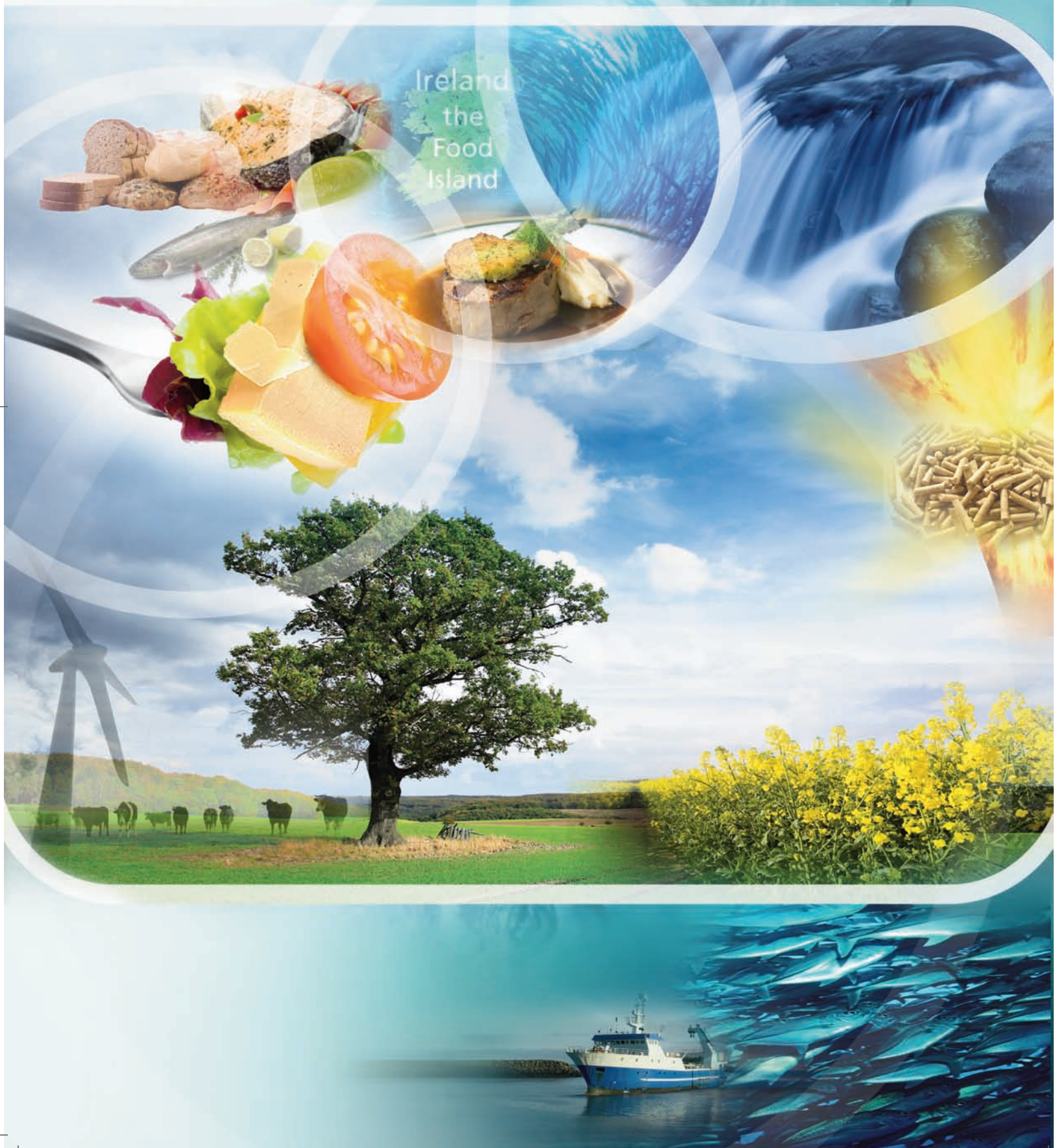
Department of
Agriculture, Fisheries and Food



Statement of Strategy 2008-2010

Volume II Annexes

Ireland
the
Food
Island



Annex 1

Programme for Government DAFF - related commitments

| No | PfG Commitment | Relevant Strategic Action | Lead Department & Key Linkages |
|---|---|---------------------------|--|
| Global Challenges and Negotiations | | | |
| 1 | Secure the highest achievable level of support for the farming sector at EU and WTO levels. | 1.2 | D/AFF D/Taoiseach, SCA, D/ETE, Council of Ministers |
| 2 | Continue to protect direct payments to farmers, ensure the export subsidies are dealt with in a balanced and equitable way, and promote the need for non-trade issues to be part of any further trade deals. | 1.2, 4.1 | D/AFF D/Taoiseach, SCA, D/ETE, Council of Ministers |
| 3 | Do all that is required to protect Irish consumers from imports of agricultural produce that do not meet the same standards as those required of Irish farmers. | 2.1 | D/AFF FSAI |
| 4 | Establish a high level strategic interdepartmental group whose role will be to, on an ongoing basis, identify and work to ease access and fully exploit new overseas markets for Irish food and drink products. | 1.3 | D/AFF D/ETE, D/FA, D/Finance, D/EHLG, D/CENR, D/H & C |
| 5 | Increase funding to Bord Bia for overseas promotion of Irish food and agricultural produce. | 1.6 | D/AFF D/Finance Bord Bia |
| 6 | Invest in improving competitiveness, enhancing our environment and promoting diversification on and off the farm. | 1.1, 1.4, 1.8 | D/AFF Bord Bia Teagasc COFORD |

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| Family Farms | | | |
| 7 | Ensure that farmers have both the freedom to farm and access to all necessary supports, regardless of which path they choose. | 1.1, 3.1 | D/AFF Teagasc COFORD |
| 8 | Introduce a new On-Farm Investment Scheme, which will include aid for investment in housing, handling and related facilities. | 3.3 | D/AFF |
| 9 | Fully implement the Rural Development Programme so that farmers benefit fully from the increased payments and new schemes. | 1.1 | D/AFF |
| 9a | Continue to support low-income farmers through the Farm Assist Scheme and adapt it in consultation with the farming organisations. | Primarily a matter for the Department of Social and Family Affairs | D/SFA |
| 10 | Implement measures, including taxation measures, in order to assist farmers in maximising their income from farming and achieving optimum structures and scale. | 3.1, 3.2 | D/AFF |
| 11 | Further promote the benefits of REPS and achieve a participation rate of 70,000 farmers. | 3.3 | D/AFF Teagasc |
| 12 | Set a target to convert a minimum 5% of acreage to organic farmland by 2012. | 3.4 | D/AFF Teagasc |
| 13 | Introduce a new Animal Health Bill to consolidate and amend previous legislation to reflect the changed disease status of our nation's animals. | 2.3, 1.9 | D/AFF A.G. |
| 14 | Establish "Biosecurity Ireland" as a division within the Department of Agriculture and Food with a remit to ensure the exclusion, eradication or effective management of risks posed by diseases and pests to the economy, the environment and to human and animal health. | 2.2 | D/AFF D/H & C Revenue Commissioners D/JELR |
| 15 | Seek to negotiate the establishment of an All-Ireland GM-Free Zone. | 3.10 | D/EHLG D/H&C, D/AFF D/ETE |

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| Focus on the Consumer | | | |
| 16 | Further exploit the potential of existing animal traceability systems for the marketing and labelling of food products. | 2.8 | D/AFF D/H & C, Bord Bia EU Commission |
| 17 & 40 | Extend mandatory "country of origin" food labelling to sheep, pig and poultry meat. Extend "country of origin" labelling requirements in respect of pigmeat and poultry meat. | 2.8 | DG Sanco D/H & C D/AFF |
| 18 | Increase nutritional awareness as part of our food advertising and marketing through the development of nutritional and calorific labelling. | 1.7 | D/H & C Bord Bia D/AFF |
| 19 | We will expedite the delivery of a National Strategy for Tackling Obesity and increase support for the promotion of healthy food options among young people through programmes such as the School Milk Scheme and the Food Dudes Programme for encouraging the increased consumption of fruit and vegetables. | 5.11, 1.7 | D/H & C D/AFF, Bord Bia |
| Animal Welfare | | | |
| 20 | Promote the highest standards of animal welfare at all levels of the food production chain. | 2.5 | D/AFF |
| 21 | Introduce a comprehensive Animal Welfare Bill, updating existing legislation, to ensure that the welfare of animals is properly protected and that the penalties for offenders are increased significantly. | 2.5 | D/AFF A.G |
| 22 | Continue to expand and develop our herd health policies to ensure the highest of standards of animal welfare. | 2.5 | D/AFF |
| 23 | Given its level of veterinary and welfare expertise, consolidate responsibility for the welfare of all animals (including non-farm animals) within the Department of Agriculture and Food. | 2.4 | D/AFF D/EHLG D/Justice A.G. D/H & C |

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| 24 | Review and consolidate where necessary all legislation governing the welfare of non-farm animals. | 2.4 | D/AFF A.G |
| 25 | Continue to push for welfare and other non-trade issues to be included in WTO negotiations. | 1.1 | D/AFF M.S. |
| Beef Sector | | | |
| 26 | Ensure that Irish beef processing facilities are substantially upgraded through the full roll out our €50 million investment programme. | 1.1 | D/AFF & Enterprise Ireland |
| 27 | Continue to support the Suckler Herd Quality and Welfare Scheme to ensure that the herd is maintained at its optimum level. | 1.1 | D/AFF |
| 28 | Ensure that our high standards of food safety, quality labelling and traceability will be vigorously promoted to provide a competitive advantage against low cost imports. | 2.8 | D/AFF & Bord Bia |
| 29 | Continue to relentlessly pursue the best market returns through Bord Bia, along with political and diplomatic efforts. | 1.8 | Bord Bia D/AFF |
| Dairy Sector | | | |
| 30 | Assist in the creation of an efficient processing sector with a view to securing its longer-term competitive advantage with our €100 million investment package. | 1.1 | D/AFF & Enterprise Ireland |
| 31 | Increase research and development funding for projects in the sector to fully exploit its potential for new products. | 1.6 | D/AFF D/Finance |
| 32 | Enhance the Dairy Hygiene Scheme to include feeding systems and increased thresholds for milking equipment and milk tanks. | 1.1 | D/AFF |
| 33 | Introduce new Herd Health Initiative to deal with non-regulated diseases. | 2.3 | D/AFF |

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| Sheepmeat Sector | | | |
| 34 | Fully implement the recommendations of the Sheep Industry Strategy Group. | 1.1 | D/AFF Industry |
| 35 | Increase supports for improved breeding and sheep housing. | 1.1 | D/AFF |
| 36 | Support a Quality Assurance programme, aid promotion and strengthen labelling with a view to ensuring wider and deepen penetration on home and EU markets. | 1.1, 1.7, 1.8 | Bord Bia D/AFF |
| 37 | Invest in a programme to upgrade processing facilities. | 1.1 | D/AFF |
| Cereals, Pigmeat & Poultry Sector | | | |
| 38 | Assist and expand the Quality Assurance Schemes in these sectors. | 1.1, 1.7, 1.8 | Bord Bia D/AFF |
| 39 | Aid grain storage through the Farm Improvement Programme. | 3.3 | D/AFF |
| 41 | Work with growers, to continue to support import substitution in the fruit and vegetable sector. | 1.1 | D/AFF Forestry |
| 42 | Promote a diverse forestry culture with an emphasis on native trees. | 3.5 | D/AFF COFORD |
| 43 | Ensure that forestry continues to give an important income stream to farmers through the Forest Premium Scheme that has been substantially increased under the partnership process. | 3.5 | D/AFF |
| 44 | Develop new market opportunities for thinning linked to the increased need for renewable energy sources. | 3.5. 3.9 | D/AFF |
| 45 | Promote forestry plantation to increase biomass production demand in the building and fuel markets and to provide 'carbon sinks' to combat climate change. | 3.9 | D/AFF D/EHLG |

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| 46 | Review the Forest Environmental Payments Scheme (FEPS) pilot underway with a view to a full roll out in the years ahead. | 3.5 | D/AFF |
| 47 | Review the Forestry Premium levels and, ensure by 2012 that a minimum of 30% broadleaf will be planted annually. | 3.5 | D/AFF |
| 48 | Initiate a review of Forestry Acts and programmes to reflect sustainable social and environmental objectives. | 1.9 | D/AFF A.G. |
| Bio-Energy- A New Opportunity | | | |
| 49 | Implement a comprehensive Strategic plan to maximise the potential of all non-food crops to benefit our indigenous renewable energy sector and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. | 3.9, 3.10 | D/CENR D/AFF D/EHLG |
| 50 | Continue to support research in the biofuel and biomass areas so that we can respond to new opportunities quickly. | 1.6 | D/AFF Teagasc, COFORD |
| 51 | Ensure that the development of bio-energy will be of significant benefit to farmers and rural Ireland. | 3.9, 3.10 | D/CENR D/AFF Teagasc |
| 52 | Further encourage the growing of willow, miscanthus and other crops for biomass. | 3.9 | D/AFF Teagasc |
| Organic Farming & Farmers Markets | | | |
| 53 | Strengthen support for the organic sector through the REPS scheme. | 3.3, 3.4 | D/AFF |
| 54 | Encourage more direct selling from farmer to customer by restoring and promoting a national network of farmers' markets. | 1.5 | Bord Bia OPW |

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| Cutting Red Tape | | | |
| 55 | Vigorously pursue the simplification agenda at EU level, with the immediate aim of bringing about change in the EU cross compliance checks system. | 1.2, 4.5 | D/AFF EU Commission |
| 56 | Minimise and streamline the financial and regulatory issues facing small farms and farm businesses. | 4.5 | D/AFF |
| 57 | Use the 2008 CAP "health check" to best advantage in terms of reducing the burden of paperwork on farmers. | 1.2, 4.5 | D/AFF EU Commission Other M.S. |
| 58 | Work with the implementation group established under the Farmers' Charter to monitor outcomes and ensure that the charter is modified if necessary. | 4.1, 4.2 | D/AFF |
| 59 | Ensure that the views of farmers are systematically sought on the paperwork linked to all revisions of schemes. | 1.1, 4.2 | D/AFF |
| Food Businesses | | | |
| 60 | Implement policies to ensure Ireland's "clean and green" food marketing image is protected and actively promoted. | 2.8 | Bord Bia D/AFF |
| 61 | Consolidate all aspects of the development and promotion of the agri-food industry within the Department of Agriculture and Food and establish a Cabinet Sub-Committee on the food and beverage sector, shadowed by a high level Inter-Departmental Group. | 1.3 | D/AFF D/ETE, D/FA, D/Finance, D/EHLG, D/CENR, D/H & C |
| 62 | Work with the food industry to ensure that the maximum potential of this key indigenous sector is fully realised. | 1.3, 1.4 | D/AFF Interdept. Group Bord Bia BIM Teagasc |

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| 63 | Expand our Regional Food Forum concept to develop a forum through which researchers, producers, processors and consumers may engage and interact. | 1.5, 1.8 | Bord Bia - D/AFF BIM |
| 64 | Facilitate small food businesses by making available through Bord Bia an increased level of expert advice and support. | 1.5, 1.8 | Bord Bia - D/AFF BIM |
| 65 | Support the development of small and medium agri-enterprises and short 'food chain' activities. | 1.5, 1.8 | Bord Bia Teagasc, BIM, D/AFF |
| Supporting Young Farmers | | | |
| 66 | Continue to offer a range of supports to young farmers entering agriculture; including education, taxation measures and direct start-up aid. | 3.1 & 3.2 | D/AFF D/Finance Teagasc |
| 67 | Retain stamp duty relief that continues to play an important role in the early hand-over of farms to the younger generation. | Primarily a matter for the Department of Finance | D/Finance |
| 68 | Support our farmers by promoting measures for the minimisation of agricultural waste and for effective and environmental waste disposal, and provide supports to facilitate and ensure the implementation of EU Directives on water, waste, nitrates and integrated pollution. | 3.1, 3.3 | D/EHLG D/AFF Teagasc EPA |
| Training our Farmers | | | |
| 69 | Continue to support education and training courses for both young and adult farmers. | 1.8 | Teagasc D/AFF |
| 70 | Fund educational and commercial development courses to equip farmers for diversification into new enterprises and revise educational curricula to take account of agriculture post-CAP. | 1.8 | Teagasc D/AFF D/Finance |
| 71 | Ensure that courses are also available at night, at weekends and through e-learning to facilitate part-time farmers. | 1.8 | Teagasc D/AFF |

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| 71a | Introduce a new syllabus for Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science- | Primarily a matter for the Department of Education and Science | D/E & S |
| 72 | Invest in our Agricultural Colleges and restructure the environment through which they are supported. | 1.8 | Teagasc D/AFF D/Finance |
| 73 | Further increase the level of funding committed to agri-food research to more than €641 million under the NDP, with a further €289 million for investment in capital infrastructure and marketing for the food industry. | 1.1, 1.6 | D/AFF D/Finance |
| Innovation through Research | | | |
| 74 | Require all non-core funding to be allocated in a competitive way, ensuring that all institutions competing for research money achieve the highest of standards and that research results in a tangible benefit at farm and food business level. | 1.6 | D/AFF Teagasc Bord Bia BIM 3rd level Institutions |
| 75 | Ensure regular briefings on developments for farmers and businesses. | 1.6 | Bord Bia D/AFF Teagasc |
| Marine & Natural Resources | | | |
| 76 | Through sustainable management based on scientific advice, work to maintain the annual 200,000 tonnes of quota fished annually by the Irish Fleet. | 3.7 | D/AFF MI |
| 77 | Maintain world class fishery harbours at Castletownbere, Dunmore East, Howth, Killybegs and Rossaveel, Clogherhead. Progress the major infrastructure projects in Cromane and Greencastle. | 3.6 | D/AFF |
| 78 | Each of our Fisheries Harbours has the potential to be a unique and internationally recognised brand. BIM will work with the Fisherman's Cooperatives to develop branded seafood products from those ports. | 3.6 | D/AFF BIM Bord Bia |

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| 79 | Complete the work of fleet restructuring, to create a world-class fleet ideally suited to the stocks, species and sustainable practices of the modern fisheries sector. | 3.6 | D/AFF BIM |
| 80 | Invest in ongoing investment in fleet safety, diversification into inshore fishing activity and marine tourism. | 3.6 | D/AFF BIM |
| 81 | Seafood Development will benefit from an investment of €216 million under the new National Development Plan (NDP). A further €118 million may be made available over the life of the plan under the Cawley proposals, which will be available to the sector on the basis of verified progressive change as set out in the Cawley Report. | 1.1, 3.6 | D/AFF BIM |
| 82 | Improve our marine environment by implementing environmental and inshore management systems, supporting efficient waste management, environmentally friendly fishing gear and technical innovation. | 3.7 | D/AFF BIM |
| 83 | Support the economic & social development of maritime communities the development through the provision of training and upgrading of existing skill levels, developing of infrastructure (supply chain) and support for innovation and product development. | 1.6, 1.8, 3.6 | D/AFF BIM MI |
| 84 | Increase current supports to assist fishermen to make the change-over to more environmentally friendly fishing gear and more fuel-efficient equipment. We will provide maximum permitted grant aid for a range of equipment, from environmentally friendly fishing nets to gear monitoring systems that improve fuel efficiency. | 3.7 | D/AFF BIM |
| 85 | Increase grant funding to our Aquaculture sector to develop technological innovation and environmentally sustainable techniques, including organic farming, and diversification into new species. | 3.6 | D/AFF BIM D/Finance |

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| 86 | Ensure that voluntary fishing vessel decommissioning on the scale envisaged in the Cawley Report will be fully implemented and will be focussed on the larger whitefish vessels over 18 metres. In that context greater priority will be given in the allocation of fishing quotas to smaller vessels. | 3.6 | D/AFF BIM |
| 87 | Continue to work with coastal communities to identify and designate suitable marine protected areas to allow the regeneration of stocks and the conservation of wildlife. | 3.7 | D/AFF MI |
| 88 | Seek to ensure that all EU Fisheries Agreements with developing countries protect the need for sustainable fish supplies to local populations and do not disrupt or threaten the activities of local traditional fishing fleets. | 3.7 | D/AFF EU Commission Other M.S. |
| 89 | Implement an observer Programme on Irish fishing vessels involved in fisheries which carry a high risk of cetacean by catches. Irish representatives will also lobby at European Level for an intensified observer programme to be put in place to monitor cetacean by catches on all fleets involved in fisheries which have a high risk of cetacean by catches. | 3.7 | D/AFF BIM |
| 90 | Encourage and support the development of high value added branded seafood exports. | 1.8, 3.6 | D/AFF BIM |
| 91 | In line with relevant EU provisions, implement a system of instant electronic logging of all catches and landings made by fishing vessels in Irish waters. | 3.7 | D/AFF SFPA |
| 92 | A comprehensive electronic traceability system for fish sales will be fully implemented to ensure that all fish being sold or transported can be traced back to the trawler. | 3.7 | D/AFF SFPA |
| 93 | Further develop Ireland's reputation as a Centre of Excellence for Marine Research. | 1.8, 3.6 | D/AFF MI |
| 94 | Instigate a National Marine Biotechnology Initiative to place Ireland as a world leader in this important sector. We see a role for the Marine Institute, SFI, Enterprise Ireland, the IDA and Universities in this. | 3.6 | D/AFF MI SFI EI IDA |

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| | <p data-bbox="321 662 703 710">Cross-Departmental Issues</p> <p data-bbox="321 734 581 782">Social Partnership</p> <p data-bbox="217 806 868 1384">A The Government is committed in accordance with the terms of Towards 2016, to integrating environmental considerations into policy formulation and to providing for better environmental enforcement. The Government will, therefore, increase the resources available to Comhar, in particular with a view to enhancing its capacity to undertake analysis of policy issues and policy performance. To link its work to the broader analytical and deliberative mechanisms of social partnership, Comhar will be established as a body within the National Economic and Social Dev. Office. Its functions will include monitoring and advising on the effectiveness of policy in achieving the goals of the Climate Change Strategy. Arrangements for representation of environmental issues in social partnership will be considered in the course of the review of T16 which will take place in 2008.</p> <p data-bbox="321 1432 703 1480">Ensuring Value for Money</p> <p data-bbox="217 1505 868 1601">B NDP Programme Evaluations and VFM and Policy Reviews will be published and submitted to the relevant Select Committees of the Oireachtas.</p> <p data-bbox="217 1625 868 1830">C All Ministers will submit an Annual Output Statement with their Annual Estimates to the relevant Oireachtas Committee. This will detail target outputs for the Estimates and the following years' Statement will set out achievements against target. This process will encompass Exchequer funded NDP spending.</p> | <p data-bbox="894 806 928 830">3.9</p> <p data-bbox="894 1505 928 1529">5.7</p> <p data-bbox="894 1625 928 1649">5.2</p> | <p data-bbox="1171 806 1328 903">D/Taoiseach, D/EHLG D/AFF</p> <p data-bbox="1171 1505 1362 1529">All Departments</p> <p data-bbox="1171 1625 1362 1649">All Departments</p> |

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| Public Sector Management | | | |
| D | Support the further opening up of management roles to the best qualified candidates. | 5.9 | All Departments |
| E | Roll out the new Performance Management and Development System (PMDS). It is an essential tool for managing performance and career development for all staff. A consistent evaluation system should identify outstanding performance and highlight under-performance. | 5.2 | All Departments |
| F | Implement improvements in human resource management which ensure that all public servants are helped to develop to the best of their ability. | 5.9 | |
| G | Support succession and career planning to ensure a talent pipeline for the future leadership of the public sector. | 5.9 | All Departments |
| Decentralisation | | | |
| H | Continue to move ahead with decentralisation taking account of the National Spatial Strategy. | 5.5 | All relevant Departments/ Agencies |
| I | Ensure that no public servant is obliged to accept decentralisation against their wishes and that promotion opportunities remain available. | 5.5 | D/Finance Staff Associations All relevant Departments/ Agencies |
| Energy | | | |
| J | Implement in full the National Bioenergy Action Plan for Ireland. | 3.10 | D/CENR D/EHLG D/AFF |
| K | Maximise energy efficiency and energy savings across the economy with a target of 20% energy savings by 2020 and 33% for public sector. | 3.10 | All Departments |
| & | and | | |
| O | Require the public sector to lead the way on energy efficiency with a mandatory programme of efficiency measures including the sole use of energy efficient lighting and heating in offices, schools and hospitals and other public buildings to produce 33% energy savings by 2020. | | |

| No | PfG Commitment | Relevant Strategic Action | Lead Department & Key Linkages |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Environment | | | |
| L | Implement a comprehensive range of measures as set out in the new National Climate Change Strategy. | 3.10 | All Departments |
| M | (Agree an all-party approach on climate change targets) and In advance of agreeing such targets, the Government will set a target for this administration of a reduction of 3% per year on average in our greenhouse gas emissions. | 3.10 | D/EHLG All Departments |
| N | Create new opportunities for our farmers by moving agriculture to a new dual system of food and power production. | 3.9 | D/AFF D/CENR |
| P | Require carbon offsetting of all official air travel in support of urban forests. | 3.10 | All Departments |
| Q | Implement higher standards of water protection and ensure that farmers in particular have all necessary supports to operate to these standards. | 3.10 | D/EHLG EPA, D/AFF |
| Heritage | | | |
| R | Work with farmers and other landowners by putting in place management plans to ensure the long-term protection of valuable conservation areas. (Habitats Directive and other nature conservation measures) | 3.10 | D/EHLG D/AFF |

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|--|---|---------------------------|---|
| Health | | | |
| S | We will expedite the delivery of a National Strategy for Tackling Obesity, with a cross-departmental group to ensure implementation, with regular reports to Cabinet. | 5.11 | D/H&C D/AFF |
| Ireland in the World- Development Aid | | | |
| T | Increase ODA to 0.7% of GNP by 2012. The annual Budget statement will contain an outline of the target for the coming year and a report on progress to date. | 1.11 | D/FA D/Finance D/AFF Other relevant Departments |
| U | Act on the findings of the Hunger Task Force. | 1. 1.11 | Not yet published |
| V | Adopt an integrated approach to development across all government departments. | 1. 1.11 | D/FA All Departments |
| Ireland in Europe | | | |
| W | Support moves to increase competitiveness within the Union through developing research and knowledge capacities, as well as promoting competition. | 1.2, 1.6 | All Departments EU Commission Other MS |
| X | Maintain a vigorous stance in defence of Irish maritime communities in all EU Fisheries discussions. | 1.2 | D/AFF EU Commission Other MS |
| Y | Insist that existing agreements on the CAP be honoured, within the Union and in trade negotiations. | 1.2 | D/AFF EU Commission All MS |
| Z | Aim to have Ireland consistently within the top group on the EU internal Market Scoreboard which monitors transposition of EU Directives. | 1.9 | All Departments |
| Z (i) | Press for increased EU supports and more ambitious targets for renewable energy. | 3.10 | D/CENR EU Commission All MS |
| Z (ii) | Support moves to minimise EU bureaucracy. | 4.5 | All Departments EU Commission All MS |

Annex 2

Department's Principal Publications*

Compendium of Irish Agricultural Statistics

Agri Vision 2015 Action Plan

AgriVision 2015 Progress Report

Annual Output Statements

Annual Report of the Audit Committee of the Department of Agriculture and Food

Annual Report of the Minister of Agriculture and Food

Annual Review and Outlook

Biodiversity-DAF actions to promote biodiversity

Schemes and Services

Towards 2016 – Agriculture Provisions

Charter of Rights for Farmers

Customer Service Action Plan

Department of Agriculture and Food Customer Charter

National Development Plan 2007-2013

Rural Development Programme 2007-2013

Steering A New Course: Strategy for a Restructured, Sustainable and profitable Irish Seafood Industry 2007 – 2013

Sea Change: A Marine Knowledge, Research & Innovation Strategy for Ireland 2007 – 2013

Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2006-2013

* Weblink to all documents available on electronic version of 2008-2010 Strategy Statement which are also updated, where relevant.

