

Enterprise Newsletter

October 2021

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Government launches the renewed National Development Plan 2021-2030

On 4 October, Taoiseach Micheál Martin, Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, Minister Eamon Ryan and Minister Michael McGrath launched the new [National Development Plan 2021 - 2030](#) in Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

The publication outlines the largest National Development Plan ever delivered in the history of the State - €165 billion - with a particular focus on priority solutions to strengthen housing, climate ambitions, transport, healthcare, jobs growth in every region and economic renewal for the decade ahead.

This plan will prepare us for population growth of approximately 1 million people between 2016 and 2040 and help us to deal with the ongoing challenges of COVID-19 and Brexit.

[Launch of the National Development Plan 2021-2030](#)

Updated Work Safely Protocol

The [Work Safely Protocol](#), the COVID-19 national protocol for employers and workers, was updated on 16 September 2021 to reflect updated Public Health advice and knowledge. The technical updates include the inclusion of new symptoms associated with the Delta variant of COVID-19 and additional information on ventilation, and vaccinations.

This updated Protocol remains a robust document which is applicable to all sectors of the economy. It sets out the **minimum Public Health infection prevention and control measures required** in every place of work to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is not designed to prohibit the introduction of additional measures in particular sectors or workplaces which could further enhance the measures set out in this Protocol.

[Updated Work Safely Protocol](#)

National Women's Enterprise Day 2021 - 7 October

The Local Enterprise Office initiative, now in its 15th year and taking place virtually, is the largest female enterprise event in the country. Last year over 2,000 female entrepreneurs and budding businesswomen logged on to the free event and this year will be no different.

The Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar will open the event that is being hosted by entrepreneur and broadcaster Áine Kerr. This year's theme, "**Build the Future**" will look at the range of supports available to female entrepreneurs to help them get ahead, covering key areas such as innovation, sustainability, exporting and internationalisation, trading online and financial skills.

Speakers include:

- Beauty entrepreneur and founder of Sculpted by Aimee, **Aimee Connolly**
- Founder of horticulture institution The Arboretum, **Rachel Doyle**,
- **Sharon Keegan** of inclusive wear brand Peachylean,
- Enterprise Ireland's **Jenny Melia** and **Sheelgah Daly**,
- Designer **Aoife McNamara** and **Suzie O'Neill** of AYU Cosmetics and
- Motivational guru **Gerry Duffy**.

[Tickets are free and can be booked here](#)

InterTradeIreland's Go-2-Tender workshops

InterTradeIreland's Go-2-Tender programme helps SMEs to improve tendering capability through practical workshops and one-to-one company specific mentoring packages. Our Go-2-Tender workshops can support Irish firms to analyse the public sector market and consider the most appropriate bids to pursue. More importantly – and with the addition of supporting mentoring packages – they help companies to develop stronger bid content to improve the “win rate”.

For businesses in Ireland there has never been a better time to access the public procurement market. Previous participants of the Go-2-Tender programme have reported winning tenders valued at €100m so you do not want to miss out.

Workshops are tailored for the following sectors:

- Construction

- Supplies and Services
- Health
- Consortia and joint ventures

Upcoming workshop dates:

- Wednesday, 20 October (09.30am to 1.00pm)
- Wednesday, 17 November (9.30am to 1.00pm)
- Wednesday, 8 December (9.30am to 1.00pm)

To register, please visit: [InterTradeIreland Go-2-Tender](#)

Webinar: Harnessing R&D in the Marine Sector

Tuesday, 2 November 2021 at 11.00 - 11.45 am

Join [Knowledge Transfer Ireland](#) (KTI) for their November webinar in the Unlocking Knowledge Transfer series and discuss harnessing R&D in the marine sector.

The combination of a global pandemic and Brexit has affected businesses across every sector in Ireland – and the marine industry is no different. Expanding research activity, both fundamental and applied, and the encouraging innovation are crucial in developing lasting responses to the many societal challenges faced by Irish businesses.

At their November webinar, KTI will identify research infrastructure and supports, and look at ways that these can be accessed by Irish companies. At the webinar you will also hear from Irish companies who have successfully engaged with the Irish research base to grow their business in the Marine sector.

[Register here to attend](#)

WIPO launches Intellectual Property Diagnostics Resource

The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) has launched a free, comprehensive self-assessment [IP Diagnostics tool](#) designed to help small businesses identify their IP assets and determine how to protect, manage and leverage these assets to unlock new commercial opportunities.

The questionnaire style assessment allows users to learn the basics of IP by reviewing their own business activities and assets. On completion of the assessment, users will receive a customised report that can be used to begin developing an IP strategy.

WIPO IP Diagnostics is a useful tool for small businesses to become acquainted with the practical advantages of the IP system. It can also function as a useful resource for business intermediaries who may rely on it to complement their IP advisory services for businesses.

Read more: [WIPO diagnostics tool](#)

NSAI's Public Consultation for Irish Standard on Emergency Lighting

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) have announced the launch of a period of public consultation on Irish Standard (I.S.) 3217 – Emergency Lighting. The document gives guidelines for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of emergency lighting systems.

Full details on the document and the mechanism for submitting comments are available from the NSAI website [Your Standards, Your Say](#).

The deadline for submissions is Friday, 29 October 2021.

WIPO Survey on Intellectual Property Support Services to SMEs

Intellectual Property and Innovation Ecosystem Sector (IES) of WIPO is inviting organisations in Member States acting as intermediaries to SMEs to complete a short online survey on the nature and extent of intellectual

property (IP) support services provided by them to businesses and SMEs in particular. Such organisations include government institutions that support SMEs, business associations, chambers of commerce, business support organisations, incubators, technology parks, accelerators, innovation agencies, export development agencies, organizations that support start-ups.

The information collected will be made publicly available in a database which will enable local SMEs to identify sources of support.

[The WIPO survey is accessible here](#)