

Request for Tenders: EU Presidency Advocacy Support

About the Irish Environmental Network and Environmental Pillar

The Irish Environmental Network (IEN) is a network of 39 national environmental non-governmental organisations (eNGOs) that work to protect and enhance the environment and to place environmental issues centre stage in Ireland and internationally. An important element of the work of the IEN is to bring together its members to develop and advance sustainable policy, which is undertaken through its advocacy coalition, the Environmental Pillar.

Context

Ireland will hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the latter half of 2026 (July to December). This represents an excellent opportunity for the Environmental Pillar to push its environmental priorities at a European level as well as national level, as the process of working with the Irish Government, officials and allied organisations on European policy can help influence domestic policy-making.

The Environmental Pillar has planned a specific workstream in relation to the Irish EU Presidency and is seeking additional capacity to support in the development and implementation of our workplan, which will be informed by a recently completed scoping and context setting document as well as our agreed advocacy priorities.

Objectives

- Assist the Environmental Pillar and its members to influence the Irish Presidency, leading the Council towards European policies with significant environmental benefit;
- Facilitate advocacy on key priority policy files, some of which
- Provide up to date information on Irish government activities for EU NGO colleagues and Pillar members;
- Coordinate with other stakeholders and facilitate EU colleagues' access to Irish decision-makers;
- Stimulate and encourage public debate on European environmental policies (in policy circles, in the media and generally);
- Support and amplify the activities of our members in relation to the Irish Presidency.

Key responsibilities

- Work with colleagues and members to develop and deliver a workplan, with SMART objectives, milestones and deliverables identified.
- Lead on stakeholder mapping exercise.
- Monitor relevant policy and advocacy developments at EU and national levels.

- Establish working relationships with members, networks and other key stakeholders, e.g. government officials, European ENGO colleagues, MEPs, etc.
- Develop policy briefings and coordinate advocacy engagement in line with the workplan.
- Ensure members of the IEN and Environmental Pillar are kept updated and informed through regular communications.
- Support and facilitate member events as appropriate.
- Administer small grants programme to IEN member groups to support their work on the Irish Presidency.
- Assist in any other duties as needed.
- Work with the IEN Communications Officer to write articles, blog posts and press releases at key moments to build awareness and garner public support.
- Attend events, conferences and meetings, and work with civil society partnerships and coalitions where appropriate.
- Organise and host seminars, workshops, briefing opportunities and other policy related events.
- Maintain lobbying records.
- Provide regular activity and finance reports as required.

Contract Details

We envisage a 2-day per week (14 hours) contract, for 18 months (September 2025 – March 2027).

Budget

We have allocated funding for this work to cover consultancy and project costs.

Deadline for Tenders

5 PM 15th August 2025

To include in your tender

- Covering letter (2x A-4 Pg. Maximum)
- Suitable expertise/experience (2x A-4 Pages Maximum)
- Costings for consultancy support
- Date of availability

