End of Year Statement 2021

Scale + Strengthen + Transform

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland
In line with Enterprise Ireland's new strategy, a revision of the population of companies included in the Annual Employment Survey was undertaken, including companies recently acquired or those whose strategy or need to engage with Enterprise Ireland had changed. As a result, the changes to the baseline survey population reduced the total employment in Enterprise Ireland client companies to 207,894 in 2021. If this adjustment to the survey population hadn't been undertaken the total employment figure for 2021 would have stood at 230,763.

11,911 net jobs gain. Highest jobs gain in a single year reported by Enterprise Ireland.
All regions growing optimally, based on their innate and unique strengths and capabilities.
All regions sustaining and creating regional jobs.
All regions maximising their individual contribution to economic growth and national prosperity.

**2021 Key Outcomes**

**STRENGTHEN | TRANSFORM | SCALE**

- **€70m**
  - Approved to 22 meat and dairy companies under the Capital Investment Scheme

- **€61.6m**
  - In Covid-19 funding approved to 341 companies under SEF and ARF in 2021

- **€14.6m**
  - Has been approved for 1,048 Ready for Customs projects

- **125**
  - New start-up companies supported

- **1,375**
  - New overseas contracts were secured with Enterprise Ireland’s support

- **184**
  - Companies assisted in entering new markets

- **173**
  - Retailers awarded funding under the Online Retail Scheme

- **139**
  - R&D investments worth more than €50,000

- **300+**
  - Irish companies have completed a Digital Readiness Scorecard

- **68%**
  - Total Employment outside Dublin

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  - Total Employment outside Dublin
In 2021, Enterprise Ireland continued to provide a range of supports to Irish businesses to assist their recovery from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and respond to the new trading relationship with the UK. These supports included the Sustaining Enterprise Fund, the Accelerated Recovery Fund, the Online Retail Scheme and the Ready for Customs Grant.

**New UK trading relationship**

In response to the new EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement, Enterprise Ireland launched the Evolve Strategic Planning Grant, designed to support clients to respond to the challenges and opportunities which have arisen as a result of changes to the trading environment in the UK. In addition, Enterprise Ireland delivered the Evolve UK programme, providing critical insights to Irish companies on the evolving UK market and sector changes and opportunities.

**Covid-19 Online Retail Scheme**

€6.3m was approved to 173 retailers in 2021 under the Covid-19 Online Retail Scheme, which is targeted at retailers to strengthen their online offering and enable them to reach a wider customer base.

**Ready for Customs Grant**

The Ready for Customs Grant has supported 1,048 new projects as Irish enterprise readied itself for the change in our trading relationship with the UK. €14.6m was invested in companies to enhance their customs capacity.

**New Accelerated Recovery Fund Launched**

In August, the Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar, TD, launched the new Accelerated Recovery Fund. With funding up to €31m, this new initiative assists companies emerging from the impact of Covid-19 by supporting significant investment in capital and digital capability.

**€70m Capital Investment Scheme for dairy and meat processors**

22 projects in the meat and dairy sector, which support long-term transformative capital investment, were approved. These projects will achieve higher value add by implementing new product and/or market diversification strategies.

**Local Enterprise Offices**

The Local Enterprise Offices continued to work with small businesses throughout the year by way of financial, training and mentoring supports. New supports such as Green for Micro to help businesses take the first steps on their sustainable journey were added to offers such as the Trading Online Voucher to continue to help businesses grow and evolve. These supports were complimented by campaigns and events to support the sector and foster entrepreneurship such as Local Enterprise Week, the National Enterprise Awards, National Women’s Enterprise Day and Look for Local.
Enterprise Ireland is at the heart of preparing Irish businesses for the challenges and opportunities of the future. From innovation to diversity our supports and insights are helping companies drive the change agenda.

**R&D investments worth more than €50,000**

**300+ Irish companies have completed a Digital Readiness Scorecard**

**Climate Enterprise Action Fund**

Enterprise Ireland's Climate Enterprise Action Fund supports Irish companies to build the capabilities required to deliver sustainable products, services and business models. Launched in May of 2021, the Climate Action Voucher is an €1,800 grant to engage consultants to identify opportunities and develop plans in areas like resource efficiency, renewable energy and the circular economy. Over 70 companies have already availed of this voucher.

**Digitalisation Campaign**

Irish companies with strong digital capabilities have been better able to recover and grow in international markets. Enterprise Ireland’s digitalisation strategy helps Irish companies enhance customer experience, improve their cyber security and move their operations to the cloud with the aid of the Digital Ready Scorecard—an online self-assessment tool to evaluate gaps in digital capabilities, as well as the €9,000 Digitalisation Voucher which funds companies to access the expertise needed to develop a digital roadmap.

**Lean supports driving transformational change**

Irish businesses continue to benefit from Enterprise Ireland’s range of Lean supports, enabling automation and digitalisation to increase productivity and value, such as the new bakery facility at Panell Foods in Longford.

**Tánaiste announces multi-million Euro R&D support of ICON to accelerate decentralised clinical trial technology**

Dublin-based global provider of drug development and commercialisation services to pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, was awarded €4 million in R&D support administered by Enterprise Ireland to further enhance its data solutions and decentralised clinical trial technology.

**Government Roadmap for AI in Ireland launched**

The National Artificial Intelligence Strategy will serve as a roadmap for how Ireland can leverage the potential of AI for unlocking productivity, for addressing societal challenges, and for delivering public services.

**Innovation Arena Awards**

Enterprise Ireland’s Innovation Arena showcases ground-breaking agri-related products and innovations from Irish agri-companies. This year’s overall Enterprise Ireland Innovation Arena Awards winner was marine biotech company Brandon Bioscience in Tralee, Co Kerry.
Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF)

Aims to encourage collaborations between industry and the research sector on the development and commercialisation of ground-breaking technologies.

The Government has already allocated €235 million to 72 successful projects approved under the previous three DTIF calls. Call 4 was announced this year, seeking new applicants.

MORE INFO

Enterprise Ireland’s Action Plan for Women in Business

Enterprise Ireland launched The Level Project which aims to highlight to businesses that enhancing the gender balance of their senior teams can build strong leadership, attract talent and improve overall performance. It is an initiative of Enterprise Ireland’s “Women in Business” action plan, a wide-ranging strategy to achieve greater representation of women in business, particularly in business leadership across Ireland.

MORE INFO

Big Ideas

Dr Lyn Markey of XTremedy Medical was presented with the “One to Watch Award” at Enterprise Ireland’s Big Ideas showcase, with Enterprise Ireland Executive Director Stephen Creaner.

MORE INFO

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MORE INFO

Capital Equipment for Industry Research

32 successful projects from across the third-level sector secured €6.4m in funding to assist them in purchasing world-leading research equipment that will serve the research and development needs of Irish industry. Since 2019, the Capital Equipment Fund administered by Enterprise Ireland has funded 157 equipment purchases with a total value of €27.6 million.

MORE INFO

Enterprise Ireland Technology Gateway Network

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XTremedy Medical was one of 12 investor-ready start-up companies to pitch their new technology solutions to investors at Enterprise Ireland’s annual showcase of start-up innovation emerging from higher education institutes.

MORE INFO
As global markets reopen, Enterprise Ireland is working with companies we support to increase sales and enter new markets. Our network of 40 overseas offices provide critical market insight and advice to ambitious Irish businesses who are competing and winning in world markets.

**Enterprise Ireland resumes trade mission programme**

Supporting the accelerated export-led recovery for Irish business, Enterprise Ireland resumed its in-person trade mission programme in September 2021, with strategically important trade missions and visits to the UK, France, Germany, USA, Canada, Middle East, Wales and Finland.

Left to Right: Anne Lanigan, Eurozone Regional Director Enterprise Ireland, Patrick Torreken, France Country Manager Enterprise Ireland, Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, Leo Clancy CEO Enterprise Ireland, Mary Buckley Executive Director IDA, Patricia O’Brien Irish Ambassador to France.

**Irish's aviation industry takes flight at Dubai Airshow**

With a focus on strengthening Ireland's position in the aviation industry worldwide, Enterprise Ireland presented Irish Aviation House at Dubai Airshow 2021, one of the biggest aviation trade shows in the world.

**Showcasing Irish design to US audiences**

Reaching millions of US customers, Enterprise Ireland and Tourism Ireland announced a collaboration with QVC, a world leader in multiplatform video commerce, to co-deliver three ‘Made in Ireland’ shows. This initiative provides an important selling opportunity for Irish craft producers, while also showcasing the island of Ireland to a US audience.

**Competitive Start Funds**

Enterprise Ireland launched €2 million Competitive Start Funds for ‘All Sectors’ and ‘Women Entrepreneurs’. Ambitious entrepreneurs and start-ups with an eligible innovative product or service set for international markets will be funded up to €50k in equity funding.

**MED in Ireland**

Senior leaders from the global healthcare industry participated in Enterprise Ireland’s Med in Ireland conference - Ireland’s largest medical technologies event. Attracting over 500 national and international delegates the conference and business match event showcased Ireland’s medtech industry and supported the business development of the industry, connecting Irish medtech innovators with international healthcare providers.
Ready for a Green Future
To mark St. Patrick’s Day, Enterprise Ireland launched an international campaign ‘Ready for a Green Future’ promoting Irish green innovators who are delivering sustainable and low carbon solutions to tackle climate change. Over 50 virtual trade events were hosted across the world to engage international partners and support the growth of Irish enterprise internationally.

The Export Compass Series
Enterprise Ireland hosted a series of webinar workshops for all micro and SME companies that are taking their first steps on their export journey.

New €10m Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme
In October, Minister Troy and Minister English announced funding for 24 projects under the €10m Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme. The scheme provides grant funding to regional and community-based projects focused on helping enterprises to adapt to the changing economic landscape due to Covid-19 and the UK’s departure from the EU, in addition to projects supporting digitalisation and assisting in the transition to a green economy.

Regional Enterprise Development Funding
Supported by Enterprise Ireland through the Regional Enterprise Development Fund, the Guinness Enterprise Centre located in Dublin city unveiled its new €10m expansion project that has led to the creation of a 100,000ft² space that can now accommodate 220 co-working companies and 150 resident companies.

CEAI QHubs International Standard
2021 saw the introduction of QHubs - the new quality standard scheme to support enterprise centres, co-working locations and flexible working spaces. Funded by Enterprise Ireland and managed by the Community Enterprise Association Ireland (CEAI), the new QHubs standard, a global first, will raise the overall quality, environmental and innovation performance of remote working locations across Ireland.

Enterprise Ireland’s Powering the Regions strategy focuses on six national initiatives to futureproof the regions through enhanced productivity and resilience, driving new entrepreneurship, developing urban centres of growth, supporting the expansion of scaling companies into the regions and attracting foreign direct investment in the food sector.
Exporter Development
A key focus of Enterprise Ireland’s regional strategy is to grow the number of exporting companies in all regions. In support of this, in 2021 Enterprise Ireland added dedicated export-development advisors to each of its regional teams to identify domestically successful companies with exporting potential in all regions. This team is now working directly with these companies to help them identify opportunities and develop exporting strategies to drive new growth overseas.

Support for landmark Accelerate Green project in the Midlands
In cooperation with partners, including Bord na Móna and Empower Eco, Enterprise Ireland is supporting the Accelerate Green initiative. This new initiative, launched by Minister Troy in October, is designed to promote the adoption and acceleration of green and sustainable business activity in the Midlands region and further afield.

Regional Technology Cluster Fund
The Regional Technology Clustering Fund (RTCF) was established in 2019 and drives collaboration between large multinationals and Irish SMEs. The objectives of the Fund are to grow productivity, increase competitiveness and support internationalisation. Twelve clustering projects have been supported under the fund to-date. For example, the RTCF supports the Cyber Security SME Cluster in Cork, established to drive the development of a national indigenous cyber security SMEs and digitally dependent SMEs with a need for cyber security solutions. The RTCF also supports the Engineering in the South East Cluster which is a joint initiative between the South East region’s engineering companies, its knowledge providers and its government agencies.

Cork, Ireland
Altada Technology Solutions announces $11.5 Million funding round.

MORE INFO

Dublin, Ireland
APC, an Irish pharmaceutical R&D company, unveils €25m investment and 120 jobs to accelerate development and manufacture of Covid Vaccines and Advanced Therapeutics.

MORE INFO

Limerick, Ireland
Kirby Group Engineering announces 300 new jobs.

MORE INFO

MARK CHRISTAL, ENTERPRISE IRELAND, MINISTER ROBERT TROY, TD AND BORD NA MÓNA’S TOM DONELLAN

MORE INFO
Irish consulting and technology company announces 40 new jobs.

Dublin / Galway, Ireland

Data centre expert Ethos announces creation of 150 new jobs.

Dublin, Ireland

Riding the remote working wave leads to rapid growth and expansion at PepTalk.

Dublin, Ireland

Leading Irish agri software company Herdwatch to double workforce over next 3 years, creating 40 additional jobs.

Tipperary, Ireland

Sidero invests €4.5m and creates 75 jobs in Athlone

Roscommon, Ireland

Dublin Aerospace opens the doors to its state-of-the-art landing gear facility.

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Dublin, Ireland
Cork, Ireland
70 jobs announced at Irish process automation firm.

Galway, Ireland
Chanelle Pharma expands operations to Ballinasloe.

Clare, Ireland
Shannon Technical Services announces 80 additional jobs.

Clare, Ireland
Atlantic Aviation Group plots future growth as it acquires Lufthansa Technik Shannon and secures more than 300 jobs.

Dublin, Ireland
50 new jobs and ambitious growth plans announced by Novum.

Dublin, Ireland
Nostra announces 120 new jobs.
Enterprise Ireland is the government organisation responsible for the development and growth of Irish enterprises in world markets. We work in partnership with Irish enterprises to help them start, grow, innovate and win export sales in global markets. In this way, we support sustainable economic growth, regional development and secure employment.

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