

**PHILANTHROPY
IRELAND**

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February 20, 2023

**SUBMISSION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:
VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW 2023**

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Submission from Philanthropy Ireland:

Response to Sustainable Development Goals: Voluntary National Review 2023

[Philanthropy Ireland](#) acknowledges and welcomes the initiatives of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) unit. We believe that our submission will shed light on the philanthropy sector's significant contribution towards SDGs in Ireland and highlight philanthropy's potential in furthering SDGs and supporting impact to 2030.

What is the philanthropy sector doing to support the achievement of the SDGs?

Ireland has been consistently recognised as the [most generous country](#) and it is estimated that there are [159 Irish entities](#) dedicated to philanthropy, or about one per 30,000 Irish citizens. Annual contribution by philanthropic organisations in Ireland, in 2020 was estimated to be [€79.4 Million](#).

Philanthropy has immense potential to be a driver of change in Ireland and its support has made significant strides towards meeting the targets of SDGs. At Philanthropy Ireland, we analysed 1500+ social initiatives in the country that were supported by 24 philanthropic organisations between 2018 and 2021. The results indicated that nearly **1200 initiatives** that received a total grant support of over **€110 Million** contributed towards advancing **14 of the 17 SDGs**.

The below table presents the philanthropic support extended to further the cause of 14 SDGs between 2018 and 2021. More information on the initiatives can be found here: <https://philanthropy.ie/pi-map/>

SDGs	Funding amount
1. No Poverty: Access to basic human needs of health, education, sanitation	€2,013,229
2. Zero Hunger: Providing food and humanitarian relief, establishing sustainable food production	€371,534
3. Good Health and Wellbeing: Better, more accessible health systems to increase life-expectancy	€35,925,554
4. Quality Education: Inclusive education to enable upward social mobility and end poverty	€34,382,303
5. Gender Equality: Education regardless of gender, advancement of equality laws, fairer representation of women	€2,724,087
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth: Creating jobs for all to improve living standards, providing sustainable economic growth	€5,015,775
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: Generating employment and income through innovation	€40,000
10. Reduced Inequalities: Reducing income and other inequalities, within and between countries	€10,979,016

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities: Making cities safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable	€2,821,304
12. Responsible Consumption and Production: Reversing current consumption trends and promoting a more sustainable future	€4,919,178
13. Climate Action: Regulating and reducing emissions and promoting renewable energy	€195,244
14. Life Below Water: Conservation, promoting marine diversity and regulating fishing practices	€44,644
15. Life on Land: Reversing man-made deforestation and desertification to sustain all life on earth	€102,287
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: Inclusive societies, strong institutions and equal access to justice	€658,515
	€100,192,670

Collaboration: Need of the hour for Ireland’s SDG implementation

Public-private partnerships: Public and private funding could be channelled towards social initiatives and innovation that address sustainability challenges in a structured and systemic manner. Collaboration is not just beneficial, but essential. There is a need for collaborative and targeted funding initiatives with impact driven approach to designing sustainability solutions.

Experiences of public and private investment show that collaboration can drive impact, positively addressing some of the most pressing social needs. Successful partnership models have taken many forms: match funding partnerships such as that with [Rethink Ireland](#) (who have created a cumulative social fund of [€72m](#) since 2016); seed investment such as that made by government in 2000 into [Community Foundation Ireland](#) (who in 2022 alone disbursed over €25m in grants); service agreements, effecting the work of [Genio](#) in areas including mental health and homelessness; co-investment such as that with The [Atlantic Philanthropies](#) on 19 projects in youth, children, dementia and disability. These are all models of significant collaborative success on issues of significant social challenge and need.

These are also examples of how philanthropy has been a key lever in collaborative efforts between Government, not-for-profits and philanthropic organisations, in addressing social challenges. There is real potential and need to advance such initiatives in support of strategic SDG implementation and achievement.

ABOUT US

[Philanthropy Ireland](#) is an independent association for all philanthropic organisations and individuals engaged in the development of philanthropy in Ireland for the benefit of society. Our 50 members comprise independent grant-making Trusts and Foundations; Family Foundations; Corporate Foundations; and Private Donors.

Our Mission is to cultivate proactive engagement with philanthropy across Irish society that supports social change. Our purpose is to empower philanthropy, representing donors, private (including corporate) and institutional, to create a dynamic and diverse community engaging in philanthropy for public benefit.

We do this through 3 key pillars of activity:

- **Promotion** of philanthropy to increase strategic giving
- **Policy** for philanthropy to encourage an enabling environment for philanthropy
- **Practice** of philanthropy to effect evidence based good practice in grant making

We work in collaboration and partnership with a cross section of organisations, both national and international and with government. We are supported through funding from Philanthropies, Department of Rural and Community Development and Membership fees.

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THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE.