

BLUEPRINT ARTIST'S BRIEF

Creative
Climate Action



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council





INVITATION

Artists and creative practitioners working in any discipline are invited to apply to become an artist within the BluePrint project team. The project will see an artist facilitate an art-infused co-creation process with a flood-affected community in Derry-Londonderry generating artistic work as climate risk communication materials. The artist will also engage in an All-Island learning exchange between Derry-Londonderry and Mayo, providing input into 'creative co-creation' toolkit targeting local governments working with communities around climate risk and resilience.

The selected artists will be supported by the BluePrint project partners and collaborators.

PROJECT PARTNERS

Funded by the Creative Climate Action Fund, the BluePrint project is managed by the MaREI Centre, University College Cork, with partners The Playhouse, Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC), and Mayo County Council, and collaboration support from the Climate Action Regional Office Atlantic Seaboard North and Northern Ireland Environment Link/ Climate Northern Ireland.

The BluePrint project is a recipient of the Creative Climate Action fund, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme. It is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in collaboration with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. The fund supports creative, cultural and artistic projects that build awareness around climate change and empower citizens to make meaningful behavioural transformations.

Full details on the project partners of the BluePrint project can be found in Annex I and the Creative Climate Action fund in Annex II.

THE CONTEXT & CHALLENGE

The island of Ireland's climate is changing with impacts already being felt, and is expected to continue and intensify, especially in towns and cities vulnerable to coastal and riverine floods. Those across the counties of Derry-Londonderry and Mayo, the areas of focus for this project, are especially vulnerable.

Recognising the limited resources locally for climate adaptation and community engagement, flood-affected communities from disadvantaged areas are rarely given the opportunity to share their own stories/narratives. Huge opportunities exist to unpack how artists, communities across generations, researchers and local governments can work together to communicate risk and engage in adaptation solutions, but are underexplored with no guidance available. A human-centred process is needed, one that recognises the negative experiences and impacts of past flood events on communities, and empowers communities to tell their stories their way.

The BluePrint project seeks to co-create flood risk and adaptation communication materials with flood-affected communities in the DCSDC area and also engage in knowledge exchange and learning activities with communities in Co. Mayo in order to develop a 'creative co-creation' toolkit for application across the island of Ireland.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project will focus on communities in the DCSDC area, not only due to their exposure to climatic hazards, but also due to their unique vulnerability to these hazards as a region with a complex range of geo-political and historical circumstances that have led to economic decline and impeded social cohesion, making the development of climate resilience difficult. The project will also focus on how this learning can be transferred to similar situations and geographies.



PROJECT OUTCOMES

1. Accessibility of new **co-created flood-risk communication and engagement materials** in Derry-Londonderry available for future public engagement activities and creative co-creation toolkit available to support local governments to apply co-creation processes with communities.
2. Co-creation and engagement with selected **flood-affected community representatives** across generations, is expected to increase their knowledge on flood risk and climate adaptation, increase their interest and trust in engaging with local authorities and agencies, and empower them to take action locally to further exchange the outputs, knowledge and skills gained through the co-creation process within their own networks.
3. The All-Island toolkit development process between **professionals working on climate adaptation in the Republic and Northern Ireland**, in particular local authorities but also the researchers and artists in the project team, are expected to increase their knowledge on using co-creation processes, increase their willingness to work with communities and artists on risk communication, and support/enable them to embed learning into existing and future projects, initiatives and research activities on climate adaptation and resilience.

The BluePrint project will facilitate a co-creation process and document the learning to enable local authorities access to new knowledge, build trust and ownership, while opening new communication channels for future activities.



THE CREATIVE BRIEF

We are seeking to work with a suitably experienced artist in order to design and facilitate art-based transformative engagement process and co-creative activities with flood-affected communities in DCSDC area leading to the following creative outputs:

1. A community engagement programme with selected, flood-affected, communities to include:
 - At least three creative workshops to scope new artistic work around local climate risk adaptation. Artistic development of a new work informed by the lived experience, stories and ideas of those involved encouraging a sense of ownership where possible and practicable.
 - Involve the communities in the wider dissemination / sharing of the new artistic work/s co-created.
2. Production of a new co-created artistic work on local climate risk / adaptation
3. A public presentation in Derry-Londonderry of the co-created work with the potential of live and online elements in order to raise awareness and/or change perspectives
4. Engagement in knowledge exchange with communities and stakeholders in Co. Mayo to deepen learning
5. Document the co-creative process used for inclusion in the planned All-Island toolkit with the aim of reaching a wider audience

Implementation and evaluation support will be available to the artist from local government and University College Cork (UCC) research team members.



It is imagined that the artists co-creation process will enable storytelling between younger and older members of the community to share lived experiences, perceptions and emotions around flooding and climate adaptation to create communication/engagement materials for wider dissemination/outreach. The process can unravel more about what different generations believe, their perceptions about flood risk/ climate adaptation and the influence on individual and collective behavioural changes within society.

The artist will be sensitive to participants' well-being during the co-creation process which may evoke past negative experiences or future worries/concerns. The Playhouse's experience in peacebuilding art/creative processes and DCSDC experience in creating 'climate care' packages for communities will be available for the artist to draw on. If necessary, participants can be signposted to relevant support including the Red Cross, participants' well-being services and mental health support.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY AND CARBON FOOTPRINT

Environmental sustainability is an important priority for all project partners and will be prioritised during the project activities. The artist will be expected to support sustainable and/ or low carbon options for their artwork and artistic process, where feasible.



TIMEFRAME AND BUDGET

The selected artist is expected to start in January 2024 and all works must be complete by September 2024. UCC and project partners will take a flexible and imaginative approach to working with the appointed artist and are open to a wide range of artistic disciplines, artists and ideas in response to this creative brief.

€14,000 maximum budget available to include all fees, artistic/ creative materials and project expenses e.g. travel and accommodation.

It is expected that this will take c.17.5 days of artist time over the duration of the project. However, this is expected to vary depending on the creative medium used.

Fees/ budget noted above are VAT inclusive, (whether VAT liability lies with the artist or the Commissioner). Non-resident artists from EU and non-EU countries must be aware of any tax or VAT implications arising from the commission and ensure that any costs arising from this are included in their budget.

SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

The selected artist(s) should have the following:

1. Significant experience in working with the community engagement process and in non-arts contexts and be confident to speak at public events and address complex issues
2. An understanding of sustainability and climate action and a desire to know more
3. The capacity to engage with diverse stakeholders and gain their trust
4. Strong evidence of creative and imaginative practices and the development of new artistic work
5. Experience in contributing to publications and digital resources

HOW TO RESPOND

Please send to shauna@derryplayhouse.com **FAO Kevin Murphy** with Blueprint in the subject line:

1. A CV/History of Artistic Practice highlighting the required skills, knowledge and experience
2. Three examples of previous work which are relevant to this project (i.e. examples of community engagement etc) in a digitally accessible format (for example links to video, audio, image, text publication)
3. A covering letter which addresses why you would like to be involved and how you would approach responding to this brief. The cover letter should be no more than 4 A4 pages and the outline of your approach should include:
 - Understanding of flood-affected communities in a local context (or similar)
 - Approach to working with people through creative means
 - Co-creation process for how the creative outputs can be delivered
 - Timeline
 - Budget breakdown

If you have any queries or access needs that require you to submit your proposal in another format, please get in touch with Shauna at shauna@derryplayhouse.com to discuss your needs further.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Friday 24 November 2023 at 5pm.

ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- The artistic quality and ambition of the proposal
- Experience of working in a community or socially engaged setting
- Capacity to work with diverse stakeholders in place-making
- Knowledge of, and interest in, climate change and sustainability
- Capacity to articulate a social engaged methodology, the learning from this project and the creative outputs as part of a published resource / toolkit
- Experience in managing and disseminating projects

Artists will be shortlisted and invited to interview in early December 2023. The successful artists will be issued a contract by The Playhouse.

Both The Playhouse and project partners are committed to the principle of equality of opportunity. We will ensure that no one receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of colour, race, religious belief, political opinion, sex, marital status, disability, age, sexual orientation, family circumstance, pregnancy or maternity leave, gender, gender reassignment or ethnic or national origin. We welcome applications from all backgrounds.

ANNEX I

DETAILS ON PROJECT PARTNERS

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK/ MAREI

[MaREI](#) is the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine, coordinated by the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) hosted by University College Cork. The Centre has over 250 researchers across 13 partner institutes in Ireland working with 75 industry partners focusing on the energy transition, climate action and the blue economy. MaREI facilitates the transition to a low carbon energy future through the provision of the underlying research and innovation, and the training of the highly skilled leaders of tomorrow. The centre enables positive climate action through the provision of leadership in the areas of climate mitigation, climate adaptation, climate science, and climate dialogue, and it also contributes to a better understanding of the potential and sustainable use of our significant marine and coastal resources. MaREI's research informs energy, climate and marine policy by increasing and improving the scientific evidence base for policy-makers. It enhances the capacity of industry across the energy, climate and marine sectors to enable sustainable economic development. It supports societal engagement on grand challenges to facilitate participatory action on the energy transition, climate action and the blue economy.

MaREI and UCC researchers working on the BluePrint project have worked on a wide variety of successful climate action projects, ranging from local to international scales. Examples of these include:

- [Climate Ireland](#): Played a key role in developing Sectoral Planning Guidelines for Climate Adaptation and leading on engagement and capacity building with local authorities on adaptation planning measures.
- Transboundary Adaptation Learning Exchange (TalX) project: Established an innovative learning network, enabling a cohesive approach for measuring and acting on climate change adaptation across boundaries and developed a Climate Adaptation Partnership Framework (<https://talx2020.github.io/>) with practical actions to establish and develop climate adaptation partnerships across Ireland and the UK.
- [Imagining 2050 project](#): Used creative communication and engagement methods with civic society to co-develop future visions pathways to climate resilience, resulting in the 'Deliberative Futures Toolkit', that will inspire the toolkit in BluePrint.

The insights and knowledge from these experiences as well as MaREI researchers current roles in numerous EU Horizon funded projects (Directed, ReachOut and AA-Agora) focusing on engagement and co-production will be utilised within the BluePrint project. Learning will also be derived from the Corca Dhúibhne Inbhuanaíthe project, which embedded a MaREI researcher in the community to evaluate climate action co-creation resources/processes.

THE PLAYHOUSE ARTITUDE PROJECT

The Playhouse Derry-Londonderry is one of the most vibrant theatres and arts organisations in Northern Ireland, established to meet the needs and aspirations of people and communities at a time of conflict. We have since grown to become a national asset: an award-winning producing theatre, an empowering centre for learning and a global leader in the arts and peaceful change. We matter to our locality and to the international communities we connect with and we continually innovate to offer a space to make meaning and a place that's here for good. We believe in

inclusion, in inspiring creativity and opening up the imaginative world of theatre, dance, art and music for everyone to enjoy. The Playhouse is core funded by the Arts Council for Northern Ireland, DCSDC, and Community Relations Council.

[The Playhouse Artitude Project](#) is an exciting community engagement project grounded in the circular economy, that uses the arts and creative practice to encourage behaviour change and challenge attitudes to waste, consumption and climate action. The Playhouse works with partners Zero Waste Northwest, Northern Ireland Resources Network, Queens University Belfast and DCSDC to coordinate and deliver a programme of creative activities. They also have a long history of involvement in peace building activities and are well versed in providing a safe space for difficult issues to be shared, explored and nurtured towards hope. BluePrint will build on the art- and creativity-based learning approaches developed from The Playhouse's Artitude project, but also avail of their knowledge and experience of working with participants that experienced negative impacts of socio-environmental events.

DERRY CITY AND STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) are committed to climate action across the City and District and have committed to the climate pledge to achieve a net zero climate resilient region by 2045. They have developed a climate adaptation plan and are involved in a range of climate action initiatives, engaging with impacted communities to develop and implement climate measures. As a part of the UCC led TALX project, DCSDC worked alongside Mayo County Council to pilot a co-developed tool (the climate adaptation partnership framework) and build upon cross-disciplinary and transboundary partnership working for climate adaptation. The Council has a number of climate action working groups including the All Party Climate Emergency Working Group and All Party Severe Weather Working Group with officers involved in the Local Government Climate Action Network, Regional Community Resilience Group and numerous multi-agency working groups to tackle climate change. The Council have also worked with The Playhouse on a number of projects including the Artitude project exploring the issue of climate action through creative arts. The Council have produced the following relevant strategies and plans: Climate Pledge; Climate Adaptation Plan; Green Infrastructure Plan; Circular Economy Zero Waste Strategy; Net Zero Carbon Roadmap; North West Climate Action Plan; Regional Energy Strategy; and the Carbon Literacy Training Program. These skills in climate adaptation, stakeholder engagement and the production of climate information will be instrumental in identifying key stakeholder groups, developing workshops that are appropriate for local audiences and disseminating outputs to the wider communities.

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

Mayo County Council (MCC) is involved in a number of climate action projects and initiatives and has worked closely with various impacted communities to develop climate action. Mayo was involved in the pilot of the climate adaptation partnership framework alongside DCSDC as part of the TALX project (outlined above) led by UCC. Mayo will also be part of the core project team and be able to guide and steer the activities in Derry- Londonderry, based on their own lessons from past and current projects, for example, Ripple (funded by Creative Ireland), Connected (funded by Pobal Climate Action fund Strand 2), Ballina Flood Relief Scheme, The Decarbonising Communities Network and Bertra Connected. The Council are currently developing their climate action plan and understand the importance of the need to properly engage with communities in order to develop successful initiatives. The knowledge and expertise that MCC have gained over many years of working not only in climate action and flood risk management, but also in stakeholder engagement, will feed directly into the BluePrint project, in developing workshops, providing information and case studies from their own area and disseminating outputs from the BluePrint project.

ANNEX II

CREATIVE CLIMATE ACTION FUND DETAILS

BluePrint is a Creative Climate Action funded project, an initiative from the Creative Ireland Programme. It is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in collaboration with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. The fund supports creative, cultural and artistic projects that build awareness around climate change and empower citizens to make meaningful behavioural transformations.

The projects:

- Encourage everyone to rethink their lifestyles.
- Connect with the biodiversity crisis.
- Enable a fair and just transition in making lifestyle changes.
- Assist citizens to understand the climate crisis.
- Adapt to effects of climate change.

CREATIVE IRELAND PROGRAMME

Creative Ireland is a five-year programme which connects people, creativity and wellbeing. We are an all-of-government culture and wellbeing programme that inspires and transforms people, places and communities through creativity. We are committed to the vision that every person in Ireland should have the opportunity to realise their full creative potential.

Further information on the Climate Action Fund is available [here](#)

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND COMMUNICATION'S, CLIMATE ACTION FUND

The Climate Action Fund was established on a statutory basis in 2020 to provide support for projects, initiatives and research that contribute to the achievement of Ireland's climate and energy targets, and for projects and initiatives in regions of the State, and within sectors of the economy, impacted by the transition to a low carbon economy. The Fund is resourced from from a number of sources, including proceeds from the levy paid to the National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA) in respect of relevant disposals of petroleum products, after the funding requirements of NORA have been met.

Further information on the Climate Action Fund is available [here](#)



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BLUEPRINT

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