



**Friends of  
the Earth**

# Change 2012

**Can you support Friends of the Earth's campaign for change in 2012 [by pledging just €1.75 a week?](#)**

Friends of the Earth

Supporter action plan 2012

- 1 Empower your Politician
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- 5 Think Differently
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Because of you, we have the most concrete commitment and timetable ever for climate legislation, with the Minister for the Environment promising to publish his draft Bill this year. But you know and we know, from our campaigning experience, that a timetable is not worth the paper it's printed on without ongoing pressure and support.

We are committed to ensuring Ireland gets serious about climate justice this year and we have a jam packed supporter action plan for 2012 to make this happen.

[But we are going to need your help.](#)

**WORST POLLUTING COUNTRIES PER PERSON IN THE DEVELOPED WORLD**

1. Australia
2. Luxembourg
3. U.S.A
4. Canada
5. New Zealand
6. **IRELAND**

**First, here's the plan...**



*Constituents press Simon Coveney at the Stop Climate Chaos mass lobby in 2010.*

## **Step one: Empower your Politician...**

Friends of the Earth believes in strong grassroots activism and effective national and international advocacy. In 2012, we will increasingly work with our supporters to help them engage their TDs locally. This is the best way to convince politicians to take climate change seriously and bring the call to action back to their parties and those in power.



**If everyone on earth polluted like the Irish,  
we would need the resources of three  
planets to survive**

### **Step two: Be Included...**

The Government is holding a public consultation on climate policy ahead of drafting the climate Bill. Friends of the Earth supporters have actively participated in previous public consultations and we know it makes a real difference to the outcome. This time it's more important than ever that your views are represented. The Minister has said he wants the consultation to be inclusive and we'll be encouraging as many people as possible to take part.



*Phil Hogan says he wants to hear from you. Better make it quick.*

### **Step three: Learn from Experience...**



*George Monbiot calculates that to have a decent chance of containing global warming to 2°C, we can only burn one third of conventional fossil fuel reserves at most, before 2050.*

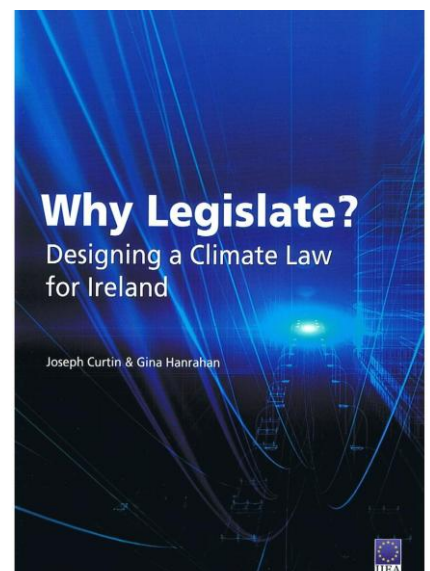
Friends of the Earth aims to support communities opposing extractive industries. As part of our 2012 programme, we plan to organise a series of talks around the country with our colleagues from Friends of the Earth International.

They will speak about their campaigning work in the Global South and share their experience of resisting the extraction of fossil fuel in their own communities.

### **Step four: Tackle the Myths...**

The Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) has just published a myth-busting report *Why Legislate? Designing a Climate Law for Ireland*.

Friends of the Earth is going to make sure that everyone who has any role in deciding on the climate law has read this new IIEA report. It will be an important campaigning tool in the coming months for our supporters too.



**Climate Change already causes over  
150,000 deaths every year**

**Step five: Think Differently...**



With our allies we are organising a conference on climate change and food security this summer. This is a critical issue globally. Ireland has a long tradition of solidarity with communities in Africa at risk of hunger. Climate change is exacerbating that risk and therefore we must step up our response.

**Two thirds of families in sub-Saharan Africa grow their own food to survive but climate change is already making droughts longer and more frequent, putting the livelihoods of these family farmers at grave risk**

**Step six: Engage Globally...**

The UN Conference on Sustainability will take place in Rio de Janeiro this June where Heads of State, participants from the private sector and NGOs will convene to discuss how to build a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Alongside our partners in Stop Climate Chaos, Friends of the Earth will work to engage and inform the public about the potential of the Earth Summit for climate action, and its challenges.



*The first UN treaty on climate change was agreed in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. 20 years on, it's time to keep the promise to avoid dangerous climate change.*

**Step seven: Think Bigger...**



Friends of the Earth is lining up visits from experts around Europe with the experience of making a climate law a reality. We know this can be a real support to politicians here as they manoeuvre the Bill through a reluctant system.

We are also planning, with our allies, to publish research on the economic case for Ireland acting on climate change, to address concerns that reducing emissions will hamper economic recovery.



# Change 2012

**Right now, our plans are bigger than our budget which is why we really need your help. Our financial supporters are our lifeblood; we simply cannot sustain our campaigning work without donations from people like you.**

[Please donate just €1.75 a week](#) towards our campaign for change in 2012 and we will ensure your money is put to good use.

The Government's roadmap for climate policy is a step in the right direction, but its timetable lacks urgency. Now, to win, we must keep the pressure on more than ever. We must show Minister Hogan and the Government that like the climate issue, we aren't going to go away until the necessary actions are taken and the draft Bill is delivered this year, as promised.

The need is urgent, we know as well as you do that without sustained pressure and a watchful eye, we cannot rely on the Government to turn their rhetorical commitment to climate justice into concrete political action. We see this year as a real chance for Ireland to get serious about climate change and we have big plans for 2012.

**But to fulfill them, we need your support.**

[Please pledge just €1.75 a week and help to bring our 2012 campaign to life.](#)

Help Change 2012 by making a game-changing donation today. Please fill out the accompanying form and set up a direct debit for just €7 a month (€1.75 a week). Monthly direct debits give us the security to plan and carry out supporter action plans like this one. We have our work cut out for us, we know what we are up against, but we also know we have you to stand with us. Together we can win.



Oisín Coghlan  
Director of Friends of the Earth

**P.S: Supporters are the bedrock of our independence and influence.**

[Change 2012 by donating €1.75 a week to help us bring our plans to life.](#)