

# OXFAM IRELAND in the new Horizon Europe instrument



Oxfam is an international confederation with more than 70 years of experience mobilizing people and resources across the world to put an end to poverty. Only last year, Oxfam reached 22.2 million people by collaborating with 3,515 local organizations worldwide. Through our presence and work in the field, we are a unique hands-on experienced partner able to connect theoretical research to practical actions.



- Our **high management capacity and EU expertise** makes us an efficient partner to work with. Oxfam raises between 25-50 million euro from European funds every year.
- We are well-connected: we have **networks** in Europe and in other regions of the world. There are 21 Oxfam affiliates, 10 of whom are based in Europe.
- Our **power to mobilize** local civil society networks, to influence policies and change social norms makes of us a powerful partner to implement actions that have a real impact.
- Oxfam also has long-term experience in **public campaigning and policy influencing** worldwide, at subnational, national, regional and international levels. We have unique experience translating evidence from our program work into policy recommendations, in designing and implementing user-centered campaigns that address public **narratives and debates** on key development issues, as well as in opening up political space for participatory policymaking.

## OXFAM IRELAND

Oxfam Ireland is a founding member of the Oxfam International confederation. We were founded in 1942 and have been active in Ireland for over 60 years, making us one of Ireland's most experienced and impactful NGOs. We are a secular, non-partisan, all-island organisation with a broad base of support and interaction. Through our presence and work in the field, we are a unique hands-on experienced partner able to connect theoretical research to practical actions.

## OUR AREAS OF WORK

Oxfam Ireland will focus its work in 2021 and 2022 in Ireland and Europe in the following areas:

### JUST ECONOMIES



Our goal: People and planet are at the centre of feminist and sustainable economic systems that address inequality and end poverty.

- **Ensure the private sector aligns its core business strategies and purpose with the SDGs** and Human Rights principles.
- **Increase awareness and understanding among Irish public and policy makers of the need for transformed feminist economic models and practice** to prevent exploitation and advance environmental and social wellbeing and advocate for relevant policy responses.

## SYSTEMIC CHANGE



Our goal: build a world where economic and social models redistribute wealth and end inequalities

- **Analyse and prioritise the systems that cause and perpetuate different expressions of inequality.** We will deploy a full range of tools and tactics to challenge how they sustain poverty and injustice.
- **Innovate, identify and scale-up lasting solutions.** We will make long-term strategic commitments to working with others to transform unjust systems, and to shift existing development paradigms.
- **Recognise and use the power of knowledge to create change.** We will support and leverage the power of collective knowledge and learning, and build on diverse experiences and perspectives in finding solutions to complex problems.
- **Invest in local capacity and leadership.** We will share skills and resources and connect groups to funding and influencing opportunities to help them drive systemic and sustainable change.

## CLIMATE JUSTICE



Our goal: The climate crisis is abated, environmental 'tipping points' are averted through well-resourced radical solutions which improve people's well-being, and there is environmental justice for all.

Oxfam Ireland in 2021 and 2022 will:

- **Ensure that there is a just transition towards climate-neutral and environmentally sustainable economies and societies,** as envisaged in the European Green Deal and Next Generation EU. Ensure the Irish Government and the EU's climate policy adheres to the Paris Agreement and is implemented in a timely fashion.
- **Develop and implement a broad influencing campaign that advocates for the development of sustainable food systems in Ireland and around globe.**
- Increase awareness, understanding and support among the Irish public in relation to sustainability. **Focus on sustainable fashion and Circular Economy.**

## ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE



Our Goal: Governance systems and governments are people and planet-centred, just, inclusive and accountable.

- **Ensure the Irish Government and the European Commission uphold its obligation to adhere to protective international norms** and legal responsibilities, in the area of International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights and Refugee Law.
- **Increase awareness and understanding among Irish public and policy makers about the impact of COVID 19 in the Global South** and advocate for relevant policy responses, especially in relation to increasing access to the Covid 19 vaccine in the Global South.
- **Ensure Ireland and the EU fulfil their human rights obligations towards asylum-seeker, refugees and migrants** by working with the Irish Migrant Coalition and by supporting migrant led organisations and voices.

## DIGITAL RIGHTS AND SPACE



Our Goal: Governance systems and governments are people- and planet-centred, just, inclusive and accountable.

- **Explore how best digital technology can be made accessible to all and have the most social impact; and ensure digital rights are respected** and surveillance free, and can be used safely to claim and access rights from governmental, corporate and other duty bearers safely and without fear, especially in the Global South.
- **Scale up and expand the Unblocked cash project, financed by Horizon 2020, on the use of blockchain technologies** for humanitarian and development interventions across the Globe. In Europe, we will connect with other DCs in the European Commission to see other potential uses of blockchains in development. In Ireland, we will connect with the tech sector to explore synergies and common interests.

Oxfam Ireland won in 2020 a Horizon 2020 prize in the [Blockchains for Social Good](#) contest for the Unblocked cash project in collaboration with a tech start up in Australia.

Oxfam Ireland can provide added value as a partner in research projects aimed at a) producing evidence to underpin both policy and program recommendations to address those challenges, and b) understanding public narratives and discussions on migration that impact attitudes and policies.



## LOCAL TO GLOBAL BUSINESS MODEL



Through our network of shops across the island of Ireland (47 stores, 200 staff and 900 volunteers), Oxfam Ireland works with retail businesses to divert textiles and other goods from landfill or incineration, transforming would-be greenhouse gas emissions into vital funds that support communities affected by the climate crisis worldwide.

- **Amplify sustainable climate action messaging** to wider communities, community engagement and PR & social media opportunities.
- **Divert from landfill/incineration**, increase the volume of textiles & homewares donated to our retail operation (18 tonnes per week), securely managing items through our Distribution Centre (1,056,015 million items of clothing processed a year).
- **Circularity and innovation**. Extending the life of textiles & homewares and reducing carbon omissions through reuse (1,094 tonnes a year saved from landfill).

Oxfam has been working with business partners since 1957, helping them to improve the resilience and sustainability of their organisations for their own future as well as for our planet and people's.

## ENGAGING TO DELIVER



We have a vibrant and growing base of supporters across the island of Ireland, North and South. To realise our ambition of bringing more informed citizens, partners and allies to join our global movement for social justice, **we will inspire greater engagement and participation in our work through advocacy, campaigning, volunteering, fundraising and our retail network.**

**To ensure we can affect system-level change, both in Ireland and around the globe, and act as an effective thought leader, we will invest in our influencing analysis and research capability. Our advocacy work will be embedded in political economy considerations to ensure its effectiveness.**

Oxfam Ireland could be interested to join a consortium to apply for the following call for proposals, foreseen in the work programmes of Cluster 5 and Cluster 2 (this list is merely tentative, there could be interest in other initiatives):

HORIZON-CL5-2021-D1-01-02: Modelling the role of the circular economy for climate change mitigation,

HORIZON-CL5-2021-D2-01-12: Fostering a just transition in Europe, Economic models and modern democracies, A sustainable future for Europe (2022): Public policies and indicators for social well-being and sustainable development, Determining key drivers of inequality trends.

For more information, please contact:

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