



Creative Climate Action – Online Briefing

Friday 16th April, 1.00 – 2.00 pm

Panel



Tania Banotti, Creative Ireland Programme

Tania is the Director of the Creative Ireland Programme, an all-of-government initiative based in the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, which aims to place creativity at the centre of public policy and to promote individual, community and national wellbeing through culture-based programmes. Working collaboratively, the Creative Ireland Programme has focused on supporting both direct engagement with creativity (e.g., in education, institutions, industry, and communities) as well as creativity as a way of engaging with broader societal issues (e.g., mental health, social marginalisation, rural isolation, poverty, isolation of the aged, individuals with disabilities or special needs, migrant integration, intercultural dialogue, climate action, biodiversity loss).

Caroline Lyons, Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Caroline is an Assistant Principal Officer in the Aarhus, Climate Adaptation and Citizen Engagement Division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. She has responsibility for the day to day management of the Climate Action Fund. She is also responsible for the development of funding opportunities and calls aimed at providing support for projects and initiatives 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.

Justina Corcoran, at the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Justina is a Principal Officer in the Aarhus, Climate Adaptation and Citizen Engagement Division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. In addition to leading on citizen engagement on climate matters and climate adaptation, Justina is also the Climate Action Fund Manager, a fund valued at €500 million, aimed at providing support for projects and initiatives that contribute to the achievement of Ireland's climate and energy targets.



Alison Tickell, Julie's Bicycle



Alison established Julie's Bicycle in 2007 as a non-profit company helping the music industry reduce its environmental impacts and develop new thinking in tune with global environmental challenges. JB now works across the arts and culture internationally. Originally trained as a cellist, Alison worked with jazz improviser and teacher John Stevens as a performer and trainer. She worked for many years with socially excluded young people at Community Music, training professional musicians in teaching, mentoring and business development, and then at Creative and Cultural Skills where she helped establish National Skills Academy for the music industry. Advisory roles include Tonic Theatre, Observer Ethical Awards, Royal College of Arts, D&AD White Pencil Awards, Music Week, Tonic and WOMEX awards. Alison was made an Ashoka Fellow in 2021.

Dr. Simon O'Rafferty, M.CO



Simon is a strategic designer specialising in sustainability and climate action, design for public services and policy, behaviour change, sustainable development, public participation, and social innovation. As an Associate Director at M.CO, a project management and strategic design consultancy working at the intersection of climate, arts, culture, health on wellbeing, he has supported the Creative Ireland Programme on the Creative Climate Action initiative. Prior to joining M.CO he worked for the Environmental Protection Agency, the Irish National Economic & Social Council, Ecodesign Centre and the European Commission.

Dr. Ben Twist, Director of Creative Carbon Scotland



Ben is Director of Creative Carbon Scotland, which works to ensure that the essential role of arts and culture in achieving transformational change to a sustainable future is fully recognised, developed, and utilised. Combining experience of producing events and running venues in the cultural sector with an MSc in Carbon Management and a PhD exploring how to achieve change in complex social systems, he has developed Creative Carbon Scotland into a leader in supporting cultural organisations' carbon management and developing culture's influencing role in addressing climate change. He has presented this work to groups from Salzburg Global in Austria and the ArtCOP Professional workshop in Paris to the Glasgow Life Green Team Awards and Sustainable Scotland Network. Ben was Associate Director at Edinburgh's Traverse Theatre, Artistic Director at Manchester's Contact Theatre, Chair of Scotland's leading contemporary classical music group, Hebrides Ensemble, Vice-Chair of the Theatres Trust and Vice Chair of the Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership.