



Workshop Report

Bioregional Weaving Lab Waterford

5th July 2022



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(read about BWL and why this workshop)
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- **What could happen next?**
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Background



BWL Workshop

5th of July 2022

Time: 12noon – 5pm

Location: Ardscoil na Mara,
Tramore

Drinks afterwards

Our common intent?
*A resilient food system
that supports thriving
landscapes, seascapes
and communities in the
Waterford bioregion.*

This workshop was the first event to bring **people, projects and places** together and explore the potential for a future **collective impact** approach to making long term change in the region around Waterford. This event was one of the activities organised by **Bioregional Weaving Lab (BWL)** Waterford, and part of a wider European network of such initiatives.

Course facilitators:

- Sarah Prosser**, Collective Impact Weaver, BWL Waterford
- Pieter Ploeg**, Commonland and BWL Europe
- Michael Kelly**, CEO and Founder GIY, BWL Ambassador
- Kyra van den Hil**, Commonland and BWL Europe





Bioregional Weaving Lab (BWL)

What is the BWL Network?

Organisations across Europe are right now actively co-creating a network of Bioregional Weaving Labs with the intent of releasing local potential and solutions to lead to a biodiverse and thriving future for all. The vision is a world where current and yet-to-be discovered nature-based solutions and social impact projects have become the norm, and where everyone has the agency and motivation to engage and contribute on both small and systemic levels, anchored within their local landscapes and cultural contexts.

The BWL concept was co-created with established social innovators in five countries, each with its own distinctive environmental and community setting. Founding support partners – Commonland, Ashoka, The Presencing Institute - include some of the most established organisations in the world when it comes to cultivating change in local landscapes and supporting inclusive social innovations for the good of all.

BWL Waterford

In Ireland, the BWL is located in the Waterford bioregion, an area defined by the distinct ecology and the communities within it, such that it extends beyond county boundaries. Given the region’s agri- and aquacultural qualities, and combining our awareness of the wide benefits that come from growing, cooking and eating your own food, a food system lens will be central to BWL activities in Ireland. Mick Kelly from GIY is the ‘BWL Ambassador’; Sarah Prosser is the programme ‘weaver’.

One page overview

Our vision

A biodiverse future with healthy ecosystems, regenerative economies and thriving communities, where solutions that work with nature and communities in landscapes are the norm and scale widely.

Our mission

To mobilise 1 million changemakers by 2025 to overcome systemic barriers and restore, protect and regenerate 1 million ha of Europe’s land and sea, with significant impact on 4 Returns (social, natural, economic and inspiration) by 2030

Partners in BWL Waterford – please join us!



Background

For those interested in reading more about the Bioregional Weaving Lab initiative in Ireland and the wider European BWL network we recommend the following:

BWL Waterford on GIY programme webpage

<https://giy.ie/programmes/bioregional-weaving-lab/>

BWL Europe on Ashoka webpage

<https://www.ashoka.org/en-gb/program/bioregional-weaving-labs-collective>

With downloadable reports:

- Bioregional Weaving Lab Insights Report
- Bioregional Weaving Labs White Paper

Masters thesis on weaving as a practice to scale nature-based solutions

<https://networknature.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/masterthesisexecsum.pdf>





The Workshop - process



Agenda

1200 Landing in our landscapes, with lunch

1300 World café: Our collective intelligence

1400 3D system modelling: current and future

1645 Closing comments

1700 End



Landing in our landscapes - Facilitators

Weaver - Sarah Prosser

Welcomed 28 participants from three main groups:

1. People working with **nature based solutions** and **social innovations** for landscape regeneration and food sustainability in Waterford's wider bioregion.
2. Community groups from **Tramore** as a case study of a town within the wider bioregion where changemakers live and grow up.
3. **'System-players'** who can affect the deeper levels of change we hope for no matter where they live.

BWL Ambassador - Michael Kelly

Summarised the background of how the initiative started – an Ashoka Fellows' gathering called 'Weaving for a Thriving Planet' – and the urgency of taking action in the face of complex crises affecting our food, agriculture and societal systems

BWL Partner, Commonland - Pieter Ploeg

Expanded on the international partners – Commonland, Ashoka, Presencing Institute and others – and the other Bioregional Weaving Labs being explored in Spain, Sweden and Romania, with a further six being considered.



Participants

System players ++	
Úna Fitzpatrick	National Biodiversity Data Centre
Bernadette Guest	Waterford County Council
Garry Graham	Hortitude
Michael Ó Cinneide	Corrib Beo, Irish Forum Natural Capital, formerly EPA
Karen Hand	GIY Board
Alan Walsh	Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO)
Brendan Fitzsimons	Tree Council Ireland
Tomorrow's Tramore	
Sally Sweeney	Tramore Zero Carbon ++
Brian Casey	ITCarlow, Transition Tramore
Damian Nicholls	Copper Coast Permaculture and Tramore Eco Group
Patrick Kirwan	Ardscoil na Mara, Irish Schools Sustainability Network
Eilish Kelly	Tramore Educate Together
Nicola Crowley	Mezze
Samantha Richardson	Tramore Allotments

To the many that were unable to attend due to COVID and prior commitments:
thank you for your interest - see you next time!

The Bioregion – nature based solutions, education, social innovations, businesses	
Rory Harrington	Vesi Environmental. ICWetlands
Donal Sheehan	The Bride Project
Katharine Foran	Kilmeaden
John and Grace Kiersey	Ballyhussa Farm, Freezin' Friesans
Nicholas Grubb	Dramona House
Betty Moloney	Dairy farmer West Waterford
Molly Garvey	GIY
Paul Henry	Camphill Communities of Ireland
Tommie Ryan	Waterford Skillnet
John and Bridget Carney	Portally Farm, social farming
Colin Jephson	Ardkeen Quality Food Store
Martina Douris	Park National School, Youghal

Bioregional Weaving Lab	
Sarah Prosser	BWL Waterford
Michael Kelly	GIY and BWL Ambassador
Pieter Ploeg	Commonland, BWL Europe
Kyra van den Hil	Commonland, BWL Europe

Landing in our landscapes - Participants

Participants divided into triads and discussed the following question before placing it physically on a map over the bioregion.

Question: What is it about this landscape and community that speaks to you, and why?



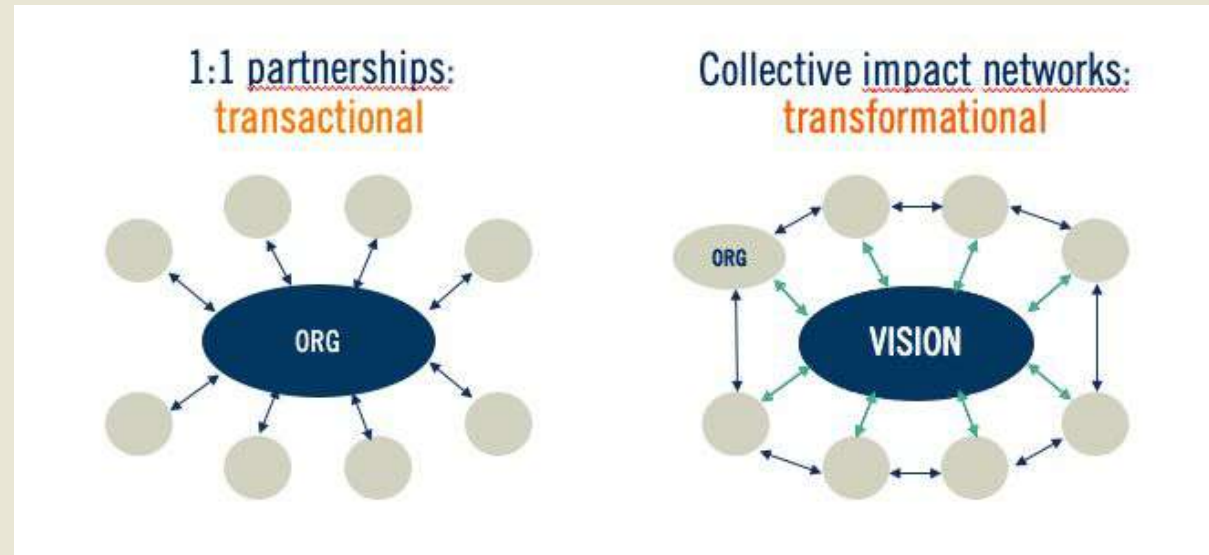
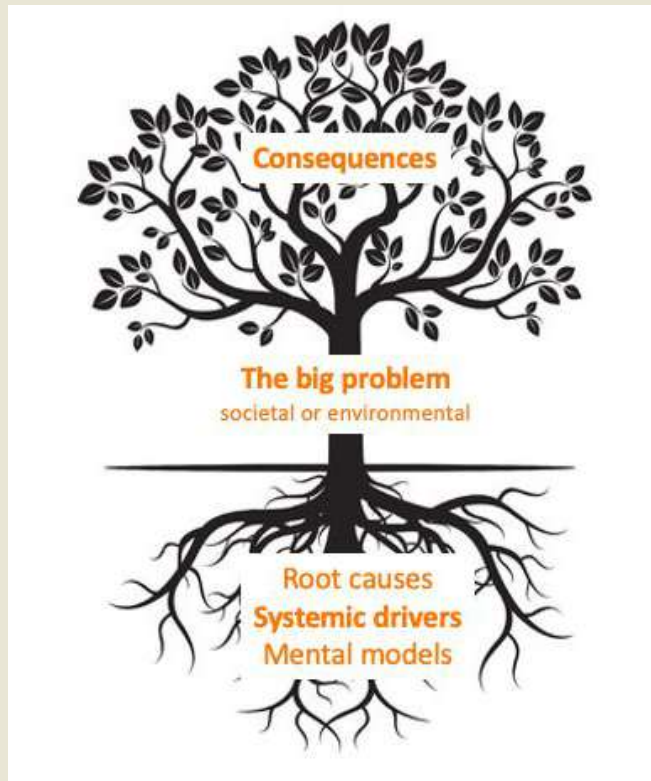
Lunch

Was provided by **Mezze**, afternoon snacks by **GIY** – both organisations work for wider food systems change and planetary health.

Systems change and collective impact

Two key diagrams were presented to give a common understanding of concepts being used in the workshop:

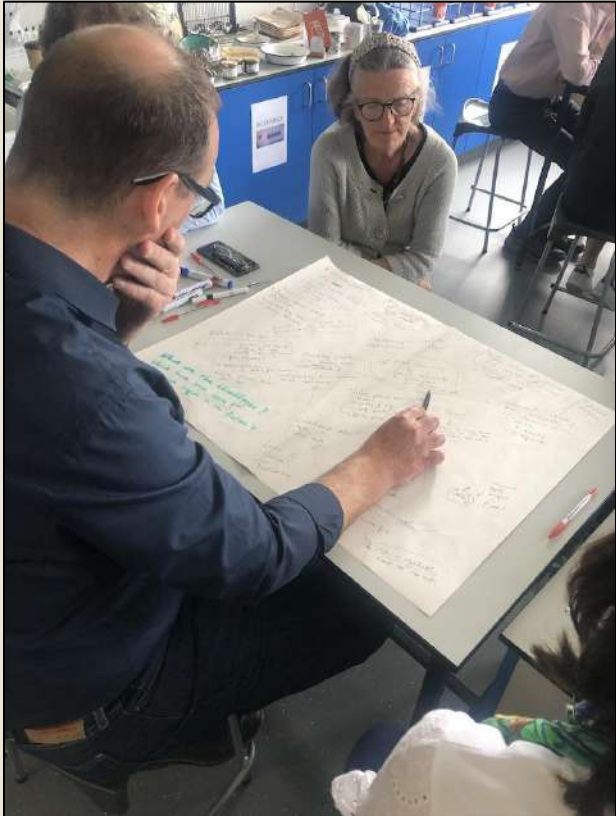
1. **The Problem Tree:** a way of focussing on initiatives that address root causes, and the systems holding them in place, and less so on short term projects that are built around fixing the consequences of the ‘big problem’. A **systems change** strategy can be designed accordingly.
2. **Collective impact** - curating multi-stakeholder networks working for a common vision, as opposed to focusing on growing individual organisations to make more impact, alone or in bilateral partnerships



Unveiling our collective intelligence – World Café

Participants divided into groups of 5-6 and discussed two questions. They then rotated to the next table where one person from the former group remained to transfer the knowledge through a summary of the notes on the paper sheets.

Questions: What are the challenges in/to our landscape? What has been done already?



3D system modelling

Participants divided into groups of 5-6 and were provided with bags of craft materials, small plastic animals, play-dough etc. They were asked to make a model of the system as it is today. A break was taken to share insights in plenary. They then adjusted the system to be the one they would like to see in the future. Insights were shared in plenary and key points that had changed were summarised in writing

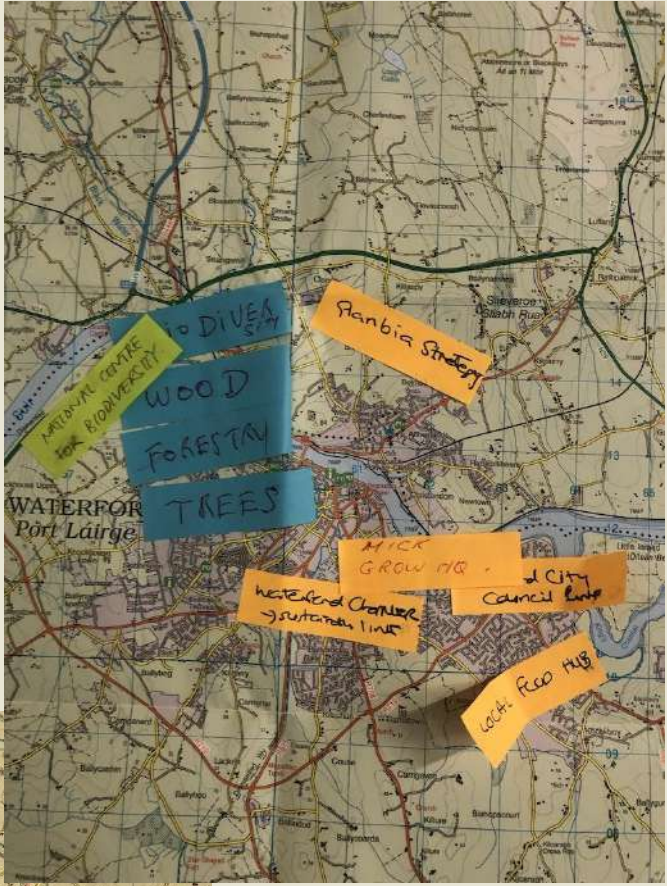
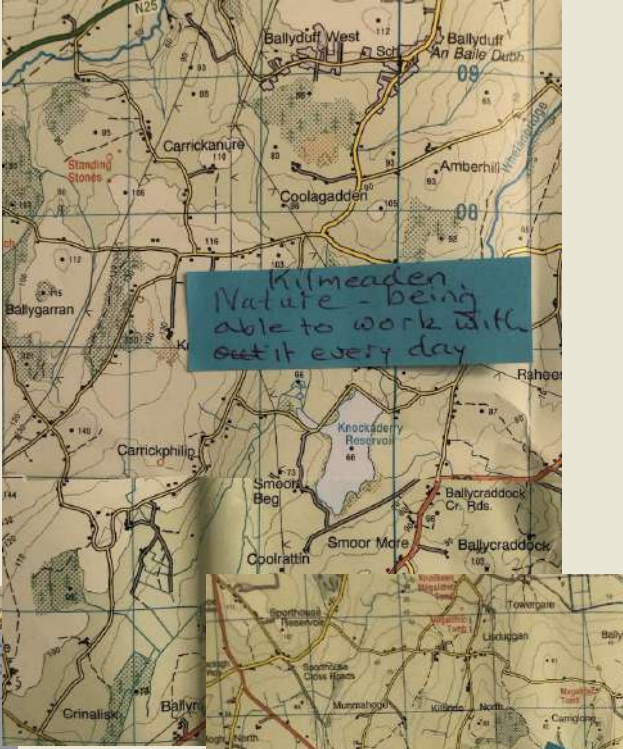
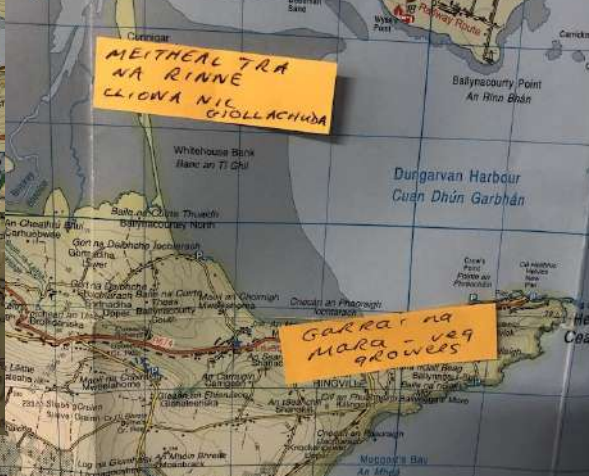
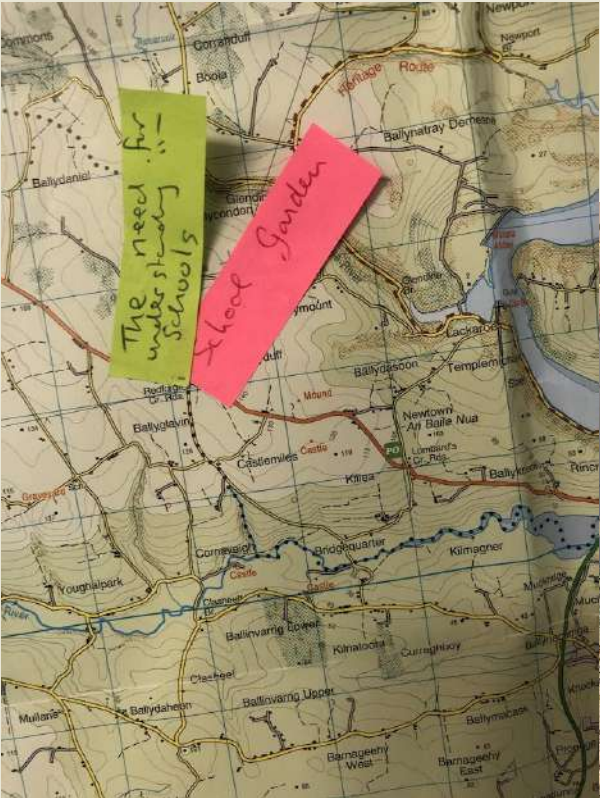


The Workshop – harvested insights



Landing in our landscapes - Participants

Food, family, school gardens, neighbourhood connections, nature, trees, wood, GIY, oysters and fish - just some of what in the landscape and communities speaks to participants in the bioregion.



World café unveiling collective intelligence

National food policy

- grow more = focus
- environmental impact not built in / acted on / tested in
- farmers stuck needing to grow

agri + aqua basin
pollution

Lack of local knowledge and use of food

- exporting large % of food e.g. clams - Pasage East => approx 100% export
- 10,000 tonnes oysters, 1/4 from Waterford
- 90-95% exported

built environ not leaving nature

lack of confidence in ourselves

- not talking about what we're good at

NEW KPI

"QUALITY OF LIFE" INDEX

- COST IN CARBON.
- MORE EXPENSIVE TO DO WRONG THINGS.
- LESS EXPENSIVE TO DO RIGHT THINGS.

"GREEN PREMIUMS" (BILL GATES)

- POWER / WEALTH / INEQUALITY
- INDIVIDUAL

FOOD

GUY

HARD REARE

TRAMACK

RELIANTION

THIRD

FESTIVALS

IMAGINE

HARVEST

SPACI

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

FAMILY

CHANGE

AREA BAN

EIP'S

FLAVAVANS

WETLANDS

BASED AREAS

COMMUNITY

SEAN LOCK

ROBY HARRINGTON

TURKISHS

GREENWAY

DUNGAVAN

TRAMACK / COMMUNITY

JURANKI

SEA-CULTURE

TALL SHIPS

LEADERS

CONSCIOUS EFFECT



Class Issues: urban / rural. Education

EIP - EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP

IRELAND POLLINATOR PLAN

AGRI ENVIRONMENT SCHEME

FUNDING FOR HABITAT MAPPING

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DATA SET

LOCAL ECO GROUPS

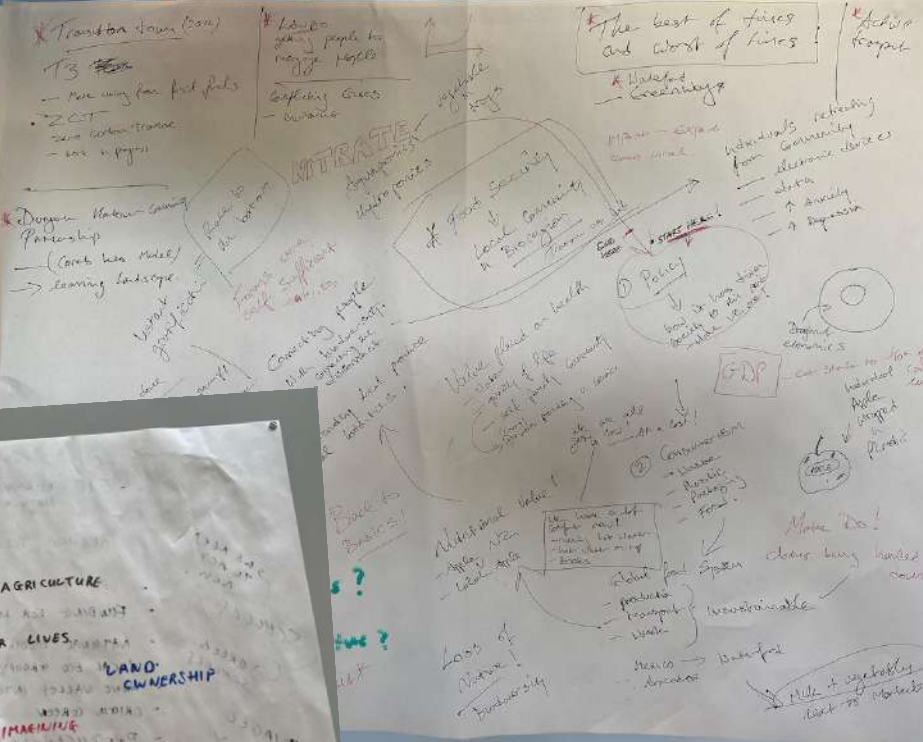
ANNE VALLEY INTEGRATED WELFARE

ORIGIN GREEN

PRODUCER-LED INITIATIVE LIKE BRIDE PROJECT, TRA NA RINNE (LYSTERS) IN POLICY VACUUM

WE NEED TO ACT NOW. GREEN SCHOOLS

DIAGED BARLEY REGENERATIVE FARMS. SAME FOR PIA?



World café question one:

What are the challenges for our landscape and our communities within it?

- Industrial agriculture
- More insular lives
- Land ownership
- Lack of imagination and suppression of imagining. What if?
- Heads in the sand
- Education system that leads to jobs and empowerment
- Policy-making has driven us to this point
- Consumerism – waste, plastic, packaging, food. And how it links to the global food system – unsustainable production, transport and waste. Avocados from Mexico to Waterford. Milk and veg are not next to their markets.
- Loss of nutritional value in food – local apples vs. global packed in plastic.
- Loss of nature and of biodiversity.
- No culture of ‘make do’ and clothes being handed down.
- GDP – cut x to 1/10th of current levels.
- Doughnut economics is not applied
- Transition is difficult
- People are retreating from community – electronic devices, data, increase anxiety and depression. Not active transport.
- Nitrate
- Vegetables in trays – no aquaponics or hydroponics.
- Farms were self-sufficient in 70s and 80s. No longer.
- The need for instant gratification – which is a race to the bottom.
- Crises are conflicting – the environment is one crisis.
- Lack of policy and funding
- The news cycle – short term issues and distractions. Popularism and self interest, leading to fear and anxiety. All making it hard to focus.
- Climate anxiety.
- The perfect storm of Brexit, Covid and Ukraine.
- Human selfishness – leading to inertia – self-interest and xx of change.
- Lack of incentive to act – financial, personal, own growth
- The need for new KPIs that focus on quality of life, cost of carbon, the expensive wrong things, the cheaper right things.
- All goals are economic outputs and growth targets. Waterford industry is put first. Trade and commerce focus.
- Eco-tourism is not nurtured – Calxx way. Outdoor surfing in Tramore, sea-surfing, outdoor spaces in City. Growth of Dungarvan. City-New Ross?
- Dependence on Glanbia and reliant
- Lack of commitment over time
- Lack of rallying call to unite everyone
- Lack of accountability – carbon footprint of Waterford is other crisis. Tokenism, Green-washing, facadisey, signalling.
- Slow to join dots and make connections.
- Lacking systems world view
- “Green” premiums: (Bill Gates): subject to power, wealth, inequality.
- Lobbyists
- Group thinking
- Lack of hope.
- Individuals care (political parties don’t)

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World café question one (cont.):

What are the challenges for our landscape and our communities within it?

- Policy
- Bureaucracy
- Class issue – including rural/urban, and blow-in/rural
- Education
- Mindset
- Communication
- Power
- Money
- Ownership – property, legal system behind this, planning laws
- Money – prioritise profit over creating community and healthy landscape. E.g. Ardmore 50%
- Cars are essential for countryside living
- Lack of understanding of the biodiversity catastrophe (1 acre hse on school site)
- Genuine fear of cycling due to transport levels on the roads
- Lack of engagement with nature
- Community projects are limited by government directives and policy
- Built environment not designed for Nature based Solutions (NBS)
- Lack of confidence in ourselves – not talking about what we are good at. Waterford is one of the best and richest lands for growing and dairy.
- Machaire Meith na Mumhan - the rich plains of Munster
- Lack of local knowledge and use of food – exporting large % of food. E.g. 100% clams from Passage East are exported, and 10K tonnes of oysters ¼ of all come from Waterford and 90-95% are exported.
- National food policy has focus on growing more. Environmental impact is not built in/acted on or costed in. So farmers are stuck need to grow.
- Agri- and aqua business pollution

World café question two:

What has been done already?

- EIP European Innovation Partnership
- Ireland Pollinator Plan
- AGRI Environmental Plan
- Funding for habitat mapping
- National Biodiversity Data Centre
- Local eco groups
- Anne Valley Integrated Wetlands
- Origin Green
- Producer-led initiatives like The Bride Project and Meitheal
- Meitheal Tra na Rinne (oysters) run by run by Cliona Nic Giollachuda operating in policy vacuum
- Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) – 12 principles
- Diageo – barley regenerative farms
- Schools – Green schools
- GIY – leading the way, understanding of food empathy. Growing own food is antithesis of global food system. Need to understand local produce. Connecting people with biodiversity and connecting the disconnect.
- Waterford Greenway
- LAWPRO – getting people to re-engage people
- Dungarvan Harbour Partnership, Corirb Beo Mode, a learning landscape
- Transition Town (2012)
- In Tramore: T3 – moving away from fossil fuels, ZCT (work in progress)
- Wild clams being farmed in Passage East
- Snap net fishing in Mooncoin fishing wild salmon
- Dunhill
- Men's sheds
- Annual Passage West
- CBD ecosystem approach
- National biodiversity conference
- National biodiversity centre is based here.
- Plastic bag levy
- Smoking ban
- Tourism: Greenway, Dungarvan, Tramore surfing, outdoor dining, sea-culture, tall ships.
- Flahavans – all organic oats
- Wetlands
- European Innovation programmes – Meitheal, Trá na roinne (oysters)
- GIY
- Ardkene shopping
- Tramore organic ice-cream
- Pollination
- Festivals: imagine, Harvest, Spraci, Vitamin Sea (held in September when most Iodine is in the sea due to seaweed breakdown).
- Wasted suppers
- CAP budget
- Beef farming cooperation projects
- Media such as Brendan Carney in Irish Times – 'we need a massive rethink of Irish agriculture'.

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World café question two (cont.):

What has been done already?

- Anne Valley – treating polluted water. Example of a pinch point for farmers. Happened because there was a will to get it done in the Co. Council. TD and MEP Green representatives.
- Cooperation: Dunhill Anne Valley and community-led eco-restoration
- Ballymacaul – combined back gardens to have larger wildlife
- Tramore Municipal Park – eco-park with rare habitats, bird-hide built and in use.
- Camphill – the power of having a piece of land to care for and be cared for by.
- Forest bathing – connect with nature prioritised, in contrast to disconnection connected to forestry and native vs spruce felling and continuous cropping
- Taste Tramore – collection of food businesses that are cooperating for shared suppliers, inputs, promotion, links food with community and landscape. A chance to educate and promote at same time. Fosters supplier exchange.
- Well-being Index – shifting accounting to what we value in social returns rather than GDP
- People asking 'what if ' continuously, not just under pressure, to demonstrate an idea to themselves.
- Foodcloud



3D system modelling (Table 1/6)

What are the most important structural differences between model 1 and 2?

- Space for Nature
- ... influence of large scale industry
- Sustainable intergenerational and regenerative farming
- An educated general public & change in consumer behaviour

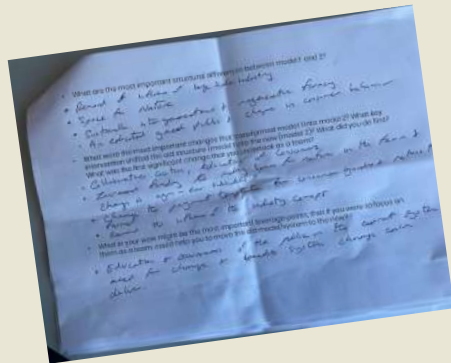
What were the most important changes that transformed model 1 into model 2? What key intervention shifted the old structure (model 1) into the new (model 2)? What did you do first?

What was the first significant change that you undertook as a team?

- Collaborative action, education of consumers
- Increased funding to create space for nature on the farm
- Change in agricultural subsidies
- Change the payment tempt for consumer foods and returns
- Remen the influence the industry crops

What in your view might be the most important leverage points, that if you were to focus on them as a team, could help you to move the old model/system to the new?

- Education & awareness of the public on the current system need for change and the benefit system change could deliver



Model 1: current system



Model 2: desired future system



3D system modelling (Table 3/6)

What are the most important structural differences between model 1 and 2?

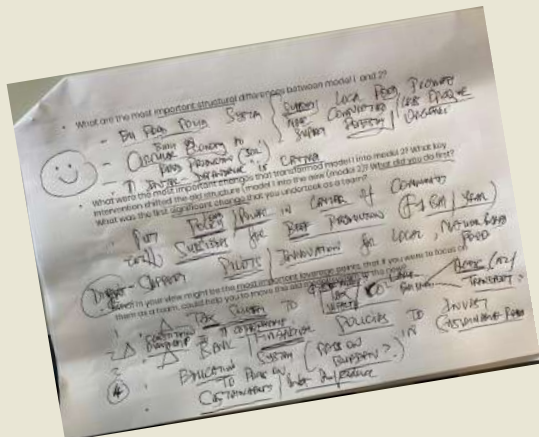
- Fair food policy system, support local food producers
- More connected, less opaque
- support
- Circular economy to
- Inter-dependence is central

What were the most important changes that transformed model 1 into model 2? What key intervention shifted the old structure (model 1) into the new (model 2)? What did you do first? What was the first significant change that you undertook as a team?

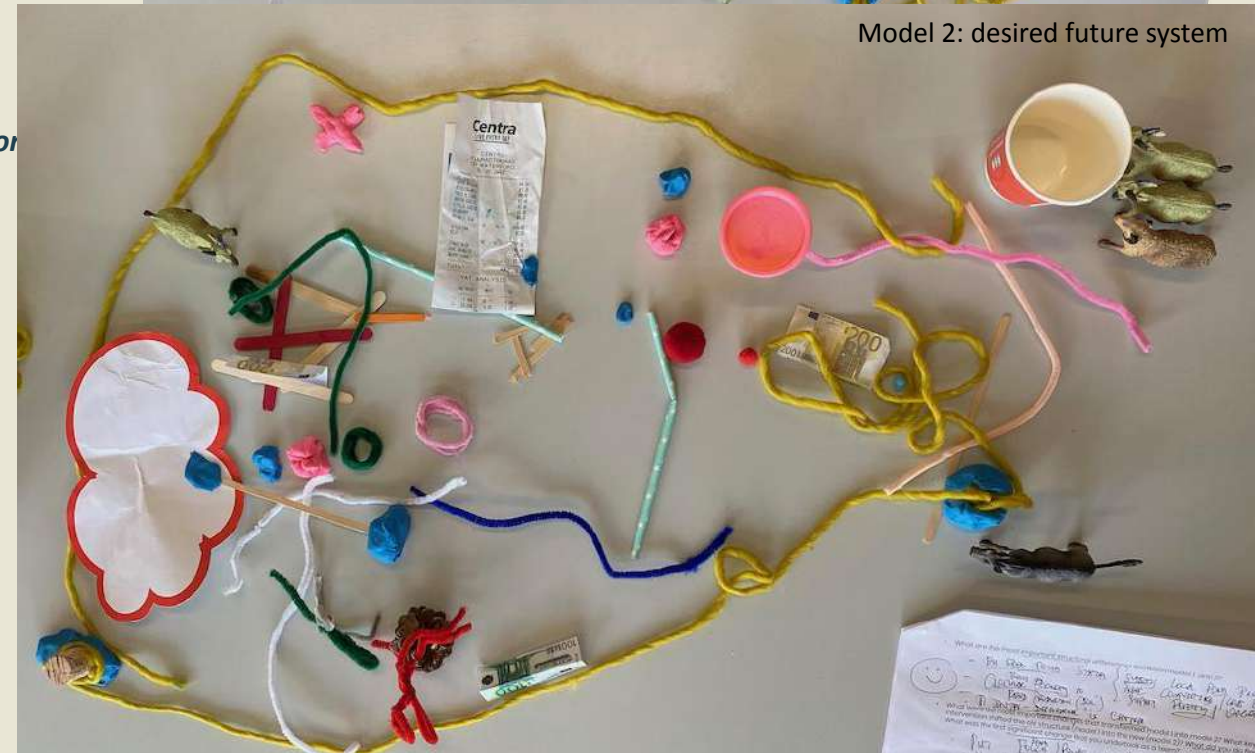
- Pier policy/power in centre of community
- Change Subsidies for beef production (farm/year)
- Support pilots/innovation for local neighbourhood food

What in your view might be the most important leverage points, that if you were to focus on them as a team, could help you to move the old model/system to the new?

- Tax system to give money for worth/co2/???
- Constitution Bank Financial Policies to invest in sustainable food
- Education system to pass on sustainability/inter dependence



Model 1: current system



Model 2: desired future system

3D system modelling (Table 5/6)

What are the most important structural differences between model 1 and 2?

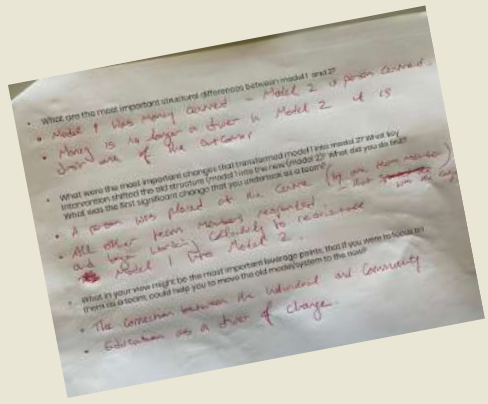
- Model 1 was money centred – model 2 is person centred
- Money is no longer a power in model 2, it is just one of the outcomes

What were the most important changes that transformed model 1 into model 2? What key intervention shifted the old structure (model 1) into the new (model 2)? What did you do first? What was the first significant change that you undertook as a team?

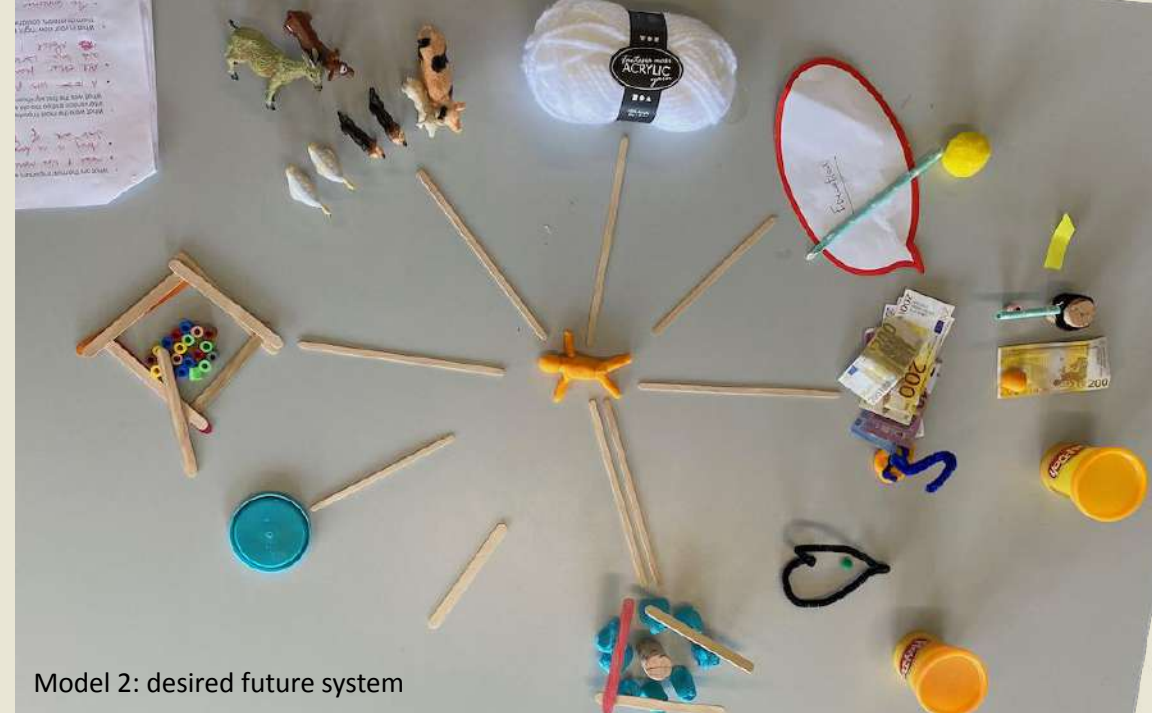
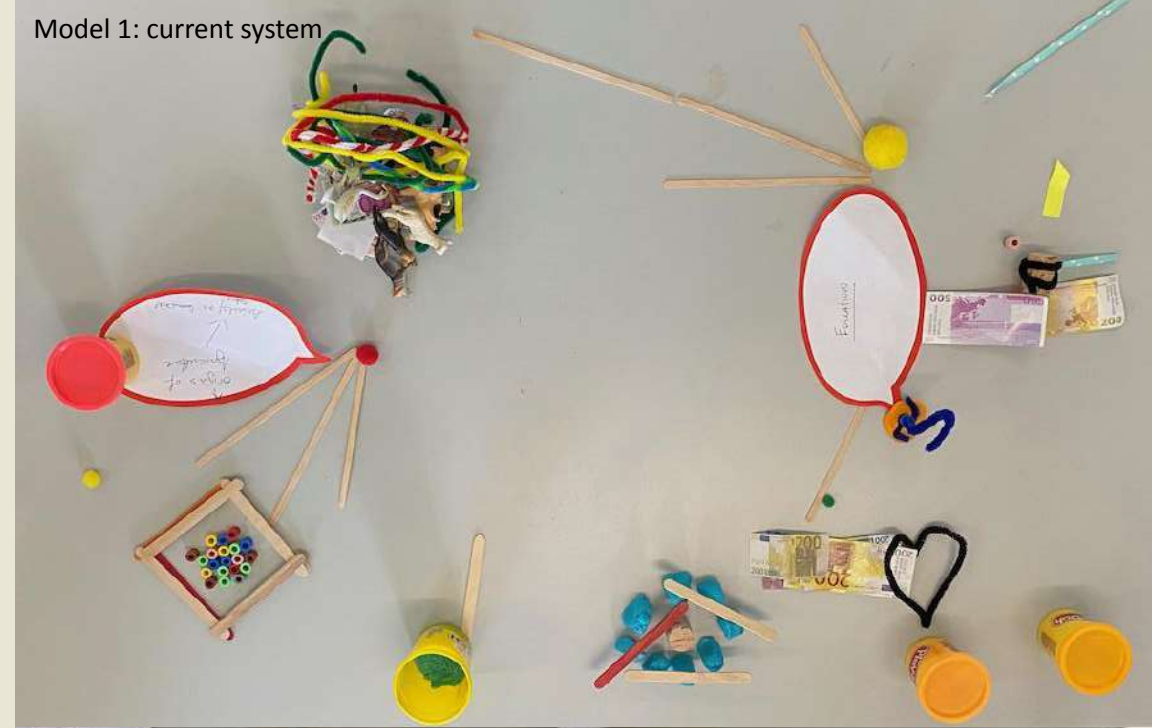
- A person was placed at the centre by one team member
- All other team members responded and began working collectively to reorientate model 1 into model 2

What in your view might be the most important leverage points, that if you were to focus on them as a team, could help you to move the old model/system to the new?

- The connection between the individual and community
- Education as a power of change



Model 1: current system



Model 2: desired future system

3D system modelling (Table 6/6)

What are the most important structural differences between model 1 and 2?

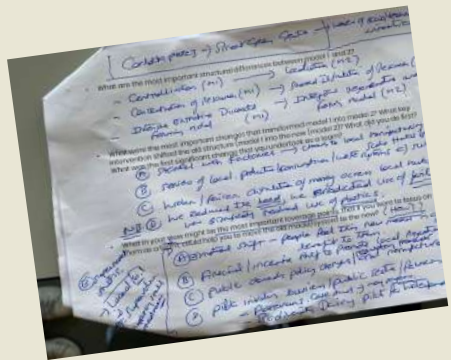
- Centralisation (M1) vs. Localisation (M2)
- Concentration of resources (M1) vs. Shared distribution of resources (M2)
- Intensive distractive disconnected farming model (M1) vs. Integrated regenerative connected farming model (M2)

What were the most important changes that transformed model 1 into model 2? What key intervention shifted the old structure (model 1) into the new (model 2)? What did you do first? What was the first significant change that you undertook as a team?

- Stentel with factories local manufacturing
- Series of local production/consumption/nested systems
- Hidden/fairer distribution of money ocren local hub
- We reduced the herd, we eradicated use of fossil fuels
- We significantly reduced use of plastics

What in your view might be the most important leverage points, that if you were to focus on them as a team, could help you to move the old model/system to the new?

- Emotional shift – people feel this new model will benefit them
- Financial/incentive shift to promote local
- Public demand policy changes
- Pilot individual business/public sector/farmers



Model 1: current system



Model 2: desired future system



The Workshop – Analysis



Key words and concepts recurring throughout workshop

Vision needed – a rallying call

Collapse vs incremental change – level of ambition and speed must increase

Education matters – schools, farmers, restaurants, suppliers, consumers too

Schools – we need to act now for next generation. Start with children.

Role of multi-nationals and profit-driven must be lessened, or go.

Distributed, democratic resource distribution wanted

Financial shift to local food hubs

Local food and distribution, hubs and factories, waste, profit redistribution

Consumer driven in the end

Community-led

Collaborative action

Community cohesion matters

Driven by individuals in different places: changemakers needed everywhere

People-centred design

Emotional shift – interdependency, intergenerational

Policy initiatives- empowered councils

People direct policy shifts

EU policy for local food systems

Put power with people

Plant based food

Regenerative farming models – not extractive

Sheep – needed

Herd – reduced

Fertilisers – eradicated

Plastics - stopped

Space for nature

If we can do it here we can do it anywhere

We need to make a conscious effort

Farmers as organic sustainable leaders

Organisational pilots for naysayers

Flavahans – all organic, no market

Glanbia - Diageo – barley regenerative farms: same for Glanbia?

Supermarkets – Supervalu

Money to local food hubs

Tech as a driver for change

How to navigate complexity

Shared capability is large, but don't tread on toes

Have non-competitive structures

Waterford could be a leader, but long way to go

There is a huge amount of money out there...

Discussion-based trends and emerging patterns of where there is a need and motivation to do more

Community driven and more social/environmental focus for finance

- Financial redistribution back to where it started – farmers and community action
- Tramore as a town is full of good initiatives, but they are not joined up
- Citizen assemblies are respected and effective – locally and nationally

Organic and regenerative food and agriculture

- Must be truly regenerative or organic – role of certification and Ireland's goal of 7.5%
- Fertilizers must reduce by half or be eliminated
- No greenwashing allowed - transparency
- More plant-based food
- Space for nature must be part of our futures

The disconnect between policy and people

- Disconnect must be addressed – both in visible outcomes and financial flows
- We can act as a collective group to feed upwards to policy-makers

Big business

- Has a powerful role – without change here, change will be hard
- Pilots in the form of place (bioregion) – based labs could answer their mandates and give desired outcomes.
- Organic farmers must have a market – both supermarkets and new food distribution hubs.

Clustering of the system leverage points identified by participants

The bullet points below are directly transcribed from participant inputs on leverage points identified in the 3D systems modelling exercise, here rearranged into common themes.

Mindsets, relational focus and a common vision to rally around

- Vision
- Emotional shift – people feel this new model will benefit them
- The connection between the individual and community

Policy-making: shifting from profit to local food, empowering communities and councils

- Financial/incentive shift to promote local
- Tax system to give money for worth/co2/???
- Constitution, Bank, Financial policies to invest in sustainable food
- Public demand policy changes
- Empowered councils

Education

- Education system to pass on sustainability/inter dependence
- Education as a power of change
- Education & awareness of the public on the current system need for change and the benefit system change could deliver
- Information

Experimentation, innovation and pilots

- Pilot individual business/public sector/farmers



**What could
happen next?**



Meetings

5th August 11am

A digital online meeting open for all participants on 5th July, and all other stakeholders who are interested. You will receive an email invitation.

Agenda:

- BWL Workshop 5th July gave us insights and possible actions. What were these and can we build on them?

11th September

An in-person invitation to get together at the Harvest Festival in Waterford, organised by GIY and with a focus on regenerative food systems

Agenda to be developed.

Possible themes (please share your own ideas):

- Discussion on landscape and seascape as a basis for our regenerative futures and sustainable food systems
- Weaving fragmented initiatives together – how powerful could it be?
- Community power – what does it look like and can we do it?

Possible actions

The actions below are based on the question posed in workshop closing session: **'What is needed next?'** combined with analysis of the leverage points and trends emerging during workshop

Our common intent?

- Vision and rallying call – co-visioning workshop?
- Apply CBD ecosystem approach with 12 principles?
- Co-write a manifesto with key principles that people and organisations sign up to. Direct to mayors, local national and international decision makers.

Education

- Start with education - including on how to handle complexity
- Education initiative – need action now. What would that look like? Gather sub-group of teachers and others?
- GIY garden in every school in bioregion, with empowered teachers - linked to Irish Sustainability Network?
- Community garden in every community in bioregion?

Tramore as a town ambitious for tomorrow, and the next day

- An umbrella organisation to access resources?
- Community Innovates support joined up initiative like this – interested in being connected?
- Link to Participatory City model – community kitchens, gardens, social enterprise etc?
- Local restaurants (Mezze and others) club together to find young grower to be their supplier?
- Short food value chain study for whole town?

Possible actions (cont.)

Support weaving and collective initiatives

- Establish representative discussion/advisory group for next six months
- Are weavers something to work for the bioregion? Where would funding come from? Explore.
- Attract 'support circle' – in-kind and financial.
- Position Waterford bioregional as leading example of weaving for systemic change? Talk and publish on this.
- Rotating host office and space for weaver and weaving initiative?

Collective response to policy-making

- Respond to EU consultation on sustainable food systems (deadline 21st July).
- Irish Citizen Assembly on Biodiversity – write a submission
- Consider establishing bioregional Citizen Assembly for food systems

Generational regeneration? (A 'new West Cork' - artists of the 70s/80s)

- Position Waterford bioregion as the place in Ireland for international people dedicated to this way of farming, eating, living to move to - e.g. for farms not being passed down intergenerationally.

Ecotourism - festivals

- Look for opportunities for both systemic and more visible collaboration with Harvest, Vitamin Sea, Imagine.
- Ice-cream and so much more.

Possible actions (cont.)

Water, wetlands, rivers: the fire of life

- Anne Valley as a case of what can be replicated: wetlands, pollution community collaboration, landowners etc.
- Look at this as example of replication within and outside of bioregion

Farms and farmers as stewards and leaders

- Farming with Nature: The Bride Project as a case of what can be done, and extended across the bioregion.
- Look at this as example for replication within and outside of bioregion.
- Source evidence, tool-kits and overview of what is already done and working.

Possible pilot projects

These are concrete ideas from within the workshop, others will undoubtedly will emerge with time.

- **An organic/regen/biodiversity/farm with nature lab for Glanbia to step up and deliver.** Build the market for farmers – supermarkets and big business must guarantee a place. Write description of what this could look like. Get Glanbia on board to experiment? Be hyper-aware of greenwashing.
- **Organic Waterford:** 7% organic - speed up and get there in Waterford bioregion - work with partners to make plan.
- **Weave Waterford:** ‘Weaving a community-led collective impact initiative for systems change’ - give it a home, a place, a weaver, co-weavers etc. Be a centre of excellence for seeing how far this approach of linking fragmented initiatives for systems change can go.
- **Universal well-being KPIs:** if our landscapes, seascapes and communities are to thrive what KPIs, frameworks and models do we as communities want to see help document and steer this, if not profit alone. Four Returns, Doughnut economics, Green Deal, Farm to Fork, Ecosystem approach. Human and nature centred design. Do this work through Weave Waterford?
- **Public procurement:** anchor institutions across the bioregion for regenerative food procurement? *Find public partner to pilot? The hospital in Waterford? Tramore anchor institution?*
- **Farmers** as ...as what? Do they want to be leaders of this future? How to support and do pilot projects rooted in farmers of the future. Link to short value chains and new distribution hubs?
- **Tomorrow’s Tramore** as a town within the bioregion showing how to build umbrellas and support platforms for mindset change, education of changemakers, local food chains, organic ice-cream and more.

Investigations to give more evidence-based direction to our work

Any future actions with impact will depend on information based in evidence. What questions must we be able to answer?

- How viable is a regenerative future?
- What would short food value chains look like in Waterford bioregion?
- What would properly supported joined-up community-led initiatives look like in Waterford bioregion, and towns such as Tramore?
- Education – is there a role for joined up action at all levels?
- Innovative communities – how far can we go?
- Place-based investment - where to unlock funding?
- Mindset-shifts and relational shifts – what works?
- The role of maps – what do we need and how to make them?

*This page is a working example (pre-workshop) of how fragmented initiatives could be linked towards a common purpose.
Any final content would be co-created with the bioregion stakeholders.*

Our vision

A biodiverse future with healthy ecosystems, regenerative economies and thriving communities, where solutions that work with nature and communities in landscapes are the norm and scale widely.

Our bioregion vision??

A resilient food system that supports thriving landscapes, seascapes and communities in the Waterford bioregion

Europe bioregions mission

To mobilise of 1 million changemakers by 2025 to overcome systemic barriers and restore, protect and regenerate of 1 million ha of Europe's land and sea, with significant impact on 4 Returns (social, natural, economic and inspiration) by 2030

Waterford Bioregion Mission

To mobilise of 64 K changemakers by 2025 to overcome systemic barriers and restore, protect and regenerate of 64 million ha of land and sea in the Waterford bioregion , with significant impact on 4 Returns (social, natural, economic and inspiration) by 2030

Mission

**Tomorrow's Tramore,
or any village/town**

Our nature based bioregion

**Food systems for universal
well-being**

Ecosystems

Every child, a
changemaker

A public-social
infrastructure for
community/nature
participation

Join the NBS
dots

NBS the norm

Targeted system
change journeys

Projects



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