



Where are we and how did we get here?

Ireland's Locally Adapted Hybrid Results-Based Payments Model.

Ollscoil
Teicneolaíochta
an Atlantaigh

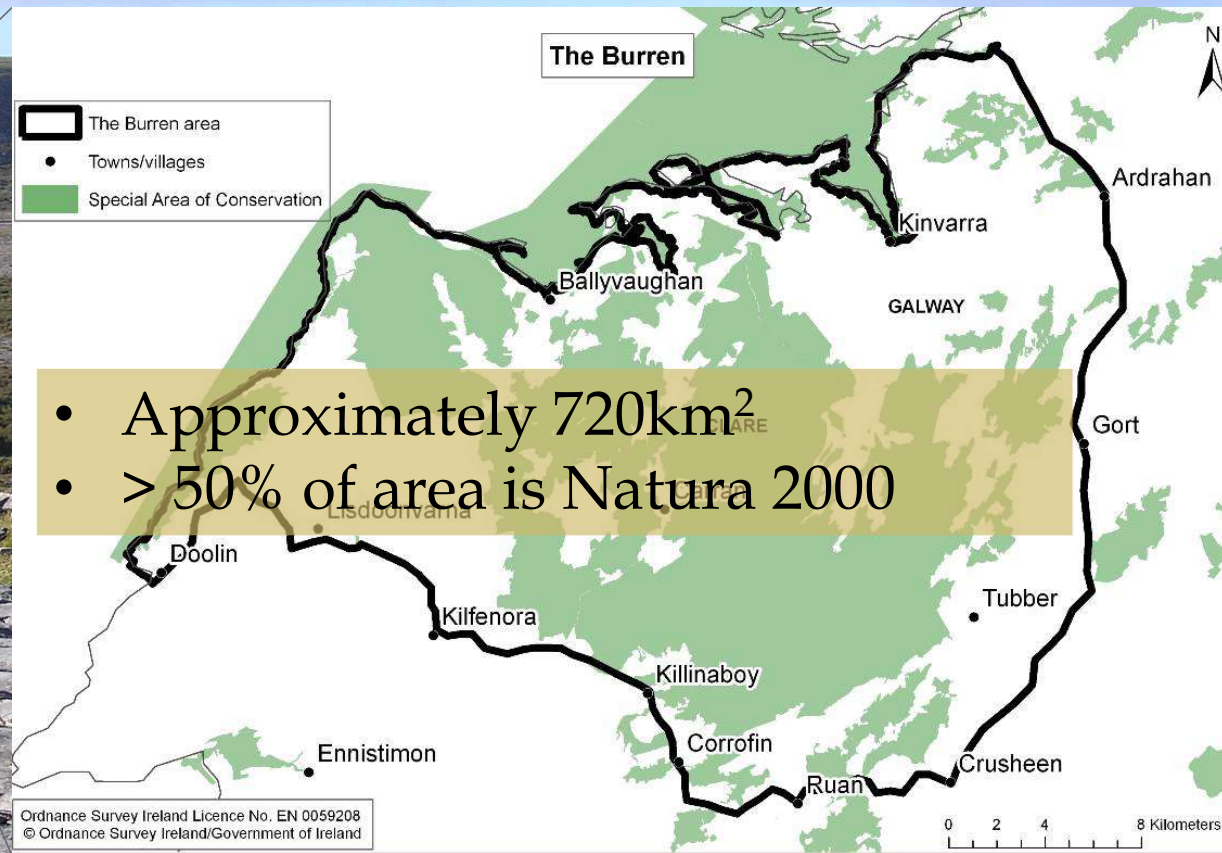
Atlantic
Technological
University

Mayo

Dr. James Moran (ATU)

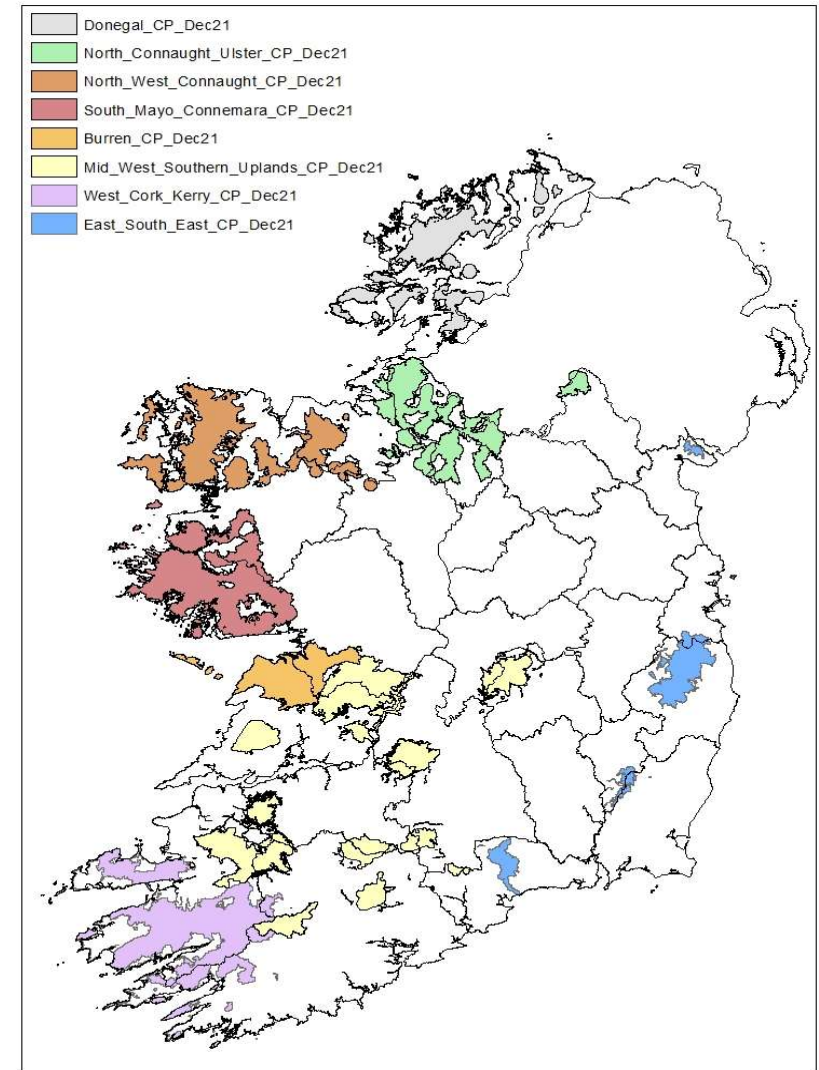
Agroecology and Rural Development Research Group

The Burren: a small beginning



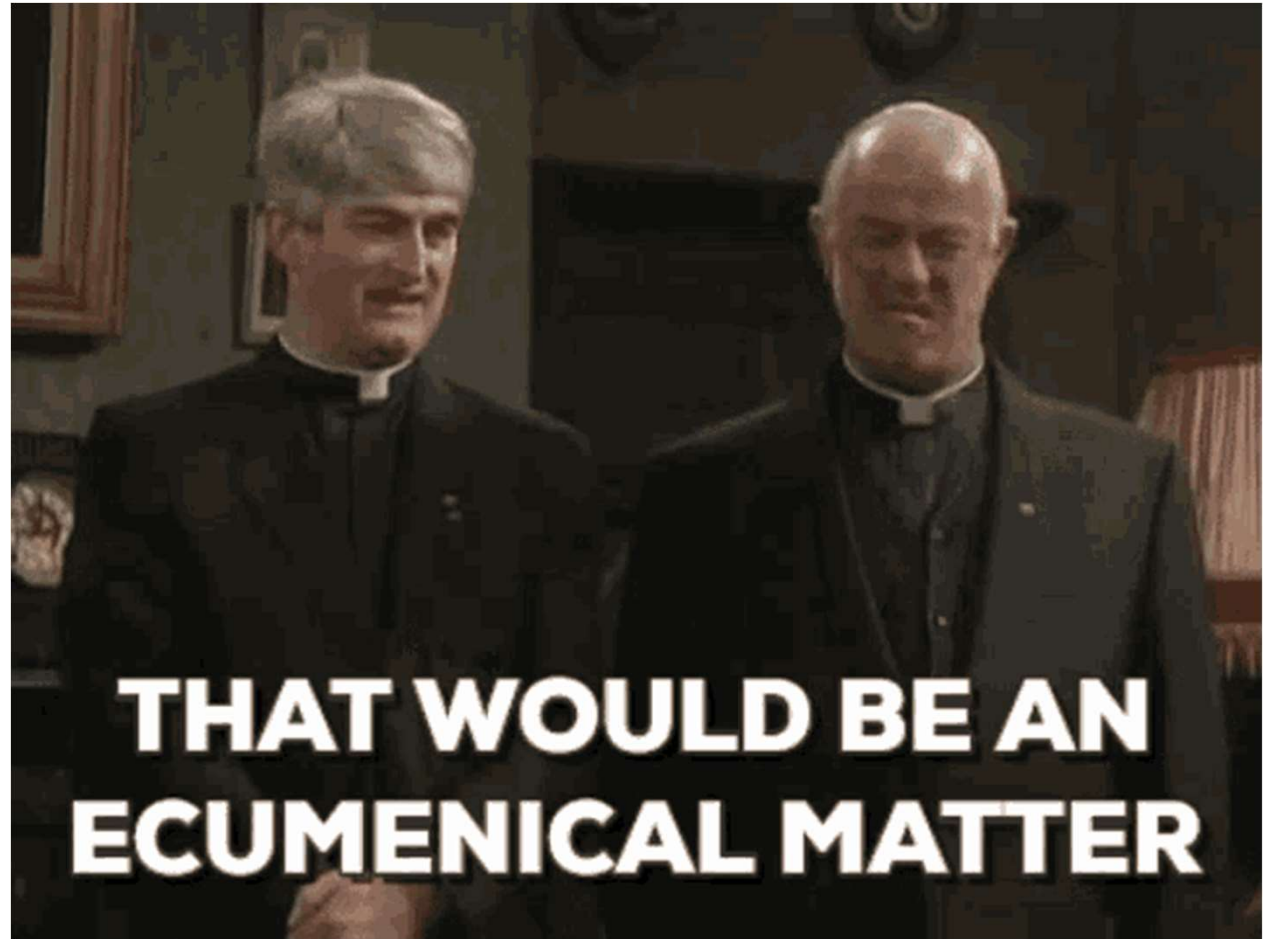
Agri-environment co-operation project areas

- AECM (agri-environment climate measure)
 - General Measure (similar to previous national scheme)
 - Cooperation Measure (targeted at high environment priority areas- see map coloured areas; areas with high proportion of designated nature areas under EU legislation plus high status water catchments identified under the water framework directive)
- 8 local area plans: diagnosis and action plan that adapts the overall measure framework to the local context (one size does not fit all recognised in proposal of this measure)
- Specialist CP teams
- Design based on lessons learnt from previous European Innovation Partnership projects & LIFE programme
- Hybrid RBPS model
- Specialist advisory support
- Investments in supporting actions and landscape actions
- Potential big break through in rewarding delivery for nature, carbon and water services from our land
- Some issues unresolved/emerging challenges

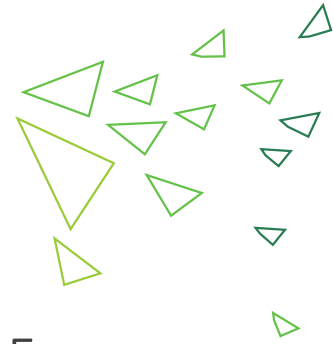


Source: Dept. of Agriculture Food and the Marine

How did
we get
here?



Outline



- 20 year development pathway: From pilot to wider up-take and out-scaling
- Ecumenical-merging of ideas from broad range of AECM churches?
- From pilots to full role out in 2 years (Farming for Nature Technical Group; Working Groups etc.)
- Not there yet!

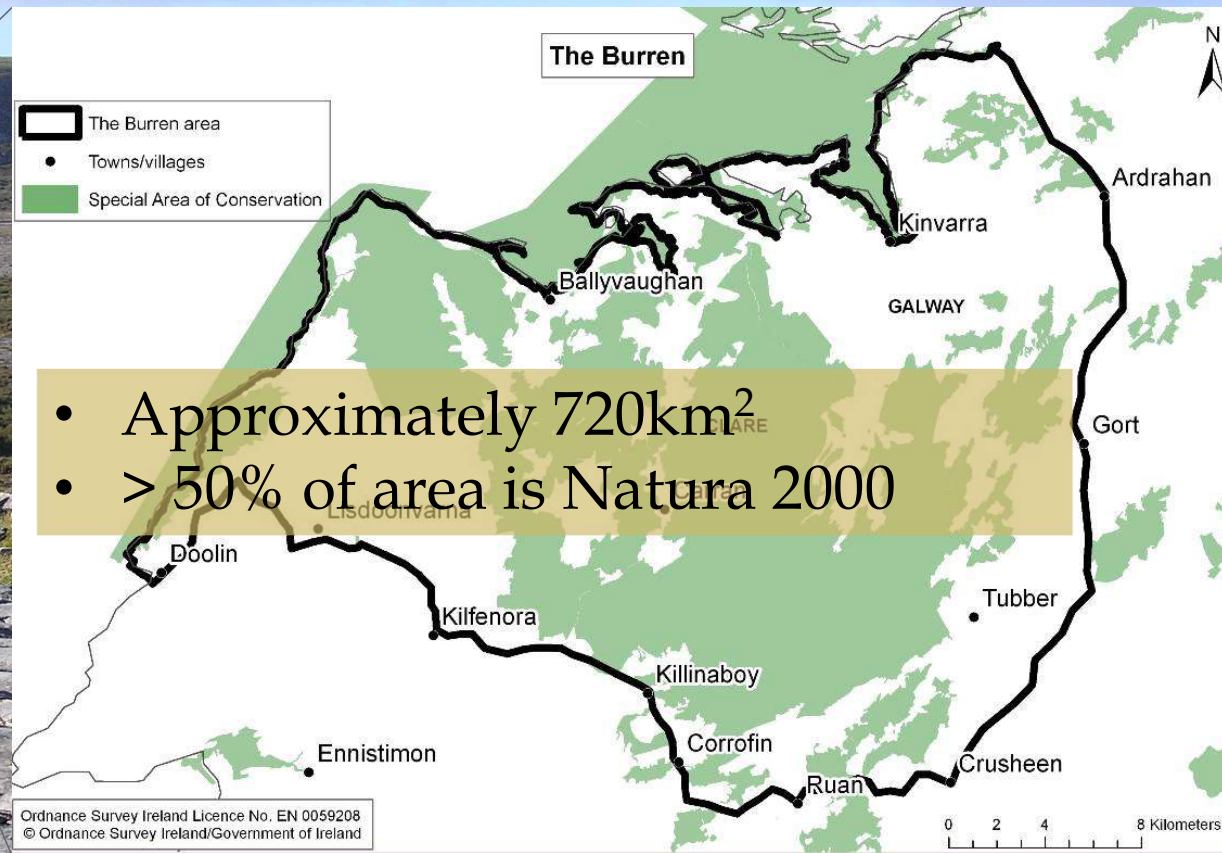


Progress to date: work of range of project teams and partners



Finding solutions to some of the most challenging agri-environment priorities in the country.

The Burren: From Conflict to Partnership



About the 2 large CP projects

UP-SCALING

BurrenLIFE
Concept (20 farms)

2004-2009

Burren Programme
Testing and Upscaling (~160
farms)

2010-2015

Burren Programme
Full Roll out (~350 farms)

2016-2023

Burren Region:
Integrated Land Use
Continuous Development

2023-2027

OUT-SCALING

EU RBAPS Pilots
Ireland, Spain, UK,
Romania (~150 farms)

2014-2018

EIP Agri + EU LIFE +
Horizon 2020 +
INTERREG
R&D (~2000 farms)

2016-2023

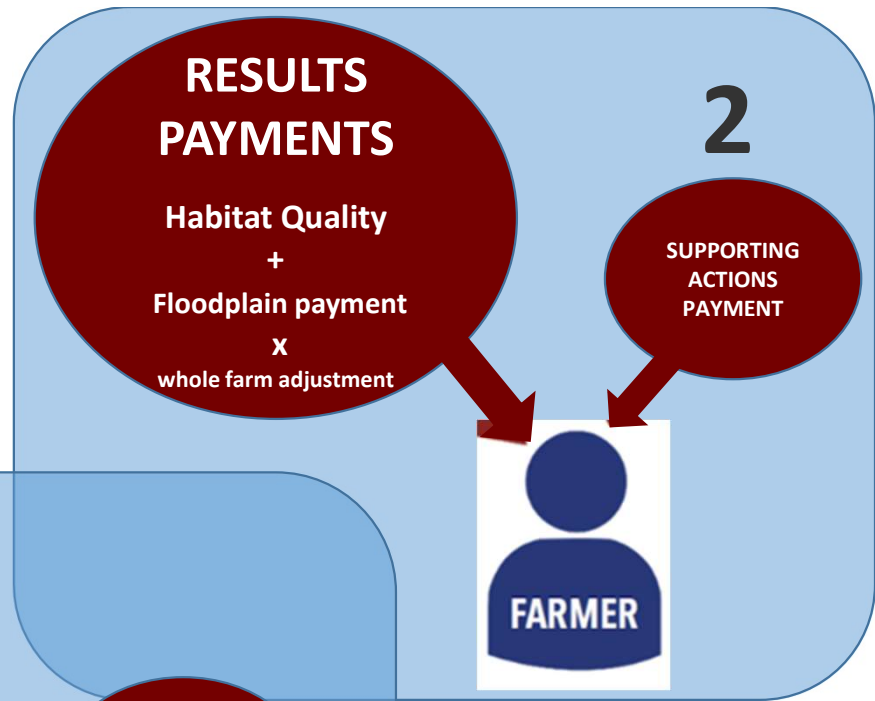
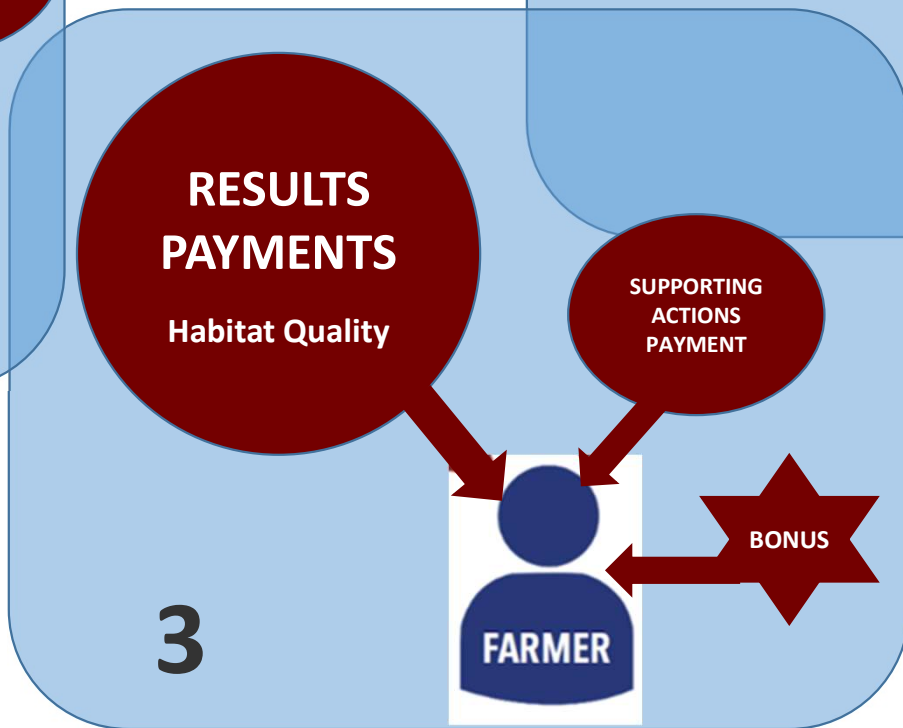
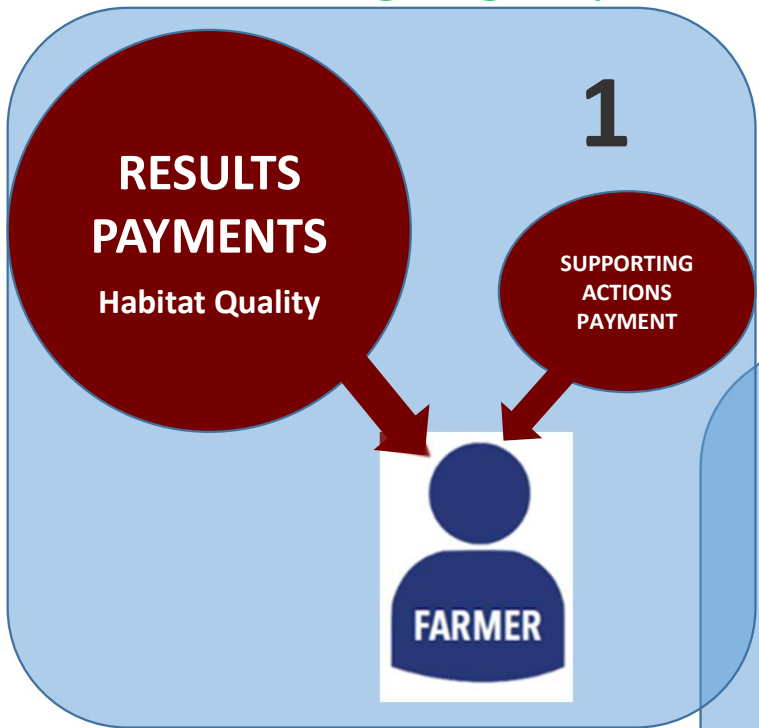
National Pilot
RBAPS Development and
Admin. Capacity Building
(~5000 farms)

2021-2023

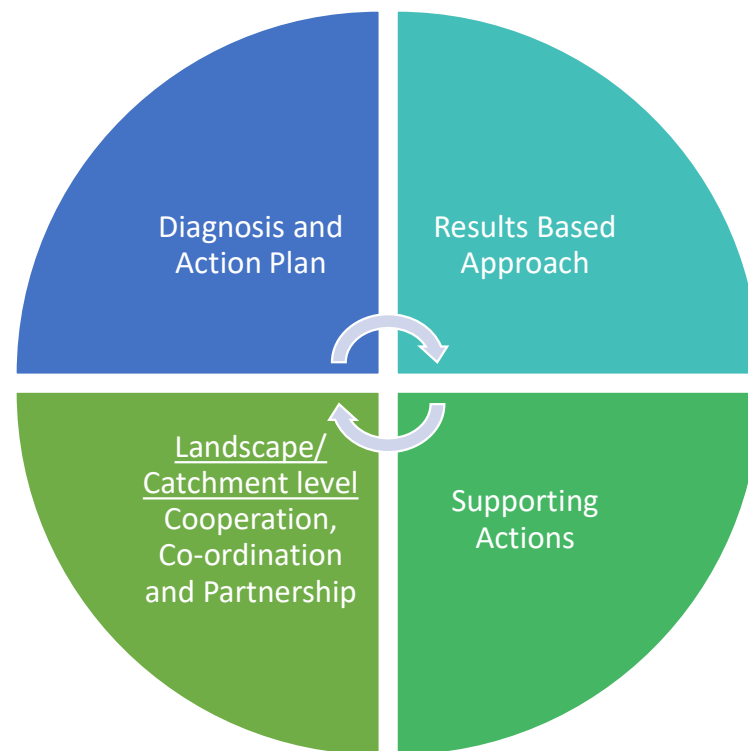
CAP Strategic Plan
(Ireland)
HNV farmland regions
Incl. Burren (~20,000)

2023-2027

Emerging Hybrid Models



Hybrid Results Based and Locally Adapted Model





Farming For Nature technical group

Policy Focus Group

Part of ongoing HNV Ireland work

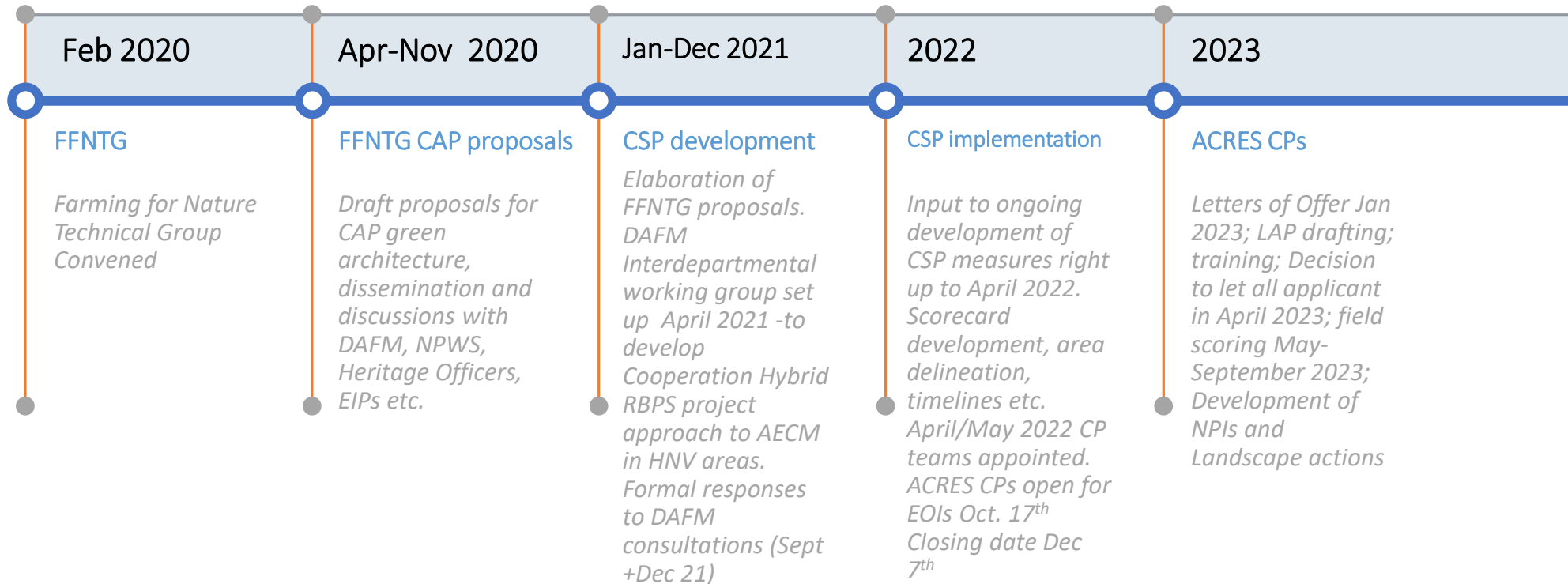
Collective experience in development and delivery of locally adapted agri-environment climate schemes

Members:

- Patrick Crushell (Freshwater Pearl Mussel Project EIP (PMP))
- Brendan Dunford (Burren Programme (BP))
- Gwyn Jones (EFNCP and RBAPS Project)
- James Moran (GMIT and RBAPS Project)
- Patrick McGurn (AranLIFE Project and Caomhnú Áránn EIP)
- Derek McLoughlin (PMP and RBAPS Project)
- Fergal Monaghan (Hen Harrier Project EIP (HHP))
- Caroline Sullivan (HHP)
- Heritage Council Coordinator = Lorcan Scott.
- 2021 joined by membership from WAN (Derek McLoughlin) and Waters of LIFE IPs (Anne Goggins, Cormac McConigley) and LAWPRO (Bernie White)

Example Development Timeline

Key dates in AECM development Ireland 2020-2023



Results measurement



Measured by advisor employed by farmer

Key role for specialist support team



Training of advisors and farmers

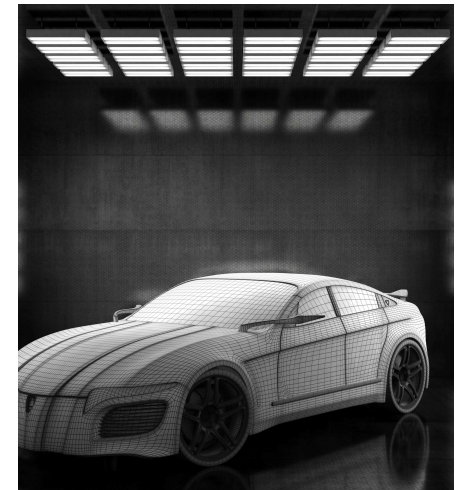
Annual farmer and advisor training

Mix of mandatory and voluntary sessions



Successful Design to Effective and Feasible Implementation (*Well designed car is simple to drive*)

- **Design, test and trial**
- **Common design approach** across diverse agricultural sub-catchments possible with **local adaptation**
- **Draft diagnosis and action plans (living plans)** mechanism to ensure “right measure in right place”
- Guidance and training for **integrated local farm advisory systems** (peer to peer; technical and specialist support; use of online technology)
- Key role of **specialist support teams**
- **Institutional and administrative innovation requirements** (financing, administration, monitoring, verification and payments systems)
- **Use of technology** for greater **efficiencies**
- **Capacity and trust building across all stakeholders**



More than just a scheme!



Head

(Understandable to farmer; accompanied by supports to deliver results)



Heart

(Farmers proud of what they are producing and recognised by wider society; "Better" farmer)

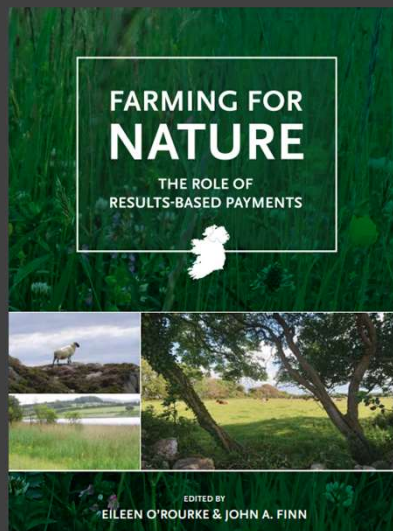


Pocket

(Paying farmers for environmental services; makes business sense)

Designed to appeal to farmers on number of levels

Challenges and Lessons Learnt



- Acknowledging diversity of land base and prioritisation of environmental targets
- Enabling local adaptability within a centralised administrative framework with national goals (need for strategic and integrated land use planning)
- Incorporating RBPS into existing governance structures
- Balance of enforcement of baseline regulation and incentivising higher achievement
- Managing trade offs and synergies between multiple targets
- RBPS targets where low starting point/other overriding and competing land use objectives
- Capacity
- Balancing risk and cost effectiveness
- Delivery of catchment/landscape scale targets
- Env. Quality not solely dependent on or impacted by agriculture (multiple stressors)
- Budget and long term investment/commitment required

- Local adaptation required for both action and results-based approach
- Results-based and action-based not an either/or choice
- RBPS need specific objectives, quantifiable and reliable indicators, targets and thresholds of performance (Needs clarity of policy)
- Ensuring right measure in right place
- Specialist local support/knowledge sharing/advisory system, and adaptation of governance/administrative structures required
- Partnership approach across local communities and state actors (capacity and trust building)
- Local action plans- diagnosis, comms, adaptive management tool
- RBPS will incentivise maintenance and enhancement of existing green-blue infrastructure
- Restoration/rehabilitation/ absence of green-blue infrastructure needs supporting actions
- Landscape/catchment goals require coordinated and/or collective action
- RBPS improves effectiveness in achieving env. goals
- RBPS don't work in isolation