

The Year at a glance...

July 2003

CEF AGM identifies media interest as vital to progress with sustainability issues and awareness; CEF needs more attention from this sector. Some changes may be needed for CEF internal structures; the new Management Committee will look into this. A new Development Plan 2003-2007 for CEF is launched by Cllr. Colm Burke, Lord Mayor of Cork at the Firkin Crane. The new revised and revamped CEF website www.cef.ie is also launched and great praise is given to its accessibility and function as a virtual office. The Greening Cork umbrella project will enable the projects run by CEF to be evaluated in terms of achievements towards sustainable development. A workshop is held to discuss Sustainable Energy Policy in Cork and reviewing CEF's current position paper on energy policy; followed by a plenary: Renewable Energy Options in Cork - How can we fast-track more renewable energy usage in Cork? A panel of 4 speakers offer their perspectives on the energy debate. CEF makes a presentation to the Heritage Officers from around the Country, gathered in Kildare for a Seminar on the theme of implementing Local Agenda 21.

August '03

Students on a joint project from UCC and Nova Scotia set up the Environmental Directory for the new CEF website.

September '03

CEF organises a Bike Ride in Cork City to mark Car Free Day in Europe. The ride leaves City Hall arriving at the Metropole Hotel in time for CEF's first National one-day Seminar. "Providing for Local Action 21 in Cork" draws together a number of players involved in LA21 from all over Ireland. CEF brings to public view Local Action 21, a programme for local implementation of sustainable development. Clare County Development Board look to CEF for advice and support as they set up their Community & Voluntary Forum. A new GAP programme starts in Mallow

October '03

Paddy Mackie, champion for the Water Framework Directive with Voice addresses a CEF plenary at the Port of Cork. Sustainable waterways - Clean Water for All? David Lee of Munster Trout Anglers chairs the session. CEF is represented at Cork's International Zero Waste Conference organised by Blackwater Resource Development. CEF address the National Parent's Council for Cork. The new Blue Planet Educational Project at UCC invites CEF's input.

November '03

Mary Sleeman-Power, chairs the CEF plenary Do We pay lip Service to Conservation of our Heritage when Planning New Developments? Conservation of archaeology and built heritage are examined. The meeting is addressed by Catherine Desmond of the National Monuments Service (formerly Duchas) in the Department of the Environment and Nora O'Donnell of Cork County Council's Heritage Unit (unique in the State). Cork County Development Board's Community & Voluntary Funding Seminars are attended by a number of people involved with CEF. Bantry Local Environment Forum expresses concern about the lack of awareness about energy issues. A CEF Local Forum meeting in Kinsale discusses the need for good environmental education. A new Cork-GAP programme starts in Youghal. In Midleton, the Local Environmental Forum discuss Ballyanna Native Woodland.

December '03

The prestigious Cork Environmental Forum Annual Roll of Honours is awarded by Damien Enright, Correspondent to Eva O'Connell, artist and environmentalist, Chairperson of Rochestown and District Tidy Towns Association Ltd for 18 years. An informal reception and social is

enjoyed at the Cork Vision Centre with canapés prepared by Cork Free Choice Food Group. CEF's Chairperson attends Bandon 400's formal launch of its heritage year. CEF's annual newsletter provides a run down of some of the Local Forum activities. Mallow Local Environmental Forum meet for the 3rd time

January 2004

Meeting Ireland's Timber Needs - Tom Roche from Just Forests addresses a CEF plenary outlining a Timber Policy for Local Authorities. Michael McElroy from Coillte provides information about Current Timber Production. Race against Waste invites CEF to outline the GAP programme for householders at their 2nd Cork meeting.

February

A new Local Environmental Forum meets in Youghal. CEF addresses UCC Environmental Studies students with an interactive session on LA21. CEF advises Kilkenny County Council on setting up an LA21 organisation on the CEF model. A workshop in Cork plans for CEF's Action on Waste 2004

March

Coordinated by CEF in conjunction with the Cork Mandala Garden Project and Cork City Council, over 300 native woodland trees are planted in Cork City during National Tree Week. CEF's Community Tree Planting project involves community representatives and students from Mayfield, The Glen, Farranree, Glanmire and St. Finbarrs Cathedral. A tree is planted in Bantry at CoAction. A small display on the theme of packaging is entered under the banner of CEF as part of St. Patrick's Day Parade in Cork City, the performers are greeted by a number of cheers. A CEF Plenary discusses Clean Production & Ecolabels, John Ryan of Certification Europe in Dublin provides an presentation on the EU Flower Label, a seriously underused device in Ireland.

April

Local Environmental Forum are held in Mallow Macroom, Bantry and Kinsale. The Glen task Force invite CEF's participation in their Environment Week in the Glen, a GAP introduction is provided. The Final Ministerial Conference under Ireland's Presidency is held in Kinsale, Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development in EU 25, takes place over 2 days. CEF participates in the exhibition and workshops

May

4 Action on Waste 2004 workshops are held to train volunteers around the City and County, in Tuesday. CEF hosts a Pre-election Political Debate at a plenary session The Environmental Policies of the Local Election Manifestos with special regard to the Local Area Plans. The 6 main political parties are invited to present their environmental policies

June

During European Urban Green Week, CEF organises Action on Waste 2004 which takes place at 13 supermarkets in the City & County. Over 80 volunteers and students from 17 schools participate in the action to highlight the problem of polystyrene packaging. The event culminates on World Environment Day when 3,000 small Green cards with suggestions for actions YOU can take in the home are distributed throughout the county

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Introduction

The economic fallout of our over reliance on fossil fuels came to a head recently when the all time high oil price of €40 a barrel was announced. International stock prices can carry a lot of bluff, but perhaps we are starting to witness a reality that many international players may have wished to continue to keep under wraps. Rarely do we hear about oil running out, but one thing we can be sure of is that its decline will be matched by exorbitant price increases. The problem is that if we can't face the reality of a rapidly declining resource, we won't be prepared for the future without this current driver of our economy.

From the environmental viewpoint all is not so bleak. Nothing focusses the mind about alternatives the way a price hike can. Interest in renewable energy options is increasing, in particular among the general public and small businesses. Such progress is essential if we are to adopt a more sustainable path. The recent Self-build exhibition in Millstreet was a good example of this progress. A multitude of building systems which incorporated harnessing renewable energy, wind and solar in particular were showcased and met with an enthusiastic audience. Major increases in investment and research in renewable energy supplies before we run out of oil are urgently needed plus the political will to implement our commitments under Kyoto. Renewable energy is no longer 'fringe' thinking, it is mainstream and this needs to be reflected in the energy supplies available to us from our modes of travel to our ESB bills.

New charging systems introduced over the past year or two have been having an impact on the ways we deal with our waste. The polluter pays system has found its way into refuse charging with pay by weight. The phased introduction in Cork County has had a mixed response not least of which is increased roadside dumping. Generally pay-by-weight has been welcomed and seen as a fair and incentive based system which has (almost overnight in some cases) dramatically reduced the amount of mixed waste coming into landfill sites and increased recycling rates. Keeping up with providing enough bring sites and facilities has overtaken public awareness campaigns to encourage their use. However there is no room for complacency as we still have a long way to go with increasing our recycling rates to match those of other EU countries. New Directives coming in covering electrical goods will add to the pressure, but hopefully this will encourage increased reuse and reserivcing for otherwise discarded goods.

Through its plenary sessions and local fora, Cork Environmental Forum has been very active in supporting these on-going developments. Discussions and contributions at these meetings provide real information and focused debate about the issues as well as informed public response. Cross sectoral groups like CEF have a vital role to play in helping changes which may initially carry a higher financial cost be widely accepted and recognised for what they are, an investment in a sustainable future.

Jacqi Hodgson, Development Officer. July 2004



Chairlady's Report 2003

For Cork Environmental Forum the year 2003/2004 was overall one of sustained and further implementation of Local Agenda 21/Local Action 21, with the performance of previous years being maintained and built upon. It is hard to believe that twelve years have already elapsed since the milestone agreement on environment and development in Rio de Janeiro and it was very invigorating for Cork

Environmental Forum to be personally represented at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002. The focus on moving from plans to action is an underlying component of our Development Plan with implementation of sustainable actions at the forefront.

The beginning of the year was difficult as the Committee took a prudent but hard decision to cancel the planned National Conference. However, a one-day Seminar took place on 22nd September which was very positive in setting the context of where we are at in terms of Local Agenda 21 and the vital role CEF plays in pushing this agenda forward in the region. A diverse range of speakers elucidated both local and global perspectives, from the local authorities in Cork, to national environmental consultants and internationally focused representatives linked to ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). It showed the very valuable partnership which has been forged with the local authorities in Cork and both Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Brian Birmingham and Deputy Mayor of the County, Cllr Derry Cauty who spoke at the conference subsequently brought forward the "Local Action 21" commitment to their respective councils. The workshops played an important part of the day in allowing participants to input their views on relevant topics.

Prior to the Seminar there was a bike ride around the city to mark European Car Free day on September 22nd. CEF marked the event also supported by the Deputy Lord Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the County. This year's Car Free Day should be even more successful, given the completion of main drainage works, the City Council is backing the event fully. CEF would like to encourage local fora and its members to support this important event and to extend actions to outlying towns and villages, following the example of Clonakilty who participated for the first time last year and joined the 19 other locations throughout the country.

In terms of networking and forging links this has been a very successful year. The GAP programme which is perhaps one of the most grassroots projects has been hugely successful, thanks largely to the tremendous

commitment of Mike Holden, who will give a report later. The household level can be the most difficult to change because it challenges daily behaviour, however, not only have we attracted lots of willing participants the project has generated substantive amounts of finance primarily through development groups and notably a number of these are Community Development Projects working with a remit for social inclusion.

My first job is to sincerely thank all the other Management Committee members who have contributed to progressing the work of the forum during this past year. The committee whilst retaining eight seasoned members (Tony Cohu, Terry O'Regan, Sean O'Riordan, Martin O'Keefe, Carmen Mulcahy, Louise Munday, Muriel Lumb and Bernie Connolly) also welcomed new members (Flor McCarthy, Geoff Dickson, Jim Hosford-Lynch, Niall McCormack and Neasa O'Riordan and the re-election of former member Joan Gayer, Sarah Danaher and Katherine Walshe were invited to be co-opted to the committee.

I would also like to strongly commend the work of Jacqi Hodgson during the past year. Jacqi plays a vital role in supporting the committee and continues undeterred to give a commitment far in excess of her paid remit with the Forum.

Bernie Connolly, Chairperson CEF.

LAUNCH OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2003 – 2007: Greening Cork Project

The formal launch of the new CEF Development Plan 2003–2007 was launched last July at the Firkin Crane Theatre in Shandon by then Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Colm Burke. At the launch the Lord Mayor gave great praise to the work of CEF and its wide representation. He said that the plan provided a sound practical approach for others to participate in and looked forward to the City Council being involved in the Greening Cork project. The launch was also attended by representatives from Cork County Council who has also expressed their support for the plan. The Greening Cork project provides an umbrella under which CEF's individual projects can be coordinated and local achievements monitored.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES Plenary Sessions

CEF has met as a plenary 7 times in the past year. All these meetings have taken place in the City in venues where attendees can retire to the rest areas to continue their discussions at the meetings. These have covered the following topics: Energy issues, The Water Framework Directive, Built Heritage, Sustainable Timber policy, Eco-labeling and a Political debate to discuss the different party's environmental policies being put forward as part of the recent local council elections. An open forum session was also held as part of the Local Agenda / Local Action 21 Seminar.

The speakers are all these sessions have been outstanding and all participants at the meeting have made valuable contributions to informing the debate and flow of information on these issues. The points raised will all be used in the development process of new position papers for CEF and the submissions to development plans. Attendance at the plenary sessions does vary but overall has not been high and CEF do need to consider what may be the underlying cause for this. Plenary sessions are the backbone of CEF and one element of its work that makes it distinctive.

The built heritage meeting covered both built and ancient heritage attracted a fair amount of media interest. It was very timely in the wake of the controversy over roads and heritage sites. As a follow up to the timber policy meeting in January, a letter was sent during National Tree Week to each of the 2 local Authority Managers (City & County) and Mayors calling for a sustainable timber policy to be adopted.

Workshops

A number of very productive workshops have been held. A workshop was held in March to provide an opportunity for groups who wished to make a submission to the **regional development plan** to discuss the draft plan with an officer from the South West Regional Authority. Workshops to plan and develop **Action on Waste '04** and prepare for the St Patrick's Day display in the parade were held in February and 4 training workshops were held around the City and County for volunteers for the stands in Supermarkets in June.

NETWORKING

Local Agenda / Action 21 Seminar Sept '03.

This was a very successful event. Attended by ~65 people, many from Cork and others from around the Country, in particular LA 21 officers from other Local Authorities. There were excellent presentations and discussions on a wide range of speakers providing the international, national and local perspective. Both the City Council and County Council were represented and opened the Seminar with excellent insights to the broad range of measures towards sustainable development that both bodies are involved in. An outcome of the seminar has been to formally request that both local authorities adopt Local Action 21 as the implementation phase of the Local Agenda 21 process. It is intended to publish the proceedings of the Seminar in the coming months. The Bike ride to mark **European Car Free Day** from City Hall to the Metropole proved to be an enjoyable successful pilot. Cllr. Derry Canty representing Cork County Council commenced his part of the ride at County Hall. A poster to encourage the public to take part in car free day and leave the car at home was circulated to all members and associates of CEF.

Supporting other Regional Environmental Forum.

Clare County Council and Kilkenny County Council have been in contact with CEF for support with developing their own Environmental Forum using CEF as a model. Advice and support has been provided at meetings with their officers and the first meeting of Clare Environmental Forum was facilitated by CEF's Development Officer.

Self-Build Exhibition – Millstreet.

The organisers of this international event invited CEF to have a gratis exhibition stand to support their environmental information at this major exhibition. Over 57,000 visitors attended over the 3-day event. CEF's stand included information about its activities small demonstrations about Eco-House building and wormeries which attracted a lot of attention and enquiries

CEF has also been participating in the national **Race Against Waste** Campaign which has held 3 meetings in Cork this year. This informed some of the work CEF has been doing in relation to waste as well as providing an opportunity for others to be introduced to the work of CEF

ICLEI – The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives coordinated Urban Green Week 1st – 5th June. CEF held its Action on Waste 2004 to coincide with this Europe wide week of events. **World Environment Day** was the final day of this week and CEF handed out small cards for encourage members of the public to **Take Action** on environmental care.

The final Ministerial Conference during Ireland's Presidency of the European Union was organised by Comhar, the National Sustainable Development Partnership. **Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development in EU 25** took place in Kinsale in April. CEF played a significant part in the conference, participating in the interactive exhibition and workshops as a Local Agenda 21 organisation.

Local Environmental Forum in Cork

Local Forum meetings have been held to date in Mallow, Middleton, Bantry, Kinsale, Youghal and Macroom. All have been very successful and very different despite the same template being used for the meetings. A cross sectoral mix of local representatives are invited to attend and after an introduction about CEF they quickly proceed to small working groups to discuss the following topics: Waste, Jobs & Economic Opportunities, Local Amenity & Heritage, Water Quality, Education – for all and Local Transport. Local Forum provides an opportunity to promote the GAP – Cork programme and encourage local representatives to come to the main City based plenary meetings. These meetings are proving to be very popular and are generating a lot of activity at the local level. A number of the people becoming involved with these local forum are those who have already been involved with other CEF projects including Action on Waste, Nat. Tree Week and GAP. Local forum are helping to reinforce environmental interest and activity at the local level and provide a platform for strengthening local groups which may be low on local support. To date there is good support and interest locally to continue and establish a more permanent local Forum in Mallow and Middleton, the others are likely to follow suit. Local Forum Guidelines have been drafted to support their development. These meetings will resume in September.

The outcomes, in particular local issues of concern and some locally proposed solutions have been forwarded to the County planners as a submission for their drafting of local area plans under the new County Development Plan. This has been an excellent start in providing quantifiable value to the work of the local forum.

ACTION - PROJECTS

Action on Waste in Cork 2004



This year's action focused on non-recyclable food packaging and in particular the small polystyrene trays used under meats and some fruit and vegetables for which the cardboard alternative would be the preferred (biodegradable) substitute. The general theme promoted re-use as a significant way of reducing waste and the stands included a free draw for a compost bin. A pre-publicity display was entered for the **St. Patrick's Day** parade in Cork City. 11 volunteers took part and provided living forms of good and bad packaging including cardboard, foil, egg boxes, newspaper, cans, plastic and a Hessian potato sack. A banner was part of the display which received a number of cheers during the parade. **Action on Waste in the Supermarkets** took place from 3rd to 5th June, finishing on **World Environment Day**. This year's timing proved difficult for volunteers and school students alike as it fell across a bank holiday weekend after the secondary schools had closed for the summer, however 17 schools were awarded with certificates of merit for their support. Action on Waste Posters were circulated to all

the public libraries in Cork and CEF Members and Associates. Very successful stands, which included some student support, were held in 13 supermarkets. These included displays, over 1,000 shopper surveys were completed and compost bins sponsored by Cork County Council were given out as prizes for local draws. Small Green **Local Action** cards were distributed to members of the Public and CEF's Members and Associates to coincide with World Environment Day. The follow up to this action will be held in September with a review workshop

National Tree Week 2004



A number of very successful tree planting events were held in Cork City as part of **National Tree Week** in March. In previous year's the planting has been focused in the County. This year over 200 trees were planted in the Mayfield and Glen areas north of the City with local community groups and school children. Trees were also planted at the Cheshire Home in Glanmire, Farrenree Resource Centre, Blarney St. School, the Project School and St Finbarr's Cathedral. A native tree was also planted at CoAction in Bantry where the CEF mailings are assembled by adults with disabilities. Around 20 schools also planted trees in response to CEF's call. Over 30 groups and schools have received certificates of merit. Only 3 members have notified CEF that they have responded to CEF's Members' Native Tree Planting, these have also received a certificate. This year's planting is likely to lead to further more ambitious native tree planting with Cork City Council.

Global Action Plan

- Here is a snapshot of how things have grown since the initial 2 pilot programmes:
- A further 9 programmes for a total of 111 participants
- Five of these participants have gone onto deliver GAP programmes
- Another two volunteers have also run programmes giving a total of seven new team leaders.
- Between them these seven have run 7 programmes for a total of 77 participants.
- So all in all eight of us have delivered 16 programmes to a total of 188 participants.
- A further 18 people have expressed an interest in becoming team leaders

The programme has been delivered over a wide geographical area and to various groups:

Small geographically contained communities:

- Bere Island
- Forrest View Estate in Mallow.

Large urban Communities:

- Mallow

Macroom
Youghal

City communities:

Mahon
Mayfield

Specific interest groups:

Transition Year Students in Midleton
A Traveller's group in Mallow
A group of Teachers and Trainers in Mallow
As part of The Tunnel Vision Project in Mallow

In most cases GAP was delivered as a stand alone programme. In the case of the Travellers' group and the Tunnel Vision project GAP was one module in a larger programme. In both of these programmes elements of GAP supported overall themes of saving money, health awareness and consumer choices.

GAP Statistics

The claim that GAP is an effective programme at initiating lifestyle changes is made on the basis of enthusiastic feedback from the participants and from data collection. Data collection is also useful to improve the programme and to give participants an idea of how many improvements they have made. On the first meeting participants fill in a lifestyle assessment containing 44 actions or habits relating to the environmental topics that will be covered during the course. On the last meeting they fill it in again. Comparing the two sets of answers gives data relating to how many actions or changes in habits they have taken in favour of sustainability.

The following data was collected from 20 participants in Youghal: Of the 44 actions highlighted on the lifestyle assessment on average participants reported that they were already doing 10.3 actions most of the time and that as a result of the programme they improved how often they took a further 16.45 actions. This means that they made improvements in 37% of the suggested areas.

From the data it can be shown that;

- 42% of those not already composting kitchen waste started to do so.
- 45% of participants put a water displacement device in their toilet cisterns.
- 67% of those who did not have a lagging jacket on their hot water tank at before GAP purchased one during the programme.
- 55% of participants already used recycling facilities most of the time but a full 77% of the remainder reported that they had either started to or were using them more.

But why is GAP so successful?

The role of commitment is crucial in initiating lifestyle changes. Commitment is what makes the difference between doing something and not quite getting around to it. Here is how it works with GAP: The success of GAP in fostering sustainable behaviour can be attributed to the understanding that to facilitate lasting changes three elements need to be present. These elements are INFORMATION, ACTION and MOTIVATION and they are seen as working in an upward spiral of empowerment, the crucial point being that all three elements must be present. The incorrect assumption that information alone will lead to action explains the limited success of many other campaigns aimed at initiating lifestyle changes.

Report by Mike Holden

Position Papers

3 new Position papers have been prepared for adoption this year. 2 of these, *Sustainable Waste Management* and *Integrated and Sustainable Landscape Management* are revised and updated versions of previously agreed papers. A new Position Paper, *Sustainable Economics* has been produced this year.

www.cef.ie

All 3 are in draft form for final approval at AGM 2004. CEF position papers are produced or revised by a process of workshop, discussion, draft for initial consultation and final adoption. They provide invaluable opportunity for presenting the consensus position of the members and associates of CEF, in particular when submissions are invited for plans and policy development. Development of new papers and review of existing ones will continue on an ongoing basis.

Report by Anthony Cohu, Landscape Alliance Ireland

CEF Annual Bursary

This year's student bursary has been awarded to Richard Collins a Master's Student in Environmental Studies at UCC. Richard's special project will investigate the Ecofootprint of a specific community group. The Ecofootprint is a means of assessing the environmental impact of an individual's or group's lifestyle based on the amount of land they need to sustain the way they live. For the average Westerner's lifestyle this can be discovered to add up to 4-5 planet earths.

CEF Annual Environmental Awards



The prestigious Cork Environmental Forum Annual Roll of Honours for 2003 was awarded to Eva O'Connell Chairperson of Rochestown and District Tidy Towns Association Ltd for 18 years. Tributes and congratulations came flowing in following the announcement and this continued at the Cork Vision Centre where people from all sectors came to enjoy the at the awards ceremony and social evening in her honour. In describing her various activities and achievements as an artist and environmentalist, Damien Enright the environmental Columnist said that he was honoured to present the award to Ms O'Connell who was an outstanding example to everyone. In receiving her award, Ms O'Connell said that she was very proud to be part of Cork Environmental Forum which she described as a very special group that everyone should support. She said it had been wonderful to work with others in Rochestown and thanked her many colleagues, friends and neighbours who had supported the restoration work.

Adoption of Local Action 21

Further to the Seminar in September, Cork City Council deferred the formal adoption of Local Action 21 to after the local elections held in June. Local Action 21 is the implementation of the Local Agenda 21 process agreed at Johannesburg in 2002 by over 500 local government representatives worldwide. Cork County Council has not formally adopted the proposed motion and CEF is currently awaiting further information about this. CEF hopes to meet with the new City and County Council to progress this initiative which would be a first for Ireland

INFLUENCE

Submissions to Development Plans.

A number of extensive submissions have been made this year to development plans which affect Cork City and County. These are as follows:

- Local Area Plan Guidelines- to Cork County Council / October 2003
- Regional Planning Guidelines - issues document- November 2003
- County Waste Management Plan -1st call for submissions to revise plan
- Draft Regional Planning Guidelines based on CEF workshop 16.3.04
- Submissions to Local Area Plans - issues from Local Forum April '04
- City waste Plan - 1st call for submissions to revise plan - May '04
- Draft County Waste Management Plan - May '04

These submissions have included copies of CEF position papers including the revised PP6 in the waste submissions. Copies of the submissions are available on the CEF website

Cork County & City Development Boards.

CEF signed up to a broad range of tasks to deliver sustainable development under these 2 boards. A number of these tasks have been realised through the plenary sessions and project activities in particular the public awareness activities and the GAP programme. Many of the actions are part of a longer term on-going programme under the CEF Greening Cork programme.

Representatives & Networking

Over the year, CEF has been represented on a number of working groups and specialist bodies. CEF's Management Committee is looking into developing an expert panel to provide for wider representation. October '02

Coillte's Social & Environmental Panel

Coillte's social and environmental panel consists of stakeholders from various community groups such as heritage, fishing groups. These meet 6 times a year. Two areas covered are:

- Presentation by Coillte of how they work. They are the biggest landowners in country and are a very structured organisation. The management plans are structured for each region which has various issues. They have been awarded the forest Stewardship Certification (FSC) for sustainable forestry. This is a very stringent certification ranging from planting to harvesting. They monitor yearly at randomly selected sites. One requirement to maintain certification is to listen to stakeholders.
 - The second area consists of two site visits. Firstly to Grangers sawmill at Enniskeane which has a state of the art management and environmental management system. All waste not sold are used within the sawmill for generating power, the excess of which is sold to the grid. A heat kiln powered from the combined heat and power plant dries the timber. It also has a closed cycle system for the preservatives used. It is a state of the art facility, nearly the largest in the country and has won awards. The second site visit was to privately managed woodland of the type that used to be common in Ireland - small estates managed for timber.
- Report by Anthony Cohu, Landscape Alliance Ireland



Midleton Local Forum Members

Cork County Council's Heritage Forum

This Forum has worked on a county heritage plan based on five different aspects of heritage. The Forum has identified 5 broad heritage themes that will be examined in more detail during the preparation of the plan:

- Biological & natural Diversity.
- Archaeological Heritage.
- Architectural Heritage.
- Museums & Archives
- Cultural Heritage. The Forum has agreed that the objectives of the plan will be as follows:
 - To raise awareness of the value of heritage in Co. Cork and recognition of its distinctiveness and character
 - To promote appreciation, enjoyment and care for heritage in Co. Cork
 - To gather and disseminate information about heritage in County Cork
 - To develop and encourage best practice in relation to the management and care of heritage in Co. Cork
 - To promote integration between stake holders in the planning, implementation and resourcing of the County heritage Plan
 - To deliver practical protection for county heritage

The draft will be available shortly for public consultation and will be finalised by the end of the year. Anyone wishing to contribute to the heritage plan can do so now through this representative.

Report by Anthony Cohu, Landscape Alliance Ireland

Voice - Water Framework Directive NGO. discussion group

David lee began working on the Framework document in 2001. The framework requires that all stakeholders, commercial, fisheries, farmers are brought in for consultation in relation to the drawing up of the framework. It is a 15 year programme and all of the island of Ireland has signed up for this. Ireland has been divided into 7 different regions. The counties of Waterford, Tipperary, Kerry and Cork make up the south region, and each county must submit every stretch of waterway on a Geographical information system that is made available for public view. These are available on www.wfd.ie. NGO's have yet to contribute as fully as they might on this and a position is being developed to bring the NGO's in for consultation. A network will be created to monitor all 7 regions. 2005 is a critical year as the county councils will be in charge and will fund under their own resources.

Report by David Lee, Munster Trout Anglers

Strategic Policy Committees

CEF is represented on Cork City Council and Cork County Council Environmental Strategic Policy Committees.

Cork Environmental Forum



Some of the performers in CEF's display for St. Patrick's day Parade in Cork

Dept. of Environment, Heritage & Local Government - Race against Waste - Cork programme

CEF have participated during the year in the **Race Against Waste** with representatives at the 3 workshops held in Cork. These informative workshops have brought together people from all sectors to discuss their responses and ideas about the national awareness campaign. Attendees were particularly interested in CEF's Cork GAP programme CEF also circulated the booklet "Small Change - small steps to manage business waste" produced by the Cork Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with this campaign.

PROMOTION

Media interest continues to be low key. Opportunities during the recent Action on Waste in June were eclipsed by the last week of the local election campaigns. The GAP programmes attract good local media interest. The Awards event in December received fair coverage. The Management Committee are currently discussing developing the environmental awards to include sectoral awards (for example the ecolabel could provide useful guidance for the business sector CEF awards)

5,000 bookmarks carrying this year's programme of meetings and events have been distributed through CEF members and Associates, Local Forum, City Development Board and public libraries. They are well received and are a successful medium for promotion. A new general information / introduction leaflet is currently being developed for CEF and will be available in the Autumn

CEF Website

The new website was launched last year in July and has proved to be a success. It is a big website and interest in CEF continues to flourish from the website. 2 volunteers have recently come on board to help with loading up the new material. The website provides a virtual office for CEF and carries a broad range of the documentation and papers. Students from the Nova Scotia Environmental project gave great assistance in developing the environmental information directory. This large volume of information carries links and a huge range of useful contacts, it will be loaded up as soon as all the contact details for the new public representatives has been received.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP

CEF continues to receive generous sponsorship from the local authorities under the DOE Partnership scheme. Cork County Council have also committed to a 3 year plan to support CEF's current development plan. The public awareness and activity based projects attract good funding, however funding has generally been slow this year. The Funding Committee has developed Funding Guidelines for CEF. These have

now been agreed by the Management Committee and provide an open flexible approach to financial support being sought. They identify funding sources as Corporate, Partnership based, project based and outline guidance for outside support for fundraising including merchandise using the CEF logo.

Sponsorship in kind continues to grow with an extensive amount of time being contributed by voluntary officers and others who participate in and support CEF's activities.

MEMBERSHIP & REPRESENTATION

There was a fair response to the Green card issued in December for the database update. This has also generated good income to cover the cost of the letter post mailings and many Members and Associates have been very generous with donations. Interest in CEF continues to expand and develop, the current number of Members and Associates who receive CEF mailings etc is 751, the approved membership base is 141. A broad cross sectoral mix is a feature of the CEF representation and the increase has continued across all sectors.

Carmen Mulcahy, Membership Secretary, CEF

Volunteer Posts 2002-2003

Chairperson	Bernie Connolly, Enniskeane
Vice Chairperson	Sean O'Riordan, Douglas
Secretary	Louise Munday, Dunmanway
Treasurer	Muriel Lumb, Bantry
PRO.	Charlie Hennessy, Monkstown
Membership Secretary	Carmen Mulcahy, Rylane
Ann. Newsletter Editor	Gef Dickson
Rep. to Coillte Social & Environment Panel	Anthony Cohu, Bantry
Rep. to Voice Water Framework NGO Working Group	David Lee, Kildorrey
Rep. to Cork City Council Environment SPC:	Charlie Hennessy, Monkstown
Rep. to Cork County Council Environment SPC:	Sean O'Riordan, Douglas

Directors 2002-2003

Graham Pickering	Schull
Eva O'Connell	Rochestown
Terence O'Regan	Ballincollig
Gerard Mullally	Ballincollig
Charles Hennessy	Monkstown
Joan Gayer	Mallow
Thomas Dunne	Kilworth
Anthony Cohu	Bantry

Annual Report Edited & Coordinated by Jacqi Hodgson, Development Officer, CEF. 06.07.04

ANNUAL REPORT 2004

CORK ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM LTD. DETAILED TRADING PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND EXPENSES SCHEDULE EXTRACT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2004

	2004		2003	
	€	€	€	€
Sponsorship	39,664		54,362	
GAP Project	8,380		8,888	
Other income	1,410		87	
	<u>49,454</u>		<u>57,202</u>	
		Administrative Expenses		
GAP Project	9,289		4,950	
Prizes	-		53	
Insurance	709		709	
Printing, postage & stationary	13,641		8,188	
Advertising & PR	494		329	
Telephone	1,090		987	
Web Design	2,837		1,803	
Room Hire	2,942		2,226	
Conference	-		2,000	
Travel Expenses	4,677		5,718	
Professional Fees	330		851	
Consultancy Fees	20,905		17,488	
Bank Charges	117		19	
General Expenses	272		59	
			<u>57,303</u>	<u>45,380</u>
Operating (Loss) /Profit	16%	(7,849)	21%	11,822

Balance Sheet as at 30th April 2004

	2004		2003	
	note	€	€	€
Current Assets				
Debtors	4	13,200	15,314	
Cash at bank and in hand		22,735	28,405	
		<u>35,935</u>	<u>43,719</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(3,919)	(3,854)	
			<u>39,865</u>	
Net Current Assets				39,865
Total Assets less Current Liabilities				<u>39,865</u>
Capital and Reserves				39,865
Profit and loss account				<u>39,865</u>
Equity Shareholders' Funds	6	32,016		39,865

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 6th July 2004 and signed on its behalf by

Anthony Cohu
Director

Terry O'Regan
Director