



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Offshore Renewable Energy Policy Overview

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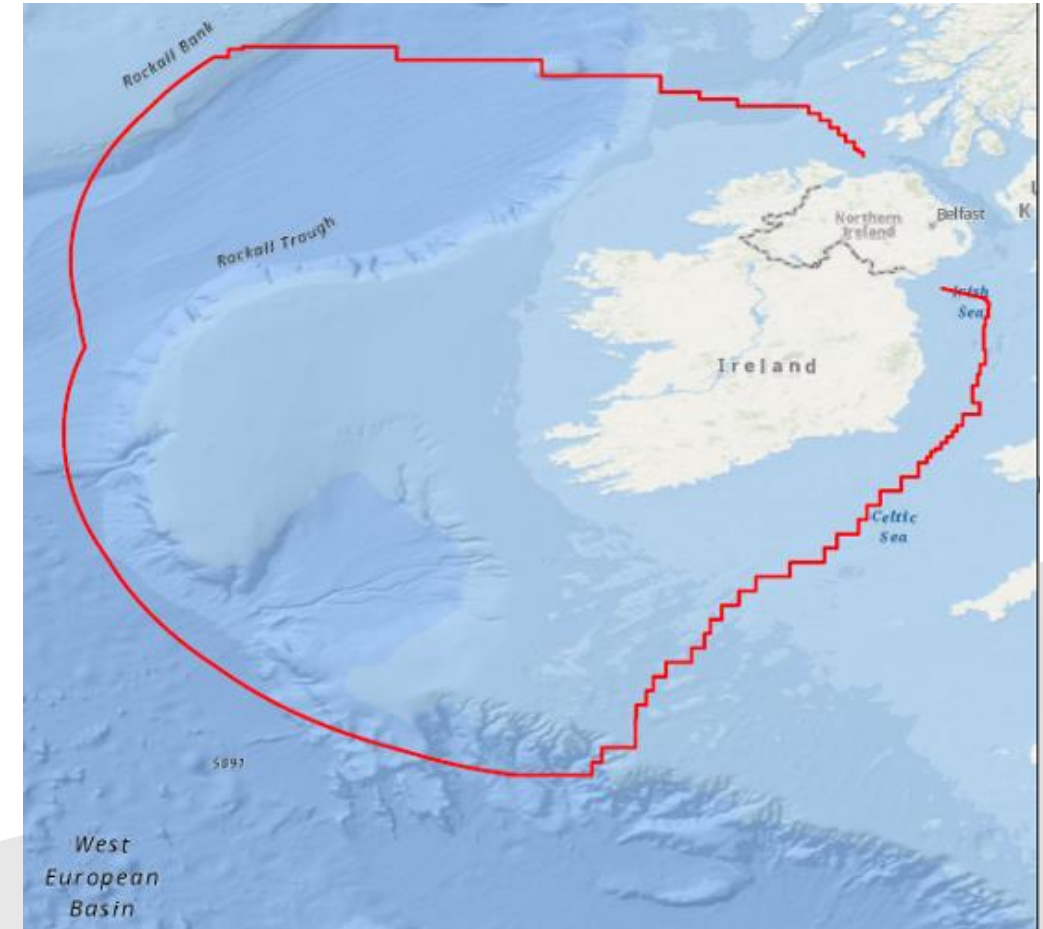
Department of the Environment, Climate and
Communications



Maritime Area



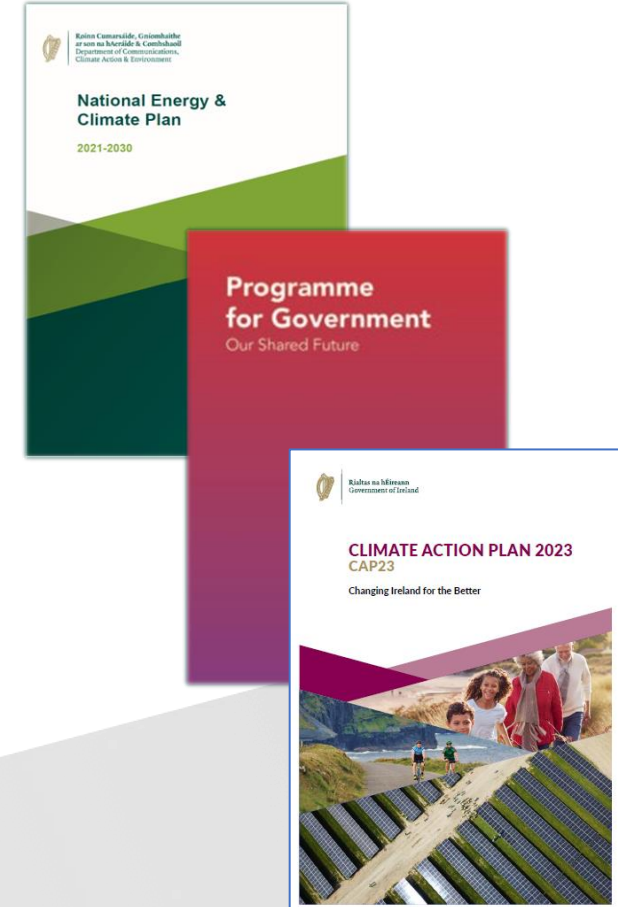
- Ireland has a sea area of 490,000 square kilometres
- Sea area is 7 times its landmass
- One of the most energy productive coasts in Europe
- Considerable, yet undeveloped ORE potential



European and National Policy Context



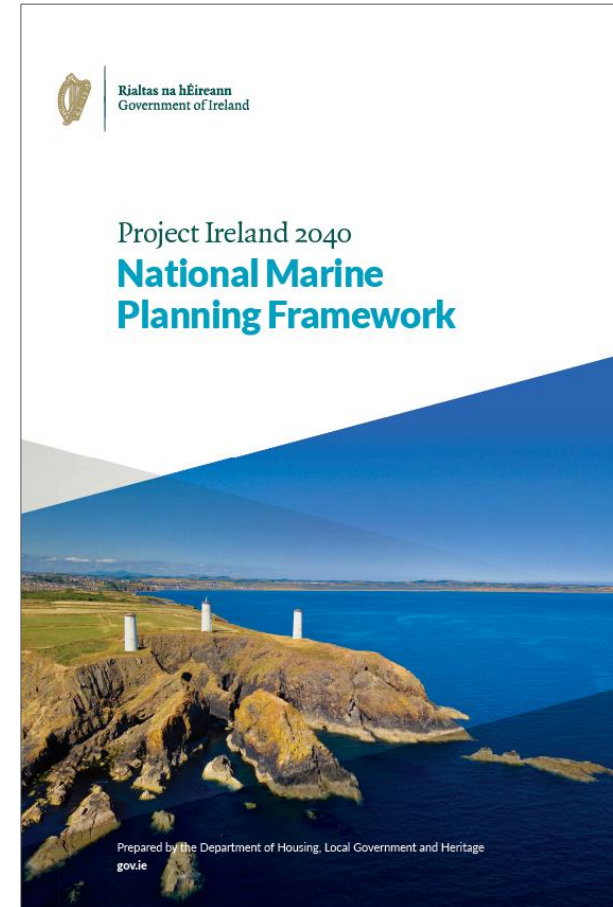
- 51% GHG reduction by 2030
- Net-zero emissions by 2050
- 5GW of offshore wind by 2030
 - +2GW for *green hydrogen*
- Longer term plan - >30GW floating wind
- Green Deal, Fit for 55, REPowerEU



National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)



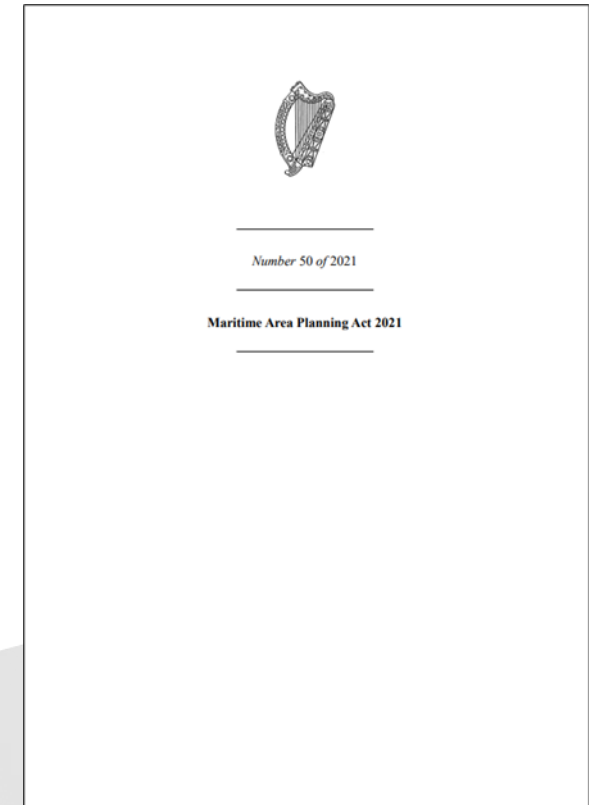
- Overall framework for management of our seas
- Protection of the marine environment is central
- Co-existence of activities is a fundamental principle
- Decision making tool for regulatory authorities
- Provides clarity on sectoral policies
- Sectoral spatial plans will be developed



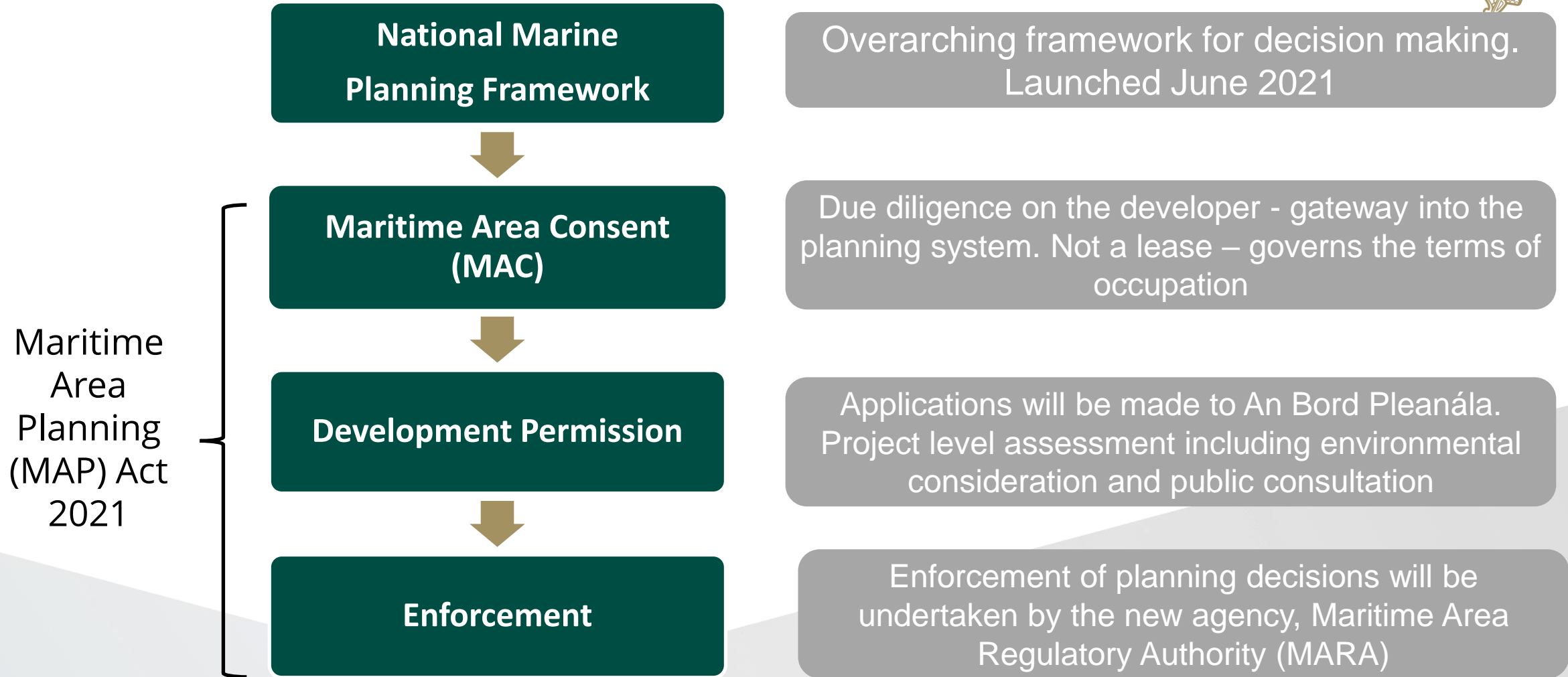
Maritime Area Planning (MAP) Act, 2021



- Aim
 - Replace the Foreshore Act, 1933
 - Regulate development beyond the 12nm limit
 - Provides the legal basis for our marine planning system
- Advantages
 - A coherent planning system
 - Streamlined process with duplication removed
 - Data capture provisions
 - Enhanced public participation
 - Robust enforcement



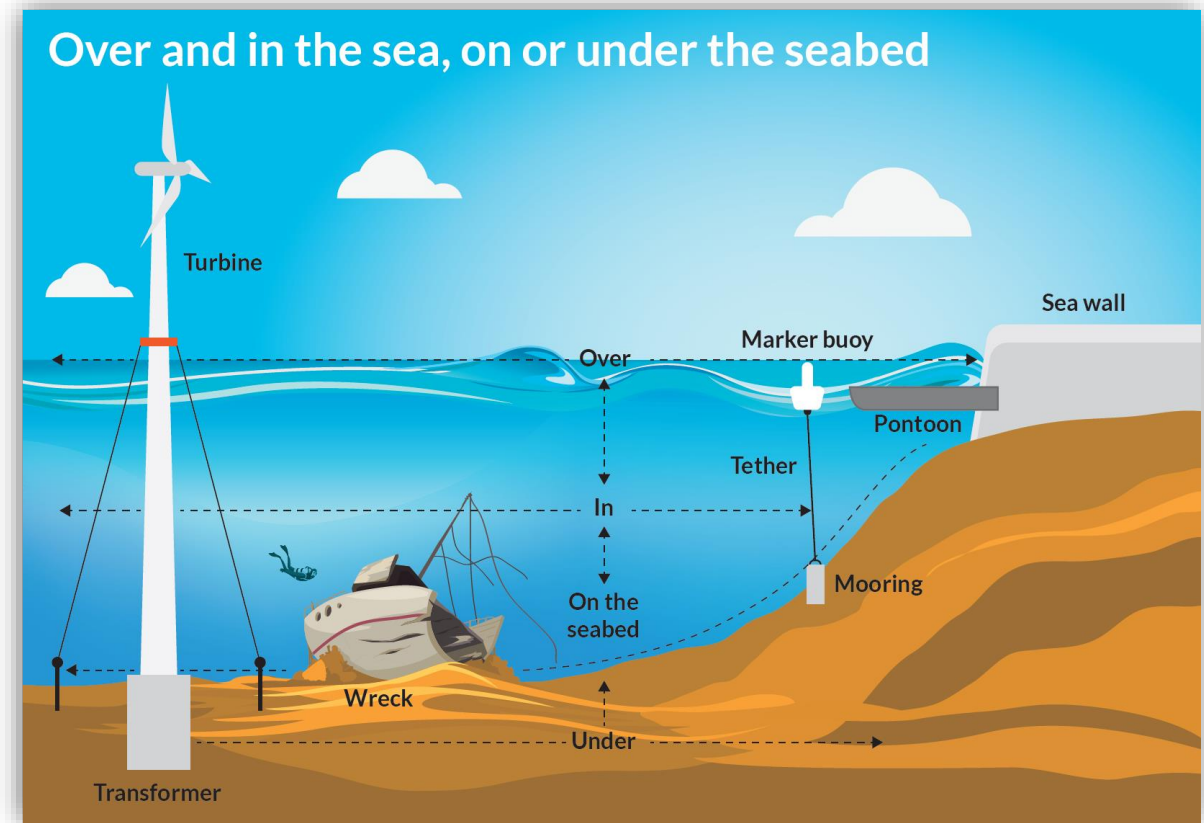
The New Marine Planning System



Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)



- Will be established Q1 2023
- Will be responsible for:
 - Granting of all MACs for the maritime area
 - Marine licencing for specified activities
 - Compliance and enforcement
 - Administration of the existing foreshore consent portfolio
 - Request provision of data from MAC/Licence holders
 - Co-operation and co-ordination with other public bodies



Phased Approach to delivering on ORE ambitions



Phase 1

First batch to meet
2030 targets
Operational 2026+

Phase 2

Second batch to meet
2030 targets
Operational 2028+

Enduring Regime

Export potential

7GW (2GW earmarked for hydrogen) by 2030

Post-2030 delivery

Transitional Arrangements under MAP Act 2021



- Long-lead in time for offshore wind projects
- Urgency to meet 2030 targets
- Transitional powers in the Maritime Area Planning Act (MAP) 2021
 - Minister for the Environment to assess/grant Maritime Area Consent (MAC) applications from eligible ORE projects
 - Eligibility set out in legislation
- Once MARA is established in early 2023, all responsibility for MACs will transfer to the new agency

MAC Announcement - Application Window



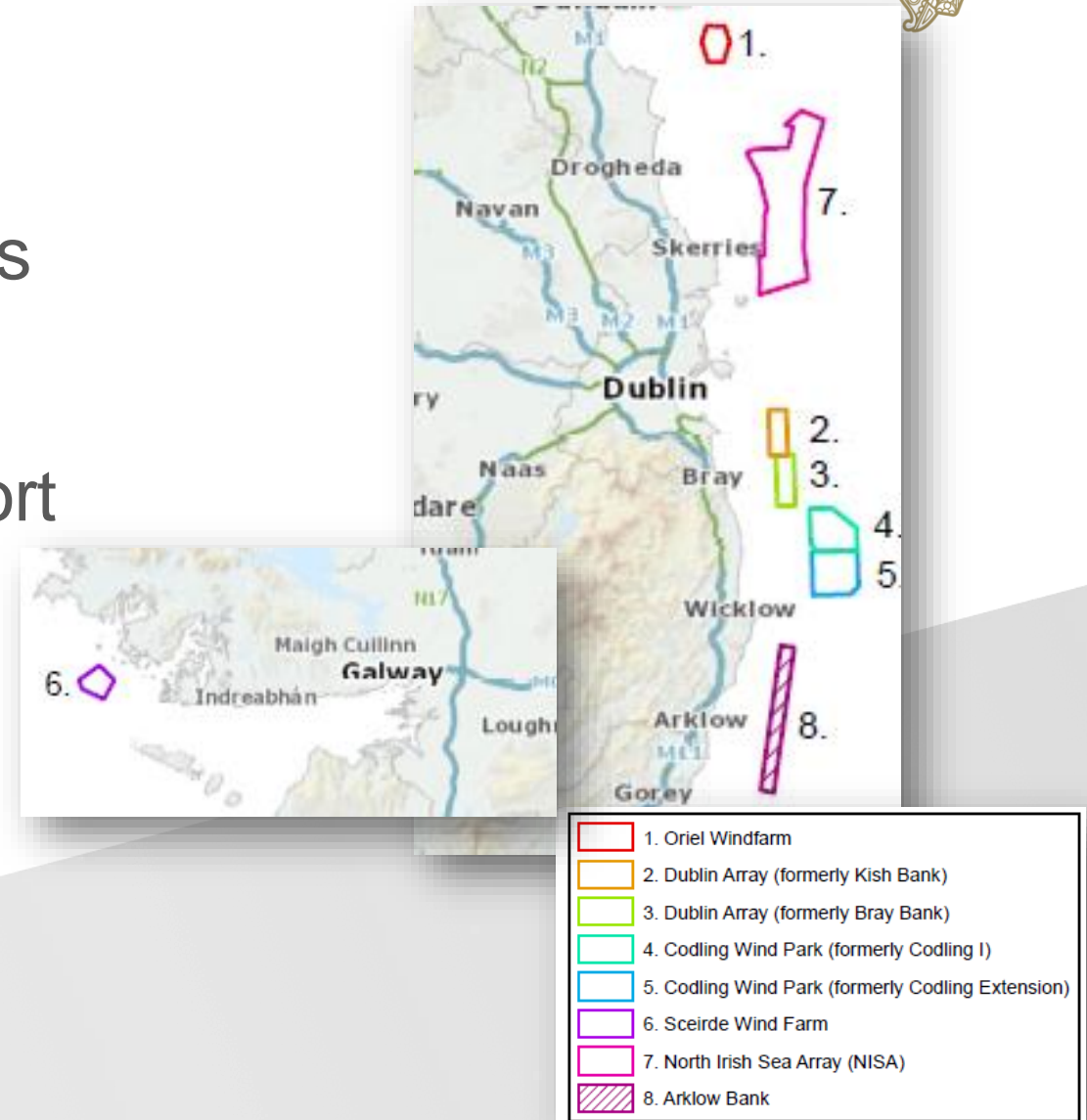
- Opened **25 April until 22 June**
- Eligible projects are those that met criteria under the MAP Act:
 - i.e. they had substantially progressed under the Foreshore regime
- Assessment examined :
 - Technical Feasibility
 - Financial Capability
 - Due diligence tests



Phase 1 – to deliver towards 2030 targets



- Maritime Area Planning Act 2021
- Minister assesses MAC applications
- Potential 3GW capacity
- Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme 1 auction (ORESS1) – will be run Q2 2023
- Projects energise: 2026+

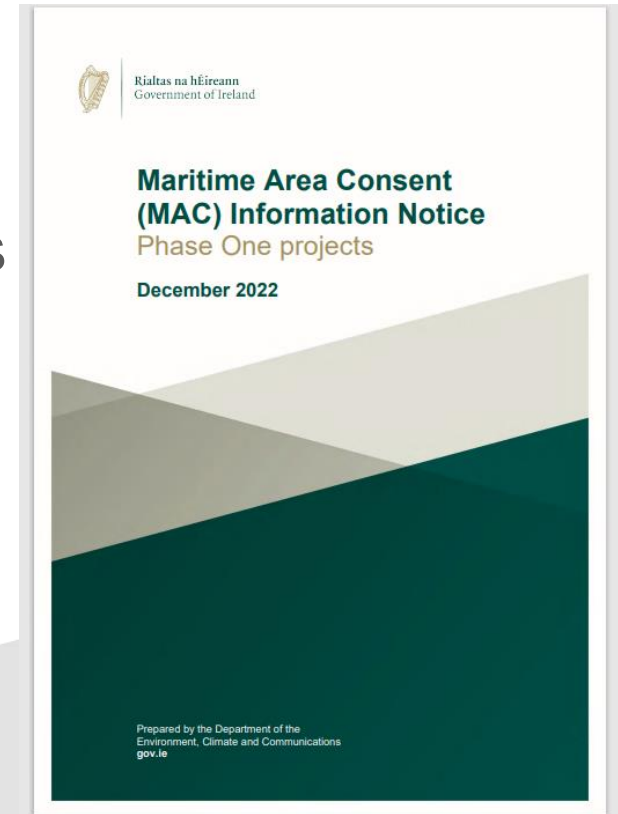


Key features of Phase 1 MACs



- Phase One MACs granted by MECC on 23 December 2022
- MACs granted for 45 year term – **non-exclusive**
- Projects **must** apply for planning permission within 18 months
- **Must** secure route to market by end 2025
- Annual levy payable to the State

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/fab8f-maritime-area-consent-mac/>



Next Steps after a MAC



- The MAC is a key milestone in establishing the offshore wind sector
- If granted a MAC, developers can then:
 - Initiate pre-application engagement with An Bord Pleanála regarding a development consent application
 - Enter into the first Offshore Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (ORESS) which in Q2 2023



Phase 2 – deliver on 2030 targets



- Close gap from Phase 1 to 7GW
- Get viable projects into the pipeline
- Phase 2 policy statement – early 2023
- Innovation category to be included
- MAC applications to MARA
- ORESS 2 in 2024
- Projects energise: 2028+

Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce



- Develop a consolidated plan to accelerate & ensure delivery
- Established in 2022, and is working to:
 - *Identify critical path, issues, risks, resources, etc.*
 - *Identify supply chain and skills opportunities*
 - *Capture wider & longer term economic opportunities*
 - *Ensure consistent messaging to the public*
 - *Ensure alignment with work on MPAs, SACs & mSPAs*
- Chaired by DECC with members from:
 - *DHLGH, DRCD, D/Transport, DETE, EI, DFHERIS, DPER, EirGrid, CRU*



Enduring Regime



Resource Assessment

- OREDP II – National Resource Assessment/SEA/AA
 - Plan-led model options assessment and Govt. decision
- Designated Maritime Area Plan (DMAP) processes

Economic Assessment

- Interconnection Policy
 - Hydrogen Strategy
- Post-2030 Economic Analysis
 - Export potential analysis

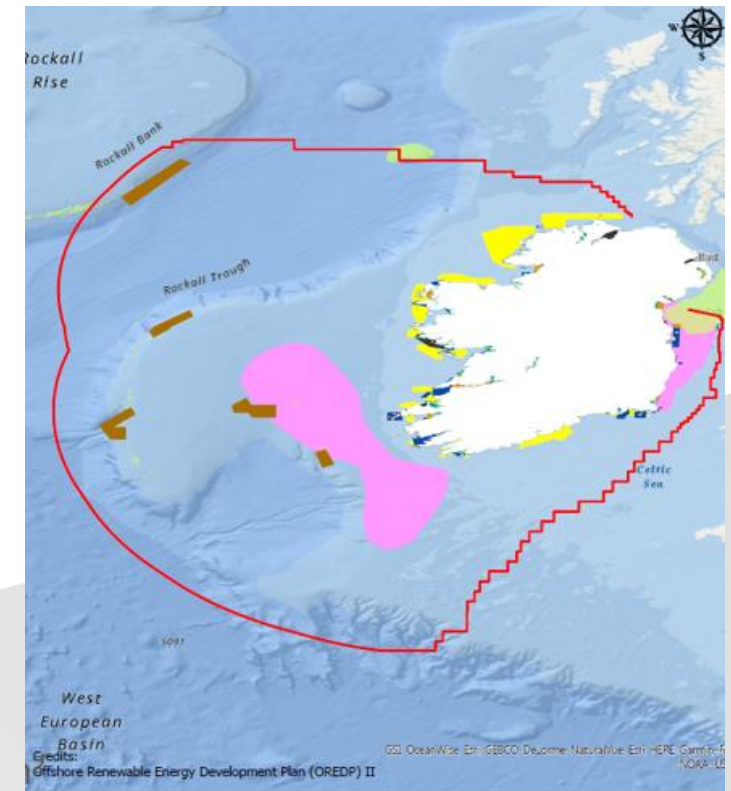
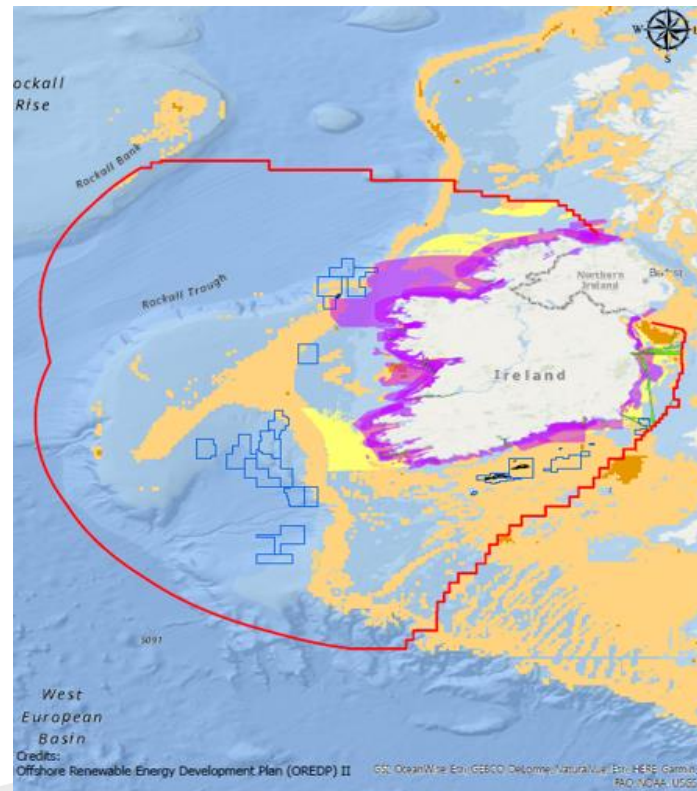
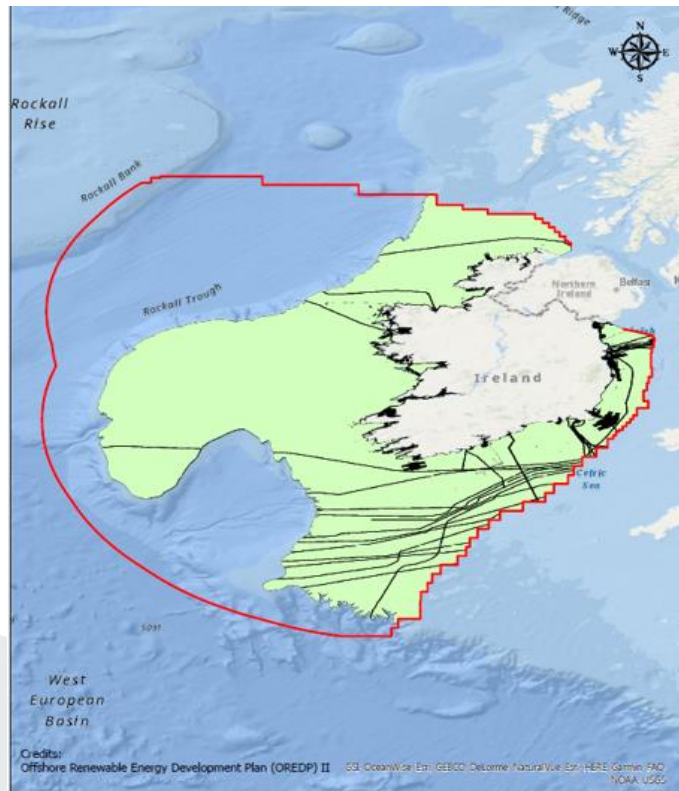


Approach and timing of development post-2030
will be determined by outputs of both

Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan II



- Assessing navigation, environmental, economic, heritage, infrastructure data
- Gathered >200 datasets to assess current level of knowledge/evidence



Next Steps – Public Consultation



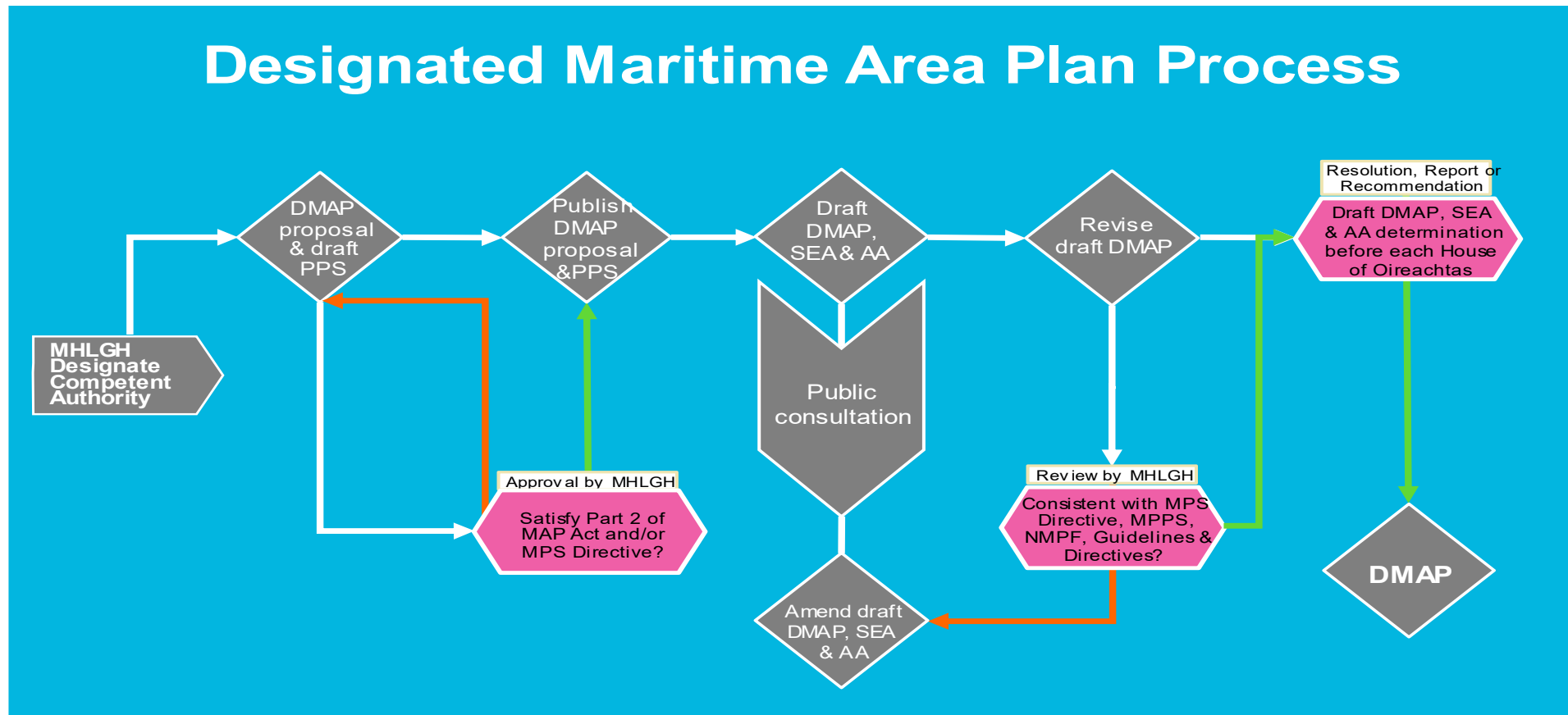
- 8-week period
- National consultation on the draft plan and environmental reports
- Hybrid approach:
 - up to 10 in person events
 - 4 on-line events
 - Online survey
- Feedback to be incorporated into the plan
- Finalise April/May
- Work to commence on Designated Maritime Area Plans (DMAPs)

East/northeast/southeast	West/northwest/southwest
Dundalk / Drogheda	Castletownbere area
Dublin	Shannon-Foynes (or Limerick City)
Arklow Town	Ros an Mhíl area (in Irish)
Wexford Town	Galway area
Cork City	Killybegs area

DMAP Process



- Engagement with stakeholders with local knowledge will be a core component of this work



Wrap Up



- Maritime area is a valuable and shared resource
- Co-existence is fundamental to the NMPF
- Evidence-based decisions will underpin planning for offshore renewable energy
- Engagement with all stakeholders is critical



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Thank you

