



***Education for Sustainable Development:
Stakeholder Vision and Role of the Media***

**National Consultation
Thursday 26th November 2009
Coach House, Dublin Castle**

Programme

10:15 Registration, tea and coffee and exhibition and display of Comhar Media Fund Projects.

11.00 **Opening Remarks – Gavin Harte (ESD Training)**

11.10 – 13.30 ***Session 1: Stakeholder Vision for Education for Sustainable Development***

Chair: Noel Casserly, Director, Comhar SDC

- **Keynote Address:** Anne Finlayson, UK Sustainable Development Commission and Director, SEED
- **Presentation of a Draft Vision for Education for Sustainable Development:** Elaine Nevin, National Director, Eco-unesco
- **Discussion and Feedback:** Moderated by Michael Ewing, Environmental Pillar of Social Partnership

13.30 – 14.15 **Lunch**

14.15 – 16.00 ***Session 2: Awareness & Education for Sustainable Development: The role of the Media***

Chair: John Bowman, Broadcaster and Historian

Panel:

- **Duncan Stewart**, Architect and Independent Television Producer
- **Frank McDonald**, Environment Editor, Irish Times
- **Paul Cunningham**, Environment Correspondent, RTE
- **Peadar King**, KMF Productions
- **Maud Hand**, Multimedia Production & Training Consultant
- **Nathalie McDermot**, Director, On the Road Media, UK

The event is free, but please register with niamh.kirwan@environ.ie

Speaker and Panelist Biographies

John Bowman is a broadcaster and historian. He presents current affairs and historical programmes on RTE radio and television. John is past Chairman of Comhar. He was recently elected an Honorary Fellow of Trinity College Dublin.

Noel Casserly is the director of Comhar Sustainable Development Council. He has previously worked in the Environment and Spatial Planning units in the Department of the Environment. Noel has been Comhar's representative on the RCE since its establishment.

Paul Cunningham is the environmental correspondent for RTE and author of "Ireland's Burning - How Climate Change will Affect You". He has reported extensively from abroad on conflicts, natural disasters and global warming. He has won an ESB National Radio Journalist of the Year Award and an Irish Film and Television Award

Michael Ewing is the Coordinator of the Environmental Pillar of Social Partnership (www.environmentalpillar.ie). Michael has been working on sustainability and environmental issues for many years and including as a researcher at the Centre for Sustainability Institute of Technology, Sligo, where he conducted a detailed assessment of Environmental Democracy in Ireland (www.environmentaldemocracy.ie).

Ann Finlayson is the Commissioner for Education and Capability Building with the Sustainable Development Commission. She also currently Director of the charity SEEd- Sustainability and Environmental Education. Ann has a working knowledge of formal, informal and non-formal education and is passionate about the role of learning in sustainability.

Peadar King is a former second-level teacher and is currently the Director of KMF Productions. He is presenter producer of the RTE Television "What in the World?" series, which aims to pose searching questions about the causes and consequences of contemporary global political and economic inequalities.

Maud Hand is a multi-media producer, trainer and writer with 20 years' production experience with BBC, Channel 4, RTÉ and the Irish & UK independent media sector, producing community projects locally and globally (www.maudhand.com). With a masters in peace studies from Trinity College, Dublin, sustainable development issues underpin Maud's broadcast portfolio.

Frank McDonald is environment editor with the Irish Times. He has also published several books dealing with sustainability and environmental issues, including Chaos at the Crossroads with James Nix and The Builders with Kathy Sheridan. Frank also tries to integrate sustainability into his everyday life and his city living and lack of car are testimony to the fact.

Nathalie Mc Dermott is founder of On Road Media, which trains people to produce podcasts and video blogs and to set up their own social networks to connect, share information and contribute to wider public debates. Nathalie previously worked as a BBC radio producer and then in prisons teaching offenders to run radio stations.

Elaine Nevin is the national director of Eco-Unesco. Elaine sits on the Comhar council, is an RCE member and is active on a number of other boards. She believes that education should be about participation and should encourage students to actively engage with and challenge ideas.

Duncan Stewart is an architect and energy consultant. Duncan is the presenter and producer of the series Eco Eye, broadcast on RTE. He has also produced and presented in many environmental TV documentary series. He is also a director of www.greenme.ie, a website designed to help people make informed decisions about moving towards an eco-friendly lifestyle.