

# Local Authority Interfaces Teagasc, Carlow, Kilkenny, and the Dairy Sustainability Initiative

EURAGRI - 25 Sept 2017

# Overview

- Carlow County Council-Teagasc
- Kilkenny County Council – Milk and Agri Expansion –Teagasc
- Regional Development Strategy
- Food Wise – National Milk Expansion - Teagasc
- Dairy Sustainability Initiative – Teagasc
- Conclusion

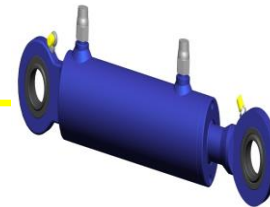
**INVEST  
IN  
CARLOW**



# Carlow

## IRELAND

A great place to live - work and visit



# Teagasc Oak Park, Carlow



# Teagasc Oak Park



# Oak Park Forest Park



# Carlow

## CURRENT AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

### Recent Developments

**Regional Forest Park – 130  
acres**

**Ducketts Grove Castle –  
Great Gardens Restoration**

**Altamont Gardens – 160  
Acres World Class**

**Carlow Ecclesiastical Trail**



A great place to live - work and visit

# Kilkenny - Dynamic, Vibrant & Colourful





# Kilkenny Awards



Ireland's Tidiest Town 2014



Ireland's Cleanest Town, 2012, 2013 & 2014



Top Tourism Town 2013;  
top ten in 2015



Best Retail Town  
2013



Friendliest City in Europe / 9<sup>th</sup> Friendliest in the World 2013



Japan Association of Travel Agents Most Beautiful Town in Europe 2017



2 Michelin Star Restaurants – Campagne & Lady Helen Mount Juliet



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION ON AGEING  
Global Connections

Best Age Friendly City - Global Finalist 2013

Unrivalled sporting achievements



Kilkenny is home to a number of successful international businesses and start-up enterprises



Cartoon Saloon



Bank of Ireland



365 online

# Kilkenny

How to develop economically?



# Milk Expansion as a route to County economic growth

- In 2010, the elected members of Kilkenny County Council approved an economic development plan for Kilkenny, which identified agri-business as a path to economic development.
- A Working Group of Senior Executives of major agri-business companies was established which identified milk expansion as a principal route to agri-business growth.
- A Scientific Working Group was established from the relevant state agencies inc **TEAGASC** to model for Kilkenny, as a test case, the growth in cow herd numbers arising from milk expansion, and to model the impacts on water quality.
- In October 2012, the Scientific Working Group recommended that a collaborative approach would be needed, involving agri-industry, local authorities, **TEAGASC**, farmers and farm bodies, and community groups to address and overcome sustainability challenges.

# County and Regional Structures

- Kilkenny elected representatives reviewed agri business strategy on a regular basis
- Agri-business adopted as a regional growth strategy by the Regional Authority
- Water and waste water strategic infrastructure put in place for major industry inc agri.
- Third level Colleges in region put greater focus on agri and agribusiness with a particular focus on information technology/precision agriculture

# Kilkenny County Council Belview Priority Strategic Investment Location



# Glanbia Ingredients Ireland Ltd - €200m milk processing facility - Kilkenny Belview



# Regional Strategic Initiatives



## **Develop Centres of Excellence around the Region's Strengths:**

- Precision Agriculture**
- Insurance/Fintech**
- Applied Materials for Additive Manufacturing**
- Pharma/MedTech**
- Design & Innovation**

## **Develop Network of Innovation / Incubation Hubs**



# National Policy Food Wise 2025

- Strong focus on Sustainability in Food Wise 2025, recognition of significant challenges of agri-expansion in meeting national and international targets for air quality, bio-diversity and water quality.
- Strategies outlined to address and surpass significant challenges for air quality, bio-diversity and water quality, if economic gains to be achieved.
- Identification of need for significant effort – recognition that environmental sustainability and economic sustainability are complementary – scientific evidence
- Ambition for Ireland to be world leader in sustainable agriculture as a differentiating market growth strategy
- Significant role for Teagasc in accelerating routes to sustainability

Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara

AGRI-FOOD DIGITAL REACH  
Food Wise 2025  
A 10-year vision for the Irish agri-food industry

# Flowing from Kilkenny - Dairy Sustainability Initiative

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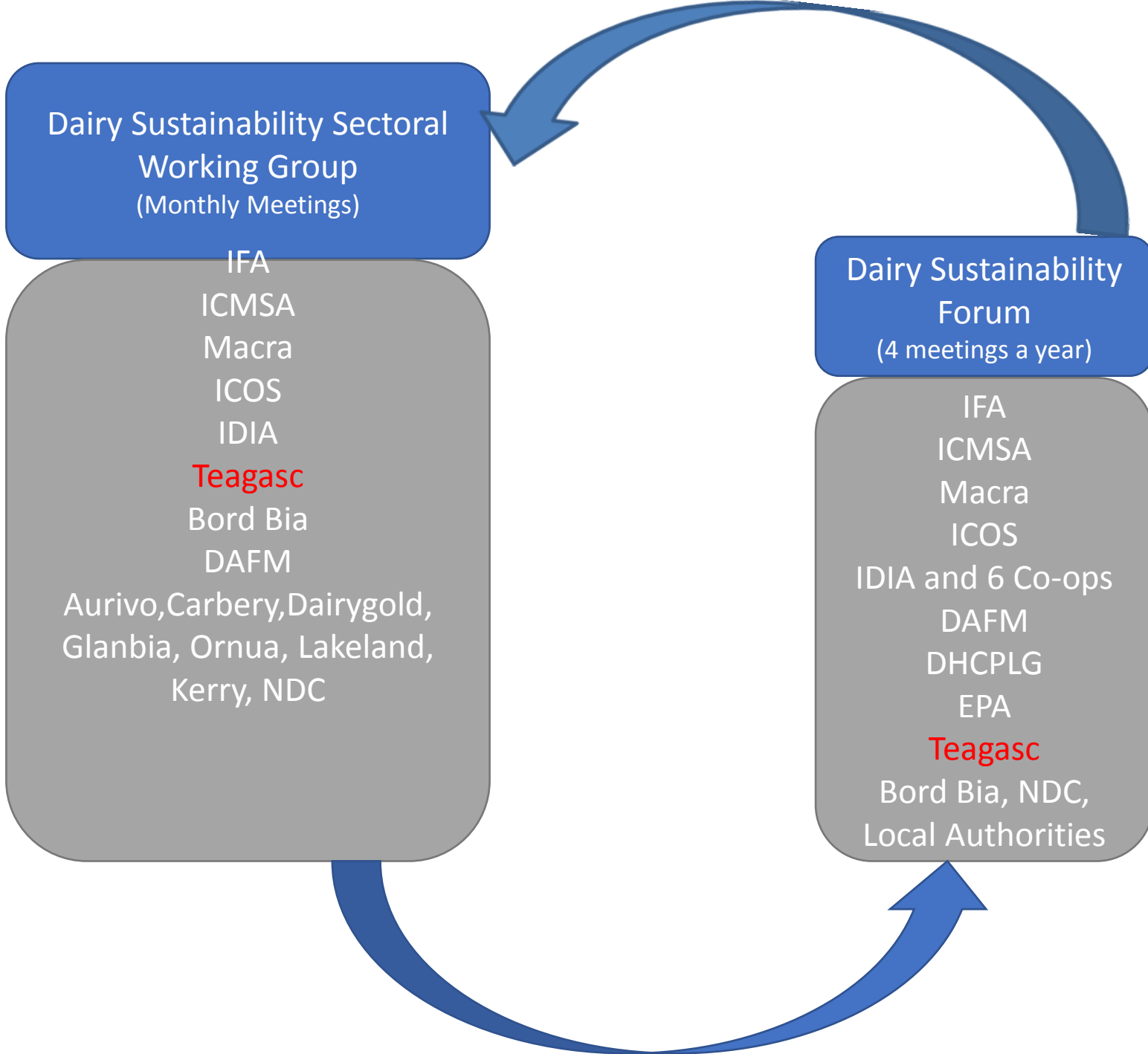
- Recognizing that environmental sustainability and economic sustainability are complementary

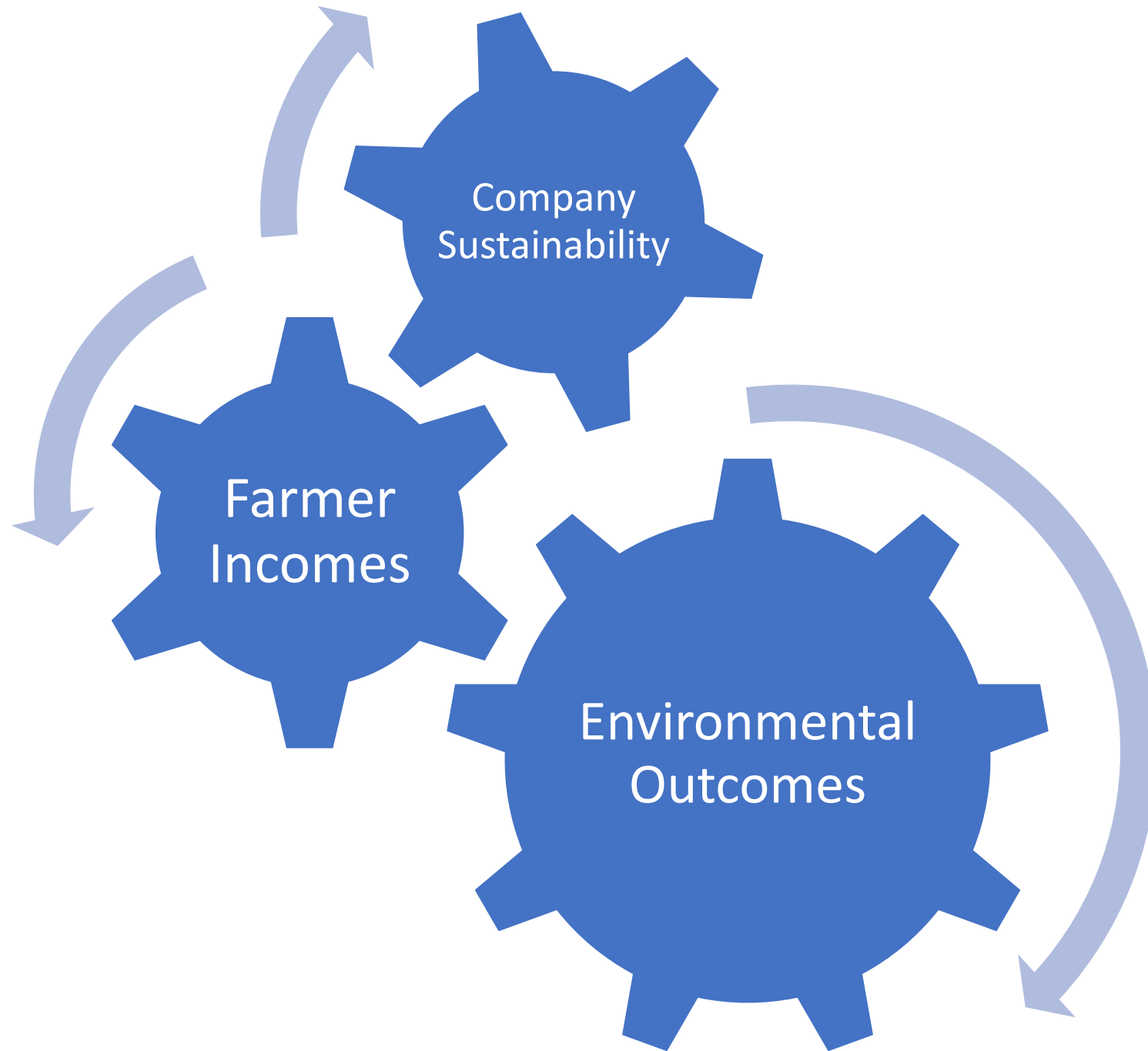
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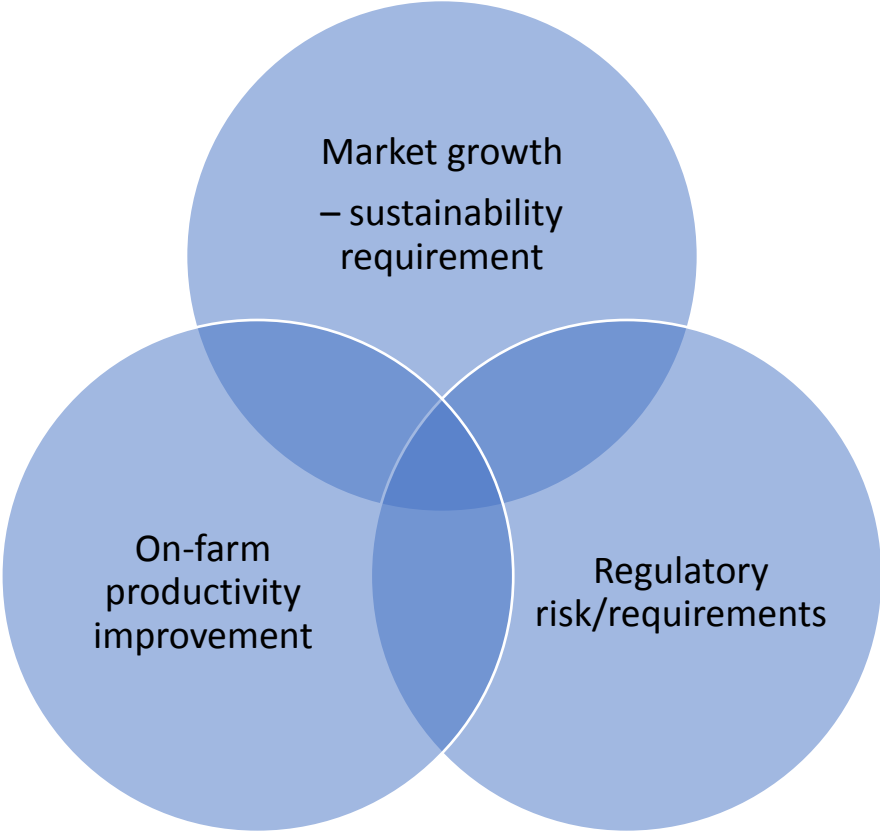
- First Industry sustainability initiative involving Whole of Government and Whole of Sector

3

- Address: Water, Soil & Air quality, Climate change targets on a multi annual basis to achieve Food Wise Sustainability objectives







Market growth  
– sustainability  
requirement

On-farm  
productivity  
improvement

Regulatory  
risk/requirements

# Conclusion

- Ag research and best practise organisations have a major role to play in economic development, local, regional, national and EU.
- Structures should be more reflective of this new understanding.
- New responsibilities and roles.
- New future.