

# CA ESD Interview Questions

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Meeting Interview Questions for Member States

**Country:** Ireland

**Name:** Eamonn Confrey

**Organisation:** Ministry of Energy

**Role in ESD implementation:** responsible

### Q1. How long have you been with the Concerted Action?

18 months

### Q2. Has the CA ESD improved your working relationships with other participating countries?

Yes

### How have you otherwise benefited from the network, exchange of information and experience within the CA-ESD?

We have gained knowledge of schemes operational in other MS, parts of which may be replicable in Ireland e.g. Green Deal. The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI-the national energy agency) is benefitting from the public procurement discussions. Of particular interest is the question of financing energy efficiency and the EPC/ ESCO delivery model challenges and how it relates to the Public Sector.

### Q3. Can you give us any concrete examples (e.g. policy measure, methodology, organisation) of best or good practices that you have learned about through the CA ESD and have taken on board, in some way, whilst developing national policies?

The UK Green Deal is informing our policy discussions on designing an appropriate Pay As You Save model for Ireland which is proving challenging. We can learn from the experience from the UK, some of the challenges they are having will be similar. Financing is always difficult and so we are keen to hear about the types of loans, terms and conditions and response from the banking sector viz. lending . Another example is the rollout of Smart Grids, which was also of particular interest to Ireland.

**Q4. Has the CA supported your work in generating awareness for energy efficiency and the ESD with national policy makers and other stakeholders? If yes, how?**

Yes.

We have probably not done as much with the information as possible. It will be easier to make use of the resources now that they have been improved and are more accessible. In that regard we think the new CA website is very helpful and user-friendly.

**Q5. What has been the most useful CA ESD product/output for you? (PMs, WG Reports, website, Forum, Newsletter, National Summary Reports, public documents, other)**

Plenary Meetings bring stakeholders together under one roof allowing quick conversations and the opportunity to network with new colleagues. The Plenary Meetings provide a way of giving newcomers an introduction to the network and the ESD content, a crash course so to speak. Guest speakers are also of interest.

Working Group Reports, used to quickly dive into where a topic is, are circulated amongst interested parties at home.

Summary reports – same as WGR

**Q6. Do you attend other Concerted Action meetings – CA RES or CA EPBD?**

**If yes, what do you think the CA ESD can learn from the other Concerted Actions and vice versa?**

No

**Q7. What is your national dissemination strategy when it comes to CA ESD material and the outcomes of the Plenary Meetings?**

CA ESD material are primarily circulated via e-mail – closed circle. We are currently working on refining our dissemination strategy.

**To how many people, and to whom, do you send the final reports and other outputs of the CA ESD? What methods do you use (meetings, email, presentations, etc)?**

Colleagues in the Ministry, SEAI and local authorities. Use a combination of meetings, email, presentations as appropriate.

**Are you aware of the NCP toolkit on the website?**

No, will check it out.

**Q8. What is your feedback regarding the new in-depth topic and sessions? How was your experience in trying to identify your expert(s) to attend these sessions?**

We are very supportive of the in-depth topic approach and the current topic (public procurement) is very relevant to us at the moment.

It was easy to identify who needed to attend.

**Q9. Do you have any other remarks, comments or feedback you would like to give us on specific or general elements of the CA ESD?**

Its improving as it matures, experience to date has been positive.

Strong role for CA when the new EED becomes active, there will be new difficulties to address.