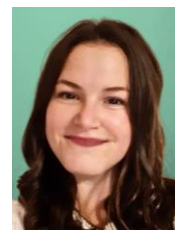


Ireland

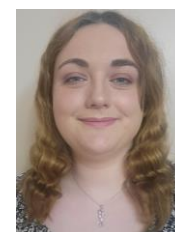
Name: Aileen Bright
Country Coordinator (CC)
Organisation: An Taisce
E-mail: abright@eeu.antaisce.org
Tel: +353873611525
Website: [An Taisce - The National Trust For Ireland](http://www.antisce.org)



Name: Toshka Van Eyk
Deputy CC
Organisation: An Taisce
E-mail: tvaneyk@eeu.antaisce.org
Tel: +353876446676



Name: Orlaith Condon
Deputy CC
Organisation: An Taisce
E-mail: ocondon@eeu.antaisce.org
Tel: +353873729880



Name: Lydia Johnson
Deputy CC
Organisation: An Taisce
E-mail: lgjohnson@eeu.antaisce.org
Tel: +353879383628



Organization and Number of Staff:

The GLOBE Program in Ireland is coordinated by An Taisce – the National Trust for Ireland. As of August 2024, the GLOBE team in Ireland is comprised of 4 full-time staff; Country Coordinator, Aileen Bright and Deputy Coordinators Toshka van Eyk (joined in March 2024), Orlaith Condon (joined in June 2024) and Lydia Johnson (joined in August 2024). We said farewell and best wishes to Sabrina Moore in December 2023 and Maya Gryستن Fields in June 2024.

Funding by:

The GLOBE programme in Ireland is funded by Ireland’s Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Cooperating Organizations/Individuals:

GLOBE Ireland partners with the Environmental Protection Agency, working closely with the EPA citizen science and air quality teams. GLOBE Ireland also collaborates with local authorities around the country, national teacher organizations, scientists, and relevant subject matter experts in Ireland.

GLOBE Schools (what types, how many):

The GLOBE program in Ireland works with Primary schools (ages 4-12) and Secondary schools (ages 12-18) across the country. Over 400 schools registered for GLOBE Ireland campaigns/pilot campaigns during the year, highlighting the interest and engagement of schools in citizen-science, outdoor learning, climate-

related investigations, and action-based solutions to environmental challenges. As of October 2024 there are 221 fully trained GLOBE Educators and 1199 GLOBE observers in Ireland.

GLOBE Areas you and schools focus on:

GLOBE Ireland works across the Atmosphere (Weather, Climate, Air Quality), Biosphere (Green-up, Green-down, Tree Height measurements, Landcover), Hydrosphere (Water temperature, pH, nutrient pollution, macroinvertebrate sampling) and Pedosphere.

Number of Schools Reporting Data over Past Year:

50 schools reported data to globe.gov between October 2023 and October 2024 (as of October 10th, 2024). In Ireland, many of the GLOBE schools participate in a non-GLOBE nitrogen dioxide protocol, while data was reported at a national level by over 200 schools using this protocol

Program Implementation, International Cooperation in GLOBE Network, and Activities over Past Year (categorized by GLOBE Strategic Plan 2018-2023 Goals):

1. Education

An objective of the GLOBE Ireland team is to raise awareness and understanding around key environmental topics and themes, particularly air quality, water quality, biodiversity, climate change and sustainability, and how they are interlinked.

During the year, we provided:

- Educational resources to support learning and participation in our campaigns
- Teacher Training:
 - Empowering teacher training that focuses on inquiry-based outdoor learning, where participants can experience the value of connecting with nature and the environment, using GLOBE protocols and relevant environmental themes
 - Online 'Continuous Professional Development' Training using GLOBE protocols and other themes
 - Online training on campaign participation
- Student Engagement and Training
 - Student-focused webinars where subject matter experts and education specialists join to listen to student presentations
 - Student workshops on themes of weather, climate, river ecosystems, tree observations
 - Student presentation webinars and in-person events where students present their projects to an audience and get feedback.
 - International collaboration by linking up schools from different countries

2. Science

In 2023-2024, GLOBE Ireland coordinated citizen science campaigns on air quality, phenology (autumn 2023), weather and climate, and Rivers Ecosystems (water quality, river system habitats and biodiversity). The team developed new collaborations with experts, scientists, and local authorities to deliver fulfilling, relevant, and meaningful citizen-science experiences to teachers and students across Ireland.

3. Community

The GLOBE Ireland community continues to grow due to many factors, primarily due to an increase in staff members which allows for more time spent promoting GLOBE, developing and coordinating campaigns, and building relationships with teachers. As a result, there are more opportunities for schools to engage with different GLOBE spheres and themes, resulting in an expansion of our teacher network to 1,200 teachers. There is also a growing appetite for citizen-science in Ireland. Newly

established or rekindled collaborations with universities, Green Schools (eco schools) teams, local authorities, and local experts have all helped the team create meaningful citizen-science experiences.

In May 2024, GLOBE Ireland held an in-person student sharing and prize-giving event in Dublin's Richmond Barracks. The winners of the GLOBE Ireland annual project competition were invited to attend and present their work. A sample of winning projects submitted can be viewed here: [GLOBE Linktree](#). A total of ~120 guests attended the event, of which 78 were students. These students and their teachers represented 17 schools across Ireland. It was an inspiring morning of student presentations followed by an award ceremony. The event was also attended by the Director General of the Irish Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Laura Burke and senior EPA managers, local authority's LAWPRO (Local Authority Waters Programme) representatives, Department of Environment Climate and Communications Air Quality unit, Assistant Principal Officer, Dr Irene Cadogan and atmospheric chemist, Dr Mary Curley from the state meteorological agency, Met Eireann.

GLOBE Ireland has facilitated multiple successful and rewarding international collaborations between Irish GLOBE schools and GLOBE France, GLOBE Malta, and GLOBE Netherlands schools over the past year.

4. Technology

We encouraged participants to use the GLOBE Observer App and GLOBE website to add observations and collected data to the GLOBE database. We also use ArcGIS dashboards and maps for gathering and sharing non-GLOBE protocol observations.

5. Communications

The GLOBE program in Ireland regularly communicates with schools via newsletters, social media, webinars, email and campaign-specific WhatsApp groups. Our social media audience continues to grow across Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram platforms. We use communication platforms to recruit new schools, promote GLOBE campaigns, connect with campaign participants and encourage collaboration between GLOBE Ireland and the greater GLOBE community.

Plans and Ideas for Next Year:

The GLOBE Ireland team is planning to:

- Coordinate a national air quality campaign (focused on nitrogen dioxide) in the autumn '24 (September to November)
- Develop and coordinate a pilot campaign on air quality (focused on particulate matter) in Limerick, November '24 to February '25
- Further development of GLOBE campaigns based on successful pilot outcomes on River Ecosystem (water quality, biodiversity), Rainfall and Flooding (Spongy School), and Surface Temperature, Landcover and Climate Resilience (Cool School) campaigns
- Strengthening and expansion of the network of students, teachers and teaching organisations in Ireland.
- Provision of teacher training programmes (in-person and online) on GLOBE
- Engagement of GLOBE Ireland within the international GLOBE community
- Provide procurement and logistical support to EPA Clean Air Together Project

In addition to EPA deliverables the team plans to:

- Update secondary school (JC/Transition Year) resources
- Gradually update all campaign resources in line with new GLOBE Ireland branding
- Encourage longer-term monitoring in schools (beyond campaign specific dates)
- Pilot 'Student Champion' project to foster connections between GLOBE Ireland students and the greater GLOBE community and encourage students to participate in the GLOBE International Virtual Symposium and other student exhibitions/conferences, for example BT Young Scientist.

Some Photos from Last Year





GLOBE IRELAND 23/24

