

# **ECOPA:**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland**

- **Context**
- **Irish economy booming-Celtic tiger**
- **Growth rate 5-10%**
- **Population growing**
- **Unemployment less than 5%**
- **Government strategy- knowledge-based economy**
- **Investment in Biotechnology and IT**
- **Investment in 4<sup>th</sup> level Education**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Government**

- **Department of Health**
- **Issues licences for animal experiments**
- **Nominates Irish representative to ESAC-ECVAM**
- **National Bioethics Committee**
- **Irish Medicines Board – human & animal**
- **Food Safety Authority of Ireland**
- **Health Research Board**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Government**

- **Department of Enterprise , Trade and Employment**
- **Health and Safety Authority- Occupational-Chemicals**
- **Science Foundation Ireland – major science funding agency**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Government**

- **Department of Agriculture**
- **Teagasc – Research Institute**
- **Research funding**
- **Pesticide Control Unit**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Government**

- **Department of the Environment**
- **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**
- **Research funding**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Government**

- **Department of Marine**
- **Marine Biotoxin Monitoring**
- **Mouse Bioassay**
- **Research Funding**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Academia**

- **7 Universities**
- **10 Institutes of Technology**
- **Royal Irish Academy**
- **Royal Dublin Society**
- **Irish Society of Toxicology**
- **Irish Association of Pharmacologists**
- **Biochemical Society**
- **Chemical Society**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- Industry**

- **15 of top 20 Pharmaceutical Companies**
- **Significant Biotechnology industry**
- **SME's**
- **Industry associations**



## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland Animal Welfare**

- **Need to research this area**
- **Dr Hadwen Trust U.K. co-funded research project with HRB –very successful project-award- publicity in National press**
- **Some extreme elements – recent attack on property of frog farm- now closing!**

## **National Consensus Platform : Ireland- The Way Forward**

- **Organise meetings probably through the Department of Health**
- **Use personal contacts to get momentum**
- **Urge young investigators to get involved**
- **Seek funding for start-up process**
- **Need help of ECOPA – draw on experience , draft constitution**