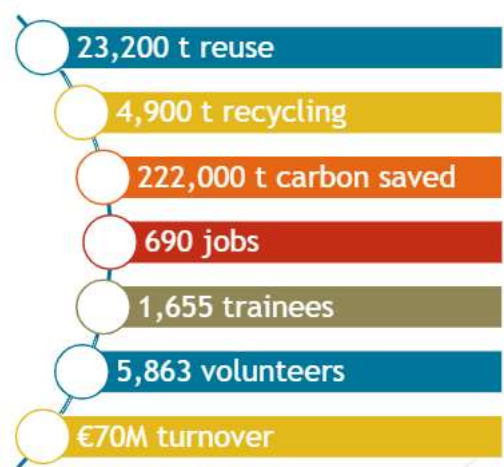


## CRNI Summary Report 2019

The Community Resources Network Ireland is the all-Ireland representative body for community based reuse, repair and recycling organisations. Our vision is an Ireland where the word waste does not exist and the whole community benefits from the environmental, social and economic benefits of reuse.

Our objectives are to support our members, promote reuse, recycling and social inclusion, and to strengthen the sector through policy input, research, representation at national and international level and networking.

Our network in 2019 comprised 25 members in total, including five new members: Deaf Enterprises, Sustainable Fashion Dublin, Thriftify, Conscious Cup and Cloth Nappy Library. The estimated impact of our membership (based on 2018 figures) was over 23,200t reused and 4,900t recycled. This also had a significant social and economic impact as shown across



Our key achievements for 2019 included:

- Leading Ireland's first **Green and Social** consortium in a Public Procurement project with NWCPO in Tullamore involving 97 items of upcycled and second hand furniture from 10 suppliers, saving over 2.5 tonnes carbon.
- Running **flagship events** during Reuse Month October including *Style Sessions* fashion marketplace, *Circular and Social* evening event with the European Commission's DG GROW and *Future Jobs and Skills for a Circular Economy* seminar in partnership with EMWR, CIWM and Athlone IT.
- Completing and disseminating Ireland's first Quality Mark for the reuse sector, **ReMark** and completing the **Bulky Item Reuse** in the public sector project.
- Providing a **tailored funding roadmap** and training to our members supported by weekly updates on funding, business and PR opportunities.

Further detail on our work for 2019 is included below.

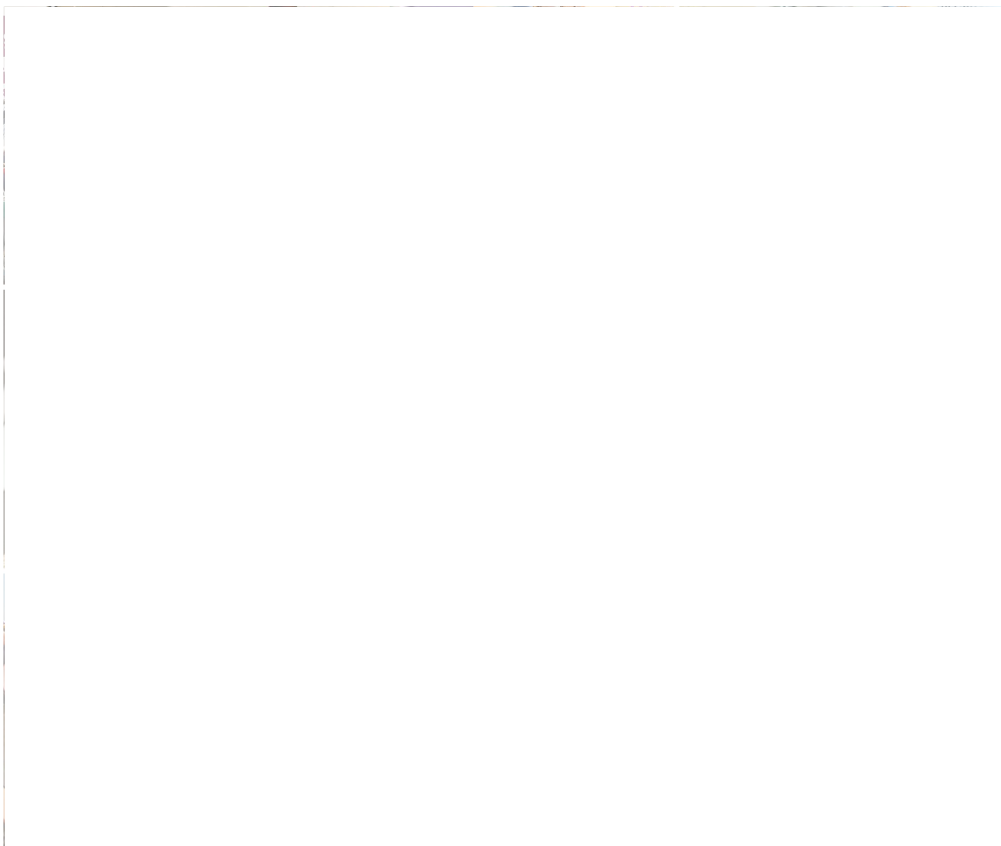
In 2019 we **supported our members** by holding five network meetings, including two workshops with policy makers and three training sessions on communications and funding. Two focussed subgroup meetings were also held for WEEE and textile members. To create business opportunities for our members and help mainstream

reuse, we led a consortium to deliver a public procurement project in Tullamore. We also provided members with access to WARP-IT, a platform for donation of large volumes of bulky items. To help members access funding we developed a funding roadmap that tracks opportunities throughout the year, and provided weekly updates to members via alerts and our member's-only page of new funding, business, event and other opportunities.

To **promote CRNI and its members**, we held three flagship events during reuse month that showcased 11 of our members:

- The *Style Sessions* event in Sligo supported by CURWO and Sligo County Council attracted 250 attendees and included a charity shop marketplace and style contest.
- Over 65 people attended the *Green and Social* event held in partnership with SRWO, Cork City and County Councils and EcoWell, which explored the SDGs 8, 12, 13 and 17 through the lens of community reuse and recycling.
- Over 80 people attended the *Future Jobs and Skills for a Circular Economy* event held in partnership with EMWRO, CIWM and Athlone IT, which highlighted the opportunities that will emerge from a Circular Economy.

Further information on these events can be found at [www.crni.ie/presentations](http://www.crni.ie/presentations).



We increased our **media outreach** with 6 press releases and over 16 appearances in local and national radio and print media. CRNI also spoke or exhibited at **14 national and international events** including the RREUSE network conference in Pamplona, Spain, Ireland's first National Social Enterprise conference and others.

To provide **policy input**, we held six workshops and meetings with DCCAE, DAERA (NI), and the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD). We made submissions on measuring reuse through DCCAE, on key priorities for reuse in the Circular Economy, on the National Social Enterprise Policy and participated on the Community Services Programme advisory panel. We participated in three international RREUSE network meetings and over 30 policy working group meetings.

To advance **research** in the sector, we:

- completed and disseminated the ReMark pilot project including two case study videos available [here](#) (EPA Green Enterprise project).
- completed the Bulky Item Reuse EPA Green Enterprise project (see [here](#)) aimed at encouraging Public Sector to donate unwanted items for reuse.
- Began work as part of a consortium led by CTC with Rediscovery Centre, on a major research project to **qualify and quantify reuse** (see [here](#)).
- Began work on a feasibility study for DAERA (NI) on the **feasibility of setting up a reuse and repair network** in Northern Ireland, commencing with a mapping exercise of the reuse sector.

Finally, CRNI **developed its own capacity** as an organisation, completing key governance actions and moving toward full compliance with the Charity Regulator Governance Code.

The network operates with a core staff of two persons governed by a voluntary board. We are grateful for the EPA funding under the National Waste Prevention Programme which enabled us to deliver our 2019 objectives under our strategic 2019-2021 plan and look forward to a dynamic and exciting year to come.

