

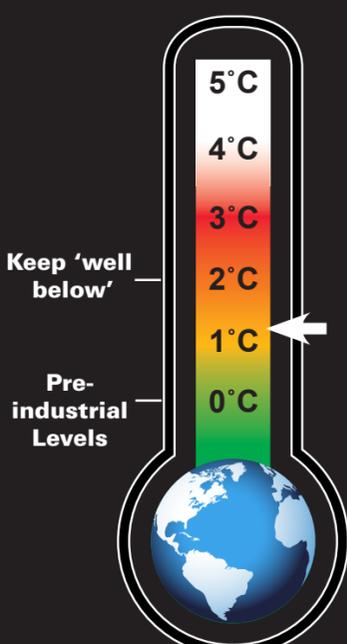
Why the Irish Government must stop investing in fossil fuels

The planet's temperature is rising at an alarming rate, and the climate is changing.

In December 2015, the Irish Government signed up to a global climate agreement to keep the future temperature below **2°C** rise above pre-industrial levels. This is to avoid the worst effects of climate change.

At best, the pledges made in 2015 will keep the rise to about **2.7°C**. This is too high, and in reality the rise may well be even more than that.

So it is up to us, the people, to put pressure on our governments to do better.



Why we must end the fossil fuel era

The carbon emissions released from the fossil fuels we burn for energy are a leading cause of the global temperature rise.

Over **60% of carbon emissions** come from our dependence on **fossil fuels** for energy.

To have a reasonable chance of keeping the temperature below **2°C** around **80%** of known fossil fuels must stay in the ground.

To do this, we must stop investing in fossil fuel companies.

Governments give large **subsidies** to fossil fuel companies and grant them **exploration and extraction licenses**. They also use **public money** to invest in these fossil fuel companies. The Irish government does **all** of these.



How the Government is investing and spending your money



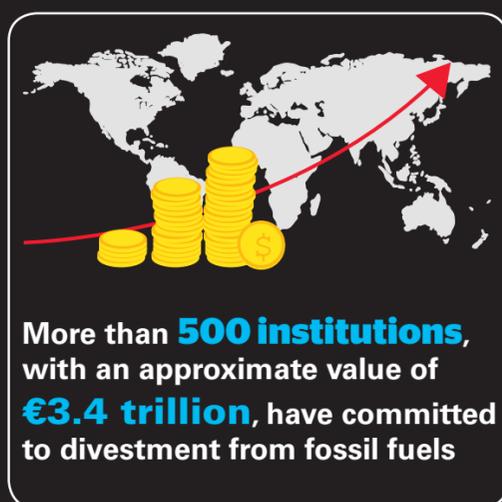
The Irish Government is investing taxpayer money in the fossil fuel industry.

In 2014, it invested **€72 million** in some of the world's most controversial fossil fuel companies through the Irish Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF). While in Budget 2016, the Government only allocated **€68 million** to energy efficiency and renewable energy in Ireland.

The Irish government has got its priorities wrong and we need to change this.

What difference will it make?

While €72 million might seem small compared to the billions that are invested in fossil fuels worldwide, **it all adds up**. Every country needs to play its part in order for the transition from fossil fuels to happen as quickly as possible. We must also send a message to fossil fuel companies that we will no longer support them. The global campaign to 'divest' from fossil fuels is growing stronger and every divestment story adds to its momentum.

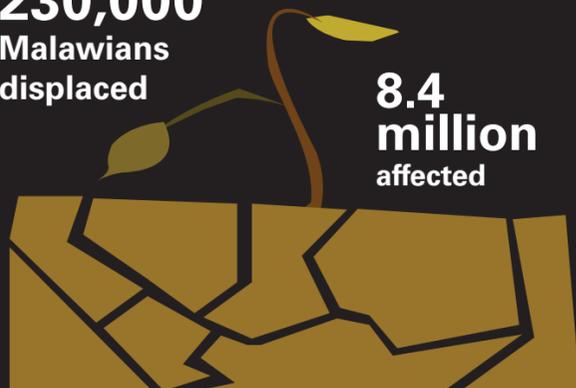


Why is Trócaire campaigning on fossil fuels?

230,000

Malawians displaced

8.4 million affected



Everyday we witness the devastation wrought by climate change in the countries where we work. The world's most vulnerable communities are experiencing **escalating storms, floods and drought**.

40 million people in east and southern Africa alone are facing hunger this year due to drought.

Rainfall is unpredictable, food insecure and freak flooding is **destroying small farming communities** in countries like Malawi.

The power of the fossil fuel industry to influence politics is in stark contrast to that of these communities, who are given little consideration in policy decisions.

The **lack of action from governments** in rich countries such as Ireland is something we cannot accept.

Can you?

Demand action now:
www.trocaire.org/burningquestion

Trócaire
Working for a just world.