

FEEDING OURSELVES



LOCAL FOOD SYMPOSIUM

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2026

THE MCNABB THEATRE | TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN | D02 F6N2

Strengthening Local Food Economies was a two-year project exploring how Ireland can better recognise & support local food producers, while strengthening the diverse ecosystem of communities, cooperatives & local initiatives that enable local food economies to thrive.

The Symposium marks the culmination of the project, bringing together an incredible mix of farmers, food activists, researchers and policy analysts.

Includes the launch of Talamh Beo's campaign for a Basic Income for Local Food Farmers.

JO POULTON | BASIC INCOME 4 FARMERS, UK
CHRIS SMAJE | AUTHOR, A SMALL FARM FUTURE
RUPA MARYA | DEEP MEDICINE CIRCLE & TRINITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CAROLINE WHYTE | FEASTA
ALISON BROGAN | FEASTA
FERGAL ANDERSON | TALAMH BEO
JANET POWER | TALAMH BEO
SARAH NOLAN | TALAMH BEO
ALLISON ROBERTS | TALAMH BEO
THOMAS O'CONNOR | TALAMH BEO
RUTH HEGARTY | FOOD POLICY IRELAND
OLIVER MOORE | CULTIVATE, CODECS
SARAH PROSSER | BIOREGIONING SOUTH EAST IRELAND
DAVIE PHILIP | EU4ADVICE, CULTIVATE
BARRY FERGUSON | THE CONNECTING AGROECOLOGY COLLECTIVE, NI
ANNA DAVIES | TRINITY CULTIVATE
JOE KELLEHER | TEAGASC, MID-WEST BIO DISTRICT
MARTINA MULLIN | TRINITY SUSTAINABILITY

REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL



The event is organised by **Feasta**, **Talamh Beo** and **Cultivate** with support from the **IEN**, in collaboration with **Trinity Sustainability**, as part of the **Feeding Ourselves** Community of Practice.



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PROGRAMME

13:00 | ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

13:30 | MISTICA

Event opening with local food farmers from across the country

14:00 | WELCOME & FRAMING

The current context and an overview of Wellbeing Economy recommendations on strengthening local food economies. Caroline Whyte, Feasta · Fergal Anderson, Talamh Beo

14:30 | CAMPAIGN LAUNCH: A BASIC INCOME FOR LOCAL FOOD FARMERS

Resourcing Local Food Farmers is key to transforming local food systems. Talamh Beo will present a pathway for change, their 'Local Food Policy Framework', & launch their campaign for a 'Basic Income for Local Food Farmers'—a critical, fair & implementable income support mechanism that will lay the foundation for food systems transformation in Ireland. Janet Power, Allison Roberts & Sarah Nolan, Talamh Beo · Jo Poulton, Basic Income 4 Farmers UK

15:45 | BREAK - WITH A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

16:00 | STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Short talks from practitioners enabling stronger local food economies across the island of Ireland. With Sarah Prosser, Bioregioning South East Ireland · Barry Ferguson, Connecting Agroecology in NI · Davie Philip, EU4Advice / Cultivate · Joe Kelleher, Teagasc, Mid-West Bio District · Anna Davies, CULTIVATE Trinity College Dublin · Martina Mullin, Trinity Sustainability

16:25 | WIDER ENABLERS OF LOCAL FOOD ECONOMIES

A conversation on the policies and structures that strengthen local food economies — procurement, school meals, Community Wealth Building, cooperatives and advisory supports —bringing in the EU policy context. With Ruth Hegarty, Food Policy Ireland & Oliver Moore, Cultivate in conversation.

16:55 | FEEDING OURSELVES WITH A SMALL FARM FUTURE

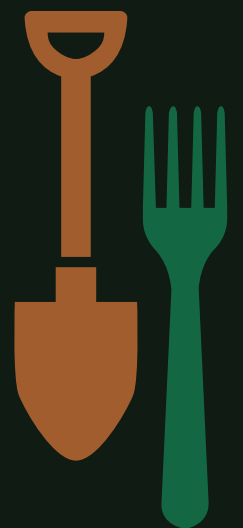
A keynote reflection on the case for small farms and local food. Chris Smaje, author of A Small Farm Future

17:15 | REFLECTION

Rupa Marya, Deep Medicine Circle & Trinity School of Medicine

17:25 | CLOSING & NEXT STEPS

Caroline Whyte, Feasta



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