



Technology Ireland
Ibec

2020 has both tested and demonstrated the dynamism and resilience of people, businesses, and communities. This has been a year where technology and innovation have taken centre stage and the technology ecosystem in Ireland has continued to go from strength to strength. Highlights include:

- Bringing the latest industry insights and policy issues together with our recent publication, 'Future Needs, Future Thinking: Technology Ireland policy priorities for 2021'.
- Technology Ireland Industry Awards 2020 which showcased the sector and this year's new awards Tech 4 Good -Product/Service and Tech 4 Good - CSR demonstrated the amazing contribution of the sector to society.
- Delivering industry-led training with the Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet and the Technology Ireland Software Skillnet.
- Lobbying policymakers with on multiple data issues such as the European Electronics Communications Code to the implications of the Schrems II case on Irish companies.
- Launching Ibec's first cross-sectoral campaign, with the Irish Medtech Association and BioPharmaChem Ireland, 'Where Digital Health Thrives' to make Ireland a global hub for digital health.

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY IRELAND
Ibec

In 2020 Telecommunications Industry Ireland made a set of commitments on behalf of industry to help keep citizens connected and the country working during the COVID-19 crisis.

- It facilitated collaboration on deciphering industry's obligations under the European Electronic Communications Code
- Briefed Government on industry priorities including increased political leadership on 5G.
- Kept citizens connected and the country working during the COVID-19 crisis
- Sought increased political leadership on 5G
- Represented industry regarding the European Electronic Communications Code.
- In 2021 it will represent your interests to ministers, government departments, ComReg, political parties and the European Commission.

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Audiovisual Ireland
Ibec

Audiovisual Ireland has been to the fore in helping the sector to respond to the challenges of the Covid-19 crisis. Through this period Audiovisual Ireland has:

- Obtained positive sector specific measures in the Government's July economic stimulus package and in the October Budget
- Helped secure significant additional funding for Screen Ireland and for the Sound and Vision Fund
- Advocated successfully for funding to cover COVID related insurance and the extra production costs of COVID19
- Provided members with up-to-date information and guidance on
- Supported the audiovisual sector in preparing for all aspects of Brexit including data transfer, customs and HR issues
- In 2021 it will represent your interests to ministers, government departments, regulators and political parties

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FDI Food Drink Ireland
Ibec

Looking back on 2020, the FDI is proud to reflect on some of the many important interventions and contributions made on behalf of its members:

- During the Covid-19 pandemic, FDI represented, supported and informed members on a wide range of issues including essential worker status, wage subsidy schemes, field sales and serial testing.
- We continued to support members on Brexit contingency planning in areas such as food regulation and supply chain, to support sustainable packaging solutions and to highlight industry efforts on reformulation.
- In 2021 we will continue to provide training and upskilling to the sector through the FDI Skillnet and provide comprehensive and up-to-date business and economic information to members.

[Read more](#)



Drinks Ireland
Ibec

Helping our members to manage effectively through the Covid-crisis has been our top priority this year. Our policy asks included:

- Protecting Irish drinks production, cashflow supports, and the sustained reopening of the hospitality sector and our visitor attractions.
- Delivering campaigns under the banners #BeSound #NewGovProtectOurPubs #GetBackIntoTheSpirit #OpeningTime.
- We achieved no increase in excise tax for the 8th Budget in a row.
- Continued to work on the implementation of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act.
- Lobbied on key issues arising from EU-US tariff disputes, Brexit and the Agri-Food 2030 Strategy.

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Dairy Industry Ireland
Ibec

2020 was dominated by three issues for Dairy industry Ireland.

- Keeping over 10 billion litres of milk processed and collected in the face of Covid while keeping staff safe.
- Preparing for and mitigating the effects of Brexit.
- And, finally, continuing our Sustainability journey through initiatives like Dairy Sustainability Ireland.

We also continued to develop our specialised nutrition offering, adding value to our products, and facilitating the industry to grow markets around the world. We put the foundations in place for our new group within DLI, the Foods for Special Medical Products (FSMP) sector, putting processors, including the specialised nutrition sector, through a comprehensive information and advice service. We also represented at national, EU and international level.

[Read more](#)



MII Meat Industry Ireland
Ibec

Maintaining focus on core business priorities is challenging at times of existential threats. The sudden emergence of Covid-19 caused unparalleled upheaval, requiring exceptional measures by MII and its members, deemed by Government as an essential service, to achieve the twin objectives of keeping staff safe while maintaining business continuity. With a sharp focus on achieving these objectives, MII offered leadership by:

- Working strategic alliances with Government and public health authorities
- Forming with its membership to develop wide ranging guidelines that facilitated the sector to continue to service its global customer base with minimum interruption, while communicating the sector's response to the public through broadcast and print media.
- Continuing to advance the 2020 work programme agreed with members in accordance with its Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

[Read more](#)



biopharmachem Ireland
Ibec

2020 was a year when the biopharma sector demonstrated its value to the Irish economy by maintaining full operations during the pandemic helping to mitigate the impact on GDP as well as working to provide a vaccine and therapeutics to treat COVID-19. Our highlights include:

- A group of BPCI companies assisted the HSE by sourcing and manufacturing Lysis buffer which was in shortage.
- BPCI co-hosted Biopharma Ambition - an international conference that attracted 500 delegates to discuss the latest developments in biopharma.
- Working with the IDA and EY BPCI co-hosted a series of Round Tables on Cell and Gene Therapy (CGT). BPCI published a significant report on Pharma 4.0 in collaboration with Innopharma.

[Read more](#)



Irish Medtech Association
Ibec

The Irish Medtech Association supports members across five key areas, innovation, business excellence, skills, commercial, and entrepreneurship. 2020 highlights include:

- Bringing the latest industry foresight with the 'Manufacturing the Future Conference', 'Global Access 2020' and 'Medtech Rising: The Business Leaders' Conference and Awards', as well as 'The race to embrace digital manufacturing' report and the 'Inspiring girls, supporting female leaders' strategy.
- Delivering industry-led training with the Irish Medtech Skillnet and Connected Health Skillnet.
- Lobbying policymakers with our 'Priorities for the next Government: Investing in Innovation, Invest in People'.
- Launching Ibec's first cross-sectoral campaign, with BioPharmaChem Ireland and Technology Ireland, 'Where Digital Health Thrives' to make Ireland a global hub for digital health. This work has been supported by regular working group meetings and member forums.

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Financial Services Ireland
Ibec

Against the backdrop of COVID-19, the sector has shown remarkable resilience and capability in ensuring financial services supports to our economy remained operational. This resilience coupled with global redeployment of operational capital, has created a new competitive advantage. In 2020, FSI achieved the following for the sector:

- The Programme for Government includes the commitment to the 'Ireland for Finance' strategy and the enactment of the Investment Limited Partnerships Bill.
- The delivery of a Women in Finance Charter.
- FSI was elected as Vice Chair of the influential Business Europe Financial Affairs Group, reflecting our renewed focus on European advocacy.
- FSI secured several competitiveness actions in the Ireland for Finance 2021 Action Plan.
- We launched 'Ireland's future through finance', a report mapping how we can grow in fintech, sustainable finance, regulatory competitiveness and talent.
- Through engagements with national, UK and EU stakeholders, we ensured financial services needs remained a focus in Brexit negotiations

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Aircraft Leasing Ireland
Ibec

Aircraft Leasing Ireland's (ALI) core objective is that Ireland remains the global centre for aircraft leasing. In driving for this, two key areas to note:

- ALI continues its policy focus in areas of education and skills, technology initiatives, support for related industries, and Ireland's global tax treaty network.
- Through ALI's representation on the Government's Aviation Recovery Taskforce, the aircraft leasing industry is playing its part in seeking a solution to bring about the airline sector's recovery from the impacts of Covid-19.

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Property Industry Ireland
Ibec

This year highlights the adaptability and flexibility of the property sector. COVID 19 has seen remote working as well as social distancing on sites and Ibec has been to the forefront to reopen sites and ensure the construction sector remains open. In addition to the challenges of the pandemic the issues facing the housing sector and the planning system remain the same.

- Property Industry Ireland prepared a discussion paper highlighting the benefits of an equity loan scheme on affordability and housing supply.
- In response to the new Government and new minister PII has made submissions on top priorities for the sector and met with the new Minister.
- Meetings were also held with Department officials on planning as well as building control regulations.
- Engagement with our members highlighted the need for further reform of the planning system which remains a priority in our work programme for 2021.

[Read more](#)



Retail Ireland
Ibec

Retail has been at the coalface of Covid-19, but the sector has demonstrated its resilience and innovation. Through this period Retail Ireland has:

- Ensured government put in place the necessary financial and employment measures to support retail businesses
- Provided members with up-to-date information and guidance on managing Covid restrictions and public health guidelines
- Supported retail businesses as they put in place far-reaching contingency plans to manage Brexit
- Delivered industry-led training through the Retail Ireland Skillnet and Apprenticeship Programme
- Produced detailed new research into how technology is reshaping the sector and the implications for training and development
- Provided regular updates and expert briefings on economic and consumer trends

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SFA Small Firms Association
Ibec

Looking back on 2020, the SFA is proud to reflect on some of the many important interventions and contributions made on behalf of its members:

- SFA supported members on all aspects of business continuity including HR advice, health and safety, financial support schemes, remote working and restructuring.
- Brexit as top priority, both by supporting members with their preparations and influencing policy.
- Together with strategic partners such as Skillnet Ireland, the SFA delivered, initiatives such as MentorsWork, as well as marketing and shop local initiatives like the €1m advertising fund with DMG and Champion Green, SFA's voice of small business.
- SFA was appointed, as the voice of small business, to Government's SME Taskforce, which is tasked with designing a SME Growth Plan that maps out a long-term strategic blueprint to strengthen and grow Ireland's SME community.
- Delivery of a bespoke webinar programme that has proven to be an invaluable member service, as evidenced by a record 2,000 attendees this year.

[Read more](#)

Childhood Services Ireland
Ibec

Childhood Services Ireland, Ibec's 38th trade association, was launched in October 2020. We are proud to have contributed to these areas on behalf of members:

- Become a trusted consultative partner of the DCEDIY
- Welcomed the Minister's invitation for CSI to join the Early Learning and Care Stakeholder Forum.
- Be the unifying voice of Early Years providers by developing a strategic work programme that ensures the interests of the diverse spectrum of providers is heard at the highest level of Government.
- Made significant progress with regards funding for the sector and workforce development.

[Read more](#)

Polymer Technology Ireland
Ibec

Polymer Technology Ireland supported members on a wide range of issues during Covid 19 including:

- Essential worker status
- Wage subsidy schemes
- Reopening.

In 2021, we will continue to provide networking opportunities and upskilling to the sector through the First Polymer Training Skillnet and the Polymer Apprenticeship.

[Read more](#)

Ibec Networks Engineering Group

The Ibec Engineering Network supports multinational and home-grown engineering companies with industry foresight, leadership and representation, promotion, development of people and skills and networking. 2020 highlights include:

- Our Manufacturing the Future 2020 Conference and our CEO insights event on Brexit, Sustainability, Digitisation and Standardisation.
- Our monthly Engineering Managers forum and a fortnightly Facilities Managers forum.
- Our strategic insights in leadership to grow end-to-end manufacturing to enhance processes during COVID-19, and operational excellence.
- Development and delivery of our industry-led training programmes e.g. Masters in Digitalisation of Manufacturing, the "Relaunch" programme for women returners, CNC Machining and Lean Manufacturing.

[Read more](#)

Federation of Aerospace Enterprises in Ireland
Ibec

FAEI has been closely involved in industry discussions and policy formulation around Brexit and responses to the Covid 19 pandemic this year. These are unprecedented times for the aviation industry and we will be working hard to:

- Drive the policy agenda and ensure the voice of the Irish aviation industry is heard.
- Represent industry in the key challenges that lie ahead including the industry's climate change profile
- Return to growth in the sector.

[Read more](#)

Forest Industries Ireland
Ibec

Forest Industries Ireland works across the forestry value chain to deliver growth and support to the industry. There are many challenges to face and FII brings companies together to work collectively. The emphasis remains on:

- Licensing and appeals
- Renewed forest policy
- Increasing afforestation rates.
- Working hard to ensure the right balance is achieved in Irish forest policy to support all companies in the years ahead.

[Read more](#)

Ibec Public Sector

2020 was a year in which the agility, resilience and extraordinary importance of Ireland's public sector organisations came into sharp relief. Throughout this intense period Ibec was proud to support our public sector members through:

- Advocacy, networking, and HR supports.
- 2020 saw over 120 public sector organisations actively engaged via an expanded programme of Ibec meetings and events.

[Read more](#)

Ibec Networks

Ibec Networks continues to prioritise member engagement and strengthening the networks and connections among members. Highlights for 2020 include:

- Introduction of a new Facilities Managers network to work cross sectoral with facility managers on the challenges COVID-19 presented.
- Our weekly ezine Engage designed to keep members updated on COVID-19 related issues and business supports.
- Over 7000+ members engaged with our webinar and Autumn Series to gain key business and ER insights.

[Read more](#)