



Navigating to 2050

A safe and sustainable maritime future

#NavigatingTo2050



Mary Dunning

Principal Officer

Dept. of Transport, Ireland



Commissioners of
IRISH LIGHTS

Navigation
and Maritime
Services



An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport

National Ports Policy Review

Department of Transport
November 2022

Overview



- Strategic Importance of Ports
- National Ports Policy 2013, progress to date
- ORE Ports Policy Statement 2021
- Global Trends and Challenges for the Future
- Upcoming Review of National Ports Policy

Strategic Importance of Ports



90% of goods by volume traded by Ireland enter and exit through our commercial port network.



As facilitators for our national economy, the efficient functioning of our ports will directly impact the life of every citizen.



The importance of our ports is not just economic.



Many ports are located in the heart of urban centres and areas of environmental significance.



How our ports interact with both the communities that provide their social licence to operate, and the marine environment is critical to their successful operation.

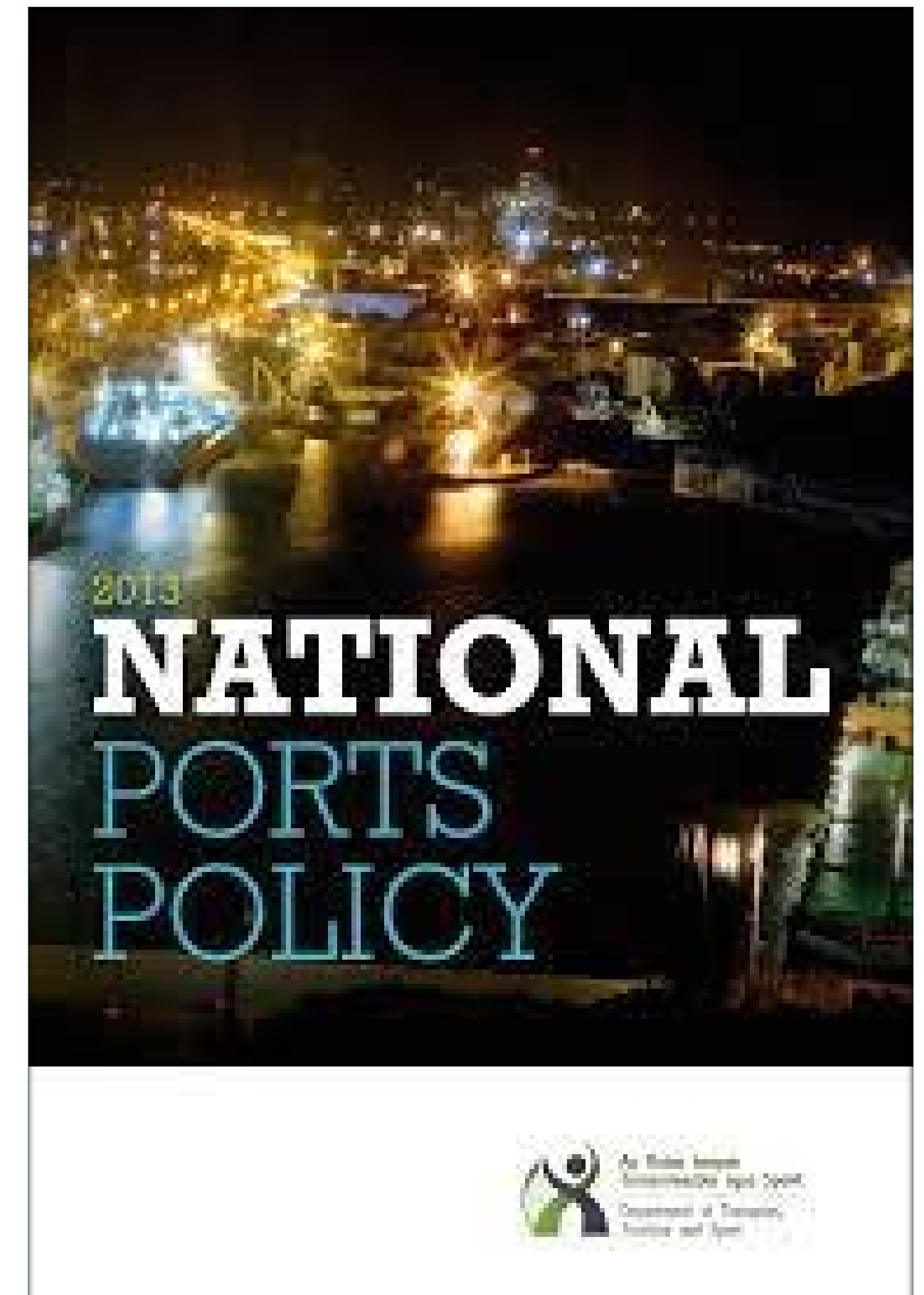


The importance of the green agenda.

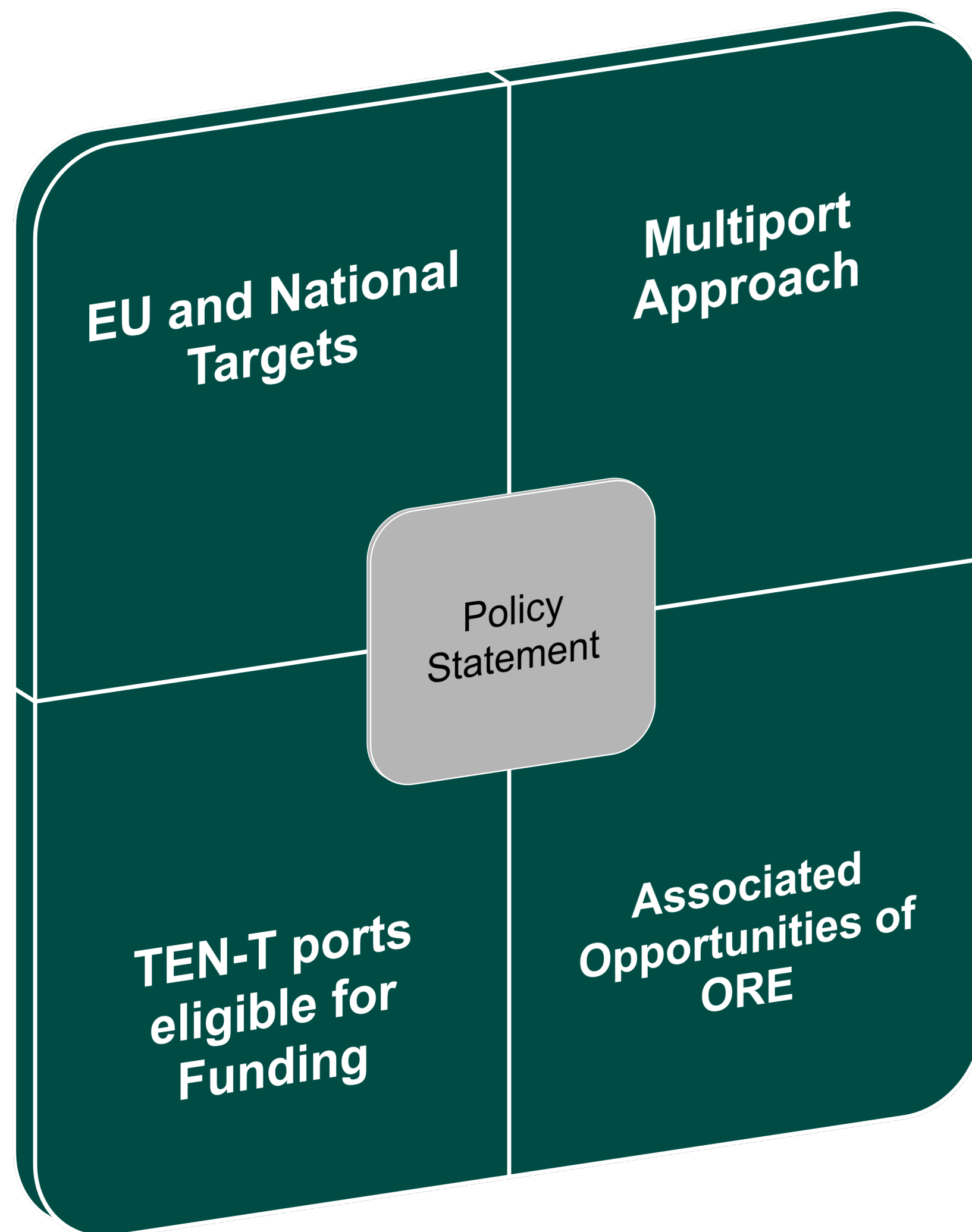
National Ports Policy 2013



- Core objective to facilitate competitive and effective market for maritime transport services
- Policy gives ports a clear direction, placing their role firmly within the planning hierarchy and encouraged ports to develop master plans
- Ports categorised into Tier 1, Tier 2 and ports of regional significance
- Ports of Regional Significance, Drogheda, Dún Laoghaire, Galway, New Ross and Wicklow all transferred to local authority control
- Need to build on what has been achieved by constructing an ambitious and sustainable port development agenda through imminent review of NPP



ORE Ports Policy Statement 2021

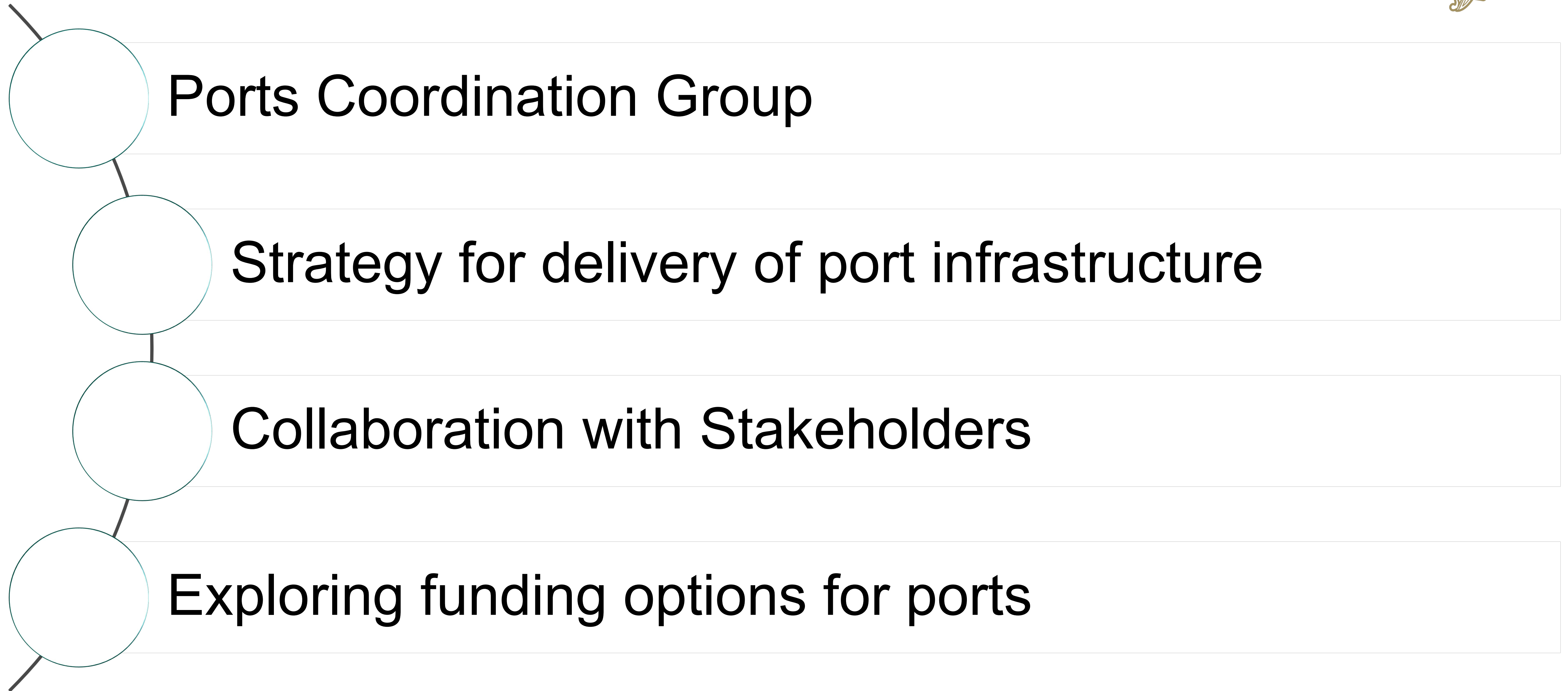


IMDO/DoT assessment of options for Irish commercial State Ports to facilitate the ORE sector and assist in Ireland achieving its emission reduction targets.



Key policy component is that a number of port facilities required for deployment activity and a multiple of ports needed for O&M operations.

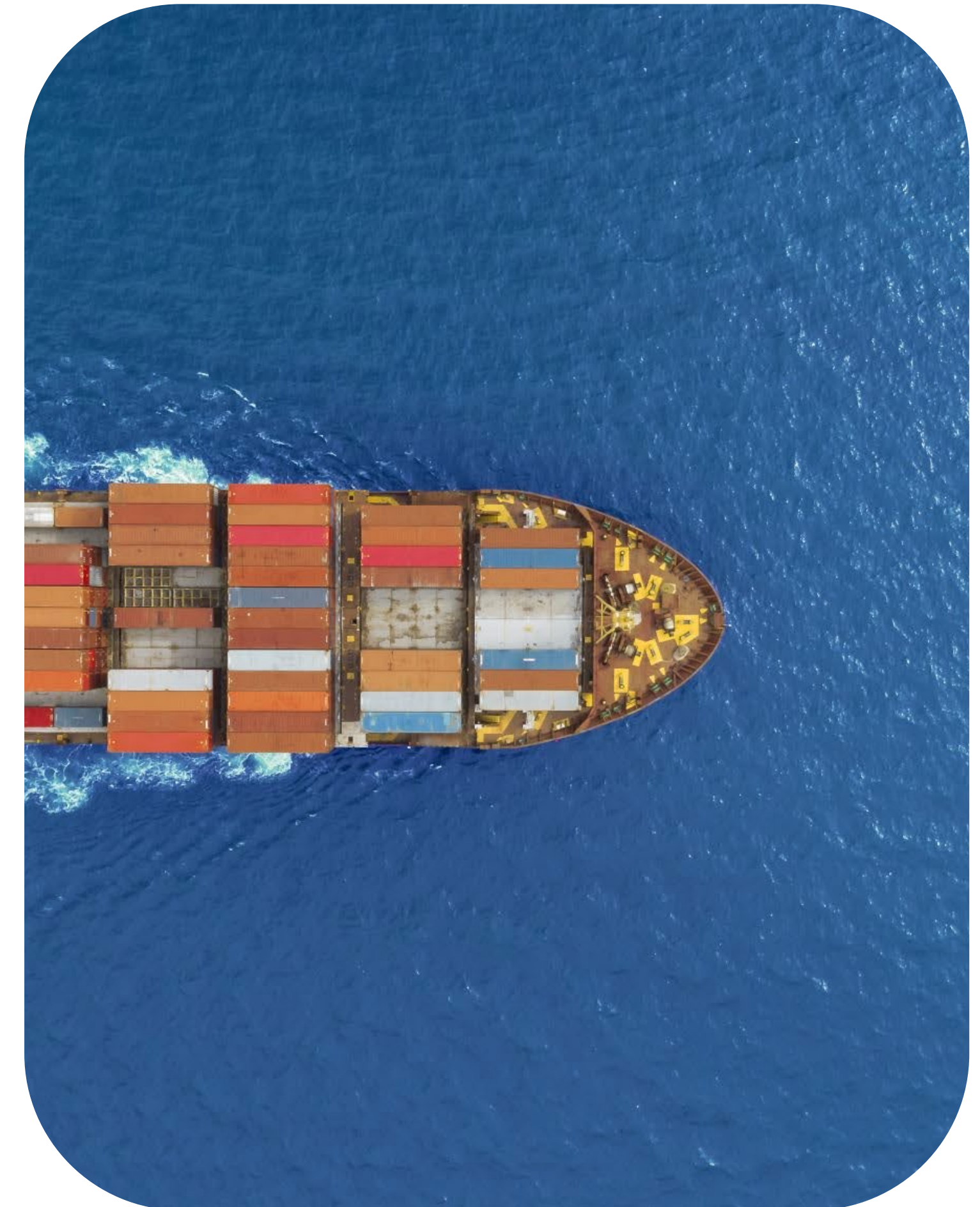
ORE Ports Policy – Implementation



Global Trends in Ports and Shipping



- There are a number of global drivers which are now impacting the nature of port operations around the world:
 - *Environmental Change and Sustainability*
 - *Technological Innovation*
 - *Geopolitical*
 - *Demographic Changes*
- Ports will need to navigate this changing landscape to be successful.
- This places an onus on governments and public administrations to put policies in place to prepare for this changing trading and environmental reality.



Challenges for the Future



Climate Change

Transition to a Circular Economy

Port Capacity

Ports Funding

Technological Innovation

Upskilling the Maritime Labour Force

Challenges for the Future



Climate Change

- A Changing Environmental Regulation Framework
Fit for 55, Climate Action Plan
- Climate Adaptation Planning
- Offshore Renewable Energy

Transition to a Circular Economy

- EU Circular Economy Action Plan
- Circular Economy Act 2022



Challenges for the Future

Port Capacity

- Port Capacity Study nearing completion
- Port infrastructure, by its nature, takes a long time to plan and construct so policy decisions are necessary now
- A core issue that the revised National Port Policy must address is where and how this capacity is to be provided for

Ports Funding

- Climate change adaptation, ORE facilitation and general port capacity requirements bring to the fore the question of how our ports are to be funded into the future
- Current policy is that there is that ports receive no Exchequer funding and the “user pays” principle applies.



Challenges for the Future



Technological Innovation

- Internet of Things
- Blockchain
- Digital Exchange Platforms/Port Community Systems
- Data and Analytics Applications

Upskilling Maritime Transport Labour Force

- Technological innovation/ongoing digitisation of shipping/port activities will bring profound changes to logistics chains in the years ahead
- It is important that the maritime transport industry has the right people with the right skills to effectively harness new technologies



Ports Policy Review



The port capacity study is currently underway and is due for completion shortly

Upon its finalization, a full review of National Ports Policy will commence by the end of this year which will look at the overall ports policy framework.

An Issues Paper is planned to be released for public consultation early in 2023.

Submissions will be reviewed from the public consultation.

New Ports Policy circulated for further public consultation.



Time for Thinking



How can ports best prepare, and show resilience, in response to climate change challenges and to move towards a circular economy?

What impediments currently exist for the planning and provision of future port developments?

Are the funding mechanisms available to the port companies sufficient to ensure adequate and efficient port capacity?

How could ports and port stakeholders be incentivised to invest in and maximise technological innovation opportunities and efficiencies?

What actions should be taken to ensure maritime transport has the skills necessary for digital transformation of the sector?



Thank You

Q&A



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