



Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Call for a second NAMA-2 (Natural Assets Monitoring Authority).

Our forests, peat lands, lakes, rivers, seas and coasts are places of wonder, diversity and beauty. They are also the economic engines that provide valuable livelihoods, fresh water, food, fuel, recreation, energy resources, and tourism. However, these essential natural assets and resources are currently managed by numerous and often conflicting government departments, agencies and laws which can lead to poor management - often leading to neglect. In order to overcome the enormous challenges faced by our natural world - including pollution, habitat loss, invasive alien species, overfishing and climate change - we need one unifying national authority to develop policy that will protect, maintain, and restore the health of our natural ecosystems.

“In order to promote the security and supply of natural assets/resources such as fresh water, timber, biodiversity, etc, which form a major part of the economic backbone of all economic development, we are calling for a new Natural Assets Monitoring Authority (NAMA-2) to be set up by government immediately.” according to Tom Roche, coordinator of Just Forests.

This is essential to our future development and will give ‘real-world’ back up to the proposed National Assets Management Agency (NAMA) which only deals with money and in ‘kick-starting’ the flow of financial services again in Ireland after years of greedy and ill-considered economic developments which have put enormous pressures on our natural assets and resources. Climate change is with us. Sea levels are rising, ice is melting, temperatures are increasing, and the consequences are major. According to WWF-UK, “This is not just about polar bears and pandas, it’s about us humans and our survival.”

ENDS.