



Rural Conversation No. 1 'Delivering economic development in rural Ireland'

Thursday, 8 November 2018
Hosted by NUIG in the Aula Maxima

PROGRAMME

13:30 Registration with tea/coffee/sandwiches

14:00 Welcome

Professor Nicholas Canny, MRIA, FBA. Former President of the Royal Irish Academy and former VP Research at NUI Galway.

Mr William Parnell, Assistant Secretary General, Rural Development & Regional Affairs Division, Department of Rural and Community Development

14:10 Introduction—Scene Setting and Roundtable Guidelines

Professor Cathal O'Donoghue, Dean of Arts and Social Sciences, NUIG, who will also facilitate the roundtable feedback session

14:30 Roundtables

14:30 Question one

What are the areas of greatest potential for economic growth in rural communities, and how can we position ourselves to take advantage of these?

14:55 Question two

What are the challenges and opportunities facing rural Ireland with regard to emerging sectors, new technologies, changing skills requirements, new ways of working, and Brexit?

15:20 Question three

What actions are required to (a) assist rural entrepreneurs and businesses to diversify into new sectors, and (b) further develop traditional sectors like agriculture, tourism and forestry?

15:45 Roundtable Feedback

Chair of each table in turn to provide feedback on all questions to the facilitator.

16:30 Summary

Professor Cathal O'Donoghue

16:45 Ends

