

The image shows a person in a red shirt standing on a path in a sunlit forest, with their hands behind their head. The text 'feasta Legacy Guide' is overlaid in a blue, stylized font. The word 'feasta' is in a lowercase, rounded font, and 'Legacy Guide' is in a larger, uppercase, rounded font.

# feasta Legacy Guide

The current faulty economic system is making the planet uninhabitable and is generating rising inequality, disharmony and polarisation. Fundamental changes are needed to protect our communities, fragile ecosystems and future generations.

Feasta is a think tank with international membership and Irish charitable status which takes a systems-based approach to changing the direction of the economy and the mindset of global policy makers so that the economy can become fair and sustainable, and nature can regenerate.

Feasta and our supporters reflect, collaborate, provide real facts, seek to influence, and agitate. We are passionate, but there remains much work to be done.

We focus on systemic-level change and our approach is simultaneously local and global, as we recognise that much work is needed on all levels in order to tackle the serious challenges that humanity and nature face.

We have supported youth delegates from the Global South to attend COP climate summits, while championing community wealth building, public banking, and global-level financial system reform. We participate in EU-level advocacy for a post-growth Europe, while also working with our global partners in the Cap and Share Climate Alliance to achieve a fair fossil fuel phase-out, and with Irish colleagues to ensure that the Wellbeing Economy and Doughnut Economics can be firmly embedded in the Irish political agenda. We campaign for Universal Services and a Universal Basic Income while advocating commons-based taxation to help keep the global economy on an even keel.

Feasta is working on long-term, global problems, and we often lack the institutional funding that more mainstream economics think tanks receive. Our much-appreciated financial supporters include individual member donors, a few forward-looking small foundations and the Irish Environmental Network.

To make greater change we also need additional financial resourcing – from independent sources. We hope that more people in the future will consider including a gift in their Will and Estate Plan to help us to carry on the important work of aligning our economic system with the ecological imperatives of climate stability, healthy biodiversity and a safe and just space for all humanity.

# Looking Back to Look Forward

The seeds of Feasta were sown in discussions in the course of the 1990s among a group of far-seeing people from many walks of life, including the late economist Richard Douthwaite. Richard was described by Rob Hopkins of the Transition Network as “one of our keenest minds, able to illuminate complex issues”.

The key question that concerned Richard and his fellow group members - and that has become increasingly urgent in the years since - was:

**How can we transition to an economy that enables people and nature to flourish, and that can be sustained into the future?**

To answer this question, they founded a new organisation that would, in the words of an early brochure, “speak and and hold public lectures, run conferences, write briefing papers, identify and analyse future risks, inform and educate about economic and social tools to manage them, and undertake funded research”.

The launch of Feasta took place in October 1998 in Dublin and was “a wonderful event” according to the first ever Feasta mailing. About 150 people attended and we have continued to grow numbers since and to build alliances with other like-minded organisations across the world.



A selection of Feasta's early publications



Some of Feasta's books and events that have been produced over the years since 1998

## Feasta's Present

From these modest beginnings, Feasta has gone on to host over 160 events, including several major conferences. Attendees of all ages and backgrounds have included economists, university professors, government ministers, senior policymakers, students and many other concerned citizens. We have published 8 books and numerous commentaries, discussions, submissions and articles on subjects ranging from climate, tax justice, agriculture, the financial system and enterprise through to risk and measuring progress. We participate and contribute to numerous events and are active



members of many networks and advocacy groups, including the Environmental Pillar, Stop Climate Chaos and the Wellbeing Economy Alliance.



Rethinking Growth: Towards a Wellbeing Economy for Ireland conference, June 2024. Photo by Killian Broderick.



Graphic from conference. Artwork by Vicky Donnelly and Helen O'Keefe.



An intergenerational Feasta gathering at Rossbeigh, County Kerry, 2019



International youth delegates at the COP27 in 2022: Brazilian Feasta delegate Nayara Almeida, indigenous rights campaigner Vanda Witoto, and Brazilian Feasta delegates Mikaelle Farias and Amália Garcez.

# Feasta's Future – Here for the Long-term

Two of Feasta's founders, Richard Douthwaite and John Jopling, sadly have not lived to see Feasta achieve its aims.

Richard's books *The Growth Illusion* and *Short Circuit* described the benefits of local economies and the pitfalls of globalisation without environmental safeguards, while John's book *Gaian Democracies* described the 'Global Monetocracy' and laid out the challenges of taking on an interconnected network of banking and finance interests alongside the fossil fuel industry.



Richard Douthwaite

The current Board of Trustees and Feasta members still hearken back to Richard and John's vision when laying out our strategic plans for the coming years. We hope this type of guidance can provide inspiration to Feasta's supporters of all ages and inspire them to join in our multi-generational effort to reform the economic system. The world needs organisations like Feasta even more now than it did in 1998, and by building upon Richard and John's intellectual legacies and the work of visionary contemporary economists such as Kate Raworth and Katherine Trebeck, we hope, in turn, to be able to leave the legacy of a flourishing world to future generations.



John Jopling

## Next Steps - Making or Updating Your Will

Once you have looked after your loved ones, a gift in your will is a wonderful way to help ensure a better future. You could choose to leave a percentage of your estate, a residue or a specific amount.

### Sample Text and Information for your Will

#### For a gift of percentage of an estate:

"I give to Feasta; (RCN): 20039615, all [or a fraction] of the residue of my estate whatsoever and wheresoever, and I direct that the receipt of the Board of Feasta shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors."

#### For a Residuary Bequest:

"As to all the rest residue, and remainder of my Estate of whatsoever nature and whatsoever situate, I give devise and bequeath the same to Feasta; (RCN): 20039615, for the general charitable purposes of said organisation, and the receipt of the Board of Feasta shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors."

#### For a Pecuniary Bequest:

"To the Board for the time being of Feasta; (RCN): 20039615, I give and bequeath the sum of: euros (amount in words) or I bequeath (the item(s) specified) for the general charitable purposes for use by Feasta, and the receipt of the Board of Feasta shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors."

You could also add one of these as amendments (codicil) to your current will.

# Other Information for your Solicitor

Charity Name: Feasta

Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20039615

Address: 3 Bruach an Uisce, Cloughjordan, Co Tipperary, E53 CF59, Ireland

Contact for further information: email [info@feasta.org](mailto:info@feasta.org) and Tel +353 (0)86 364 2728  
<https://www.feasta.org/>

## Other Information

You can find details of our finances since 2014, members of our board and other documents – full accounts and constitution on the Irish Charity regulator (CRA) [website](#) and at <https://www.feasta.org/about/>



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