



Dr Frank O'Connor, Director, Ecodesign Centre,UK

Frank was brought up in rural Ireland where his passion for environmental issues and their relationship with design began in 1988 with his first project on end-of-life recovery issues. Since then, he has worked in, or as a specialist advisor to, industry, government organisations, higher education, the third sector and NGOs in ecodesign and related issues.

Frank set up the Ecodesign Centre (EDC) in 2006 with the mission of making ecodesign happen. To achieve this EDC develop and deliver collaborative multi-sectoral ecodesign projects with current contracts spanning Europe and Asia. Designated a Welsh Government Centre of Excellence in 2008 EDC are founding members of the European Network of Ecodesign Centres (ENEC) established to stimulate demand for, enable and make ecodesign happen in SMEs across Europe.

Frank's current roles include Specialist Advisor to the United Nations global RECPnet, Technical Evaluator & Reviewer for the European Commission, Mentor and Peer-Reviewer for the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Advisor to the Welsh Government Advanced Materials & Manufacturing (AMM) sector policy team and Advisor to other UK Governments via Advisory Committee for Packaging (ACP) and Eco-Innovation 4-Nations Group.

Frank has a PhD in ecodesign, has published extensively and has been delivering talks & workshops internationally since the mid-90s. He passionately believes that ecodesign is good design and good organisational practice.