

Funding Road Map - Ireland and the UK



Compilation¹ of Sources of Funding and other Supports available (National, EU & International) to the Irish Research Community and Industry to tackle leading Agri-food, Environment, Sustainability and Societal Challenges and contribute to meeting International Targets

Research & Innovation Policies

- DAFM** [Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine](#)
- DBEI** [Department of Business Enterprise and Innovation](#)
- EI** [Enterprise Ireland](#)
- EPA** [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- SEAI** [Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland](#)
- SFI** [Science Foundation Ireland](#)

Science led Research Funding

Organisation	Source	Brief overview
DAFM Research Competitive Funds	IE	Research Policy National Funding Transnational Funding Funded projects
Science Foundation Ireland	IE	SFI provides grants for researchers, outstanding investigators, conferences and symposia, and for collaboration with industry. Details of SFI funding opportunities can be found here .
Teagasc	IE	Walsh Fellowship postgraduate research opportunities.
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	IE	The EPA's current Research Programme 2014–2020 provides funding under three pillars - Sustainability , Climate and Water .
Marine Institute (MI)	IE	The Marine Institute manages competitive marine research funding programmes and provide information on marine research funding opportunities from national and EU programmes.
Irish Research Council (IRC)	IE	The IRC manage a suite of interlinked programmes funding researchers across all career stages and disciplines. See here for further details.
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)	IE	SEAI coordinates and funds a range of research, development & demonstration (RD&D) activities relating to the production, supply & use of energy.

¹ Non-exhaustive compilation

Health Research Board (HRB)	IE	Funding opportunities related to human health and nutrition.
LIFE	CF	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental, nature conservation and climate action projects throughout the EU with a budget of circa €3.4 billion for 2014 - 2020.
H2020 Societal Challenge 2	EU	Societal Challenge 2 - Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine, Maritime and Inland Water Research and the Bioeconomy : Budget of circa €3.8bn for the period 2014 – 2020 addressing a broad range of topics via Research & Innovation Actions (RIA), Innovation Actions (IA), and Coordination & Support Actions (CSA).
Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI-JU)	EU	The BBI JU is a €3.7 billion Public-Private Partnership between the EU and the Bio-based Industries Consortium . Call topics addressed through Research and Innovation Actions (RIA), Innovation Actions (IA – Demonstration and Flagship) and Coordination & Support Actions (CSA).
H2020 Societal Challenge 5	EU	Societal Challenge 5 - Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials : Overall budget of circa €3.1bn for the period 2014-2020.
OECD	Int	Co-operative Research Programme (CRP): <i>Biological resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellowships • Conferences
STFC Bridging for Innovators (B4I) Programme	UK	The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) is a multidisciplinary research organisation that funds and operates a number of large science facilities offering research and development access to commercial users. Through these facilities, and their expert staff, they can provide access to advanced experimental and computational tools to address challenges in all aspects of the food production and packaging supply chain .
UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Organization	UK	The main funding body in the UK. works in partnership with universities, research organisations, businesses, charities, and government to create the best possible environment for research and innovation to flourish. It operates across the whole of the UK with a combined budget of more than £7 billion, and brings together the seven Research Councils, Innovate UK and a new Organization, Research England.
Significant upcoming Science led Research Funding Programmes		
Horizon Europe	EU	The Commission's proposal for Horizon Europe is an ambitious c. €100 billion research and innovation programme to succeed Horizon 2020.

DG CONNECT

[Digital Europe Programme](#) has a planned budget of €9.2bn for the period 2021 – 2027 with a potential role to play in advancing ambitions related to Agri-Digitalisation.

Industry led Innovation Funding

<u>Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)</u>	IE	<p>SFI supports industry collaborations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>SFI Industry Fellowship programme</u> <u>SFI Spokes Programme</u> <u>SFI Strategic Partnerships Programme</u> <u>SFI-Pfizer Biotherapeutics Innovation Award Programme</u> <u>SFI Industry Brochure</u>
<u>Enterprise Ireland</u>	IE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Technology Centres</u> • <u>Technology Gateway Programme</u> • <u>Small Business Innovation Portal</u> • <u>RD&I Funding</u> supports for Irish businesses • <u>Exploring Innovation</u> • <u>Innovation Vouchers</u> • <u>Regional Enterprise Development Fund</u>: The overarching aim of this Scheme is to drive enterprise development and job creation in each region throughout Ireland • <u>Innovation Partnership Programme</u> (ERDF Co-Funded) • <u>Career-FIT</u> a postdoctoral fellowship programme, part-funded by Horizon 2020 and part funded by Enterprise Ireland. • <u>European Space Agency</u> - Enterprise Ireland co-ordinates Ireland's industrial and research participation in the programmes of the <u>ESA</u>. Potential for Agri-Digitalisation/Satellite related activities
DAFM <u>European Innovation Partnerships Initiative</u>	IE	<p>Implemented under the 2014-2020 Rural Development Plan (<u>scheme overview</u>).</p> <p>Further information from the EU Commissions EIP-Agri site can be found <u>here</u>.</p>
<u>Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment (DCCA)</u>	IE	<p>The <u>Climate Action Fund</u> established under Project Ireland 2040 which aims to support initiatives that contribute to the achievement of Ireland's climate and energy targets in a cost effective manner.</p>
<u>Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DBEI)</u>	IE	<p><u>Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund</u> (DTIF) a €500 million fund established under Project Ireland 2040 which aims to develop and deploy innovative technologies for commercial use in collaborative research partnerships.</p>
<u>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</u>	IE	<p><u>Green Business Initiative</u> is an inter-linked suite of projects, specifically aimed at helping enterprises save money and help to reduce their environmental impacts.</p>
<u>Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)</u>	IE	<p>Catering for the <u>Large Businesses</u>, <u>Small and Medium Enterprises</u> and <u>Public Sector</u> with a range of <u>Business Grants & Supports</u>.</p>
<u>Bord Bia</u>	IE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bord Bia Vantage</u> an online resource centre for small food businesses • The <u>Thinking House</u> offers the best of global intelligence and special route to market knowledge as well as marketing <u>publications and reports</u>.

<u>FoodWorksIreland</u>	IE	Run by Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and Teagasc, supporting innovative food businesses in Ireland. Each of the three agencies involved with Food Works plays a specific role in taking Irish food to global markets.
<u>Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD)</u>	CF	<u>LEADER</u> supports private enterprises and community groups who improve quality of life and economic activity in rural areas (EU co-funded)
<u>Bord Iascaigh Mhara</u>	CF	BIM provide a range of <u>supports</u> across the seafood industry co-funded by the EMFF.
<u>Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)</u>	CF	The MSCA under Horizon 2020 support researchers at all stages of their careers, across all research disciplines and in all employment sectors. There are also several opportunities for companies to participate including for example the <u>Individual Fellowships</u>
Horizon 2020 SME Innovation associate	EU	Under the H2020 SME Innovation associate, the EU will fund the recruitment of post-doctoral research associates from other countries to explore an innovation business idea in European SMEs and start-ups. More details can be found <u>here</u> .
<u>European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)</u>	EU	Bringing together pan-European partnerships, called Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs), to develop innovative products and services, start new companies, and train a new generation of entrepreneurs. In total there are 6 KIC's including <u>EIT Food</u> and <u>Climate-KIC</u>
<u>Fast-track to Innovation</u>	EU	FTI is a central part of the <u>European Innovation Council (EIC)</u> pilot, targeting radically new, breakthrough products, services, processes or business models that open up new markets.
<u>SME Instrument</u>	EU	The instrument provides full-cycle business innovation support from the stage of business idea conception and planning (phase I) over business plan execution and demonstration (phase II) to commercialisation (phase III).
<u>ERASMUS+</u>	EU	EU programme to support education, training, growth, jobs and inclusion in Europe. It's €14.7bn budget provides opportunities for <u>Individuals</u> and <u>Organisations</u> .
<u>Structural Funds</u>	EU	<u>Interreg</u> aims to tackle common challenges together and find shared solutions - whether in the field of health, research and education, transport or sustainable energy.
<u>Innovate UK</u>	UK	Innovate UK , part of UK Research and Innovation, supports businesses across all economic sectors to develop and realise the potential of new ideas. With a strong business focus responsibility, Innovate UK connects businesses to the partners, customers and investors that can help them turn ideas into commercially successful products and services and business growth. They fund business and research collaborations to accelerate innovation and drive investment into research and development.

Seafood Innovation Fund	UK	UK Seafood Innovation Fund - Award: Feasibility studies (max 3 months) - up to £50k. Full research and development (R&D) projects (max 18 months) - up to £250k. (administered by the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), The £10 million UK Seafood Innovation Fund will support the UK's fishing, aquaculture and seafood industries to deliver cutting-edge technology and innovation. By supporting ambitious projects with a long-term view, the fund aims to kick-start a step-change in the productivity and sustainability of UK seafood into the future.
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Significant upcoming Industry led Innovation Funding Programmes

<u>Climate Action Innovation Fund</u>	EU	<p>The Innovation Fund (circa €10bn) is a key funding instruments for delivering the EU's economy-wide commitments under the <u>Paris Agreement</u> and supporting the European Commission's strategic vision of a <u>climate neutral Europe by 2050</u>.</p> <p>The Commission aims to launch the first call in 2020, followed by regular calls until 2030.</p>
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Other Supports re: Consumer, Markets, Regulatory & Financial

Local Enterprise Office	IE	The Local Enterprise Office provides information and support on starting or growing a business in Ireland. This includes an SME online Tool to help Irish start-ups and small businesses navigate the range of Government supports and financial supports available.
Údarás na Gaeltachta (UnaG)	IE	Údarás na Gaeltachta can offer qualifying businesses and companies from various sectors a range of incentives and supports to start up , develop, expand or locate in a Gaeltacht region. UnaG supports businesses in developing new markets, technologies, products and strategic alliances through research and development.
Revenue	IE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Knowledge Development Box enables companies carrying out research and development (R&D) activities in Ireland a favourable tax rate of 6.25%. • Research and Development (R&D) Tax Credit If a company spends money on research and development activities, these activities may qualify for
Intertrade Ireland (ITI)	UK/ IE	InterTradeIreland provide practical cross-border business funding, business intelligence and meaningful contacts to SMEs across the island, North and South, looking to grow their businesses. Details of available funding can be found here . Funding for cross-border collaboration on H2020 activities is also available .
Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)	EU	The EEN helps businesses innovate and grow on an international scale. It is the world's largest support network for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with international ambitions.
EUREKA programme	EU	For companies interested in new product development in collaboration with international companies.
Eurostars programme	EU	For SMEs looking to partner on close-to-market R&D projects with another company or companies in Europe
Small Business Portal	EU	The portal hosts a range of websites to help SMEs involved in innovation, research and technology, access funding, providing information on: EU market rules; loans and financial investments; business partnerships; Innovation, Research and Technology; Language and translation help.
EASME – The Executive Agency for SMEs	-	EASME set-up by the EC to manage several EU programmes in the fields of SME support & innovation, environment, climate action, energy and maritime affairs. The EASME website contains further details on funding streams available for SMEs
Business Innovation Centres (BICs)	-	BICs are regionally and locally based organisations involved in identification, selection and specialist support for new and existing enterprises (e.g. Westbic, Corkbic, South East BIC, Dublin Bic). Irish BICs have strong international connections, particularly in Europe, through its membership of the European BIC Network (EBN) .

Access to Finance, Accelerators etc

<p>Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF)</p>	<p>IE</p>	<p>Agri-tech fund: The ISIF has partnered with Finistere Ventures to invest a total of €40 million in Finistere-managed AgTech venture funds – €20 million in the Ireland AgTech Fund (IAF) and €20 million in a global AgTech fund.</p>
<p>Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI)</p>	<p>IE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future Growth Loan Scheme (FGLS): The FGLS is offered by the SBCI with the support of the DEBI, DAFM, the EIB and the EIF. The FGLS benefits from a guarantee from the European Union under the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI). • Brexit Loan Scheme (BLS): The €300m BLS is offered in partnership with DBEI, DAFM and is supported by the InnovFin SME Guarantee Facility, with the financial backing of the European Union under Horizon 2020 Financial Instruments.
<p>Skillnet</p>	<p>IE</p>	<p>Skillnet Ireland is a business support agency of the Government of Ireland to advance the competitiveness, productivity and innovation of Irish businesses through enterprise-led workforce development.</p>
<p>COSME – Access to risk finance EFSI & SCBI SME loans in Ireland - €100 million</p>	<p>EU</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSME is the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). It runs from 2014 to 2020 with a planned budget of €2.3bn. The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) manages COSME on behalf of the EC. • In IRELAND the European Investment Fund (EIF) and the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) have signed the first COSME agreement in Ireland. This transaction is guaranteed by the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), the heart of the Investment Plan for Europe. The SBCI is a strategic SME funding company whose goal is to ensure access to flexible funding for Irish SMEs
<p>European Investment Bank (EIB)</p>	<p>EU</p>	<p>The EIB is the lending arm of the European Union. It is the biggest multilateral financial institution in the world and one of the largest providers of climate finance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EIB offers a range of products under Loans, Equity, Guarantees, Advisory Services, and Blending. • EIB Circular Bioeconomy Investment Platform: A €100m Fund to contribute to filling the gaps faced by innovative Bioeconomy projects by providing them with access to finance, in the form of debt, equity or quasi-equity, to innovative Bio-economy projects and focuses in priority, but not exclusively, on innovative circular Bio-economy projects.

<u>Sustainable Nation</u>	IE	<p>Supported by the public and private sector, Sustainable Nation Ireland is the national platform for the promotion of Ireland as a world-leading hub for sustainable finance, business and innovation, accelerating Ireland's transition to a low carbon economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sustainable & Responsible Investment Forum (SIFireland)</u>: A platform for policy makers, capital providers and intermediaries to advance sustainable & responsible investing.
<u>Pearse Lyons Accelerator - Alltech</u>	IE	<p>This accelerator aims to support technology leaders in agricultural innovation offering expertise, networking, funding, mentoring.</p>
<u>Hatch Blue – Aquaculture Accelerator</u>	IE	<p>Sustainable aquaculture accelerator program seeking to find, develop and scale disruptive aquaculture start-ups. Hatch Blue look for teams with innovative and scalable solutions that solve significant problems in the aquaculture industry in order to enable its long-term sustainability.</p>
<u>EIT Climate-KIC Accelerator</u>	EU	<p>The only EU acceleration programme focused on climate impact by cleantech commercialisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Tangent</u>, Trinity's Ideas Workspace is running the <u>Irish Accelerator programme</u> for Climate-KIC.
<u>The Yield Lab - Accelerator</u>	Int	<p>The Yield Lab provides accelerator funding and The Yield Lab Ireland application period is expected to begin in early 2017. Further information on the The Yield Lab Ireland can be found <u>here</u>.</p>
<u>Sure Valley</u>	Int	<p>Sure Valley Ventures is an entrepreneur-led venture capital fund. Its primary focus is to invest in high-growth, private software start-ups in the Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) space, with a secondary focus on FinTech and Internet of Things start-ups.</p>

<u>HSBC SME Loan Fund</u>	UK	<p>HSBC UK has announced a £12 billion lending fund to support the UK's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The Fund includes a ring-fenced minimum pot of £300 million to support the UK's agriculture businesses. It also includes a ring-fenced £1 billion to help UK companies grow their business overseas, as well as a broader package of support. The initiative is available to UK businesses with a turnover of up to £350 million. Applicants do not need to be an HSBC customer to apply.</p>
<u>UK Innovation & Science Seed Fund (UKI2S)</u>	UK	<p>The UK Innovation & Science Seed Fund (formerly known as The Rainbow Seed Fund) is a £27.1m early-stage venture capital fund building and growing technology companies stemming from the UK's research base. UKI2S works closely with its partners – led by STFC, BBSRC and NERC, which are all part of UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) and Dstl – and is aligned with the Catapults and Innovate UK to create the best environment for innovation to flourish and in turn, boost the UK's competitiveness and productivity by commercialising key technological advances in industrial biotech, ag tech, healthcare, medicine, clean energy, materials, artificial intelligence, software and space. Foodtech is also within scope.</p>
<u>AgRIA Short Leaps Accelerator</u>	UK	<p>AgRIA (Agri-Tech Research Innovation Accelerator), supported for three years by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), is led by Rothamsted Research in partnership with the University of Hertfordshire, University College London, Cranfield University, Green Triangle, and Rothamsted Enterprises.</p>
<p>Transforming Food Production Programme</p>	UK	<p>The £90 million Transforming Food Production programme aims to integrate current world-class UK capabilities (digital technologies, artificial intelligence, engineering, biological, environmental and social sciences) into precision approaches both within new novel production systems and traditional agricultural systems to target net zero emissions.</p> <p>The first five competitions are now open for (Updated 21th November 2019):</p> <p><u>Future Food Production Systems</u></p> <p><u>UK-China: Precision for Enhancing Agricultural Productivity</u></p> <p><u>Science and Technology into Practice – Demonstration programme</u></p> <p><u>Science and Technology into Practice – Feasibility Studies programme.</u></p> <p><u>UK – Canada Bilateral Competition</u></p>

Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíochtaí ar son na hAeraíde & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and Community Development

An Roinn Gnó, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

Project Ireland 2040
National Planning Framework

Revenue
Cáin agus Custaim na hÉireann
Irish Tax and Customs

Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta
National Treasury Management Agency

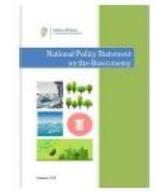
Ciste Inneistíochta Straitéisí de Éirinn
Ireland Strategic Investment Fund

Horizon Europe
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME 2021-2027

Interreg



#FutureofCAP



IRISH UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION

thea THEORETICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE

BIO-BASED INDUSTRIES Public-Private Partnership

HRB Health Research Board

sfi Science Foundation Ireland For what's next

eaGASC Association of Food Development Partners

epa Environmental Protection Agency

Fonús na Mara Marine Institute

HEA HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY

IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL An Chomhairle um Fiontar agus Inneistíochta

SFI Research Centres

ENTERPRISE IRELAND where innovation means business

TECHNOLOGY CENTRE ENTERPRISE IRELAND IDA IRELAND SUPPORTED

TECHNOLOGY GATEWAYS delivering solutions for industry an Enterprise Ireland network

BIM Ireland's Seafood Development Agency

Skillnet IRELAND

SBCI

LEADER LEADER IN AGRI-FOOD BUSINESS

Food Safety AUTHORITY OF IRELAND 1999 2019 PROTECTING CONSUMERS FOR 20 YEARS

NSAI

European Investment Bank The old bank

ENTERPRISE IRELAND where innovation means business



Bord Bia Irish Food Board

FOOD WORKS CREATING GLOBAL FOOD ENTREPRENEURS

epa Environmental Protection Agency

DCCA - Green Public Procurement

EI Pilot, Demonstration & Innovation Clusters



Life

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

EASME

FINISTERS VENTURES

THE YIELD LAB

THE PEARSE LYONS ACCELERATOR

OECD

Údarás na Gaeltachta

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil Local Enterprise Office

seai SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AUTHORITY OF IRELAND

IDA Ireland

InterTradeIreland

Údarás Áitiúla Éireann Local Authorities Ireland

Sustainable Nation Ireland Responsible Investing. Smart Business.