

*Investing in People and Ideas*



**IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL**  
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn

**Welcome**  
**Céad Míle Fáilte**

Dr Eavan O'Brien  
26<sup>th</sup> February 2014

# WHY IRELAND?

## Research Performers

7 Universities

14 IoTs

& Research  
Performing  
Organisations



Top 1% of  
research  
HEIs in  
world in 18  
fields of  
research

## Research Funders

SFI

HEA

EI

HRB



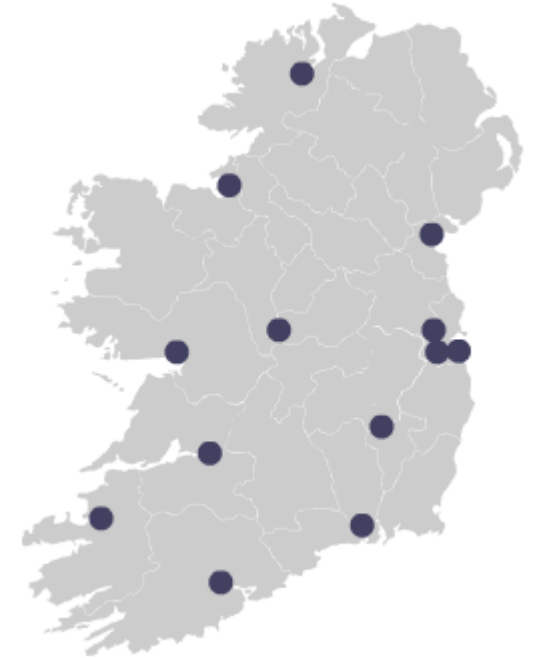
IRC

Public agencies

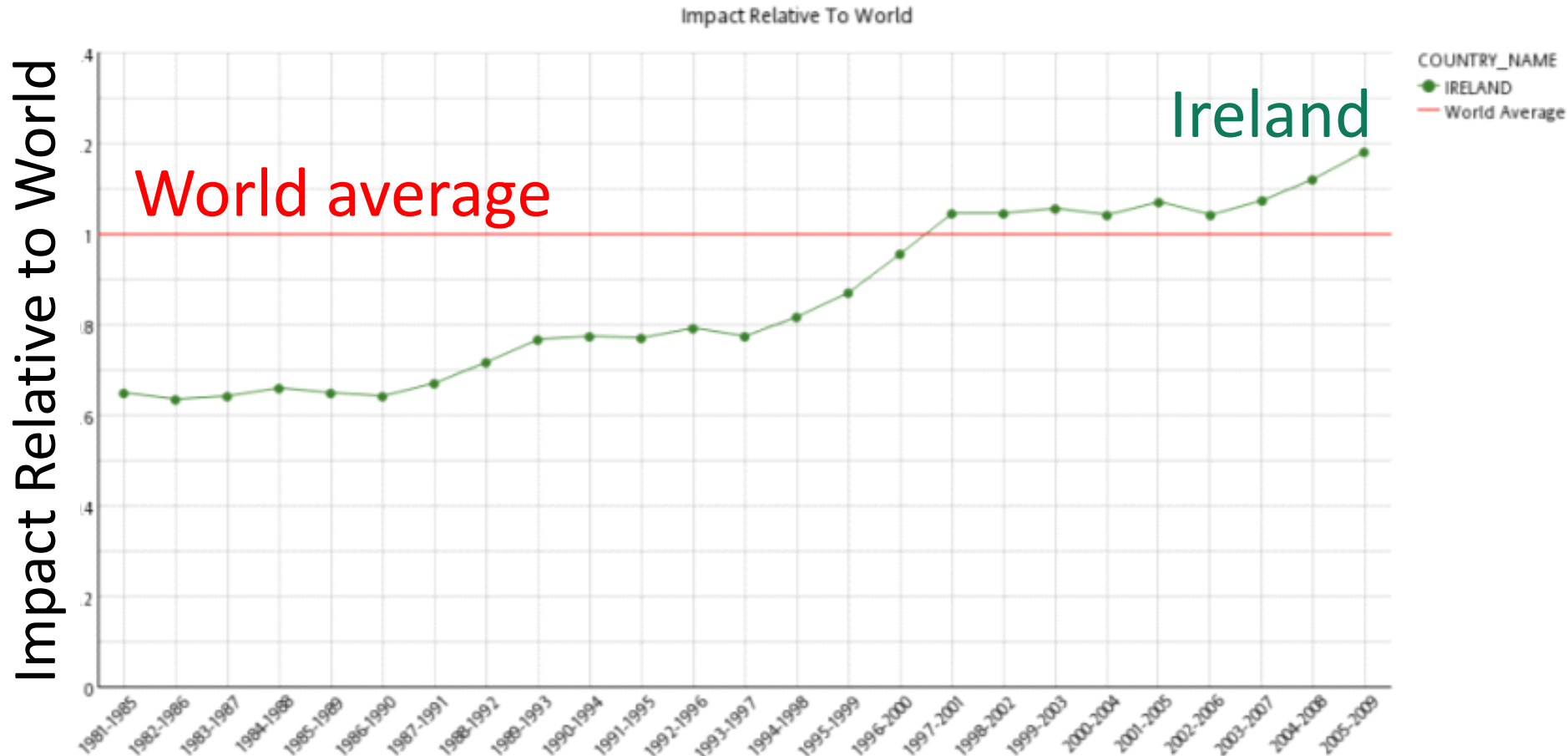
# WHY IRELAND?



1. Trinity College Dublin
2. University College Dublin
3. Dublin City University
4. NUI Maynooth
5. University College Cork
6. University of Limerick
7. NUI Galway



# Impact Relative to World



# Two Councils become one



**The mission of the Irish Research Council is to enable and sustain a vibrant and creative research community in Ireland**

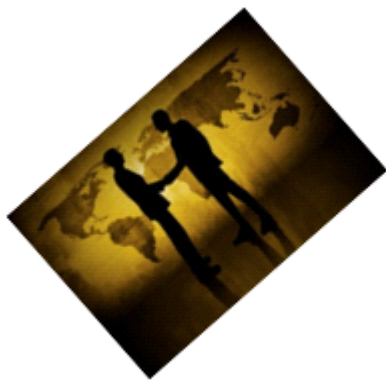
Individual researchers

Structure & transferable  
skills

## Investing in People

Early stage career  
development

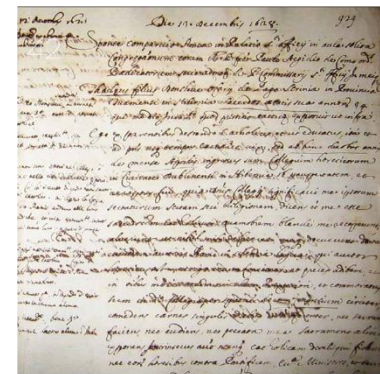
Policy advisory  
role



Excellence

Interdisciplinary

## Investing in Ideas



Exploratory  
Research

All Disciplines



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# IRC SCHEMES 2014

Postgraduate Scholarships	Government of Ireland	Deadline Jan 2014
	Enterprise Partnership Scheme	
	Employment Programme	tbc
Postdoctoral Fellowships	<b>1. Government of Ireland (1 or 2 year)</b>	<b>Deadline Feb 2014</b>
	<b>2. Enterprise Partnership (2 year)</b>	
	<b>3. Elevate Marie Curie International Mobility Fellowship (3 year)</b>	
Research Project Grants (AHSS only)	Starter Grants Advanced Grants Interdisciplinary Grants	tbc
Networking & Travel Grants	Ulysses	tbc
	New Foundations	tbc

# GOI & EPS Postdoc Fellowships

- ✿ All Disciplines & types of research
- ✿ Value of Award (Salary €31,275; PRSI €3,365 & 20% pension of €6,255, if applicable)
- ✿ Eligible direct research expenses <€5,000pa
- ✿ Full-time Fellowships held at a recognised Irish HEI or RPO



# Eligibility for GOI & EPS Fellowships

- ✿ have doctoral degree completed within 5-year period before call deadline
- ✿ have authored or co-authored at least 1 published peer-reviewed research publication or equivalent IP output or samples of written work

## Must not

- ✿ hold/have held a GOI or EPS Postdoctoral Fellowship before
- ✿ have been a Postdoc for >5yrs
- ✿ be a permanent member of staff at a HEI or RPO

# Enterprise Partnership Scheme

## Postdoctoral Fellowships

Postdoc (2 years)

Irish Research Council, 66% = €30,597 p.a.

Enterprise Partner, 33% = €15,298 p.a.

Researcher based in Irish HEI with placement opportunity in Enterprise Partner

Enterprise Partner based anywhere in world



Answers That Matter.



JCIL  
Éirinn





## Value for Companies

## Benefits for Researchers

Access to exceptionally talented pre-assessed researchers & potential future employees

Mentoring from Enterprise Experts

Build research networks and collaborations with Irish Universities and Institutes of Technology

Enhanced Employability

Low level of bureaucracy – Streamlined process from application to award

Transferable skills

Maximise potential for innovation – People and Ideas

Exposure to non-academic research environment

# Elevate Fellowship

➤ Marie Curie Co-funded 3-year Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards

**Year 1:** international host

**Year 2:** international host

**Year 3:** Irish host organisation maintaining link to international host



# ❖ Elevate Eligibility

- Be an Experienced Researcher (ER) of any nationality (e.g. hold a PhD or have 4 years' full-time equivalent research experience).
- Be a resident of an EU or Associated Country - who is currently living in Ireland but does not have to be an Irish citizen.
- Have been an ER for no more than 5 years.
- Have spent no more than 40% of his/her time during their ER career period carrying out research outside Ireland.



# ❖ Host Commitment

- Eligible host organisations are research teams in HEIs or research locations that can demonstrate a sufficiently high international research reputation:
  - national research institutions
  - enterprise research facilities
  - social, cultural and non-governmental organisations
- If non-HEI or national research institution, a commitment to co-fund at 30% for the duration of the award






# Preparing an Application

## Read the T&Cs and Guide for Applicants

-  Formulate a proper plan of action & think about your proposed study
-  Talk to Irish Academic Mentor/International Academic Mentor/Enterprise Partner/Two Referees

# Things to think about...

-  Keep prose simple, declarative and precise in all sections – do not write in ‘essay mode’. Use jargon-free language.
-  Focus on funding excellence, originality and potential.
-  The IRC budget is extremely limited & we get thousands of applications:
  - How can you make your application stand out?
  - Think about potential outputs/dissemination

# General Assessor Comments...

## (why applicants do/don't get funded)

- ✿ Awareness of ethical considerations;
- ✿ Feasibility;
- ✿ Need for clear methodological approaches;
- ✿ Relevant skills – e.g. languages;
- ✿ Choice of Mentors & HEI;
- ✿ Proofread your completed application carefully before submitting.



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AN ROINN | DEPARTMENT OF  
OIDEACHAIS | EDUCATION  
AGUS SCILEANNA | AND SKILLS



National Development Plan 2007 - 2013