

Innovation Advisory Programme

Project Outline:

BIM's Seafood Innovation Hub will request applications from third level institutions for specific innovation advisory services across several disciplines. The proposed innovation advisory service during 2022 includes three themes of food sciences, financial commerce and sustainability marketing.

The applications for innovation advisory services will only be received from registered third level institutions and the services will be applied to category issues within the seafood sector and results disseminated to the industry. The innovation advisory services will be managed from BIM's Seafood Innovation Hub to deliver on specific industry challenges.

Project Objectives:

The project objective is to utilise third level institutions as a wealth of expertise to the application on a number of technologies including nutrition, food science, gastronomy, culinary blends, information technology, data analysis, financial applications, and market insights. This expertise will be used to support the delivery of specific innovation projects on behalf of BIM to include;

- Innovation advisory support on the application of market insights to seafood products, with sustainability as a market driver.
- Innovation advisory support on the application of functional seafood to consumers to meet market drivers as part of sustainability agenda.
- Innovation advisory support on the application of sustainable packaging for seafood processing to include materials, equipment and costs.
- Innovation advisory support on the application of digital platforms to implement quality and accredited systems to meet buyers interface requirements.
- Innovation advisory support on the application of 'green' financing for seafood business including economics advantages of 'green' funding.

Expected Benefits:

The benefit is a substantial opportunity for Irish seafood to take the innovation lead on key sectoral issues in some science and technology areas. The industry can build on its comparative strengths while positioning itself long-term in key enabling technologies and new market opportunities. This requires a capacity for a rapid response, to meet an ever faster changing business environment.

Ireland can contribute on achieving the United Nations Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. These global challenges, collectively agreed on by 193 countries, align Member State and EU R&I policies with the global agenda, improving policy coherence and providing a sustainable growth of European research and innovation. Applied innovative research projects are commercially exploited faster and more easily which leads to:

- successful market-oriented exploitation of platform technologies is linked to the ability to fully exploit the whole range of potential applications
- involvement of industry in consortia increases the success rate of market-oriented exploitation
- vertical integration (i.e. including the whole value chain) is a success factor for market-oriented exploitation

A benefit of this alignment is the ability to ensure the transformation of knowledge corresponds to non-linear, complex relation between the research outcome produced in a project and a technology, product or service can be made available to the market through industry partners.

Projected Cost: €255,000