

Introducing the Research Division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

This is the first edition of the newsletter of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Research Division. This newsletter is designed to give an overview of DAFF-funded research, to present opportunities for research funding in the EU, and to keep readers updated on policy developments. The DAFF Research Division manages publicly-funded agriculture, food and forestry research programmes:

- *The Food Institutional Research Measure (FIRM)*: FIRM is the primary national funding mechanism for food research in third level colleges and research institutes with the aim to develop public good technologies that will underpin a competitive, innovative and sustainable food manufacturing and marketing sector.
- *The Research Stimulus Fund (RSF)*: RSF provides funding, on a competitive basis, to the Irish research institutes for 'public good' agricultural production related research. The main aims of the programme are to facilitate research that fills gaps in the mainstream programme, to support sustainable and competitive agricultural

production practices and policies, and contribute to building and maintaining a knowledge economy and research capability in the agriculture sector.

- *Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development (COFORD)*: COFORD provides funding, on a competitive basis, to the Irish research institutes for 'public good' research that addresses forestry policy and priorities, and transferring the knowledge generated into practice.

In addition, we provide the National Delegate and National Contact Point for Theme Area: Food, Agriculture & Fisheries, and Biotechnology (FAFB) of the *EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7)* to facilitate participation of Irish researchers in first-class, international research.

The Research Division, headed by Richard Howell, has a Scientific wing and an Administrative wing:

- The Scientific wing provides the know-how on developing the research agenda, on research priorities for calls, on arranging the scientific assessments of applications, and on



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monitoring the technical progress of funded projects.

- The Administrative wing manages the administrative aspects of the three national competitive programmes including budgets, grant payments, and finances generally.

The Division, which falls under the remit of the Department's Chief Inspector, Dr Dave Beehan, is also actively involved in research policy development generally and in representing DAFF sectoral research interests in the various fora that support the Government's Strategy for Science, Technology & Innovation (SSTI) including the Inter Departmental Committee of STI.

See www.agriculture.gov.ie/research/ for more information on DAFF's Research programmes.



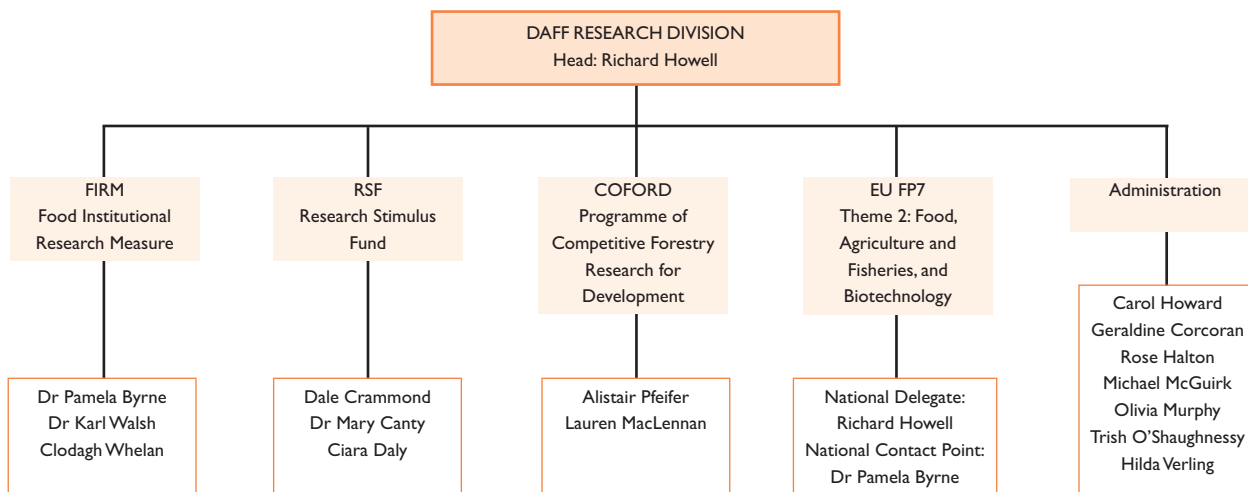
▲ Minister Brendan Smith T.D., Dr Dave Beehan (DAFF), Ms Maive Rute (DG Research), and Dr Ciaran Mangan (DG Research) at the EU FP7 conference at Backweston (see article on page 6).

In this issue:

- 1 Introducing the Research Division of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
- 2 Administrative wing - supporting the research programmes
- 2 Research Stimulus Fund - public good agriculture research
- 3 A FIRM foundation for food research
- 4 COFORD - Forest research for development
- 5 Getting involved in FP7
- 6 Joint Programming to address major societal challenges

Events and publications

- 6 Strengthening Ireland's FP7 involvement - Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnology (FAFB)
- 7 Meeting the challenges of climate change
- 7 Heads of European Forest Research Institutes meet in Dublin
- 8 COFORD publishes 18 new forestry information notes



Administrative wing - supporting the research programmes

The support provided by the Administration team to the three Research Programmes, ranges from involvement in setting up a Research Call through to processing the award payments. Once grants are awarded, the general administration and correspondence with the project co-ordinators is dealt with by the administration team. They issue project guidelines to the project co-ordinators, follow up on progress reporting requirements and deal with any queries.

The team is also responsible for monitoring expenditure under each programme and providing management information. The Research Division's administration wing is headed by Carol Howard (email: carol.howard@agriculture.gov.ie).



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Research Stimulus Fund - public good agriculture research

The Research Stimulus Fund (RSF) is DAFF's competitive public good agriculture research funding programme. RSF's principal objectives are to:

- Support sustainable and competitive agricultural production practices and policies.
- Contribute to building and maintaining a knowledge economy and a scientific research capability in the agriculture sector.
- Facilitate research that fills gaps in the mainstream agricultural production research programmes.
- Build research capacity within Irish institutes to enable them to compete successfully for international funding, e.g. FP7.

RSF funds projects across a number of theme areas, namely animal production/health, plant

production/health, agri-environment, agri-economy and policy, and climate change/agri-energy. Broadly speaking, each of the current RSF projects fits into one of these five theme areas.

Approximately, €43.5m was committed to the RSF programme to fund three calls in 2005, 2006 and 2007. Arising from this financial commitment, 85 projects were funded, of which 83 are ongoing.

Teagasc and third level institutes in the Republic of Ireland are the major recipients of RSF funding. However, in the 2007 call, nine projects were funded that have collaborative involvement from Northern Ireland institutes. This cross-border collaborative research element of RSF is crucial in building critical mass on the island of Ireland as many of the challenges facing the agricultural sectors in the Republic and Northern Ireland are similar.



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For links to project information including project title and abstract and contact details for the lead researcher, see www.agriculture.gov.ie/research/researchstimulusfundrsf

A FIRM foundation for food research

FIRM (*The Food Institutional Research Measure*) is the public good food research funding programme administered by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Since 2000, FIRM has invested €160m to support the development of food research capability and critical mass in Irish research institutions. The main objectives of the programme are to provide generic technologies for use by the Irish food industry; to assure consumer safety and to disseminate the outputs of the research to the end users.

FIRM supports the development of collaborative research teams across institutions in specific areas of food research through projects. Over the past five years FIRM has also developed new initiatives that have strengthened the research base, provided Irish food researchers with strategic equipment to enable interactions with industry and other research teams, and up-skilled young researchers so they can pursue careers in the food industry.

High calibre research requires a wide range of knowledge, skills and technology, often beyond the resources of one single research institution. The development of research teams from a number of institutions to combine expertise to fill research gaps and find solutions to complement existing knowledge in key areas of food research was the aim of the Networking and Teambuilding Initiative launched in 2007. Three networks were funded through the Initiative; each is expected to provide a comprehensive research resource for the Irish food sector and will compete strongly in EU collaborative research.

To compete internationally and to develop collaborations with industry, Irish food researchers require access to state of the art equipment. In 2007, €2.5m was awarded for the purchase of equipment to improve the physical infrastructure and to encourage sharing between research institutions. This fund, awarded to five Principle Investigators in three research

institutions, has enabled close interaction with industry in the development of new processes and products and allows researchers from other research teams to access strategic equipment to develop their areas of research.

FIRM was the first funding programme in Ireland to develop a specific Graduate Development Programme in Food (www.foodpostgrad.ie). The programme aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of food science researchers through specialised food-based training modules. Training modules in this programme are highly specialised and place a strong emphasis on the development of a range of skills required by young Irish researchers to acquire successful careers in the food sector, nationally and internationally.

In 2007, FIRM and the Health Research Board funded five research projects under the Food for Health Research Initiative (FHRI). This initiative (approx. €25 million) supports a comprehensive research programme built on strategic state investment in research capacity over the past 15 years, maintaining Ireland's reputation as leaders in food and health research.

Advances have been made in terms of capacity-building in food and health research in Ireland, North and South, and in creating new international collaborations. This has raised the profile of Irish research and increased the scientific knowledge base. Ongoing advice and expertise is being made available to the project by personnel in the Department of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, the Department of Health and Children, the Health Research Board, and the Health Service Executive. This ensures that projects are in line with the latest relevant policy and regulatory issues, and that government bodies and policymakers are kept abreast of new findings in food and health research.

FIRM supports the training and education of highly skilled researchers, ensuring that the research base has the



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capability, critical mass and know-how that the food industry can exploit. It provides Irish scientists with the support required to compete internationally and to be successful in attracting funding from outside Ireland. FIRM is continuously trying to add value to existing investments, developing new initiatives through consultation with the industry and other stakeholders and ensuring that the programme continues to support excellent science to underpin the food industry for the future.

FIRM is consulting with all stakeholders to develop a National Strategy in Food Research which will be finalised in autumn 2010. This strategy will identify the future of food research in Ireland and will ensure that the research that is funded in the future will benefit all stakeholders including industry.

There are challenging times ahead. We need to ensure that the important outputs of the FIRM programme, both academic and commercial, are recognised by all and that these outputs will deliver real value for the Irish economy.

RELAY – a project funded by FIRM – is dedicated to disseminating the outputs of FIRM-funded food research to all potential end users, particularly the Irish food industry. Based in Teagasc, Moorepark, Co Cork, RELAY works closely with the Technology Transfer Offices of Irish universities and with Enterprise Ireland, via DAFF, in order to identify and protect, at an appropriately early stage, potentially exploitable research outputs for the benefit of Ireland Inc. See www.relayresearch.ie for information on projects funded under this programme.

COFORD - Forest research for development

COFORD (National Council for Forest Research and Development), formerly an agency of DAFF, was fully subsumed into the Department in August 2009. Now titled *Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development*, the objectives of the COFORD programme are the development of national forest R&D policy; formulation and implementation of programmes to address priorities; and dissemination of research findings to policy makers and practitioners.

Funding forest research projects/programmes

Since its formation in 1994, COFORD has been the main funding source for forest research in Ireland. Projects funded employ approximately 70 full time equivalent researchers annually. Students and staff from the major universities are the main research providers with Coillte and Teagasc their principal collaborators.

The programme has 13 thematic areas grouped under three main topics:

- *Establishing and Growing Forests:* Forest reproductive material; Silviculture; Forest planning and management; Forest health and protection
- › *Harvesting and products:* Forest harvesting and transport; Wood energy; Wood products; Non-wood products
- *Policy and public goods:* Forest economics and policy; Forest and climate change; Forests biodiversity; Forests and water; Forest recreation

In total 50 projects are currently being funded, covering all areas except forest recreation which will be the subject of a future call for proposals.

Networking and Knowledge Transfer

The ability of researchers to network with national and international colleagues is a necessity to ensure good communications and facilitate

collaboration on projects and is especially important for a small country like Ireland. The COFORD programme provides opportunities for researchers to hold seminars and workshops and visit other countries and institutions overseas through working visits and travel and mobility grants. While funding amounts are modest, they have proven to be very effective and beneficial for the researchers and the sector in general.

Dissemination of research findings

COFORD's active dissemination programme was transferred to DAFF Research Division along with the projects. Activities include publishing reports and information notes arising from the projects, newsletters on current developments and events in the forestry sector, the organising of seminars and workshops and the maintenance of the website www.coford.ie. The website is an important information portal for forest research in Ireland where details on the projects funded under the COFORD programme may be accessed along with the wide range of information notes and reports derived from the programme.

Wood Wisdom-Net

DAFF Research Division is also actively involved in the WoodWisdom II ERA-NET. This transnational funding programme in the field of wood material science and engineering currently has 19 partners from 12 European countries, with additional funding organisations connected to the network. DAFF is participating in the management of the ERA-NET with particular responsibility for the dissemination aspects of the programme.

Currently a Third Call for Proposals is being prepared, with two main themes: *Forest for multiple needs of society* and *Advanced products and technologies for wood processing and manufacturing wood*



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and fibre-based products. The call is due to be launched in September 2010. Under the call there will be opportunities for Irish researchers to participate in international consortia submitting proposals for funding. Researchers of successful proposals will be funded by their respective national funding agencies, i.e. DAFF in the case of Irish researchers.

For more information on the upcoming Call and other WoodWisdom-Net activities see www.woodwisdom.net



Getting involved in FP7

The EU's 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) is the largest public good research fund in the world with an investment of €50bn over the 7 year programme. Our interest lies mainly in *Theme 2: Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology*. However, we often highlight the opportunities that exist beyond Theme 2 and in particular the Marie Curie Programme, Research for the Benefit of SMEs and Infrastructures.

How do I go about getting involved?

FP7 can be a daunting challenge, particularly for those who haven't been in it before. However, over the years DAFF has built its research programmes to mirror the requirements of FP7, investing heavily in building competence and capability so researchers can get involved in international research. Our success is the best of any discipline in Ireland in terms of the percentage of overall available budget that we bring home.

There are a number of key steps in getting involved:

1. Get access to the forthcoming topics at an early stage. Other researchers across Europe are building consortia well before the call opens
2. Draw up a hit list of who has been funded in the area in the past and ring them....email only gets deleted!
3. Get out and meet them using the support of the EI travel grant
4. Have a clear sales pitch on why you should be included.

It is essential to get out there and get networking. If you get into a group that is dynamic the opportunities are massive.

The Shannon ABC Experience

Shannon Applied Biotechnology Centre is a joint venture between Limerick IT and Tralee IT. They had no previous track record in FP7.

How did you go about getting involved? We had a look around at the various options open to us for funding. In the current climate we were conscious of the need to

look at non exchequer funding and knew that if we wanted to develop momentum for the future we needed to be active in FP7. We started by contacting the National Contact Point (NCP) and met with him at Shannon ABC to tour the facility and to give us an overview of FP7. We identified a particular topic that we felt we could lead and we progressed from there.

At what stage did you start planning? We were aware from discussions with the NCP that anyone serious about winning in FP7 needed to start their work in early 2009, even though the call was not to be announced until July. We were spelling out work packages and building a consortium as early as April 2009.

As new entrants to FP were you apprehensive? Absolutely! FP7 is a massive programme with a low success rate and you hear a lot of stories from the sceptics that it is a done deal with established groups already predetermined. Our attitude was to go for it, to build the best team we could. We were determined to build a consortium that would help us learn the programme and benefit us after the call regardless of whether we were successful or not.

How did you pull the consortium together? Our project was led by a few energetic people in Shannon ABC. We got Dr Catherine Halbert (Halbert Research) as a project mentor through funding provided by the IOTI and EI. Her experience was vital. We brought in an Irish SME partner (Algae Health Ltd.) and we contacted a number of EU partners. We used a partnering event in Brussels organised by BIOCircle to make a presentation on our ambitions. There were a number of interested groups arising out of that event and we pieced together the expertise we needed based on the call topic.

What was the result? We scored 13 out of 15 and our project, BAMMBO 'Sustainable production of biologically active molecules of marine based origin' got funded. We have 11 partners in the project from 8 different countries including Brazil and Russia.

What would you say to other Irish researchers looking to get involved? Talk to your NCP early. Stay on his or her radar. Get an idea of what's coming. Start with the call text and finish with the call text. Everything you need to address is in there and don't let others pull it in a direction that the Commission did not intend. The danger is that a project can get pulled to pet areas - don't let that happen. Put together your ideas. The only way you can build a good consortium and a top class proposal is by doing it yourself. The only ones who will bring the required enthusiasm and drive are the people involved. Get talking to the right people in DG Research. They are helpful and their door is open. Don't get over anxious the first time out. You have to have a long term plan and learn from the experience.

Danny Walsh and Patrick Murray
Shannon ABC

Comment from the National Contact Point

Shannon ABC's experience is a model for others to follow. Their positive attitude and proactive approach saw them beat some of the heavy hitters in Europe on their first time out as co-ordinators. The simple lesson is to get active early and to bring in the required expertise that matches the topic as opposed to rejigging an existing team.

For more information about FP7

- [Get on the NCPs mailing list](#)
- www.fp7ireland.com
- [Register as an FP7 expert evaluator on https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/index.cfm](https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/index.cfm)
- [Study the Strategic Research Agenda of the relevant Technology Platform for your area which are industry led groups defining the European Research Agenda](#)
- [General details on FP7 are available on http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html)

Joint Programming to address major societal challenges

Today's major societal challenges include addressing climate change, ensuring energy and food supply or a healthy ageing of citizens. European national research programmes cannot tackle these challenges alone, so the European Council of March 2008 called on the Commission and Member States to explore the potential of Joint Programming by European national research programmes, asking for joint activities to be launched by 2010.

The aim of Joint Programming is to pool national research efforts to make better use of Europe's public R&D resources and to tackle common European challenges more effectively in a few key areas. It will follow a structured strategic process whereby Member States agree common visions and strategic research agendas to address major societal challenges. Joint Programming is a new process combining a strategic framework, a bottom-up approach and high-level commitment from Member States. It builds on the experience gained from existing schemes coordinating national programmes.

Suitable Joint Programming areas are identified by a High Level Group on Joint Programming (GPC from the French "Groupe de Programmation Conjointe") consisting of nominees from Member States and the Commission, following a thorough consultation of stakeholders. Based on the result of the GPC, the Council, upon a proposal by the Commission, recommends a limited number of areas in which to implement Joint Programming in priority. From there on, participation of Member States in each initiative is "à la carte", based on voluntary commitments leading to partnerships composed of variable groups of countries. For each initiative, participating countries will start with:

- Developing a shared vision for the area;
- Defining a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) and SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound); and
- Preparing for implementation of the SRA by analysing the options, assessing expected impacts and defining the best mix of instruments to be used.

The Commission facilitates the identification process and supports Member States for Joint Programming as necessary.

In April 2010 the Commission put forward recommendations inviting Member States to launch two Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs) of relevance to the Irish agri-food sector - one entitled "A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Life" and the second entitled "Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change".

The Commission has agreed to facilitate these efforts by:

- Financing support actions to their management;
- Launching possible complementary measures to actions undertaken jointly by participating countries as identified in each JPI Strategic Research Agenda;
- Linking the JPIs to international actions and bodies where the Commission represents the EU;
- Reporting on the JPI progress to the Council and the European Parliament.

Ireland, in recognition of the importance of these two JPIs and the significant Irish research capacity and critical mass in these research areas, is involved in the interim management boards of both JPIs.

EVENTS & PUBLICATIONS

Strengthening Ireland's FP7 involvement - Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnology (FAFB)

On 29 April 2010 DAFF held a conference in the Shared Facilities Building, Backweston Campus, Celbridge, Co Kildare on Strengthening Ireland's F7 Involvement. The purpose of the conference was two-fold: firstly, to promote Theme 2 of FP7 (Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology); secondly, to launch a booklet detailing Irish success in the first three years of the programme.

The attendance was reflective of the interest in FP7 funding opportunities, with over 130 delegates. The conference began with an address by Minister Brendan Smith, T.D., who launched the booklet detailing the 30 successful Irish participants to date who have secured over €8m in research funding for Ireland.

The Minister paid tribute to the 30 successful Irish researchers and, in particular, the two Irish co-ordinators - Professors Mike Gibney and Patrick Wall, both from the

UCD Food and Health Institute.

We were very fortunate to have the keynote address delivered by Ms Maive Rute, Director of Unit E (Biotechnology, Food and Agriculture) in DG Research. Maive gave an overview of the policy drivers behind the programme and the Commission's vision for 2020. This is highly important in the future direction of EU research funding. Other speakers included:

- Dr Imelda Lambkin (National Director FP7) told us about how Ireland is doing overall and how we compare with other member states.
- Dr Frank O'Mara (Teagasc) gave a practical example of what a strategy for FP7 involvement looks like.
- Dr Sean Burke's (Enterprise Ireland) presentation highlighted significant opportunities for SMEs and in particular SME associations.

- Geoffrey O'Sullivan (Marine Institute) gave us a review of where we are at in fisheries and marine and the future direction of research in the area.

The last two speakers provided practical advice to researchers involved or getting involved in FP7:

- Prof. Mike Gibney (UCD) gave a very interesting presentation on coordinating and how you do it. Among other things he pointed out that those who say co-ordination is horrible and impossible have never done it!
- Paul O'Reilly (DIT) showed us the pitfalls to avoid in evaluation. He stressed the need to always consider the evaluator and sell the proposal. He also encouraged Irish researchers to register with the Commission as an evaluator as this provides an excellent opportunity to get exposure to the process.



Download the report *Irish Success in the EU 7th Framework Programme 2007-2009 Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology - A summary of successful Irish participation in Theme 2 of the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development* along with the presentations from the day from www.agriculture.gov.ie/research/eu7thframeworkprogrammefp7/.

Meeting the challenges of climate change

RSF and COFORD set up an information stand at the climate change conference organised by the EPA at the new AVIVA stadium on 20 June.

The RSF has invested €15.5 million in the period 2005-2007 in the areas methane mitigation, nitrous oxide, soil carbon, and agri-energy, across 27 research projects. The main objectives of the research theme are to investigate GHG mitigation strategies; investigate potential of biofuel/biomass crops; and build research capacity within Irish institutes to compete successfully for FP7 funding.

The key objective of COFORD's CLI-MIT programme is to provide stakeholders with tools and knowledge for formulating and achieving effective mitigation and adaptation policies. The objectives of this research programme are firmly based on policy requirements in terms of Ireland and Kyoto reporting commitments, and government/forest policy in relation to future climate change. More information on projects in this programme can be found at www.coford.ie.

Heads of European Forest Research Institutes meet in Dublin

The heads of national forest research institutes from around Europe meet every two years to discuss issues of common interest. This year the meeting took place in Dublin, hosted by COFORD.

Mr Seán Connick, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with responsibility for forestry, officially opened the meeting which was held at the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin from 5 to 7 July 2010. Representatives from 15 European countries, as well as the European Forest Institute, based in Finland attended.

Opening the meeting, Minister of State Connick stressed the importance of such a meeting as "It affords a unique opportunity for participants to share approaches to solving common research issues, and to explore ways to better cooperate, and in some cases, pool scarce resources".

The Minister of State noted that "Ireland's tradition in forest research dates back to the middle of the last century" and that it

"remains an essential part of our drive to expand forest cover over the coming decades". He added "that funding for forest research under the various headings of the COFORD programme has doubled in real terms since 1994, to reach close on €4m today. R&D and innovation investment in the wood supply chain by other state agencies, principally Enterprise Ireland, Teagasc and Coillte brings the annual level of investment close to €8 million". Minister of State Connick stressed that "Investment in research needs to be strongly linked to value-for-money outcomes in terms of policies and practices. As well as supporting competitiveness, it must address society's needs in areas such as climate change mitigation and water quality. It must look outwards to policy processes, and engage and advise the policy makers." He highlighted the example of TreeMetrics - a young Irish company that has developed novel ways to measure trees and noted that their product offering

grew out of research that was part-funded under the COFORD programme and through collaboration with a number of European forest-research institutions. "Such collaboration is, in our view, highly desirable and likely to greatly increase in the future, as we seek ways to get better value from scarce resources".



Risto Päivinen (EFI), Eugene Hendrick (COFORD), and Niels Elers Koch (University of Copenhagen) with Minister Sean Connick TD

COFORD publishes 18 new forestry information notes

The COFORD Connects series of practical information notes started in 2003, and review various aspects of forestry, with an emphasis on practical recommendations. The notes cover six broad areas: Reproductive Material; Silviculture and Forest Management; Harvesting, Transport and Forest Machinery; Wood Processing and Product Development; Socio-Economic Aspects of Forestry; and Forestry and the Environment.

COFORD recently produced 18 new information notes as part of the COFORD Connects series. These notes are available to download from www.coford.ie and cover the following topics of interest to the forest industry:

Reproductive material

- Economic benefits and guidelines for planting improved Washington Sitka spruce
- Irish oak – genetic diversity and the Iberian connection

Silviculture and Management

- Assessing the potential for spreading fertiliser in forests using ground-based machines
- A preliminary evaluation of the application of multi-return LiDAR for forestry in Ireland
- The Avondale initiative 1905

Harvesting and Transport

- Units, conversion factors and formulae for wood for energy
- Fuel consumption of timber haulage versus general haulage
- Harvesting birch woodland on cutaway peat for wood chip production
- Producing firewood from broadleaf first thinnings
- Whole-tree harvesting of softwood first thinnings for energy wood chip production, chemical thinning
- A synthesis and comparison of forest energy harvesting methods in conifer plantations
- A synthesis and comparison of forest energy harvesting methods in broadleaves

Products and Processing

- An overview of the Irish wood-based biomass sector in 2007-2008
- Preview of European standards for solid biofuels
- An overview of the 2009 UNECE Timber Committee Meeting

Socio-economic Aspects

- Modelling the economics of forestry in Ireland - the returns to farm afforestation

Environmental Aspects

- The use of forested landscapes by Hen Harriers in Ireland
- The greenhouse gas balance of peatland forest

Other publications

A number of other publications, including research project reports and books, have been produced, many of which can be downloaded, free of charge, as pdfs from www.coford.ie. Hard copies can be purchased from Government Publications (email: pubsales@opw.ie). Recently published titles include:

- *Forest fungi in Ireland* - Louis Smith and Paul Dowding
- *If trees could talk – Wicklow's trees and woodlands over four centuries* - Michael Carey
- *A review of past and current research on short rotation coppice in Ireland and abroad* - Jane Wickham, Bernard Rice, John Finnan and Rory McConnon
- *Roundwood production from private sector forests 2009-2028. A geospatial forecast* - Henry Phillips, John Redmond, Máirtín Mac Siúrtáin and Anita Nemesova

In addition, a monthly email newsletter is produced - to subscribe or to view current and previous issues, go to http://www.coford.ie/iopen24/newsletter-c-0_1180.html.

Contribute to the next issue of this newsletter

As one of the main aims of this newsletter is to promote the research funded by DAFF, researchers are invited to contribute articles for inclusion in future issues of this newsletter. The newsletter will be produced four times a year and will be distributed mainly via email as pdf files. Articles should be written in popular style, highlighting achievements and advances made, also listing any papers published or dissemination activities. The length of the articles should be approximately 250 words, with contact details of the corresponding author at the end.

Send your contribution for the December issue of ResearchNEWS to:

Lauren MacLennan (email: lauren.maclennan@agriculture.gov.ie) before 29 October 2010.