



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Irish Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) eligible for the purposes of applying for funding under the DAFM's Competitive Research Funding Programmes

DAFM's three competitive research funding programmes - Food Institutional Research Measure (FIRM), Research Stimulus Fund (RSF) and Forestry Research (CoFoRD) fund research relating to agriculture, food, and forestry and related bio-economy activities.

Funding provided through the Department programmes is for public good research that supports a sustainable and competitive agri-food and forestry sector, informs related practices and policies, and contributes to building and maintaining a knowledge economy and research capability in the areas covered.

Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) eligible to apply for funding under these programmes are those institutions which fall within the meaning of Section One of the HEA Act, 1971 (e.g. Universities & Institutes of Technology), Teagasc, the Marine Institute, Irish Cattle Breeding Federation, BirdWatch Ireland and the National Botanic Gardens. Having Lead or Partner status allows an RPO to apply for funding under these programmes and, if successful, confers on it, and/or the researchers involved, certain rights and obligations relating to authorship of scientific publications and intellectual property arising from the research funded.

Other organisations that do not have partner status may also be involved in projects e.g. Industry can participate on a self-financing basis subject to the need to respect the 'public good' nature of DAFM Research Funding programmes and compliance with the National IP Protocol; and External assistance can also be brought on board by a Project Lead/ Partner subject to certain conditions, which are set out in the relevant Call Guidelines.

Application to become an Eligible Research Performing Organisation (RPO) Partner under the FIRM, RSF and CoFoRD programmes:

In recognition of the contribution that other publicly funded Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) can make to Ireland's agri-food and forestry research base, other RPOs may also be eligible, subject to a qualification process, to apply for funding under the FIRM, RSF and CoFoRD programmes. Only eligible RPOs that are approved in advance of the opening of any competitive grant Call that DAFM is funding or co-funding are eligible for grant aid in that Call.

In this regard, a RPO would possess an existing in-house capacity to carry out research that materially extends and enhances the Irish agri-food and forest research base and be in a position to demonstrate an independent capability to undertake and lead research projects/programmes.

RPOs can apply to become eligible for the purposes of these programmes and the eligibility criteria are set out below:

- 1) The organisation must be a legal entity
- 2) It must be a publicly funded organisation whose primary goal (accounts for more than 50% of its activities) is to independently undertake research and innovation activities and widely disseminate the results of such activities by way of teaching, publication or knowledge transfer
- 3) The organisation must possess an existing in-house capacity to carry out research that extends and enhances the Irish research base in the agri-food and forest sectors and be able to demonstrate an independent capability to undertake and lead research programmes, as demonstrated by:
 - Sufficient high-quality current research capacity,
 - A track record of staff that have led or co-led innovative research projects, including directing postdoctoral researchers over the previous five years;
 - Sufficient financial support for research at the organisational level to ensure the availability of essential infrastructure.
- 4) Organisations must ensure that the results of any research funded by the Department are made publicly available to the agri-food and forest sector at no cost, subject to the provisions of the National IP Protocol.

If the status of the eligible organisation then the eligibility to apply to our programmes would require re-consideration and a revised application should be submitted.



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Application to become an eligible Research Performing Organisation Partner for the purposes of applying for funding under DAFM's Competitive Research funding programmes - FIRM, RSF and CoFoRD

1. Organisational Details

a) Name of Organisation:

b) Organisation details:

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

c) Objective of the Organisation:

d) Legal Status:

e) Registration No. (e.g. including registered charity no.):

2. Research Function, Activities & Facilities

a) Please outline the research mandate, strategy and objectives of your organisation (Please attach max. 2 pages):

4. Documentation to be provided with application:

- a) A copy of the most recent Annual Report (if applicable)
- b) A signed copy of the most recent audited/certified Financial Statements
- c) A copy of the organisation's current Tax Clearance Certificate
- d) Copies of other relevant organisational policies which support the application e.g. Good Research Practice (GRP) and policy for dealing with allegations of scientific misconduct

Signature of Applicant (e.g. CEO, Head of Research):

_____ Date: _____

Position in Organisation: _____

Please forward the completed application form and all accompanying documentation by email to research@agriculture.gov.ie or by registered post to:

**Research Division
6 West
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02 WK12**