



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Postdoctoral Researcher

**School of Natural Sciences and School of Engineering,
Ryan Institute
College of Science and Engineering**

Ref. No. 011286

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a Full time, fixed term position as a Postdoctoral Researcher with School of Natural Sciences (<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/science/school-of-natural-sciences/>) and School of Engineering (<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/engineering-informatics/civil-engineering/>), and Ryan Institute (<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/ryaninstitute/>) at the University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by PEACEPLUS PROGRAMME (Special EU Programmes Body) innovation challenge (www.seupb.eu/peaceplus) on the Technological Revolution towards a Agri-food Circular Economy (TRACE) project. The position is available from 1st September 2025 to contract end date of 30th June 2029.

The TRACE project aims to establish a cross-border innovation hub to transform the agri-food sector in Northern Ireland (NI) and the Republic of Ireland (ROI), with a focus on the Products of Animal Origin (POAO) supply chain. By applying advanced technologies, TRACE will improve efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and strengthen cross-border trade. The POAO trade is crucial to both economies—NI's agri-food sector contributes £5bn annually and supports over 113,000 jobs. Yet, disruptions from Brexit, the pandemic, and new regulations have created bottlenecks and raised sustainability concerns. TRACE will deploy technologies like hyperspectral imaging, computer vision, IoT sensors, and blockchain to monitor food quality, safety and animal welfare in real-time and enhance transparency. AI and machine learning will analyse data from pilot sites to identify inefficiencies and opportunities. TRACE will strengthen innovation, sustainability, and competitiveness in the POAO sector, aligning with initiatives like the Shared Island Fund and City Deals, and equipping SMEs to meet future challenges.

Salary: Postdoctoral Researcher salary scale €46,305 - €59,063 per annum, (subject to the project's funding limitations), and pro rata for shorter and/or part-time contracts.

The default position for all new public sector appointments is the 1st point of the salary scale. This may be reviewed, and consideration afforded to appointment at a higher point on the payscale (subject to the project's funding limitations), where evidence of prior years' equivalent experience is accepted in determining placement on the scale above point 1, subject to the maximum of the scale.

[\(Research Salary Scales - University of Galway\)](#)



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NB: Garda vetting is a requirement for this post (as appropriate to Child Protection Policy)

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on 12th September 2025. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

Interviews are planned to be held via Teams following the closing of the application.

***Please review full job description for further details and essential requirement**

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description:

The successful candidate will be responsible for undertaking the research tasks, achieving the deliveries and milestones of the TRACE project. More specifically the **duties include:**

- Design and coordinate research studies on multiple pilot sites.
- Undertake and support laboratory analysis on collected samples inc. nutritional, physiological, molecular, and food quality.
- Assist with sustainability assessments inc. life cycle inventory and assessment.
- Communicate and work with other research partners, pilot sites, and stakeholders in achieving research deliverables and milestones.
- Leading and contributing to peer-reviewed academic journal publications in high impact journals and associated communication, dissemination and education, public engagement, and training activities.
- Support student training and mentoring.
- Assist with funding proposals and bidding of projects.
- Day to day project management including data curation and processing, technical reporting, procurement, health and safety compliances, and meeting project milestones and deliverables.
- Any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Essential Requirements:

- Holds a PhD degree in the research area of marine biology, zoology, and/or biochemistry.
- Strong track record in managing projects and undertaking scientific studies to completion.
- Previous track record working in the research field of fisheries and/or aquaculture or similar, including undertaking aquatic invert or fish research trials.
- Due the nature of the project, the candidate will need to hold an **Irish/EU/UK driving licence** (this needs to be stated during the application process).
- Excellent communication and dissemination skills including in academic, industry and public settings.
- Track record in scientific publishing.
- Experience in molecular and bioinformatics studies, animal welfare indicators and/or nutritional chemistry.



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- Excellent technical report and scientific writing skills in English.
- Experience in laboratory management.

Desirable Requirements:

- Ideally possess their own vehicle to travel to pilot sites.
- Hold qualification in either LAST Ireland or UK ASPA, or equivalent.
- Past experience in research grant writing and funding success.
- Experience in managing multiple projects.
- Experience in training and mentoring students and researchers.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Professional Development/Training:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION/LINKS

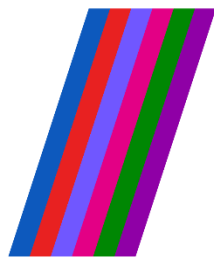
- **TO APPLY:** [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online.
 - [How to apply guide](#)
- For informal enquiries, please contact Dr Alex Wan, School of Natural Sciences, Email alex.wan@universityofgalway.ie
- [University's Strategic Plan](#)
- [Working in Research at University of Galway](#)
- [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)
- [Applicant Information](#)
- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.



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PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



European Union



UK Government



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Northern Ireland
Executive
www.northernireland.gov.uk