

The IUA is the National Contact Point for the Marie Curie Programme in Ireland. The office provides advice and support to researchers, research active organisations and companies in submitting their proposals and in managing their Marie Curie Projects.

Comments from researchers and companies on our service:

"Interaction with the people at the Marie Curie Office at IUA has proven to be a valuable resource, and one that EiRx would strongly recommend potential applicants to fully utilize. IUA colleagues were on hand to assist our application and above all to help us clearly communicate the value of our proposal."

EiRx Therapeutics, Cork,
Finbarr Murphy, Managing Director

"The most important factor in Aughinish's success in getting Marie Curie funding was the help and guidance provided by the IUA. The IUA encouraged Aughinish to widen its vision of R&D. Without them our application would have been limited, seriously flawed and probably would have failed. Their help and guidance helped us put together a focused proposal which pressed all the right buttons."

Aughinish Alumina, Limerick,
Martin Fennell, Managing Director

"We had previously submitted our programme unsuccessfully to a prior round of funding and the office identified the structural defects within the programme, while permitting us to maintain the consistency in the scientific output that we required"

Institute for Molecular Medicine, Trinity College Dublin,
Prof. Dermot Kelleher

"The IUA was enormously helpful in aiding us to secure our first award by encouraging us to re-apply after being turned down the first time around. They cast a professional eye over our application and pointed out certain (non-scientific) flaws, which we could then rectify. They also recommended that we change our application and actually request more person-months than we had originally asked for ...their reasoning? "it shows ambition" It worked!"

Environmental Change Institute, NUI Galway,
Prof. John Simmie

Key Contacts

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For further information on upcoming workshops log on to the IUA website: www.iua.ie/marie_curie/index.html

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The Marie Curie Programme is Ireland's major success story in terms of EU funding for research.

The last opportunity to apply for R&D funding from this programme is January 2006. €450million is available – its your Call.



UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN
Trinity College



NUI MAYNOOTH
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad

Research income from the Marie Curie Programme, over the past 3 years, amounts to an impressive €42m – or more than 30% of the entire funding Ireland has received from FP6. This is despite the fact that the Marie Curie Programme is only a small part of FP6 (equating to 9% of the total budget available).

The funding has benefited researchers across all disciplines, including social sciences - in industry and academia. It enables research groups to attract researchers from abroad and provide funding to build R&D capability.

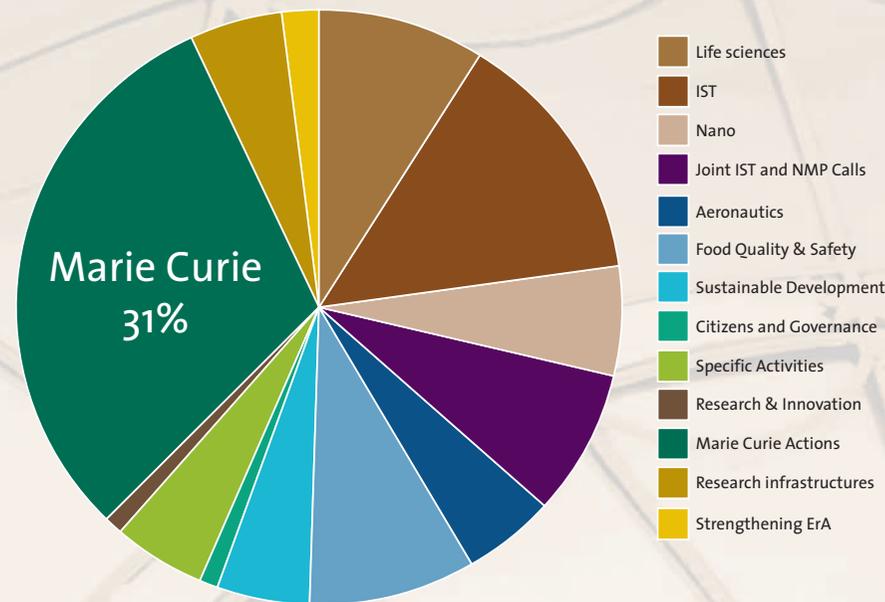
Irish success is evident as the European average share of funding for this programme is 3.7% while for Ireland it is 19.2%,

To date, Marie Curie income has enabled universities and companies to attract over 220 high quality researchers from around the world to Ireland.

Successful public research organisations funded are Dublin City University, NUI Galway, NUI Maynooth, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, University College Cork, University of Limerick, RCSI, DIAS, Teagasc, Tallaght IT and WIT.

Industry in Ireland sees huge benefit in Marie Curie and the programme now funds the top two multinational FP6 contracts and eight out of the top nine indigenous Irish-owned company contracts. The fact that partners are not required for most Marie Curie projects is a key advantage for organisations concerned about IP protection. Companies funded to date are Aughinish Alumina, Ericsson, NTERA, Allegro Technologies, Duolog, Celtic Catalysts, EirX Therapeutics, Cellix, Sigmoid and AquaTT.

The Marie Curie Programme covers the salary costs of researchers and contributes to research, management costs and overheads. Contract values vary between €150,000 for a single researcher up to €1.5million for a research team.



Breakdown of Total FP6 Income to Ireland by FP6 Programme

See the benefits of Marie Curie funding for yourself

Biology Department, NUI Maynooth, Shirley O’Dea, Principle Investigator

“The Marie Curie Grant appeared to be an ideal vehicle with which to obtain significant funding for the Department, enabling us to rapidly come up to speed on proteomics technologies as a means of identifying signaling pathways involved in lung disease processes.

World-class senior researchers with proteomics and lipidomics expertise are now being recruited through this Marie Curie Grant. These researchers will establish platform technologies that will significantly enhance the research capabilities of the associated research groups within the Department in terms of expertise, techniques, resources and research outputs.

In addition, the recruited researchers will be involved in teaching undergraduate and post-graduate students who will benefit greatly from the opportunity to learn about state-of-the-art technologies”.

NTERA, Dublin, Dave Corr, Chief Technology Officer

“Marie-Curie funding fulfils a direct need that most organisations that engage in R&D have - the access to expert knowledge and additional, relevant headcount.

In addition, IP is arguably the most sensitive issue small companies consider when becoming involved in collaborative projects. The Marie Curie programme allows companies to avail of funding with reference to their own IP protection policies.

The R&D creative process is significantly enhanced by enabling SMEs to hire from across the EU and cultural enrichment is a significant additional benefit.

The impact the project has had on the organisation is to allow us to hire a team of up to four experienced scientists - a significant expansion of capability in an SME”.

Microbiology Department, NUI Galway, Dr Aoife Boyd

“The Human Pathogen Cluster of the Microbiology Department at NUI Galway received funding from the Marie Curie Transfer of Knowledge initiative in order to strengthen our research capability for the study of bacterial pathogen-host interactions within the gastrointestinal tract.

The funding will support seven postdoctoral researchers with expertise in cell signalling and post-genomic technologies to train members of the Human Pathogen Cluster in these technologies while carrying out research within the Microbiology Department.

Additionally the project will fund two researchers to spend time abroad in partner laboratories in Finland and the UK to gain further insight into the capabilities of these technologies. The acquisition of these key research strengths will lead to a novel, high-impact research output and enable us to compete at an international level”.