

2012 Conference of Rectors and Presidents of European Universities of Technology Istanbul, Turkey

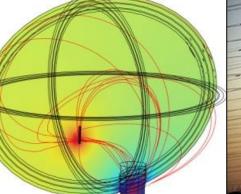
# **HORIZON 2020:** An Irish Perspective

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[Former Member of EURAB – Preparation of FP7] University College Dublin, Ireland College of Engineering & Architecture September 21 -22, 2012



Presentation slides prepared by Caroline Treacey, Research & Innovation Manager, UCD





#### Ireland in Europe

**Population:** 4.5 million people

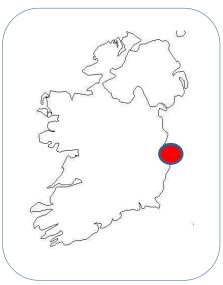
**Island:** It is the third largest island in Europe

Land Area: 70,282 km<sup>2</sup> (68,890 km<sup>2</sup>)

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Coastline: 1,448kms





# Ireland – Industry



- 8 out of top 10 pharmaceutical
- 8 out of top 10 technology
- 15 out of top 25 medical devices
- 50% of world's leading financial services
- US investment into Ireland greater than into Brazil, Russia, India, China combined

# **University College Dublin**

- Largest university in Ireland
- Most comprehensive range of degree programmes
- Founded in 1854 (Cardinal Newman)
- Has educated half of Ireland's Prime Ministers
- Belfield, the largest urban campus in Europe (350 acres)

Innovation – a third pillar in this plan Focus on Creativity





# **University College Dublin – Campus Development**





# **Overall Student Numbers**



- Total > 25,000
- Undergraduate > 18,000
- Graduate > 7,000

# **UCD Colleges**



- Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine
- Arts and Celtic Studies
- Business and Law
- Engineering and Architecture
- Health Sciences
- Human Sciences
- Science

## UCD College of Engineering & Architecture – 6 Schools

UCD School of Architecture

- ENGINEERING
- UCD School of Biosystems Engineering
- UCD School of Chemical & Bioprocess Engineering
- UCD School of Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering
- UCD School of Electrical, Electronic & Communications Engineering
- UCD School of Mechanical & Materials Engineering

#### **UCD** Profile

- QS World Rankings 2012 UCD overall 131st in the World
- National leader in Fourth Level Education producing 25% of Irelands PhD graduates each year
- Over 1,963 peer-reviewed journal publications in 2010
- In the top 1% worldwide for the impact of its research publications in 15 areas, including Engineering
- Research funding of €103M in 2010/11 22% of which is from European Commission
- UCD' has a diversity of academic disciplines
- UCD College of Engineering & Architecture is the largest Faculty of Engineering in Ireland

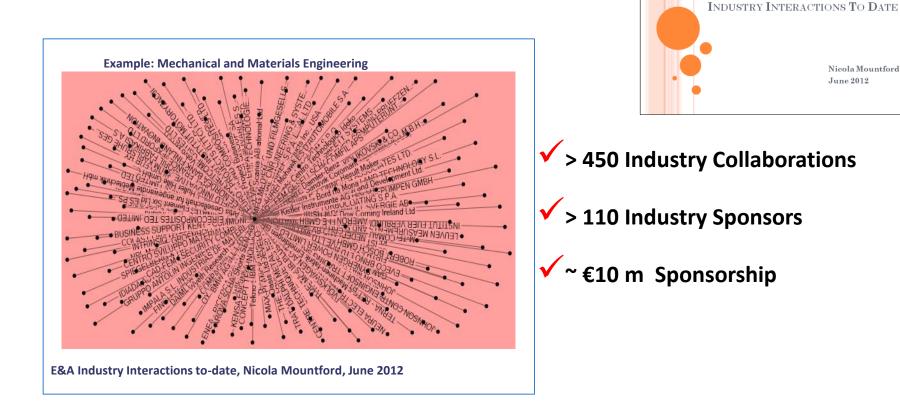








# Currently – A shortage of experienced engineers in Ireland



- University Industry Partnership Structures at early stage of Development
- Extensive Network needs to be worked
- Opportunities A College priority under Horizon 2020

COLLEGE OF

**ENGINEERING AND** 

**ARCHITECTURE** 

#### **FP7: Ireland's National Target and Performance**

#### National target of €600m for FP7 i.e. 1.25% of total FP7 Budget 2007-13

	Applicants in	Applicants in	Success Rate	
	Submitted Proposals	Successful Proposals	%	
Ireland	5,961,	1, 376	23.08 %	
	Funding Requested	Funding Granted to	Success Rate	
	by Applicants (€)	Applicants (€)	%	
Ireland 2,012,904,764		438,356,756	21.78 <sup>%</sup>	

\*Source: FP7 Ireland import of eCORDA release (post cleaning and addition of Marie Curie financial contributions)

Ireland's drawdown already above target

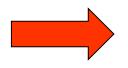
As at 2012, Ireland already awarded €438 m representing 1.55% of FP7 budget (in calls to date)

		Applicants in retained proposals from country	Funding Granted to applicants (€)	Success Rates	
Country	Applicants in eligible proposals from country			Applicants from country	EC financial contribution to applicants from country
UK - United Kingdom	50,529	11,997	3,981,628,464	23.74%	21.797%
AT - Austria	10,801	2,370	736,946,235	21.94%	21.40%
FI - Finland	8,299	1,883	652,791,654	22.69%	20.13%
DK - Denmark	7,805	1,899	656,902,640	24.33%	23.52%
IE - Ireland**	5,961	1,376	438,356,756	23.08%	21.78%
EU Average				22.18 %	20.72%

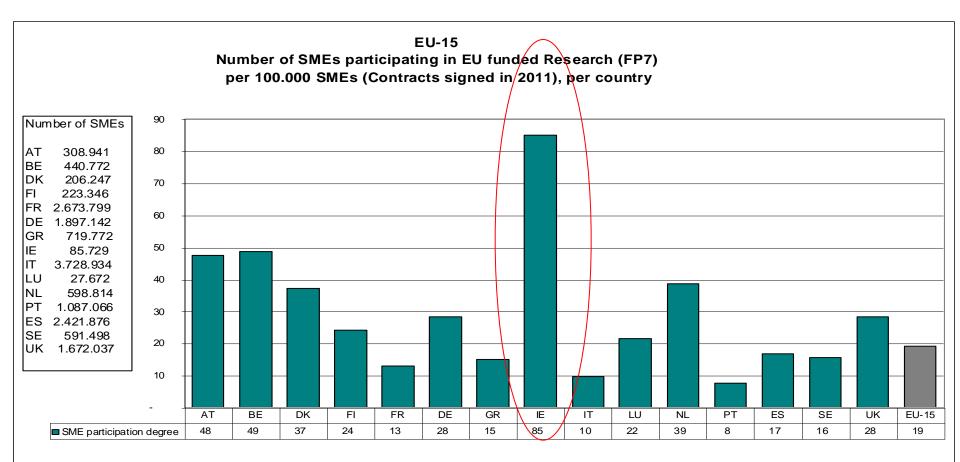
\*\*European Commission data pre-cleaning and without Marie Curie funding

#### Ireland is quite strong in FP7

BUT needs to aspire to bigger finance...



# Ireland's SME drawdown of €87m is comfortably above the EU 15% target



#### Source:

- SMEs in Grant Agreements signed in FP7 (EU funded Research), European Commission - CORDA data warehouse (1 January 2012)

- Source SMEs per country: EUROSTAT, 2011



- UCD average success rate (conversion of proposals into grants) across all FP7 programmes is 16% (College of Engineering & Architecture ~15% success rate)
- EU funding accounts for **10%** of UCD's total research income over the last 5 years
- UCD research funding of €103M in 2010/11 and 22% of which is from European Commission
- 17% of the university's EU FP7 funding was awarded to the College of Engineering & Architecture
- College of Engineering & Architecture total Research Funding for 5 years to 2010/11 = €74m

#### **FP7: UCD's Performance**

€25.8M awarded to UCD, 13 % of which to Engineering & Architecture with strong success under Energy, Environment, Security and Transport

Cooperation

Ideas (ERC)

€8.75m representing 7 grants awarded to UCD.

2 Starter Grant in College of Engineering & Architecture

Opportunity to aim for ERC Advanced Grants

€9.3m awarded to UCD, 19% of which to Engineering & Architecture

Opportunity to improve Industry-Academia Pathway Partnerships and ITN's People (Marie Curie)

Capacities

€3.77m awarded to UCD.

Number of applications low but College of Engineering & Architecture particularly strong success rate in Research for the Benefit of SME's.

#### **FP7: UCD's Experience**

# **No stated University Strategy for FP7**

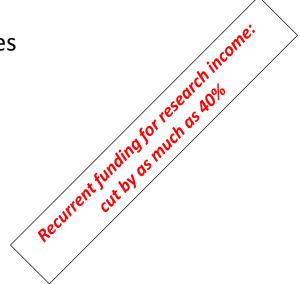
- Engagement was fortuitous and piecemeal
- Small number of PI's participated (increased in latter years)
- Some PI's understand EU funding and how to network, others do not
- Those PI's with experience and expertise eg as reviewers were not drawn on in an organised way
- Most individual PI's put off by perceived **<u>bureaucracy</u>** of EU funding
- New National Programmes offered easier lower hanging fruit
- Ireland has invested heavily to build human capital and knowledge base

#### EU FP7 - Complex and very difficult for Universities in Ireland

#### H2020 Clear Opportunity – to be proactive and get more PI's participating in, winning, and leading EU funded programmes

#### Horizon 2020: UCD's Strategy

- Focus on large scale multidisciplinary programmes
- University's 4 major themes
  - Earth Sciences, Energy and the Environment
  - Global Ireland
  - Health and Healthcare Delivery
  - Information, Computation and Communications



UCD - <u>must</u> increase and diversify non-Exchequer funding - EU grants and industry partnerships

#### UCD Target Increase - 30% of university's Research Funding to be from EU

Horizon 2020 - a new central dedicated EU research infrastructure with the sole aim of assisting UCD researchers to increase their EU funding Strategy and Plans for Horizon 2020: Industry Engagement & Innovation in SME's

Ireland's National Intellectual Property (IP) Protocol June 2012

'Putting public research to work for Ireland'

- Central Technology Transfer Office (by Autumn 2012)
- Generous commercial terms to encourage businesses to engage with researchers
- Standardised IP to facilitate easy-to-set-up agreements
- Improved IP management and promote best practice



#### Challenge - Match between Industry Timeframes / Funding Timelines 21

#### Strategy and Plans for Horizon 2020: New Focus on ERC





#### **ERC Support Programme**

Pending: SFI will support ERC re-submission applicants for 1-1.5 year



September 2011

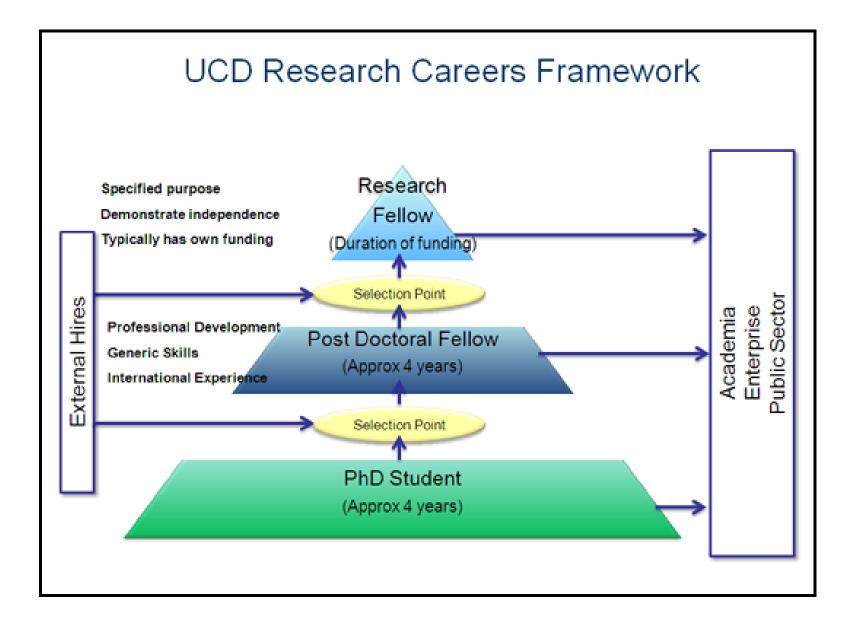


**ERC Enabler Seed Funding** 

**Academic Staff Retention Policy** 

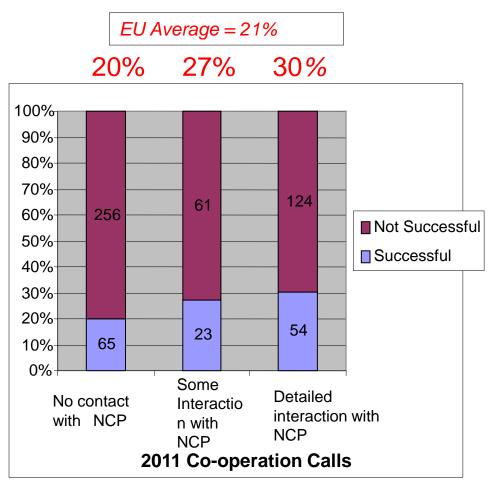
**ERC** – UCD currently holds 9 ERC award holders

Horizon 2020 Target – UCD to have 1 ERC holder in each of 35 Schools



Strategies and Plans for Horizon 2020: Develop Ireland's National Contact Point's (NCP's) Support System

Irish NCPs interacted with 38% of FP7 Cooperation applicants in 2011-2012



FP7 - NCPs interaction associated with a 1:3 success compared to 1:5 without

## Some Conclusions

- Currently an extremely difficult Higher Education Climate in Ireland
- Irish Higher Education Authority (HEA) presenting extreme challenges
- Engineering highly challenged because of year on year funding cuts and the Resource Allocation Model (which disadvantages laboratory based disciplines such as engineering and architecture) -
- Internationalisation of Student Body critical for budgets
- FP7 good funding success but very difficult to manage overly complex
- Local Funding diminishing significantly
- Horizon 2020 critical for continuity in research and for industrial development in Ireland new target from 10% to 30% EU Funding



# HORIZON 2020: An Irish Perspective

Thanks for Ms Caroline Treacey, College Research and Innovation Manager for undertaking the background research and for preparing this presentation

# E N D

