

Postgraduate Scholarship Information Sheet (MSc)

Scholarship Project Title	Industry level data integration and development of a digital sustainability platform and decision support tool for agricultural production systems in Ireland
Advert Reference number	WD_2024_06_SPONS
Supervisor(s)	Kieran Sullivan & Indrakshi Dey, (Walton Institute for Information and Communications Systems Sciences, Department of Computing and Mathematics, Waterford)
Research Group	Walton Institute - Programmable Autonomous Systems (PAS)
Department /School/Faculty	Department of Computing and Mathematics
Duration	2 Years/24 Months
Status: Full-time / part-time	Full Time
Value of the scholarship per year for two years	Stipend: €22,000 per annum Fees of €5,750 per annum (fully covered by scholarship) Research costs of €2,000 per annum
Closing date and time	Wednesday 8th January 2025@4PM Irish time
Interview date	To be confirmed but as soon as possible
Masters' commencement date	To be confirmed but as soon as possible

Project Key Words: Sustainable agriculture; Digital platform; Life cycle assessment

Post summary

Project background

The Irish agricultural sector is facing the complex task of balancing global food demand with national and international environmental targets. To achieve this, widespread adoption of sustainable practices and technologies is essential. However, there's currently no system in place that allows stakeholders to fully assess their environmental, economic, and social performance, or to see the benefits of available technologies and best practices.

Project description

The Data Integration and Business Models project, based at SETU, will play a crucial role in addressing these challenges. This project will focus on the continued development of the AgNav digital platform, a collaborative effort between Teagasc, ICBF, and Bord Bia. While AgNav currently focuses on greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions from cattle systems, this project will expand its scope to include sheep, poultry, pigs, tillage, and horticulture systems, and will also incorporate economic and social sustainability indicators.

Job description

The Masters Researcher will be responsible for conducting research on the co-designing of digital platforms in the agricultural sector and potential business models for agricultural digital platforms. The researcher will work closely with stakeholders to ensure the platform is user-friendly and meets their needs, and will also investigate potential business models to ensure the long-term sustainability of the platform.

Knowledge & Experience

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in a relevant field (e.g., agricultural science, business, information technology)

Essential

- Strong research and analytical skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team

Desirable

- Knowledge of the agricultural sector
- Understanding of digital platforms and business models

Skills & Competencies

Essential

- Applicants whose first language is not English must demonstrate on application that they meet [SETU's English language requirements](#) and provide all necessary documentation. See Page 7 of the Code of Practice
- In order to be **shortlisted for interview**, you must meet the SETU English speaking requirements so please provide evidence in your application.

Desirable

- The ability to manage time effectively, prioritize tasks, and meet deadlines will be crucial for success in this role.
- The researcher will need to be able to identify and analyse problems, and develop and implement creative solutions.
- Proficiency in relevant software and technologies, including data analysis tools, will be essential.
- The researcher will need to effectively communicate research findings to both technical and non-technical audiences, and collaborate effectively with project partners and stakeholders.

Further information

For any informal queries, please contact Indrakshi Dey on email (Indrakshi.dey@waltoninstitute.ie)

For queries relating to the application and admission process, please contact the Postgraduate Admissions Office researchadmissions@setu.ie or telephone +353 (0)51 302883.

University Website <https://www.setu.ie/>

Application procedure

Download the Research Postgraduate Application Form from the **SETU Website** and return the completed application to researchadmissions@setu.ie quoting **WD_2024_06_SPONS** in the email subject line.

Please note that paper submissions will not be accepted.

The University may decide to interview only those applicants who appear from the information they provided, to be the most suitable in terms of experience, qualifications and other requirements of the post.

The University will short-list and interview those applicants who provide the most suitable information in terms of experience, qualifications and other requirements relevant to the scholarship.

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