



Postdoctoral Researcher – Designing Farmland Sustainability Credits and Appropriate Market Regulation

University College / Management Unit	Trinity College Dublin
University School / Unit	Business School
Post title	Post-doc
Project title	Designing Farmland Sustainability Credits and Appropriate Market Regulation
Post duration	2 Years
Supervisors / Mentors	Martha O’Hagan Luff, Yvonne Buckley
Main location for project	Trinity College Dublin
Start date	Summer 2024 (applications considered on a rolling basis until position filled)
Salary	€45,322 (PD1, Point 3 as per Researcher Salary Scale)

Description

Farmland sustainability credits are one potential mechanism to deliver environmental goods at scale, with markets in sustainability credits operational in Australia and under development in the UK. This project will investigate the potential of farmland sustainability credits to deliver cost effective climate and biodiversity goods, design a financial instrument to package such sustainability goods and assess willingness to participate from farmers and willingness to pay from agri-food corporates. The necessary regulation required for efficient market functioning and the avoidance of market failure will be assessed and recommendations made to potential public regulators.

The project is Coordinated by Professor Yvonne Buckley, Professor Jane Stout is a task leader the hired postdoc will be supervised by Associate Professor Martha O’Hagan Luff. The project desires a highly motivated post-doc with experience in economics, policy, or business to join the team and carry out:

- 1) Survey of international sustainability credit markets, interviewing key participants
- 2) Assist in design of Farmland Sustainability Credit and delivery of workshops with key stakeholder groups.
- 3) Analyse design of Farmland Sustainability Credit from a game theoretic perspective
- 4) Simulate market dynamics to investigate potential market failure.

The project is partnered with Allied Irish Bank, Ireland’s largest bank, and Carbery, Irelands third largest dairy cooperative. The ideal candidate is one who works well in a team, is highly motivated, and who seeks high potential impact. While quantitative skills can be learned on the job, candidates with quantitative experience will be preferred.

Minimum Qualifications

- PhD in Public Policy, Development or Environmental Economics, Natural Resource Management, Sustainability in Business, ESG Investing or related discipline.



Desired attributes:

- Knowledge of carbon and/or biodiversity credits
- Knowledge of game theory and applying it to real world situations.
- Quantitative skills (Python, R etc.) for simulating market dynamics to investigate market failures.
- Experience in delivering in-person workshops with diverse stakeholder groups (farmers, corporates, regulators)

For more information, please contact Cian White (ciwhite@tcd.ie) or Yvonne Buckley (buckleyy@tcd.ie). Interested applicants should send a cover letter describing their interests and skills, a CV, and a sample of recent research/work that demonstrates strong desired attributes.