

Natália Silvério

Brazil ➤ Ireland

*Strengthening the Irish AKIS
for the Sustainable Circular
Bioeconomy development*



What's your project about?

My research focuses on **integrating** the **Sustainable Circular Bioeconomy (SCB)** into the Irish **Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS)**. It will conduct **field research** to better understand **AKIS actors' perspectives** on the SCB, and participants will have the opportunity to **co-create principles/guidelines** to strengthen **engagement** and **participation** in the SCB. My project can contribute to a more **sustainable** and **circular bioeconomy**, fostering knowledge **sharing**, SCB-related **measures** and **innovation** adoption, and **engagement** of agricultural **actors** in the SCB.

Project Partners



University College Dublin, Ireland, is ranked among the **top 1%** of higher education institutions worldwide. I am studying at the **School of Agriculture and Food Science** under the guidance of **Prof. James Kinsella**, a professor with expertise in **rural development** policy impact, **agricultural extension** effectiveness, agricultural **innovation**, piloting of **social farming**, and measuring **social capital**.



**University College
Dublin**



**Tirlán
Teagasc**



Teagasc is a national body that provides **research, advisory, and educational** services to support the **development** of Ireland's **agri-food** and wider **bioeconomy** sectors. I am supervised by Prof. **Maeve Henchion**, Head of the Department of **Agrifood Business** and **Spatial Analysis**.

Tirlán is a **farmer-owned co-operative, world-class food and nutrition business**. Tirlán is the **largest** milk **processor** in Ireland, and its **agribusiness** sector is the **largest supplier** to the Irish **farming** sector. My industry supervisor is **Dr. Michelle Collins**, Director of R&D.



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What are you most excited about your project?

What excites me most about my project is the **opportunity** to learn by **interacting** with people from **different backgrounds** and **sectors** of Irish agriculture. In addition, I believe my research will have an **impact** due to the **collaborative** work I will conduct with agricultural actors, which can result in a **pathway** to better **develop** the Irish **bioeconomy**.

What do you find the most challenging in your project?

The **collaborative** nature of my project is exciting and challenging at the same time. I will be conducting a **survey** and **workshops**, and as people's schedules are busy, **recruiting** participants can be **challenging**.

What brought you to the Bioeconomy?

My first contact with the **bioeconomy** was during my bachelor's degree. The project caught my **attention** because it addressed my interests in **sustainability** and **knowledge sharing** and because of its **impact** on **sustainable agriculture**.

What does the Bioeconomy mean for you?

The **bioeconomy** is an **economic model** based on the use of **renewable biological resources**. It aims to conserve resources at the highest level by **prioritising** the use of **residues** and **biomass** waste. It takes into account the **impact** on **ecosystems** and aims to ensure the **sustainable extraction** and use of **renewable** resources and processes. It **creates jobs** and makes a **significant** contribution to **reducing dependence** on fossil fuels.

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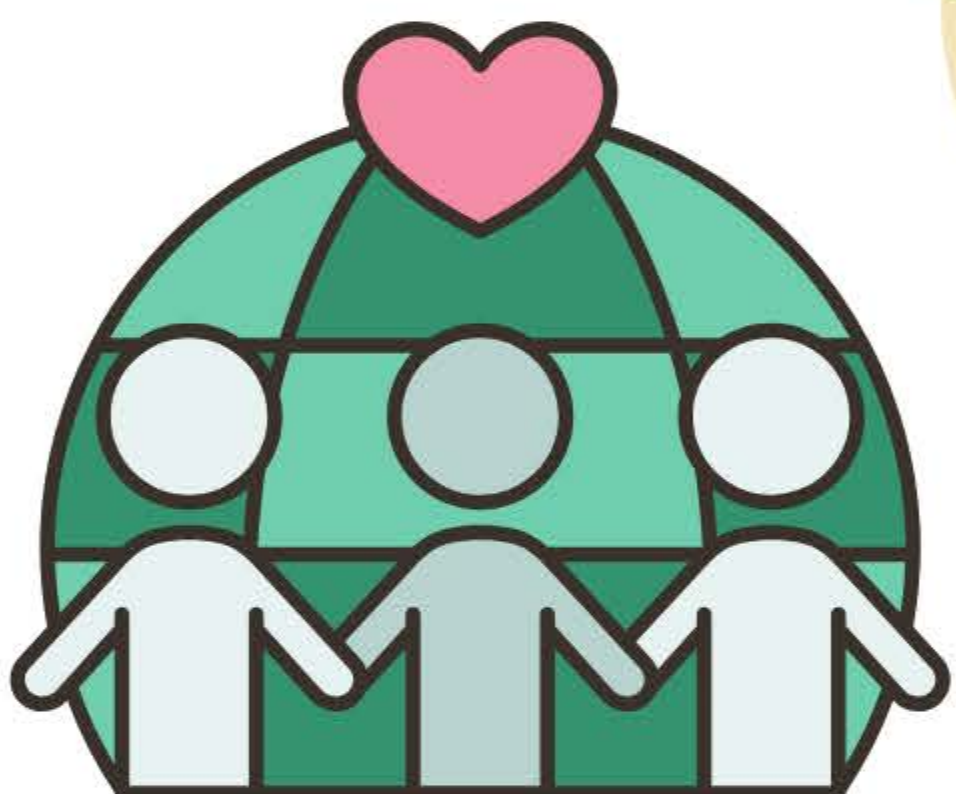
What did little Natália want to be when she'd grow up?

I wanted to be a musician or a conductor.



Something you love? And something you hate?

I love to eat and really hate prejudice and inequalities.



Any hobbies outside of Science?

Spending time with friends and family over coffee, wine, and/or food, cycling, cooking, walking, lying down on the beach/park.



Short CV

2010

★ Environmental Technician, Instituto Federal de Santa Catarina, **Brazil**

2011-2017

★ B. Sc. in Environmental and Sanitary Engineering, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, **Brazil**

2018-2021

★ M. Sc. in Knowledge Engineering and Management, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, **Brazil**

