



**Exploiting synergies for growth through  
innovation, research, skills and knowledge**

*Aviva Stadium, Dublin, Ireland | 29 May 2013*



# UK-Ireland Food Business Innovation Summit

*Teagasc, the Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority and the Institute of Food Research (IFR), UK are delighted to invite you to the first UK-Ireland Food Business Innovation Summit and Exhibition, which will be held on 29th May 2013 in the Aviva Stadium, Lansdowne Road, Dublin. This Summit will bring together, for one day, leading UK and Irish food company executives and retailers, along with policy makers, research managers and educationalists to:*

- Debate key challenges in research, skills and knowledge and opportunities for innovation that exist across both islands for suppliers, manufacturers and retailers.
- Identify opportunities for developing a more entrepreneurial workforce through greater collaboration in development and training.
- Understand how R&D and knowledge exchange within a broader European context can create a strong platform for innovation to enhance the competitiveness of the food sector.

The theme of this important Summit is 'Exploiting synergies for growth through innovation, research, skills and knowledge.' This event is a positive step towards building closer cooperation between the two islands in the agri-food sector, reflecting the comments made by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny and Prime Minister, David Cameron in March 2012. It takes place at a time of great opportunity, but ever growing challenges, for the UK and Irish food industries.

The Summit will be jointly opened and addressed by the Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Mr. Simon Coveney, TD and the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Owen Paterson, MP. The Directors of both Teagasc and IFR will then present key note addresses on models to foster innovation and strengthen synergies across the Irish Sea.

This will be followed by a series of **perspective presentations** by leading UK and Irish food company CEOs and senior managers, focusing on a number of strategic issues for their companies and how these can be addressed through greater collaboration. Issues to be addressed will include food security, shortening the food chain, reducing waste, growing world population, emerging markets,

consumer trends, entrepreneurship, role of research and innovation and the trend towards public-private partnerships. An expert panel will then discuss some of the key messages.

In the afternoon, **three parallel workshops** will focus on how the UK and Irish food industries, in partnership with their innovation support agencies, could respond to new challenges and opportunities. The workshops will focus specifically on:

- People, Entrepreneurship and Skills for a Growing Food Industry (including mobility, sharing of best practice and education/research/business staff exchange)
- Requirements for Global Food Innovation (including food & health, innovative food ingredients)
- Research, Innovation and Business Opportunities to Shorten the Food Chain (including food security, new value chains based on waste and by-products)

Following the workshops, a **plenary session** will identify the key actions and take home messages from the Summit.

Throughout the day representatives from the UK and Irish food innovation support ecosystems (research institutes, universities, government agencies and food industry membership organisations) will **exhibit their capabilities** and will be available for one-to-one discussions.



## Programme Overview

### Registration

- 7.30 Registration and Food Innovation Exhibition  
(Exhibition continues throughout the day)

### Welcome Addresses

- 8.30 Professor Gerry Boyle, Director of Teagasc,  
Agriculture and Food Development  
Authority, Ireland
- 8.45 Professor David Boxer, Director of the  
Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK

### Food Industry Perspectives

Presentations by leading UK and Irish food industry  
thought leaders including:

- 9.00 Mr. Patrick Coveney, Chief Executive,  
Greencore Group plc.
- 9.20 Mr. John Kennedy, President Western Europe,  
Diageo plc.
- 9.40 Ms. Melanie Leech, Director General of the  
Food and Drink Federation, UK

### Keynote Addresses

- 10.00 Mr. Simon Coveney, TD, Minister for  
Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Ireland
- The Rt. Hon. Owen Paterson, MP, Secretary  
of State for Environment, Food and Rural  
Affairs, UK

### 10.30 BREAK

### Food Industry Perspectives (Continued)

- 10.50 Mr. Paul Finnerty, Group Chief Executive,  
ABP Food Group
- 11.10 Mr. Ciaran Sullivan, Managing Director,  
Nestlé Confectionery UK & Ireland
- 11.30 Mr. Kevin Lane, CEO, Irish Dairy Board
- 11.50 Ms. Catherine Toolan, Operations and  
Projects Director, Aramark Ireland.

### Panel Discussion

- 12.10 Moderated by Ms. Jacki Davis, Managing  
Director of Meade Davis Communications

### 13.10 LUNCH

### Parallel Workshops

- 13.50 **Theme 1:** People, Entrepreneurship and  
Skills for a Growing Food Industry
- Theme 2:** Global Food Innovation for  
Economic Impact
- Theme 3:** Research, Innovation and Business  
Opportunities to Shorten the Food Chain and  
Reduce Waste
- 14.45 Workshops will be repeated to facilitate  
delegate attendance at two Themes

### 15.40 BREAK

### Summary

#### 16.10 Summary Reports and Outputs from Workshops Presented by:

Mr. Stephen Parry, Chair, UK Food Sector  
Group of Biosciences Knowledge Transfer  
Network.

Professor Mary Lambkin-Coyle, UCD School  
of Business.

Professor Damien P. McLoughlin, UCD  
Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School.

### 17.00 Close

## Food Business Innovation Exhibition

*An exhibition of leading organisations supporting food  
innovation, research and education in the UK and Ireland.*

# Registration Details

## Who Should Attend:

This Summit is aimed at UK and Irish food company CEOs and their senior operations, strategic, technical, R&D and marketing managers.

It will also be of great interest to managers of food research programmes in research institutes, universities and institutes of technology.

Food innovation support organisations and state agencies will also benefit from this event.

To register your attendance at this event, please go to [www.teagasc.ie/businesssummit/registration.asp](http://www.teagasc.ie/businesssummit/registration.asp) and select the workshop you wish to attend.

There is no fee for this event but places are limited.

## For further information please contact:

### Mary Reilly

Teagasc Food Research Centre,  
Ashtown, Dublin 15, Ireland

Phone: +353 (0) 1 8059582/8059500

Email: [mary.reilly@teagasc.ie](mailto:mary.reilly@teagasc.ie)

Web: [www.teagasc.ie/businesssummit](http://www.teagasc.ie/businesssummit)

