



## TEAGASC PHD WALSH FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### “Evaluating the Impact of Agricultural Knowledge Transfer Activities”

#### Background

Many studies show that interaction with agricultural extension services impact farmers' technology adoption decisions (Butcher, 1998; Garforth et al, 2003; Millar, 2010) and profitability (Kilpatrick, 1996; Reeve and Black, 1998). Much of this analysis is conducted at an aggregate level with contact with extension measured as either a continuous or discrete variable. Rigorously discriminating the impact of different types of contact (or KT activities) on outcomes of farmers and the cost benefit of different types of KT activities with farmers is less common.

This research project will seek to do that by merging various databases such as the Teagasc Client Information Management System (CIMS) and National Farm Survey (NFS) to facilitate quantitative analysis of the relationships between various types of KT activities with Teagasc clients and a selection of farm level economic and technological outcomes.

#### Requirements

Applicants should have a good primary degree (First or Second Class Honours) or Masters in an appropriate discipline (Economics, Statistics, Econometrics etc.). Economic modelling skills are essential.

#### Award

This 4 year PhD Fellowship is a joint research project between Teagasc (the Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority) and the University of Geneva. The student will be based for Year 1 and 4 at the University of Geneva and registered at the University, working under the supervision of Dr. Salvatore Di Falco in association with Teagasc supervisors (Dr Kevin Heanue, Prof Cathal O'Donoghue and Mr. Stuart Green). In Year 2 and 3, the student will be based at Teagasc's Rural Economy and Development Programme in Athenry, Co. Galway, Ireland. The Fellowship will start as soon as possible after 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2013 when the most suitable candidate is appointed.

The fellowship provides a stipend of €21,000. University fees are paid by the student from the stipend which is tenable for 4 years.

#### Further Information/Applications

Dr Salvatore Di Falco, Department of Economics, Uni Mail - Boulevard du Pont D'Arve 40, University of Geneva CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland. Phone +41 22 379 82 79; email: [Salvatore.DiFalco@unige.ch](mailto:Salvatore.DiFalco@unige.ch)

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#### Application Procedure

Submit an electronic copy of Curriculum Vitae and a letter of interest simultaneously to:

Dr Salvatore Di Falco ([Salvatore.DiFalco@unige.ch](mailto:Salvatore.DiFalco@unige.ch)) and

Dr Kevin Heanue ([kevin.heanue@teagasc.ie](mailto:kevin.heanue@teagasc.ie))

Quoting the Walsh Fellowship Reference Number: 2012048

#### Closing date

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 2013.