

Pre-Award Support

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION

The Institute for Health Discovery and Innovation (IHDI) at the University of Galway is an interdisciplinary, cross college, Institute focused on supporting high quality research activity across the domains of health discovery and innovation research. The Institute's mission is to advance fundamental and applied understanding of disease and drive innovative health solutions. Its vision is to be a world-leading centre for health discovery and innovation through excellence in research, people and partnerships. The Institute prioritises developing talent and fostering internal and external collaboration.

The Institute's thematic structure includes three pillars:

1. Fundamental Discovery
2. Enabling Technologies and Innovation
3. Health-Based Challenges



PRE AWARD SUPPORT/ VALUE PROPOSITION

The Pre-Award team plays a central role in expanding the Institute's research funding portfolio by identifying and supporting applications to major national and European programmes, including Horizon Europe. The team manages and grows the Institute's member engagement activities, builds strategic partnerships across academia, healthcare, industry, and government, and cultivates collaborative opportunities that lead to contract research, consortium projects, and joint funding applications. The team also supports the Research Institutes Technology Services Directorate (TSD) by identifying business development opportunities that leverage the University's state-of-the-art research infrastructure, improving its visibility and utilisation among external stakeholders, particularly industry.

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Submission to Horizon Programme Call: Circular innovative advanced materials: facilitating the transition from design to markets (RIA) (Innovative Advanced Materials for the EU and Made in Europe partnerships) HORIZON-CL4-2026-01-MAT-PROD-05 in April 2026.

IHDI SUPPORT

This case study demonstrates how IHDI pre-award support enabled the development of a Horizon Europe-ready research concept addressing sustainable advanced materials, circular manufacturing, and high-value health technologies, fully aligned with EU priorities on green transition, digitalisation, and strategic autonomy.

The pre-award team co-ordinated the consortium building process, the administrative setup on the EU Portal, the proposal structure planning, the budget preparation, the compliance and cross-cutting requirements, the internal review and quality assurance, finalisation on the EU portal and submission.

SELECTED KEY OUTCOMES

- 1 IHDI supported the development of a Horizon Europe-ready proposal submitted on time and fully compliant with call requirements.
- 2 IHDI strengthened alignment with Horizon Europe priorities in circular manufacturing, sustainability, advanced materials, and health innovation. IHDI facilitated collaboration between academic, clinical, and industrial partners, creating a strong multidisciplinary consortium.
- 3 IHDI enhanced the project's impact, exploitation, and commercialisation plans, improving its pathway towards industrial adoption and societal benefit.
- 4 IHDI provided pre-award support in project design, budgeting, risk management, and proposal coordination, strengthening implementation excellence.

TESTIMONIAL

We collaborate with industry and healthcare providers through a range of funding and partnership mechanisms. Programmes such as Horizon Europe enable us to build large, multidisciplinary consortia that bring together leading expertise from academia, industry, and clinical practice across Europe. Galway is uniquely positioned as a global hub for medical technology innovation, and the strong connections between industry and the University have helped shape and strengthen the work of the Institute. These partnerships ensure that our research remains relevant, translational, and responsive to real-world healthcare and industry needs.

Prof Ted Vaughan
Director of Institute for Health Discovery and Innovation

