

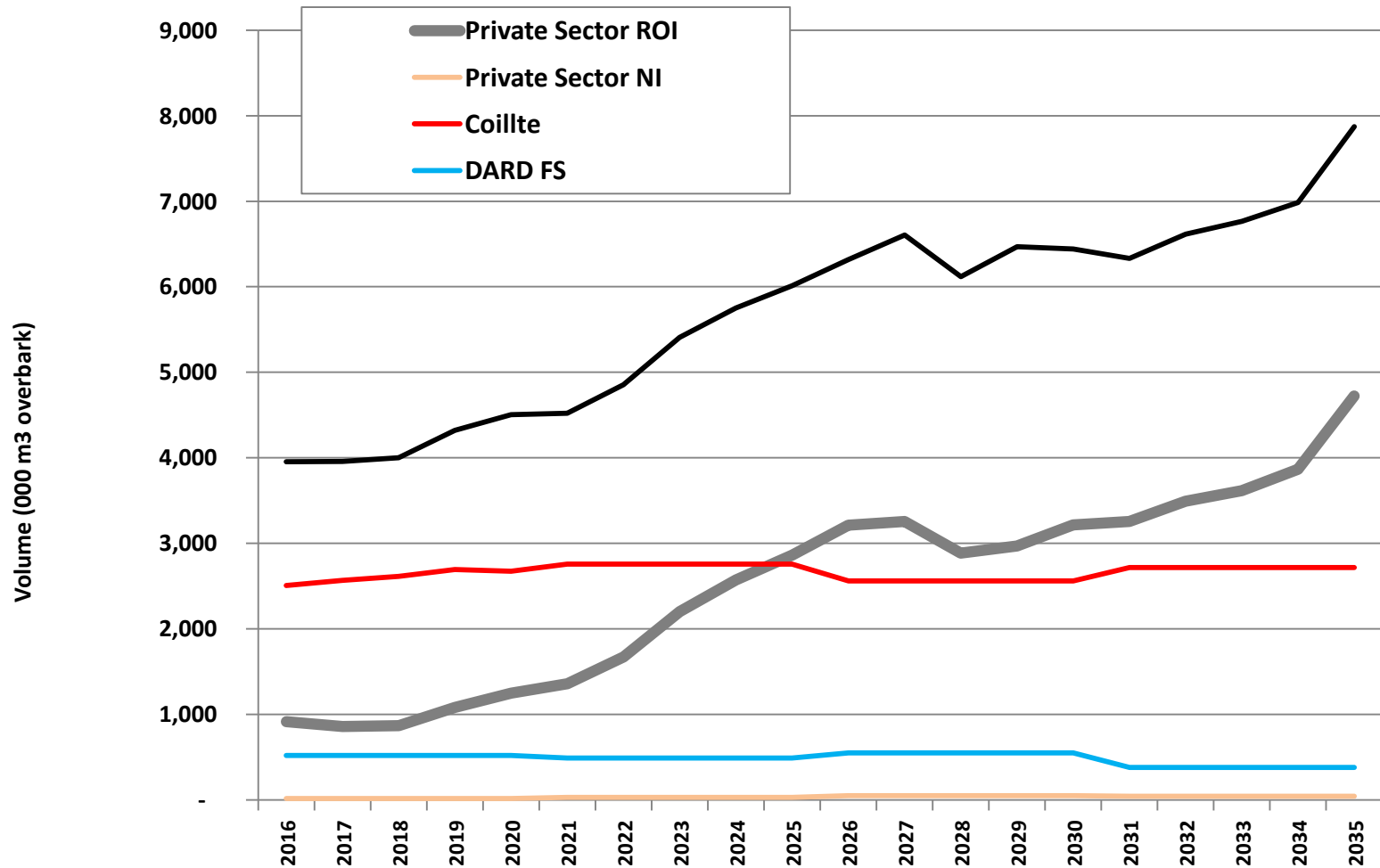


Teagasc Forestry Development Department

Irish forest sector

- 775,000 hectares of forest
 - Public 51%, private 49%
 - » Over 20,000 private forest owners (of which 85% farmers)
 - Conifers 71%, broadleaves 29%
 - 3.8 million tonnes of CO₂ sequestered by forests per year
- Annual volume of timber harvested: 3.4 million m³
 - 3.1 million m³ processed by mills and increasing use of wood for energy
- Forecast of net realisable volume
 - Increasing steadily to nearly 8 million m³ (2035)
 - Increase comes from private sector
- Total value to the economy
 - Output from forest products sector: €2.3 billion
 - Exports from forestry sector: €355 million
 - 78% of forest products exported
 - Employment (mainly rural): 7,000 direct, 5,000 indirect)

Forecast of Total Net Realisable Volume Production to 2035 (000m³)



Source: All-Ireland Roundwood Production Forecast 2016-2035 (COFORD, 2016)

Uses

- Construction and fencing material
 - Renewable building material
- Wood energy
 - wood chip, firewood, wood pellets, charcoal
- Innovative wood based products replacing oil-based products
- Tourism & Recreation
- Biodiversity
- Carbon storage
- Other forest produce: mushrooms, berries, biochar

Resulting in employment and enterprise opportunities in rural areas

Who's who

**Forestry Division,
Research and Codex
Forest Sector Development**



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



Council



Forest owners
Private
Farmers
Investment Funds
Coillte

ITGA
Farming Bodies
Forest Owner
Groups



**Other
Agencies**

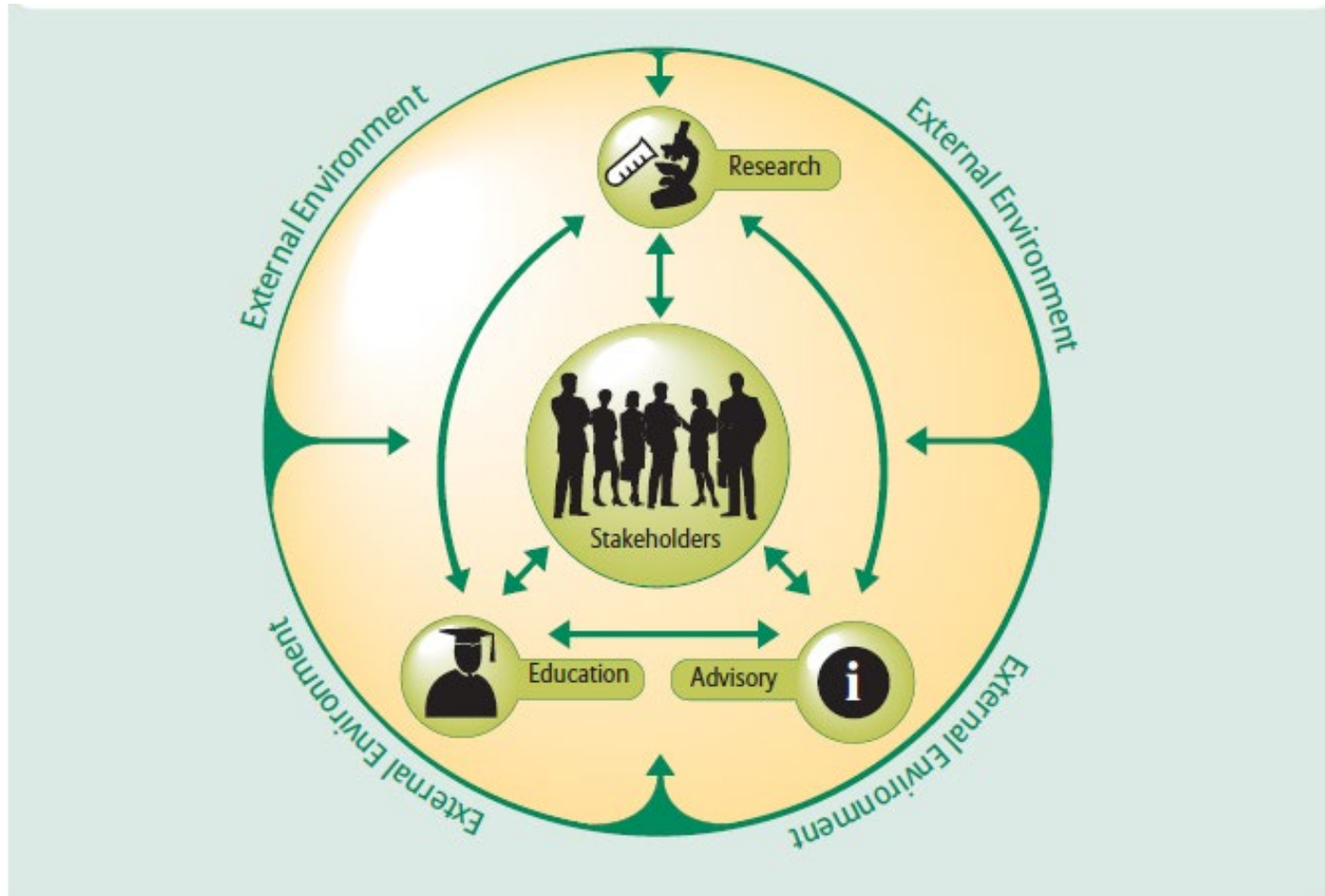
Forest Industry
Consultants Nurseries
Companies Harvesters/Hauliers
Processors Wood Energy
IFFPA / Other Representatives
Environmental NGOs

Education & Research

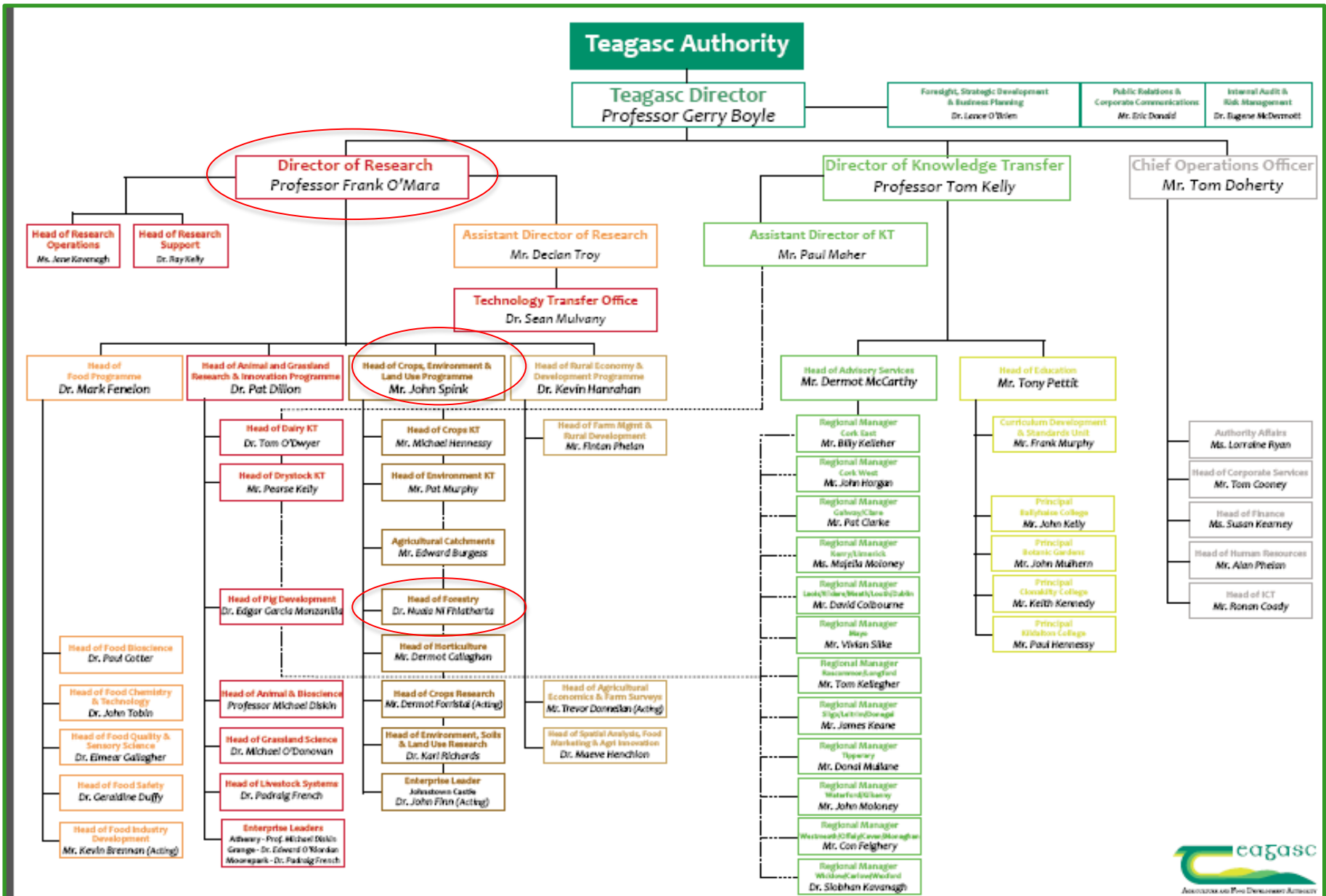
Teagasc	UCD	WIT
NUIG	UCC	UL
Bots	NUIM	TCD



The Teagasc Model



Teagasc - organisation



FDD - staff

- Head of Department
 - Dr Nuala Ní Fhlatharta
 - 1 administrator
- Research
 - 4 researchers & 1 contract researcher
 - 2 technical/farm staff
 - 7 post graduate students
- Advice and training
 - 1 forestry specialist
 - 8 forestry advisers
 - 1 forestry liaison officer

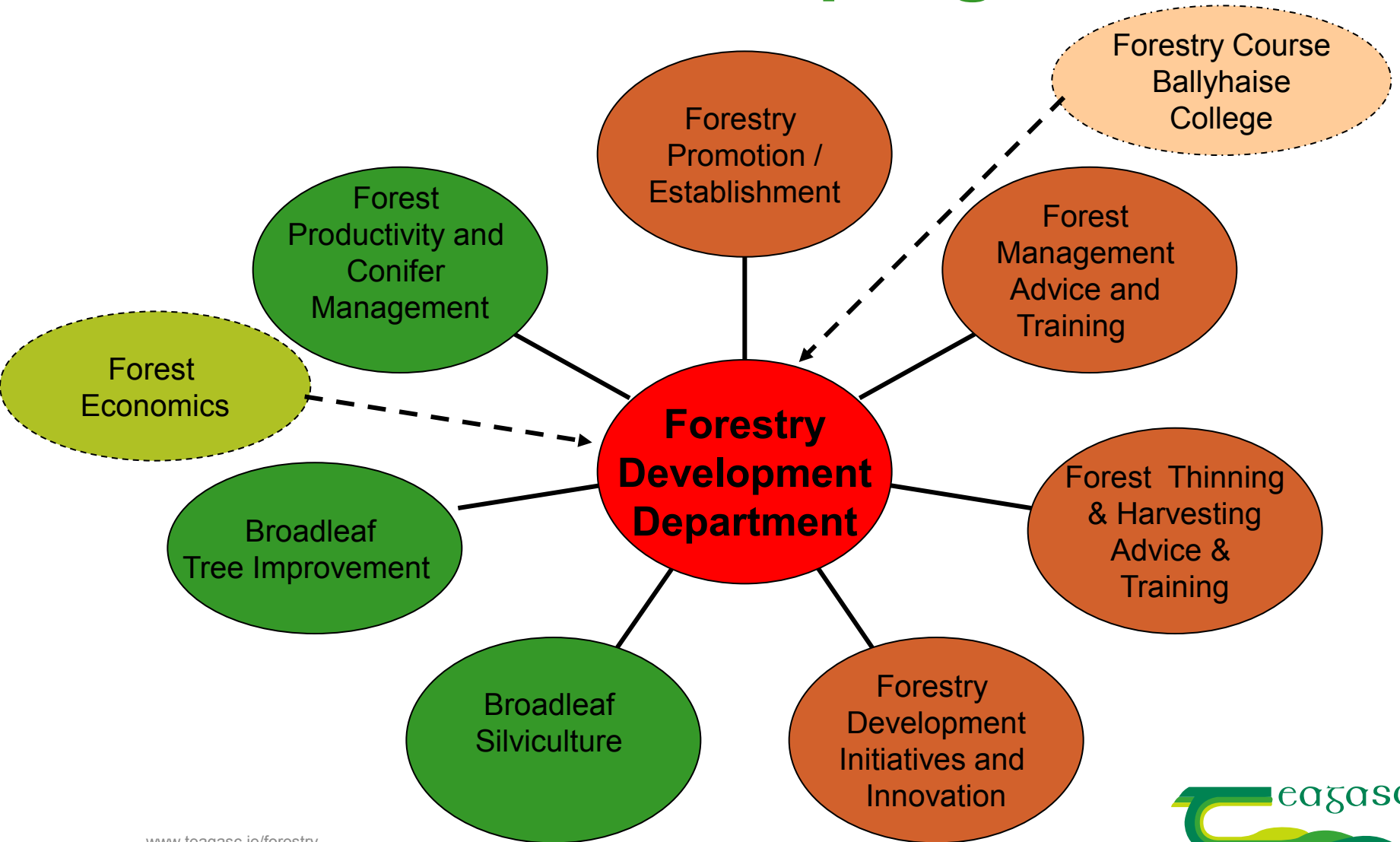
FDD – mission...

- ... to lead and support science-based innovation in the farm forestry sector and wider bio-economy to underpin its profitability, competitiveness and sustainability

FDD – objectives

- ... to lead, drive and guide the expansion and development of the farm forestry sector in Ireland, in consultation with our stakeholders, so that it can achieve and optimise its potential

Overview of FDD programme



Private (farm) forestry – our focus

- Most new planting done by farmers
 - Approx. 5000 ha per annum – average under 8 hectares
 - Policy to plant 15,000 hectares per year to 2046
 - Land availability and suitability
 - Species choice and improved planting material
- Forests predominately young
 - Relatively inexperienced forest owners – new crop
 - Knowledge gaps re crop management – broadleaves and conifers
 - Need to address economic and environmental issues.
- Harvesting and markets
 - Approx. 1.1 million m³ harvested from private forest per year
 - Subsequent thinnings and clearfells now coming on stream
 - Need timber mobilisation initiatives –focus on forest owner interests
 - Forest Owner Association development and evolution
 - Forest certification becoming increasingly important in private sector

Recent Key Activities

- Launch of forestry promotion campaign including forestry element in agricultural courses, presence at agricultural events, RDS awards.
- Range of initiatives to encourage wood mobilisation including Talking Timber, Decision Support Tools,
- Support to pilot forestry KTGs and ongoing roll out of Forestry KTGs.

Recent Key Impacts

- Guidance provided to DAFM in relation to site suitability for afforestation based on Site Classification system developed by Dr. Niall Farrelly
- Availability of improved birch for commercial deployment in Irish forestry based on Oliver Sheridan's work
- Support provided by Dr. Ian Short and advisory staff to DAFM in relation to broadleaf management and developing protocols for managing existing ash plantations in context of ash dieback
- Process established to identify, select and propagate Chalara- resistant/tolerant ash

Further information

- Website:
 - www.teagasc.ie/forestry
- Teagasc Forestry e-News



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