

1.2 Role of Teagasc

Teagasc was established under the [Agriculture \(Research, Training and Advice\) Act 1988](#), which states that its principal functions shall be:

To provide, or procure the provision of educational, training and advisory services in agriculture, including such educational, training or advisory services in agriculture as may be specified by the Minister for the purpose of giving effect to any directive, regulation or other act adopted by an institution of the European Communities.

To obtain and make available to the agricultural industry the scientific and practical information in relation to agriculture required by it.

To undertake, promote, encourage, assist, co-ordinate, facilitate and review agricultural research and development (including research and development in relation to food processing and the food processing industry).

This mandate gives Teagasc responsibility for meeting the knowledge and technology needs of the entire food chain and the authority to integrate research, advice and education services to deliver the innovation support necessary to add value to Ireland's agri-food sector.

The Teagasc governing body is an 11 member Authority appointed by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. It includes representatives from the farming organisations, the food industry, the universities, the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine and Teagasc staff.

Teagasc is a client-based organisation and operates in partnership with all sectors of the agriculture and food industry and with rural development agencies. It has developed close alliances with research, advisory and training agencies throughout the world and is continuously seeking to expand its international contacts.

Around 75% of Teagasc's yearly budget comes from the Irish exchequer and EU funding with the balance generated from earned income. Some 40% of the budget is devoted to research with the remainder split equally between advisory and training services. Teagasc has over 1,200 staff (permanent and contract) at over 50 locations throughout Ireland.

More information in relation to the structure of the organisation can be seen at www.teagasc.ie

Version	Revision Date	Summary of Changes	Policy Owner
1.0		n/a	HR