

EPA Ireland – STRIVE Programme 2007-2013

CONSENSUS: A Cross-border Household Analysis of Consumption, Environment and Sustainability in Ireland

*Work Package No.2:
Sustainable Living Survey*

*Work Package Leader:
Dr Frances Fahy, Department of Geography, School of Geography and Archaeology,
NUI, Galway
Email: frances.fahy@nuigalway.ie*

***PhD Fellowship (Ref:Consensus NUIG-1)
Geographies of Sustainable Lifestyles: Sustainable Living Survey***

Salary: €20,000 – €20,987 p.a. over three years

Starting date: September 2009

Location: NUI, Galway, School of Geography and Archaeology

Project description:

The promotion of sustainable (household) consumption is an area of major concern within Ireland and internationally. A key challenge for the sustainable consumption agenda is to deepen our understandings of the key determinants, motivations and factors that shape behaviours including incentives and barriers, attitudes, situational context and the interaction between them.

Focusing on aspects of sustainable lifestyles, specifically in the areas of transport, water, energy, food, and their linkages to quality of life, this PhD project will facilitate the development of a large Irish-specific baseline dataset which will provide vital information on attitudes and behaviour towards sustainable consumption. The study will test international models of consumer behaviour in the Irish context. Furthering previous research in this area, the project will develop an Irish-specific framework for researching sustainable consumption.

Admission:

The PhD fellowship will be awarded on a competitive basis and applicants will be expected to demonstrate both a strong academic background and aptitude for research. Experience of quantitative social research, in particular survey design, statistical techniques for data analysis and basic SPSS skills, would be an advantage. Candidates should hold, or expect to obtain, at least an upper second class honours degree in a relevant social science discipline. Preference may be given to candidates with previous postgraduate experience.

Application:

Applicants must submit an electronic copy of their CV and a letter of intent to frances.fahy@nuigalway.ie. The letter of intent should be limited to two pages and it should outline:

- Reasons for application
- Previous training and research experience
- Interest in area of research

Deadline for applications: Friday, 15th May 2009 at 5 pm.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in person or by telephone.

Workpackage No. 3:

Transport, Mobility and the Sustainable Consumption of Distance

Work Package Leader:

Dr Henrike Rau, School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI, Galway

Email: henrike.rau@nuigalway.ie

PhD Fellowship (Ref: Consensus NUIG-2)

Behavioural Change 1: Development of an Incentive-based Programme for Modal Shift (IPMS)

Salary: € 20,000 – 20,987 p.a. over three years

Starting date: September 2009

Location: NUI, Galway, School of Political Science and Sociology

Project description:

Ireland's growing car dependency poses major problems for society and the environment, and calls for incentivising non-car-based modes of transport have gained prominence. This project will compare existing transport policy in Ireland and Europe and analyse examples of international best practice in relation to the development of strategies to encourage a shift to more sustainable transport. The empirical part of this project will focus on the development and testing of a pilot scheme for incentivising a modal shift in Galway City/County.

Admission:

The PhD fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis and applicants will be expected to demonstrate both a strong academic background and aptitude for research. A background in environmental economics would be an advantage. Candidates should hold, or expect to obtain, at least an upper second class honours degree in a relevant social science discipline.

Application:

Applicants must submit an electronic copy of their CV and a letter of intent to henrike.rau@nuigalway.ie. The letter of intent should be limited to 2 pages and outline:

- Reasons for application
- Previous training and research experience
- Interest in area of research

Deadline for applications: Friday, 15th May 2009 at 5 pm.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in person or by telephone.

PhD Fellowship (Ref: Consensus NUIG-3)

Behavioural Change 2: Guidelines for the Use of Virtual Mobility Tools (VMT)

Salary: € 20,000 – 20,987 p.a. over three years

Starting date: September 2009

Location: NUI, Galway, School of Political Science and Sociology/DERI

Project description:

Information and communication technology such as web-based public information services can help reduce accessibility problems while also promoting ‘virtual mobility’ (Kenyon 2006, Miller 2006). This project will develop and test a pilot scheme aimed at exploring the advantages and drawbacks of virtual mobility options (e.g. teleworking, travel information, online shopping and banking). The project will be carried out in collaboration with DERI (Digital Enterprise Research Institute) at NUI, Galway. The theoretical part of this project will compare policy measures in Ireland and Europe and analyse examples of international best practice regarding ‘virtual mobility’.

Admission:

The PhD fellowships will be awarded on a competitive basis and applicants will be expected to demonstrate both a strong academic background and aptitude for research. An interest in ICT and well developed computer skills would be an advantage. Candidates should hold, or expect to obtain, at least an upper second class honours degree in a relevant social science discipline.

Application:

Applicants must submit an electronic copy of their CV and a letter of intent to **henrike.rau@nuigalway.ie**. The letter of intent should be limited to 2 pages and outline:

- Reasons for application
- Previous training and research experience
- Interest in area of research

Deadline for applications: Friday, 15th May 2009 at 5 pm.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in person or by telephone.

*Work Package Nos 4-5:
Sustainable Households*

*Work Package Leader:
Professor Anna Davies, Department of Geography, School of Natural Sciences,
Trinity College Dublin
Email: daviesa@tcd.ie*

***PhD Fellowship (Ref: Consensus TCD-1)
Sustainable Households***

Salary: €20,000 – €20,987 p.a. over three years

Starting date: September 2009

Location: TCD, Geography, School of Natural Sciences

Project description:

The promotion of sustainable (household) consumption is an area of major concern within Ireland and internationally. A key challenge for the sustainable consumption agenda is to deepen our understandings of the key determinants, motivations and factors that shape behaviours including incentives and barriers, attitudes, situational context and the interaction between them.

Focusing on sustainable households, specifically relating to energy and water consumption, this PhD project will integrate non-governmental stakeholders and householders in sustainable consumption programme development. Through participatory techniques this project will examine what technological, social and cultural changes will be required to improve sustainable consumption in the home.

Admission:

The PhD fellowship will be awarded on a competitive basis and applicants will be expected to demonstrate both a strong academic background and aptitude for research. Experience of utilising and analysing qualitative social research is required. Experience of interview and focus group methods as well as environmental assessment techniques such as Strategic Environmental Assessment, Life Cycle Analysis and environmental indicators would be an advantage. Candidates should hold, or expect to obtain, at least an upper second class honours degree in a relevant social science discipline.

Application:

Applicants must submit an electronic copy of their CV and a letter of intent to daviesa@tcd.ie. The letter of intent should be limited to two pages and it should outline:

- Reasons for application
- Previous training and research experience
- Interest in area of research

**Deadline for applications: Friday, 5th June 2009 at 5 pm.
(Please note different application date)**

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in person or by telephone.
