

## SFI Public Service Fellowship 2023

<b>1. Name of Governmental Department or Agency</b>
Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
<b>2. Title of the Project</b>
<b>SEAI1</b> Applying an innovation to impact framework to achieve Ireland's clean energy transition
<b>3. Description of the Project</b>
<p>To meet Ireland's climate targets, strategic innovation in the energy sector must develop and expand in a rapid fashion. The role of innovation in the establishment, survival and growth of organisations is understood. However, management approaches to embed innovation into current practices are required to support agile decision making and resource allocation in the context of changing opportunities, as well as time and resource constraints.</p> <p>To achieve breakthroughs, it is required that research outcomes are scaled for population-level clean energy transition impact in Ireland, with a structured but flexible transformative approach that can support innovators in the context of their own organisation and industry. A flexible framework for the Irish energy sector would facilitate development, implementation, testing, evaluation, and fast-cycle iteration and can guide the development of strategic innovation capabilities in Irish organisations over time with a strong foundation.</p>
<b>4. Project Scope</b>
<p>The key outcome of this fellowship would be a framework to be adapted by a public sector body, which can address innovation challenges effectively within different Departments. It is intended to support the public sector in translating knowledge and innovation into continuously developing sustainable innovative programmes that identify and support high impact business opportunities and in turn transform them into purposeful innovations that create significant value for all stakeholders. A concise framework sharing the language of core concepts of innovation and value proposition would be beneficial to SEAI to quantify its potential impacts as part of the Clean Energy Transition.</p> <p>More broadly the framework prescribed should be available to funded research grantees to inform on 'next steps' to translate their research outcomes.</p>
<b>5. Skills/Expertise Required</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A PhD or equivalent in a relevant discipline such as business process management.</li> <li>• Demonstrated skills in innovation management, onboarding decarbonisation approaches, design thinking or similar.</li> </ul>
<b>6. Expected Outputs of Project</b>
The following is a non-exhaustive list of the outputs that could be expected from this fellowship:

An extensive literature review and assessment of:

- Different innovation to impact frameworks
  - Innovation models and management approaches
  - Identify issues and challenges to the Irish energy sector in innovation;
- Design an energy Innovation to Impact Framework for energy funded researchers that will be available on an opensource basis
  - Adaptable process template
  - Core tool template and toolkits
  - Common language and definitions
- Trial of the framework with a number of different departments of SEAI, supports and guidelines on how to use the framework;
- Conduct additional research activities relating to innovation to impact in the energy sector which may be required to support SEAI in delivery of relevant activities.

#### **7. Working Arrangements**

Fellows will be based in the Research and Policy Insights Directorate at SEAI, Three Park Place, Hatch St Upper, Dublin 2. A hybrid working arrangement is in place with SEAI staff in the office 2 days per week.

#### **8. Expected Timeline**

12 months full-time or 24 months part-time

#### **9. Contact Details**