



Post Doctorate - Policy Analyst in Water Services

In Association with the Centre for Freshwater and Environmental Studies
Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT)

An Fóram Uisce- The Water Forum is a statutory body, established to provide a platform for leadership on public engagement and debate on water issues that impact on consumers and the environment. Paying particular focus to the effectiveness of Irish Water and the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plan.

In association with the Centre for Freshwater & Environmental Studies in Dundalk Institute of Technology, An Fóram Uisce now proposes to offer the position of **Post Doctorate - Policy Analyst in Water Services** on an eighteen-month assignment. The successful candidate will assist An Fóram in identifying priority areas and actioning research or other initiatives to advance thinking and policy development with regard to Water and Wastewater Services: Water Conservation, Water Quality Management and the interplay between environmental and commercial considerations in water management, in the context of meeting objectives under the EU Water Framework Directive, which includes the preparation of river basin management plans for Ireland.

Key activities, but not limited to:

Providing critical analysis of water and wastewater service delivery in Ireland. Collaborate with colleagues on cross-functional projects; in particular in ensuring policy advice is informed by the best available knowledge and to contribute where required, to policy advice formation. Assisting in the development of strategies to effectively communicate the findings and recommendations. Represent An Fóram Uisce on working groups to assist in the delivery of its statutory duties to the Minister and advance its Strategic Plan.



Post-Doctoral Research Associate - Water and Wastewater Services

Centre for Freshwater Studies DkIT

Jointly reporting to the DkIT Academic Supervisor and the Research Lead of An Fóram Uisce, the successful candidate will;

1. Provide critical analysis of water and wastewater service delivery in Ireland.
2. Work with the Forum and external stakeholders in identifying key priorities for research or action for water and wastewater services.
3. Undertake research actions as are relevant to the position
4. Compile a databank of water and wastewater service-related statistics and conduct analyses to inform An Fóram reports.
5. Ensure adherence to defined quality standards and policies on all projects undertaken.

As part of An Fórams Team to:

1. Collaborate with colleagues on cross-functional projects, in particular in ensuring policy advice is informed by the best available knowledge and to contribute where required, to policy advice formation.
2. Engage effectively with stakeholders – internal and external – to assist in the delivery of An Fóram's Strategic Plan.
3. Represent An Fóram on working groups, interagency groups etc., as required.
4. Work as part of the team appointed by An Fóram to assist it in delivering on its statutory duties and its Strategic Plan.
5. Contribute in a positive way to the culture of An Fóram, underpinned by continuous improvement.
6. To support An Fóram in its role in relation to the Water Services Policy Statement and to identify any implementation issues arising therefrom.
7. To support An Fóram in its role in relation to Irish Water and to provide reports and recommendations to An Fóram in relation to the Water Services Strategic Plan, Irish Water's Business Plan and Irish Water's Investment Plan and to provide reviews on implementation issues arising therefrom.

8. To identify examples of best practice in Ireland and abroad in the areas of water conservation, source protection and emerging technologies (including rainwater harvesting, water reuse and nutrient recovery).
9. To assist in reviewing the literature, developing briefing papers and assist in drafting of policy and discussion papers and submissions on matters relevant to water and wastewater services.
10. To support the work of An Fóram in providing input and advice on the provision and development of Rural Water Services, Rural Wastewater Services and issues pertaining to private supplies.
11. Develop strategies to effectively communicate the findings and recommendations of both in-house and outsourced analysis to a wide range of stakeholders in order to progress the aims and objectives of An Fóram.

Essential Requirements

Minimum criteria for consideration for the post are:

- Doctoral qualification with a focus on water services and/or wastewater services or within the following preferred disciplines: water resources management, civil engineering or environmental science;
- A sound knowledge of quantitative and qualitative analytical methods;
- Excellent quantitative and data analysis skills, with knowledge of appropriate software packages and strong IT skills;
- Have sound knowledge of water and wastewater services policy;
- Have sound knowledge and understanding of one or more of the following: water resources management, integrated catchment management, stakeholder engagement, environmental policy.

The following requirements should also be met:

- Experience in evaluation, research and policy development and report writing;
- Ability to analyse and evaluate information and make viable recommendations;
- Strong written and oral communication skills with the capacity to write simply and clearly, and to explain complex information to a wide range of stakeholders including non-technical audiences;

- An understanding and appreciation of the water-focused policy environment and of the science-policy interface in Ireland and internationally;
- Capacity to respond efficiently to urgent requests for data;
- Good judgement and a practical problem-solving approach;
- Flexibility, commitment and capacity to work as a member of a team;

- Ability to work as a self-starter, ability to work on own initiative;
- A clear thinker with an aptitude for precision and attention to detail;
- Good interpersonal skills and capacity to develop partnerships;
- Good administrative and organisational ability;
- Capacity to engage with a broad range of actors and stakeholders to deliver on research projects and initiatives;
- Ability to manage multiple projects at the same time with competing priorities.

Next Steps:

A full description of duties and the requirements of the successful candidate is available as well as an application form on <https://www.dkit.ie/human-resource/vacancies> and www.thewaterforum.ie If you wish to have an initial discussion about the role please contact Dr Suzanne Linnane, Principal Investigator suzanne.linnane@dkit.ie or Dr Alec Rolston, Research Lead alec@nationalwaterforum.ie

Application form & job description may be accessed on the DKIT on-line e-Recruitment system. No other form of application will be accepted.

<https://www.dkit.ie/human-resource/vacancies>

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is 10.00am, on Monday 27 July 2020. Late applications are not accepted.

If experiencing any difficulty in using the on-line e-recruitment system please contact our Recruitment Office on 042 9370223/9370200 for assistance or email HR@dkit.ie.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Shortlisting may apply and will be based on the information supplied on application forms and the requirements of the position. It is therefore important to ensure that you read and understand fully the information contained in this candidate information booklet and reflect your experience and abilities appropriately in the application, providing appropriate evidence.