

FUNDED RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

MASTER of BUSINESS (by RESEARCH)

Cork Institute of Technology's research programme includes support for investigative analysis of particular relevance to Irish and European Industry. Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates to undertake research into the linkages and relationships among firms in a particular industry sector:

Sectors Suitable for Research: Agri-Food / Internationally Traded Services / Renewable Energy / Tourism

Applicants for this Master of Business programme should have an honours degree (minimum 2H1) in any of the following areas: Business, Business Information Systems, Commerce or Economics. They should be individuals who pay great attention to detail, possess good writing and communication skills, and be highly motivated. Successful applicants will be registered for a MBus through research and will be paid a grant to cover fees and maintenance for two academic years.

To apply: Applicants are requested to submit via email attachments (Word or PDF format only) quoting reference 'Industry Cluster Research' as the subject of the e-mail:

- i) Full curriculum vitae including detailed college exam grades, work experience etc;
- ii) A covering letter explaining why you wish to pursue a MBS (research) and why you are specifically interested in this project; and
- lii) Contact details of two referees.

For further details or to submit an application please contact:

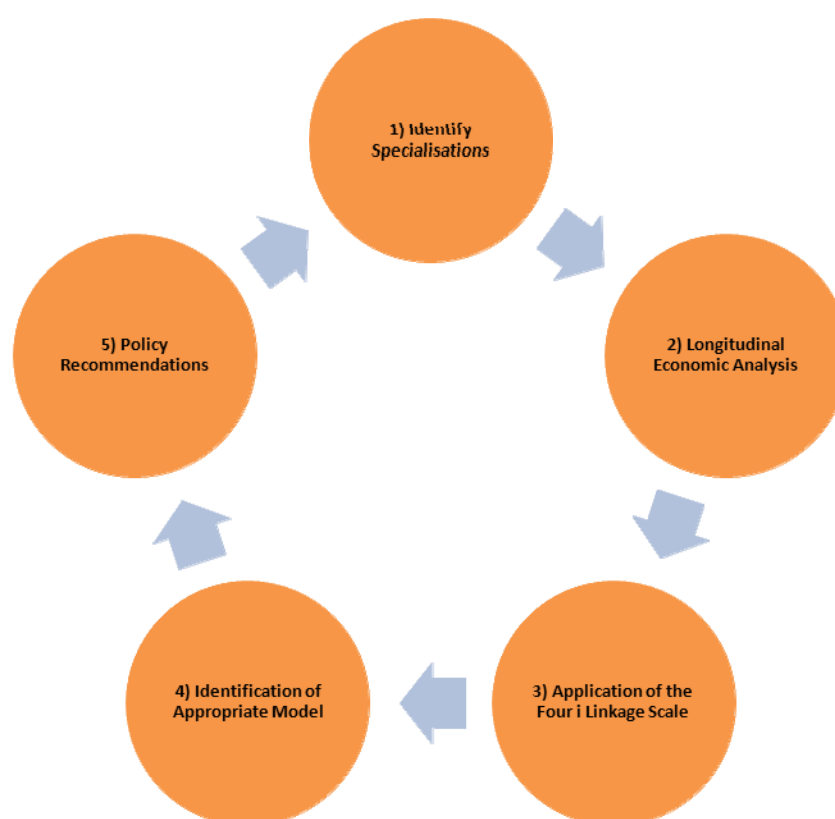
Dr John Hobbs,
Department of Accounting and Information Systems,
School of Business,
Cork Institute of Technology,
Bishopstown,
Cork.
T: (021) 433 5149
E: john.hobbs@cit.ie

Closing date: Friday, 29th June, 2012

Objectives: A better understanding of the linkages firms operate to produce better and more appropriate policy making in the future.

The overall objective of this work is to gain a better understanding of the linkages and relationships that operate between firms in particular industry sectors in Ireland. Assessment and measurement of these linkages will allow the researchers to assess the levels of Industry Clustering (Porter, 1998) that are present in Ireland in sectors of national importance. This information can be used to inform policy interventions which promote the economic development of a sector and its future employment prospects in Ireland. The proposed research method for this project draws from Hobbs (2010) PhD thesis which addressed the development of the biotechnology sector in Ireland.

A Framework for the Analysis of Spatial Specialisations of Industry (Hobbs, 2010).



Output from the Study

The project will produce a report on the industry sector which will detail the following aspects:

- An account of the economic development of the sector over the past 20 years.
- An assessment of the linkages / relationships which operate in the industry sector.
- Identification of the industrial organisation model in the sector.
- Targeted policy recommendations aimed at developing the sector in Ireland.

Findings from the research study will be presented to sponsors and at International conferences such as the Irish Academy of Management and Regional Science Association.