



## Chain 5 Forum Dublin

Contextual Briefing for International Guests – June 2018

*Dr Joseph Ryan, CEO, THEA*

# Welcome to Ireland



# Retreat into the national sphere

- Ireland as a small open economy on the periphery
- Brexit
- *America first*
- Bertelsmann Stiftung's Globalization Report 2018
- Ireland ranked first of 42 industrialized and emerging states in the group's latest globalization index

# Higher education institutions in Ireland

## Institutes of Technology

8. Athlone Institute of Technology
9. Cork Institute of Technology
10. Dublin Institute of Technology
11. Dundalk Institute of Technology
12. Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
13. Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design & Technology
14. Institute of Technology Blanchardstown
15. Institute of Technology Carlow
16. Institute of Technology Sligo
17. Institute of Technology Tralee
18. Institute of Technology Tallaght
19. Letterkenny Institute of Technology
20. Limerick Institute of Technology
21. Waterford Institute of Technology

## Private Colleges

25. Dublin Business School
26. National College of Ireland
27. Royal College of Surgeons
28. Hibernia College
29. Griffith College

## Universities

1. Dublin City University
2. Maynooth University
3. National University of Ireland Galway
4. Trinity College Dublin
5. University College Cork
6. University College Dublin
7. University of Limerick

## Colleges

22. Mary Immaculate College
23. National College of Art and Design
24. St Angela's College Sligo



# Higher Education System

- Predominantly a public system
  - Total enrolments in system (2016-17): 225,628
- Institutes of Technology
  - Total enrolments (2016-17): 89,705 (40%)
  - Full-time enrolments (2016-17): 67,636 (37%)
  - Part-time enrolments (2016-17): 19,339 (51%)
  - Remote enrolments (2016-17): 2,730 (37%)
- Universities and Colleges of Education
  - Total enrolments (2016-17): 135,293 (60%)
  - Full-time enrolments (2016-17): 112,974 (63%)
  - Part-time enrolments (2016-17): 18,294 (48%)
  - Remote enrolments (2016-17): 4,655(63%)



## National Framework of Qualifications



### AWARDING BODIES

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) makes awards in further and higher education and training
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education and Skills)
- Institutes of Technology
- Universities

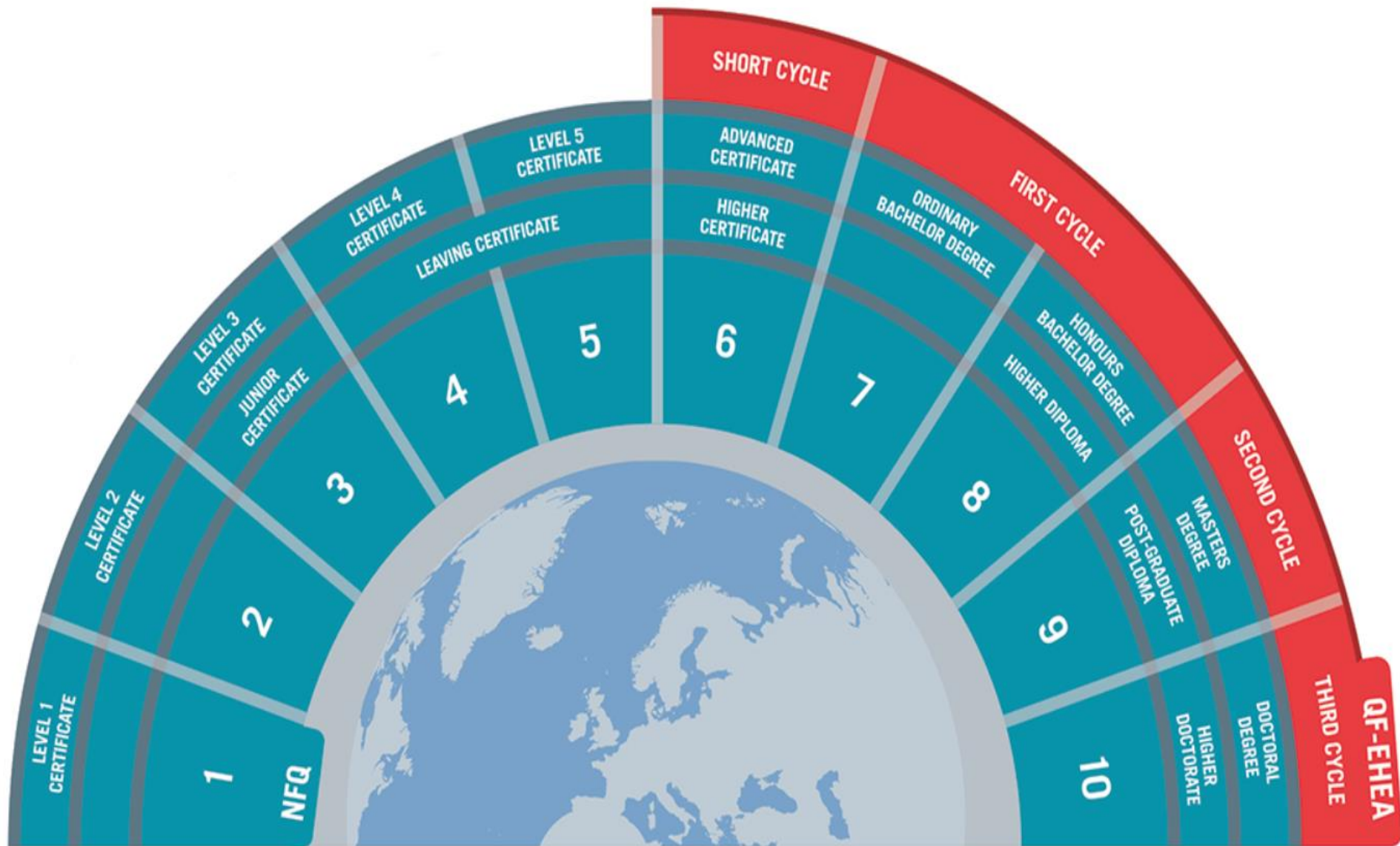
### AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four classes of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:



- Major Awards:** named in the outer rings, are the principal class of awards made at a level
- Minor Awards:** are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- Supplemental Awards:** are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- Special Purpose Awards:** are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

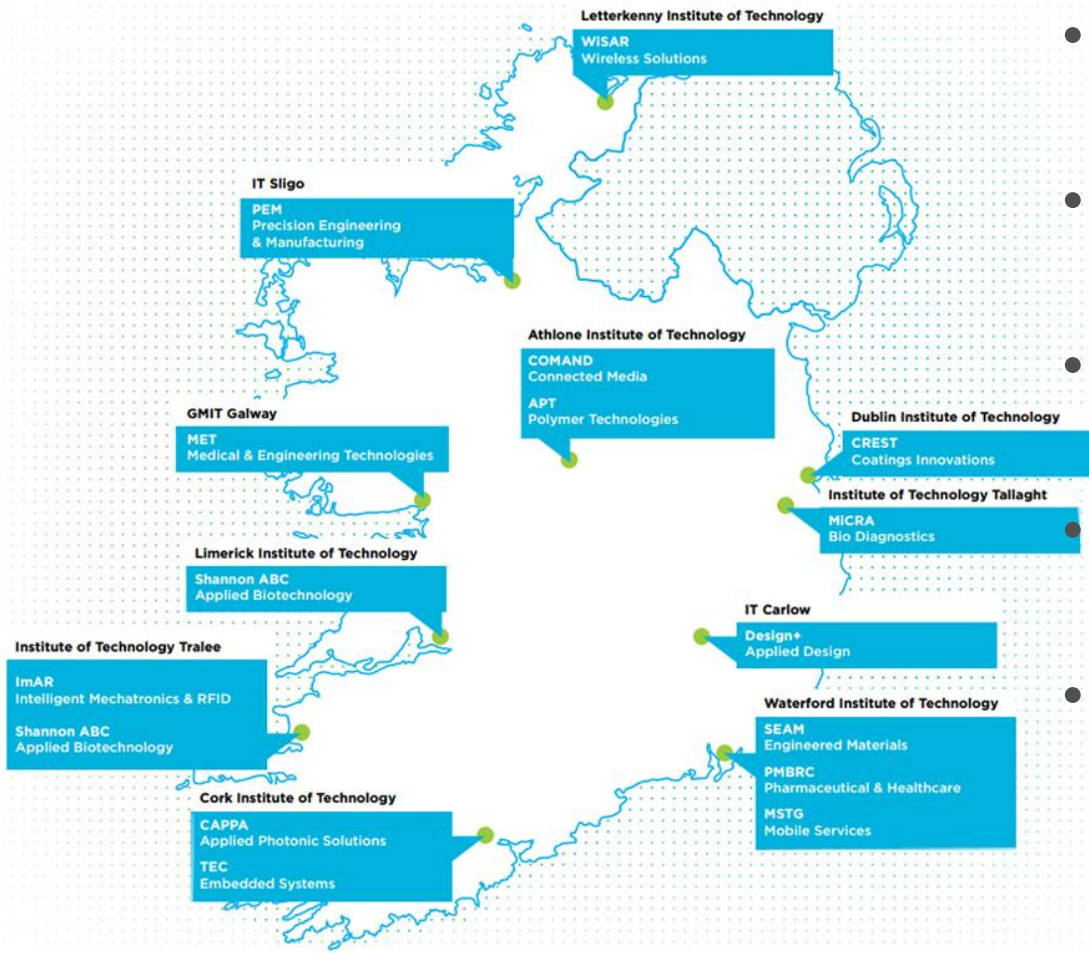
# Institutes' Qualifications: alignment with QF-EHEA



# Disciplinary Mix – Taught Programmes

<b>STEMM</b> <b>51%</b>	Science, Mathematics and Computing 19%
	Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction 16%
	Health and Welfare 14%
	Agriculture and Veterinary 2%
<b>Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences</b> <b>34%</b>	Humanities and Arts 12%
	Social Science, Business and Law 22%
<b>Services and Other</b> <b>14%</b>	Services 13%
	General Programmes 1%

# Technology Gateway Network



- Enterprise Ireland funded 'Technology Gateways' in IOTs
- Model that engages SMEs in collaborative RDI with IOTs
- Builds capability in key research areas
- Builds and deepens industry research partnerships
- €26 million in projects with industry between 2013 and 2017 (50% industry cash contribution)

# Expansion in EU funding

## Interreg

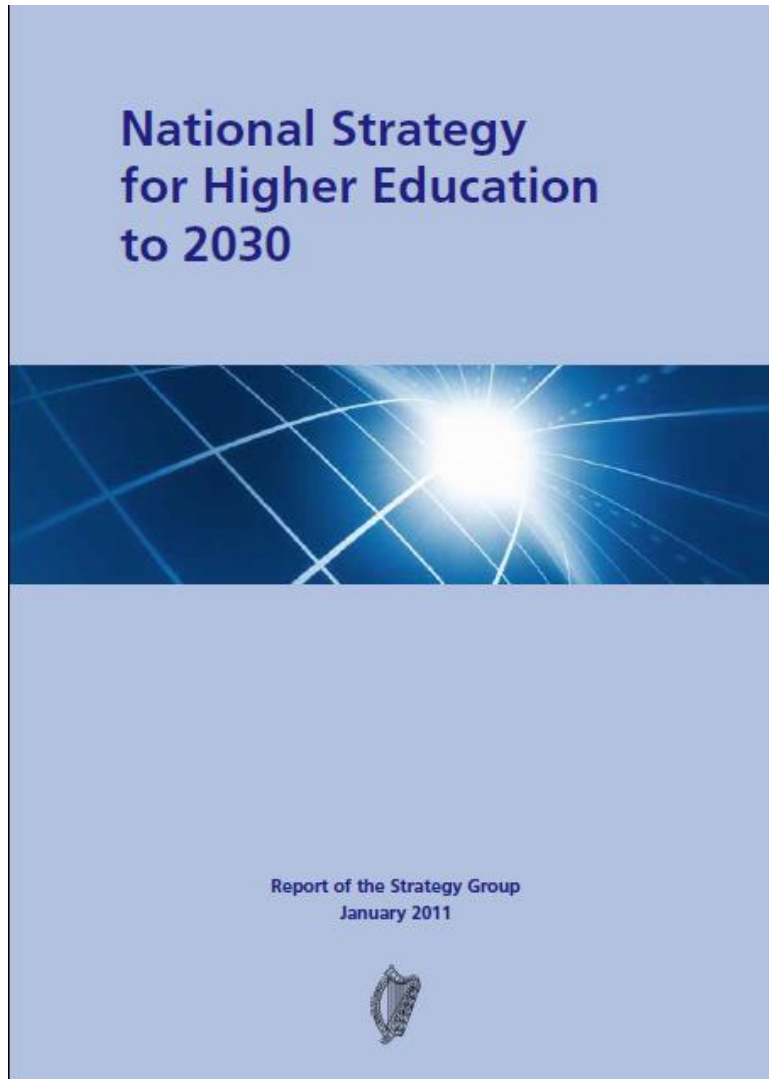
- Bryden Centre for Advanced Marine and Bio-Energy Research
- Funded by INTERREG VA (Scotland, NI and Border Regions of ROI)
- Supporting industry-led research in renewable energy
- Coordinated by Letterkenny Institute
- €2.7M award to LYIT
- Training 7 PhD Candidates

## Horizon 2020

- Mantel
- Funded by Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions
- European Joint Doctorate
- 8 partners from 7 countries
- Coordinated by Dundalk Institute of Technology
- €532,000 award to DKIT
- Training 12 PhD candidates

In general, INTERREG participation generates higher income than Horizon 2020 participation

# Technological Universities



- Foreseen in the National Strategy for HE to 2030
- Criteria informed: at least two institutes must merge to form a TU
- Four consortia at present:
  - TU4Dublin: DIT, ITB, ITTD
  - TUSE: WIT & ITC
  - CUA: ITS, GMIT, LYIT
  - MTU: ITT & CIT
- Research & Innovation will be at the forefront of the activities of a TU => R&I will grow significantly

# Current major themes

## **Funding**

- Expert report chaired by Peter Cassells
- RFAM review and implementation
- Capital injection

## **Structural**

- Landscape reform

## **National Planning Framework to 2040**

- Launched IT Sligo February 2018

- **Governance considerations**
  - Coherent & effective structures
- **Catalytic regional focus**
- **Coherence with current policy suite**
- **Active democracy**
- **Staff & Representative commitment**
- **Adherence to diversified mission**
  - LLL & modes of delivery
  - Apprenticeship and skills

# Technological Universities Act 2018

- Opportunity entails sacrifice
- Excellent record & rooted in community; distinctive mission
- Functions of a TU
  - provide teaching and facilitate learning that—
    - (i) is informed by research, and
    - (ii) promotes excellence at all levels of higher education within the Framework
  - research that includes research relevant at regional, national, and international levels
  - support entrepreneurship, enterprise development, and innovation in business, enterprise and the professions
  - to promote the involvement of those stakeholders in the design and delivery of programmes of education and training

# Paris Conference Higher Education 24-25 May 2018

- Revised overarching framework for qualifications in the EHEA
- Comprising short cycle qualifications
- Occupational and progression outcomes
- ... “underpinning for a field of work or vocation, personal development, and further studies...”
- Set here within EHEA
- The notion of multipurpose bridge



# Paris Communiqué May 2018

- Adherence to Bologna path
- Specific recognition of importance of ECTS-based short cycle qualifications
- Outcomes
  - Employment
  - Progression
  - Improving social cohesion
- Ireland with 66% of age cohort accessing HE
- Need to improve on LLL

# The challenge of mezzanine levels

- Levels 6 and 9 on the NFQ Ireland
- Increasing focus on inclusion
- Competencies
- Reference in Communique to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- Goal 4 quality education
- *By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university*



thea

TECHNOLOGICAL HIGHER  
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

# Thank you

