



## Support Program: AgTech Innovation Centre



### Name of the Organisations Involved

- AgTech Innovation Centre of University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland

### Challenges Identified

AgTechUCD is University Accelerator to stimulate Agriculture Innovation. It promotes and accelerates early-stage startups and SMEs with disruptive innovations in Ireland and Europe in the AgTech, Agrifood, Veterinary and Equine sectors, as they build their innovative businesses into leading enterprises. AgTechUCD is helping startups to get customer and investor-ready, and to scale globally, delivering a suite of programmes and tailored support for startups, including:

- Innovation Days - generating solutions for the agricultural industry,
- Incubator - helping new startups to build out their business models.

### Goals and Solution

Based at the UCD Lyons Farm, AgTechUCD offers the only on farm workspace hub to promote and accelerate agri-businesses and startups. AgTechUCD provides access to on-farm experimental facilities, allowing testing and trialling of products and services in a real-world environment. Startups also have preferred access to UCD food processing facilities, access to Venture Capital & Business Angels networks, mentoring, corporate partners, office and lab spaces, and much more.

### Actions taken

AgTechUCD is running a series of Innovation Days. These Innovation Days aim to generate solutions for some of the agricultural industries biggest challenges.

AgTechUCD Agccelerator Programme is a 12-week accelerator programme for early-stage startups in Ireland and Europe, in the AgTech, FoodTech, VetTech and BioAgTech sectors, supporting startups as they build their innovative businesses into leading enterprises.

The programme is delivered online 2 mornings per week (Tuesday & Thursday) and fast tracks the business development and leadership skills. The Agccelerator is tailored to understand the needs and challenges facing your startup, giving you the tools and templates, support and guidance needed to accelerate your startup. Industry experts and mentors will also support you throughout the programme.

### Benefits and Impact

- Support of agriculture related startups in business development, access-to-finance and access-to-market,
- Reducing the lead time for startup creation and startup growth,

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- Mentoring, coaching and training of agriculture-oriented entrepreneurs.



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### Contact Information

Email: [niamh.collins1@ucd.ie](mailto:niamh.collins1@ucd.ie)

Website: <https://www.ucd.ie/innovation/about-agtechucd/>

Linked-in: <https://bit.ly/3elxxfT>

Social media: X: @AgTechUCD

### Prepared by

Wolfgang Kniejski (INI-Novation GmbH)

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