Dear «First\_Name»,

I hope this email finds you well.

By way of introduction my name is Brenda Blake and I work as a Research Support Officer in the Irish Research Council. I am currently supporting the launch of H2020 MSCA COFUND DOROTHY, and we would love to involve «Company» as a potential secondment host.

To give you some context, the DOROTHY programme, led by the [Irish Research Council](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fresearch.ie%2F&data=04%7C01%7CBBlake%40research.ie%7Ca079484e09944c02fc3808d9405d7356%7C0aea2147cbd34025a822a3fe4746e7af%7C0%7C0%7C637611592396566086%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Dq3ip4W2hYv5yaNtoKbRsoyYkHxEiqzQ4y2j4A%2FqN84%3D&reserved=0) in collaboration with the [Health Research Board (HRB)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hrb.ie%2F&data=04%7C01%7CBBlake%40research.ie%7Ca079484e09944c02fc3808d9405d7356%7C0aea2147cbd34025a822a3fe4746e7af%7C0%7C0%7C637611592396576079%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ACZaqpPvDEoAcPncUK62nIFAiqxf1x6mCH4l4bMnghw%3D&reserved=0) and the [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.epa.ie%2F&data=04%7C01%7CBBlake%40research.ie%7Ca079484e09944c02fc3808d9405d7356%7C0aea2147cbd34025a822a3fe4746e7af%7C0%7C0%7C637611592396576079%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=AMUhR7nNdKMA90cb51NahiluFDsDSNhr5OC4u1uT3OU%3D&reserved=0) and co-funded by the European Union, will promote effective international cooperation across multiple disciplines and will create innovative research networks, with a potential focus on the impact of Covid-19 from differing perspectives including the arts, humanities, education, political economy, environmental studies, engineering and immunology.

Under the scheme, 25 researchers will be awarded a three-year postdoctoral fellowship, with a total value of €5.5 million, which will allow them to work in both Irish and overseas research institutions. For more information on the programme, please click [here](https://research.ie/funding/dorothy-cofund-programme/?f=postdoctoral).

**Secondment host – a distinctive feature of DOROTHY**

A distinctive feature of DOROTHY is that each of the fellows will have the opportunity to do a secondment, between 3 and 6 months, at any stage of their fellowship. The goal of a secondment is to offer fellows the opportunity to engage with the non-academic sector to acquire research skills, with a focus on how research is done and approached in a non-academic setting, (e.g. different methodologies, infrastructures). As a result of these new skills, networks and exposure opportunities, these non-academic secondments will accelerate the fellows post-DOROTHY career. Fellows will have the opportunity to include a secondment either at proposal submission or implementation stage.

**Secondment host: practical information**

Secondment hosts will not be required to commit any monetary contribution, since the DOROTHY programme will cover both the fellow’s salary and research expenses. All that is required from the secondment host is a commitment to some form of supervision (in practice, a nominated point of contact) who will provide orientation and integration in the new environment, to ensure that the experience is valuable both to the fellow and the host organisation.

**Allocation of secondment host**

Fellows will be able to either propose a secondment partner or to select one from a list of possible secondment hosts provided on the DOROTHY website. Once applicants have identified a secondment host, they are responsible for making contact with the host to discuss the opportunity and identify a point of contact. The call will open at the end of 2021, at which point interested fellows may browse the list of secondment hosts on the website and may reach out to you. Fellows will never be automatically allocated to secondment hosts, rather both parties should agree to proceed once a point of contact has been agreed and a mutually beneficial experience is identified.

**Our request of you**

As we currently collate our list of secondment hosts for the DOROTHY website, we would like to ask if you would be interested in being included in this list of potential partners. If so, we would kindly ask you to fill out and submit the following [form](https://dcya.wufoo.com/forms/z4tjivl1ixrt09/), which requests the name of your organisation, and a contact email.

Something we find particularly exciting about DOROTHY is its commitment to building bridges between academia, industry, non-profit and policymaking. We find great value in bringing together various stakeholders which will enable the fellows to bring about a wide-encompassing innovative understanding to public health practices, which has the potential to go well beyond fellows and the institutions involved. We hope that you have availability to join us in this exciting and innovative programme.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at DOROTHY@research.ie

With best wishes,

Brenda

**Brenda Blake**

**IRC Research Support Officer**

Irish Research Council, *An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn*

3 Shelbourne Buildings, *3 Áras Síol mBrain*

Crampton Avenue, *Ascaill Crampton*

Ballsbridge, *Droichead na Dothra*

Dublin, *Baile Átha Cliath*

D04 C2Y6 Phone: +0353 1 2315000



Any email from the Irish Research Council, or any of the email's attachments, may contain confidential or privileged information and is intended solely for the addressee. If you are not the intended recipient or have received this email in error, please delete it immediately and contact us. Any unauthorised use (including disclosure, publication, copying or distribution) of the email or its attachments is prohibited. Any views given in this message are the sender's own and do not represent the views of the Irish Research Council, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of the Irish Research Council. Accordingly, we disclaim all responsibility and accept no liability (including negligence) for the consequences of any person other than the intended recipients acting or refraining from acting, on such information. Registered Office: Irish Research Council, 3 Shelbourne Buildings, Crampton Avenue, Shelbourne Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, DO4 C2Y6, Ireland