

Welcome to the IVI newsletter, updating you on the latest news and upcoming events from the Innovation Value Institute. **This month:** IVI researchers go international!

IVI Summit 2026 - only one week to go!

The biggest ever IVI Summit is almost here, with our most international programme yet. Across three days, 10th to 12th June, we'll welcome leaders in research, business, technology and government to Maynooth.

- 90+ speakers
- 15+ countries represented
- 8 co-creation workshops, 4 thought leader addresses, 4 inspiring talks, 3 roundtables and 1 masterclass

The full schedule includes speakers from HSE, ESB, Kerry Group as well as Intel (US), Counterpoint Research (Japan), and internationally significant researchers from Sweden to Hong Kong to Kenya.

Registration is now open with a special discounted rate available for newsletter subscribers with the code **IVINEWS26**. Use this code to register for only €250 for all three days (regular registration €395).



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Maynooth University
National University
of Ireland Maynooth

IVI Summit 2026

20 Years of Impactful Research – What's Next?

The future of work in the age of AI . . . Data and risk in a changing world
Digital transformation . . . The international research landscape
Technology and societal change . . . And more

The ENTRUST project coordinated by IVI held its Training Week T5 on Research Exploitation from 18–22 May 2026 in Växjö, Sweden, hosted by Södra. The event brought together doctoral candidates, supervisors, and industry partners for an intensive programme focused on translating research into real-world impact.

Aligned with ENTRUST's mission to advance trustworthy agri-data governance, the training combined academic and industry perspectives. Participants engaged in sessions on IP exploitation, sustainability, qualitative research methods, and European food supply chains, alongside workshops on data ecosystems, visualisation, and technologies for sustainable agriculture.

Highlights included a mini-conference with external stakeholders and an away day exploring the forestry-furniture value chain, offering practical insights into data-driven innovation.

The programme also supported career development through sessions on funding, impact measurement, and entrepreneurship, concluding with a focus on growth mindset and innovation skills.

Overall, the Training Week reinforced ENTRUST's commitment to interdisciplinary, intersectoral training and impactful research in the agri-food sector.

IVI doctoral researchers had this to say -

"T5 created valuable opportunities for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and understanding how research can create practical impact across sustainable and data-driven ecosystems." - *Fjolla Berisha*

"Training Week 5 connected research with real industry practice, and broadened my perspective on sustainability, innovation, and forestry. The main value I gained was the opportunity to learn from diverse experts and meaningful discussions." - *Erica Tegolo*

"T5 strengthened my knowledge about how to create resilient data sharing and how its exploitation creates real-world impact through innovation and stakeholder engagement. It was great to show the technologies in person, demonstrating how data is being collected." - *Leidiane da Silva*



Digital Business Research in Austria

Doctoral researchers Sana Kiran and Andrea Tordecilla Sanders represented the Innovation Value Institute at the 9th International Digital Business Research Day (DBRD) 2026 in Steyr, Austria. Sana presented her ongoing PhD research across open data, data quality, smart mobility, and agentic AI. Andrea presented her work on governance for bias control in adaptive AI systems applied to HR recruitment. The two days brought thoughtful feedback and new perspectives from researchers across the European Digital Business Network and the conversations carried on well beyond the sessions, through the dinner and guided tour that give DBRD its supportive atmosphere.



AI & Emergency Medicine

IVI Digital Health & Wellbeing Cluster Lead Dr Marco Alfano recently had the honour of participating in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Irish Emergency Medicine Trainee Association (IEMTA), where he delivered a talk and took part in a panel discussion on the ethical use of AI to empower healthcare professionals and patients. The clear central message was that responsible AI in healthcare should empower people, not replace them.

Dr Alfano said, "It was a highly engaging and thought-provoking discussion. AI is now part of our everyday lives - it cannot and should not be ignored, but it must be used in a way that ensures humans always have the final say."

Exclusive newsletter subscriber registration

We are offering newsletter subscribers an exclusive discounted rate for Summit attendance. Visit the [registration page](#) and enter the code **IVINEWS26** to unlock the option to register **for only €250** (standard registration €395). This includes all three days of the IVI Summit, including the option to attend the Summit Gala Dinner at the Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth on 11th June.

Additional registration options are available for PhD/early career researchers, Maynooth University colleagues and IVI members. Contact us for details, and [learn more about becoming a member here](#).

We look forward to seeing you in Maynooth in June to discuss, debate, learn and shape the digital future together.

IVI Summit details & registration

Innovation Value Institute | Eolas Building, North Campus Maynooth University Co. Kildare | Maynooth Co Kildare, 0
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