



**TUS**

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Sionainne:  
Lár Tíre, An tIarthar Láir  
Technological University of the Shannon:  
Midlands Midwest

**Faculty of Business and Hospitality  
Department of Business and Management**

**Report of External Validation Panel**

**External Validation Panel 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**for the**

**Master of Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global  
Logistics  
Post Graduate Diploma in Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management  
and Global Logistics**

<b>Proposing Faculty/School</b>	Faculty of Business and Hospitality
<b>Department</b>	Department of Business and Management
<b>Award and Programme Titles (NFQ Level) and (ECTS Credits)</b>	<p>Master of Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics  Level 09  Required Credits: 90  Delivery Mode: Full Time  Start Term: 202600  Award Class: Masters (Taught)  Award Type: Master of Science</p>
<b>Award and Programme Titles (NFQ Level) and (ECTS Credits)</b>	<p>Post Graduate Diploma in Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics  Level 09  Required Credits: 60  Delivery Mode: Full Time  Start Term: 202600  Award Class: Post Graduate Diploma  Award Type: Postgraduate Diploma in Science</p>
<b>Type &amp; Date of Panel</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Internal Panel <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> External Panel Date of Panel:            11/02/2026
<b>Panel Membership</b>	<p>Dr Billy Bennett (Chairperson of Panel)  Registrar &amp; Chief Academic Officer  Atlantic Technological University (ATU)</p> <p>Dr Lorraine Cowley  Head of School of Logistics and Maritime Studies  Bahrain Polytechnic</p> <p>Dr Cathal Kearney  Former Registrar  Dundalk Institute of Technology</p> <p>Mr Patrick Claffey  Managing Director  QMP Consulting</p> <p>Mr Vincent Glennon  CEO Critical Healthcare Limited</p> <p>Ms Kamaljeet Kaur  Student Representative</p>

	<p>Dr Sarah O'Toole (Secretary to Panel) Regional Tertiary Education Manager TUS Midwest campus</p> <p>Amanda Ryan Quality Officer TUS Midlands campus</p>
<p><b>Management &amp; Programme Team</b></p>	<p>Dean of Faculty of Business and Hospitality</p> <p>Seadna Ryan Head of Department of Business and Management Dr Alison Sheridan</p> <p>Dr Teresa O'Hara Senior Lecturer</p> <p>Programme Team: Sinead O'Connell, Alex Courtney, Dr Jason Palframan Prof Marc Cashin, Stephanie Duffy, Barry O'Loughlin</p>
<p><b>Programme Rationale</b></p>	<p><b><u>Master of Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics</u></b></p> <p>The Master of Science (MSc) in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics is designed to address the critical, evolving need for professionals who can bridge the gap between traditional logistics efficiency and modern sustainability, ethical standards, and digital transformation. The programme serves as a strategic response to global pressures, such as climate change, regulatory compliance (ESG), and supply chain resilience, which demand that organisations transition towards a circular, decarbonized model.</p> <p>The rationale for this MSc focuses on a fundamental shift in the global business landscape, where "business as usual" is no longer viable due to environmental, social, and economic pressures.</p>

- **Addressing Global Sustainability Challenges:** The programme prepares business leaders to tackle pressing environmental and ethical issues, including carbon footprint reduction, ethical sourcing, and waste reduction across end-to-end networks.
- **Industry Demand for Specialised Skills:** There is a significant skill gap, with companies urgently seeking professionals who can integrate sustainability into supply chain operations. Graduates are equipped with both technical (data analytics, AI, blockchain) and, more importantly, sustainable management expertise.
- **Regulatory Compliance and Risk Management:** With increasing government and international regulations regarding supply chain transparency and ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) standards, this programme ensures companies can navigate these complex, mandatory requirements.
- **Resilience in a Post-Covid World/Geopolitical Conflicts:** The pandemic and geopolitical conflicts highlighted the fragility of global supply chains. This programme teaches strategies for building resilient, flexible networks that can withstand future disruptions.

Core Programme Pillars

- **Sustainable Competitiveness:** Rather than treating sustainability as a cost, the programme frames it as a competitive advantage. Sustainable, lean, and ethical supply chains improve brand reputation,

attract conscious consumers, and reduce long-term operational risks.

- Digital Transformation: The programme integrates modern technology (AI, IoT, Automation) to increase visibility, efficiency, and transparency in logistics, allowing for better decision-making.
- Circular Economy Integration: A key focus is moving away from linear "take-make-dispose" models toward circular business models that focus on reuse, recycling, and sustainable sourcing.

#### Career and Educational Opportunities

- High-Growth Career Opportunities: The job market for sustainability professionals is expanding, with "green jobs" growing by over 11% annually, outpacing the supply of qualified candidates.
- Senior Management Potential: The programme targets professionals aiming for middle and senior roles, such as Supply Chain Manager, Sustainability Director, or Logistics Consultant.
- Relevance Across Industries: The skills acquired are transferable across manufacturing, retail, pharmaceuticals, food, public sector and technology, with 77% of graduates in similar programmes finding employment within six months.

The MSc in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics is a necessary, industry-relevant qualification that provides the tools to create a resilient, ethical, and profitable future for global business.

#### **Post Graduate Diploma in Science in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics**

The PGDip in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics is designed to address the critical, evolving need for professionals who can bridge the gap between traditional logistics efficiency and modern sustainability, ethical standards, and digital transformation. The programme serves as a strategic response to global pressures, such as climate change, regulatory compliance (ESG), and supply chain resilience, which demand that organisations transition towards a circular, decarbonised model. The rationale for this PGDip focuses on a fundamental shift in the global business landscape, where "business as usual" is no longer viable due to environmental, social, and economic pressures.

- **Addressing Global Sustainability Challenges:** The programme prepares business leaders to tackle pressing environmental and ethical issues, including carbon footprint reduction, ethical sourcing, and waste reduction across end-to-end networks.
- **Industry Demand for Specialised Skills:** There is a significant skill gap, with companies urgently seeking professionals who can integrate sustainability into supply chain operations. Graduates are equipped with both technical (data analytics, AI, blockchain) and, more importantly, sustainable management expertise.
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#### Core Programme Pillars

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance Across Industries: The skills acquired are transferable across manufacturing, retail, pharmaceuticals, food, public sector and technology, with 77% of graduates in similar programmes finding employment within six months.</li> </ul> <p>The PGDip in Sustainable Supply Chain Management and Global Logistics is a necessary, industry-relevant qualification that provides the tools to create a resilient, ethical, and profitable future for global business.</p>
<p><b>Validation Meeting Agenda/Summary</b></p>	<p><u>Private Meeting of Panel</u></p> <p><u>Meeting with Management Team</u></p> <p>General Overview and Strategic Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationale for the Programme</li> <li>• Demand for Graduates/ Employability</li> <li>• Staffing, Facilities and Resources</li> <li>• Access/Transfer and Progression routes</li> </ul> <p>Presentation delivered to the Panel</p> <p><u>Meeting with Programme team</u></p> <p>Programme Level Considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External Stakeholder Engagement</li> <li>• Access, Transfer &amp; Progression</li> <li>• Programme Structure</li> <li>• Programme Learning Outcomes</li> <li>• Teaching, Learning &amp; Assessment Strategy</li> <li>• Review of Programme Schedules</li> </ul> <p>Curriculum &amp; Module Descriptors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Module Learning Outcomes</li> <li>• Indicative Syllabus Content</li> <li>• Assessment/Repeat Assess Strategy</li> <li>• Module Resources</li> </ul> <p><u>Private Meeting of Panel</u></p> <p><u>Meeting with Senior Management</u></p> <p>Presentation of Summary Findings</p>

<b>Main Findings</b>	See details below.
<b>Commendations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The panel commends the team for the comprehensive and detailed programme documentation provided.</li> <li>2. The panel commends the management and programme team for their positive and detailed discussion and engagement with the panel.</li> <li>3. The panel commends the team for the development of this programme reflecting industry and market needs.</li> </ol>
<b>Conditions</b> (Note: Only applicable to External Validation Panels)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revise the Project module to ensure that it is sufficiently detailed and more explicitly linked to the aims of the programme. As the capstone module for the programme, the module description needs to be reviewed to be more explicit as to the nature and focus of the research to be undertaken. Include a detailed marking rubric. Revisit the reference to the module being a failed element. Review the title of the module which may be more appropriately titled Applied Research Project, or a similar title.</li> </ol>
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Programme Recommendations</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure students have sufficient exposure to industry through site visits, case studies, simulations and guest speakers and document these in the programme document and individual modules.</li> <li>2. Clarify in the entry requirements, the nature and level of experience that applicants should have to qualify for RPL.</li> <li>3. Review the programme title to ensure it is succinct and consider if the terms 'global' and 'sustainable' are suitable within the title.</li> <li>4. In the programme document, ensure that the mapping to awards standards, graduate attributes and programme learning outcomes is linked to specific modules.</li> <li>5. Review the programme assessment strategy to ensure assessments are varied, to include reflective practice, and that final exams are not too highly weighted.</li> <li>6. Review modules titles to ensure they are succinct and that module assessment</li> </ol>

matches that within the programme/assessment schedule.

7. Ensure all modules have up to date reading lists and relevant online resources.
8. Consider including a standalone module on technology to replace the module Sustainability, Innovation and Supply Chain Technology
9. Consider including a standalone module on leadership to replace the module Strategic Management and Leadership, that addresses teamwork, conflict, negotiation, intercultural issues etc.
10. Consider the opportunities for external accreditation within the programme e.g., CIPS, CILT.

#### **Module Recommendations**

##### **11. Global Purchasing and Supply Management**

Consider the title of the module with regard to the content within. 'Procurement' may be more appropriate than 'purchasing' in the title.

Risk could move from the Supply Chain Finance module to this module.

##### **12. Supply Chain Finance and Risk Management**

Review the amount of content in this module.

Review the weighting for the final exam.

##### **13. Research Methods**

Consider using online resources such as Epigeum to address ethical matters.

##### **14. Sustainability, Innovation and Supply Chain Technology**

Note recommendation no. 8 above.


##### **15. Global Logistics and Transport Management**

Consider including reference to green logistics and waste management within the module syllabus

##### **16. Strategic Management and Leadership**

Consider opportunities for group work focused on leadership skills incorporating groupwork and negotiation skills to be incorporated throughout the module. (note recommendation 9 above)

##### **17. Supply Chain and Logistics Analytics**

	Review the assessments weighting within the module to be more balanced across the lab exams and the final examination.
<b>Chairperson Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	13/02/2026