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## UCC team to share €2m EU funding for development of eco-friendly chip

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By Peter Flanagan New Technology Correspondent  
Thursday January 10 2013

RESEARCHERS at UCC are to share EU funding worth nearly €2m under a plan to develop low-power microchips that are environmentally friendly.

The scientists are part of the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7), which funds scientific research.

Under the scheme, the EU has given €1.6m to a consortium involving the [UCC](#) staff to develop the new chips, which could help mobile phones and mobile computing devices last "substantially longer" using the same battery.

If the project succeeds, it will mean that in some applications recharging a battery might not be required at all as they will be replaced by what the group described as "a perennial energy provider/harvester".

Dr Emanuel Popovici of the university's department of electrical and electronic engineering will lead the research team.

Meanwhile, the EU has handed millions of euro in funding to a scheme that will "revolutionise" broadband in Ireland and the rest of the continent.

Communications Minister [Pat Rabbitte](#) said the 'Discus' project will get €8.1m in funding, also under the FP7 programme.

The project will explore "new ways" to use fibre optics to build what it calls a "simplified broadband network that will provide ultra-high speed internet".

- Peter Flanagan New Technology Correspondent

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