

## Irish Exporters highlight Opportunities in Iran

13th May 2016



The **Irish Exporters Association** and **Emirates** held an Irish-Iranian Business dinner for 30 C-level executives in Dublin. H.E. Javad Kachoueian, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran provided a keynote address and highlighted the range of business opportunities available for Irish companies in Iran.

This exclusive business networking opportunity and dinner provided a platform for Business Leaders to connect around exporting and two way trade to and from Iran. Guest speakers at the event included Enda Corneille, Country Manager Ireland, Emirates, and Liam Hyland, Head of Exports, **Green Isle Foods**.

Commenting on the event, Simon McKeever (pictured), Chief Executive, Irish Exporters Association said:

*“We see many opportunities to grow our trading relationship with Iran across a range of sectors, in particular, pharma, aviation, construction, engineering, aircraft leasing, automotive, dairy and ICT. The IEA has been calling for greater links between the two countries for about a year now and we need to create more opportunities for Irish companies to explore the market.*

*“Bord Bia, having just returned from a market visit to Iran and Enterprise Ireland who are preparing their own visit are starting to understand the scale of opportunities available for Irish companies in Iran and this is a good start.*

*“The enthusiasm and openness from the Embassy in Ireland is very apparent I firmly believe we have lagged behind other EU states in focusing on Iran and I am delighted to see that plans to re-establish an Irish embassy in Tehran are likely to be put before the next government in a bid to cement trading ties with the Middle East’s second-largest economy.”*

Enda Corneille, Country manager Emirates Ireland said:

*“As a global connector of people and places and with daily services from Dublin to Tehran and the holy city of Mashhad via Dubai, Emirates stands ready to support Irish business in realizing the significant opportunities that are developing between Ireland and Iran.*

*“This event was a unique opportunity to hear firsthand how trading links are strengthening between the two countries and with Emirates now providing substantial passenger and cargo capacity into the market, Ireland is well positioned to expand and develop its trading relationship with Iran further.”*

H.E. Javad Kachoueian, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that:

*“The lifting of international sanctions on Iran and the opening of its trade and business to the world is the biggest opportunity in terms of the emerging global market for almost a quarter of a century. It is hard to think of something as big as this opportunity for both Iran and firms around the world. Right now, Iran is seen as one of the great untapped markets of the world.*

*“Iran’s current trade policy is set to be very positive towards foreign investment, with the possibility of production in Iran and the export of part of that production to neighbouring countries. Iran has a ready market of 80 million people, as well as access to 300 million in neighbouring countries. A new era has started in the Iranian economy.*

*“The IMF predicted in its latest consultation report that the growth rate of Iran’s economy for 2016 will be 4 to 5%, with this trend set to continue for the coming years.”*