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UK

# **BIAC**

# **Business Management Conference**

## **Kenilworth**

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Calum Murray

Head of Agriculture and Food

# UK Research and Innovation

We work with the government to invest over £7 billion a year in research and innovation by partnering with academia and industry to make the impossible, possible. Through the UK's nine leading academic and industrial funding councils, we create **knowledge with impact**.



**UK Research  
and Innovation**

# Innovate UK

Innovate UK drives **productivity and growth** by supporting businesses to realise the potential of new technologies, develop ideas and **make them a commercial success**.

To **stay competitive as an advanced economy**, we need to do things that others cannot do, or to do things in different and better ways.

Link [to Innovate UK Funding](#)



# Agrifood – Portfolio Overview

# SAF IP competitions - £84m invested 2010-2016

## 203 projects



New Approaches to  
Crop protection (2010)



Food Processing &  
Manufacturing Efficiency (2012)



Sustainable Protein  
Production (2011)



Trait Measurement Technologies  
(2013)



Engineering Solutions  
(2013/14)



Crop & Livestock Disease Control  
(2014)



Agrifood Supply Chain -  
Knowledge Transfer Partnership



Improving Food Supply Chain  
Efficiency (2015)

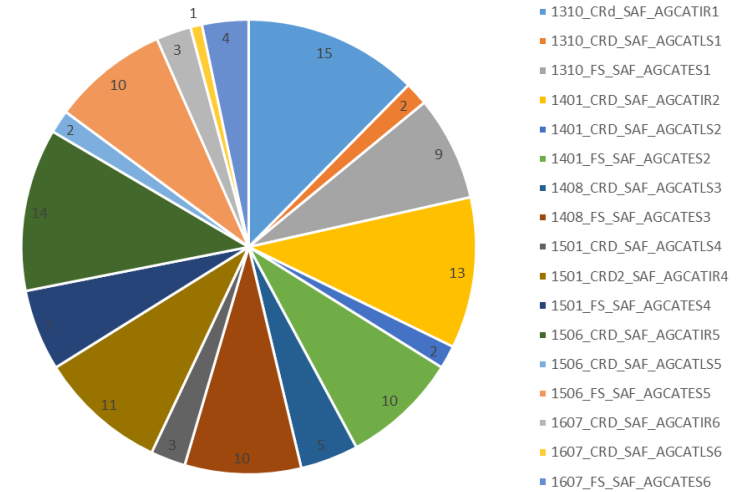


Optimising Food  
Composition  
(2016)

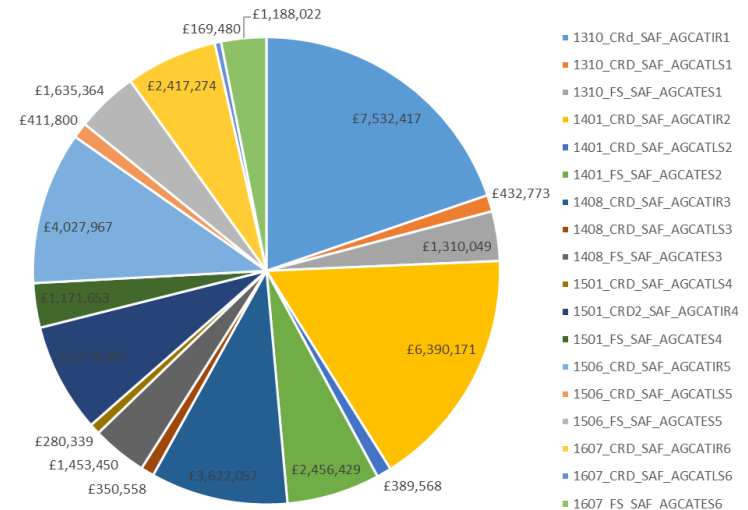
# AgriTech Catalyst Rounds 1 to 6

- Launched in July 2013
- £70m investment managed jointly by Innovate UK and BBSRC
  - Incl £30m academic led funding (BBSRC)
  - £30m industry led funding (Innovate UK)
  - £10 DFID funding for international development (through IUK)
- 5-year program
- 121 projects
- £38m funded through Innovate UK – with balance through BBSRC to academics
- Rounds 7-9 being delivered by Innovate UK – with £10m from DfID + £26m from GCRF – all targeted at African continent

AgriTech Catalyst - Number of Projects



AgriTech Catalyst - Value of Grants Awarded



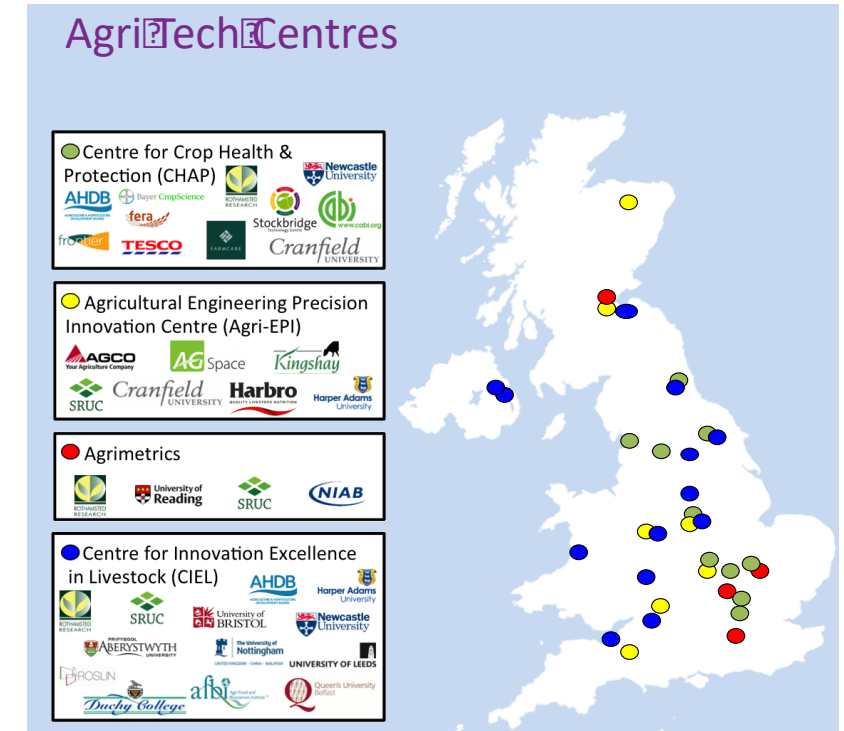
# The UK's Agri-Tech Centres

Established 2015/16 out of the UK Strategy for Agricultural Technologies 2013 to:

- Join-up existing excellence & invest in new resources
- Address challenges that no organisation can address alone;
- Position the UK as a global leader in sustainable production

Consortia of industry and academia with

- £101m of funding and
- £42 million match funding, they are:
- **Agrimetrics** – the worlds first big data Centre for Agri-Food
- **Crop Health and Protection (CHAP)**
- **CIELivestock** - Europes largest applied animal research group
- **Agri-EPI** - Engineering Precision





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# Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF)

# Transforming food production

## Part of the industrial strategy challenge fund

**Audience of the future  
(up to £33m)**



**Data to early diagnosis  
and precision medicine  
(up to £196m)**



**Prospering from the  
energy revolution  
(up to £102.5m)**



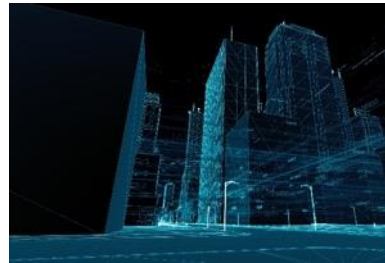
**Healthy ageing  
(up to £98m)**



**Next generation services  
(up to £20m)**



**Quantum technology  
(up to £20m)**



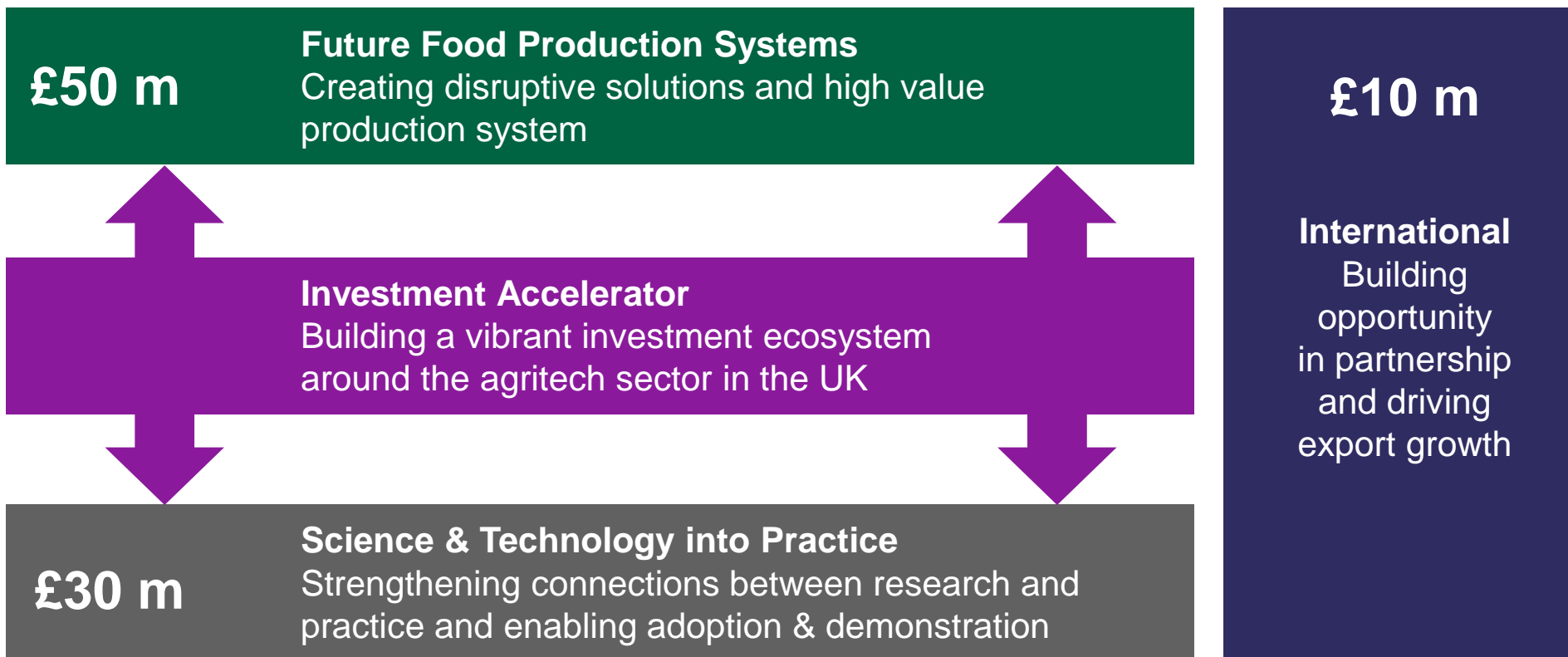
**Transforming construction  
(up to £170m)**



**Transforming food  
production (up to £90m)**



# Transforming food production: delivery



# Future food production systems

## £20 million

- Projects that disrupt the traditional land-based models of production.
- **Develop new** resource efficient, low emission food production systems and/or address the **technological bottlenecks** that prevent the current state-of-the-art supplying **mainstream** consumer markets.
- **Funding to** support a small number of large-scale projects
- £1m - £10m projects lasting 24-33 months, must be collaborative and include an SME



**Opened** 17 Sept 2019  
**Closes** 22 Jan 2020  
**Two stage process** –  
application and interview

# Science and technology into practice

## £30 million

- Increase engagement and collaboration between R&D, end-users and all stakeholders
- **Demonstrate** near market solutions at commercial scale and across different production environments.
- Provide end users with evidence of technical feasibility and economic viability of combinations of precision solutions across one or more demonstration platforms.
- Embed co-innovation approach to accelerate the development of new solutions

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Small Robot Company - 'Harry' robot

# Science and technology into practice



## Feasibility study projects - £5 million

- Evaluate the early stage feasibility of precision solutions to transform food production
- Work with end users, such as farmers and producers
- Evaluate, in practice, the potential of early stage ideas that address industry identified problems
- Consider the technical feasibility, the feasibility of the business model and the route to adoption
- Enable decisions to be made on the future development of the solution
- £75k - £250k



**Opened 18 Nov 2019**

**Closes 26 Feb 2020**

# Science and technology into practice

## Demonstration projects - £10 million

- Demonstrate the viability of combinations of precision solutions to transform food production
- Demonstrate solutions across different production environments, to encourage their widespread use
- Work with end users
- Produce evidence of technical feasibility and economic viability at commercial scale
- £400k - £4m



**Opened** 11 Nov 2019

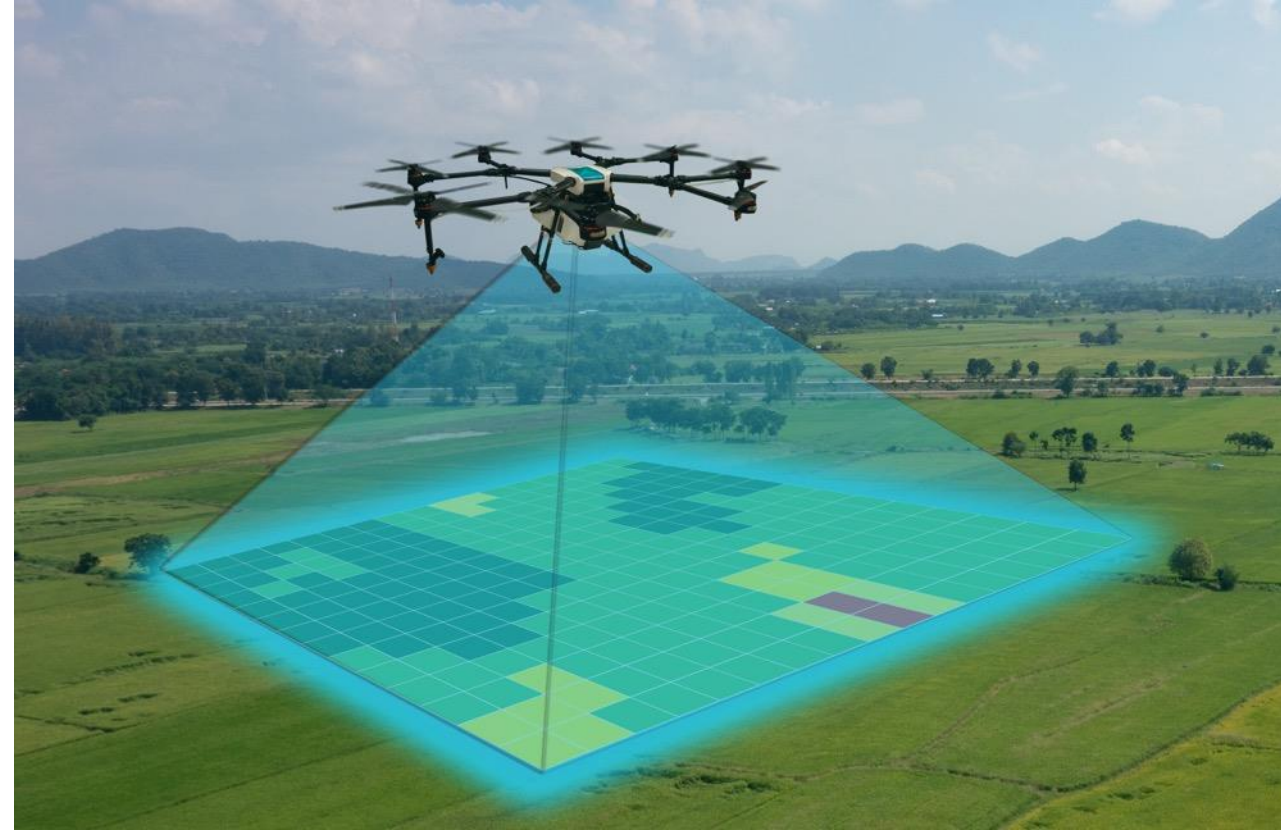
**Closes** 26 Feb 2020

**Two stage process** –  
application and interview

# International bilateral agreements

## £10 million

- International activities focused on established strong strategic relationships around agri-tech.
- UK funding *plus* £10m match funding from International partners for competitions with Canada and China to support development of advanced precision



Canadian Comp open until 20<sup>th</sup> May - £2million available for UK Businesses

# Investment accelerator

- Grant funding alongside equity funding from private investors to increase investment into early stage precision focused companies.
- To help early stage companies get direct access to commercial acumen and market opportunities through their relationship with an investor.
- To existing investors to invest earlier and wider.





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# SMART

Open funding

# SMART grants

- Opportunity to apply for a share of **up to £25 million** to deliver **ambitious or disruptive** R&D innovations with significant potential for impact on the UK economy.
- Your application must include at least one micro, small or medium-sized enterprise (SME).
- Your project must start by October 2020 and end no later than October 2023.
- Projects can last between **6 and 36 months**
- Total project costs can range from **£25k to £2million**

<https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/515/overview>

**Opened: 10 January 2020**

**Closes: 22 April 2020**



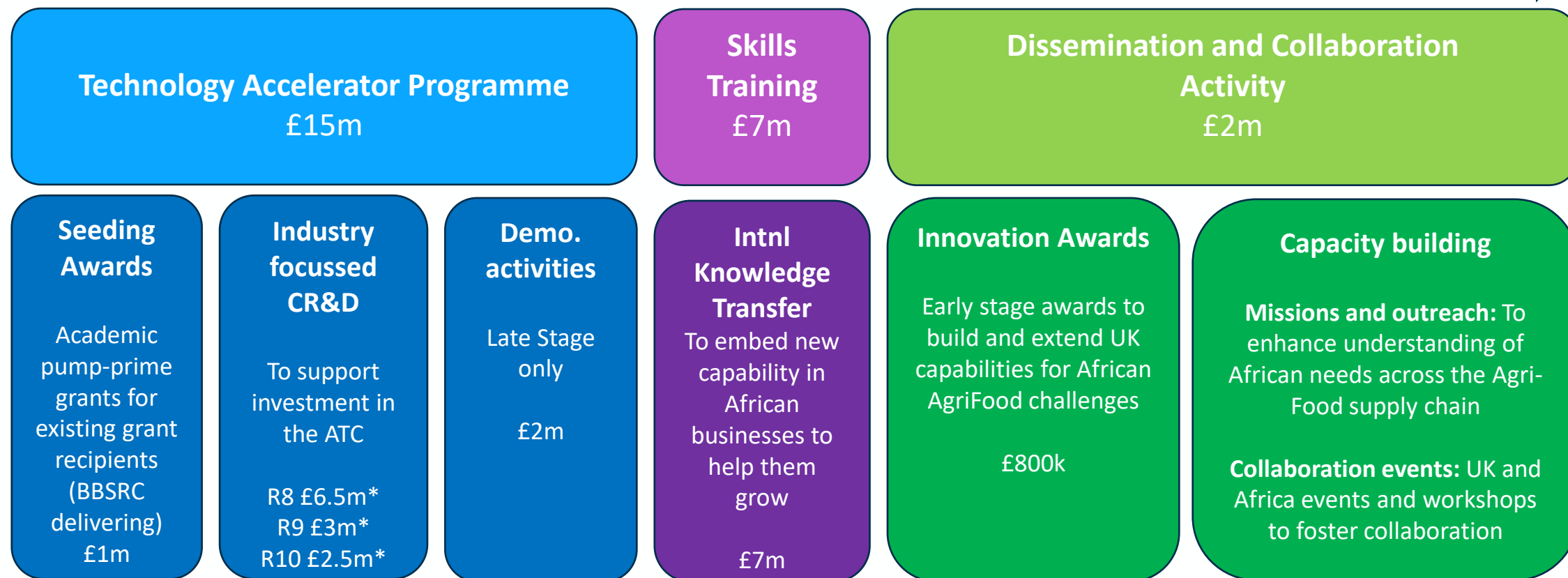


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# UK – Africa

Global Challenges Research Fund  
programme  
AgriTech Catalyst

Programme running from 2019 – 2023/24



# AgriTech Catalyst funding

- £10m investment from Department for International Development (DFID) to support competitions including rounds 7 onwards
- £15m additional funding through the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) from round 8 onwards

## Timeline:

- **Round 9** – 14 October 2019 – closes noon 8 January 2020 (£5m available)
- **Round 10** – To be confirmed, provisional open date April 2020
- **Round 11** – To be confirmed, provisional open date March 2021

## Agri-Tech Catalyst Round 9: Scope

- Projects must show the potential to deliver impact for poor people through the uptake of agricultural and food systems technology and innovation
- Scope of the Catalyst includes:
  - primary crop and livestock production including aquaculture
  - non-food uses of crops, excluding ornamentals
  - challenges in downstream food processing, distribution or storage and value addition
  - Improving availability and accessibility of safe, healthy and nutritious foods
- Your project's innovations must:
  - be sustainable in the context of environmental challenges such as climate change and resource scarcity
  - minimise negative effects such as pollution, food losses and waste

# Key Assessment Criteria...

- The Idea (Innovative achievable exploitable)
- The Market (Where, How Big, Exploitation Plan)
- The Consortium (Capability, Experience)
- Additionality (Why will public funding make a difference)
- The Impact (How Big, Where and When)



# Looking Ahead

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- Next round of Agritech catalyst will open – April TBC (relating to Africa)
- Progress of the Ag Bill and the future Strategy from Defra will partially define the availability of future funding.
- **Farmer led Innovation and R&D will be a prime focus**
- Internal discussions will evolve in terms of Potentially new International Bilateral arrangements – nothing yet confirmed.
- 2020 Spending round will be key to securing ongoing support for the Future Calls and the AgriTech Centres
  - Industry should engage and identify areas for Collaboration

# Innovation R&D Package

One innovation framework, with different points of entry working across the whole innovation pipeline

## STRAND 1: SMALL SCALE PROJECTS

Enhancing the rate of **adoption** of new technologies by sharing the financial risk of trials and actively engaging farmers

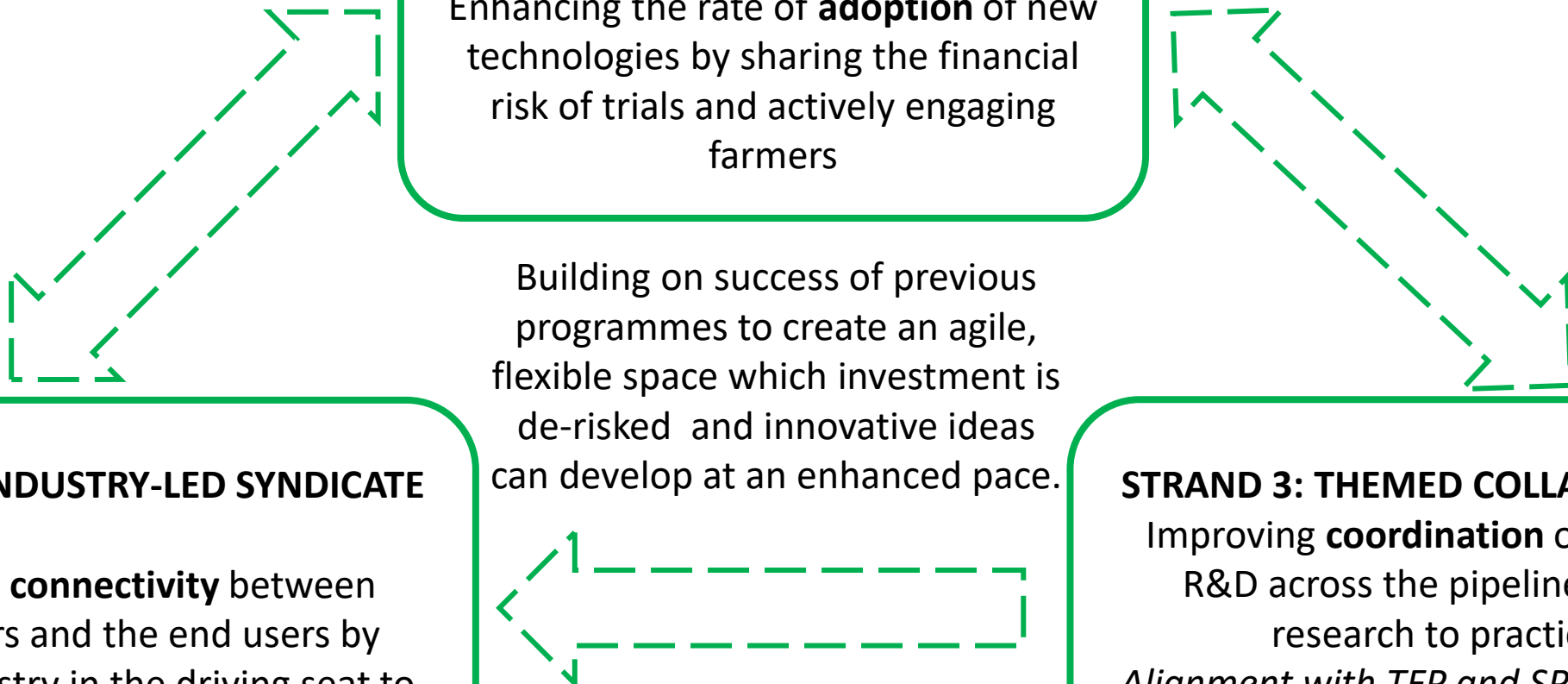
Building on success of previous programmes to create an agile, flexible space which investment is de-risked and innovative ideas can develop at an enhanced pace.

## STRAND 2: INDUSTRY-LED SYNDICATE

Improving **connectivity** between researchers and the end users by putting industry in the driving seat to solve real world problems

## STRAND 3: THEMED COLLABORATION

Improving **coordination** of strategic R&D across the pipeline linking research to practice:  
*Alignment with TFP and SPF critical for success*





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# Thank you

Too much to take in – Keep in Touch

Sign up to Knowledge Transfer network. <https://ktn-uk.co.uk>



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