Knowledge Transfer Network

Opportunities under the Agri-Tech Catalyst and Sustainable Agriculture & Food Strategy at the Technology Strategy Board









21st May 2014

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The Knowledge Transfer Network

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Sustainable Agriculture & Food Innovation Platform

A £90m+ programme of investment over 5 years from 2010–14

Objective: to help UK businesses develop innovative technologies, production systems and supply chain solutions that will sustainably increase the productivity of the UK Agri-food sector, whilst reducing its environmental impact.

co-funded by:

Technology Strategy Board
Driving Innovation

defra
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

BBSRC
bioscience for the future

The Scottish Government

AHDB Agriculture & Horticulture DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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Collaborative R&D Competitions

New Approaches to Crop protection



Sustainable Protein Production



Food Processing & Manufacturing Efficiency



Trait Measurement Technologies



Engineering Solutions



Plant & Animal Disease Control

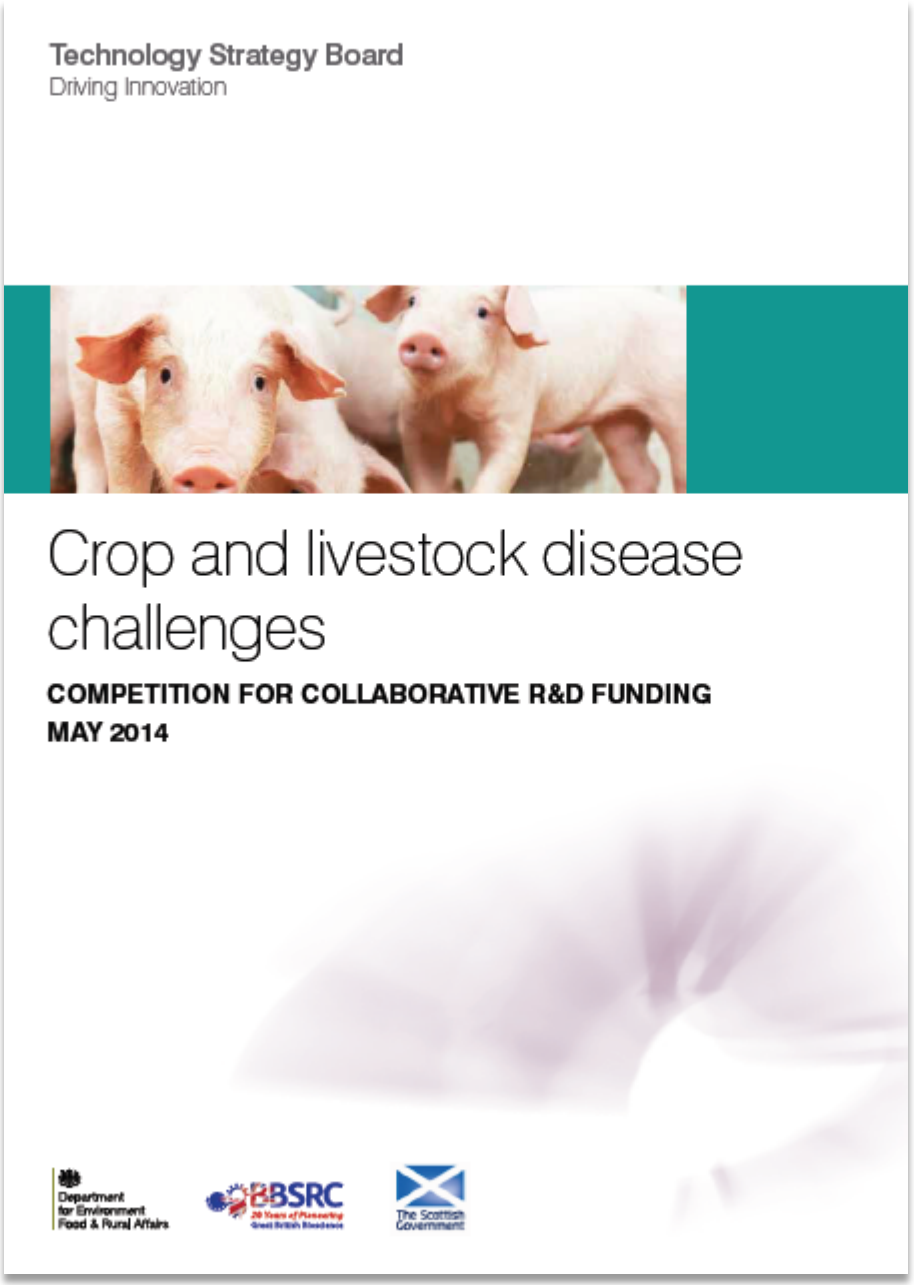


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Crop and Livestock Disease Challenges

Up to £16.5m grant funding available to support business-led collaborative R&D to tackle challenges posed by crop and livestock disease

Link to competition brief and GFA



Crop and Livestock Disease Challenges

Competition overview:

- CR&D funding (up to £16.5m) to stimulate innovative technologies and approaches that optimise yield & quality by targeting causal agents of disease (eg bacteria, fungi, viruses)
- Technologies for improved prediction, identification and detection of pathogens for better disease management & raw material quality (including post-harvest environment) will also be supported
- Control of crop pests as disease vectors are in scope. However, projects targeting pests causing direct damage to crops (eg slugs) are out of scope
- Projects targeting control of weeds (eg blackgrass) or non-food crop disease are also out of scope
- Any projects out of scope for this competition should look at opportunities available through the Agri-Tech catalyst.







Key Dates
Crop and Livestock Disease Challenges

Key dates:

- Competition opens **6 May 2014**, with consortia-building workshop in Birmingham being supported by KTN
- Optional Briefing Webinar **7 May 2014**
- Registration deadline **Noon on 11 June 2014**
- Deadline for expressions of interest **Noon on 18 June 2014**
- Stage 2 opens for invited applicants **Noon on 14 July 2014**
- Deadline for Stage 2 applications **Noon on 10 September 2014**

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Agri-Tech Strategy

- Launched 22 July 2013
- Aims to improve the translation of research into practical application for agriculture and related industries in UK and overseas
- £160M government investment over 5yrs:
  - Agri-tech Catalyst
  - Centres for Agricultural Innovation



BIS Department for Business Innovation & Skills

BBSRC bioscience for the future

defra Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

Technology Strategy Board Driving Innovation

DFID Department for International Development

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Agri-Tech Catalyst

Status:
open
Key features:
run by the TSB and BBSRC offering funding to innovative businesses and researchers to develop solutions to global agricultural challenges
Award:
varies, depending on grant type
Round 2 Opened:
20 January 2014
Registration deadline:
04 June 2014
Deadline for applications:
11 June 2014



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Scope

The Agri-Tech Catalyst will fund proposals relating to:

- primary crop and livestock production, including aquaculture
- non-food uses of arable crops (for example, for biomass)
- food security and nutrition challenges in international development
- challenges in downstream food processing, provided the solution lies in primary production.

The Agri-Tech Catalyst **will not** fund equine-related proposals, or proposals relating to forestry or wild-capture fisheries

Support is available for projects arising from any sector or discipline that are aimed at addressing relevant challenges, and multi-disciplinary collaborations are encouraged.

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International Development Objectives

- Sustained reduction of poverty and hunger of small-holder farmers;
- Sustainable intensification in developing country agriculture;
- Improvements in human health and diversity in diets and nutrition;
- Positive impact on rural income and food security; or,
- Facilitating trade in agricultural products.

Department
for International
Development

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Agri-Tech Catalyst

Operation

Three categories of grant are available:

- Early-stage awards
- Industrial research awards
- Late-stage awards

These categories form a pipeline, supporting the development of early-stage exploration of commercial/ technical potential through to proving utility in the field and development prior to commercialisation.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for assessment by independent experts.

Applicants may apply for the award category most appropriate for their work without having received a prior award.

Agri-Tech Catalyst – award types

EARLY-STAGE AWARDS

These projects will explore the commercial potential of an early-stage scientific idea through feasibility studies.

Key features

Projects can be business-led or academic-led

Duration: up to 18 months

Total project costs: £150k to £500k

Total academic partner costs must not exceed 50% of total project costs

Business partner funding: up to 75% of their total project costs for SMEs or 65% for larger companies

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AWARDS

These projects will aim to develop innovative solutions, eg through field trials, lab-based prototyping, product development planning and market testing.

Key features

Projects must be business-led

Duration: three to five years

Total project costs: up to £3m

Total academic partner costs must not exceed 50% of total project costs

Business partner funding: up to 60% of their total project costs for SMEs or 50% for larger companies

LATE-STAGE AWARDS

These projects evaluate the commercial potential of a scientific application. This can be through pre-experimental feasibility studies or through experimental development including field-based prototyping and experimental production and testing.

Key features – pre-experimental feasibility studies

Business-led collaborative projects involving other business partners, enabling the evaluation of the commercial potential of a scientific application

Duration: up to 12 months

Total project costs: £150k to £500k

Academic researchers may participate as subcontractors to a business partner

Business partner funding: up to 50% of their total project costs for SMEs or 40% for larger companies

Key features – experimental development

Business-led collaborative projects that enable qualification of the commercial potential of a scientific application

Duration: up to 12 months

Total project costs: up to £1m

Academics may participate as subcontractors to a business partner

Business partner funding: up to 35% of their total project costs for SMEs or 25% for larger companies

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Further information:

To find out more about the Agri-Tech Catalyst competitions follow the links below:

- Early-stage awards
- Industrial research awards
- Late-stage awards

Competition Guidance for Applicants

Key Dates
ATC Round 2

Key dates:

- Round 2 opens **20 January 2014**
- Optional Briefing Webinar **04 February 2014** (registration link)
- Registration deadline **Noon on 04 June 2014**
- Deadline for expressions of interest **Noon on 11 June 2014**
- IR Stage 2 opens for invited applicants **Noon on 14 July 2014**
- Deadline for Stage 2 applications **Noon on 2 September 2014**

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KTP thematic competition

Agrifood Supply Chain



KTP - main points

- Partnership between business and academia - must be driven by business need
- Annual project budget of ~£65k
- Typically 67% grant funding for SME and 50% for large company
- Project length typically 2 years but can be 6m to 3 years
- Network of 24 Regional KTP Advisers

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Case study

Cranfield University and **Produce World Ltd**



Produce fresh produce and packing. Supply chain models from growing the product itself to working with grower groups to help them raise, pack and market their products.

KTP Project Aim: To establish a company-scale soil information system to map, assess and monitor the soil resources and provide management, risk-assessment and decision-support tools.

Soil-for-life

Developing a soil information and risk management system.

Competition scope and timing

- Competition budget £2.3m including co-funding
  - Comp flyer published May 2014
  - Competition close Feb 2015
- Typical 2 yr duration for KTPs
- 3 high-level challenges in scope:
  - **Innovation for consumer health, wellbeing and choice**
  - **Improving productivity, resource efficiency and resilience in the supply chain**
  - **Assuring safety and security across the supply chain**

Illustrative project areas

- Application of genetic and breeding approaches to crops and livestock
- Food safety, authenticity and traceability
- Improved methods to control yield/productivity loss or product quality deterioration
- Improved resource efficiency and/or waste minimisation
- Improving nutritional quality through better products or ingredients
- Measurement, control and precision application technologies
- Modern manufacturing methods
- Packaging and logistics supply chain
- Technologies, approaches or services which support the sustained modification of consumer or employee behaviours
- Use of data

- Use of systems-based approaches