BBSRC – STFC food network +
What is Agriculture and food security?

- The cultivation of animals, plants and fungi, and associated support services, for the production of food, and non-food.

- Ensuring people have long-term secure access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food supply

- In a BBSRC context: funding the research innovation and skills to support the bioscience and biotechnology required to deliver this.
Challenged ahead….

- We need to produce more food by 2050 than we have done in human history.
- This will require 120% more water; 42% more cropland and loss of 14% more forest due to yield plateaus.
- With electrification of cars and renewable energy, agriculture will become the biggest GHG emitter.
UK research funding

Science Budget £18.3 billion ($30Bn) 2011-2015
BBSRC strategic plan: The age of bioscience

“driven by new tools and technologies”

….never before have researchers been able to address such a breadth and depth of biological questions….

www.bbsrc.ac.uk/strategy
Three major strategic priorities

Agriculture and food security

Industrial biotechnology and bioenergy

Bioscience for health

Image credits 1. Thinkstock 2. TMO Renewables 3. Stephanie Schuller, IFR
Three major strategic priorities:

- Industrial biotechnology and bioenergy
- Bioscience for health
- Agriculture and food security

Precision agriculture and smart technologies
Understanding and exploiting genomics
Feeding the Future, four years on: A review of innovation needs for British farming
BBSRC- funding opportunities
Industrial Strategy
Green Paper

Building our Industrial Strategy
Green Paper
January 2017

Global Challenges Research Fund
Newton Fund
Lessons learned from the GAFSR call

- Not just RM with an overseas partner, but still good quality research
- ODA challenge led
- Demonstrate an understanding of the societal and cultural context
- In-country partners are appropriate and add value
- Be clear and realistic about the potential impact
  - Directly associated with this grant
  - What are the benefits beyond the lifetime of the grant?
- Learn from others

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/documents/gcrf-agriculture-food-systems-generic-observations-pdf/](www.bbsrc.ac.uk/documents/gcrf-agriculture-food-systems-generic-observations-pdf/)
Future ODA opportunities

General:
• Next phase collective fund currently under development
• All RC led activities advertised centrally
  – www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf
• Other ODA funding opportunities (Newton, Prosperity, Ross/Fleming Funds)

Specific Newton activities:
• India pulses and oilseeds
• The UK-China Agritech call
• Swine and Poultry Health
• CIAT Tropical forages and pulses

Further opportunities with a number of countries are currently under discussion and more information will be released shortly.
• All BBSRC Newton calls are listed here: http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/research/international/funding/newton-fund/
Other funding opportunities

- **Precision agriculture:**
- Funding available in collaboration budget for activity to underpin industry engagement and de-risk investment.
Thank you
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