



Greetings from Cambridge!

Welcome to our end of year newsletter. Our beautiful city has been covered in a blanket of snow as the year draws to a close. And what a full one it has been!

Diversifying Crops

2022 has been (and still is) marked by the war in Ukraine which has shown us – as COVID19 did – the fragile, global nature of our food system and how important it is to diversify and strengthen internal production rather than rely on a handful of crops and countries.

The need for research on and business opportunities for crops that are often called 'forgotten' or 'neglected' is at the core of the [Forgotten Crops Society](#) which was established by Cambridge Global Food Security IRC in 2020, with collaborators including Professor Michel Ghanem at the UM6P, Morocco. Earlier this year, a letter by Professor Ghanem was published in Nature, [Africa's forgotten crops could offset growing food insecurity](#). Next year

a special issue of [Plants, People, Planet](#) (IF 5.69), edited by members of the Forgotten Crops Society, will focus on on “Forgotten crops, agricultural change, and food heritage.” The deadline for submission is January 31st, 2023.

Forgotten crops will also be the focus of the first **Global Food Security Society International Summer School**. The GFS Society is a student and post-doc group at the University of Cambridge. The Summer School will promote links with African scientists to stimulate enterprise and research. If you are interested in getting involved, please mail [Francesca Re Manning](#).

COP27 and our food system focus

Food and agriculture and their links to the climate crisis have had more attention at [COP27](#) than at previous COPs. This focus was certainly good news, however, as one of our external advisors Tim Benton at Chatham House said in [an interview for Food Navigator](#), there was significant political resistance to fully adopting a systems approach. *‘COP27 maintained a firm focus on supply-side solutions to tackle food insecurity, avoiding more contentious demand-side issues of ensuring nutritious and sustainable diets for all.’*

Cambridge Global Food Security focuses is on all the three pillars of the food system: food production, supply and distribution, and consumption. These inform our public [Food for Thought](#) online panel events. Last term we held three webinars on consumption looking at healthy eating, food waste and the role of government policy in guiding and influencing shopping and eating choices. Next term our Food for Thought webinars will focus on supply & distribution. On 16 February, 5pm our panel of experts will discuss food sustainability, traceability, and transparency, whilst on 13 March, 5pm we will be looking at why our food system is broken and how it can be fixed. Please [visit our website](#) for further information and to find recordings of past events.

Strategic Research Networks

In May, Global Food Security partnered with Cambridge Infectious Diseases IRC to run **One Health Challenges in Food Systems** a workshop on

preventing infectious disease-driven problems in a changing climate as well as managing disease and antimicrobial resistance in the agricultural landscape. The participants, a group of interdisciplinary researchers, discussed current issues and identified collaboration and funding opportunities.

One Health is only one of our newly created **Strategic Research Networks**. Together with Cambridge Zero and the Alternative Protein Society, we're planning a workshop on the future of meat and alternative proteins at the end of February. As well as mapping internal capacity here in Cambridge and creating links with external partners, we hope that it will stimulate and support projects on alternative proteins that link research with the private sector and policy-making.

Coffee Break Seminar Series

Our on-line Coffee Break Seminar Series (at 2pm on Friday afternoons during term time) continues to provide academics and students (both in Cambridge and from further afield) with a platform to discuss ideas. It encourages interdisciplinary thinking and collaborations and exposes us to international research and practice. A new list of stimulating seminars is ready on our website – be sure to add them to your diary! We will start again on 20 January with Dr Yunhu Gao (Engineering) on “*How to Feed the Global Population with Less Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Nitrogen Fertilisers?*” [You can find listings for next term's seminars, as well as recordings of previous Coffee Breaks, here.](#)

Local Partnerships

Our partnerships with charities here in Cambridge have strengthened our links with the community. We are pleased to be associated with [TastEd](#), a charity that inspires school children to explore and enjoy fruit and vegetables and with [Cambridge Sustainable Food](#) whose programmes support the Cambridgeshire community.

In 2023 we are sure that the Global Food Security community will continue to play a part in meeting the challenges the world is facing by sharing and applying our knowledge locally, nationally, and internationally through our collaborations and partnerships. Our Symposium on 22 June will give us all

the opportunity to connect, share ideas, and make plans for future work.
Save the date!

We wish you a peaceful Christmas and a productive New Year.

Picture: Kings College. Credit: Cambridge University Library

LISTINGS

EVENTS

The Oxford Farming Conference

4 - 6 Jan 2023

Oxford & Online

[Home](#) | [Oxford Farming Conference \(ofc.org.uk\)](#)

Farming Futures: Automation and Robotics

Wednesday 18 Jan 2023 10:00-15:30 Online

[Summary - Farming Futures: Automation and Robotics \(cvent.com\)](#)

Who's Setting the Table? Countering the Corporate Capture of Food Systems Governance

Thursday 19 Jan 2023 17:15 - 18:45 Online

Speaker: Sofía Monsalve, Secretary General of FIAN International

More information: [Food Thinkers: Who's Setting the Table? Countering the Corporate Capture of Food Systems Governance](#) • City, University of London

Biodiverse futures

Tuesday 24 Jan 2023 17:00 - 19:00 Online

[An event organised by the Futures in Question research network.](#)

Speakers: Cheryl McEwan (Durham University), Suvi Alt (University of Groningen) and Chris Sandbrook (University of Cambridge)

[For enquiries please contact the Research Networks Programme Manager.](#)

Livestock, Environment and People (LEAP) Conference

25 January 2023, 09:15 - 18:00

More information: [LEAP 2022 Conference](#) | [LEAP \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Americas Regional Launch of the SEADS Standards

Thursday Jan 26, 2023 9:00 - 10:30 (GMT -0500: America/New York) Online Event

Panelists: Racey Henderson, SEADS, Jan Morrow, BHA, USAID, Julie Ideh, CRS, Themba Sibanda, NRC

Moderator: Suresh Babu, IFPRI The event is hosted by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Further information: [Americas Regional Launch of the SEADS Standards](#) | [Agrilinks](#)

Trumpington Seedy Sunday with Cambridge Sustainable Food

Sunday 29 Jan 2023 13:30 - 16:00 Trumpington Pavilion ([map](#))

Further information: [Trumpington Seedy Sunday](#)

Water Innovation for Agriculture

Wed 08th February 13:00 - 16:30 Cranfield University, College Road, Bedfordshire, MK43 0AL

Speakers include Prof Jerry Knox and Dr Rob Simmonds (Cranfield University) Tailwater Systems, Wroot Water and Aguagrain.

More information: [CiviCRM - Agri-TechE \(agri-tech-e.co.uk\)](#)

In-Person Agri-TechE event: Farming For the Future – Novel Crops and Fresh Thinking

Thursday 23 February 2023 10:00 - 16:00 Wivenhoe House, Essex

More information: [CiviCRM - Agri-TechE \(agri-tech-e.co.uk\)](#)

Webinar: Getting Involved in Public Health Policy and Politics Insights for Early Career Researchers

Speaker: Dr Dolly Theis

Mon 27th February 2023 13:00 – 14:00

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/webinar-getting-involved-in-public-health-policy-and-politics-tickets-483134407017>.

OPPORTUNITIES

If you are a University of Cambridge researcher interested in putting together an interdisciplinary application and would like assistance in finding suitable collaborators/coordinating a group meeting, please [contact us](#).

Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowships

Open for submissions: Sunday 1 Jan 2023 – Monday 23 Feb 2023, 4pm

For early career researchers with a research record but who have not yet held a full-time permanent academic post, to undertake a significant piece of publishable work.

[Early Career Fellowships | The Leverhulme Trust](#)

CRoSS Programme: Ideas' Incubator

Closing date: midday Thursday 5 January 2023.

Do you have an innovative idea with roots in social science expertise or research?

Perhaps you're developing a service, product, tool, social enterprise, business, consultancy, or creative innovation.

Cambridge Enterprise's CRoSS Ideas' Incubator programme offers tailored, practical support to turn your ideas into reality and meet like-minded researchers.

Further information: [CRoSS Programme: Ideas' Incubator – Cambridge Enterprise](#)

Funding competition: Better Food for All: Innovation for improved nutrition, early-stage

Competition open: Wednesday 11 Jan - Wednesday 29 Mar 2023 11:00

[Competition overview - Better Food for All: Innovation for improved nutrition, early-stage - Innovation Funding Service \(apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk\)](#)

African Agriculture Climate Adaptation Research System Request for Proposals

Closing date: Sunday 15 Jan 2023

Proposals are invited for innovative approaches to enhance climate adaptation for agriculture in Africa in ways that link directly with and strengthen the ecosystem of local actors and institutions. These should be 18-24 month projects that will support innovations that strengthen agriculture-related risk management processes and adaptation prioritization, planning, and investment, through intra-Africa research collaboration on data, data science, and modeling.

Further information: [African Agriculture Climate Adaptation Research System Request for Proposals | Science for Africa Foundation](#)

Food for the Planet campaign grants - Introductory workshop

Wed, 18 Jan 2023 14:00 - 15:00 GMT

Further information: [Food for the Planet campaign grants - Introductory workshop | Sustain \(sustainweb.org\)](#)

Funding competition: Novel, low-emission food production systems: Industrial research

Competition open for submissions: Wednesday 18 Jan - Wednesday 19 April 2023

11:00am

UK registered organisations can apply for a share of up to £16 million to deliver, resource

efficient, low-emission food production systems. Including alternative proteins and Total Controlled Environment Agriculture (TCEA).

Further information: [Competition overview - Novel, low-emission food production systems: Industrial research - Innovation Funding Service \(apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Transformative Food Systems Fellowship, University of Michigan, US

Closing date: Tuesday 31 January 2023.

Further information: [Transformative Food Systems Fellowship – Sustainable Food Systems Initiative \(umich.edu\)](#)

IMMANA Career Development Fellowships - emerging leaders in agriculture, nutrition and health research

Closing date: 11:59 PM EST Wednesday 1 Feb 2023.

Further information: [Fellowships | ANH Academy \(anh-academy.org\)](#)

UKRI Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Since 1975, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs) have been helping businesses innovate for growth. KTPs connect forward thinking businesses with the UK's world class knowledge bases to deliver a business led innovation projects.

Further information: https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/guidance-for-specific-funds/knowledge-transfer-partnership-guidance/?_ga=2.248358983.1904909171.1671186676-1747223042.1671186676#dates-and-deadlines

Deep Science Ventures seek entrepreneurial scientists

Rolling deadline.

Further information: [Founder, Engineering Agriculture for Hostile Environments - Deep Science Ventures \(workable.com\)](#)

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

**Contact us if you would like support in promoting your new publication.*

Fennell, Shailaja, [Pakistan floods: ancient grains like millet could be key to rebuilding food systems](#), *The Conversation*, November 17, 2022

Inanna Hamati-Ataya (2022) *Epistemic demarcations as social erasures: Taste and the politics of distinction from the 'revolutions of wisdom' to the 'Green Revolution'*. *BJHS Themes*, Volume 7: 13-38. (<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/bjhs-themes/article/epistemic-demarcations-as-social-erasures-taste-and-the-politics-of>

distinction-from-the-revolutions-of-wisdom-to-the-green-revolution/FF24FC14ECA4D30BF4E819D34268FAC8)

Kariuki, R.W., Capitani, C., Munishi, L.K., Shoemaker, A., Courtney-Mustaphi, C.J., William, N., Lane, P.J. and Marchant, R. *Serengeti's futures? Exploring land use and land cover change scenarios to craft pathways for meeting conservation and development goals*. *Frontiers in Conservation Science*.

<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fcosc.2022.920143/full>

M'Mbogori, F.N., Kinyua, M.G., Ibrae, A.G. and Lane, P.J. *Changes to water management and declining pastoral resilience in Marsabit County, northern Kenya: the example of Gabra wells*. *WIREs Water*. DOI: 10.1002/wat2.1609

<https://wires.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/wat2.1609>

Muiruri, V., Marchant, R., Rucina, S.M., Scott, L., and Lane, P.J. *Detecting environmental change and anthropogenic activities on the Laikipia Plateau, Kenya*. *Ambio* 51(3): 785-798. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-021-01554-6>

Ochungo, P., Khalaf, N., Merlo, S., Beldados, A., M'Mbogori, F N., Tiki, W. and Lane, P.J. *Remote sensing for biocultural heritage preservation in an African semi-arid region: A case study of indigenous wells in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia*. *Remote Sensing*14(2): 314. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14020314>

Petek-Sargeant, N. and Lane, P.J. *Weather Landscapes and archaeology: Material weathering practices and tangible climates / Paysages météorologiques et archéologie: Pratiques météorologiques matérielles et climats tangibles*. *Archéologie, société et environnement / Archaeology, Society and Environment* 2 (1): 1-24 https://www.openscience.fr/IMG/pdf/iste_ase21v2n1_5.pdf

Diet-related Health Inequalities Research Briefing on the impact of poor diet on health, the underlying causes and policy approaches to address them. Published Thursday, 08 December, 2022

[Diet-related Health Inequalities - POST \(parliament.uk\)](https://www.parliament.uk)