

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Subscribers,

Summer is here and the Global Food Security Initiative's Steering Committee is taking some time to plan ahead for the coming year and beyond. Keep an eye on our website to see how things are shaping up. We're starting a new Global Food Security blog, and looking for guest contributors from our community. We're also starting to upload video clips to the website of Members talking about their research, to make it easier for everyone to see the range of research encompassed by the Initiative and find collaborators. If you've already been filmed and we don't know about it, or if you'd like to be filmed, please get in touch with me directly.

And if you're also planning ahead, have a look through the growing list of conferences below, which include links to further information. Details about these and other meetings are added to our website regularly. If you're interested in attending the REAP Conference 2016 in Hinxton later this year, note that the first five Cambridge researchers to apply to the Growing Relationships fund will have their ticket price covered.

Best wishes, Jacqueline Garget

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CONFERENCES & EVENTS *(those taking place in Cambridge are in blue)*

30 Aug- 1 Sept 2016: Genome Science 2016, University of Liverpool

5-7 Sept 2016: Global Food Security and Sustainability Conference 2016. Beijing, China. 'Generating Sustainable Ideas to Feed the Future.'

6 Sept 2016 (NEW DATE): Political Economy of Public Health: 2016 PublicHealth@Cambridge showcase, Murray Edwards College, Cambridge. Political economy of public health refers to research aimed at understanding the economic, political, social and historical forces which shape contemporary public health issues and our responses to them.

6-7 Sept 2016: Food Safety & Analysis Congress, Magdalene College, Cambridge. *Discounted rate available of 50% for industry delegates and 25% for academics; contact [Philippa Matthews](#) at SelectBio.*

12 Sept 2016: International Symposium on Insects as Feed, Food and Non-Food, Magdeburg, Germany.

13-15 Sept 2016: 1st International Conference on Food Bioactives & Health, Norwich, UK.

14 Sept 2016 Innovations for Sustainable Intensification, Park Farm, Histon.

15-16 Sept 2016 Data for Policy: Frontiers of Data Science for Government, Cambridge.

20 Oct 2016: Next Steps for UK Food Waste Policy: innovation, partnerships and energy recovery. London. Westminster Food and Nutrition Forum with keynote address from Dr Richard Swannell, Director of Sustainable Food Systems, WRAP.

24-27 Oct 2016: Engineering and Technology Innovation for Global Food Security. Cape Town, South Africa.

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

9 Nov 2016: REAP Conference 2016, 'Innovation for an Agricultural Revolution'. Wellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton. **Part of Agri-Tech Week 2016 (7-11 Nov)**. *The University of Cambridge's Bioscience Impact Team is funding 5 places for Cambridge researchers to attend on a first-come, first-served basis: more info [here](#).*

16 Nov 2016: Next steps for tackling obesity: prevention, sugar consumption and policy priorities. Scotland Policy Conferences, Edinburgh.

22-24 Nov 2016: Food Matters Live, ExCeL, London. Addressing the political, social and economic issues surrounding the complex and challenging relationship between food, health and nutrition. 70 leading figures from across government, industry, science and health join renowned commentators and chefs to explore the drivers for increasing the availability and consumption of nutritious food and drink, while also making the important connections between diet, population health and a sustainable, resilient food system.

29-30 Nov 2016: Sensors in Food and Agriculture, Moller Centre, Cambridge.

1 Dec 2016: Policy Priorities for the UK Food, Drink and Farming Industry, London. Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum with keynote address from Sarah Church, Director, Food & Farming, DEFRA.

7 March 2017: Food & Health Forum: Technology & Innovations in Food and Health, Royal Society of Medicine, London. [Email](#) to register your interest.

6-9 June 2017: 3rd European Climate Change Adaptation Conference: Our Climate Ready Future. SECC, Glasgow. Sectoral themes: urban, energy & infrastructure; agriculture & forestry; water security & flooding; biodiversity, ecosystem services & nature-based solutions; health & wellbeing. Call for abstracts deadline 30 Sept 2016.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*[*Contact me if you are an Initiative Member and would like support in promoting your new publication!*](#)*

Virus Infection of Plants Alters Pollinator Preference: A Payback for Susceptible Hosts? Groen et al; Aug 2016, PLOS Pathogens. This work involved Initiative Members Carr, Glover, Cunniffe, and Davey, and last week received widespread coverage by the international press including *The Guardian* and *National Geographic*.

The Cambridge Institute of Public Health and the PublicHealth@Cambridge Network's Public Health: Research into Policy pilot explores ways to strengthen links between public health researchers at the University and policymakers. It has now released the next in a series of case studies demonstrating how Cambridge research is impacting policy - **Professor Martin Roland CBE: Leveraging insights from a career's worth of research to help shape primary care.**

Agriculture and Forestry Climate Change Impacts Report Card, the fifth in a series published by the *Living With Environmental Change Network* is now available to download for free, and gives an overview of how climate change is affecting agriculture & forestry in the UK.

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Wellcome Trust/ Riksbankens Jubileumsfond/ Volkswagen Foundation: Europe and Global Challenges.

€500,000 - €900,000 to support collaboration between researchers in Europe and at least one other region (eg. Africa) taking an innovative approach to global challenges related to climate change, global health, social inequality, migration, or terrorism. Must have social science focus. **Deadline 1 Sept 2016.**

STFC's Challenge Led Applied Systems Programme (CLASP) Energy and Environment.

STFC has launched a new call offering £1.5M to fund a range of projects from short feasibility studies to large developmental projects that will use STFC funded research to solve key challenges in the Energy and Environment sectors. Challenge areas are outlined in the [CLASP Guidance notes](#), and include '*Animal & Plant health: rapid and low cost methods for disease detection and monitoring (e.g. endemic diseases of livestock, priority plant and tree pests and diseases as identified through the UK Plant Health Risk Register)*'. **Deadline 1 Sept 2016.**

NERC/ AHRC/ ESRC Global Challenges Research Fund: Building Resilience. Awards up to £200,000, open to proposals addressing resilience to natural and man-made environmental hazards in a range of developing world contexts. **Deadline 6 Sept 2016.**

Newton Fund: funds available for **Institutional Links** (for the development of research and innovation collaborations between the UK and partner countries), and **Researcher Links** (for workshops and travel grants for research visits in relation to Newton partner countries, with a focus on early career researchers). The UK's Newton Fund is classed as official development assistance (ODA); activities need to demonstrate their aim to contribute to a reduction in poverty, further sustainable development, or to improve the welfare of the population of Newton Fund countries. **Deadline 19 Sept 2016.**

Crops for Human and Farmed Animal Nutrition BBSRC welcomes proposals addressing a range of UK and globally relevant research questions. In particular applications are encouraged that address this challenge in crops relevant to developing countries, and those working in collaboration and/or consultation with the food industry. **Deadline 21 Sept 2016.**

NERC Innovation Projects Open call. Up to £125k available to support projects which focus upon generating user applicable outputs from past and/or current NERC supported research and translates them into outcomes that achieve impact, including '*Water risks to global food supply chains, ecosystems and communities*'. **Deadline 27 Sept 2016.**

UK Royal Society International Exchanges 2016

The Royal Society's International Exchanges Scheme makes grants to UK scientists who seek new international collaborations. The scheme covers all areas of the life and physical sciences, except clinical medicine. **Deadline 18 Oct 16.**

Agri-Tech Catalyst, Innovate UK Funding Competition. UK businesses and universities can apply for a share of £4 million to work with developing country partners on agri-tech innovations – a good opportunity to explore technology transfer to a new market. **Deadline for expressions of interest 26 Oct 2016** (consortia building workshop 14 Sept).

BBSRC Call 2 GFS: Resilience of the UK Food System in a Global Context. Will support interdisciplinary projects from 1-5 years' duration, costing up to £2.8m. Must address one or more of the programme's thematic priorities including optimising resilience of food supply chains, and influencing food choice for

AUGUST 2016 NEWSLETTER

health, resilience and sustainability. **Outline application deadline 10 Nov 2016.** Town meeting 26 Sept, London – register by 16 Sept.

COMPETITIONS/ WORKSHOPS/ OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Horizons 2020 Information Day and Brokerage Event, “Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency & Raw Materials”. 14 Sept 2016, Brussels. Representatives of the research community, businesses, civil society and public administration are invited.

Exhibit your work at the **Royal Society’s 2017 Summer Science Exhibition**, (3-9 July) to raise the profile of your research with key influencers, and reach over 10,000 members of the public and 2,000 school students. **Deadline to apply 26 Sept 2016.**

Thought For Food Challenge calls on the world's best and brightest university students to form teams and develop breakthrough projects that address the global challenge of feeding 9 billion people by 2050. In return, you receive cutting-edge learning tools and resources, world-class mentorship from experts, innovators and entrepreneurs, the chance to win a trip to the inspirational TFF Global Summit as well as significant funding (up to \$10,000) for your project. **Sign up by 1 Dec 2016.**

The Crunch – **sign up to become an ambassador** for the **Wellcome Trust’s new initiative**, which aims to inspire everyone to consider the connections between our food, our health and our planet. It also wants to encourage conversations to help researchers and policymakers listen to what the UK thinks about these issues. The Crunch is linked to wider work by the Wellcome Trust, supporting collaboration and research to help us all understand more about these connections. Find out more about [Our Planet, Our Health](#).

An **internal peer review process** is now open to University of Cambridge academics writing large and complex AHRC and ESRC research grant applications. The aim is improve the chances of success of applications and pre-empt possible criticisms.