



FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members and Subscribers,

I'm delighted to have joined the Global Food Security Initiative as the new Coordinator, as of January 2016. Will Simonson is staying on part-time as we prepare for the 23rd - 25th June Symposium - a date you'll no doubt have already marked in your diaries, and we'll have more details about this for you next month.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming weeks, and in the meantime please feel free to contact me with any relevant news, information about new grants or forthcoming publications, or other activities you'd like to share across the Initiative or more widely.

Best wishes, Jacqueline Garget

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## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **BBSRC-supported Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI)** has revised its **Strategic Research Agenda**, to set out clear research priorities on agriculture, food security and climate change in Europe. FACCE-JPI lists strategic actions to achieve these goals and align current and future national research programmes.

**The European Commission has opened a Public Online Consultation on PRIMA** (Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area in Horizon 2020) - a new research and innovation initiative for sustainable food production and water management in the Mediterranean area - to collect views and opinions on the scope, objectives, and expected impacts of PRIMA. Contributions are sought **by 24 April 2016**, following which there will be an event in the first quarter of 2016 to further involve the most directly affected stakeholders of the PRIMA initiative.

**Agri-tech EAST has announced a Business Plan competition: GROW**, aiming to encourage an entrepreneurial culture in agri-tech. Every entrant gets the support and guidance of a mentor, and the winner will receive £1,000 to help them progress their business plan into practice. Register interest **by 7 March 2016**.

## EVENTS AND TALKS

**Food: Field to Table** is a fortnightly, graduate-run interdisciplinary discussion group at CRASSH covering a wide range of issues that affect the food system. Held on alternate Wednesdays 5pm-7pm during term time, the full programme is online.

**15-17 February 2016:** International Symposium on **'The Role of Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems & Nutrition.'** Rome.

**23 February 2016:** **Pipettes and Ploughs: Taking the Lab to the Field**  
Rothamsted Research, Harpenden. An Agri-tech East Pollinator event.

**23-24 February 2016:** National Farmers' Union (NFU) Conference, **'Backing the Future of British Farming.'** Birmingham.

**1 March 2016:** **'Time to beat the meat?'** The Cambridge Food Security Forum is holding an evening public discussion on reducing meat consumption. Further details coming soon.

### **7-20 March 2016: Cambridge Science Festival**

Cambridge Global Food Security is involved in the following public events:

**12 March, 10am-4pm & 13 March 11am-3pm:** **Department of Plant Sciences Marquee on the lawn,** Downing Site.

**15 March, 7:30pm – 9pm:** **'From Bean to Bar: the Future of Chocolate'**, Mill Lane Lecture Rooms. Angus Thirlwell, CEO and co-founder of Hotel Chocolat, will join an expert panel to explore how the supply and demand for chocolate may change in the future.

Also of interest:

**9 March, 8-9pm:** **'Eating less meat for planetary and population health: government policy or your choice?'** Mill Lane Lecture Rooms.

**22 March 2016:** **Priorities for the UK food and drink industry - implementing the 25-year food and farming plan**

Central London. A Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar

**23-25 March 2016:** **3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Food Security and Nutrition.**  
Amsterdam.



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**24-25 March 2016: 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Global Food Security**. Miami.

**27 April 2016: Priorities for the UK food supply chain and for the Groceries Code Adjudicator**

Central London. A Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar.

**7 May 2016: Technological Frontiers in Food Security and Sustainability**

University of Oxford. Jointly organised by the Oxford Food Forum and Cambridge Food Security Forum

**23-25 June 2016: Cambridge Conference on Global Food Security.**

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*Papers:*

**How can higher-yield farming help to spare nature?**

Phalan B, Green RE, Dicks LV, Dotta G, Fenuik C, Lamb A, Strassburg BBN, Williams DR, zu Ermgassen EKHJ, Balmford A.

Science (Jan 2016)

also covered by the [University's website](#)

**Land cover change and carbon emissions over 100 years in an African biodiversity hotspot.**

Willcock S, Phillips OL, Platts PJ, Swetnam RD, Balmford A, Burgess ND, Ahrends A, Bayliss J, Doggart N, Doody K, Fanning E, Green JM, Hall J, Howell KL, Lovett JC, Marchant R, Marshall [Glob Chang Biol.](#) (Jan 2016) [Epub ahead of print]

**Teaching sustainable and integrated resource management using an interactive nexus model**

Bajzelj B, Fenner RA, Curmi E, Richards KS.

International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education (Jan 2016)

**Identity, subjectivity and natural resource use: How ethnicity, gender and class intersect to influence mangrove oyster harvesting in The Gambia**

Lau JD, Scales IR.

Geoforum Volume 69 (Feb 2016)

*Books:*

Feb 2016: **Food Security in the Developing World**; by Cambridge alumnus J Ashley, Academic Press.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Research Grant Applications at CRASSH**

CRASSH is interested in continuing its rolling programme of interdisciplinary, collaborative research projects beyond the current cycle (2016-17) and welcomes approaches from academics who would like to base their projects in this unique research environment.

**ESRC Impact Acceleration Account:** The University's Research Strategy Office coordinates the Impact Fund, which provides flexible funding for impact projects in social science disciplines. Awards of 10,000-£20,000 are available to significantly increase the probability of the ideas and findings generated by the research having an impact on the private, public and third sectors. **Bids are due by 5pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.**

### **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 (**deadlines 23 February 2016; 07 June 2016; and 18 October 2016**).

**The ERA-NET Sustainable Animal Production (SusAn)** has launched a call for transnational research proposals on sustainable animal production. Up to €300,000 can be requested per project from any one funding party (**deadline for pre-proposals 29 March 2016**).

### **DEFRA European Innovation Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability grant (EIP-Agri)**

Supports projects which link research, farming and forestry practice to encourage innovation and improve productivity and sustainability in the agricultural sector. Grants are worth between £5,000 and £150,000 for up to three years. The total budget is worth £5 million (**deadline 31 March 2016**).

### **EC Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020) Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellowships 2016**

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellowships include the Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE). RISE aims to develop partnerships at the international level in Europe and outside Europe in academic and non-academic sectors. The organisations constituting the partnerships contribute to joint research and innovation by seconding and/or hosting eligible staff members (**deadline 28 April 2016**).

**The ERA-NET for monitoring and mitigation of Greenhouse gases from agri- and silvi-culture** is planning to launch a call for transnational research proposals under the ERAONET Cofund scheme of Horizon 2020 of the European Commission on March 1, 2016 (**deadline for pre-proposals 29 April 2015**).



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**Community Resource for Wheat Transformation** This funding from NIAB provides capacity for **50 genes** to be transformed into wheat free of charge. Half of this resource is reserved for researchers working on model crops, to encourage early testing of novel genes in wheat. The remaining half of the resource is reserved for researchers working on UK cereal crops, wheat and barley. This project has been funded for 5 years by the BBSRC Bioinformatics & Biological Resources fund (**deadline 31 May 2016**).

**Conservation, Food, and Health Foundation (CHF) Grants for Grassroots Development**

The CFH Foundation makes grants to non-profit organisations worldwide for projects in conservation, sustainable agriculture, and health in developing countries. The average grant is approximately US\$20,000 (**deadline 1 July 2016**).