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## Section 3 Agri-Food Science Funding Organisations

This section lists some of the main UK funding agencies, their areas of interest and contact details.

### 1 Alcohol Education and Research Council (AERC)

The Council's main aims are to:

- Generate and disseminate research based evidence to inform and influence policy and practice
- Develop the capacity of people and organisations to address alcohol issues
- Provision of research grants

Address: AERC, Room 178,  
Queen Anne Business Centre,  
28 Broadway,  
London SW1H 9JX  
Telephone: (0)207 340 9502  
Website: [www.aerc.org.uk](http://www.aerc.org.uk)

### 2 Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

BBSRC is one of seven Research Councils that work together as Research Councils UK (RCUK). It is funded from the Government's Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS).

BBSRC's current budget is £400M. It supports a total of around 1,600 scientists and 2,000 research students in universities and institutes in the UK.

#### Research areas

- Agri-food
- Animal sciences
- Biochemistry and cell biology
- Biomolecular sciences
- Engineering and biological systems
- Genes and developmental biology
- Plant and microbial sciences
- Longer and larger grants
- New investigator scheme
- Cross- and joint-committee priorities

Address: BBSRC, Polaris House,  
North Star Avenue,  
Swindon,  
Wiltshire, SN2 1UH  
Telephone: (0)1793 413200  
Fax: (0)1793 413201  
Website: [www.bbsrc.ac.uk](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk)

### 3 British Potato Council (BPC)

The British Potato Council works to improve competitiveness and increasing usage of UK potatoes. BPC is a non-departmental public body (NDPB) funded by potato growers and trade purchasers.

Address: BPC, 4300 Nash Court,  
Oxford Business Park South,  
Oxford, OX4 2RT  
Telephone: (0)1865 714455  
Fax: (0)1865 782200  
Website: [www.potato.org.uk](http://www.potato.org.uk)

### 4 Department for International Development (DFID)

DFID is the part of the UK Government that manages Britain's aid to poor countries. DFID's work is focused on achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – the United Nations' targets for fighting poverty that must be met by 2015.

DFID works with charities, international organisations and the governments of poor countries to find lasting solutions to the global problem of poverty. The UK has committed to spending 0.7% of its gross national income on poverty reduction and international development by 2013. It will double the budget on research to £220m by 2010/11, increasing the capacity to manage research, strengthen scientific input into research and produce a step change in getting research into policy and practice.

Address: DFID, 1 Palace Street,  
London, SW1E 5HE  
Telephone: (0)207 023 0000  
Fax: (0)207 023 0019  
Email: [enquiry@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:enquiry@dfid.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk)

### 5 Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Northern Ireland (DARDNI)

DARDNI aims to promote sustainable economic growth and the development of the countryside in Northern Ireland. The Department assists the competitive development of the agri-food, fishing and forestry sectors of the Northern Ireland economy, having regard for the need of the consumers, the welfare of animals and the conservation and enhancement of the environment.

Address: DARDNI, Dundonald House,  
Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast, BT4 3SB  
Telephone: (0)2890 524999  
Email: [dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk](mailto:dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

## 6 Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

Defra funds scientific research to provide evidence for policy making, solving problems, and identifying future issues. Defra is a major funder of science, spending over £300 million annually on research, monitoring and surveillance activities.

### Research areas

- Climate change and energy
- Natural resource protection
- Sustainable production and consumption
- Sustainable rural communities
- Sustainable farming and food

Address: Defra, Nobel House,  
17 Smith Square,  
London, SW1P 3JR  
Telephone: (0)207 238 6000  
Website: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

## 7 Environment Agency (EA)

The EA science programme provides key information, advice, tools and techniques to assist Government policy and operational work.

### Research areas

- Air quality
- Conservation
- Fish
- Flood
- Land quality
- Navigation
- Recreation
- Waste
- Water quality and resources

Address: EA, Warrington,  
Cheshire, WA4 1HG  
Telephone: 08708-506506  
Email: [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Note:

For brevity the +44 prefix for international dialling has not been included as part of the telephone number contact details. For international dialling all telephone numbers listed in this Directory should be preceded by +44 and the (0) ignored.

## 8 Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

ESRC funds research and training in social and economic issues focusing on six research areas: economic affairs; education and human development; environment and planning; government and law; industry and employment; and social affairs. ESRC's work is organised in four areas:

- Capacity: To build sufficient capacity for the UK to undertake top class social science
- Research: To fund only cutting-edge and excellent research that focuses on pushing back the frontiers of science, and on areas of major national importance
- Engagement: To communicate its research findings as widely as possible; to engage with its audiences and to get its research into practice
- Performance: To perform its work efficiently

The budget of £181 million (2007/2008) funds over 2,500 researchers in academic institutions and policy research institutes throughout the UK and supports more than 2,000 postgraduate students

Address: ESRC, Polaris House, North Star Avenue,  
Swindon, SN2 1UJ  
Telephone: 01793 413000  
Fax: 01793 413001  
Website: [www.esrc.ac.uk](http://www.esrc.ac.uk)

## 9 Food Standards Agency (FSA)

The FSA is an independent Government department set up by an Act of Parliament in 2000 to protect the public's health and consumer interests in relation to food. Activities reflect the FSA vision of safe food and healthy eating for all. The research and survey work funded by the FSA is focused on helping the Agency understand food issues and meet its policy aims and objectives. The Agency does not provide research grants, but contracts research groups to address specific questions aimed at producing the background evidence on which it can base its policies.

### Research areas

- Nutrition, diet and food choices
- Food-borne illnesses
- BSE research
- Assessing the safety of food components
- Chemical contaminants in food
- Radiological safety of food
- Improving consumer choice and standards of food protection
- Management and policy
- Food surveys
- Dietary surveys
- Social science

Address: FSA, Aviation House, 125 Kingsway,  
London, WC2B 6NH  
Telephone: (0)207 276 8000  
Website: [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

## 10 Forestry Commission

The Forestry Commission is a government department with the general duty of promoting the interests of forestry, the development of afforestation, the production and supply of timber and other products in Great Britain, and of seeking a reasonable balance between forestry and conservation.

Address: Forestry Commission,  
231 Corstorphine Road,  
Edinburgh, EH12 7AT  
Telephone: (0)131 3340303  
Fax: (0)131 3343047  
Website: [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

## 11 Health Protection Agency (HPA)

The HPA's role is to provide an integrated approach to protecting UK public health through the provision of support and advice to the NHS, local authorities, emergency services, other Arms Length Bodies, the Department of Health and the Devolved Administrations.

The HPA has a large network of approximately 3,000 staff based primarily at Colindale, Porton and Chilton. The Centre for Infections at Colindale is the base for communicable disease surveillance and specialist microbiology. The Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards is based at Chilton and the Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response, focusing on applied microbiological research and emergency response, is based at Porton.

Address: Health Protection Agency,  
Centre for Infections,  
61 Colindale Avenue,  
London NW9 5EQ  
Telephone: (0)208 200 4400  
Fax: (0)208 200 7868  
Email: [infections@hpa.org.uk](mailto:infections@hpa.org.uk)  
Website: [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)

## 12 Home Grown Cereal Authority (HGCA)

HGCA's mission is to improve the production and marketing of UK grain, to increase its competitiveness in UK and overseas markets. To achieve this, HGCA provides market information, promotes exports, helps in the development of products using UK cereals and funds research and development on behalf of the UK arable industry.

Address: HGCA, Caledonia House,  
223 Pentonville Road,  
London, N1 9HY  
Telephone: (0)207 520 3920  
Website: [www.hgca.com](http://www.hgca.com)

## 13 Natural England

Natural England is working towards the delivery of four strategic outcomes, which together deliver on its purpose to conserve, enhance and manage the natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations:

- A healthy natural environment
- People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment
- Sustainable use of the natural environment
- A secure environmental future

Address: Natural England,  
1 East Parade,  
Sheffield, S1 2ET  
Telephone: (0)114 241 8920  
Email: [enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk)  
Website: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

## 14 Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)

NERC is the UK's main agency for funding and managing research, training and knowledge exchange in the environmental sciences. NERC coordinates some of the world's most exciting research projects, tackling major issues such as climate change, environmental influences on human health and the genetic make-up of life on earth.

Working internationally, NERC has bases in the most hostile parts of the planet. NERC runs a fleet of research ships and aircraft and invests in satellite technology to monitor gradual environmental change on a global scale. NERC provides knowledge, forewarning and solutions to the key global environmental challenges facing society.

NERC leads the collaborative Living With Environmental Change (LWEC) ten-year programme, which will provide decision makers with the best information to effectively manage and protect vital ecosystem services

Address: NERC,  
Polaris House,  
North Star Avenue,  
Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 1EU  
Telephone: (0)1793 411500  
Fax: (0)1793 411501  
Website: [www.nerc.ac.uk](http://www.nerc.ac.uk)

## 15 Scottish Agricultural Science Agency (SASA)

SASA is a community of 100 scientists and supporters, based in Edinburgh, whose work helps to ensure the quality, safety and security of our food supply in Scotland, and contributes to the quality of our environment.

### Research areas

- Ensuring the quality of seeds and tubers for planting, and new crop varieties
- Keeping field and horticultural crops free of damaging diseases
- Keeping serious pests of plants out of the UK and Scotland
- Acting as the Scottish Executive's Inspectorate of genetically-modified crops
- Developing new and more sensitive diagnostic tests for pests and diseases
- Preserving and maintaining a wide range of historic, heritage and other varieties of potatoes, cereals, peas and brassicas
- Monitoring the pesticide load in our diet, and the pattern of use of pesticides in Scotland
- Protecting wildlife against deliberate or accidental poisoning
- Understanding the ecology of important vertebrate species (e.g. rabbits, foxes, geese)

Address: SASA, 1 Roddinglaw Road, Edinburgh, EH12 9FJ  
 Telephone: (0)131 244 8890  
 Fax: (0)131 244 8940  
 Email: info@sasa.gsi.gov.uk  
 Website: www.sasa.gov.uk

## 16 Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum

The Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum is an independent company whose main aim is to support research into aquaculture and related areas.

### Research areas

- Environmental impacts
- Health and welfare science
- Biological cultivation

Address: SARF, PO Box 16, Birnam, Dunkeld, Perthshire, PH8 0WU  
 Telephone: (0)1350 727484  
 Fax: (0)1350 727484  
 Email: info@sarf.org.uk  
 Website: www.sarf.org.uk

## 17 Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

Scotland's natural heritage underpins the economy, health, education and well-being. A healthy environment leads to healthy people and a healthy economy. SNH's mission is based on a simple principle: to care for and sustain Scotland's natural heritage if we want it to sustain us. The role of the SNH is to look after the natural heritage, help people to enjoy and value it, and encourage people to use it sustainably.

Address: SNH, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW  
 Telephone: (0)1463 725000  
 Email: enquiries@snh.gov.uk  
 Website: www.snh.org.uk

## 18 Seafish Industry Authority (Seafish)

The Sea Fish Industry Authority (Seafish) works across all sectors of the UK seafood industry to promote good quality, sustainable seafood. Seafish research and projects are aimed at raising standards, improving efficiency and ensuring that the industry develops in a viable way.

Seafish is the UK's only cross-industry seafood body working with fishermen, processors, wholesalers, seafood farmers, fish friers, caterers, retailers and the import/export trade. A Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB), Seafish is sponsored by the four UK government fisheries departments and funded by a levy on seafood.

Address: Seafish, 18 Logie Mill, Logie Green Road, Edinburgh, EH7 4HS  
 Telephone: (0)131 558 3331  
 Fax: (0)131 558 1442  
 Website: www.seafish.org

## 19 The Wellcome Trust

The Wellcome Trust spends over £600 million every year both in the UK and internationally supporting and promoting research to improve the health of humans and animals. As well as tackling immediate priorities, the independence and long-term perspective enables the Wellcome Trust to support research that will benefit future generations. This rounded view extends to the Trust's work on the impact of biomedical research. The Trust seeks to improve understanding of the ways science and medicine have developed, and how research affects people and society today. The Wellcome Trust supports research in universities and other academic centres in the UK and in overseas locations. The Trust also manages its own projects and initiatives.

Address: Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE  
 Telephone: (0)207 611 8888  
 Fax: (0)207 611 8545  
 Email: grantenquiries@wellcome.ac.uk  
 Website: www.wellcome.ac.uk

# UKCDS and IATC member and partner organisations



## IATC – www.theiatc.org

The International Agri-Technology Centre Ltd (IATC Ltd) in partnership with Campden BRI has been contracted by UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) to promote and support the UK's agri-food technology industry in promoting and developing its international trade potential.

IATC Ltd will work with UKTI's regional and international networks to help businesses identify opportunities and enter overseas markets and also with international governments, scientific and research institutes and commercial organisations to identify links and facilitate introductions and business meetings that may lead to commercial collaboration. It will also act as the focal point for international trade enquiries and information from overseas markets seeking goods and services from the UK.

### IATC partner organisations



## UKCDS – www.ukcds.org.uk

The establishment of the UKCDS was announced by the Secretary of State for International Development in December 2006 following recommendations of the Development Sciences Working Group led by the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser, Sir David King.

UKCDS brings together the key funders and stakeholders who provide support for UK science that can support and benefit developing countries. It provides a framework for a more coordinated approach to development sciences research, in order to increase its relevance and impact on national and international policies and activities that are aimed at improving the lives of the world's poorest people.

### UKCDS member organisations



In partnership with the Gates Foundation – www.gatesfoundation.org



## CABI – www.cabi.org

CABI is one of the world's foremost publishers of databases, books and compendia in agriculture and applied life sciences. It has a worldwide reputation for producing high quality, value-added information drawing on its links with the scientific community. CABI produces CAB Abstracts – the leading agricultural A&I database. CABI is a not-for-profit organisation. For further information contact: CABI, Nosworthy Way, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 8DE, UK. Website: www.cabi.org