



UK Research  
and Innovation

# Transforming Food Production programme

Catalysing the transition to net-zero food production systems by 2040

Dr Tom Jenkins

Transforming Food Production – Deputy Challenge Director



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs



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# UKRI Innovation Session: Aims & objectives

- Provide overview of UKRI's Transforming Food Production programme
- Give insights into new technologies and innovations being developed through TFP to support the fresh produce sector
- Update on £17.5m funding available through Defra Farming Innovation Programme, being delivered in partnership with TFP
- Highlight support for consortia building and developing competitive applications through the Knowledge Transfer Network

# Session Outline

<b>10.45</b>	Welcome and session overview	Tom Jenkins – Deputy Challenge Director, UKRI Transforming Food Production
<b>10.50</b>	Introduction to the Transforming Food Production Programme	Tom Jenkins
<b>11.00</b>	TuberScan: combining sensing technologies to increase marketable yield in potatoes	Vidyanath Gururajan – Managing Director, B-Hive
<b>11.15</b>	Indoor farming innovations: improving the efficiency & sustainability of our food systems through CEA	Charlie Guy – Co-Founder and CEO, LettusGrow
<b>11.30</b>	CoolBerry 2: reducing waste through innovations in cooling and storage	Hayley Jackson – Group Commercial Director, JD Cooling
<b>11.45</b>	Forthcoming funding opportunities to support innovation in the fresh produce sector	Andrew McLay - Innovation Lead, UKRI Transforming Food Production
<b>12.00</b>	Support available through the Knowledge Transfer Network	Pedro Carvalho - Knowledge Transfer Manager (AgriFood), KTN Ltd
<b>12.15</b>	Q&A	All



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# Introduction to the Transforming Food Production programme

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# UK Research and Innovation

We work with the government to invest over £7 billion a year in research and innovation by partnering with academia and industry to make the impossible, possible. Through the UK's nine leading academic and industrial funding councils, we create **knowledge with impact.**



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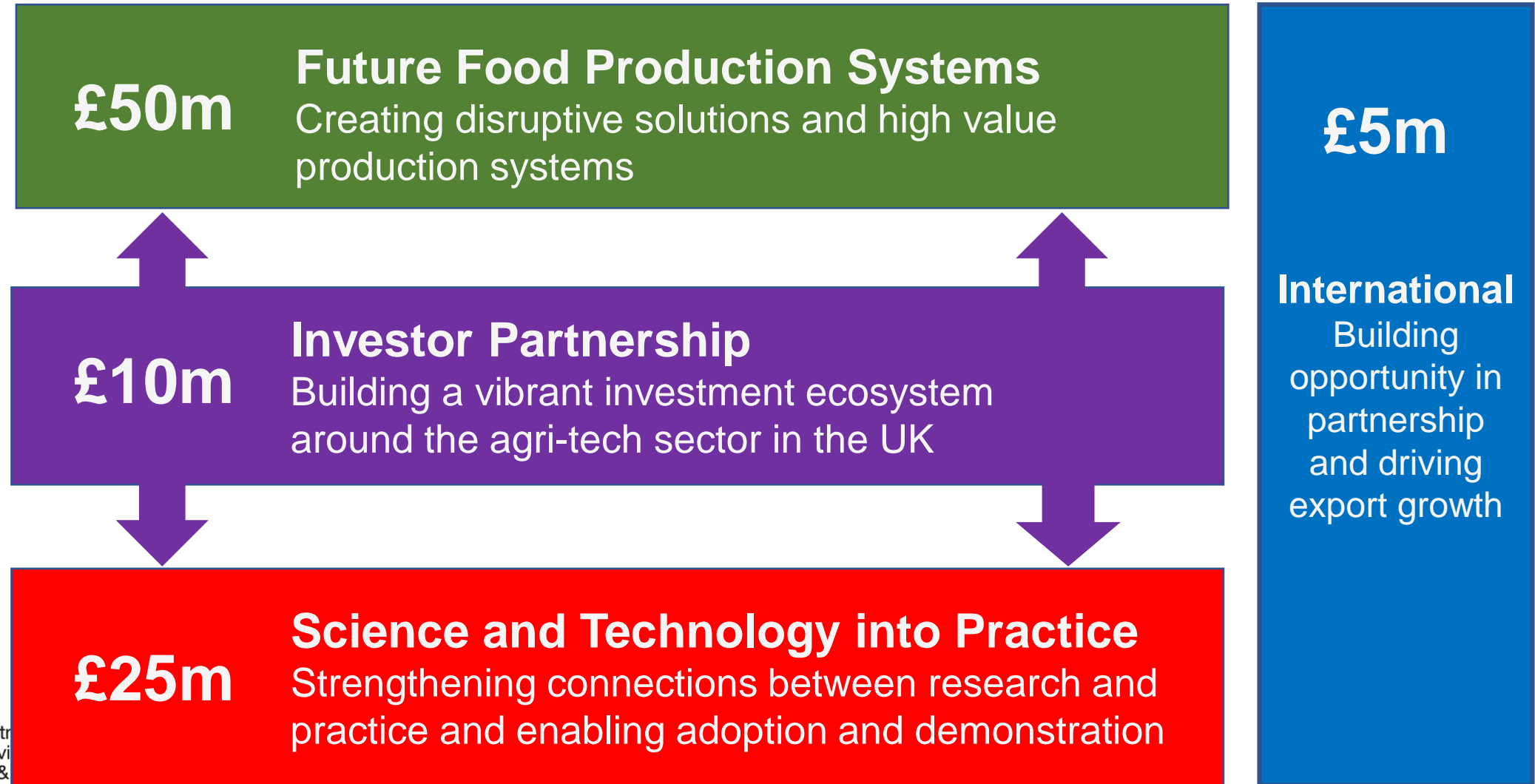
# Transforming Food Production

- Accelerating development and adoption of integrated precision approaches, to improve productivity in agricultural systems
- Enabling food to be produced in more efficient, resilient and sustainable ways
- Driving economic growth across the UK



Towards net zero emissions productive food systems by 2040

# Transforming Food Production Delivery



# Project Snapshots



B-hive

BRANSTON

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester



Harper Adams  
University

**Tuberscan** – combining producer and technical expertise during growing and storage of potato crops for maximum yield and minimised losses

**Coolberry2** – innovative in-field cooling of soft fruit crops for enhanced quality, shelf life and reduced post-harvest loss



jdcooling  
Group  
WHERE EXPERTISE FLOWS



BERRY  
GARDENS



UNIVERSITY of  
GREENWICH



SCORPION  
VISION SOFTWARE



LettUs  
GROW



**Vertical Farming 2.0** – advancing vertical farming through innovative irrigation and lighting to improve productivity, quality and sustainability



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# Catalysing company growth and scale-up...

## Series A Investor Partnership Programme

- Establishes >£30m Agri-tech 'net-zero' fund
- Expect to create 10+ Series A deals, accelerating growth and scale-up of UK SMEs
- Investment focuses on global opportunities with international investors able to lead investment rounds
- Potential to build investment syndicates
- TFP acting as a minority Impact Investor (net-zero)
- Late stage funding model
- Round 2 opens October 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

<https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1025/overview>



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