



# Funding Agri-Innovation: New Ventures in Food Security & Biorenewables

Tuesday 22 March 2011

SCI HQ, London, UK

Organised by SCI's BioResources and Science & Enterprise  
Groups



**09.30** Registration and refreshments

**10.00** Welcome and introduction

Theme 1: *What are the challenges, opportunities and issues in agri-technologies and markets?*

**10.10** **Driving innovation for sustainable land-based production: the need for partnerships**

Ian Crute, AHDB

**10.40** **Challenges, opportunities and issues in developing and funding innovation in biorenewables**

Adrian Higson, NNFFC

**11.10** Refreshment break

Theme 2: *What are investors looking for in attractive propositions?*

**11.30** **Attracting venture capital for launching and growing new businesses**

David Buckeridge, Paine & Partners

**12.00** **Working with corporate venture capital in agriculture to validate technology, accelerate growth and reduce risk – a Syngenta view**

John Cripps, Syngenta Ventures

**12.30** Discussion

**12.45** Lunch

**13.50** **Riding the funding rollercoaster**

Simon Turner, Canopus Management

**14.20** **Collaborative R&D funding for agri-technologies in the UK**

Calum Murray, TSB

Theme 3: *Case studies: how have larger and smaller companies and intermediaries approached funding and supporting agri-innovation?*

**14.50** **The challenges of funding innovation in a mid-sized multinational agrochemical company**

Chris Richards, Arysta LifeScience

**15.20** Refreshment break

**15.50** **Oxitec case study: breaking through**

Hadyn Parry, Oxitec

**16.20** **Commercialising early stage agbiotechnology from academia: challenges and opportunities**

Rupert Osborn, IP Pragmatics

**16.50** **InCrops' experience of supporting innovation in bioproducts and future potential**

John French, InCrops

**17.20** Discussion

**17.45** Wine mixer

## Synopsis

Biological and chemical innovations applied to agricultural productivity are investment opportunities for players right along the agri-value chain leading to food, fuel and fibre as well as effect molecules

Annual gains in agricultural output globally are currently around only 1% compared to 4% over the two decades to 1980. By 2030 the world will need to produce 50% more food and 50% more energy. Estimates from Berlin's Humboldt University are that by 2017 prices of cereals and oilseeds will be 70 – 110% greater than in 2005. The need for effective agricultural technologies is vital for food security and the bioeconomy. Signs are appearing that investment and effective implementation will be well rewarded.

This event will:

- Expose and discuss opportunities for new ventures in production, protection and processing for food, energy and materials
- Explore means of starting-up and financing new ventures in developing and commercialising technologies in these areas
- Offer a networking opportunity for new venturing

## Attendees

This event will be of interest to all those involved in creating value from science and technology in food production and the bioeconomy: innovators, investors and service providers in agrisciences and agribusiness.



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