

NERC Knowledge Exchange Programme on Sustainable Food Production



The NERC (Natural Environment Research Council) Knowledge Exchange Programme on Sustainable Food Production aims to enhance the use of science in making UK food production systems more **environmentally sustainable**. Sustainable food production makes efficient use of natural resources and does not degrade the environmental systems that underpin it.

What will the Knowledge Exchange Programme do?

The NERC Knowledge Exchange Programme on Sustainable Food Production will:

- Engage people from all sectors with an interest in sustainable food production in a process of collaborative, evidence-based planning for the future
- Identify priority **knowledge needs** where scientific input is most needed
- Begin creating an accessible **synthesis** of relevant science, with a structure dictated by the interests and needs of research users
- Develop a web-based hub where all interested parties can access knowledge according to their own needs.

Who is running the Knowledge Exchange Programme?

The Knowledge Exchange Programme on Sustainable Food Production brings together five leading UK universities - Cambridge, Bangor, Lancaster, Leeds and Reading – and the Plymouth Marine Laboratory. These organisations are well-known for world class research on agriculture, ecosystems, conservation or aquaculture and fisheries science. The Programme initially runs from June 2012 until May 2013.

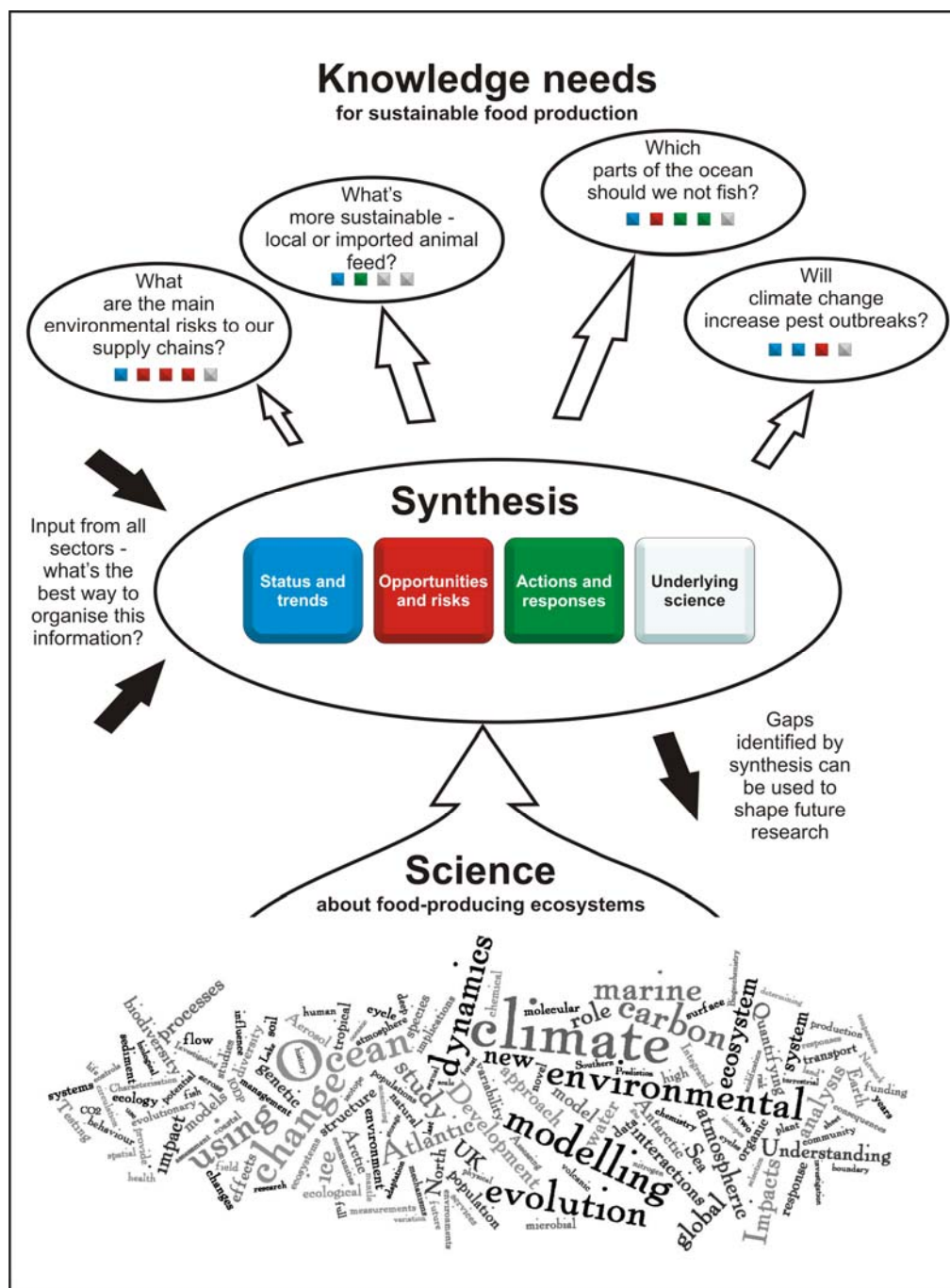
Who should be interested?

We are inviting key players from the food and farming industries, regulatory authorities, civil society and academia to help us shape the synthesis of knowledge and identify priority knowledge needs.

The developing synthesis that forms the basis of the Knowledge Exchange Programme will be freely available to all at

www.nercsustainablefood.com





The UK is a world-leader in many aspects of environmental science relevant to food. Much of this research is generated by NERC. Evidence and data are also generated by businesses, non-governmental organisations, government departments and scientists funded by other organisations. These sources of knowledge are not currently well-integrated.

This diagram shows how synthesis of relevant science can be a basis for knowledge exchange by meeting complex knowledge needs on demand and shaping future research. The words at the bottom of the diagram represent NERC-funded research projects. Some example knowledge needs are shown, but there are many others and they change every day.