

Annex 1

Agri-Tech Catalyst

The £70m [Agri-Tech Catalyst](#) funding scheme was launched by Innovate UK on behalf of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and the Department for International Development (DFID) in 2013 to help businesses and academic researchers develop innovative solutions to global challenges in the agricultural technology ('agri-tech') sector. The Agri-Tech Catalyst takes innovative ideas from any sector or discipline which show the potential to improve the sustainable intensification of agriculture. The scope of the Catalyst includes:

- primary crop and livestock production including aquaculture
- non-food uses of crops including ornamentals
- food security and nutrition challenges in international development
- addressing challenges in downstream food processing, provided the solution lies in primary production

The Agri-Tech Catalyst has awarded grants for early-stage pre-industrial research feasibility studies, industrial research, and late-stage pre-experimental feasibility studies and experimental development.

Industrial Biotechnology Catalyst

The [Industrial Biotechnology Catalyst](#) is a multi-million-pound competition funded by Innovate UK, BBSRC and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) which aims to boost collaborations between the academic and business communities. Industrial biotechnology focuses on developing biological processes to improve efficiency in chemical production and help combat threats such as antimicrobial resistance and reliance on fossil fuels.

The Industrial Biotechnology Catalyst has invested in major integrated research and development projects for the processing and production of materials, chemicals and bioenergy through the sustainable exploitation of biological resources. It provides funding to innovative businesses and academic researchers working in priority areas with the aim of helping them to quickly turn excellent UK research into new or improved commercial processes and products. Since its inception in 2014, over £75 million has been invested over four rounds. Several types of award have been available to support research at different stages, including:

- Early stage translation
- Early stage technical feasibility studies
- Industrial research
- Late stage technical feasibility studies
- Experimental development

Energy Catalyst

An [Energy Catalyst](#) fund has provided investment and support for UK universities and businesses to advance the best concepts and innovative technologies in the energy sector.

The fund supports business-led projects which develop innovative solutions to the energy trilemma of reduced carbon emissions, security of supply and affordability.

The Catalyst's Co-funders are EPSRC, BEIS, DFID & Innovate UK, and £75m of grants have been awarded to date. Projects have been funded at three different stages, each being open to businesses, universities and research organisations:

- early-stage award - technical feasibility
- mid-stage awards - technology development
- late-stage awards - pre-commercial technology validation