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# Welcome



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# Fund for International Collaboration (FIC) Evaluation Pre-market Engagement

20th January, 12.30-15.30

Astor Court Hotel, Fitzrovia W1W

# Agenda

**1 Introductions**

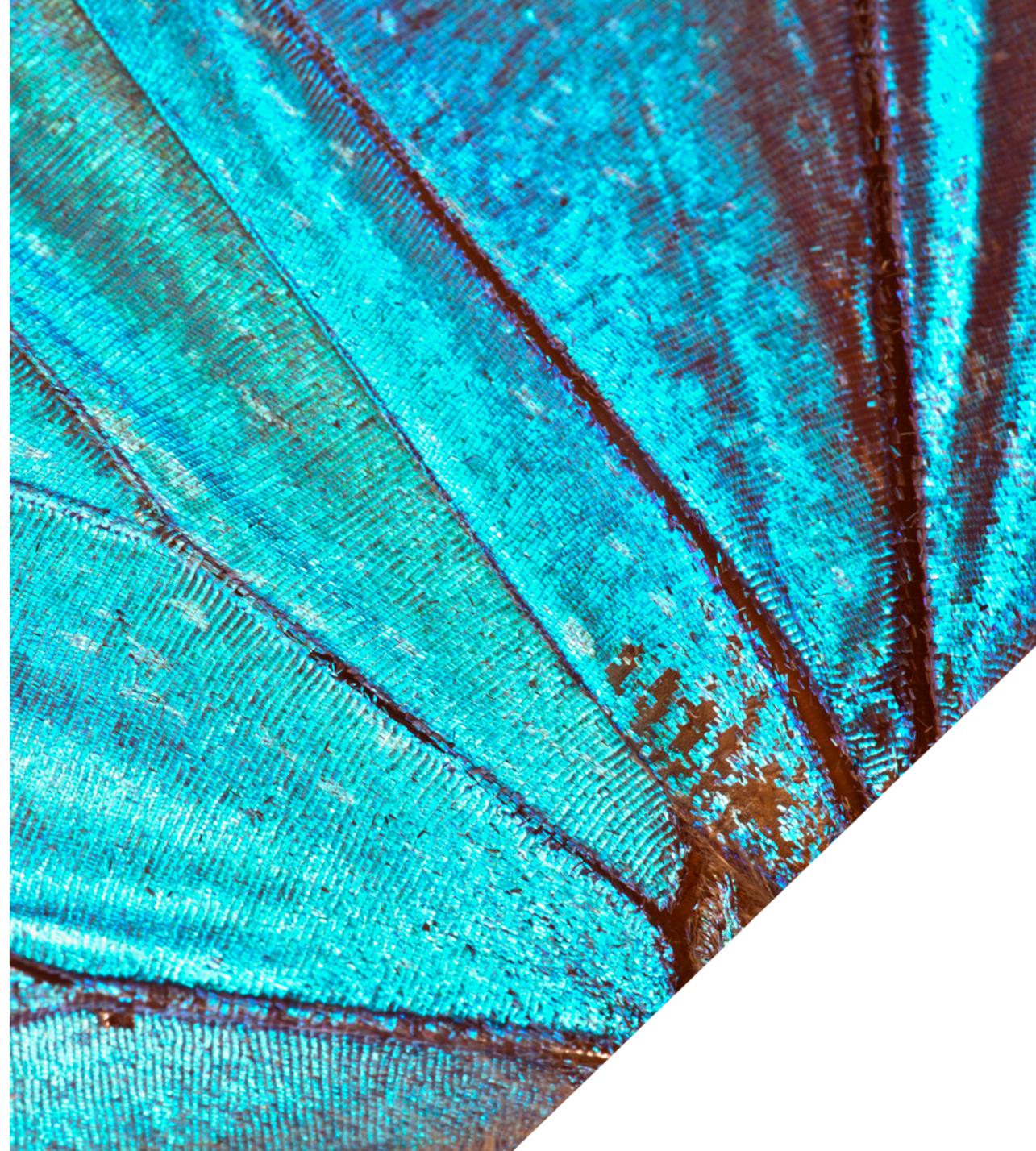
**2 Overview of the FIC**

**3 Evaluation Expectations**

**4 Procurement Overview**

**\*Coffee Break\***

**5 Discussion**



# Introductions

**Georgina Tyson**  
FIC Global Portfolio  
Manager

**Dr Jana Gessner**  
FIC Senior Manager

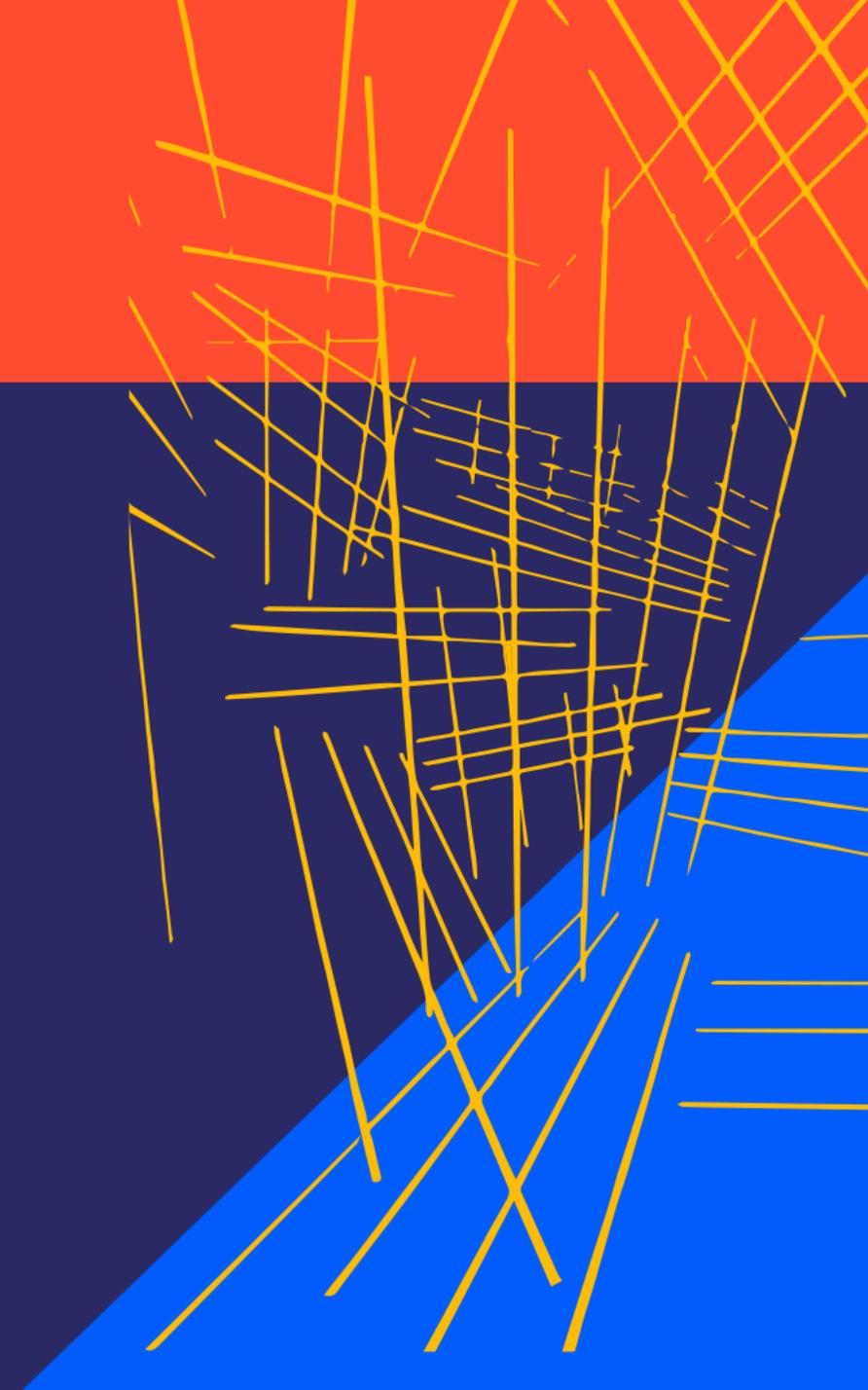
**Jean Brown**  
NPIF Evaluation Lead,  
UKRI Central Analysis

**Declan Ward**  
Category Manager –  
Research  
Procurement  
UK SBS



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# Overview of the FIC



# Background

The FIC is a new **£160 million\*** cross-UKRI fund which will enable the UK to develop strategic partnerships with global R&D leaders.

## The Principal Objectives of the FIC

- collaborate with the best international partners;
- carry out world-leading research and innovation which delivers new knowledge, and societal and economic impact, to the mutual benefit of the UK and partner countries;
- support BEIS and wider Government objectives, including science diplomacy, enabling the UK to strengthen its collective voice in research and innovation policy.

The FIC is **part of a package** of UKRI measures to maintain the UK's global leadership and thereby deliver against the ambitions of the Industrial Strategy.

# Background

- The FIC complements other cross-UKRI Official Development Assistance funds (Newton/ GCRF). Both Newton and GCRF focus on the economic and social development of Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list countries.
- The FIC is a non-ODA fund. UKRI, in consultation with BEIS, has identified countries of focus as part of an evolving framework for international investment (e.g. USA, Canada, Japan and China).
- The FIC focuses on responding to changes in the global research and innovation landscape, and thereby enhancing the UK's bilateral and multilateral partnerships with global R&D leaders.

# Wave 1 and 2

The FIC is a cross-UKRI Fund:

- UKRI's constituent Councils bid in an internal assessment process for funds to deliver FIC programmes.
- Councils' bids are examined by the FIC Board with representatives from a range of internal and external stakeholders.

The competitive bidding process for FIC Wave 1 and 2 was open to all 9 UKRI Councils operating individually or in partnership.

The successful FIC bids are being delivered by the respective **UKRI Councils**, with the day-to-day coordination of the fund led by the **UKRI International Shared Capability**.

|   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| United States   |  | China  |  | Japan  |  |
| Gravitational wave R&D<br>£11M                              | Delivering Healthy Soils: Signals in the Soil<br>£8M   | Collaboration for Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions: Reimagining the Future of the World's Leading Museums<br>£8M | Healthy Ageing Flagship Challenge<br>£8M         | UKRI-JSPS Joint Call<br>£5M                          |  |
| AIT-Watchman<br>£10M  | The Changing North Atlantic Ocean and its Impact on Climate<br>£5M   |  | Creative Industries Collaboration<br>£5M         | SSH Connections Call<br>£2M                          | Artificial Intelligence and Society<br>£2M |
|   | Business Innovation Bridge<br>£5M  |  |  |  |  |
| Canada  | Artificial Intelligence: Building competitive, resilient economies and societies<br>£5M                            |  | India  | Israel   |  |
|   | Delivering Disruptive Industrial Research and Innovation between the UK and Canada to access global markets<br>£5M |  |  | Joint Innovation Programme<br>£2M                    |  |
| Understanding and adapting to a changing environment<br>£8M | Diabetes Partnership Initiative<br>£2M   |  | EPIC: Extreme Photonics Innovation Centre<br>£4M |  | Australia                                  |
|   | Globalink Doctoral Exchange Scheme<br>£1M  |  | Tackling AMR in the Environment<br>£4M           |  |  |
|   |  | The Trans-Atlantic Platform Call on<br>£2M   |  | Ireland  |  |
|   |  |  |  | Built Environment & Prevention<br>£2M                |  |
|   |  |  |  | South Korea<br>£0.6M                                 |  |
|   |  |  |  | Digital transformation in humanities research<br>£4M |  |

# FIC Programmes

- The aim of the FIC is to build a portfolio which captures a diversity of international partners and research areas.
- Consequently, the FIC consists of a diverse range of research and innovation activities at various stages of development. In addition, the nature and maturity of the partnerships varies between programmes.
- 29 of the 32 FIC programmes have now launched. 147 research grants have been awarded so far and further funds have been invested in infrastructure.



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# Evaluation Expectations



# Purpose

- UKRI is committed to rigorous evaluation of all our key programmes, including the FIC. UKRI would like to commission an independent evaluation of our investment in the FIC wave 1 and 2 portfolio.
- The aim of the evaluation is to inform ongoing and future improvements of the fund to maximise the value of public funding (in particular, the possibility of future growth of the FIC) and demonstrate what the fund delivered for taxpayers and help UKRI build the evidence base on ‘what works’ in internationally collaborative Research and Innovation (R&I)
- The evaluation will be at the fund level.

# Expectations

| Phase |  | Dates  |
|-------|--|--|
| 1     | Planning Phase   | April 20 – Aug 20  |
|       | <i>Break clause in the contract to review the deliverables for UKRI and to make a decision on the continuation of contract</i> |  |
| 2     | Baseline measurement   | Sept 20 – Feb 21   |
| 3.1   | Interim process evaluation   | Sept 20 – Feb 21   |
|       | <i>Break clause in the contract to review the deliverables for UKRI and to make a decision on the continuation of contract</i> |  |
| 3.2   | Interim impact and economic evaluation   | Mar 21 – Sept 22   |
| 3.3   | Final evaluation   | Oct 22 – Dec 24  |
| (4)   | Evaluation post FIC  | ITT does not include Phase 4 of the evaluation, proposals must clearly set out how a delivery of a longer-term continuation of the evaluation could be conducted |

# Phase 1 – Planning Phase

- The planning phase will ensure that there is a solid foundation for the FIC evaluation
- Key components include:
  - Evaluation framework
  - Review of evaluation questions and indicators
  - FIC logic model refinement
  - Scoping and feasibility considerations

# Phase 2 – Baseline Measurement

- The purpose of establishing a baseline is to provide a clearly defined starting point which can be used as a counterfactual scenario for the impacts of FIC (in which the research or innovation activity did not take place)
- The baseline will consist of multiple sources of data, it will not be possible to rely solely on programme administrative data to construct a baseline.
- Need to consider what additional data is required and how it will be collected

# Phase 3 – Evaluation

## Process

- To understand how FIC was delivered (the associated processes, the activities involved in its implementation and the pathways by which FIC was delivered) and why the policy was delivered in the ways it was with recommendations for ongoing and future improvements.

## Impact

- To understand what difference FIC is making over and beyond other existing UKRI international programmes and why.

## Economic

- It is acknowledged that it will be difficult to derive a robust assessment of value for money based on an estimate of the value of impacts. Nonetheless, we are keen to understand if the benefits of FIC justify the costs and how the costs and benefits were generated.



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# Procurement Overview



# Timescales

| Procurement process                                   | Dates                                    |
|---|--|
| Advertise pre-market engagement event                 | 6 <sup>th</sup> January 20               |
| Pre-market engagement event                           | 20 <sup>th</sup> January 20              |
| <b>Issue of competition to all bidders</b>            | <b>27<sup>th</sup> January 20</b>        |
| Deadline for clarification questions                  | 17 <sup>th</sup> February 20             |
| Latest date clarification answers                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 20                 |
| <b>Deadline for Bid to be submitted through Delta</b> | <b>23<sup>rd</sup> March 20</b>          |
| Selection and de-selection of Bids                    | 30 <sup>th</sup> March 20                |
| Interviews of shortlist                               | 6 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> April |
| Anticipated Award Date                                | 20 <sup>th</sup> April                   |
| Anticipated Contract start date                       | 27 <sup>th</sup> April 20                |
| Anticipated Contract end date                         | 31 December 24                           |

## January

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## February

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |    |

## March

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

## April

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

# The Research Marketplace

- The Research Marketplace is a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)
- It can take up to 5 days for a supplier to register on the DPS
- Bespoke supplier shortlists are created for each procurement by selecting ‘filters’ to create a shortlist of suppliers with the necessary skills
- Due to the breadth of this evaluation no filters have been applied
- If you would like to register as a supplier on the Research Marketplace DPS, please follow the online guidance and register at <https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps#research>

# Coffee Break

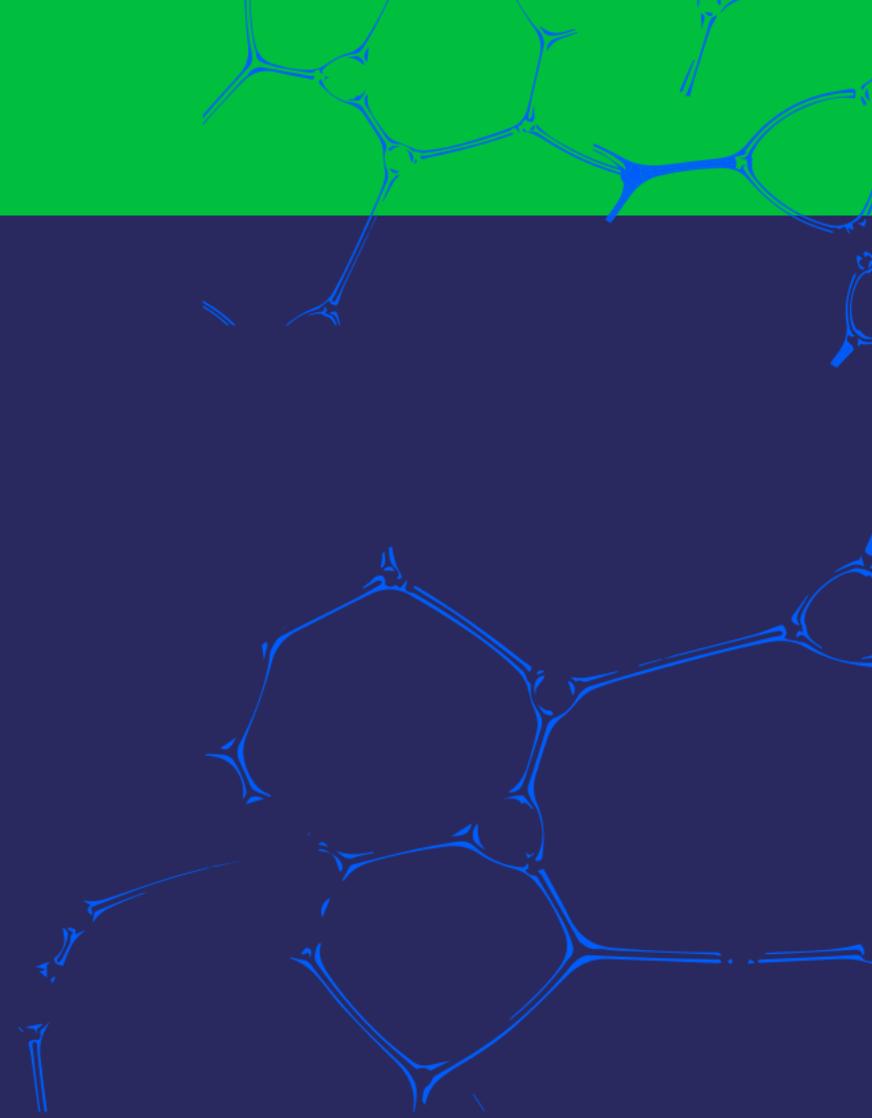


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# Discussion





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# Thank you



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