

Innovation Working Group Proposal

*Collaborative work to explore the role of innovation in supporting
climate change adaptation and mitigation in agriculture*



Motivation

AGRICULTURE Climate-smart, sustainable agriculture the most attractive and widely adopted option for farmers everywhere by 2030.

- The world needs to halve emissions over the next decade and reach net zero carbon emissions by the middle of the century if we are to limit global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees.
- The scale and pace of change will require significant innovation across the global economy. As such, throughout COP26 there has been momentum on innovation and technology.
- COP26 highlighted the critical value of science and innovation in fighting the climate crisis. Innovation was clearly placed at the centre of food systems transformation to inform actions that governments, investors, businesses, farmers organisations and others are committed.
- **The UK announced an Agriculture Breakthrough goal at COP26 - “to make climate resilient, sustainable agriculture the most attractive and widely adopted option for farmers everywhere by 2030” - and the intention to build country support for this in 2022.**
- Other initiatives such as AIM4C place significant emphasis on the role of innovation

Proposal

We propose a new working group to bring countries together on a voluntary basis to share their experiences and insights on agricultural innovation. The overall aim is to develop a clearer picture of the role of innovation in enabling agricultural climate change mitigation and adaptation, with the following objectives:

- 1. Understanding regional needs**, perceptions, and priorities for agricultural innovation to enable agricultural decarbonisation and to build resilience.
- 2. Mapping developments in innovative technologies and practices**, by building a repository of evidence that underpins them
- 3. Showcasing the state of the art** by developing case studies of successful innovations in a range of agricultural settings through concrete examples, including the stories of how the innovation came about, and the benefits experienced by farmers

Outcomes

- Encouraging researchers to develop game-changing solutions that are relevant to their national circumstances, building on insights from other territories.
- Identifying potential new avenues of research for the research groups, including the role of disruptive technologies, or the translation of innovations from other sectors.
- Exploring and understanding the potential barriers impacting on development and uptake of innovation;

Next Steps

- The most recent version of the concept note will be recirculated following this meeting
- The group invites comments and additions to the note
- We will schedule a follow up discussion with interested parties to continue the development of the group