



Minutes – *accepted*

Meeting: UKRI-BBSRC Bioscience for Renewable Resources and Clean Growth
STRATEGY ADVISORY PANEL

Date and Time: 9:00-12:00 8th December 2021

Venue: Zoom Teleconference

Attendance

Panel Members	BBSRC Staff
Mr Paul Mines (Biome Bioplastics) - Chair Prof Neil Bruce (University of York) Dr David Humphreys (UCB) Dr Neil Parry (Unilever) Dr Jhuma Sadhukhan (University of Surrey) Dr Alison Mohr (University of Nottingham) Dr Amgad Moussa (Syngenta)	Dr Colin Miles Mr Jamie Whitford - Secretariat Dr Rod Westrop Dr Jennifer Swarbrick Dr Stephen Webb Mrs Chloë Heywood Dr Chrysanthi Michelaki Dr Jef Grainger Dr Alastair Gibbons Ms Mary Jenkinson-Finch Dr Rachel Harris
Stakeholder Representation	Apologies received
Dr Eva Sevigne Itoiz (Imperial College London) Dr Jeremy Woods (Imperial College London)	Prof Michele Stanley (SAMS)

Agenda

Item [paper]	Start	Description	Duration
	9:00	Welcome and Introductions	5
	9:05	Review of minutes and actions from last meeting	5
	9.10	Director's Update Jef Grainger	10
#1	9:20	Update on UK Government Strategy Colin Miles <i>Objective:</i> To inform SAP of the UK government strategy to deliver Net Carbon Zero and to discuss how it aligns with RRCG activities. <i>Background:</i> The BBSRC RRCG team will present slides to illustrate the Governments position on NZC and how the RRCG activities are relevant to the Strategy. This will include an update the Greenhouse Gas Removal portfolio. It would be beneficial to discuss the areas that government	60

		strategy intends to target and the direction RRCG should take in the future.	
#2	10:20	BBNet-IBLF Carbon Tracker Project (Invitee from Imperial College – Eva Sevigne Itoiz) <i>Objective:</i> To show recent advances in the BBNet-IBLF Carbon Tracker Project. <i>Background:</i> Expanding the capabilities of the McKay calculator will allow bioscience-based approaches to be incorporated into future government strategies. An invitee from Imperial College London will join to explain the intricacies of the project and its relevance to the work supported by the RRCG team.	40
#3	11:00	New ideas for the implementation of Net Zero Carbon and the circular economy via Renewable Resources and Clean Growth Colin Miles <i>Objective:</i> To share the proposed RRCG areas offered for strategic funding from within BBSRC and to invite comments from the SAP. <i>Background:</i> After sharing information on strategic areas submitted for potential funding, discussion will be opened for providing feedback to the RRCG team on the chosen areas.	30
#4	11:30	General updates BBSRC Staff <i>Objective:</i> To inform the SAP of recent progress across various groups and projects. <i>Background:</i> BBSRC-RRCG staff will share slides, updating the SAP on progress in IB Evaluation, Biopharma Steering Committee, Networks in Industrial Biotechnology and Bioenergy (NIBB), and progress in BEE.	30
	12:00	Thanks to leaving SAP members and AoB	

Key outcomes and actions

Item	Outcomes and actions	Owner	Due date/ progress
#1	The panel discussed the six key sectors of the UK Net Zero Research and Innovation Framework and reviewed where biotechnology fits within the Framework sectors. The panel advised BBSRC on these key sectors and answered key questions on how biotechnology R&I supported by BBSRC could be supported in the future in these sectors. The panel also discussed the current state of the sectors, difficulties within each, and how best BBSRC can influence and guide these sectors in the future.	BBSRC Office	No immediate action but contributions of SAP noted for future reference
#2	Invited experts, Eva Sevigne Itoiz and Jeremy Woods, from Imperial College London, updated the panel on the most recent advances in the BBNet-IBLF Carbon Tracker project. Whilst some limitations were		

	<p>discussed, work will be continued to address them and further refine the model. The panel agreed that the carbon tracker was a useful tool for understanding carbon abatement through the application of biotechnologies in a variety of scenarios and were supportive of the work and its applications in guiding current and future government policy.</p> <p><i>Action: Jhuma and Eva to share papers on the carbon footprint of the pharmaceuticals industry.</i></p> <p><i>Action: Eva to contact Joanna Sparks to seek guidance on producing case studies to enhance public engagement.</i></p>	<p>Jhuma Sadhukhan and Eva Sevigne Itoiz</p> <p>Eva Sevigne Itoiz</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
<p>#3</p>	<p>The panel discussed the New Ideas for the Implementation of Net Zero Carbon and Circular Economy that have been put forward by BBSRC. The proposal from CID on Sustainable Manufacturing was well supported by the panel and they were pleased to see such a scheme being implemented. The four new strategic areas presented were all supported by the panel and seen as good ideas for future investment however the panel were hesitant to select favourites due to internal biases given their own areas of research.</p> <p>Furthermore, time constraints meant in-depth discussions of the areas were unable to take place.</p>	<p>BBSRC Office</p>	<p>To update panel on implementation of the schemes at the next SAP meeting</p>