



# **Agribusiness 2019**

Creating a resilient Agri-food supply chain



**Agribusiness 2019**

**Creating a resilient  
UK Agri-food supply chain**

The food and drink sector –  
opportunities for UK  
agriculture post-Brexit

Sir Peter Kendall

*Chairman, AHDB*

*Member, Food & Drink Sector Council*

 #Agribiz2019





# Global Challenges



1. Climate change is widely accepted and will impact on agriculture more than any other sector.
2. Water scarcity is a real threat in large parts of the world. (South Africa a case in point)
3. Global demand continues to grow rapidly.
4. Global stocks are held by countries unlikely to release them onto the world market.
5. In Europe as a whole, we are not self-sufficient, we import food from an area the size of Germany.
6. The world is becoming more protectionist and Global politics are more unpredictable.

# Professor Chris Elliott



# Food and Drink Sector Council



**CO-CHAIRS**  
IAIN FERGUSON, INDUSTRY  
SALLY WARREN, DEFRA

**SECRETARIAT**  
INDUSTRY AND DEFRA

**SECTOR COUNCIL**

AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTIVITY

INNOVATION

LOGISTICS

NUTRITION

PACKAGING

WORKFORCE

EXPORTS

FOOD & DRINK  
MANUFACTURING  
SECTOR DEAL

# The Food and Drink Sector Council

## Purpose

- To act as the Sector Council representing the farm-to-fork food chain in partnership with Government

## Objective

- To improve the productivity and sustainability of the industry

## Ways of working

- Providing a mechanism to develop industry-led solutions
- Strengthening partnerships between UK Government and industry
- Engaging relevant Government departments and organisations

# The challenge for **Agriculture Post-Brexit**

- Total factor productivity in the UK averages 0.9%, compared with 3.5% in the Netherlands and the USA's 3.2%
- Average labour productivity has been static in the UK for the past decade, while across leading EU member states and in the US, it's been steadily rising
- Unless this is tackled industry our ability to compete, sustainably is seriously affected



# Objectives for the APWG

- We want to help bring about a world-leading, competitive and sustainable UK agriculture and horticulture industry that can meet consumer demands for high quality products at every price point.
- This needs us to identify how, working together, industry & government, together can match the best in the world in terms of productivity growth....
- Can't just be about working harder for less - farming must become Profitable, Sustainable & Fun

# An Invitation

## If we had a blank sheet of paper:

- What should the industry look like in 10 years time?
- How should it get there?
- What is our collective role in change?
- What role does government need to play?
- Collaborative working to make UK agriculture more successful
- How do we get around private agendas & get a collective approach to achieving industry goals?

# Emerging Priorities

1. What Works for Agriculture

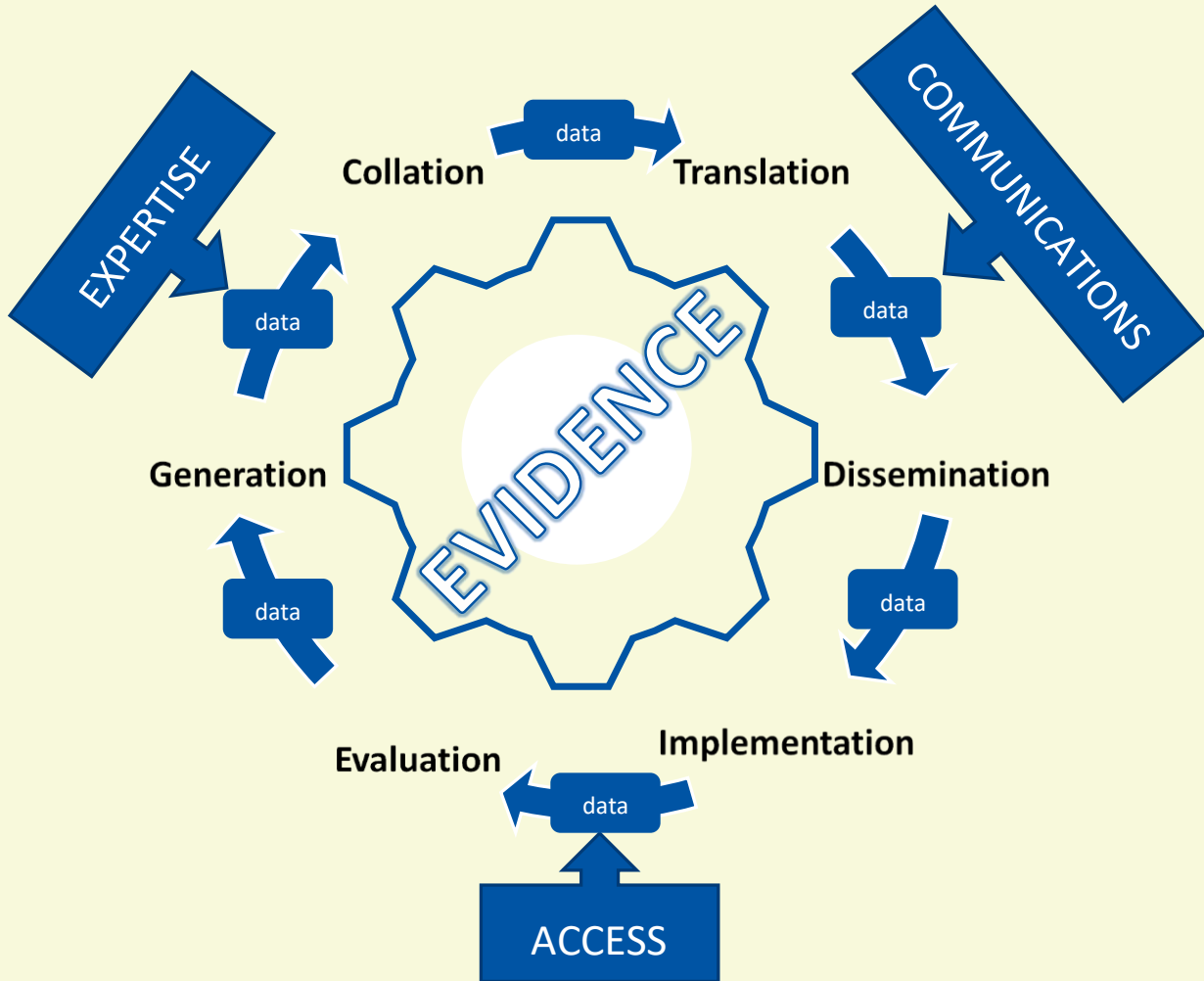
2. Skills

3. AI, data & robotics

# What Works

- Proven concept of an organisation which...
  1. Is designed around the needs of the industry
  2. Independently reviews advice and recommends best practice
  3. Is a one-stop-shop for resource and information
  4. Links scientists and practitioners

# What Works



# What Works

- Scientific rigour, independence and objectivity
- Dynamic analysis, review of the available evidence and identification of gaps to drive fundamental research agenda
- Bridge the divide caused by 'Valley of Death' in uptake of science
- Open & accessible – enables evidence on what works to be channelled via levy boards, consultants, advisers, colleges, and assurance schemes
- Independent of government but can inform evidence-based policy making

# Future Skills Needs

- Recognising changing skill requirements in the industry (eg business & leadership skills)
- Creation of a framework to recognise professionalism in farming
- Creation of a culture where continuous improvement is valued
- Changed perceptions of what a great career farming can be

# AI, Data & Robotics

- Use of data will be key to the future of agriculture
- Can't manage what you can't measure
- Can't robotise and automate without vast amounts of data
- Robotisation has the potential to improve output and the environment



# Contact details

Peter Kendall: [Peter.Kendall@ahdb.org.uk](mailto:Peter.Kendall@ahdb.org.uk)

Jonathan Birnie: [jonathan@birnieconsultancy.com](mailto:jonathan@birnieconsultancy.com)



# Agribusiness 2019

Creating a resilient  
UK Agri-food supply chain

## Thanks to our sponsors

GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



 #Agribiz2019

