**Driving Innovation** 

# Funding New Innovations in Synthetic Biology

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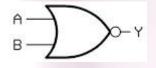
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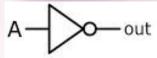


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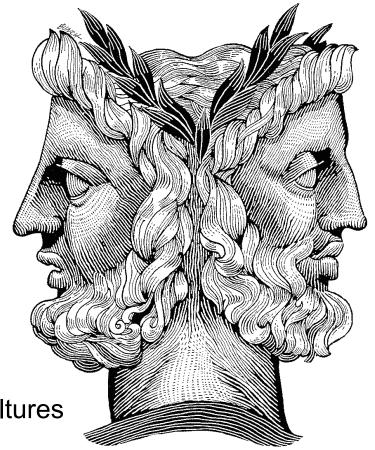
## **JANUS**

- Transitions and change
- The past and the future
- Represented a "middle ground" between cultures
- God of gates
- Initiator of financial enterprises

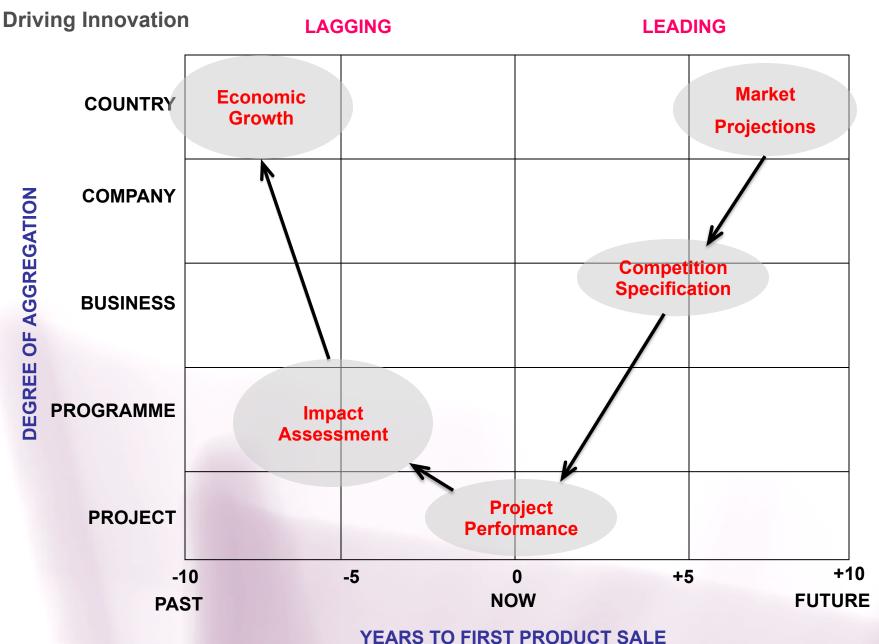






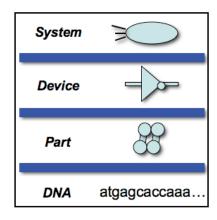


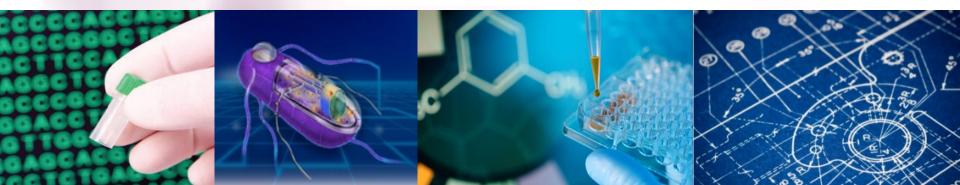




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"The design and engineering of biologically based parts, novel devices and systems, and well as the redesign of existing natural biological systems"





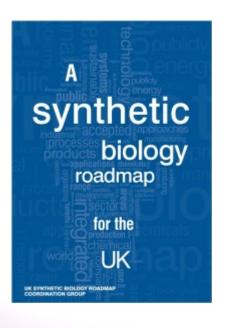
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# Global value of synthetic biology market by end user, 2011-2016 (\$million)

End user industry	2010	2011	2016	CAGR% 2011-2016
Diagnostics / pharmaceuticals	902.1	1,314.7	5373.3	32.5
Chemicals	125.4	185.0	2783.9	72.0
R&D	73.1	82.8	265.4	26.2
Agriculture	26.7	36.1	307.9	53.5
Energy	19.6	25.8	2108.1	141.2
TOTAL	1146.9	1644.4	10,838.6	25.8

Source: Synthetic Biology. Global Emerging Markets, BIO0bbB, BCC Research; ISBN: 1-59623-834-8, November 2011

## Technology Strategy Board Driving Innovation



# A synthetic biology roadmap for the UK



- Invest in a network of multidisciplinary centres to establish an outstanding UK synthetic biology resource
- Build a skilled, energised and well-funded UK-wide synthetic biology community
- Invest to accelerate technology responsibly to market
- Assume a leading international role
- Establish a leadership council

## **UK Synthetic Biology Leadership Council**

- Provide a visible point for strategic co-ordination between the funding agencies, the research community, industry and other stakeholder including societal and ethical representatives;
- Create the conditions that allow the UK to become a world leading industrial hub in Synthetic Biology;
- Influence the development of policy and regulations to anticipate the developmental requirements of this emerging technology;
- Be open and transparent, with one 'open' meeting held each year and all agendas and records of decisions taken to be made public.

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## **UK Synthetic Biology Leadership Council**

Lionel Clarke Shell





David Willetts
Minister for Universities and Science



Janet Bainbridge UK Trade and Investment



Belinda Clarke Technology Strategy Board



Dale Sanders
John Innes
Centre



Richard Kitney Imperial College London



Janet Thornton
European
Bioinformatics Institute



Carol Boyer-Spooner, Chemistry Innovation Knowledge Transfer Network



Representing RCUK



Simon Dolan GlaxoSmithKline



Joyce Tait
ESRC Innogen Centre
University of
Edinburgh



Sharmila Nebhrajani Association of Medical Research Charities

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#### Advancing the Industrial Feasibility Application of Synthetic

#### **Biology**

- Collaborative, business-led projects, up to £500,000
- Designed to help address the challenges to commercialisation
- Demonstrate the feasibility of using synthetic biology to create novel or improved products or processes
- Rational and targeted design / redesign of biological systems
- Analysis of socio-economic and regulatory enablers and constraints to commercialisation
- Outputs; evidence to inform future developments

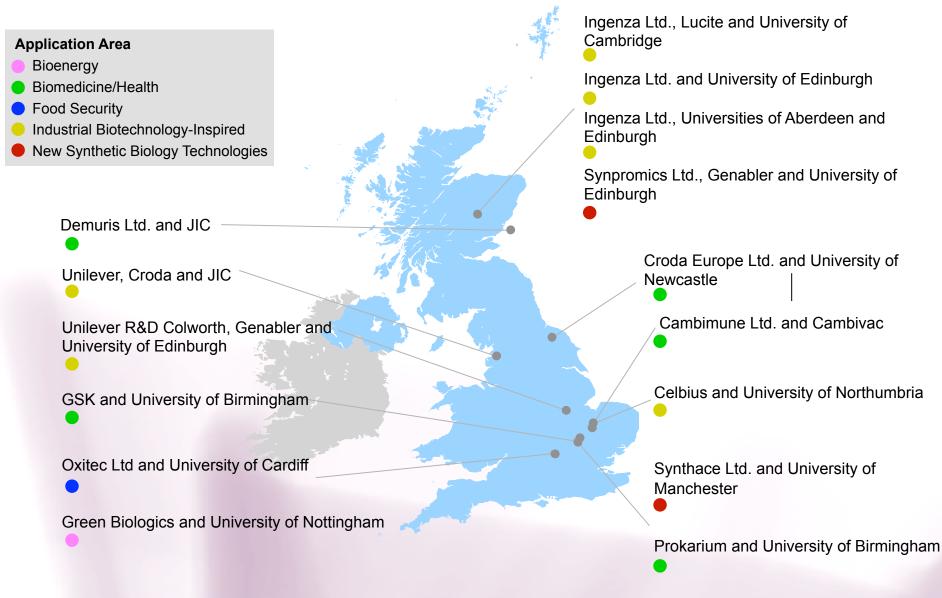








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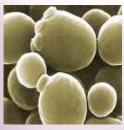
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#### Some reflections.....

- A paradigm shift towards synthetic biology....or Molecular Biology 2.0?
- Poor representation of engineering and design / build / test concept
- Some were focussed on reducing empiricism in metabolic engineering projects, not synthetic biology
- A range of application areas; in decreasing order: chemicals, healthcare, energy/fuels
- Good spread of company size, maturity, geographical location
- Of the 45 UK HEIs undertaking synbio research, 24 were involved in project consortia
- Improvements needed in the awareness and approach to Responsible Innovation
- Range of chassis bacteria, plants, insects, yeast and mammalian cell lines

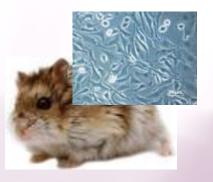












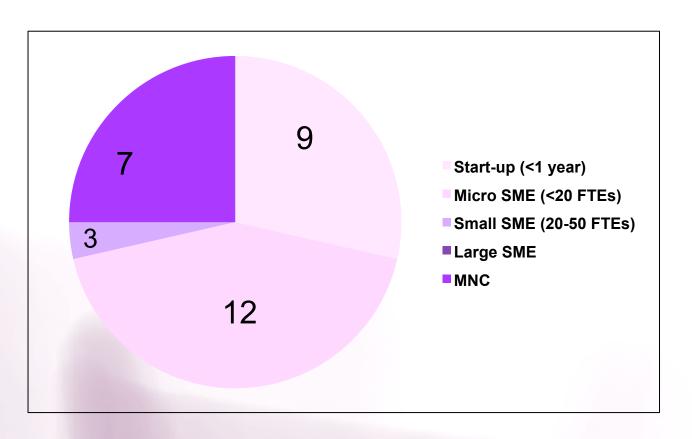
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## Responsible Innovation Framework

- Synthetic biology national roadmap calls for "responsible acceleration" of technologies to market
- Responsible Innovation Framework developed in-house (with external consultation)
- Additional Appendix added to the competition application form, requiring appraisals of potential social, ethical, legal, regulatory and environmental issues
- Separate RIF assessment panel convened
- Variable capability within the UK synbio community to articulate responsible innovation issues
- Ongoing "RIF mentoring" (not monitoring) throughout project duration
- Cohort building activities planned around RI within the UK
- Deliberation and consultation over the summer for RIF 2.0

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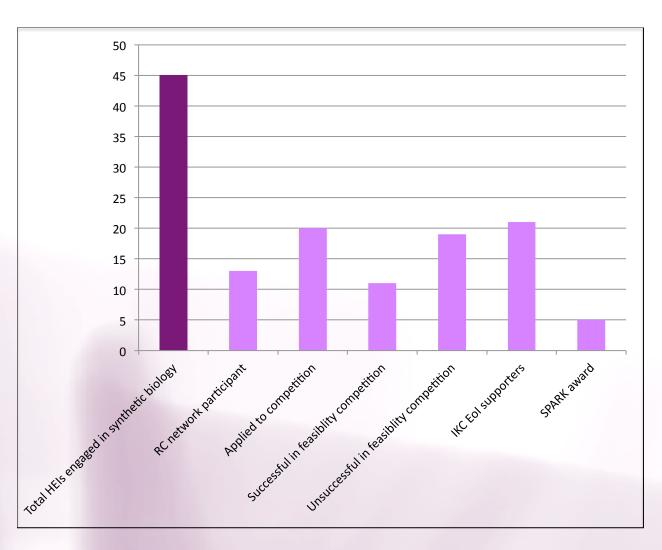
### The UK's industrial synthetic biology landscape



- 16 companies won industrial feasibility funding (19 involved in unsuccessful proposals)
- A further 10 registered for the competition but didn't submit proposals

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## The HEI synthetic biology landscape







## Synthetic Biology Special Interest Group

Building the community

Networking

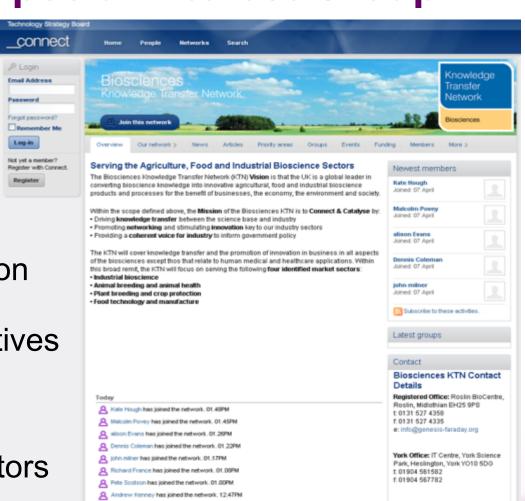
Signposting

Facilitating collaboration

Supporting initiatives

Knowledge exchange

Connecting across sectors and disciplines



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#### The Yin

Interest at a high level from HMG

- Funding through the Autumn Statement (£50M), underpinning the "Synthetic Biology For Growth) programme
- Personal interest from the Science Minister 8 Great Technologies
- Significant RC funding to date (and ongoing)
- UK is hosting DNA 6.0 and SynBioBeta (July 2013)
- Synbio SIG has > 650 members
- Synthetic Biology IKC to be announced
- Call currently open for Multi Disciplinary Centres for synthetic biology

## The Yang

Interest at a high level from HMG

The pressure is on to deliver!



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#### **Future Activities**

- IKC shortlisted proposals currently being assessed
- A new competition for synthetic biology
  - Scoping now have your say! Scoping workshop, consortium building.....
- Harnessing the innovative technologies from HEI
  - Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (open call)
  - Industrial Partnership Awards (open call)
  - 12 SPARK awards currently available (midnight June 14<sup>th</sup> deadline)
- Discussion with BSI about standards for synthetic biology (what are the functions of various types of standards at different stages in the emergence of new technologies?)
- Where is the value capture and creation for UK plc?
  - Future growth areas to emphasise investment strategy
  - Where are the bottlenecks?
  - Build competitive advantage
  - Benchmarking for sector growth and impact analysis

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## **TSB Bioscience Strategy 2012 - 2015**

### 1) Characterisation and discovery

#### tools:

- Commercialisation of sequencing technology focused on genomics
- Phenotyping technology
- Integration of "omics" technology
- Bio-imaging, biosensors, probes/ markers and diagnostic platforms

#### 2) Production and processing:

- Metabolic engineering
- Novel manufacturing processes for bioproduct or biological production systems
- Formulation and delivery of bioproducts (inc. functional food and pharma)

#### 3) Bio-Informatics:

 Approaches to organise, filter and interpret bio data (inc system modelling and visualisation) with a focus on user driven design

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Thank you for your attention