



The UK Agri-Tech Centre

Accelerating the development and deployment of agri-tech innovation

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(integrated pest/land management; impact of holistic land management on agri-systems, environment and biodiversity; plant and pest molecular biology)

www.ukagritechcentre.com

Who we are and What we do



- ◆ Independent business supported by **InnovateUK**. Formerly 3 entities: **CHAP**, **CIEL** and **Agri-EPI**
- ◆ **De-risk innovation and grow businesses** by providing tools and expertise to develop scalable, market-ready solutions
- ◆ **Accelerate adoption** through robust test and trial capabilities, leveraging our farm network and innovation facilities to fast track high-impact agri-tech innovation
- ◆ **Foster collaboration**, bridging the gap between innovators, industry and investors to create a thriving UK agri-tech ecosystem
- ◆ **Deliver impact**, aligning our efforts with critical industry challenges, driving measurable improvements in sustainability, productivity, profitability and resilience



Key Thematic Areas



Resilient Food Systems

Generating holistic solutions that reduce vulnerabilities in supply chains and improve robustness, recovery and adaptation

One Health

Addressing critical disease threats.
Ensuring food safety & quality.
Safeguarding human, animal, plant and environmental health



Sustainable Production

Building more sustainable agricultural production systems that balance environment, economic and societal needs

Intelligent Agriculture

Utilising data, robotics and AI to transform current agricultural practice & enhance novel production systems

Our capabilities



Providing expertise and world-class facilities to businesses, driving agri-tech development and growth

Unique in Agri-Tech

Expertise: 100 in-house agri-tech experts

Ecosystem: partnering with over 175 businesses from SMEs to global corporations

Experience: working with industry to deliver over £85m of agri-innovation projects

Delivering a system-wide, end-to-end approach

Capabilities and resources

43

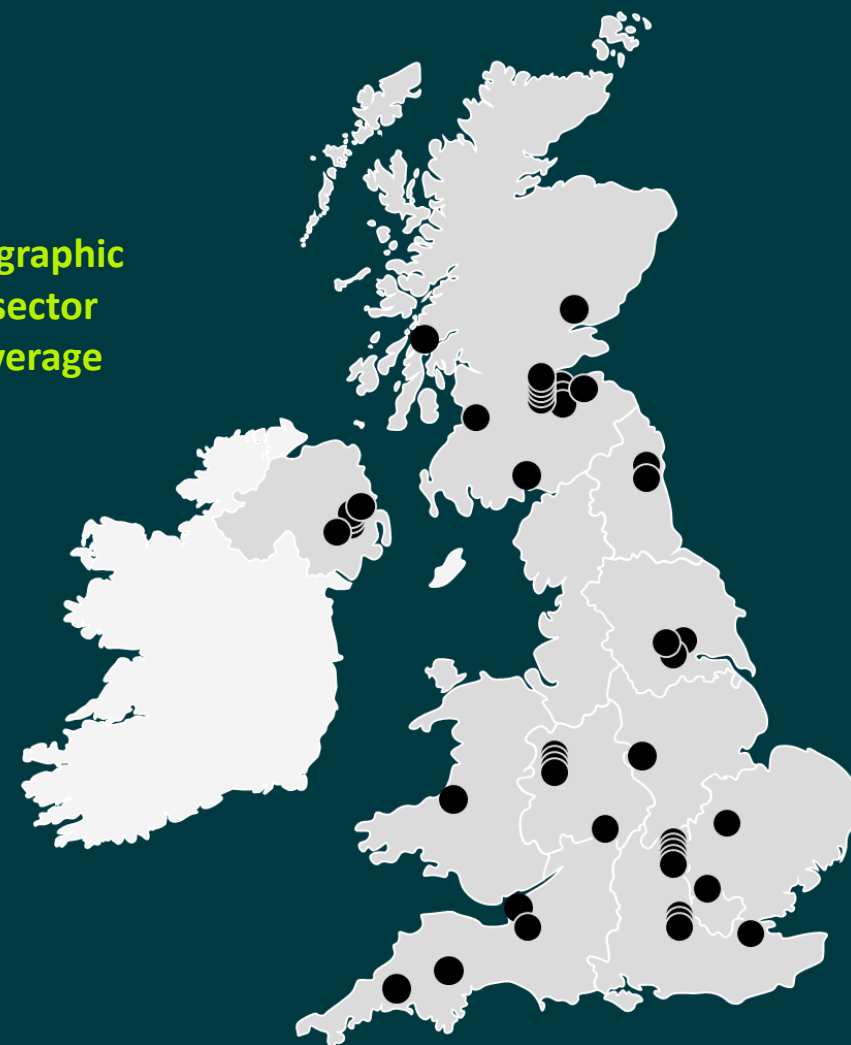
research &
innovation
facilities

22

strong farm
network

**Geographic
& sector
coverage**

We have **invested £110m** in agri-tech infrastructure **to accelerate innovation**



ADOPT Funding Opportunity

Accelerating Development of Practices and Technologies

On-farm trials to test and demonstrate farmer-led
innovative ideas for sustainable food systems





The ADOPT Funding Opportunity

- Funding opportunity for English farmers, growers or foresters, to support collaborative farmer-led, on-farm trials or experiments to generate, test or demonstrate innovative solutions to major farming challenges, or immediate post farmgate challenges or opportunities.
- Aims to provide knowledge of new approaches to boost farm productivity and sustainability.

Full ADOPT Grant: Round 1

Overview

Value: £50,000-£100,000 (min. 50% for farmers, growers, foresters)

Duration: 6-24 months (1st November – 31st October 2027).

Portfolio approach across agriculture, horticulture and agro-forestry.

Scope

Project must have potential to improve one of the following:

- > productivity
- > resilience
- > sustainability and progression towards net zero farming

- Focus on **testing and trialling ideas or solutions** that are either **new or not yet widely used**.
- **Farmer-led collaboration** – work with ≥ 1 other UK farming, growing or forestry business, as well as advisors and researchers.
- **Demonstrate** to other farmers, growers or foresters how the project will benefit them.
- Outputs that can be exploited in England.

Additional useful information:

- Project leads **MUST** have an active farming, growing or forestry business in England and can evidence it's a commercial business.
- Collaborating businesses and organisations must be UK-based.
- Have an IUK Business Connect-listed Project Facilitator.
- Applicants can lead on 1, collaborate on a further 2 applications.

Dates

Opens 28th April - closes 25th June.

Applicants notified 30th July

Projects start from 1st November

Round 2: Opens 26th June

[Competition overview - Full ADOPT Grant: Round 1 - Innovation Funding Service](#)



The ADOPT Funding Opportunity

Full ADOPT Grant: Round 1

Funding

Organisation or type of activity	Full Grant
Active farming, growing or forestry business based in England, Wales or Scotland	up to 80%
active farming, growing or forestry businesses based in Northern Ireland	Up to 70%
Business (economic activity)	Micro or Small – 70% Medium – 60% Large – 50%
Research organisation (non-economic activity)	Universities – 100% (80% of Full Economic Costs) Other research organisations can claim 100% of their project costs
Public Sector Organisation or Charity (non-economic activity)	100% of eligible costs
Research organisations (undertaking economic activities) Organisations receive funding related to the size of their organisation	Micro or Small – 70% Medium – 60% Large – 50%



The ADOPT Funding Opportunity

- Grant writing support is also available for farmers, growers or foresters via the [ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant](#). This fund will help applicants engage with an external Project Facilitator in the first instance, before developing a Full ADOPT Grant application.

ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 1

Supports applicants who are new to the application process or would value input from a Project Facilitator.

****Not mandatory!****

Overview

Total costs: £2,500 (100% fully funded)

Duration: If successful, you must provide evidence with 6 months that your Full ADOPT Grant has been submitted (money awarded after this).

Short application. Explain your idea, but no detail or budget is required.

Project Facilitator must be on the Innovate UK Business Connect Project Facilitator Directory ([Directory of facilitators - Innovate UK Business Connect](#))

Dates

Opens 28th April - closes 11th June.

Applicants notified 10th July

Project start by 1st September (end 28th February 2026)

Round 2: Opens 12th June

[Competition overview - ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 1 - Innovation Funding Service](#)



The ADOPT Funding Opportunity

ADOPT Project Facilitator Application Form

For Project Facilitators who want to join the Innovate UK Business Connect Project Facilitator Directory, and support ADOPT projects.

Role in projects

The role is flexible. Could involve project management, reporting, and ensuring overall success, adapting to project needs and budget.

To be included in the Project Facilitator database, you must have:

- Worked within agriculture, horticulture, forestry for min. 5 years.
- Facilitation experience (working with farmer and grower groups)
- Experience successfully supporting and writing R&D/Innovation grant applications
- Experience managing R&D/Innovation grant funded projects

[Support the future of on-farm innovation - Innovate UK Business Connect](#)

Online Information Sessions





ADOPT Grants

- ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant – Round 1
- Full ADOPT Grant – Round 1

Applicant Briefing

- This briefing is pre-recorded. A copy of the slides and the recording link will be made available on IFS.
- A live Q&A date is available on IFS
- Please enter any questions that you may have into the Q&A Box.
- For more information on the competition process, please click [here](#) to access our YouTube channel.



[ADOPT Applicant Briefing Recording – Zoom](#)
(from 10th April)

ADOPT Funding Opportunity Information Webinar

30 April 2025
10:00-12:00 GMT

Online

[Register Now](#)

[Already registered?](#)



[Summary - ADOPT Funding Opportunity Information Webinar](#)
(takes place 30th April)

ADOPT Support Hub

*Bringing Farmer Innovation to
Life: Introducing the ADOPT Fund
Support Hub*



ADOPT: Accelerating Development of Practices and Technologies Fund



ADOPT Support Hub

- The ADOPT Support Hub is available to help interested parties access ADOPT – supporting the application process and beyond.
- Ran by ADAS with support from the UK Agri-Tech Centre and Soil Association.
- Provides expert guidance and advice.
- Help develop project idea.
- Assist finding collaborators, partners or facilitators.
- Advice during and after your project to share results and maximise impact.

For further information, scan the QR code to access the Support Hub (FarmPEP), or visit [ADOPT front page](#) | [FarmPEP](#).





Thank you and happy to chat more
this evening.

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