

# Rural Digital Economy Scotland - Update

Sept 2019

Aberdeen



# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



We have established the case that **Rural Digital Economy is vital for Scotland.**

It's more than just **connectivity...**

We are building a programme with **SG sponsors and partners.**

We need **advisors, partners, trailblazers and advocates** to help.

## Discussion

1. **Update you on RDES**
2. **Discuss TEF Projects and Approach**
3. **ISCF Transforming Food Production**
4. **Call to Action**

## Get Involved

Email: [steve.Harrison@scotent.co.uk](mailto:steve.Harrison@scotent.co.uk)  
[Sharon.pryde@scotent.co.uk](mailto:Sharon.pryde@scotent.co.uk)

# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



Combined working group from both **Digital Economy and Rural Economy** team in SE.

Over 50 related points within **Programme for Government.**

Agreed need to focus on both **demand stimulation** and supply chain.....

Seeking to gain an agreed **perspective of the economic opportunity.**

Establishing an **advisory group.**

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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Rural Digital Economy

Health  
Tourism  
Communities  
Food & Drink  
Land Industries  
    Farming  
    Forestry  
    Equine  
    Fisheries  
    Energy

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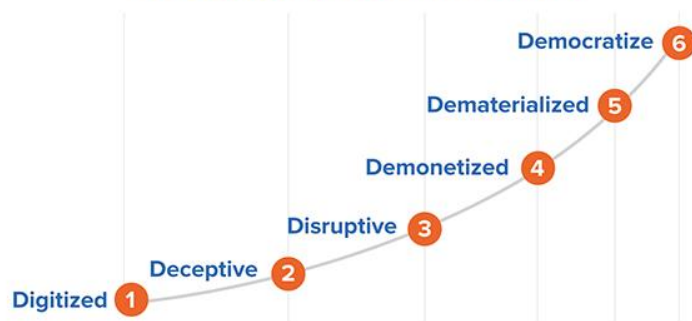
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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## 6Ds Exponential Framework



## Rural Digital Economy

Data / AI / Machine learning  
Robots / Drones / machinery  
Sensors  
Blockchain / DLT  
VR/AR/XR Geospatial tech

Need to find and stimulate demand led use cases, problems, challenges.

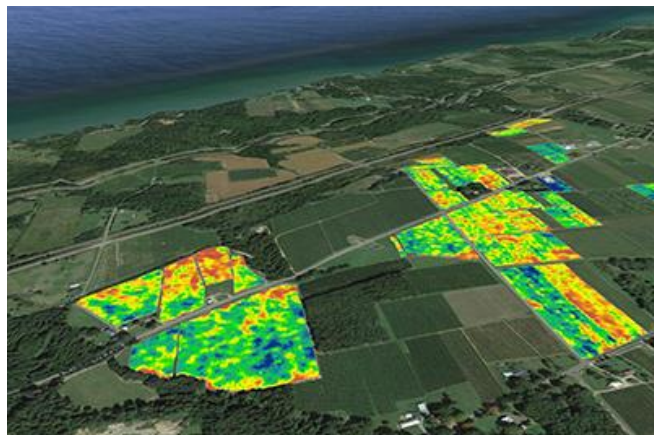
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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Technology Enabled Farming 1

“Seek first to understand!”

What tech / **data already exists** / is in use on a farm? How can it be used to improve performance and profitability?

What data could it **be useful to capture**? What decisions could it help with?

Better **prediction, prevention and productivity** through data.



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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Technology Enabled Farming 2

What **challenges** do farmers face in using digital tech?

1. Cost / investment
2. Sellers
3. Understanding
4. Time
5. Access to finance

We want to work with farmers to validate this and **co-develop solutions** to these challenges.

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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Zero Interest

Up to 5 Years to payback

Cap at £50K ...but...

*European Definition The category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) is made up of enterprises which employ fewer than 250 persons and which have an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million euro, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding 43 million euro*

## Technology Enabled Farming 2

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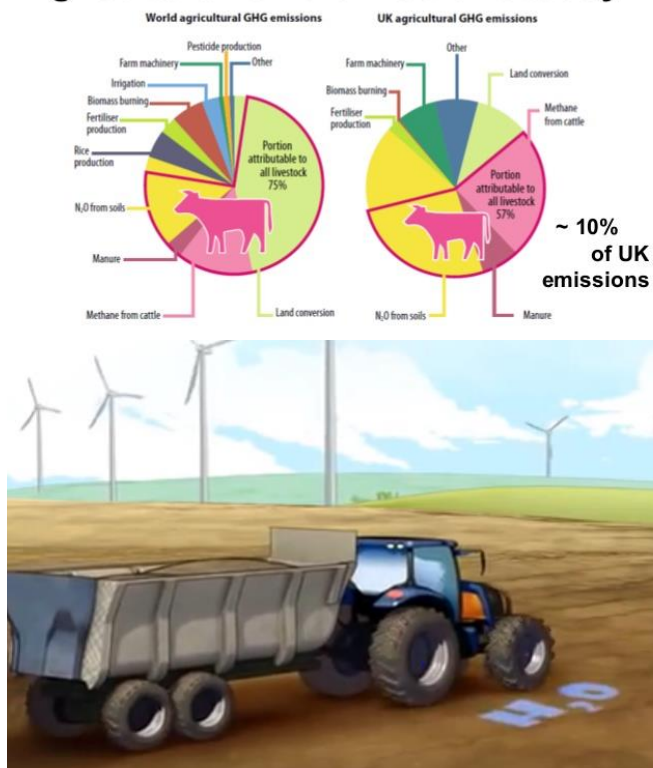
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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Agricultural GHG emissions today



## Technology Enabled Farming 3

What **challenges** do farmers face in achieving **net zero carbon farming** and the climate emergency / opportunity?

1. Cost / investment
2. Sellers
3. Understanding
4. Time
5. Access to finance

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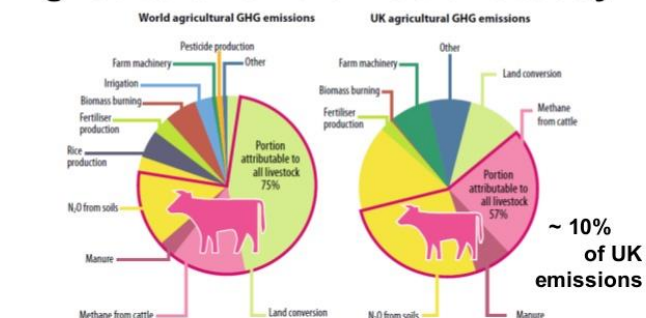
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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland



## Agricultural GHG emissions today



## Technology Enabled ....

### Not just Farmers....

### Rural Digital Economy

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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland

Up to £10 million (out of ££20M) of grant funding is available for projects that disrupt the traditional land-based models of food production.

Projects must create integrated, data-driven solutions to **drive agricultural productivity as well as target net zero emissions**. We will consider a broad range of technologies and systems.

Your project must aim to determine the transformation of future food production systems. It must be **ambitious, multidisciplinary and systems-focused** rather than dedicated to developing a single technology.

Closes: **22/01/20**

Transforming  
Food Production

Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund

The Transforming Food Production Challenge

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# Rural Digital Economy Scotland

The challenge's specific objectives are to:

1. Create **integrated data-driven solutions** to drive **primary agricultural productivity** whilst driving towards **net zero emissions**
2. Embed adoption of precision approaches to bridge the **productivity gap**, strengthening connections between researchers, businesses and practitioners
3. Stimulate the establishment of novel high value production systems to position UK technologies at the forefront of new industries.
4. Drive growth in UK precision technology companies, **creating high value jobs and adding value** in the UK agricultural value chain.
5. Develop **export opportunities** and increase investment into UK research and innovation.

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4. Drive growth in UK precision technology companies, **creating high value jobs and adding value** in the UK agricultural value chain.
5. Develop **export opportunities** and increase investment into UK research and innovation.

How strong could a  
NES proposal be?

Who could lead?

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We are seeking **pathfinder** companies....projects

If you would like to **discuss a challenge, an idea or an opportunity** then we are willing to listen.

If you can develop a plan to **develop, test & evaluate some of these new technologies & approaches** let us know how we can help?

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Rural Digital Economy  
Scotland - Update

Any Questions?

Thank You & Good  
Luck

