Climate Change and Endemic Livestock Diseases

**Session summary**

How can collaborative partnerships between leading bioscience and biotechnology researchers and the UK livestock sector, including farmers and practitioners, drive the development of novel prevention and intervention solutions to endemic diseases?

With poor livestock health directly correlated to poor productivity, reducing the endemic disease burden of UK livestock is central to reducing carbon emissions from livestock agriculture.

In this session, some of the teams leading the collaborative projects funded through the Endemic Livestock Diseases Initiative share their initial research findings. A panel discussion with project leaders and industry stakeholders working on the Initiative share their experiences of co-creation of knowledge with end users, and explore how effective collaborative research between industry and academia can deliver on-farm impacts to support a healthy, productive and sustainable food system.

The £11.5 million Endemic Livestock Diseases Initiative has been developed in consultation with UK agricultural businesses and policymakers, and is co-funded by BBSRC, Defra, Daera and Scottish Government. The 36 projects funded cover the breadth of digital agriculture, genetics and breeding, farm management, vaccine platforms and technologies, novel therapeutics and co-infection. To date, the Initiative has successfully facilitated the formation of 45 new industry partnerships, forging strong collaborative networks. Moreover, it has engaged with over 170 end-users including farmers, vets and policymakers to ensure that the research outcomes directly address their practical needs.