



HEALTHY SOIL
HEALTHY FOOD
HEALTHY PEOPLE

H3 News December 2021

Season's Greetings and welcome to the December 2021 edition of the H3 Programme newsletter! We're thrilled to unveil our film, produced with Sort of Films, highlighting the transformative impact of our Healthy Soil, Healthy Food, Healthy People (H3) project. This edition features insights from our recent participation in the Transforming UK Food Systems meeting, our response to the National Food Strategy, and introduces new team members Mustafa Ali and Toby Evans. Dive in to learn more about our exciting progress and upcoming initiatives!

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NEWS

H3 - The Movie



During October the project team has worked with the Sheffield production company [Sort of films](#) to produce [this film](#) which introduces how the Healthy Soil, Healthy Food, Healthy People (H3) project will help transform the UK food system from the ground up. The film has been very well received, thanks to our stars for their help and support, in particular: [Arbourthorne Community Primary School](#); [Cracking Good Food](#); [Magic Breakfast](#); [Regather](#) and [Tom Pearson](#).

Transforming UK Food Systems Strategic Priority Fund



On 11th and 12th November we joined an Annual Meeting with the programme funders, stakeholders, the 3 other consortia and [Centre for Doctoral Training](#) funded under the £47.5 Million Transforming UK Food Systems Strategic Priority Fund. It was great to discuss programme content and discover synergies within our research, particularly urban farming and regenerative

agriculture with [Fix Our Food](#), working with communities in [Food S Equal](#) and modelling approaches with [Mandala](#). We hope to maintain this momentum in order that the overall programme will achieve more than the sum of our respective project parts.

H3 Responds to the National Food Strategy



In July, we welcomed the publication of the [National Food Strategy](#). Read our responses here: [Prospects for More Sustainable Food Production, Confronting Consumer Demand](#), and [School Meals and Increasing Fibre](#).

NEW STARTERS



Mustafa Ali working within Cross Cutting Theme 1 (CCT1), Integrative Methods, on Life Cycle Analysis. Mustafa is an engineer with an MBA and Doctorate. His skills and previous experience are ideally suited for his work within H3 on WP2 (Hybrid hydroponic horticulture) and WP3 (Landscape-scale Regenerative Farming).

Mustafa is excited that his contribution will help to quantify the 'at scale' benefits of innovative approaches and prototype technologies within H3, and the opportunity to engage with such diverse stakeholders who are active right across food systems.

If you are interested to understand how LCA techniques can be applied please contact Mustafa. Mustafa.Ali@sheffield.ac.uk



Toby Evans has started work as a Doctoral researcher within Work Package 2 (Hybrid Hydroponic Horticulture) in October 2021. His research is looking at 'Hydroponic leafy green production on synthetic foams with microbial inoculants'.

Toby has a long-standing interest in agriculture and food production having grown up on a poultry farm. He has since completed a Degree in Genetics in Leicester and a Masters in Sustainable Agriculture at Sheffield.

He is excited by the depth and range of the research ecosystem available to him, including a multi-disciplinary 6 strong supervisory team, in addition to the H3 project and the wider SPF programme overall.

CONSUMPTION AND DEMAND (CCT2)

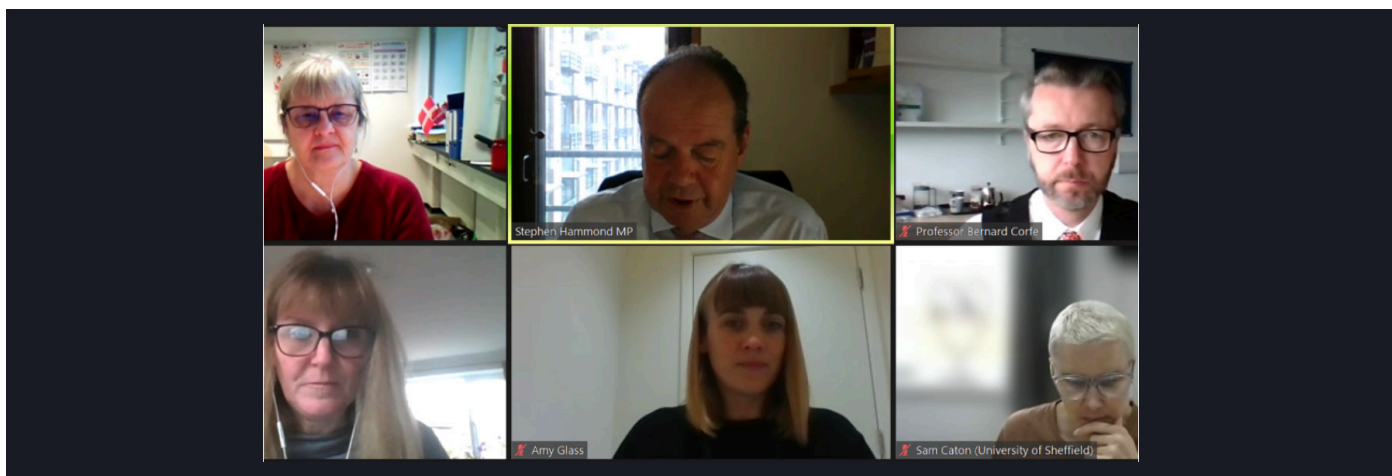


Jonathan Beacham and David Evans convened two virtual sessions at the Royal Geographical Society Annual conference on Tuesday 31st August, 2021 entitled *Transformational food geographies? Pushing new boundaries in exploring markets, 'consumers' and food systems*. Sponsored by the Food Geographies Research Group, these sessions attracted over 30 international participants—from Gloucestershire to Guangzhou—with presentations of research examining a diverse range of transformational shifts and interventions in agri-food systems. Jonathan and David

also presented ongoing research based on 'work in progress' from CCT2 exploring the complex relationship between production and consumption.

Jonathan and David also made [this short film](#) to share their thoughts on Food Futures and dietary change, for the Citizen Food Futures Conference.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



H3 academics co-hosted a panel discussion with Cereal Partners Worldwide on National Wholegrain Day - A UK Fibre Partnership? Making the case for a public – private partnership to increase fibre intake in the UK diet. MP Stephen Hammond chaired a panel discussion which included Professor Louise Dye, Professor Bernard Corfe and Dr Sam Caton. Bernard and Sam explained the importance of fibre in the diet, the low levels of existing consumption in the UK, and outlined strategies which can be adopted to help increase fibre intake, some of which will be implemented through [Work Package 5](#) of the H3 project.

It was also fascinating to learn of the success and experiences of the Danish Wholegrain Partnership. In Denmark the proportion of the population meeting the recommended daily intake of wholegrain increased from 6% in 2007 to 54% in 2019.

We would be happy to organise similar meetings with other stakeholders. Please contact us if this would be of interest.

The first H3 paper has been published in Nutrition Bulletin:

Jackson, P., Cameron, D., Rolfe, S., Dicks, L.V., Leake, J., Caton, S. Dye, L., Young, W., Choudhary, S., Evans, D., Adolphus, K., Boyle, N. (2021) Healthy soil, healthy food, healthy people: an outline of the H3 project. Nutrition Bulletin 46: 497–505: <https://doi.org/10.1111/nbu.12531>

Duncan Cameron wrote a piece about soil for the Conversation ahead of COP 26 in Glasgow, which you can read here: <https://theconversation.com/why-the-fate-of-our-planets-environment-depends-on-the-state-of-its-soil-170985>

Lynn Dicks gave evidence to Parliamentary committee considering Nature Based Solutions for Climate Change on Tuesday 7th September, you can watch it here: [Parliamentlive.tv - Science and Technology Committee \(Lords\)](https://parliamentlive.tv/Science-and-Technology-Committee-Lords)

Louise Dye spoke on 15th September 2021 at a closed Parliamentary briefing on Food Insecurity and Children's health. The event summary and reports are here: [Event summary: Food insecurity and children's health - POST \(parliament.uk\)](https://parliament.uk/event-summary/food-insecurity-and-childrens-health)

Peter Jackson participated in a BBC Radio 3 podcast to discuss 'How can we make food and farming more sustainable?' [Click here](#) for more information and a link to the podcast.

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