

# Developing Research Impact

Bob Ferrier

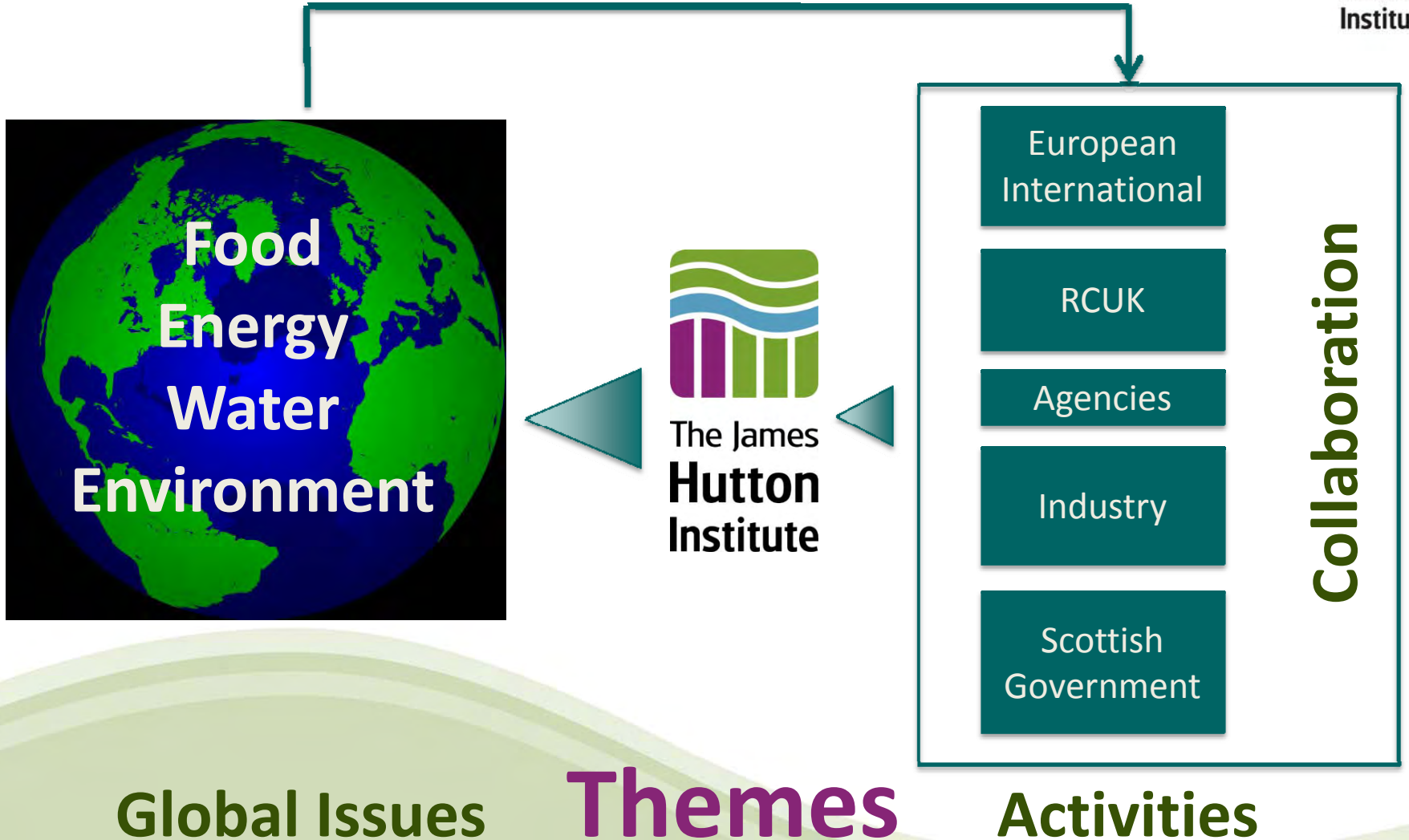


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# Role of Director of Research Impact

- Promote outward face of the Institute
- To achieve this our research must be -
  - **Engaged** – relevant, timely, adaptable, and business focused
  - **Effective** – integrated, networked, outcome focused
- My role is therefore to develop and implement strategies which assist in
  - Promoting the relevance and impact of our science
    - ▶ Looking for added value and complementarity
  - Enhancing interdisciplinary research where appropriate
  - Strengthening knowledge exchange and engagement
  - Generating a wider portfolio of external income
- Articulated through the JHI Themes

# How does the JHI address Global issues?



Global Issues

Themes

Activities

# Why do we need Themes?

- Science delivery requires both excellence and impact
- **Impact** is reflected in how society uses and benefits from the science we do
- Responding to requirements of funders
  - tighter link between research and users of research
  - needs closer links between science and users at the outset

# Working with the users of our science



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# E. coli cucumber scare: Cases 'likely to increase'

A deadly E. coli outbreak expected to worsen in a senior German scientist

## The Press and Journal

Tuesday 31 May 2011

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Fourteen people have died and one woman has now died in a trip to Germany.

"We hope the number of cases but we fear it will worsen," says of the University Medical Centre Holstein, where many victims treated.

It is thought cucumbers from

But Spanish officials have ruled unclear exactly when and where

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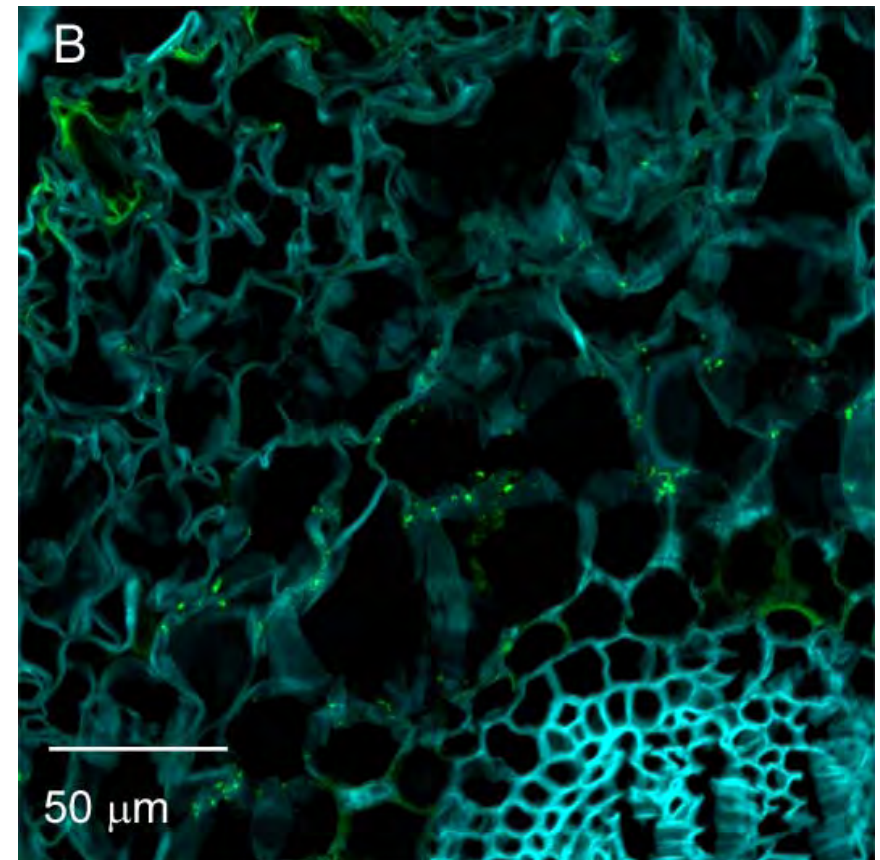
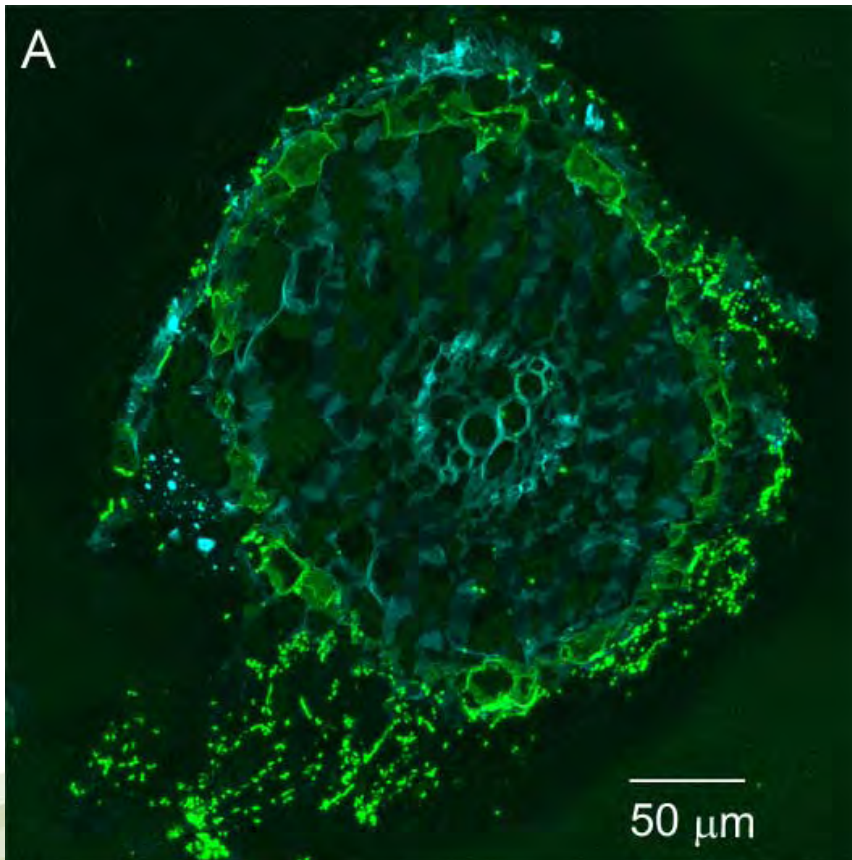
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## Killer cucumbers on loose in Europe



Killer veg ... cucumbers thought to have been infected in Spain

# *E. coli* and plant roots



*E. coli* O157:H7 (fluorescent green) on, and inside spinach roots (blue)

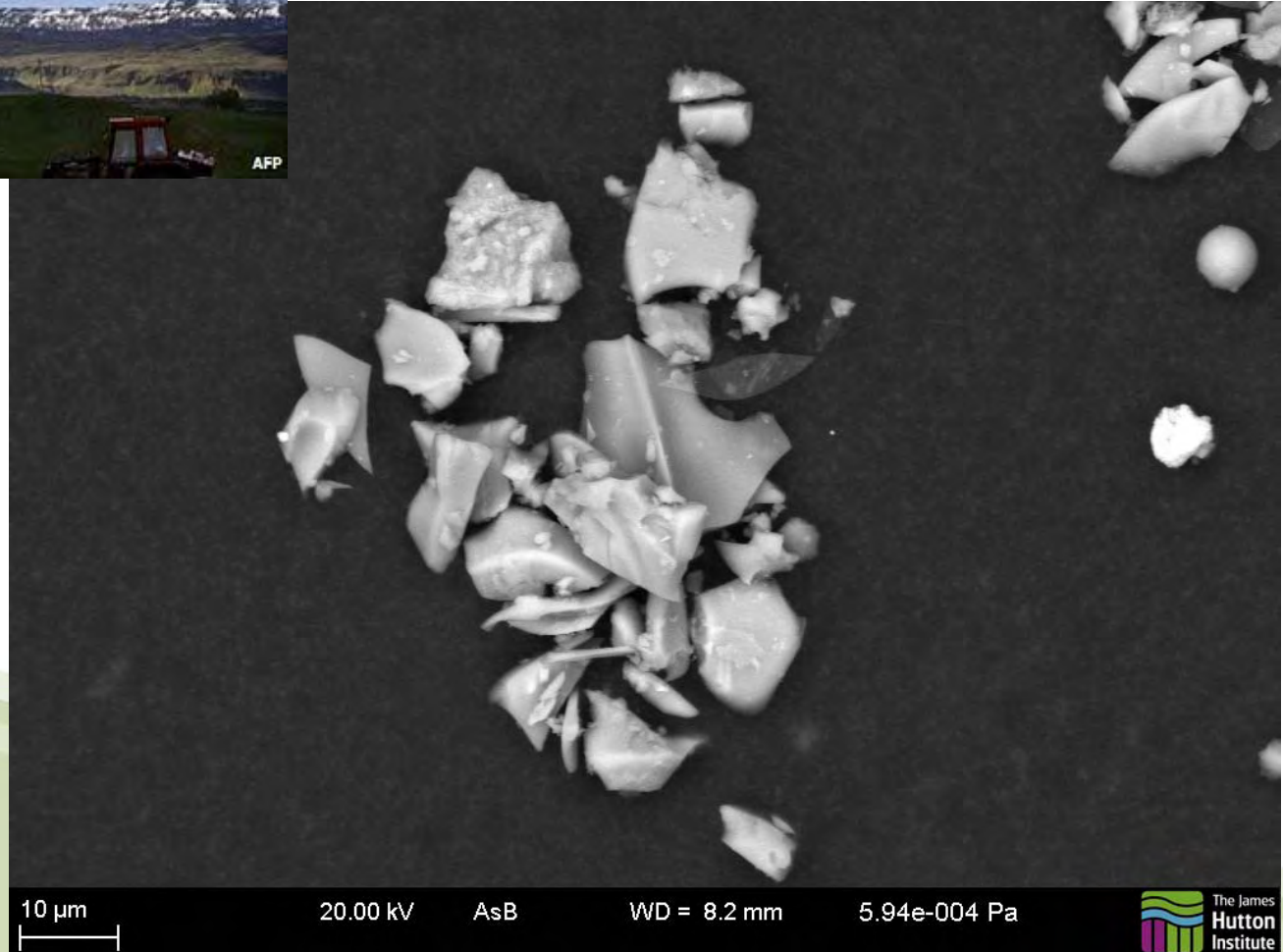
*Nicola Holden*



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# Eruption of the Grimsvotn volcano







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## Nature 'is worth billions' to UK

By Richard Black  
Environment correspondent, BBC News



**The UK's parks, lakes, forests and wildlife are worth billions of pounds to the economy, says a major report.**

The health benefits of merely living close to a green space are worth up to £300 per person per year, it concludes.

The **National Ecosystem Assessment (NEA)** says that for decades, the emphasis has been on producing more food and other goods - but this has harmed other parts of nature that generate hidden wealth.

Ministers who commissioned the NEA will use it to re-shape planning policy.

"The natural world is vital to our existence, providing us with essentials such as food, water and clean air - but also cultural and health benefits not always fully appreciated because we get them for free," said Environment Secretary Caroline Spelman.



Urban parks and their attractions are worth up to £300 per person each year, the NEA concludes

REUTERS

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# Why do we need Themes?

## Enhancing interdisciplinarity

- Political and business needs are driving us towards greater interdisciplinarity
- What is “interdisciplinarity”?
  - *Linking natural scientists across different knowledge domains, and with social scientists and economists*
  - *Framing our research questions from a societal perspective*



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*Global issues start and end with people*

# Strengthening knowledge exchange

- Right information
- Right people
- Right time
  
- Not just Scotland, but link to similar International initiatives
  
- Place Scotland at the centre of the global knowledge economy



# Why do we need Themes?

## Developing our business

- Enhanced understanding across all staff of what JHI does and can do
- Promote a “JHI first” approach
- Help each other in identifying opportunities
  - ▶ it is our collective responsibility to maintain our viability



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# Working together

**Enhancing  
Interdisciplinary**

**Working with the  
users of our  
research**

**KE**

**Developing our  
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