



# Biofortification Hub

Workshop



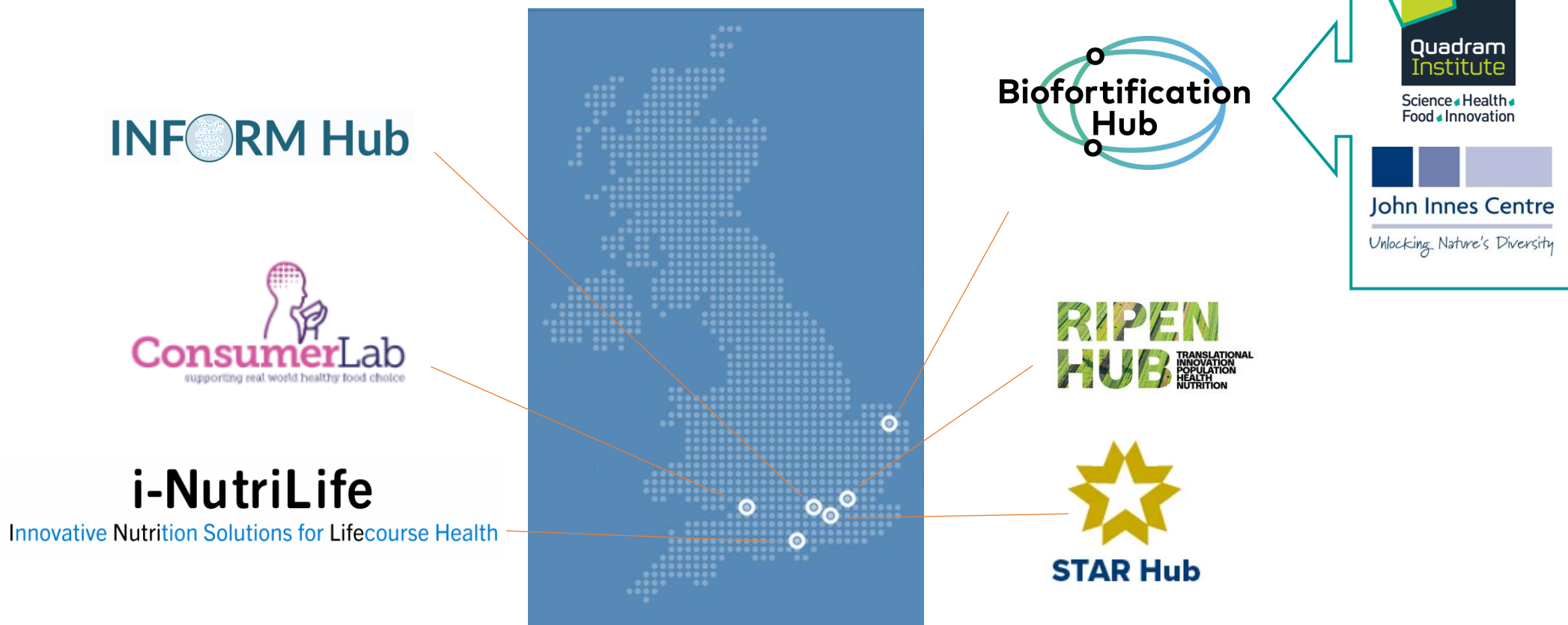
## Bridging Science, Practice, and Policy

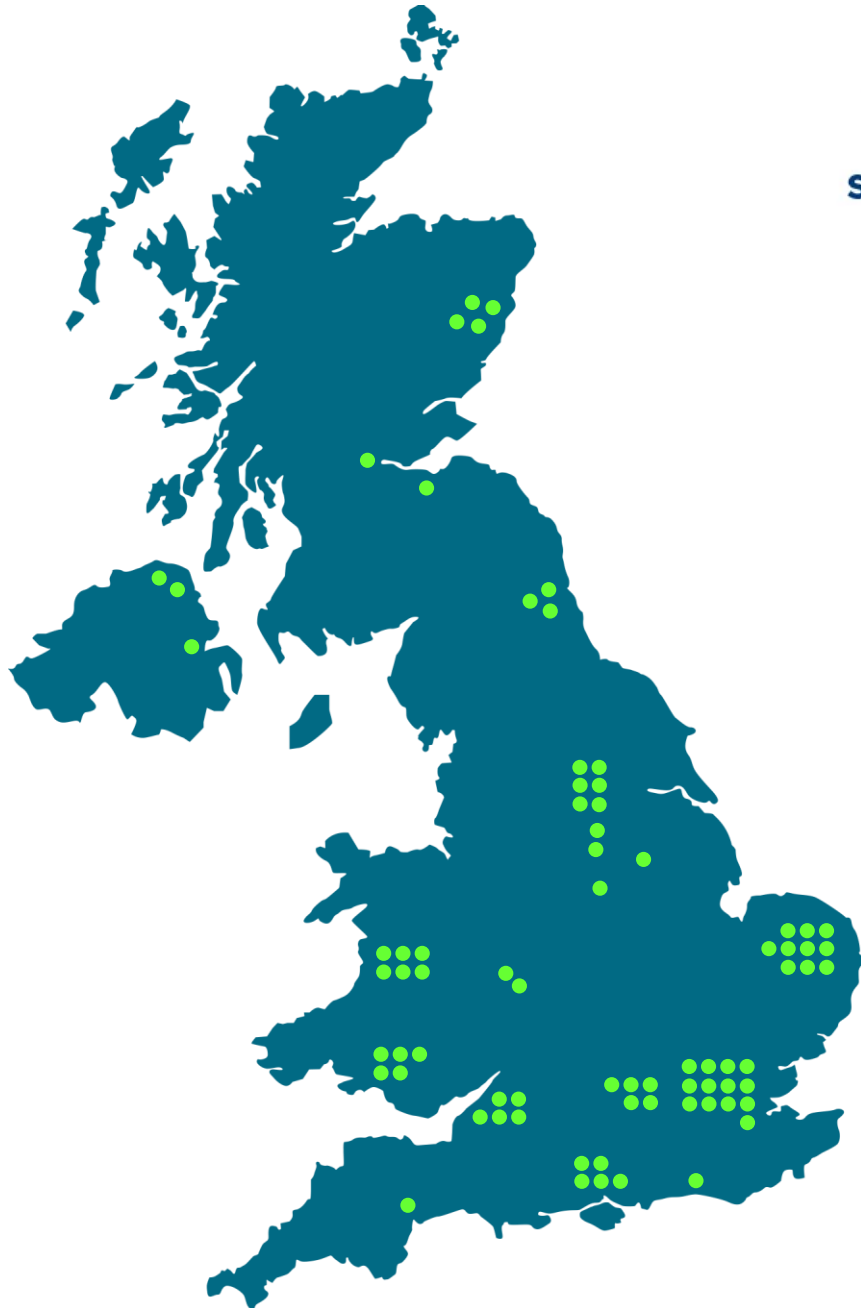
*Introduction to the Biofortification Hub – Philippe Vain*

*28 November 2025*



## *Six Innovation Hubs part of the Diet and Health Open Innovation Research Club (2022-2027)*





INFORM Hub



i-NutriLife

Innovative Nutrition Solutions for Lifecourse Health



## OIRC Hubs funding across the UK

(up to 31 January 2025)

75

Projects funded

£5.2M

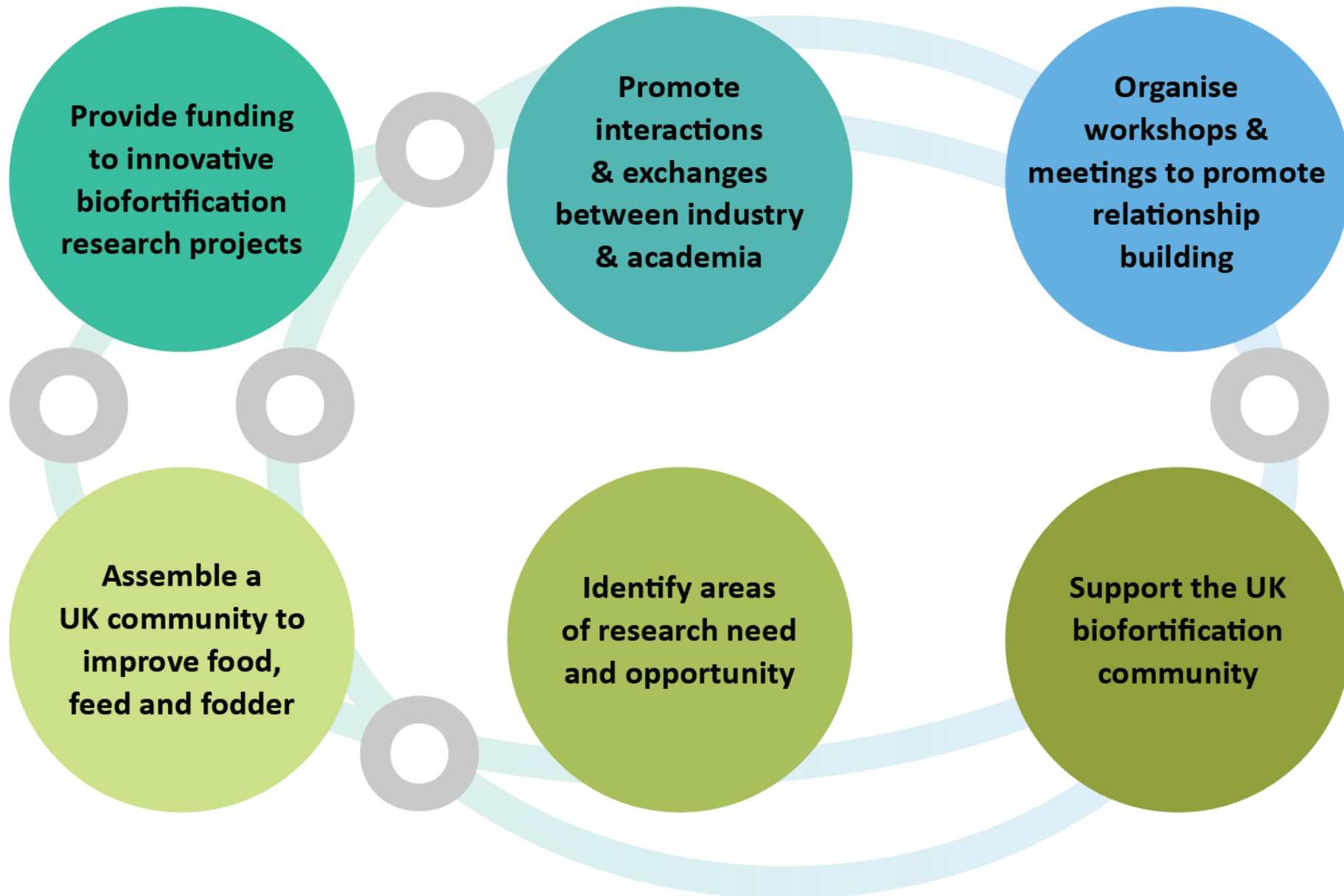
Total value

£2.1M

Industry contribution  
(inc. £0.3M in cash)



Support, fund and connect academia, industry and policymakers to collaboratively pursue shared research priorities in the area of **biofortification** in the UK.





The Biofortification Hub is open to a **wide range of classic as well as sustainable, complementary and novel approaches to biofortification** to make plants, food, feed and fodder more nutritious:

**Classic approaches** to make plants more nutritious:

- ✓ Conventional selective breeding
- ✓ Precision breeding (gene editing)
- ✓ Genetic engineering
- ✓ Agronomic practices

**Sustainable, complementary and novel approaches:**

- ✓ Biofortification through controlled environment agriculture
- ✓ Fermentation
- ✓ Improved bio-availability (mixing / improving food products)
- ✓ Reformulation of existing food and feed products
- ✓ Secondary biofortification (feed & fodder)
- ✓ Pet food

**Rules, Regulations & Acceptability of Biofortification:**

- ✓ Funding from 2025 onwards

## Hub activities snapshot (up to November 2025)

### Hub management and membership



**59%** of UK members joined the Hub  
"Researcher Meet Industry" (RMI) scheme

**79** UK companies / organisations  
**125** UK Researchers



### Funding across the UK



## VitD-enriched pork



*Safe and effective UVB irradiation of swine to improve the vitD content of pork meat (2024 ongoing)*

Supermarket discussion

## Omega-3 tomatoes



*Production of EPA in tomato fruits (2023)  
TRL 1 -> TRL 3-4*

First report

## Hemp eggs



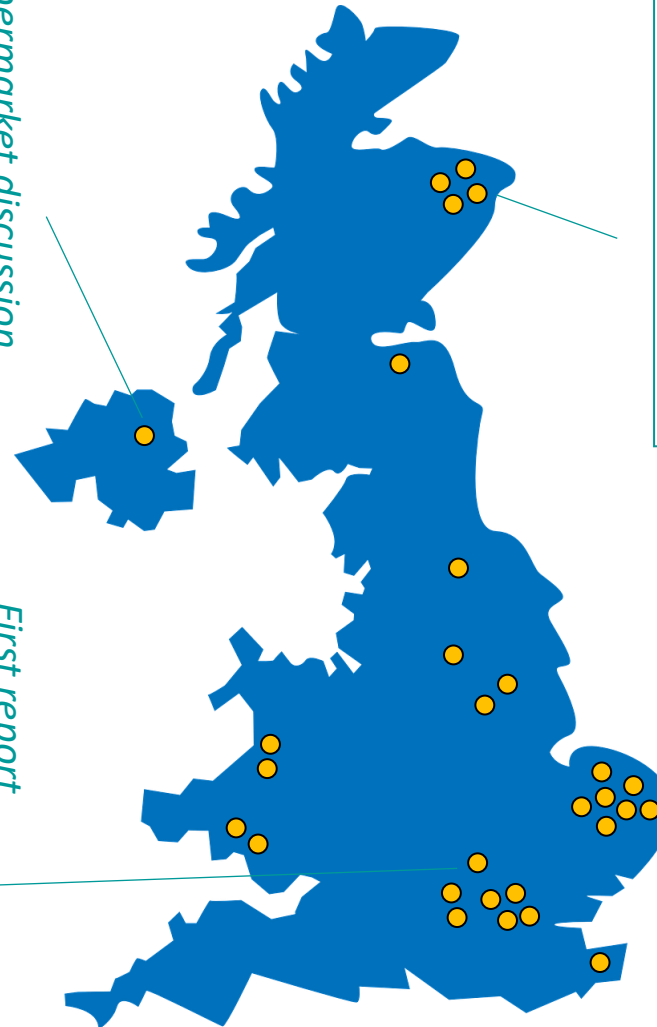
*Eggs with higher levels of omega-3&6, vitE, retinol and xanthophyl (2023)  
TRL 1 -> TRL 4*

Scaling up

## High amylose wheat flour



*Sandwich bread with lower digestibility to reduce glycaemic impact (2023)  
TRL 1 -> TRL 3*



● Projects, Workshops  
● Community Meeting

# Thank you!



**Biofortification Hub**

**Innovation Hub for Improving Health & Nutrition through Biofortification**

Our mission is to support, fund and connect academics, industry and policymakers to collaboratively pursue shared research priorities in the area of biofortification.

The Biofortification Hub combines expertise in nutrition, crop genetics, soil science, food innovation and human health and works closely with farmers, food producers and retailers across the supply chain on the biofortification of food and feed crops.

**Our role is to:**

- Provide funding to innovative biofortification research projects
- Promote interactions & exchanges between industry & academia
- Organise workshops & meetings to promote relationship building
- Assemble a UK community to improve food, feed and fodder
- Identify areas of research need and opportunity
- Support the UK biofortification community

[www.biofortificationhub.org](http://www.biofortificationhub.org)    Contact: [biofortification.hub@nbi.ac.uk](mailto:biofortification.hub@nbi.ac.uk)

Leaflet

[BIOFORTIFICATIONHUB.ORG](http://BIOFORTIFICATIONHUB.ORG)

