

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a microscopic view of plant tissue, likely a leaf cross-section, with various cells and structures visible in shades of blue and green.

Water security knowledge exchange programme

Improving drought prediction, communication and impact assessment

Existing networks and improving future collaboration

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Issues covered

- Current networks
- Potential barriers
- Key issues
- New networks required
- So what?



Current networks – or at least some of them....

- Government and sponsored sub-groups
- Water companies
- Water UK
- Research councils, institutes and universities
- Regulators + CC Water
- Trade bodies
- Knowledge transfer networks
- UKWRIP/UKWRIF



Barriers to effective networking and alliances

- Lack of information - does everybody know research currently underway?
- Common goals
- Timescales
- Funding sources and requirements
- Competition
- Visibility and transparency



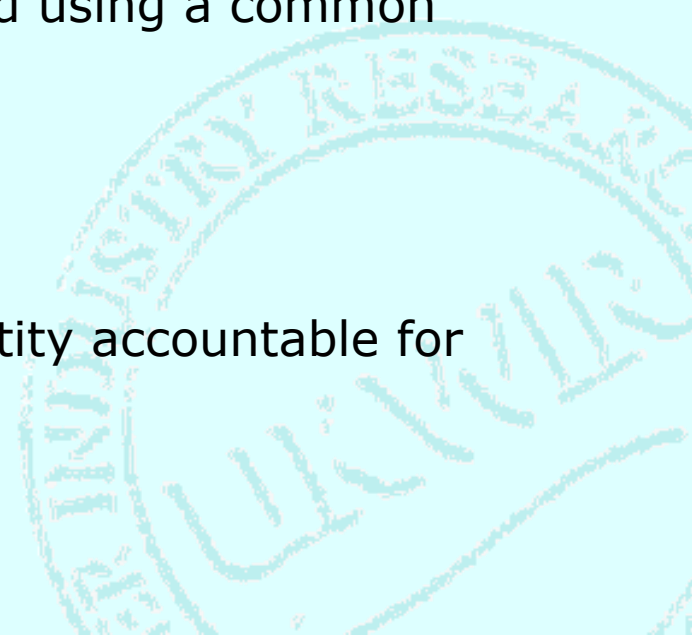
Key issues

- 'Fund' versus 'strategy' driven research
- Fund size and aim of the work
- Requirements:
 - Review of previous and current data – identify duplication and gaps
 - Characterising droughts to develop predictive tools
 - Modelling
 - Environmental impacts
 - Learning from others overseas



New networks required?

- Research providers working continually with research users
- Cross disciplinary research programmes
- Impact of competition?
- Standardisation of data reporting and using a common language
- Develop hubs
- Sponsorship and drive; a body or entity accountable for common governance and direction



So what?

- We all want to be engaged in or with high quality rewarding research that delivers optimal benefit and is relevant
- No barriers in the first place
- Collaboration – a condition!
- Secondments?
- Share knowledge
- All the key stakeholders want to be part of this!

