Wellcome exists to improve health for everyone by helping great ideas to thrive.

We're a global charitable foundation, both politically and financially independent. We support scientists and researchers, take on big problems, fuel imaginations, and spark debate.

Sarah Molton, PhD
Presentation outline

- Wellcome background
- Our Planet, Our Health
- Pilot and programme funding
- Partnerships
- Engagement
Wellcome Trust

- Established in 1936 after the death of Sir Henry Wellcome whose will vested the entire share capital of The Wellcome Foundation into the Wellcome Trust.

- In 1937, the Trustees began work with £73,048 in their deposit account.

- Through series of mergers the Wellcome drug company was absorbed into GSK and the Trust diversified its investment portfolio.

- Today it totals ~£18B enabling an annual investment in research of ~£800M, both in the UK and internationally.
Our Planet, Our Health

Defining our future world

We invest in high-quality transdisciplinary programmes of research that investigate how complex changes in our environment affect our health.

wellcome.ac.uk/ourplanetourhealth
Our Planet, Our Health Committee Members

Howard Frumkin
Committee Chair
University of Washington

Madeleine Thomson
Columbia University

Achim Dobermann
Director of Rothamsted Research

Peter Diggle
Lancaster University

Bob Watson
Tyndall Centre, University of East Anglia

Elisabet Lindgren
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John Beddington
University of Oxford

Bryan Grenfell
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Princeton University

Alan Brown
Governor Member

David Tilman
University of Minnesota
Our Planet, Our Health

- £75 million over the next five years (2015 – 2020)
- 3-5 major interdisciplinary research programmes
- Enhancement of the most promising pilot projects
- Partnerships
Seasonal drivers of human movement and aggregation in a changing climate: consequences for infectious disease dynamics and control
Predicting the Human Nutrition and Health Toll of Global Fishery Declines
Future diets and health: how will environmental changes affect food availability, consumption and health?
Partnerships

This is EAT Stockholm Food Forum 2016

The third EAT Stockholm Food Forum (13-14th of June) brings together some of the world’s brightest people in the fields of science, politics, business and civil society to shift food systems towards greater sustainability, health, security, and equity within the boundaries of our planet.

New EAT Foundation will change the way we feed the world

A new foundation launched mars 16th with the ambition to reform the global food system, enabling us to feed a growing global population with healthy food from a healthy planet. The EAT Foundation is a major new initiative co-founded by the Wellcome Trust, the Stordalen Foundation and Stockholm Resilience Centre. The three organisations will use their unique range of experience in health, science, policy and sustainability, to convene experts and decision makers who together can transform the way we eat.

New EAT Foundation launching today will change the way we feed the world

17 March 2016

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The Wellcome Trust and the Stordalen Foundation will each invest £3 million in EAT Foundation over the next 3 years to support policy and science. The science activity of the foundation will be coordinated by Stockholm Resilience Centre, which has an international reputation for excellence in sustainability science and environmental stewardship.

Johan Rockström, Director of Stockholm Resilience Centre said, “A healthy planet is the only option if we want to provide healthy diets for nine billion people, conversely healthy diets will support a healthy planet. This is the virtuous circle at the heart of the EAT Foundation.”

The impact of the global food system on the natural world and on human health is severe. From the obesity epidemic, to rising global temperatures, food production and consumption are major drivers in many global trends and the list of challenges it is growing. Over the next 30 years the global population will increase by 2.5 billion people, deepening pressures on the food system and exacerbating the challenges it faces. At present, the system is breaking down the limits of our planet, and if change continues, these problems will be magnified. But the massive scale of the food system also presents an invaluable opportunity to have decisive positive impact on the health of people and the planet.

Many people recognise the need for change, but efforts to help are often restricted to a single issue, lack a holistic understanding of the current system or fail to gain traction without political support or commercial backing. For example, the true price of red meat in the UK is a concern for health professionals because eating too much red meat is a risk factor for obesity, for environmentalists who know that raising animals for meat produces large amounts of greenhouse gases, for retailers who compete to sell meat at ever lower prices and for beef cattle farmers who frequently operate at a loss. If these communities could address those challenges in collaboration rather than in isolation, the potential benefits for both individual wellbeing and the global environment are great, but there is currently little precedent for them to work together.

The EAT Foundation will break down established barriers between sectors and bring together policy makers, industry leaders, researchers and civil society to develop solutions that are practical and have support from all sides. The foundation will act as a catalyst, funding and supporting collaborations between organisations across the globe, with a focus on producing realistic solutions that can be put into practice and have a big impact, all within a short time frame.

To begin with, the EAT Foundation will focus its work on these topics: Metrics for health and sustainable food, multifunctional landscapes and seascapes and consumer behaviour and choices.
Any questions?

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