

## Updates on NSF Initiative: Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems (INFEWS)

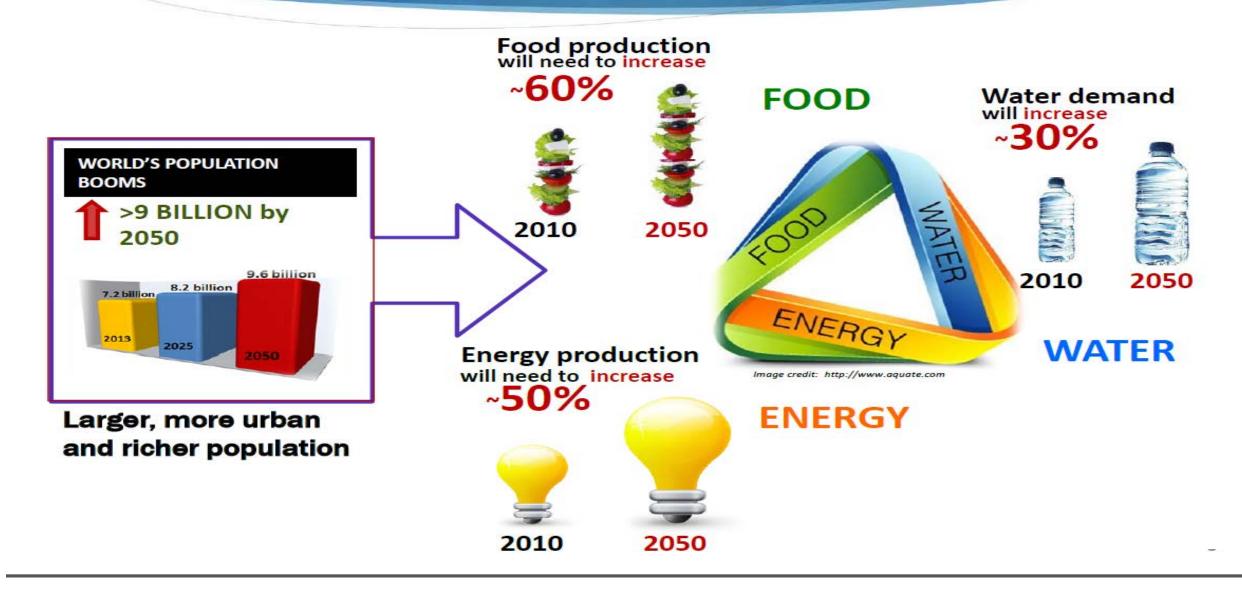
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**NSF** Division of Chemistry

October 15, 2015

### Food, Energy and Water System THE 2050 PICTURE



# **INFEWS:** Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems

- Growing populations
- Land use change
- Change in precipitation

## Stress



Amy Landis studies the feasibility of restoring soils degraded by industrial wastes and other pollutants for growing bioenergy crops. *Credit: Jessica Hochreiter/Arizona State University* 

### **Unique NSF Aspects of INFEWS**

• Interdisciplinary



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- Interdisciplinary
- Investigation of the system of systems



## **Unique NSF Aspects of INFEWS**

- Interdisciplinary
- Investigation of the system of systems
- Education, workforce and outreach



# Food, Energy, and Water in FY 2014

MPS AC Report on Food, Energy and Water Michelle V. Buchanan (Chair)

- Ensuring a Sustainable Water Supply for Agriculture;
- "Closing the Loop" for Nutrient Life Cycles;
- Crop Protection;
- Innovations to Prevent Waste of Food and Energy;
- Sensors for Food Security and Safety; and
- Maximizing Biomass Conversion to Fuels, Chemicals, Food, and Materials.



https://nsf.gov/mps/advisory/mpsac\_other\_reports/subcommittee\_report\_food\_water\_energy\_nexus\_final.pdf

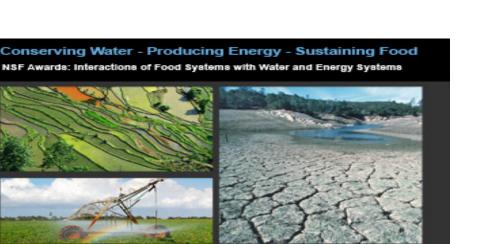
### Food-Energy-Water in FY 2015

### DCL: SEES: Interactions of Food Systems with Water and Energy Systems

Workshop grants

(17 awards, \$1.2 M):

- Planned across the country
- Facilitate partnerships
- Enhance communication
- Define fundamental science and engineering questions and research needs





http://nsf.gov/news/news\_summ.jsp?cntn\_id=135642

### Enabling Resiliency in Energy Water and Food Systems for Society: Addressing the Scientific, Technological and Societal Challenges of the Energy, Water and Food Nexus, CHE-1539597

- Situational scarcity
- New materials, new technologies, and unit operations
- Smart data and decision-making
- Policy response
- Regional test beds and private / public partnerships

**Workshop Led by:** Neal R. Armstrong, Ardeth Barnhart and Kim Ogden, UAZ *Workshop report forthcoming* 



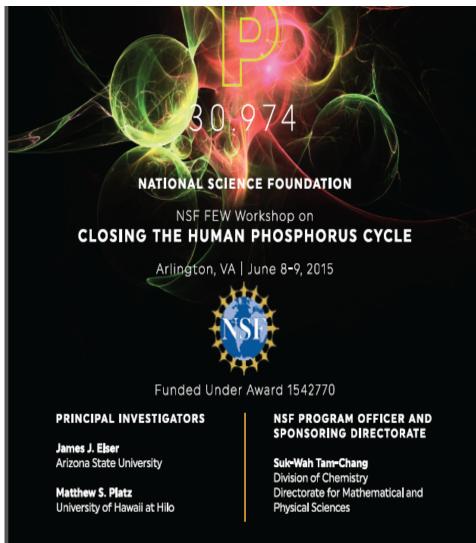
## NSF FEW Workshop on Closing the Human Phosphorus Cycle

Workshop led by Matthew Platz (U. of Hawaii at Hilo) and James Elser (Arizona State U.) on June 8-9, 2015:

Challenge: 75% of the world's population is fed with food produced using phosphorus-containing fertilizer.

The U.S. and China have an estimated 30-year domestic supply of minable phosphate.

Workshop report available at www.nsf.gov/chem

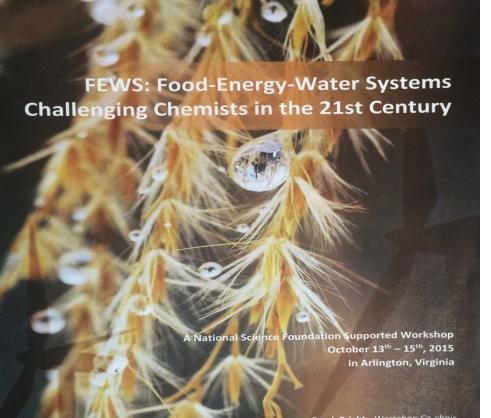


NSF Workshop



#### FEWS: Food-Energy-Water Systems Challenging Chemists in the 21st Century

October 13-15, 2015 | Arlington, Virginia



Frank Bright - Workshop Co-chair The University at Buffalo

Paul Edmiston - Workshop Co-chair The College of Wooster

Tim Long - Workshop Co-chair Macromolecules and Interfaces Institute at Virginia Tech

#### Sponsored by CHE and CBET (CHE-1541860)

Workshop Chairs: Timothy Long, Virginia Tech; Frank Bright, University at Buffalo; Paul Edmiston, College of Wooster

Workshop Findings (pending final report):

- 7 billion people in 60 countries will experience water scarcity by 2050
- Groundwater is non-renewable
- Pollution

# Feeding the World in the 21<sup>St</sup> Century: Grand Challenges in the Nitrogen Cycle

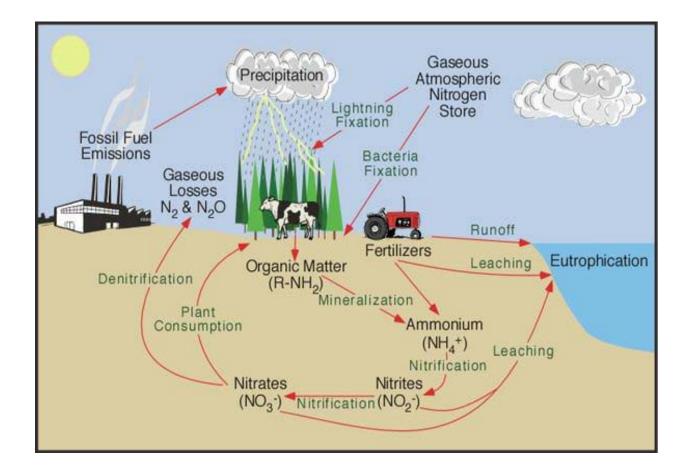
Workshop led by Nicolai Lehnert (U. of Michigan) Eric Hegg (Michigan State U.) Gloria Coruzzi (NYU), Lance Seefeldt (Utah State) on Nov. 2-10, 2015:

Challenges: 450 M tons of N-fertilizer / y:

- Uses 3–5% of the world natural gas
- Uses ~1–2% of the world's energy / y

Need 4 x land (1/2 all ice-free continents) to produce crops w/o fertilizer

80% of the N used to produce food is lost to the environment.



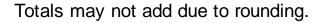
Workshop report available at <a href="http://www.nsf.gov/chem">www.nsf.gov/chem</a>



## FY 2016 NSF Budget Request: INFEWS

#### **INFEWS** Funding by Directorate

(Dollars in Millions)			
	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Dir/Office	Actual	Estimate	Request
BIO	-	-	\$7.50
CISE	-	-	13.50
EHR	-	-	6.00
ENG	-	-	13.00
GEO	-	-	14.78
MPS	-	-	8.90
OISE	-	-	1.28
SBE	-	-	5.00
IA	-	-	5.00
Total, INFEWS	-	-	\$74.96









### FY 2016: INFEWS NSF-Wide Goals

- Advance understanding through modeling;
- Develop real-time interfaces to increase decisional capabilities;
- Innovate scientific and technical solutions;
- Grow scientific workforce.

### DCL: FY 2016 INFEWS Funding Opportunity on Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Water (CHE/CBET NSF 15-108)

- Advance catalytic methods for fertilizer production;
- Develop new sensing modalities for N- or P-species;
- Detect, sequester / separate, and recycle.



### DCL: FY 2016 INFEWS Funding Opportunity on Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Water (CHE/CBET NSF 15-108)





# INFEWS: Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems

### World Supply:

### **US Energy Budget:**

- 3-20% to pump, treat, transport and heat water
- 10% for food production, processing, distribution

