



Challenges and Drivers for Collaboration

Professor John Womersley
Chief Executive, Science and Technology Facilities Council

21 March 2012

Prioritisation

- Global collaboration brings complexity – do it only when scale of project requires (money, people)
- Science prioritisation within science communities – but how to choose between different science areas?
- Science communities often more ‘global’ than their funding agencies
- **A ‘global forum’ for information and communication between funders could be a useful addition**



Resourcing

- Little appetite for new international subscriptions so must rely on national funding sources
- Requires coherent action between many partners
- Making the case for large, new, long term commitments is very hard in 2012
- **Science Communities must remain well-connected to funders**



Delivering on budget and on schedule

- Global projects have all the same problems as national ones – exacerbated by scale, number of partners and culture
- EU expert panel report laid out good practices
- **We know how to avoid problems - but often other pressures are stronger**
(political issues, the need to start project when funding is available, etc...)

