



## This month's highlights...

- The Disrupters have arrived
- Supporting creative entrepreneurs
- Challenges, competitions and sponsorships - driving innovation forward

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## News



### [The Disrupters - report](#)

*The Disrupters - Lessons for low-carbon innovation from the new wave of environmental pioneers* tells the stories of eight businesses and organisations that are pursuing low-carbon goals using 'disruptive' innovation(s).



### [Environment challenge launch \(webcast\)](#)

We asked a panel of experts - what role can government, investors and the public play in improving the conditions for low-carbon innovation? Watch the videos of their speeches and the Q&A session (*requires Windows Media Player*).



### [Starter for Six - awards announced](#)

During the first year of NESTA's Starter for Six programme we have supported 62 early stage businesses in science, technology and/or creative industries across Scotland and awarded grants of up to £10,000 to 26 of the most promising.



### [New Policy Briefings](#)

Our latest Policy Briefings are now online - *New types of innovation for a low-carbon society* to support our Environment Challenge work and *Innovation Policy at the Cabinet Table* - responding to the creation of the Department for Innovation Universities and Skills.



### [Big Ideas ICT Youth Challenge winners](#)

A team of would-be environmental entrepreneurs from St. Aidan's School, Sunderland have been announced as overall winners of the Big Ideas ICT Youth Challenge Competition.



### [Aquapharm secures second round investment of £4 million](#)

Aquapharm Biodiscovery Ltd, a NESTA Investments portfolio company, working in marine biotechnology, has secured its latest round of investment financing of £4 million. They have also received backing from the DTI to help search for anti-cancer agents derived from marine microbes.



### [Supporting creative entrepreneurs - invitation to tender](#)

We're looking to outsource the management of business development support services to our portfolio of creative businesses. We are inviting applications from interested parties to manage and co-ordinate these services. Full details online.



### [Tomorrow's Planet - NESTA Innovation Challenges sponsorship](#)

NESTA Innovation Challenges is pleased to sponsor the Tomorrow's Planet challenge for innovative business ideas that address 21st century environmental challenges. This forms part of the 21st Century Challenge Competition - an international entrepreneurship competition run by the University of Oxford.

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## Opinion



### [Beginning at the beginning - a Provocation](#)

Anthony Sargent and Katherine Zeserson argue in our latest *Provocation* that to unleash the innovative capacity of the UK in the 21st century, our education system needs to operate as a whole community process.



### [The disruptive approach to low carbon innovation](#)

To tackle climate change we must stop relying on 'quick fix' technological solutions and start adopting new low-carbon ways of working and living, says Dr Michael Harris.



### [Climate change: turning talk into action](#)

If climate change is the most important problem facing the human race, why isn't more being done to incentive the reduction of our carbon footprint, asks environmentalist Tom Burke.

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## Spotlight on innovation

### **What's happening in the world of innovation?**

Each month, we'll scan the web for our favourite thought-provoking blog posts and articles about innovation. [Email us your top innovation picks](#) for possible inclusion in a future issue of the NESTA Bulletin.



### **Website: Act on CO2**

#### [Determine your carbon footprint](#)

The Act on CO2 Calculator was launched late last month by Defra in conjunction with partners like the Energy Savings Trust. The calculator highlights which areas of your lifestyle have the greatest effect on climate change and will provide you with advice on what steps you can take to reduce your carbon impact.



### **NESTA blog featured post: NESTA Connect**

#### [Networking not working](#)

Roland Harwood on the role of intersections between networks and their role in innovation.



## Blog post: Flux (from Futurelab)

[Don't want that one - want that one...\\*](#)

Leon Cych reflects in an interesting and wide-ranging post on innovation in education, particularly relating to practitioners using web 2.0 apps and blogging, pod and vodcasting about it – triggered in part by the launch of our Hidden Innovation report.

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## Book review

Each month, we're asking friends and colleagues to review a recently published book concerning innovation. [Email us your book reviews](#) for possible inclusion in a future issue of the NESTA Bulletin.



### **The Innovative Leader, by Paul Sloane**

*Reviewed by Ivan Salcedo, NESTA*

Paul Sloane was invited to present some ideas at an event on how to be an innovative leader by NESTA Connect recently. He was energetic, persuasive, thought-provoking and serious without being 'heavy'. All of which could also apply to his latest book. It's a series of bite-size arguments, examples and bits of advice for anyone who is looking to instil a culture of innovation in their organisation. The last section of the book is devoted to 'creative' rather than 'leadership' qualities, and would work for those looking to boost their personal creativity and lateral thinking.

While it may lack the depth or 'hipness' of other, similar books, I've found it an ideal travel companion, full of little nuggets like reminding yourself to ask 'what business am I/are we in?'. To quote some examples - Wonderbra, refer to themselves as in the business of giving self-confidence to women; B&Q as in the business of 'I need a hole in my wall' not 'I want a drill'. Makes you think...

[You can find out more and/or purchase this book direct from the Destination Innovation website](#)

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## Events

To be included in this list of events for the forthcoming month, please email [bulletin@enews.nesta.org.uk](mailto:bulletin@enews.nesta.org.uk). Please note that we include non-NESTA events that we believe to be of interest to the wider innovation community and do not necessarily have any relationship with the organisers.



### [How to grow a gorilla, the Eighth Cambridge Enterprise Conference, Cambridge 5 September](#)

At this conference, entrepreneurial leaders from several leading Cambridge-based companies (like Autonomy, Owlstone etc.) will reveal their strategies for growth.

### [Exploring Avenues to Cross-Disciplinary Research](#)

Researchers and practitioners in interdisciplinary research are invited to this conference, run by The Cross-disciplinary Research Group at the University of Nottingham.





## [Creative Clusters 2007, London 9 -14 November](#)

This global conference on policy for the creative economy takes place in locations across London that are home to world-leading creative enterprises and culture-led regeneration projects.

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