Innovation Across Nucleic Acids

INNOVATION ACROSS NUCLEIC ACIDS NETWORK

Annual Conference 2027

SPONSORSHIP PROSPECTUS

21 January 2027 | Southampton

Connect your brand with the UK-wide nucleic acids community across research, innovation, healthcare and industry.

IANA network at a glance

May 2026 Network launched	**250+** Members	**90+** Organisations	**600+** LinkedIn followers
40+ Universities	**50+** Other institutions	**UK-wide** National network	**BBSRC** Funded network

Network figures are correct at the time of publication and describe IANA's wider community; they are not a forecast of conference attendance.

1. Introduction

The Innovation Across Nucleic Acids (IANA) Network is a UK-wide network funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC). It advances research, innovation and translation across DNA, RNA and related nucleic acid technologies.

The IANA Annual Conference is the Network's flagship annual event, bringing together researchers, industry, healthcare, innovators and policy professionals working across nucleic acids science and technology.

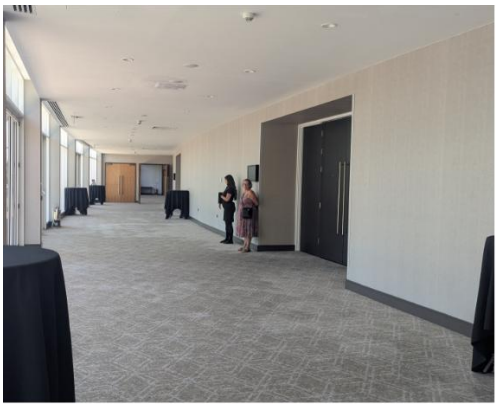
By supporting the conference, organisations help strengthen the UK nucleic acids ecosystem and reduce barriers to participation, while receiving clearly defined visibility and engagement benefits.

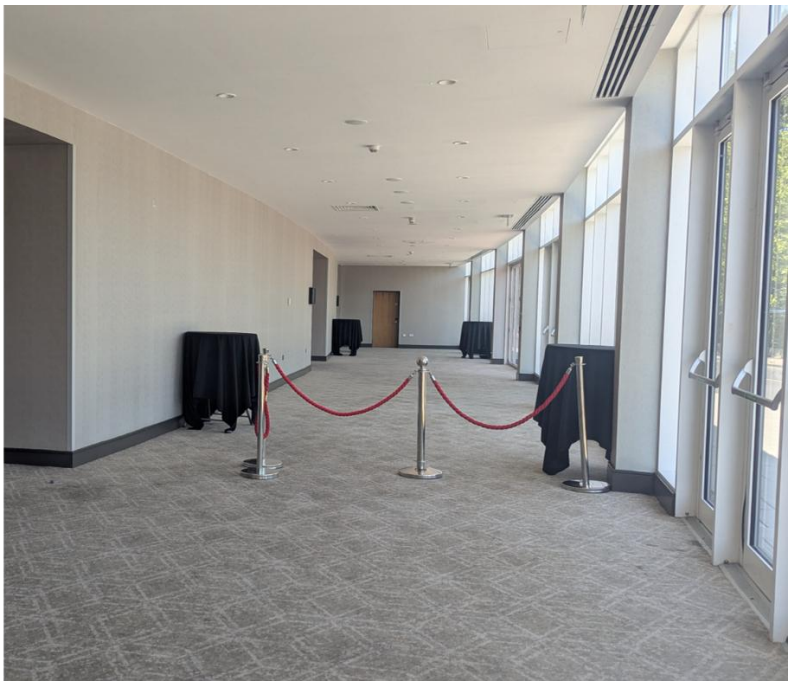
2. Conference at a glance

Date	Thursday 21 January 2027
Venue	Hilton Southampton – Utilita Bowl, Botley Road, Southampton, Hampshire SO30 3XH
Format	In-person scientific conference, poster and networking programme, and sponsor exhibition

Sponsor and exhibition environment

The venue will include a dedicated conference area, a separate space for poster presentations and networking, and a prominent exhibition corridor measuring at least 4 metres wide and 25 metres long. Sponsor stands and exhibition tables will be positioned within this main delegate circulation area, providing regular opportunities for conversation throughout the conference.





The exhibition corridor at Hilton Southampton – Utilita Bowl.

Audience note: Registration is not yet open, so total attendance and the final sector mix cannot be guaranteed. The post-event report will provide actual attendance and an anonymised audience profile.

Provisional conference programme

The final scientific programme is in development and will remain subject to confirmation. Anticipated elements include:

- Keynote and invited scientific presentations
- Industry and translation showcases
- Poster presentations and dedicated networking time
- Innovation discussions and cross-sector networking
- Early Career Researcher activities
- Sponsor and exhibitor space

Indicative themes include therapeutics, diagnostics, sequencing, synthetic and engineering biology, structure and biophysics, AI and data, manufacturing, agriculture and environmental applications.

3. Why partner with the IANA Annual Conference?

Supporting the conference creates opportunities to engage with a growing multidisciplinary community spanning academia, industry, healthcare and policy.

What partners receive

- The programme, exhibition, registration and communications benefits specified for the agreed partnership level
- A platform to showcase relevant products, technologies and services
- Recognition of support for research, innovation, translation and skills development
- A brief post-event report summarising agreed measures of conference reach and sponsor visibility

Opportunities created by the conference

- Engage with potential users and customers
- Build relationships with prospective collaborators
- Connect with emerging talent and potential future employees

- Exchange ideas with representatives from research, healthcare, policy and industry

These are engagement opportunities rather than guaranteed commercial, recruitment or collaboration outcomes.

4. Our community

The IANA Network includes organisations from across the nucleic acids innovation landscape. Current network representation includes:

- 40+ universities and research-intensive higher education institutions
- Research institutes and Catapult centres
- Biotechnology SMEs, start-ups and university spin-outs
- Pharmaceutical and life science companies
- NHS organisations and healthcare providers
- Government agencies, policy organisations and research funders
- Contract Research Organisations (CROs) and Contract Development and Manufacturing Organisations (CDMOs)
- Investors and innovation-support organisations
- Equipment manufacturers, reagent suppliers and technology providers
- Data science, AI and digital health companies
- Scientific publishers, learned societies and professional bodies

This describes the wider IANA community and should not be read as a guarantee that every group will be represented at the conference.

5. Who you may meet

Conference attendance will depend on registration. The intended audience includes:

Research community

- Principal Investigators
- Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers
- Research Technical Professionals

Industry and innovation

- Biotechnology and pharmaceutical scientists
- Technology developers and innovation managers
- Founders, investors and business-development leads
- Translational, regulatory and commercialisation professionals

Healthcare, translation and policy

- NHS researchers and healthcare professionals
- Policy representatives and government agencies
- Research funders, Catapults and technology-transfer teams
- Learned societies and public-engagement organisations

6. Partnership and participation routes

Commercial sponsorship

Bronze, Silver and Gold partnerships provide defined visibility, exhibition and engagement benefits. Bespoke additions may be discussed, but only benefits confirmed in writing form part of the sponsorship agreement.

Emerging Innovator exhibition option

A limited number of reduced-cost exhibition places will be available by application to eligible microbusinesses, early-stage companies and university spin-outs. The standard offer can include one exhibition table with two chairs, up to two representative registrations, programme logo inclusion and a group social-media acknowledgement. The contribution, eligibility and benefits will be agreed in writing before booking and remain subject to availability.

Mission-aligned partnerships

Charities, patient organisations, learned societies and public bodies may support the conference through a mission-aligned partnership. Where appropriate, support may be assigned to an agreed purpose such as accessibility, Early Career Researcher participation, skills development, patient and public involvement, or knowledge exchange. Any restriction on the use of funds must be agreed in writing and does not permit the partner to select individual award or bursary recipients.

Innovation and translation partners

Investors, regulatory advisers, technology-transfer specialists and innovation-support organisations may propose support for an innovation showcase, founder engagement, partnering session or translation-themed activity. All activities are subject to programme relevance, capacity and approval by the organising team; participation does not provide access to confidential information or influence funding or investment decisions.

Participation and programme selection: Speaking, workshops, demonstrations and mentoring are programme activities rather than automatic sponsorship benefits. Any such activity must be mutually agreed, appropriately recognised, and reviewed for quality, relevance and programme fit.

7. Sponsorship packages

The benefits below are the standard offer for each level. Final deliverables, contribution value and any VAT treatment will be confirmed in the written sponsorship agreement.

Benefit	Community Support In-kind/community support	Bronze Partner Up to £500	Silver Partner £501–£1,000	Gold Partner £1,001+
Printed programme inclusion	Name listed	Name and logo	Logo + profile up to 75 words	Prominent logo + profile up to 200 words
Exhibition allocation	1 table + 2 chairs	1 table + 2 chairs	1 table + 2 chairs	2 tables + 4 chairs
Freestanding banner space	—	—	Space for 1 banner	Space for 2 banners
Complimentary registrations	2	2	2	4
Social media coverage	1 group thank-you post	1 tagged sponsor announcement	1 dedicated profile + group thank-you	2 dedicated posts + group thank-you
Pre-conference newsletter	—	—	Sponsor round-up: logo + up to 75 words	Dedicated profile: logo, image, link + up to 200 words
Post-event report	Included	Included	Included	Included
Conference acknowledgement	Group acknowledgement	Sponsor acknowledgement	Featured partner acknowledgement	Gold Partner acknowledgement at opening and closing

Gold Partner status is not exclusive and does not confer naming rights or control over the scientific programme unless a separate, approved agreement expressly states otherwise.

8. Package definitions

Printed programme inclusion: Recognition in the printed conference programme. Logos and profile copy must be supplied by the published deadline and are subject to editorial and brand checks.

Exhibition allocation: The stated table and chair allocation within the sponsor corridor. Final position and footprint are subject to venue layout, accessibility, fire safety and operational requirements.

Complimentary registrations: Each registration covers admission for one named sponsor or exhibitor representative to the conference and exhibition. All stand staff must be registered. Travel, accommodation and separately ticketed social events are not included; catering inclusions and substitution arrangements will be confirmed with the sponsor.

Social media coverage: Posts through IANA's official social-media channels. Sponsors must provide an approved logo, account handle and copy by the stated deadline. Timing and format are determined by IANA; reach, impressions, engagement and reposts are not guaranteed.

Pre-conference newsletter: Silver Partners will be included in a sponsor round-up; Gold Partners will receive a dedicated sponsor profile. Sponsor content is subject to editorial approval. Distribution figures and the planned send date will be shared when confirmed.

Post-event report: Provided within six weeks of the conference and covering available measures such as attendance, anonymised sector profile, delivery of agreed benefits, available digital reach and anonymised feedback. Personal and commercially sensitive data will not be included.

9. Supporting the future of research

Unless a restricted purpose is expressly agreed in writing, sponsorship income will form part of the overall conference budget. It will support conference delivery and help IANA to:

- Reduce barriers to participation
- Support Early Career Researchers and Research Technical Professionals
- Improve accessibility and inclusive participation
- Enable cross-sector collaboration and knowledge exchange
- Promote innovation, translation and commercialisation
- Sustain the continued development of the IANA community

10. Partnership principles

Scientific independence

Sponsorship does not confer influence or control over scientific content, programme design, speaker selection, awards, bursaries or IANA funding decisions. Any sponsored presentation, workshop, demonstration or other programme activity must be relevant to the conference and is subject to review and approval by the organising team. Sponsored content will be clearly identified where appropriate.

Non-endorsement

Recognition of a sponsor or partner does not constitute endorsement by IANA, BBSRC, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) or the University of Portsmouth of that organisation or its products, services or views.

Sponsor eligibility and due diligence

All proposed partnerships are subject to appropriate due diligence. IANA reserves the right to decline or discontinue support where an organisation's activities, reputation, proposed involvement or promotional materials are inconsistent with the Network's values, responsible research principles, legal obligations, or funder and University requirements.

Data protection

Attendee personal data, including names and contact details, will not be shared with sponsors without the individual's explicit consent.

Programme changes

The organising team reserves the right to make reasonable changes to speakers, timetable, format, venue layout and exhibition arrangements. The effect of any material change on sponsor benefits will be managed in accordance with the written sponsorship terms.

11. Sponsorship terms

All partnerships will be subject to written sponsorship terms covering payment and VAT where applicable, cancellation and refunds, use of names and logos, changes to the programme, force majeure, insurance, health and safety, exhibition responsibilities, and the conduct of sponsor representatives.

Sponsors are responsible for the safety, security and insurance of their exhibition materials and equipment and must comply with venue and organiser requirements. The full terms will be provided before a partnership is confirmed.

12. Ready to partner with us?

We would be pleased to discuss financial sponsorship, in-kind contributions, mission-aligned support or a specific conference activity. Every agreed partnership helps strengthen the UK's nucleic acids community.

Confirm	Partnership confirmation by Thursday 1 October 2026
Pay	Payment due by Monday 2 November 2026
Supply	Logos, profiles and other promotional materials due by Monday 2 November 2026
Print	Conference programme scheduled to go to print during November 2026

Materials received after Monday 2 November 2026 may not be included in the printed programme.

13. Contact

Dr Maya Z. Piccinni
Network Manager
Innovation Across Nucleic Acids (IANA) Network
University of Portsmouth

Email: maya.piccinni@port.ac.uk

Online: IANA Network website | IANA Network on LinkedIn

University: University of Portsmouth

Next step: Email the Network Manager with your preferred partnership level or participation route, your objectives, and any exhibition or accessibility requirements.