

Invitation to COP26 Universities Group to contribute to UKRI-COP26 Adaptation and Resilience Online Events - Sustainable and Inclusive Climate Adaptation and Resilience: local leadership for a global goal

To mark the UK's presidency of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow in November 2021, UKRI together with our COP26 delivery partners for climate adaptation and resilience in the UK and overseas, will hold a [series of online events starting in June and cumulating with an event at COP26](#). The events will showcase research that is collaborative, locally led and globally relevant and aligned to the UK COP26 presidency's adaptation and resilience theme. Events will be online, and co-hosted with COP26 delivery partners based in different countries and regions across the globe.

The events will feed into the COP26 conference by bringing together global communities, businesses, researchers from a range of disciplines and local, regional and national-level policymakers to support solution-driven discussions. The events will focus on sub-themes within the adaptation and resilience research landscape, based on the challenges faced by the host countries and regions. Together we will foster open dialogues between key stakeholders and showcase the collaborative international efforts we are supporting to enhance adaptation and resilience in a wide range of locations impacted by climate change.

Host countries/regions for each event are currently being explored with overseas partners. Potential host locations include: UK (to host kick-off/finale event) India, China, Canada, East Africa, South Africa, South East Asia, South America, the Caribbean and the Pacific. However, we would welcome offers to help [identify] co-host events in South East Asia, building on existing links you have in-country.

We would like to invite the COP26 Universities Group to contribute to these events by submitting ideas for ways you and your research teams might support them. We will share these with the co-host organisations leading the events in-country and create opportunities for you to work with them to co-design the events together. Contributions may include:

- Ideas for adaptation and resilience focussed research programmes to showcase at the events – either UK-led or led by the host country/region, building on existing links you have in-country
- Ideas for sub-themes or discussion topics for each event, based on relevance to climate challenges faced by the host country/region
- Prominent members of the climate adaptation and resilience community who could act as keynote speakers for the events (UK or international)

To ensure cohesion across events, we have convened an expert group of IPCC Lead Authors to help identify a set of core topics to help frame discussions and ensure that we deliver coherent messaging at COP26. The topics will be high-level and can be applied to the sub-themes/sectors chosen by in-country co-hosts. We expect these topics to be finalised by mid-May.

We would welcome any and all ideas to be submitted to Sarah Blackburn (NERC International) (sarah.blackburn@nerc.ukri.org) by **cop 30th May** please. We will aim to indicate by the end of June whether we would like to take up particular offers we've received from the COP26 Universities Group. A huge thank you in advance for any contributions from across the network.