



**UK Research
and Innovation**

UKRO Webinar- How UK Research and Innovation is supporting knowledge and policy for Climate Change

28 September 2021



About UKRO

Mission

- Maximise UK engagement in EU-funded research, innovation and higher education activities

Our office

- Based in Brussels
- European office of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)
- Delivers subscription-based advisory services for around 140 research organisations in the UK and beyond
- Provides ERC and MSCA National Contact Point services on behalf of the UK Government

Housekeeping

All participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar.

A chat function is available and will be monitored.

Please use the formal Q&A function to submit questions.

You can 'up vote' your favourite questions.

We will be recording this session.

Slides will be posted **on the event page.**

Jon Brookes

European Advisor since January 2017

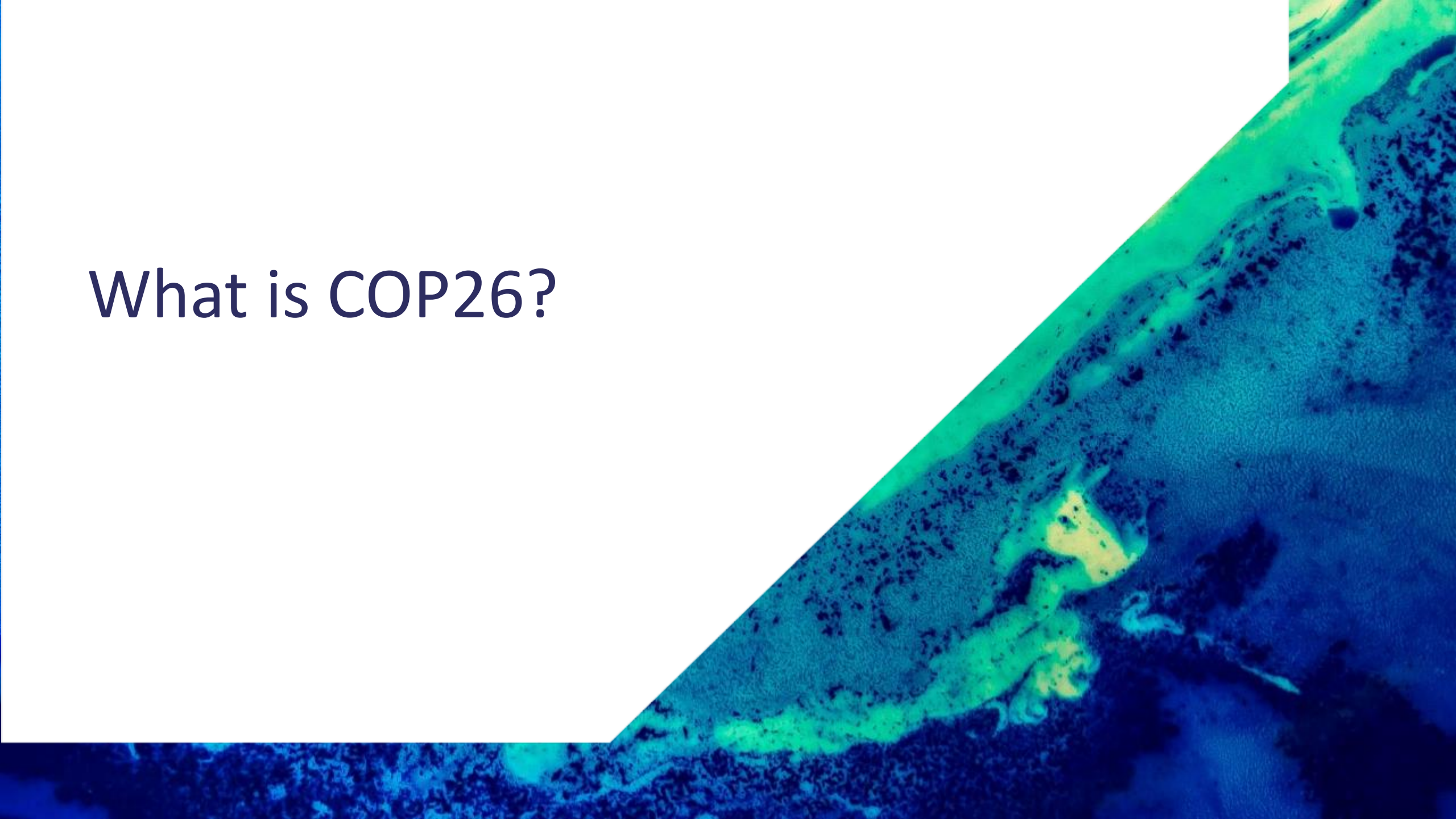
*Previous ERC National Contact Point and now
specialising in climate-related R&I opportunities*

He/Him

<https://www.ukro.ac.uk/>

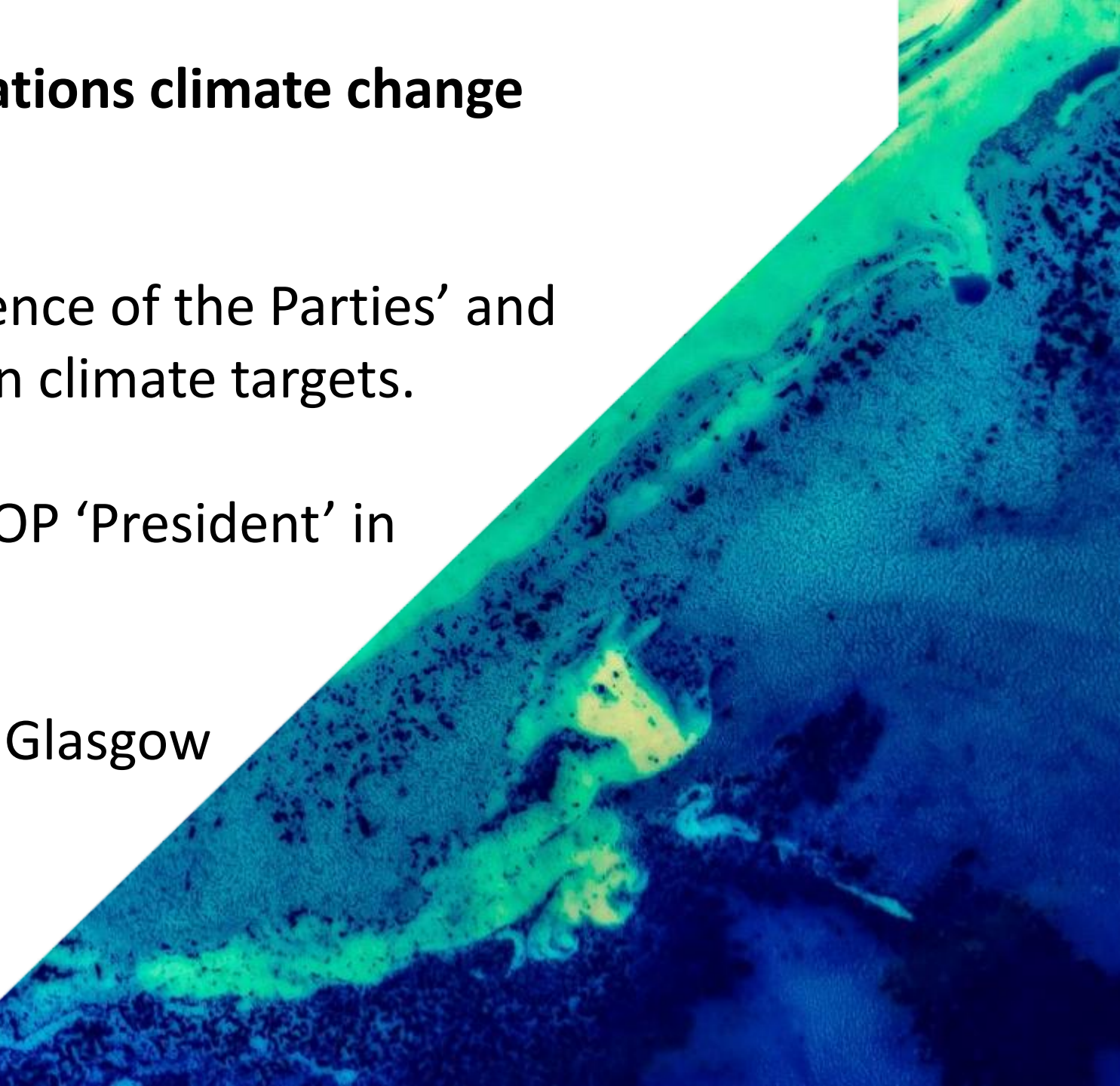


What is COP26?



- **COP26 is the 2021 United Nations climate change conference**
- 26th iteration of the 'Conference of the Parties' and entails formal negotiations on climate targets.
- Hosted by UK, in its role as COP 'President' in partnership with Italy
- Conference will take place in Glasgow
31 October – 12 November

<https://ukcop26.org/>



Venue information

The venue



Blue Zone
SEC Centre

Green Zone
Glasgow Science Centre

- Hosted in Glasgow, COP26 will be delivered across two sites - the Scottish Events Campus (SEC) (referred to as the Blue Zone) and the Glasgow Science Centre (known as the Green Zone).
- The Blue Zone is a UN-managed space which hosts the negotiations. The space brings together delegations from 197 Parties, alongside observer organisations to share their stories at panel discussions, side events, exhibits, and cultural events. All attendees within the Blue Zone must be accredited by the UNFCCC.
- The Green Zone is managed by the UK Government, and is a platform for the general public, youth groups, civil society, academia, artists, business and others to have their voices heard through events, exhibitions, workshops and talks that promote dialogue, awareness, education and commitments.



UK Mission to the European Union

COP26

Claire Macfarlane –Counsellor People, Partnership and Sustainability

UK Mission to the European Union
28th September 2021



UK Research
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COP26

How UK Research and Innovation is supporting knowledge and policy for Climate Change

Professor Tim Wheeler

International Director, UKRI

28th September 2021

How UK Research and Innovation is supporting knowledge and policy for Climate Change

1. Enabling new knowledge and its application
 - Support to research and innovation
 - Science to inform Policy
2. Local, regional to international
 - Building networks
 - Multilateral research programmes and partnerships
3. International policy fora
 - COP26

Enabling new knowledge and its application

1. Supporting Research and Innovation programmes (e.g. RAPID, H2020)
2. Enabling science to inform policy (e.g. IPCC)
3. Investing in the next generation of researchers and innovators
4. Supporting national institutes (e.g. Rothamsted, British Antarctic Survey)
5. Providing national facilities (e.g. RRS Sir David Attenborough)



RAPID/ONSAP Programmes

- The Rapid Climate Change Programme explored the causes of rapid switches in climate, with a primary focus on the Atlantic Ocean's thermohaline circulation.
- Overturning in the Subpolar North Atlantic Programme (OSNAP) is a USA-led initiative that brings together partners across Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, Germany and the UK.
- The outcomes of these programmes have led to numerous further research projects, including directly contributing to IPCC reports.

UKRI project participation – Horizon 2020



UKRI participates as beneficiary in multiple H2020 grants, including those in the area of Climate Science via the Nature and Environment Research Council (NERC):



The EU-funded project **EU-PolarNet 2** will establish a coordination platform creating a network and developing instruments of coordination and co-design of strategies of European polar research actions. The project will operate this platform for 4 years and will contribute to the policymaking process.

<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101003766>



TiPES is a Horizon 2020 funded project that will run from September 2019 and 4 years on. The main object is to better quantify the tipping points that are present in the climate system and to ensure that climate projections also include these

<https://www.tipes.dk/about/>

Informing policy (IPCC)

- UKRI-funded researchers account for 87% of Working Group 1 UK authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) sixth assessment report.
- The report has brought together substantial evidence clearly showing, with increasing certainty, that limiting the future negative impacts of climate change will require reaching at least net zero CO₂ emissions, along with strong reductions in other greenhouse gas emissions.
- Without these measures, global warming of 1.5°C and 2°C will be exceeded during the 21st century.

Local, regional to international

1. Building networks of scientific excellence (e.g. LWEC)
2. Contributing to multi-lateral research programmes and partnerships (e.g. Belmont Forum, JPIs)
3. Supporting Policy Fellowships
4. Connecting to international policy fora (e.g. COP 26)

Living With Environmental Change (LWEC)

Background: LWEC is a network of 22 UK-public sector organisations that fund, carry out and use environmental research, including key government departments.

Purpose: Enhances the impact of the UK's publicly-funded environmental change research, evidence and innovation by enabling members to co-ordinate strategic activities.

Measuring success: Delivered range of products including impact report cards aimed at decision makers, policy and practice notes providing non-technical conclusions and recommendations from research in areas ecosystem services, health and well-being, flooding and coastal erosion, water and climate.

Belmont Forum



Background: The Belmont Forum was established in 2009 as a partnership of funding organisations, international science councils and regional research consortia.

Purpose: The Forum encourages international research aimed at understanding, mitigating and adapting to global environmental change.

Measuring success: Since its establishment, the Forum has successfully led 17 calls for proposals, supporting 134 projects and more than 1,000 scientists and stakeholders, representing over 90 countries.

UKRI International EU Policy influencing – EU Partnerships



UKRI and NERC are active members of various Policy-oriented EU partnerships based in Brussels, including **JPI Climate and JPI Oceans**.

JPI Climate is an initiative of European member states and associated members to align national programmes by jointly coordinating their climate research and funding new transnational research activities. JPI Climate connects various scientific disciplines, enables cross-border research and increases science-practice interaction

The Joint Programming Initiative Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans (JPI Oceans) was established in 2011 as an intergovernmental platform, open to all EU Member States and Associated Countries who invest in marine and maritime research. By joining forces, JPI Oceans focuses on long-term collaboration between EU Member States, Associated Countries and international partners.



UKRI Policy Fellowships

- In 2011, NERC awarded the Humanitarian Future Programme (HFP) a Knowledge Exchange Fellowship to identify and share learning on methodologies and approaches which can strengthen science-humanitarian dialogue. The online research collates the dialogue approaches that this research identified. The resource has provided a framework to encourage knowledge exchange between the providers and users of science for disaster risk reduction.
- In the run-up to COP26, four fellows have been selected as COP26 Fellows in an initiative jointly funded by ESRC and EPSRC. The Fellows will also support work being done by the COP26 Universities Network, an initiative that brings together most of the university within the UK.

International COP26

WHY: Working in partnership internationally is key to achieving excellent and impactful solutions to the COP26 campaigns

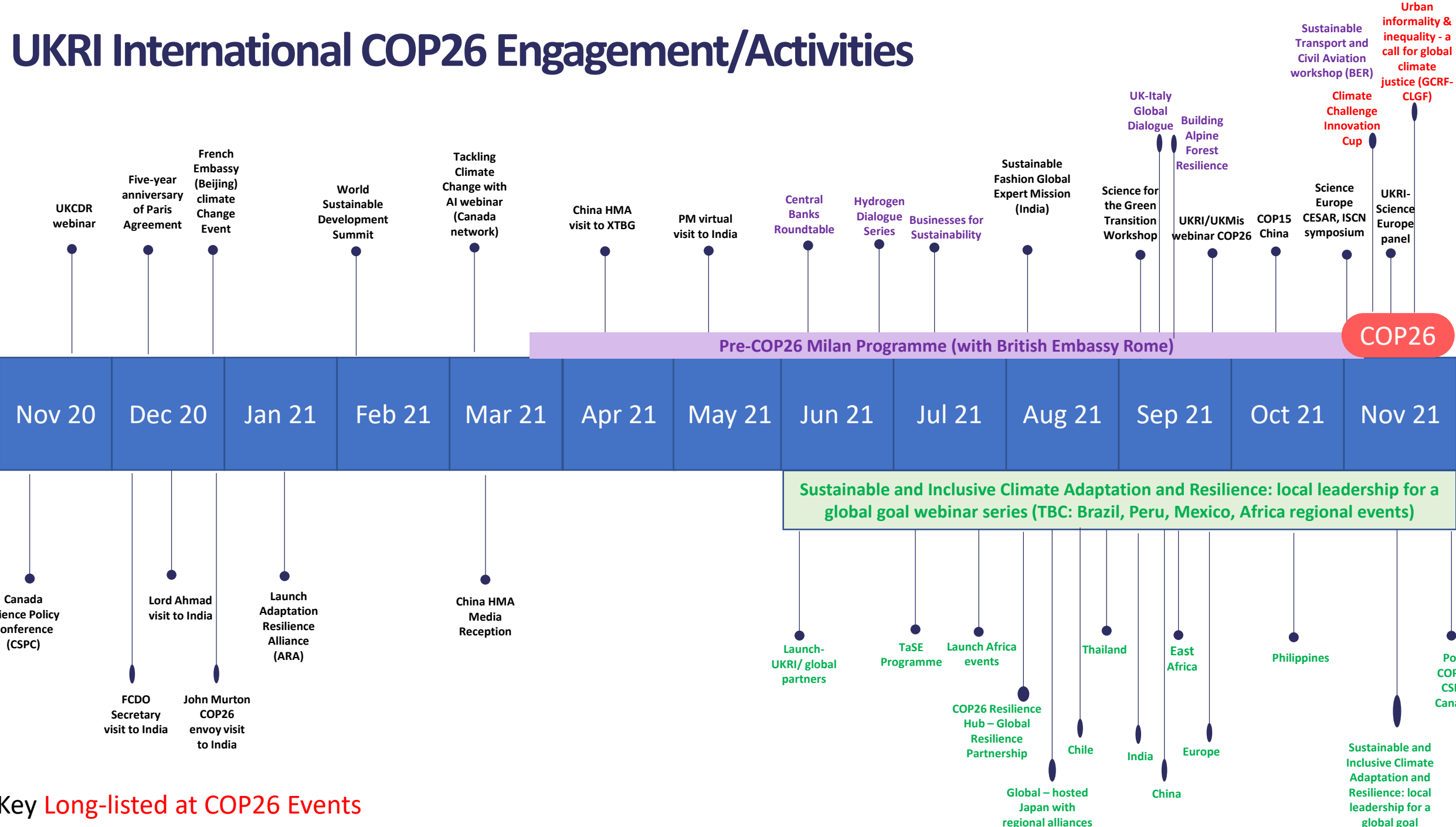
WHAT: Lead in developing policy piece for COP26

- Mobilise science communities in support of campaign areas - local, national, international voices
- Evidence-based policy making

HOW: UKRI International Priorities

- Proactive engagement with our key international partners
- Showcase examples and share breaking news of UKRI international impact relevant to COP26
- Provide support to wider HMG activities, working with FCDO and Embassies overseas

UKRI International COP26 Engagement/Activities



Key Long-listed at COP26 Events

COP26 Adaptation and Resilience Events Series

Sustainable and Inclusive Climate Adaptation and Resilience: local leadership for a global goal

Series of international online events aligned to UK COP26 presidency's **adaptation and resilience** theme.

Aim to bring together global communities, businesses, researchers from a range of disciplines and local, regional and national-level policymakers to showcase international research efforts and support solution-driven discussions.

Aiming for finale event during COP26

- Events will produce written lessons around core question set – will feed in to synthesis report and enable a co-produced message to be presented at COP26
- Events will be recorded and a video 'highlights reel' displayed at finale event, bringing local voices from these regions and the UK directly into the conference
- We will showcase outcomes and research achievements from the series through a panel discussion around next steps and focus for research in the decades ahead
- Panel will have live online participation drawing from our regional pre-COP events as well as being live broadcast online

COP26 activity – Science Europe & UKRI



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Pre-COP Workshop: “Science for the Green Transition” (7th November)

- importance of local, regional, national and international expertise.
- showcase the need to increase cooperation between the research community and policy makers.
- explore how research and innovation can most effectively inform decision making leading to action on climate change.

COP26 Panel: Empowering policy makers with informed scientific knowledge to address the climate crisis: What can we learn from the COVID-19 response? (10th November)

- co-organise a high-level panel with UKRI that will show how research and innovation can mobilise science communities in support of campaign areas by supporting evidence-based policy making and engaging all of society in science and evidence.



Thank you



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