



Wilton Park

Provisional programme

Making transformational change for climate action post COP26 – How? | WP2027V

Tuesday 1 February 2021, 1200-1500 GMT

To be held virtually

The climate crisis and its impact is a defining issue of our time. It continues to threaten societies globally and its economic, social, and environmental impacts are a challenge for us all. Without immediate drastic action adapting to these impacts in the future will be more difficult and costly, and the world will struggle to get back on track with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS).

The Glasgow Climate Pact does not mention transformational change as necessary to shift the world from the brink of a climate catastrophe. Yet it is clear from the urgency of its message that major changes will be necessary in our economies and societies and need to be effectuated in record time. In order to succeed, they will need to be systemic and comprehensive and include perspectives such as climate justice, just transition, and the full range of Sustainable Development Goals.

This second dialogue in the series will meet just over two months after COP26 to look at some of the evidence and research that is building up about how transformational climate action can take place.

We will bring together, virtually, about 50 participants from the often disconnected worlds of policy action, research and evaluation. By discussing the existing evidence, we will identify ways to break down the many practical, political and structural barriers to lead to improved collaboration and aligned networks across these sectors.

Read the short report from the first discussion in this series: **Pathways towards transformational climate action: connecting the worlds of research, evaluation and policy for action** (September 2021) <https://www.wiltonpark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/WP1965-Final-report.pdf>

Questions to address in this and the subsequent sessions during 2022 (including an in-person meeting proposed for late summer 2022):

- What are the pathways and actions that will truly work to mitigate climate change risks and foster systemic resilience?
- How do societies innovate, experiment, and scale-up effective comprehensive climate responses as the world builds back better in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- How to better understand how systems function together as 'eco-systems', and what changes to systems needs to happen for transformational change?

- What processes will generate enough commonly-held beliefs about how to transform cultures, values and societies – and the will to make these changes happen?
- How to create stronger evaluation, research, science, monitoring, evidence and knowledge systems to better understand lessons learnt from transformations that happen as a result of investments and projects? How to ensure these lessons are captured, made relevant and accessible for others through communication? How to ensure learnings are learnt, and implemented?

This meeting is held in partnership with: The International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS), Climate Investment Funds, Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, University of Sussex, Institute of Development Studies, United Nations Development Programme Independent Evaluation Office, International Evaluation Academy, International Fund for Agricultural Development.

(Speakers invited and themes proposed; * denotes confirmed)

1150-1200

Participants join

1200-1210

Welcome and introduction

***Robin Hart**

Senior Programme Director, Wilton Park

1210-1240

1. The outcomes of COP26 – and what it means for transformational change?

Reflections

***Rob D van den Berg**

Professor, King's College London

Followed by discussion in small groups to reflect on what transformational climate action needs to look like after COP26 – both in terms of the outcomes of COP26 and the wider ambition to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees.

1240-1330

2. Transformation in climate action – examples in practice

Sharing examples of transformational climate action followed by roundtable discussion.

What progress is really being made to generate the transformational change needed? How to create change across the many often siloed sectoral approaches, pilots and initiatives?

3 or more cases will each be introduced by a speaker who will present for 5 minutes initially to be followed by discussion.

- 1) a research case: Pathways towards climate justice: engaging with power and politics if transformational outcomes are to be achieved
Led by speaker from the Institute for Development Studies, Sussex
- 2) an evaluation case: transformational change through direct grants to Indigenous Peoples, ideally presented by indigenous representatives themselves;
- 3) a transformational change case study based on place

1330-1335

Break

1335-1430

3. Pathways towards transformational climate action: overcoming barriers and moving forwards

Introduction and reflections on previous conversation to shape the discussion groups.

Chair: Jo Puri

Associate Vice President, Strategy and Knowledge Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Questions for discussion groups:

1. What will or should the pathways towards transformational change look like?
2. How can collective action take place, for adaptive, anticipatory and robust climate action?

Followed by feedback and roundtable discussion.

1430-1445

4. Reflections and next steps

1445-1500

Optional informal discussion and networking opportunity

Goals and objectives:

This series of dialogues will help create a better understanding of evaluative evidence and research findings which policy makers will be able to apply to make the transformative changes our societies need. Specifically, to:

1. Highlight and share existing knowledge and practical evidence from different actors that can inform more effective transformational action in the climate arena.
2. Strengthen productive linkages between power brokers among climate policymakers [public and private] and evidence-gatherers [researchers, evaluators, policy analysts] in support of transformational climate actions.
3. Determine how to unlock evidence, and how the linkages between policymakers [public and private sector decisionmakers, civil society] and evidence-gatherers can be made to be more productive in support of transformational change in the climate arena.
4. Integrate perspectives and finding high-level consensus and inspiring more impactful evidence-based collaborative action towards transformational change across research, evaluation, policy and action arenas for transformational climate action.

Wilton Park is an Executive Agency of the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and is considered one of the world's leading institutions for in-depth discussion of international policy issues and challenges. Through conferences and dialogues, we bring together senior policy practitioners, politicians, business people, academics, NGO representatives, journalists and other opinion formers from a range of countries to help inform policy and facilitate change.

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

Enquiries about participation to: Sandry Koo, Project Manager
T: +44 (0)1903 817765 | | E: transformationalchange@wiltonpark.org.uk

Enquiries about the programme to: Kristina Henly, Senior Policy Officer
T: +44 (0)1903 817712 | E: kristina.henly@wiltonpark.org.uk