



# Westminster Energy Forum

Evaluating Climate Risks & Informing Energy Transitions

*Strategic Insights in Support of Net Zero*

**Prospectus**



# WEF Mission & Objectives

The **Purpose** of the WEF is:

**To develop and integrate actionable intelligence regarding climate risks and energy transition issues among decision-makers within the carbon value chain.**

Its **Objectives** are to:

**Convene** expert practitioners in the fields of climate risk and energy transition.

**Share** strategic information on the challenges and opportunities of decarbonisation policy, investment and innovation.

**Inform** political and corporate decisions in support of Net Zero goals and ambitions.



# WEF Operations

Operationally the WEF functions like a small think tank, delivering two complementary workstreams during the political year for a network of 150 organisations, each workstream comprising four or five sessions:

1. **Climate Risk Pathfinders & Assessments** - *via Cross-Sector Stakeholder Insights*
2. **Energy Transition Pathfinders & Assessments** - *via Industry Sector Reviews*

**The WEF provides unique value for senior-level stakeholders** in the energy, climate and net zero space by addressing the UK's strategic challenges in an integrated manner as part of a high level programme of invite-only events. Established in 2004, the WEF is politically and technology agnostic.

**The overarching nature of the WEF programme cuts across typical sector 'silos'** to inform a wide range of practitioners in the carbon value chain via insights that aim to be 'pathfinding' in nature. This helps to facilitate a wider understanding of the prevailing and emerging risks affecting the long term decarbonisation agenda.

**Operational support comes from the industry value chain** and annual subscriptions that enable the WEF to convene an equal number of experts from the public sector, diplomatic and NGO domains free of charge, ensuring that the WEF can convene the right balance and mix of personnel while remaining unbiased and free of lobbying.



# WEF Strategic Themes

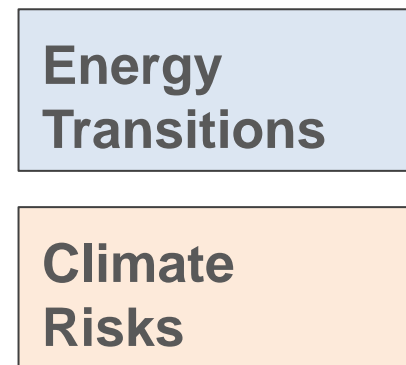
After nearly 20 years of operations in the UK the WEF has become a trusted and reliable partner for assessing emerging issues in climate risk and informing energy industry decision-making, delivering insightful briefings that cut across typical sector silos as part of a private Members programme by invitation.

We focus on five strategic themes, which in turn feed into our two workstreams and the eight or more WEF events that we showcase throughout the year. All discussions cross-reference thematically on multiple levels, providing strong value for organisations taking part.

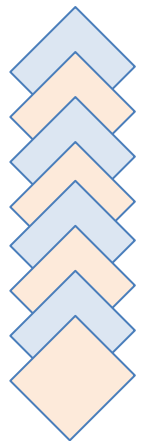
## Strategic Themes:

- > **Uncertainties in Climate Science and Trends in Climate Change**
- > **Geopolitics of International Energy Transitions and Implications Net Zero**
- > **Delivering UK Energy Transition and Targets via Policy and Regulation**
- > **Energy System Transformation via Technology and Infrastructure**
- > **Challenges for Corporate Strategy, Capital Spend and Licence to Operate**

## Workstreams:



## Events:





# WEF Coordination with Public Sector Leaders

The WEF's long-established programme provides strong continuity for the network of organisations who take part, many of whom have been involved for ten years or more. This network is deliberately maintained at no more than 1000 individuals, with the WEF leadership liaising on an ongoing basis with up to 50 Directors in several key public sector agencies (below) regarding the emerging issues that would benefit from broader discussion. In this way the WEF programme always remains collaborative and relevant.





# The Value of the WEF

- WEF maintains a deep understanding of emerging and strategic issues at policy level in order to define relevant agendas that effectively analyse climate risks and energy transitions for a wide expert network.
- Successfully pathfinding the risks and opportunities to a clean energy transition is achieved by actively integrating experts from across a wide range of different interest groups, and by maintaining multiple points of contact at senior level in all organisations within the WEF network.
- The WEF is trusted and valued by government, regulators and the wider sector which it serves, and ensures an appropriately diverse approach to representation on its panels.
- The WEF constituency is well-established, including 150 organisations and a 50:50 public-private sector split overall, forming a diverse and well-informed group of practitioners who form a knowledge transfer network that is material to the design and delivery of policy and infrastructure.
- WEF allows places to be used transferrably within participating organisations, and we seek to maintain the costs of WEF membership for corporates at well below commercial event rates so that we cover our operational costs while delivering optimal value for time and money for everyone involved.



# WEF Events Diary 2022 - 2023

- Sep 23, 2022 **Risks to the Energy Transition - Implications for Political & Corporate Strategies**
- Oct 20, 2022 **Onshore Energy System Integration: Strategy & Delivery**
- Nov 8, 2022 **Frontiers in Nuclear Risk, Regulation & Insurance - No.5 (NRI *closed*)**
- Nov 30, 2022 **Transitioning the North Sea - Integrating Oil & Gas with CCUS, Hydrogen & Renewables**
- Jan 25, 2023 **Post-COP27 Review of Climate Trends, Progress with Global Transitions and Implications for Geopolitics**
- Mar 1, 2023 **UK Energy Security & Markets Winter Review – Assessing Key Challenges and Uncertainties Ahead**
- Apr 25, 2023 **Existential Climate Risks & Financial Impacts – Issues, Indicators & Interventions to Optimise Resilience**
- May 17, 2023 **Global Issues in Nuclear New Build, Safety, Regulation & Insurance (NRI *open*)**
- Jun 7, 2023 **UK Energy Industry Innovation and Transformations Required for Energy Security and Net Zero**
- Jul 13, 2023 **Climate Risks & World Energy Security - Reviewing the Deliverability of Net Zero**



# WEF Forthcoming Seminar Agendas





# 14 July - Climate Risks & World Energy Security – Reviewing the Deliverability of Net Zero

## **UN Race to Zero progress to date, and the continued importance of a just transition**

Fiona Macklin, Race to Zero Campaign Manager, **COP26 High Level Climate Champions**

## **IPCC6 Mitigation – key outcomes and messages for delivering requisite near-term action**

Prof. Michael Grubb, **Bartlett School Env, Energy & Resources** UCL, & Lead Author 'Framing' Chapter, **IPCC**

## **Net Zero risks in the context of the climate risks we are trying to avoid**

Dr. Daniel Quiggin, Senior Research Fellow – Environment & Society Programme, **Chatham House**

## **Mitigating risks to low carbon investment & infrastructure – contingent capital flows, project insurability, & their limits...**

Lesley Harding, Global Head of Energy, **Liberty Group**

James Pay, Partner - Energy and Resources Project Finance, **Clifford Chance**

## **UK Net Zero Strategy reviewed in the context of the UK's COP Presidency & 2022's disruption in energy markets**

Chris Thompson, Deputy Director - Net Zero Strategy, **BEIS**

## **Challenges for transforming for the UK energy system to deliver Net Zero targets in time**

Rebecca Sedler, Commercial, Customer & Regulation Director, **National Grid Ventures**

Ruth Herbert, CEO, **Carbon Capture & Storage Association**

Margaret-Ann Splawn, Industry Advocate - Sustainability, **Microsoft**

## **Mitigating Energy Security Risks & Adapting to Climate Threats: Imperatives for a successful transition in the new world context**

Dr. Revati Phalkey, Head - Climate Change and Health Unit, **UK Health Security Agency**

Julie Scott, Head – Energy Diplomacy, **Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office**

# 23 Sept - Risks to the Energy Transition - Implications for Political & Corporate Strategies

## 1 – Current Trends in, and the latest Economics of, the Energy Transition: Primary Risks & Uncertainties

Mike Bradshaw, Professor of Global Energy Business School, & Co-Director, **UK Energy Research Centre**  
Gautam Mukherjee, Head of Gas Analytics, **BP**

## 2 – Climate Risks: Trends in Capital Flows, Related Corporate Risks, and their Implications

Tara Schmidt, Sustainability & ESG Finance Director, **Lloyds Banking Group**  
Amy Barnes, Head of Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy, **Marsh**

## 3 – The Status of the UK and European Energy Markets, and the Imperative of Political Coordination

Sophie Westlake, Deputy Director - International Energy Unit, **FCDO**  
Andrea AMELIO, First Counsellor – Competition & Energy, **Delegation of the European Union to the UK**  
Mariko Higuchi, Deputy Head of Department for Economic & Global Affairs, **Embassy of Germany**

## 4 – UK Energy Strategy & Sector Transformation – Challenges facing Industrial Delivery

Sam McKilligin, Director - Energy Transition, **AECOM**  
Abhi Kohok, Subsurface Director, **INEOS**

# 20 Oct - Onshore Energy System Integration: Strategy & Delivery

## Regulation, System & Network Strategy & Challenges in the Commercial Market

### UK Regulatory Strategy – Net Zero Delivery and Update

Akshay Kaul, Director – Network Strategy, **Ofgem**

### The Changing Role of the System for UK Energy Strategy & Security

Nicola Medalova - Head of Electricity Construction, **National Grid**

### Network Strategy: balancing centralised & decentralised powergen & storage to enable secure decarbonisation

Lynne McDonald, Programme Manager - DSO Readiness, **UK Power Networks**

### Technology & Data-driven Innovation for Optimal Energy Management & Accelerated Cross-Sector Decarbonisation

George Hackford, Energy & Utilities, **Google**

## Delivery Challenges for the UK Energy Transition - Risk Mitigation & Industrial Initiatives

### Mitigating risk in the delivery of new UK energy infrastructure – implications for Net Zero funding, infrastructure & markets

Robert Gardner, Renewable Energy & Power Leader, **Willis**

James Wiseman, **Senior Strategic and Economic Adviser**, **Jacobs**

### Tidal energy for inshore – onshore zero carbon supply: accelerating progress

Martin Land, Director - Liverpool City Region Projects, **Mersey Tidal**

### HyNet: Unlocking decarbonisation through low carbon hydrogen and CCUS delivery

Dr Chris Manson-Whitton, Director, **Progressive Energy / HyNet consortium**

# 30 Nov - Transitioning the North Sea - Integrating Oil & Gas with CCUS, Hydrogen & Renewables

## **Session 1: Upstream Review**

**Key indicators to watch from the wider international energy market analysis**

Matt Brown, Vice President, **AFRY Management Consulting**

**European gas markets ahead of Winter 2022-23: EU supply and demand status in context**

Dr Katja Yafimava, Senior Research Fellow, **Oxford Institute for Energy Studies**

**Delivering net zero: The UK Continental Shelf in transition**

Kristina Dahlström, Head of Policy and Strategy, **North Sea Transition Authority**

**OGUK Economic & Sustainability Update, and Industry Annual Review**

Deirdre Michie, CEO // Mike Tholen, Sustainability Director, **Offshore Energies UK**

## **Session 2: Industry Diversification Briefings**

**Enabling Energy Industry Transformations to Enable a Timely North Sea Transition: the role of Government & Business**

Emma Wild, Energy Consulting Practice Lead in UKI, **Accenture**

Shozey Jafferri, Energy Sector Specialist, **Department for International Trade**

**UK CCUS Clusters and Hydrogen Production: uncertainties and opportunities ahead**

Hayleigh Barnett, Project Manager, **Net Zero Technology Centre**

Dan Carter, VP of Decarbonisation and New Energies, **Wood**

Rachael Hall, Hydrogen Delivery Lead & Chris Kilsby, Market Lead Offshore Renewables, **Atkins**

Hannah Bronwin, Head of Business Development, **SSE Thermal**



# The WEF Network

WEF's operational support comes from a range of industry participants via 75 corporate subscriptions that enable the WEF to convene an equal number of experts from the public sector and NGO domains *gratis*, thus avoiding bias and ensuring that the WEF can convene the right constituency on a regular basis.

Organisationally the WEF is set up as a microbusiness to administer the programme, via a small secretariat under the Directorship of Chris Lambert, with all seminars and webinars hosted by various WEF members.



# Corporate Supporters





# Knowledge Transfer Network

Key regular NGO,  
Diplomatic & Academic  
Participants in the WEF

Ashden	Energy Networks Association	National Cyber Security Centre
Association of British Insurers	Energy Systems Catapult	Natural Environment Research Council
Bangladesh High Commission	Energy UK	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Bank of England	Environment Agency	Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult
British Antarctic Survey	EU Delegation to UK	Ofgem
Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	OGUK
Carbon Capture and Storage Association	Grantham Institute - Climate Change & Environment	Oil and Gas Authority
Carbon Disclosure Project	Greater London Authority	Oxford Institute for Energy Studies
Carbon Tracker Initiative	Green Finance Institute	RAND Europe
CBI	Health and Safety Executive	RenewableUK
City of London Corporation	High Commission of Canada	Royal Norwegian Embassy
ClientEarth	High Commission of New Zealand	Solar Energy UK & techUK
E3G - Third Generation Environmentalism	IAEA	The Association for Renewable Energy
Embassy of China	IChemE Energy Centre	The Climate Group
Embassy of France	IRINA	The Elders Foundation
Embassy of Germany	IMechE / IOAF	UK Atomic Energy Authority
Embassy of Japan	Imperial College	UK Energy Research Centre
Embassy of Switzerland	Institution of Engineering and Technology	UK Onshore Oil & Gas
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change	UK Petroleum Industry Association
Embassy of the Republic of Poland	International Energy Agency	Warwick Business School
Embassy of the USA	Lloyd's	World Energy Council
Energy Institute	London Stock Exchange Group	World Nuclear Association



# WESTMINSTER ENERGY FORUM

[www.westminsterenergy.org](http://www.westminsterenergy.org)