Need for an Enhanced Climate Change Risk Assessment Capability

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The Climate Change Act sets UK’s adaptation framework

- The Climate Change Act 2008 requires a UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) every 5 years followed by a National Adaptation Programme (NAP) to address the risks identified.
- The Act created an Independent Adaptation Sub-Committee (ASC) of the Committee on Climate Change to advise Government on adaptation and review progress on implementation of the NAP.
- The Act also created an adaptation reporting power (ARP) that enables Government to require infrastructure providers and public bodies to report on their preparedness for climate change.
Evolution of CCRAs

CCRA1: Breaking new ground
- Systematic review of 100+ risks
- Sets baseline in absence of current and planned actions
- Focus on scientific evidence base

CCRA2: Shift in approach
- Greater focus on prioritisation to inform NAP
- Understanding of how policies, actions and socio-eco change affect risk
- Reappraise only where science advanced significantly

CCRA3: Similar to CCRA2 with a focus on:
- Greater accessibility of outputs for primary audience of government and devolved admins
- Further prioritisation
- More place and systems based approach
- Advances in science – e.g. UKCP18
Priorities for this research

**Build capacity** for future CCRAs
- To better inform future NAPs
- Primary audience - government and devolved admins
- Interoperability between relevant government systems

Allow **greater prioritisation** by:
- Testing solutions and strategies
- Allowing place based assessments
- Improving understanding of interacting risks

**Maximises impact** and **builds a legacy** by:
- Building and avoiding duplication with other initiatives
- Allowing flexibility to take on board future progress
- Including at least one less established sector (e.g. health/business)
Geospatial data and systems research at Defra

• 25 Year Environment Plan and metrics

• Systems Based Research – rural land use, food, air quality, marine, waste & resources, food.

• Defra aim to unlock the potential of Defra group geospatial data. Some current initiatives :
  - Rural Payments Agency Crop Map of England (CROME)
  - Defra Data Services Platform
  - MAGIC website
  - Natural England and JNCC Living England (data due March 2020)

• SPF Landscape Decisions