**Adaptation CoP – July meeting Zoom notes**

Harry: I didn't attend the Cadence Roundtable event, but I think it was partly based on this paper:

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.2108146119>

Ellie: Apologies I have to drop off the call now - but very keen to contribute to future conversations and activities relating to vulnerability and what the British Red Cross can do to support (as we are currently undertaking a climate change risk assessment and developing our UK Climate Adaptation Framework)

Ben:https://inews.co.uk/news/politics/net-zero-wind-farms-climate-change-conservative-mps-voters-2465666

<https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA487-1.html>

Emily: In the development of our Climate Adaptation Strategy we stumbled upon issues of language definitions within communities of professionals in this space - for instance mitigation and adaptation have particular usage in the flood management space compared to their usage more generally regarding climate change.

John: Air Quality Ultra low emission zones now experiencing much greater resistance

Jennifer: We have a very similar experience with climate scientist and public health professionals – Rosa: Mitigation is a really unhelpful way of describing NZ work.

Harry: I think mitigation has a pretty much unique definition in climate change

Ben: Luke Kemp was arguing that fear theory could be ok without the need for a strong attached positive angle - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3678850/>

Sara: That is such a good point Rosa. That mitigation is a legacy term...

Emily: It was also which climate adaptation actions were considered 'mitigation' in the flood world by some

Rosa: <https://www.arup.com/perspectives/publications/research/section/exploring-a-health-led-approach-to-infrastructure> Really worth a read...

Ben: One issue here is that the audience for adaptation conversation is totally different to decarbonisation... what are the adaptation audiences key concerns that we can map this work into? How do we speak their language?

Emily: Also, going back to internal stakeholders - how do we best engage our colleagues across departments to share adaptation messaging so that we can target the right messages to the right audiences? Local Authorities have channels to lots of different audiences, it can't just be the climate Rosa: Intrinsic motivation is going to be most successful in creating an adaptive society

Susanna: In the USA they are moving people out of flood plains.

Ben: Professional institutes offer an important angle - IEMA obviously but arguably more importantly non-sustainability focussed networks are taking adaptation more seriously - <https://actuaries.org.uk/emperors-new-climate-scenarios>

Rosa: Building fire brakes in around woodland/moorland near residential areas seems like a logical and pretty straightforward adaptation that should be implemented following the fires from last summer...

Cara: And now councils are having to put in fire breaks to the wildflower areas to prevent fires around council buildings and parks.

Sara: This is so important. If we've lost people before we've even started the conversation because of the language we use that is pretty hopeless - so yes Peter we really need help here. How to communicate around 'whole society resilience' (again horrible jargon) is so important. Different audiences needing different language and different delivery of messages based on behavioural science is probably the way to go - using images / graphics often so helpful.

Rosa: I have been asked by colleagues in Fire Services why we (climate community spokespeople) are promoting more trees being planted when they pose such a risk... Yet we know trees in cities are going to be essential in the future....

Rosa: Really agree with Sara Gibbs - involving colleagues from the Arts will be key too... We need to Ben: <https://www.manchester.ac.uk/discover/news/who-ya-gonna-call-in-event-of-emergency/>

Cara: That's what I was trying to say Sarah - need a variety of ways to communicate the issue and solutions to engage people across the community.

Margaret: Agree. I've recently been involved with helping put together our regions nature partnership conference. We included local poets, including one who wrote a poem during the day about what was being said. Very emotional!

Emily: I think the Belfast example you just gave which outlines their methodology is helpful

Rosa: I think the problem with using vulnerabilities is that the people who are 'vulnerable' might not associate with that or feel it - or welcome that definition.

Alice: In case anyone is interested, there's this organisation in Leeds called SAIL that trains up artistic organisations in being more sustainable for the climate <https://wearesail.org/>

John: <https://www.ukclimateresilience.org/projects/developing-an-urban-heat-resilience-plan-for-bristol/>

Miranda: That is such an important point Rosa about who are your spokespeople and who do people trust. Thinking of what David Attenborough has achieved in terms of the environment, also Chris Packham. High level messages via our public service broadcaster!

Kulpreet: It would be good to have a meeting every 2 months and focus on a specific aspect of Adaptation, the next one being vulnerabilities. I am unsure of how to form subgroups, which sounds interesting.

Emily: If an additional session were to be sooner then an hour would be easier to fit in than a two hour session perhaps? But the trade off is it's harder to get into things in detail.

Miranda: There is so much expertise in this group. I would certainly be interested to know more about what the different organisations are doing to communicate adaptation with their constituents.

Sara: Following on from Moya's message above could there be examples shared of where people have been able to communicate powerfully and with impact (engaging the heart - along the lines that Rosa was talking about) - around the complex system / whole society resilience theme would be excellent I think.