



Institute
and Faculty
of Actuaries

Continuing Professional Development Scheme

RPD Toolkit: Climate Change and Sustainability

Continuing Professional Development Scheme RPD toolkit: Climate change and sustainability

Your Objectives

This document is intended to be used in a Reflective Practice Discussion between a member of the IFoA and their 'appropriate person'. Part of the reflective process is identifying learning objectives and considering how those objectives can be met through activities and other learning opportunities.

To assist in this process the IFoA has created the first in a series of RPD toolkits to allow you to explore an area in your Reflective Practice Discussion and consider whether you should learn more about that area.

This toolkit poses a number of questions for the discussion. There is a note of topics that are recommended by fellow practitioners, and sources of learning to allow you to build your knowledge. At the end of your discussion we hope you will have identified an objective to learn more about the area and the means by which you can do so.

Climate Change and Sustainability

The IFoA considers climate change to be one of the greatest risks facing our world today. Mitigating this risk is urgent. Future outcomes are uncertain, and we need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions today to avoid the irreversible consequences of unmitigated climate change tomorrow. As a result all IFoA members are encouraged to learn more about this area and consider how it affects their work.

Questions for your Reflective Practice Discussion

- Have you reflected upon the IFoA 2022 [risk alert](#), The Emperor's New Climate Scenarios [report](#) and [Climate Scorpion – the sting is in the tail](#) about climate change and sustainability related issues? What areas of your practice came to mind? Did you identify any potential gaps in your knowledge and skill set?
- Do you feel confident in your knowledge of climate science and risk?
- Do you know what the 2015 Paris Agreement's central aim is?
- Would you like to learn more about regulatory expectations in relation to financial risks from climate change?
- Are you familiar with the IFoA practical guides available to support you in how to include sustainability issues into your work?
- Have you thought about the tools being developed to quantify and manage society's impact on the environment work?
- Have you considered how systems thinking can help our financial systems

deliver more sustainably for society and the planet?

- Do you know about universal owners? This is where large asset owners are exposed to system-wide risks.

Topics to learn about

This list of topics has been recommended by IFoA members as a place to start or develop your knowledge in the area of climate change and sustainability.

- Climate change – science and risk
- Climate change – 2015 Paris Agreement
- Climate change – regulatory expectations
- IFoA practical guides to support you on sustainability issues
- Biodiversity and justice
- Systems thinking
- Universal owners

Sources of learning

On the [IFoA website](#) you will find sections covering each of the "Topics to learn about" listed above, as well as a wealth of other information.

We encourage you to explore the [Climate Change Curated Library](#) and discuss it with your colleagues and peers. It captures a great deal of highly useful content and can assist you in your self-directed learning. For up-to-date articles on Climate Change, check out the [Climate Change Blog](#).

A range of communications are organised by the Sustainability Board. Click [here](#) to sign up to the Sustainable Finance Newsletter.

In 2021, the IFoA issued a [climate change statement](#) supporting a transition to the global economy to have net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

In 2022, the IFoA issued a [risk alert](#) about the need to consider appropriately the impact of climate change and sustainability related issues in actuarial work.

The IFoA host a number of events every year on the topics in this area, so keep an eye on the [Events Page](#)

The below relevant articles may be of interest:

- [Exxon Mobil's Lawsuit Against its Shareholders: A Cautionary Tale](#)
- [Exxon CEO Woods' message to future shareholder activists: follow the rules](#)
- [Exxon vs Calpers: Inside the clash over shareholder rights and fiduciary duty](#)
- [US Climate Disclosure Advances Amid ESG Pushback](#)
- [Unbundling Climate Change Risk from ESG](#)

Disclaimer: The IFoA has no affiliation with any of the external resources listed above. They are mentioned as a reference point for further information you may find helpful. The IFoA cannot accept any responsibility or liability arising from a decision by you to use any of these external resources.



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