

EAUC-Scotland Conference

The Elephants in the Room

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Adapting to the Changing Climate Workshop Notes

Anna Beswick, Adaptation Scotland

The importance to assess and measure risk by determining organisations' ability to deliver climate adaptation through:

- 1. Organisational culture and resources
- Commit resources to progress adaptation
- Fit adaptation with overall governance arrangements and have clear project governance that allows it to deliver change
- Recognise and empower individuals who can lead the way in an organisation through clear leadership
- Try new approaches and improve procedures, strategies and actions while recognising that the landscape may change as adaptation progresses

SLIDO: 69% of session attendees considered that adaptation fits in their organisations' strategic objectives.

- 2. Understanding the challenge
- Build an understanding of climate change and different approaches to adaptation
- Gain evidence base to inform decision-making in an organisation and ensure that it informs climate change risk assessment
- Connect with external expertise to fill knowledge gaps and drive innovation

SLIDO: 46% of session attendees said that their institution has evaluated how climate change can affect them.

- 3. Planning and implementation
- Set a clear vision and long-term outcomes to guide planning while looking at the bigger picture to envisage opportunities
- Develop an evidence-based appraisal process to select options that can help achieve strategic adaptation outcomes
- An organisation can build momentum by taking action, therefore there is a need to reflect, monitor and evaluate actions to ensure these are efficient

SLIDO: 67% of session attendees indicated that their organisations have identified key internal stakeholders to address adaptation practices.

- 4. Working together
- Engage with relevant groups, forums and partnerships where adaptation is appropriate within their remit
- Agree roles, responsibilities, formalise partnership arrangements and funding allocations
- Well-planned and inclusive engagement can allow for adjustment of plans
- Build collaborative relationships by taking action and agree resources for initial activities.

Stewart Miller, University of Glasgow

- An overview of the future climate change in West of Scotland is predicted to include hotter and drier summers, sea level rising, extreme rainfall and storms
- Actions to mitigate the risks include planting more trees, having less concrete and introducing other energy efficient measures
- Future climate risks are diverse and relate to built environment, natural environment, and university community
- It was outlined how existent resources (Adaptation Capability Framework, EAUC Adaptation Guide) are useful to develop an adaptation plan
- Important tips included: highlighting crossovers and co-benefits and work in partnership