



Call for expressions of interest for the establishment of Thematic Expert Groups supporting the second European Climate Risk Assessment

About the call

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is launching a call for expressions of interest to establish a series of **Thematic Expert Groups (TEGs)** supporting the development of the [second European Climate Risk Assessment](#) (EUCRA-2).

EUCRA-2 is the European Union's flagship assessment of climate risks and adaptation challenges. Building on the first European Climate Risk Assessment, published in 2024, EUCRA-2 will provide an updated assessment of major climate risks facing Europe, analyse adaptation options and policy readiness, and identify priorities for action to strengthen climate resilience across the EU.

The Thematic Expert Groups will bring together specialists from science, policy, practice, public institutions, the private sector and civil society to contribute knowledge, evidence and perspectives throughout the assessment process. Members of the community will have the opportunity to broaden their network and collaborate with high level experts from the public and private sectors throughout Europe.

Members of the Thematic Expert Groups are regarded as **knowledge co-producers rather than consultees**. The TEGs will inform the evidence base, analyses and interpretation of findings underpinning EUCRA-2, helping to ensure that the



assessment reflects the latest scientific knowledge, policy developments and practical experience from across Europe.

The contribution of Thematic Expert Group members will be acknowledged in the final EUCRA-2 report package.

Background

The European Environment Agency published the first European Climate Risk Assessment (EUCRA-1) in 2024. It identified and assessed 36 major climate risks for Europe and provided an assessment of the urgency to act on these risks.

EUCRA-1 has subsequently informed EU and national policy processes, including the European Commission Communication [*Managing climate risks – protecting people and prosperity*](#). Both the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament have called for regular science-based climate risk assessments for Europe.

The EEA has therefore been tasked by the European Commission with preparing the second European Climate Risk Assessment.

EUCRA-2 builds on the experience of EUCRA-1 while introducing several important developments. These include:

- an expanded thematic scope;
- stronger consideration of complex, cascading and systemic climate risks;
- a stronger regional and just-resilience perspective;
- a substantially increased focus on adaptation solutions and the conditions enabling their implementation;
- enhanced analysis of policy readiness and risk ownership;
- improved links between climate-risk information and decision-making; and
- substantially enhanced stakeholder involvement throughout the assessment.

EUCRA-2 goes beyond a traditional climate risk assessment by linking the assessment of climate risks with analysis of adaptation and the policy and governance conditions that enable action ('the solutions space'). Together, these elements will inform the assessment of urgency to act and the identification of priorities for action at EU level.



The core EUCRA-2 output will be an EEA report, including an Executive Summary, supported by a series of more detailed thematic and technical reports. EUCRA-2 is expected to be published in 2028.

Why Thematic Expert Groups are being established

EUCRA-2 is based on the principle that a robust and useful climate risk assessment requires the integration of different types of knowledge.

Alongside scientific literature, modelling and quantitative evidence, the assessment will draw on policy expertise, practitioner knowledge, operational experience and other relevant evidence. This is particularly important for understanding complex and cascading risks, identifying barriers to adaptation, examining governance and risk ownership, and assessing how potential solutions work in practice.

The Thematic Expert Groups are therefore being established as part of the EUCRA-2 approach to stakeholder engagement.

They will provide targeted scientific, technical, policy and operational expertise to inform the analysis of specific systems and policy areas. Their purpose is to strengthen the sector-specific evidence base, solutions analysis and policy perspectives needed for the thematic reports underpinning the main EUCRA-2 report.

What will the Thematic Expert Groups do?

Thematic Expert Group members may be invited to contribute to different elements of the EUCRA-2 assessment according to their expertise and the needs of the relevant thematic area.

Contributions may include:

- helping to refine the scope and framing of the thematic assessment;
- identifying important climate risks, vulnerabilities, interdependencies and potential cascading impacts;
- identifying relevant scientific evidence, datasets, reports, projects, case studies and other sources of knowledge, including relevant grey literature and practitioner knowledge;
- contributing knowledge on climatic and non-climatic drivers of risk;
- informing the identification and understanding of risk ownership and governance responsibilities;



- contributing evidence and practical experience concerning adaptation options and their risk-reduction potential;
- helping to identify barriers, implementation gaps, enabling conditions and potential levers for adaptation;
- contributing to the analysis of interactions, synergies, trade-offs and potential maladaptation across adaptation measures;
- providing insight into relevant policies and the policy context surrounding particular climate risks;
- contributing to the understanding of regional and social differences in climate risks and resilience;
- commenting on assumptions and emerging analytical findings;
- participating in workshops or other exchanges concerning emerging findings and potential priorities for action; and
- where relevant, providing input on the usability and communication of thematic findings.

The exact nature of the contribution will vary between groups and over the course of the assessment. Engagement may take place through group workshops, smaller thematic or cross-sector discussions, interviews, surveys, written exchanges and targeted requests for evidence or expert input.

The EEA may also contact individual members or smaller subgroups where specialised expertise is particularly relevant to a specific analytical question.

Thematic areas

Experts may express an interest in contributing to one or more thematic areas corresponding to the systems assessed in EUCRA-2. Themes are grouped according to five clusters, with one TEG per cluster.

The five clusters are:

1. **Natural ecosystems and ecosystem services**

- Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- Marine and coastal ecosystems

2. **Food systems and bioeconomy**



- Food system (agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture)
- Bioeconomy (including biomass and fibre provision)
- 3. Infrastructure, built environment and related services**
- Water (supply and wastewater management)
- Energy
- Transport and mobility
- Housing and built environment
- 4. Health and wellbeing**
- Human health, healthcare infrastructure and services
- 5. Industry, services and finance**
- Industry, tourism and business
- Finance and insurance

Because EUCRA-2 places particular emphasis on interconnected and systemic climate risks, experts with knowledge spanning several systems or sectors are also encouraged to apply.

The final organisation and composition of the groups may be adjusted according to the needs of the assessment.

Who we are looking for

The EEA welcomes expressions of interest from experts with relevant knowledge and experience from across Europe and, where appropriate, beyond.

We are particularly interested in:

- scientists and researchers;
- expert practitioners;
- representatives of public authorities and specialised public agencies;
- representatives of relevant European agencies, international organisations and other public bodies;



- experts working on climate risk, adaptation and resilience;
- potential climate risk owners;
- policy and sector specialists;
- industry and private-sector experts with relevant expertise;
- representatives of non-governmental organisations and think tanks; and
- other professionals with relevant technical, operational, policy or implementation expertise.

Applicants do not need to be climate scientists. The purpose of the groups is to bring together complementary forms of expertise. Depending on the thematic area, relevant experience may include sectoral operations, infrastructure management, public administration, regulation, planning, finance, risk management, adaptation implementation, social policy, environmental management or other fields relevant to understanding and managing climate risks.

Expertise derived from practical implementation and operational experience is particularly welcome alongside academic and scientific expertise.

Selection of members

The EEA intends to establish focused expert groups that allow for meaningful and effective exchange.

Thematic Expert Group members will be selected primarily on the basis of:

- the relevance and depth of their expertise and experience in one or more of the thematic or cross-cutting areas covered by EUCRA-2;
- the relevance of their knowledge to climate risks, adaptation, resilience, policy, governance or implementation;
- their ability to contribute scientific, technical, policy, operational or practitioner knowledge relevant to the assessment; and
- the relevance of their expertise to the specific knowledge needs of individual Thematic Expert Groups.

In determining the final composition of the groups, the EEA will also seek an appropriate balance of expertise and perspectives. This may include consideration of professional and institutional backgrounds, diversity of perspectives and experience, thematic coverage and geographical representation.



The aim is to bring together complementary perspectives from research, public administration, policy, practice, the private sector and civil society rather than to establish groups representing particular institutional or sectoral positions.

The number and composition of individual groups will depend on the expertise required and the applications received. The current working assumption is approximately **15 members per thematic group**.

Submitting an expression of interest does not guarantee appointment to a Thematic Expert Group. The EEA may also contact applicants or other experts for targeted contributions where their expertise is relevant to a particular aspect of EUCRA-2.

Operating model and expected contribution

The Thematic Expert Groups will be convened and coordinated by the EEA as part of the EUCRA-2 assessment process.

The groups are expected to begin their work from **December 2026** and to remain engaged, as required, through approximately **March 2028**.

Engagement is expected to be concentrated around key stages of the assessment.

Indicatively, these include:

Thematic scoping and evidence-base development – late 2026/early 2027

Experts may be invited to contribute to structured interviews, surveys, written exchanges or group discussions to help refine thematic scope, identify key risks, evidence sources, data and knowledge gaps, policy issues and potential adaptation options.

Knowledge co-production and analytical development – 2027

Experts may contribute to workshops, interviews, targeted written input or smaller-group exchanges as the risk, adaptation and policy analyses develop. This may include contributing to impact chains, risk drivers, risk ownership, policy readiness, adaptation options, enabling conditions and systemic interactions.

Review and prioritisation of emerging findings – 2027

Groups may be convened to examine emerging findings and contribute to workshops addressing their robustness, relevance and usability, including emerging priorities for action.

Preparation for publication and dissemination – early 2028



Members may be invited to reflect on the presentation and usability of key findings and opportunities for their effective dissemination and uptake.

These engagement points are indicative. The precise timing, format and frequency of engagement will depend on the needs of each thematic area and may evolve as the EUCRA-2 assessment progresses.

Most activities are expected to take place online. Where appropriate and resources permit, in-person meetings or workshops may also be organised.

The overall expected commitment is **up to approximately 32 hours per member over the period December 2026 to March 2028**. This time will not be remunerated. Travel expenses and per diem is available for attending meetings in person.

Recognition of contributions

The contribution of Thematic Expert Group members will be formally recognised through acknowledgement in the final EUCRA-2 report package.

The EEA will maintain appropriate records of expert contributions as part of the EUCRA-2 approach to transparency and traceability.

Participation in a Thematic Expert Group does not automatically constitute authorship of EUCRA-2 reports or other outputs.

How to express your interest

Experts interested in joining a EUCRA-2 Thematic Expert Group are invited to submit an expression of interest using the dedicated online application form:

[LINK TO APPLICATION FORM](#)

Applicants will be asked to provide information concerning their professional background, areas of expertise and experience relevant to EUCRA-2, and the thematic area or areas to which they are interested in contributing.

Applicants should provide sufficient information to enable the EEA to assess the relevance of their expertise to the thematic groups.

The deadline for submitting an expression of interest is:

13 November 2026 at 23:59 CET

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.



Notification of the outcome

Following the closing date, the EEA will review expressions of interest and determine the composition of the individual Thematic Expert Groups.

Applicants will be informed of the outcome by email using the contact details provided in their expression of interest.

Notification will take place in early December 2026.

The first activities of the Thematic Expert Groups are expected to begin from **December 2026**.

The EEA reserves the possibility of contacting suitable applicants at a later stage if additional or specialised expertise is required during the assessment.

Indicative timeline

Publication of the call: 10 October 2026

Deadline for expressions of interest: 13 November 2026, 23:59 CET

Selection and notification of experts: 10 December 2026

Establishment and first activities of Thematic Expert Groups: from December 2026

Main period of engagement: December 2026 – March 2028

Publication of EUCRA-2: 2028

The timetable is indicative and may be adjusted according to the progress and requirements of the EUCRA-2 assessment.

Further information and inquiries

Questions concerning this call or the submission process can be sent to:

EUCRA@eea.europa.eu

Please include **“EUCRA-2 Thematic Expert Groups”** in the subject line.