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Dear Angela,

Summer brings a quieter atmosphere in Cambridge as most students head away, but here at the Centre for Climate Engagement it's a time of renewal as we welcome a group of bright and committed interns. Their fresh energy carries into projects ranging from local policy research and SME support to expanding our Law and Climate Atlas, and their contributions make a real difference. As autumn settles in and we say goodbye to this year's cohort, I've been reflecting on the breadth of work that CCE has carried forward over the past quarter.



One highlight for me was speaking at the ESG Forum in Seoul, where I joined city leaders, academics and investors to explore how ESG principles can strengthen urban competitiveness and resilience. It was a vivid reminder that while national frameworks are vital, it is often in cities and local communities that the real levers of climate action are found. This is a perspective that continues to shape our work at CCE.

As you'll see in this edition, our projects and partnerships continue to span local, national, and international levels, all with the same purpose: to strengthen climate governance and equip leaders to turn ambition into action.

A few of our achievements this quarter include:

- A policy briefing on the implications of the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) July 2025 advisory opinion on states' climate obligations.
- A paper for the British Academy called *Aligning local and national governance for Net Zero – what is the potential for Locally Determined Contributions?*
- A blog on Labour's first year in government: Where does climate policy stand?
- A closed-door dinner co-hosted with Nasdaq which brought together senior board members to discuss climate engagement.
- A new report by Tina Mavraki, and a roundtable discussion exploring corporate culture and the net zero transition in banks.

Please do read on to find out more about our recent work.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dr Paul Jefferiss
Director, Centre for Climate Engagement

Creating Resources

Making climate finance work



Excitement is building for the first issue of our new open access journal on Corporate Climate Governance, to be published by Cambridge University Press in early 2026. In the meantime, we launched a call for papers for the second issue, which will focus on sustainable finance.

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Consultation on voluntary carbon and nature markets



CCE submitted a response to the UK Government's consultation on voluntary carbon and nature markets, helping to clarify and test proposals for a new governance framework.

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UK climate policy briefing



As knowledge partner for Chapter Zero, CCE prepared a policy briefing highlighting key UK climate policy developments from April to September 2025, with relevance for non-executive directors (NEDs).

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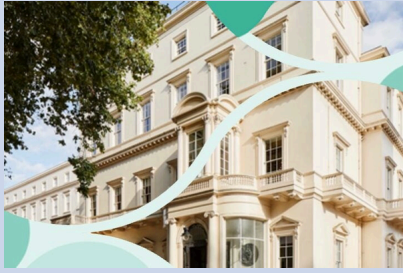
International Court of Justice's advisory opinion



A new policy briefing by Nick Scott and Aastha Kapoor explores the implications of the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) July 2025 advisory opinion on states' climate obligations.

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Joined-up Climate Governance with the British Academy



CCE wrote a provocation paper for the British Academy, published as part of a new series on governance and net zero. The topic will be explored further at an upcoming roundtable, *Joined-up Climate Governance: Connecting National Strategy to Local Delivery*:

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Convening

Leadership Insight: Culture meets climate

Tina Mavraki's latest report and roundtable event explored why corporate culture is critical for banks in the net zero transition, offering tools to help strengthen performance and resilience.



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Climate strategy dinner with Nasdaq

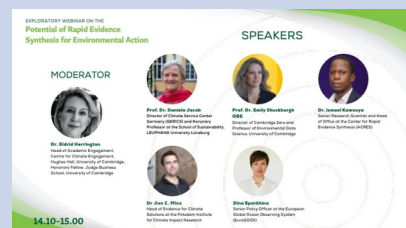
CCE partnered with Nasdaq to host a closed-door dinner in July, bringing together senior board members for candid discussion on the evolving role of boards in climate engagement.



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Panel on Rapid Evidence Synthesis

During London Climate Action Week 2025, Dr Eldrid Herrington, Head of Academic Engagement, moderated a panel on how Rapid Evidence Synthesis can improve environmental decision-making. The event report captures key takeaways.



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UN Climate Change High-Level Champions' campaign for climate-proofing SMEs

Ahead of COP30, CCE is supporting the UN Climate Change High-Level Champions' campaign for climate-proofing SMEs by building an academic network, and gathering global academic expertise.

Small and Medium Enterprises make up half of the global economy.

Achieving a just transition to a resilient, net zero future is not possible without them.

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Q&A with an Academic Engagement Intern

The SME project was supported by intern Maureen Abel, who shared her literature review and experience at CCE in this Q&A on our website.



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Communicating

ESG and Urban Competitiveness: The Social Responsibility of City Governments



Dr Paul Jefferiss delivered a keynote at the Seoul ESG Forum on 24 September 2025, titled *ESG and Urban Competitiveness: The Social Responsibility of City Governments*. His address highlighted how cities can lead in embedding ESG principles to tackle climate change and enhance sustainability.

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Interview with Cambridge Hoffmann Fellow in Global Climate Governance



CCE's spotlight interview series continues to explore the role of law in climate action. This summer, we featured Jessica Crow, Cambridge Hoffmann Fellow in Global Climate Governance with the World Economic Forum and Hughes Hall.

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Labour's first year in government: Where does climate policy stand?



Sofie Surraco wrote a blog on Labour's first year in government: Where does climate policy stand? She reflects on the progress to date and highlights where further, more strategic action is urgently needed to tackle the 'stickier' challenges in climate policy.

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Thanks to 11 Interns 2025



We welcomed eleven interns in summer 2025, the fourth year of our internship scheme. With nearly 100 applications, the cohort brought expertise from diverse disciplines and countries, making a lasting impact through their climate-focused projects.

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