

Call for Partnerships

2026



Engagement on Corporate Climate Governance

Why this moment matters

Corporate climate governance has become one of the most decisive arenas of climate action. Yet most companies lack the governance systems and the support of policy frameworks to transform commitments into results. Questions of board responsibility, fiduciary duty, regulation, disclosure, accountability, geopolitical pressure and public legitimacy are being debated in parallel, often without a shared evidence base.

At the same time, the field of corporate climate governance remains dispersed

across disciplines. Legal scholars, economists, political scientists, management researchers and practitioners often work in silos, while policymakers and business leaders struggle to access insights that are both rigorous and pragmatic.

The Engagement Programme at the Centre for Climate Engagement (CCE) exists to address this fragmentation. It creates trusted spaces where research, practice and policy can meet, through a curated series of in-person and online activities designed to cultivate an evolving global community of practice.

This programme responds directly to a central challenge of the climate transition: without stronger governance, climate ambition will not translate into durable action.

“Corporate climate governance is now one of the defining challenges of the climate transition. Yet progress depends on shared understanding across disciplines, sectors and regions – not fragmented debate. The Centre's Engagement Programme exists to bring rigour, openness and global perspective into this field, ensuring that research and practice evolve together to support more effective climate governance.”

*Dr Paul Jefferiss, Director,
Centre for Climate Engagement*



What the Engagement Programme does

The Engagement Programme builds the infrastructure and global networks for the field of corporate climate governance. By connecting industry practitioners with leading scholars, the programme aims to shape corporate climate governance as a coherent, globally informed domain of inquiry and practice.

It does this by:

- Convening interdisciplinary and cross-sector communities over time
- Identifying emerging questions that matter to real-world decision-makers
- Supporting rigorous, open-access knowledge production
- Creating pathways between academic insight and corporate, regulatory and policy practice

The programme brings together academics, regulators, investors, legal professionals, business leaders, international organisations and civil society actors, with a particular emphasis on global diversity and inclusion.

Programme structure

The programme is delivered through two mutually reinforcing strands:

1. Corporate Climate Governance Engagement Series

The Engagement Series convenes high-level dialogues, workshops and conferences that bring together leading thinkers and practitioners from around the world. These events are designed not only to share research but to test ideas against real-world constraints, surface unresolved governance challenges, and identify areas where further research or guidance is needed.

Since 2023, the Series has engaged more than 1,500 participants across six continents, creating a trusted space for interdisciplinary exchange on issues such as climate finance, corporate accountability, geopolitics, just transition and emerging technologies.

2. Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance

Insights generated through the Engagement Series are fed directly into the Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance, a global, peer-reviewed, open-access journal published by Cambridge University Press. Wholly open access and created as a platform for public good, the Forum promotes the gathering and active dissemination of climate knowledge without barriers to all audiences across the world. The Forum's global reach and credibility is reflected in its leadership. The Editors-In-Chief team comprises exceptional academics from leading institutions from across the world: American University in Cairo, University of Cambridge, University of Pennsylvania, Harvard Kennedy School, and Singapore Management University. Regional editors covering a range of disciplines and geographies are appointed from Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania and North America.

Together, these strands create a continuous cycle: engagement informs scholarship; scholarship informs practice; practice raises new questions for engagement.

Flagship Initiative: The Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance

At the heart of the Engagement Programme sits its flagship initiative, the Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance — a global, peer-reviewed, open-access journal published in partnership with Cambridge University Press.

The Forum provides a durable platform for advancing understanding of corporate climate governance as a field of research and practice. Multidisciplinary and global, all articles are written in plain language and published as Gold Open Access to promote dissemination of vital climate knowledge. Unlike most academic journals, the Forum is

intentionally created for both scholars and practitioners. Each thematic issue is aimed at bridging disciplines and sectors, bringing together a mix of perspectives from leading academics, industry practitioners, and policymakers.

As the programme's flagship, the Journal anchors the wider engagement activity: insights generated through convenings inform editorial direction, while published work feeds back into policy dialogue, professional practice and further research. Together, they ensure that the Engagement Programme delivers not only conversation, but lasting intellectual and practical impact.



Strategic focus

The Engagement Programme is aimed at building and strengthening corporate climate governance as a coherent, globally informed field of research and practice. Rather than addressing corporate climate action through isolated issues or subjects, the programme gathers expert insight from across disciplines to examine at the system level of how governance structures are impeding or enabling effective climate decision making.

The programme's strategic priorities reflect areas where governance questions are both urgent and under-developed. These include climate finance and capital allocation, geopolitical pressures on corporate decision-making, the implications of climate action for human rights and a just transition, the governance of energy, water and nature, and the rapidly evolving role of technology and artificial intelligence. Crucially, the programme approaches these themes in combination, recognising that corporate climate governance operates within complex systems shaped by law, markets, politics and social expectations. By sustaining interdisciplinary engagement over time, the programme helps move the field beyond fragmented debate toward more integrated, evidence-based understanding.

What the programme delivers

Through sustained programme-level investment, the Engagement Programme delivers outcomes that extend well beyond individual events or publications.

First, it cultivates a global community of practice. The programme provides continuity in an environment often characterised by short-term and siloed initiatives, enabling scholars and practitioners to build shared language, trust and cumulative knowledge across disciplines and regions.

Second, it delivers open, credible knowledge for public benefit. Through the Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance and related outputs, the programme ensures that high-quality research is accessible to those shaping real-world decisions, regardless of geography or funding circumstances.

Third, it delivers pathways from research to practice. By connecting academic insight directly to corporate leaders, regulators, investors and policymakers, the programme helps ensure that governance research informs standards, guidance and decision-making processes.

Finally, the programme delivers capacity building and inclusion. Particular emphasis is placed on supporting early-career researchers and contributors from underrepresented regions, strengthening the diversity and resilience of the field over time.

Together, these outcomes position the programme as an enabling infrastructure for better corporate climate governance.

Impact to date

Since its launch, the Engagement Programme has begun to shape corporate climate governance as a coherent field of inquiry and practice, building momentum across academia, policy and the private sector.

Building a global, interdisciplinary community

The programme has convened a rapidly growing international network of scholars and practitioners working on corporate climate governance. Since 2023, more than 1,500 participants from universities, financial institutions, regulatory bodies, international organisations and civil society have engaged through conferences, workshops and roundtables. High profile individuals representing stock exchanges, leading academic institutions, city councils and multilateral platforms have discussed and contributed through the programme's activities. This sustained engagement has helped break down disciplinary silos and establish shared language across fields.

Establishing a durable knowledge infrastructure

Through the launch of the Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance in partnership with Cambridge University Press, the programme has created a permanent, open-access platform for advancing research and practice. The Forum has attracted submissions from across five continents, established a globally representative editorial board, and begun the publication process on thematic work such as the state of corporate climate governance around the world, climate finance and more.

The Forum is distinct from the Series, with participants in the Series not required to publish in the Forum and the Forum receiving submissions from outside the Series. However, these are two complementary strands of work in a virtuous loop: engagement through the Series informs scholarship and material themes to be explored more deeply through the Forum, while the evidence-based insights from the Forum adds fresh ideas and contributors for meaningful engagement in the Series.

Connecting research with real-world decision making

The programme has created pathways between academic insight and practice by engaging regulators, investors, legal professionals and corporate leaders alongside researchers. The Centre has led more than 40 convenings between 2023 and 2025, with participants and co-organisers from organisations including NASDAQ, LSEG, Singapore Management University, University of Oxford, and stakeholder groups such as civil servants, asset managers, regulators, and academic leaders. Insights generated through engagement activities are informing emerging debates on corporate responsibility, disclosure, governance and accountability, helping ensure that governance frameworks evolve on the basis of evidence rather than fragmented pressure.

Supporting inclusion and future leadership

A core strand of the programme's impact is its emphasis on inclusion and capacity building. The programme has brought together participants from China, Kenya, Uzbekistan, Nigeria, Indonesia and many other countries through the Series. The Forum's Gold Open Access and waiver policy ensures that unfunded authors face no financial barrier to publication. Particular attention has been devoted to supporting early-career researchers and contributors from underrepresented regions, strengthening the diversity and resilience of the field over time.

Together, these impacts demonstrate the programme's role as an enabling platform for better corporate climate governance, laying foundations that allow research, policy and practice to evolve together.

Why partner with CCE

Partnering with the Centre for Climate Engagement offers a unique opportunity to support the intellectual and institutional foundations of corporate climate governance.

CCE is embedded within Hughes Hall and the University of Cambridge, giving it access to world-leading academic expertise alongside a clear mandate for real-world engagement. As a Bridge Initiative, the Centre is explicitly designed to connect scholarship with practice, and to convene diverse communities around complex governance challenges.

CCE also provides a trusted, neutral platform. Its independence from commercial or advocacy agendas allows it to bring together participants who might not otherwise engage, and to host dialogue that is rigorous, open and constructive. This credibility is particularly important in a field where climate governance debates are increasingly politicised and contested.

For partners, supporting CCE means investing in a programme that values evidence, openness and long-term impact. It offers association with a respected academic institution, meaningful engagement with emerging thinking, and the opportunity to contribute to shaping a field that will influence corporate behaviour for decades to come.

Partnership: Value and engagement

Partnership in the Engagement Programme is an opportunity to support the infrastructure of corporate climate governance as a global public good. Partners enable:

- The development of an open, interdisciplinary field connecting research and practice.
- Enhanced dissemination of insight through the Cambridge Forum on Corporate Climate Governance and its Gold Open Access policy
- Inclusive global participation, particularly from underrepresented regions and early-career scholars, through paid internships, financial support for attending Series events, and tailored advice for contributing to the Forum.
- Sustained dialogue between academics, policymakers, investors and corporate leaders, demonstrated through the 40+ convenings from 2023 and 2025, ranging from closed-door roundtables to public and livestreamed panel discussions.

Partners benefit from:

- Association with the University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Press
- Direct access to emerging research and material debates shaping corporate climate governance
- Opportunities for substantive engagement through select Series initiatives and complimentary passes to events
- Recognition as an enabling partner, aligned with academic and professional norms, with logo recognition on the programme's webpages and promotional materials
- Opportunity to provide input and curate a Special Issue in the Forum, subject to independent peer review

All partnerships respect the independence of academic and editorial processes.

Partnership support

Programme-level partnership provides the stable foundation required to sustain and grow the Engagement Programme over time.

Support enables core coordination and leadership across the programme, including community building, editorial capacity for the Journal, open-access publishing, convening activity, and initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion. It also allows the programme to respond flexibly to emerging governance challenges and research questions as the field evolves.

Partnership is structured to respect the independence of academic and editorial processes, while offering partners transparency, recognition and engagement. Programme partners are invited to participate in strategic discussions, attend key events, and receive tailored reporting on reach, diversity and impact.

Above all, partnership enables the programme to function as a public-interest platform, ensuring that knowledge on corporate climate governance remains accessible, globally inclusive and practically relevant at a critical moment for the climate transition.

Contact

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