

**Country: United Kingdom**

**Committee: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

**Topic: Climate Crisis Adaptation and Resilience**

The United Kingdom is conscious of the seriousness of the climate crisis and aware of its potential risks for global communities. Our government is committed to environmental stewardship and sustainable development. We deeply understand the implications of climate change for our society, economy and planet. The scientific measurements show there are unprecedented changes in our climate system. The United Kingdom confronts the challenges of climate change.

In 2022 the UK recorded the warmest year on record with temperatures reaching over 40°C. With the increase of the temperature by 2070 we project winters are between 1 and 4.5°C warmer, winters are up to 30% wetter, summers are between 1 and 6°C warmer, summers are up to 60% drier, hot summer days are between 4 and 7°C warmer. More than five million houses in the UK are under flood risk. These changes in the climate can cause risk to water supplies, local flooding and flooding in coastal regions, damage marine ecosystems and associated failure of fisheries, loss of biodiversity, heat stress, affecting human health and habitability, increased risk of wildfires, food insecurity.

Under the Climate Change Act 2008, the UK is legally required to adapt to climate change. The government is required to produce a “Climate Change Risk Assessment” (CCRA) to identify risks and a five-yearly “National Adaptation Program” (NAP) setting out how it will address these risks. The CCRA comprises the statutory advice commissioned by the UK Government and devolved administrations and provided by the CCC’s adaptation sub-committee. The first CCRA was published in 2012 and the third CCRA (CCRA3) was published in 2022 and sets out risks and opportunities. Sixty-one total risks and opportunities were listed in CCRA3. National Adaptation Program (NAP) sets out the actions that are required to adapt to the challenges of climate change in the UK. The third NAP (NAP3) was published in 2023. NAP3 points out actions on five issues; infrastructure, natural environment, health and communities, business and industry, international dimensions (including trade, food, human mobility and violent conflict, law and governance, international financial and international health) We are building new flood defences to protect against rising sea levels, planning for more green spaces in urban areas to help keep them cool and planting more drought-resistant crops and building infrastructure that can withstand expected climate impacts such as extreme heat and flooding. The United Kingdom is the first major economy targeting net-zero emissions by 2050 and signatory to the Paris agreement that aims to limit global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius. We are determined to collaborate with partners around the globe to safeguard our planet for a better future.

References:

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/climate-change/climate-change-in-the-uk#how-will-climate-change-affect-the-uk>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/climate-change-explained#impacts-of-climate-change>

Climate change adaptation and resilience in the UK, Research Briefing, House of Commons, 27 March 2024

## The Third National Adaptation Program (NAP3) and the Fourth Strategy for Climate Adaptation Reporting