European Perceptions of Climate Change (*EPCC*) Survey Project – Climate Friendly Design

Nick Pidgeon (EPCC Co-ordinator)
Cardiff University UK
Understanding Risk Research Group and Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

zirius Center for Interdisciplinary Risk and Innovation Studies

SYMLOG

Understanding Risk

Cardiff University / Prifysgol Caerdydd

Background

- Response to Joint Program Initiative JPI-Climate call which asked for research on public perceptions of climate change

- Individual research councils/national agencies (not EU)
- 1.2M€ over 2 years

- Major comparative survey - 4 countries

- Call asked teams to take into account ‘Climate Friendly’ research

Aims of the Survey

- **(EPCC will) provide the first theoretically-grounded, systematic comparison of the individual and socio-political drivers of climate change and energy perceptions at the European level**

We will seek to meet the following four objectives:

1) **Conduct directly comparable nationally representative surveys of public opinion (our core objective) – UK, France, Germany, Norway.**
2) **Carry out in-depth analyses of the socio-political context in each participating nation (to inform the survey design).**
3) **Convene and engage with an innovative international stakeholder panel (co-construct the survey, socio-political analyses and disseminate findings).**
4) **Produce and disseminate (in collaboration with stakeholder panel) a series of recommendations for public engagement at the national and European level.**

JPI-Climate Call Stated -

Climate-friendly Climate Research

Outline how the project will take into account the JPI Climate sustainability principle:

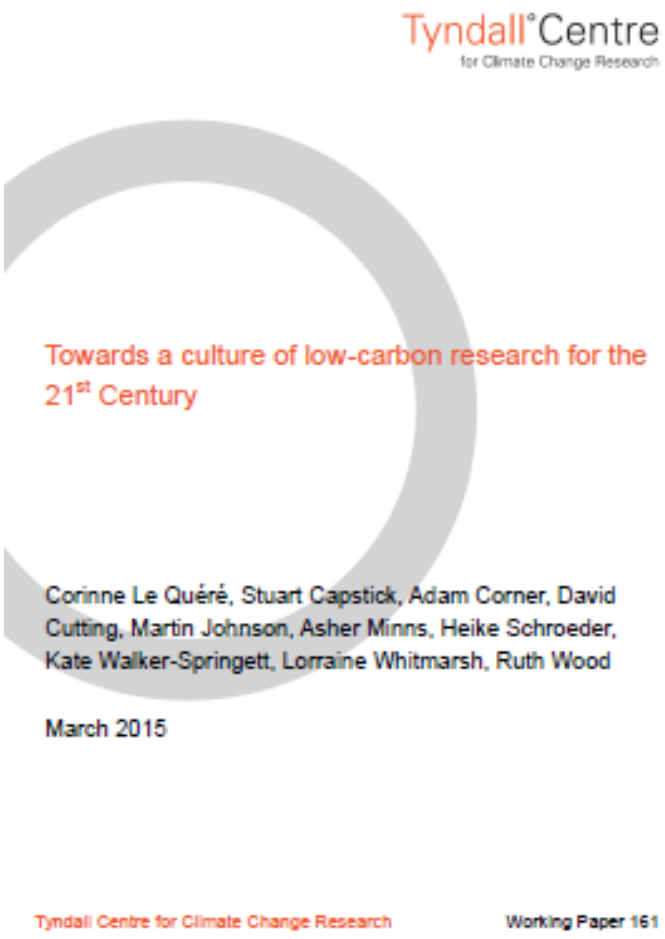
Clarify how the consortium does take into account and seeks to minimize its own climate footprint and contribute to a climate-friendly research system, e.g. in terms of (virtual) meetings, travels and energy use (please consult the guidance document on “climate-friendly climate research” on the JPI CLIMATE website).

Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and describe potential solutions, if appropriate.

Travel Dilemmas for EPCC

- **Main footprint issue would be European flights**
- **5 Physical Locations Cardiff, Oxford (UK), Paris (FR), Stuttgart (DE), Bergen (NO) involving both:**
  - **Research Team Members (10)**
  - **and Stakeholder Advisory Panel members (12)**
- **Need for at least full 3 face-to-face Consortium Meetings, and 2 Stakeholder Advisory Panels, and 1 Dissemination Meeting**
- **Holding Meetings at host institution – 'Host Institution Model' – would be costly in terms of European Flights**

Tyndall Centre Travel Policy (Working Paper 161)



- Tyndall academics fly 2.3 times per year compared to .5 times per annum 'business' average!
- Carbon offsets do not address the issue of researcher credibility or (arguably) emissions
- Test against need for travel and availability of alternatives (esp. European research).

Table 2. Emissions factors used in the conversion of the emissions from the hours travelled to the $kgCO_{2e}$. The $Emissions_{norm}$ (Equation 1) is shown in the last column.

Transport Mode	Km / hour[1]	Wh /pkm[2]	gCO_{2e} /wh[3]	$kgCO_{2e}$ /pkm[4]	$kgCO_{2e}$ /hour	Normalised to EU HS Rail (unit less)
Car	100			0.2296[5]	23	2.6
Coach	90			0.0355	3.2	0.3
Ferry	46			0.1378[6]	6.3	0.7
Rail						
European high speed electric	200	70	0. 4310	0.0302	6.0	0.7
European Intercity electric	160	77	0. 4310	0.0332	5.3	0.6
European intercity diesel	160			0.0657	11	1.2
UK average	150			0.0576	8.6[8]	1.0
Air						
UK Domestic	850			0.3622	217	25
European	850			0.2135[7]	181[8]	21
International	850			0.2512	214	25

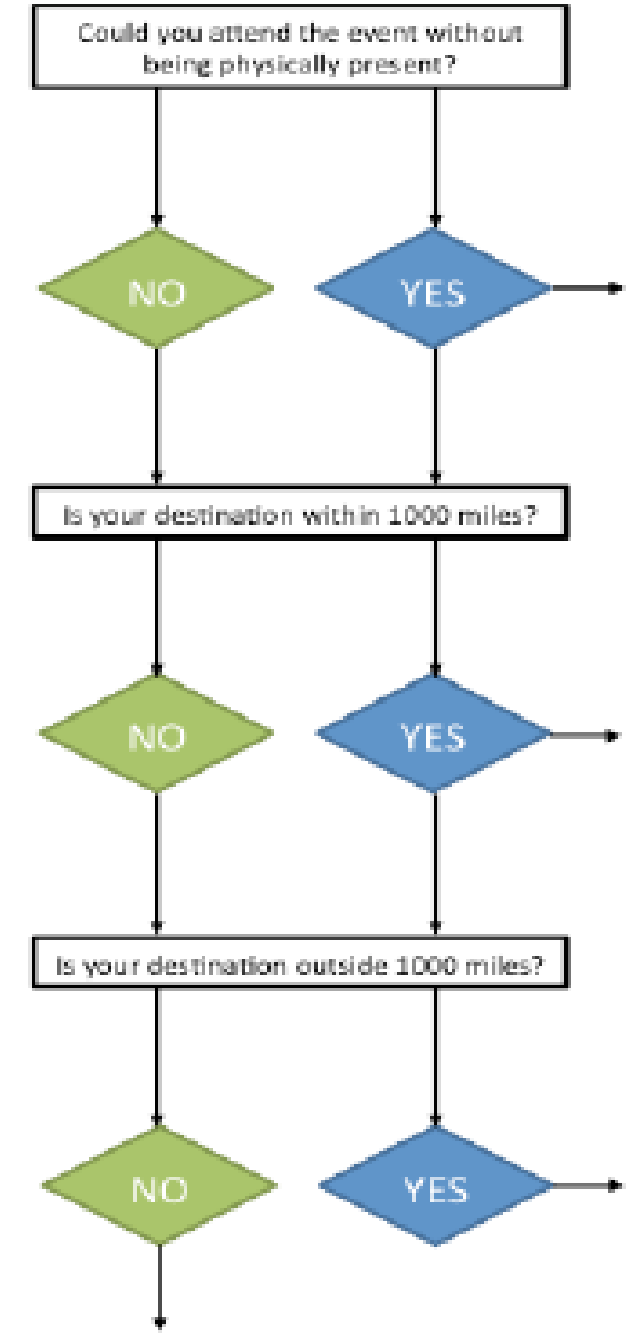
Source – Tyndall 2015; using data obtained from DECC and Defra

Tyndall Centre
for Climate Change Research

Towards a culture of low-carbon research for the 21st Century

Corinne Le Quéré, Stuart Capstick, Adam Corner, David Cutting, Martin Johnson, Asher Minns, Heike Schroeder, Kate Walker-Springett, Lorraine Whitmarsh, Ruth Wood

March 2015



Points to consider:

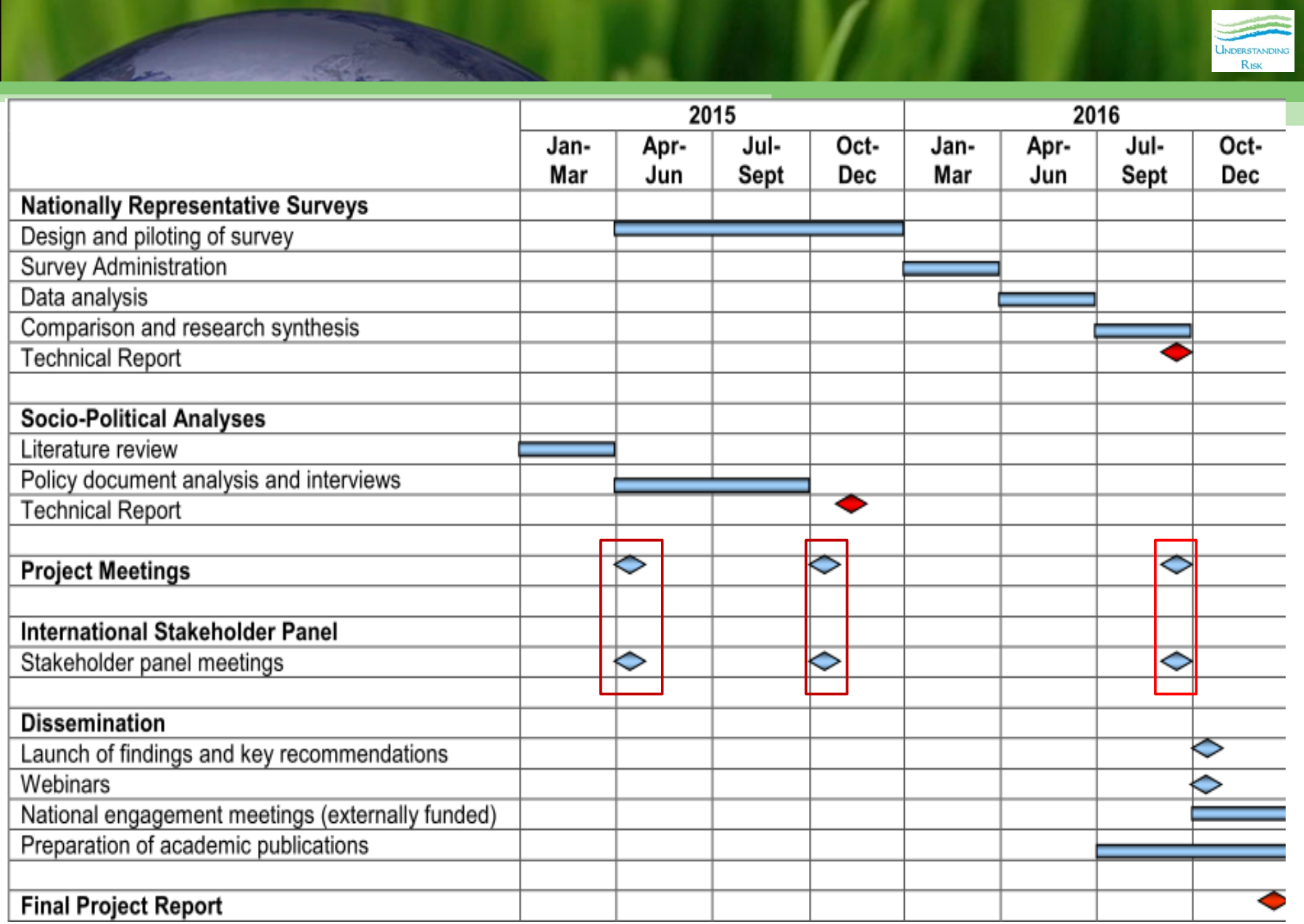
Why are you attending the event? Are there other methods of exchanging information which don't necessitate travelling? Could you stream the event, follow live tweets, and have a virtual presence instead? Have you considered using Researchgate or Mendeley to work online? Do you need support from your institute to participate in a different format?

You may be surprised how little time and money is saved by flying when considering getting to the airport and waiting for your flight. For many destinations (within Europe, Eastern US and China, for example) the train is a feasible alternative to flying, and travel time can be more comfortably used for work. There are online resources that will help you to calculate the length of your journey by train and plane.

With longer distances flying quickly becomes the only practical option. However could you combine this trip with other work-related activities - could you spend time working at another institution to maximise the benefit of this trip? Consider whether the trip is worth the impact on the climate and time out of the office.

Solutions – Telconferences plus ‘Hub Travel’

- Virtual Team Teleconferences (monthly)
- Coordinate Stakeholder and Team Meetings at same time and in single ‘Hub’ location (Paris)
- End of Project Dissemination (Results) Meeting in Brussels


2015
2016
Jan-Mar
Apr-Jun
Jul-Sept
Oct-Dec
Jan-Mar
Apr-Jun
Jul-Sept
Oct-Dec
Nationally Representative Surveys
Design and piloting of survey
Survey Administration
Data analysis
Comparison and research synthesis
Technical Report
Socio-Political Analyses
Literature review
Policy document analysis and interviews
Technical Report
Project Meetings
International Stakeholder Panel
Stakeholder panel meetings
Dissemination
Launch of findings and key recommendations
Webinars
National engagement meetings (externally funded)
Preparation of academic publications
Final Project Report

EPCC Proposed Travel Solutions

- Pros
- Combining Research and Stakeholder meetings halves researcher travel
- Hub model means at least 3 teams and associated Stakeholders travel by rail
- Hub Model saves at least 22 short haul European flights over 'Host Institution' model(Cardiff, Stuttgart, Paris)
- Great meeting locations!

- Cons
- A lot more organisational effort required for Co-ordinators (compared to organising a meeting at your own University!) – person time
- Difficult to cost accurately at a distance, need for local intelligence
- A little more time needed to travel (sometimes) and funders may question items in relatively 'large' travel and subsistence budgets

Acknowledgements

E·S·R·C ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Tyndall°Centre for Climate Change Research

Websites:

www.understanding-risk.org

www.tyndall.ac.uk

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