



Press release from Living with Environmental Change: for immediate release (Thurs 10 June 2010)

Living with Environmental Change announces merger between three leading environmental coordinating bodies

A merger between the Living with Environmental Change programme, the Environment Research Funders' Forum and the Global Environmental Change Committee was agreed at the Partners' Board meeting in London this week. The new partnership brings together 22 major UK public sector funders and users of environmental research to align strategic and delivery activities more effectively under one partnership.

The partnership will operate under the identity of Living with Environmental Change to continue to 'optimise the coherence and effectiveness of UK environmental research funding and ensure government, business and society have the foresight, knowledge and tools to mitigate, adapt to and capitalise on environmental change'.

Living with Environmental Change Director Professor Andrew Watkinson says 'I am delighted to announce this merger which will strengthen both the strategic and delivery aims of the partnership and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. This is essential at a time when we are facing both rapid environmental change and severe financial pressures. The merger of the three bodies will improve our ability to respond to the big challenges of environmental change'.

Lord Selborne, Chair of the Partners Board says 'I very much welcome this merger between the Environment Research Funders Forum, Global Environmental Change Committee and the Living with Environmental Change programme. Recognising there are many areas of mutual interest between the three bodies, it makes sense to build on the successes and join the strategic and delivery functions to form a partnership that can speak with a single clear voice on environmental science.'

The functions previously held under the Global Environmental Change Committee and the Environment Research Funders' Forum, including the UK Environmental Observation Framework (www.ukeof.org.uk), will continue under the auspices of Living with Environmental Change.

- *For more information contact*

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