



□ 23/01/2026

Here are the important dates that climate researchers and academics need to know about in 2026.

The year ahead is set to be a pivotal one for climate science and research, with major policy milestones, landmark scientific reports, and a dense calendar of conferences.

For researchers, staying on top of these dates isn't just helpful – it is essential for planning publications, funding bids, collaboration opportunities, outreach, and policy engagement.

This guide brings together key moments in the climate research cycle for 2026, from UN-level negotiations to UK-specific briefings, scientific assemblies, annual report releases, and global awareness events.

We will be building and adding to this list throughout the year, so please do [contact us](#) with additions and updates, to help make this list as comprehensive and accurate as possible.

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January 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
1 Jan	New Year climate policy positioning	
Jan	UKRI/NERC Standard Grant Round	
Jan	ERC Starting Grants open	
Jan	World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Preliminary State of the Climate	
14 Jan	HadCRUT temperature series announcement for 2026: 2025 continues series of world's three warmest years	Collated by the Met Office, the University of East Anglia (UEA) and the National Centre for Atmospheric Science
25-29 Jan	American Meteorological Society (AMS) Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas, USA	A yearly gathering for the weather, water, and climate community, which brings together great minds from a diverse set of scientific discipline
28-29 Jan	Coastal Futures 2026, Royal Geographical Society, London and	The largest ocean conference of its kind in

	online	the UK
29 Jan	Webinar: Accelerating climate adaptation after COP30	Following the outcomes of COP30, the UK Universities Climate Network (UUCN) and the Cabot Institute for the Environment at the University of Bristol will host an event to explore how to accelerate the action needed to adapt for a climate resilient future

February 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Feb	CCC: Early-year briefing (variable)	
2-5 Feb	Arctic Frontiers Conference: Turn of the Tide in Tromsø, Norway	In 2026, bringing together leading voices to examine the state of Arctic collaboration, economic transitions, infrastructure needs, technological frontiers, and the health of the ocean that unites the region
22-27 Feb	Ocean Sciences Meeting in Glasgow, Scotland	Every two years, scientists from across the globe, in the greater ocean-connected community, gather to share the latest research findings, collaborate on solutions, and make lasting partnerships with the goal of advancing scientific knowledge and impacts
		NERC’s primary support

25 Feb	NERC Independent Research Fellowships open	mechanism for early career researchers in environmental sciences
26 Feb	NERC Large Grant outlines: deadline	Apply for funding to support innovative, large-scale and complex projects that tackle big environmental science questions and have the potential to produce world-leading research

March 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Mar	World Meteorological Organization: State of the Global Climate Report (variable)	
Mar	IPCC internal plenary/author meetings (variable)	
Mar	Met Office: Spring outlook	
Mar	Horizon Europe Cluster 5 (Climate, Energy, Mobility) Funding calls (variable)	This cluster aims to fight climate change by better understanding its causes, evolution, risks, impacts and opportunities, and by making the energy and transport sectors more climate and environment-friendly, more efficient and competitive, smarter, safer and more resilient
Mar	UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship deadline (variable)	

1-5 Mar	European Ocean Days 2026 in Brussels, Belgium	A week-long event with a series of dynamic and interconnected sessions focused on key ocean-related themes
3 Mar	World Wildlife Day	
18-19 Mar	UNESCO: World Day for Glaciers 2026 in Paris, France	
21 Mar	International Day of Forests	
22 Mar	World Water Day	
23 Mar	World Meteorological Day	
24-25 Mar	International Conference on Climate Change, Geography, and Sustainability (IC2CGSY-26) in Edinburgh, UK	This event brings leading scientists, academicians, industry professionals, speakers, and experts to one platform, to highlight solutions, achievements, trending issues, and future strategies
25-1 April	Arctic Science Summit Week in Aarhus, Denmark	Organised annually by the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) to provide opportunities for coordination, cooperation and collaboration between the various scientific organisations involved in Arctic research
25-26 Mar	Third World Congress on Earth Science, Climate Change & Sustainability in London, UK	Theme: “Bridging Earth Science, Climate Change Mitigation, and Sustainable Development”

April 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Apr	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero’s UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dataset refresh (variable)	
7 Apr	World Health Day	
22 Apr	Earth Day	
27 April-1 May	Amsterdam Complexity School on Climate Change in Amsterdam, The Netherlands	A one-week event where early-career researchers and non-academic stakeholders come together to work on interdisciplinary projects around climate change using complexity science

May 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
May	ONS Climate Change Annual Statistics refresh (variable)	
3-8 May	EGU26 General Assembly in Vienna, Austria and Online	Brings together geoscientists from all over the world to one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, planetary, and space sciences
12-13 May	UNEP-WCMC Nature Action Dialogues in Cambridge, UK	A unique and powerful forum where business, finance and conservation leaders meet as peers to advance collaboration at the nexus of biodiversity,

		climate, water, and health
14-15 May	Fourteenth World Conference on Climate Change in London, UK	Innovating for a Climate-Resilient Future: Science, Policy & Global Action
20 May	World Bee Day	
22 May	International Day for Biological Diversity	
28 May	ERC Advanced Grant call opens	

June 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Jun	UNFCCC Bonn Climate Meetings (SBSTA/SBI) (variable)	
Jun	UN Global Stocktake Technical Updates (mid-year; context for research reporting)	
Jun	International Climate Initiative (IKI) call opens	
Jun	UKRI/NERC Highlight Topics Funding Round (summer call)	
Jun	CCC: Progress Report to Parliament (typically mid-year)	
5 Jun	World Environment Day	
8 Jun	World Oceans Day	

Annual event for

9-11 Jun	Flood & Coast Conference and Exhibition 2026 in Liverpool, UK	professionals working to manage flood risk, build climate resilience, and protect our communities, infrastructure, and environment
14-19 Jun	World Biodiversity Forum in Davos, Switzerland	Theme of Leading Transformation Together
17 Jun	World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought	
18-19 Jun	Fifth World Conference on Climate Change & Sustainability in London, UK	Theme: Solutions for Climate: Innovation, Equity, & Sustainability
20-28 Jun	London Climate Action Week	The largest city-wide climate festival in Europe
21 Jun	Show Your Stripes Day	

July 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Jul	National Adaptation Programme (NAP) monitoring updates (July window; UK policy)	
Jul	ERC Consolidator Grants open	
Jul	Met Office: State of the UK Climate 2025 Report	
6-15 Jul	UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in New York, USA	

A platform for scientists

8-10 Jul	Royal Meteorological Society Annual Weather and Climate Conference in Exeter, UK	and operational meteorologists working in academia, public and private sectors to present their work to the weather and climate community
13-16 Jul	International Congress of Biometeorology in Novi Sad, Serbia	
23-25 Jul	Seventh World Conference on Climate Change and Global Warming in Copenhagen, Denmark	CCGCONF 2026 is designed to provide its attendees with an enriching experience that will enhance their academic work and provide them with an opportunity to engage in a meaningful dialogue with peers
28 Jul		CCGCONF 2026 is designed to provide its attendees with an enriching experience that will enhance their academic work and provide them with an opportunity to engage in a meaningful dialogue with peers

August 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
17-28 Aug	Seventeenth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	COP17 will bring together UNCCD's 197 Parties in a crucial global forum to accelerate action against desertification, land degradation and drought

September 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Sept	UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks (Africa/MENA/LAC/AP events begin)	
Sept	UNEP Emissions Gap Report preliminary findings (pre-COP)	
Sept	Horizon Europe autumn funding calls open	
Sept	Global Flood Partnership (GFP) Annual Meeting (tbc)	
7-8 Sept	International Glaciological Society symposia: British Branch in Aberdeen, Scotland	
7-11 Sept	Bath Conference on Earth System Governance in Bath, England	Building Just and Sustainable Futures for Planetary Integrity. The conference will be held primarily in person, with selected sessions available for virtual access and participation
8-22 Sept	81st Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 81) in New York City, USA	
16 Sept	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	
20-27 Sept	Climate Week NYC in	Brings together heads of state, global business leaders, philanthropic

New York City, USA

leaders, and civil society
to accelerate climate
action at scale

October 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Oct	UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2026 (variable)	
Oct	Lancet Countdown on Health & Climate Change	
Oct	IPBES Global Assessment Report	
Oct	IAHS Scientific Assembly of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (tbc)	
4-10 Oct	World Space Week	
13 Oct	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	
31 Oct	World Cities Day	

November 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Nov	IEA World Energy Outlook (tbc)	
Nov	UNEP Emissions Gap Report (tbc; usually during COP)	
Nov	UKRI/NERC Discovery Science deadlines (Nov	

	window; variable)	
Nov	UNEP Production Gap Report (tbc)	
Nov	Global Carbon Budget 2026 (released at AGU events)	
9-20 Nov	2026 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 31) in Antalya, Türkiye	According to the Earth Negotiations Bulletin (ENB), reports that additional topics expected to be discussed at COP 31 include post-2020 finance, the seventh review of the financial mechanism, the periodic review of the long-term global goal under the Convention and of overall progress toward achieving it, and mountains

December 2026

Date(s)	Event	What you need to know
Dec	UNEP Global Environment Outlook (GEO-8) (variable; typically year-end)	
Dec	ERC Synergy Grants open (variable)	
Dec	Met Office winter outlook (variable)	
5 Dec	World Soil Day	
7-11 Dec	Advancing Earth and Space Sciences Annual Meeting in San Francisco, USA	