

Climate change and the insurance sector – a webinar report



A Resilience First webinar on 22 September looked at the impact of climate change and the growing losses to the insurance market that require a fresh look at how insurance can help drive behaviours around both adaptation and mitigation. A report on the event can be found [here](#).

Some of the key messages were:

- The risks associated with climate change will become more expensive. By 2050 in the UK, even in a low-adaptation scenario, damage from flooding is likely to double. New flood defences will be essential but costly while simple low-cost measures like moving stock to higher floors will help for some businesses.
- Supply chains will be affected by climate change in other countries. In the Sahel, parts of India and Australia, for instance, heat-stress thresholds may be exceeded in 10-30 days per year, preventing safe external work. Companies with workers or suppliers in these regions should take this into account. Supply chains should be diversified and even self-sufficiency is at risk from heat stress.
- Productivity may fall as a result of overheating, especially as more people will be working from home and many of our existing homes overheat even in a normal summer. Temperatures of over 47°C have been recorded in some London flats in summer 2018. Companies should be aware of staff wellbeing.
- The insurance industry has a very important role to play. Flood Re, for instance, is working with insurers so that people to ‘build back better’ where previously they were only funded like-for-like replacement of property damage. Now businesses and individuals will be able to build in flood resilience measures with insurance funding.

See the full report and video recording [here](#).