



envecon 2021

Applied Environmental Economics Conference

Friday, 19th March 2021, Online

UKNEE

UK Network of Environmental Economists

Agenda

Time (GMT)

Session

9:30-10:00

Welcome and Keynote

Alessandra Alfieri, Chief, Environmental Economic Accounting, United Nations Statistics Division

10:00-11:30

Session 1: Natural Capital Accounting

Chair: *Ian Dickie, eftec*

- Giles Atkinson, London School of Economics and Political Science
- Robert Hall, Federated Hermes
- Carl Obst, Institute for the Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting
- Ece Ozdemiroglu, eftec
- Alessandra La Notte, European Commission Joint Research Centre
- Rocky Harris, Defra

11:30-12:00

Break

12:00-12:45

Lunchtime Breakout Sessions:

- Natural & social capitals
- Socio-econ analysis: chemicals
- Economic valuation
- (Re)making environmental policy
- Climate change mitigate & adapt
- Economic sector 1 - water supply
- Economic sector 2 - food supply

12:45-13:00

Break

13:00-14:30

Session 2: Economic Policy Appraisal in Practice

Chair: *Nicholas Hanley, University of Glasgow*

- Green Book revisions and social rate of discount, *Joseph Lowe and Luke Leatherbarrow, HM Treasury*
- Green Book revisions – what impact did they have? *Ian Bateman, LEEP, University of Exeter*
- Role of economics in environmental policy: Experience from Denmark, *Bo Jellesmark Thorsen, University of Copenhagen*
- Impact evaluation for catchment management in Northern Ireland, *Catherine Glass, AFBI*
- Applying CBA to water quality management in the UK, *Jonathan Fisher, Jonathan Fisher Environmental Economics*

Agenda

Time (GMT)	Session
14:30-14:45	Break
14:45-15:45	<p>Session 3: Valuation of Micro Plastics in the Sea</p> <p>Chair: <i>Silvia Ferrini, University of East Anglia</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eliciting Willingness to Pay for Precautionary Abatement of Microplastics <i>Peter King, University of Bath</i>• How could marine litter be tackled? A British-Irish choice experiment on beach clean-up and other targeted policies <i>Gaetano Grilli, University of East Anglia</i>• Latent Traits and Willingness to Pay to Reduce Marine Plastic Pollution in Indonesia <i>Emmanouil Tyllianakis, University of Leeds</i>
15:45-16:00	Break
16:00-17:00	<p>Session 4: How to be Heard in Times of Crisis</p> <p>Chair: <i>Ece Ozdemiroglu, eftec</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asif Noorani, Managing Partner at Epiphany Productions• Ganga Shreedhar, Department of Psychological and Behavioural Science, LSE

Keynote

Alessandra Alfieri
Chief, Environmental Economic Accounting
United Nations Statistics Division



In a move that may reshape decision and policy-making, the United Nations adopted a new framework, earlier in March 2021, that includes the contributions of nature when measuring economic prosperity and human well-being.

The **System of Environmental-Economic Accounting—Ecosystem Accounting** (SEEA EA) marks a major step forward that goes beyond the commonly used statistic of gross domestic product (GDP) that has dominated economic reporting since the end of World War II. This measure would ensure that natural capital—forests, wetlands and other ecosystems—are recognized in economic reporting.

Ms Alfieri takes us through the framework that many of our community has contributed directly or indirectly throughout the years and sets us markers for what's next.

For the launch statement from UNSD and to reach the framework please follow: <https://www.un.org/en/desa/un-adopts-landmark-framework-integrate-natural-capital-economic-reporting>

Alessandra Alfieri is the Chief of Environmental Economic Accounts Section at the United Nations Statistics Division. She has led the programme on Environmental Economic Accounting at the United Nations for many years. Her leadership has seen the elevation of the SEEA Central Framework to an international statistical standard and the recent adoption of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. Prior to working at the United Nations she worked at Eurostat and at the World Bank. She holds a Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Iowa.

Natural Capital Accounting

Session 1 | 10:00-11:30

Natural capital accounting processes are an emerging application of environmental economics. But what are we trying to achieve by using them? In this session we will consider what society aims to measure better by using natural capital accounting; recent progress in establishing the methods, and how these are being taken forward in the UK and Europe.

Session Chair



Ian Dickie FRSA is a Director of eftec. He is also a member of the Natural Capital Coalition Advisory Panel, and a Director of the Aldersgate Group. He was an author of the Natural Capital Protocol and has directed natural capital accounting for ports, water companies and other private sector businesses, UK Overseas Territories and local government. In 2019 he managed development of the Greater Manchester Natural Capital investment plan.

Natural Capital Accounting & Distributional Issues

Giles Atkinson is Professor of Environmental Policy in the Department of Geography & Environment and an Associate of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science. His research specialises in sustainability economics and metrics as well as, more recently, distributional issues in natural capital accounting. He is a member of the Steering Group for the ONS Natural Capital Project and co-authored a flagship publication for OECD in 2018 on environmental cost-benefit analysis.



Natural Capital Accounting - An Investors' Perspective



Robert Hall is Associate Director of ESG, Impact and Innovation at the International Business of Federated Hermes, where he works on the interdisciplinary measurement and evaluation of ecological and social-economic systems. Prior to 2020, he was the Subject Matter Expert in ESG, Impact and Sustainability in the FCA's Asset Management Department and on Environmental Financial Technology for the FCA's Innovation Sandbox. Robert has worked as a technical expert across a number of national, international, central banking, and governmental working groups on sustainable investment, TCFD, and systemic risk.

Robert is the Chair of the UK chapter of the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials, a non-executive member of the Carbon Laces Advisory Board, and a member of the expert panel and author for the CFA on ESG and Climate-Energy-Economy Modelling.

Natural Capital Accounting

Session 1 | 10:00-11:30

UN System of Environmental - Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounting

Carl Obst is a Director at the Institute for Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting - IDEEA Group. Carl had a long career with the Australian Bureau of Statistics, including time at the OECD, before becoming Editor of the UN SEEA - EA. He is now a leading player in closing the gap between government and corporate approaches to natural capital accounting.



BSI 8632: Natural Capital Accounting for Organisations

Ece Özdemiroğlu FRSA is the Founding Director of etfec. She is the convenor of the British Standards Institution's Assessing and Valuing Nature Capital expert panel which has drafted the BS 8632 on Natural Capital Accounting for Organisations due to be published in May 2021. She is also a member of the UK Climate Change Committee - Adaptation. She is an environmental economist specialising in valuing natural capital assets and using this evidence in accounting and appraisal.



An Integrated System for Natural Capital Accounting in Europe

Alessandra La Notte holds a PhD in Environmental Economics from the University of Trento (Italy) and a Master Degree in Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University (Canberra). She specialised in environmental and ecosystem accounting and in economic valuation of ecosystem services, by working as researcher in the Universities of Trento, Padua, Venice and Turin. In her current position at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, she works on the "Knowledge Innovation Project on Integrated Natural Capital Accounts" (KIP-INCA), which aims to design and implement satellite accounts for ecosystems and their services.



Natural Capital Accounting - a government perspective

Rocky Harris is a Statistician in the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Rocky is currently the Defra lead on natural capital accounting, having worked on environmental accounts at the Office for National Statistics and at Defra for over 20 years. He is co-author of the ONS-Defra publication on the Principles of Natural Capital Accounting and has taken a lead role in the development of the UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting manuals. He has wide experience of putting environmental accounting principles into practice, being actively involved in the development of the UK accounts managed by the ONS, and in a range of other countries.



Breakout Sessions

12:00-12:45

Let's experiment together to see how we can replicate *online* the networking opportunities that envecon has provided over the years in person.

Imagine yourself drifting through the rooms of the Royal Society in London, where all but the very first envecon was held, as you mingle with your peers and nibble on your home-made lunch.

The breakouts will be available between 12:00 and 12:45.

Each session will last 15 minutes, after which the session will close.

Each session will run 3 times @12:00, @12:15 and @12:30

A maximum 15 people per session will probably be manageable - but let's see what happens!

If you are too late to your favourite theme please try again or another session.

Each breakout session has a theme based on the most popular themes suggested by the delegates at registration:

1. **Natural & social capitals**
2. **Socio-econ analysis: chemicals**
3. **Economic valuation**
4. **(Re)making environmental policy**
5. **Climate change mitigate & adapt**
6. **Economic sector 1 - water supply**
7. **Economic sector 2 - food supply**

[Click here to join](#)

(opens Zoom)

Passcode: 536889

Economic Policy Appraisal in Practice

Session 2 | 13:00-14:30

Economists like to think that their ideas and methods have some relevance to real-world policy design and appraisal, and that advances in economic theory get reflected in guidance.

But to what extent does this actually happen?

In this session we feature reflections on changes in the way in which cost-benefit analysis is undertaken by the UK government, on the use of economic valuation in water & catchment management, and the use of environmental economics within policy in Denmark.

Session Chair



Nick Hanley is professor of environmental and one health economics at the University of Glasgow. His main research interests at present are the design of PES schemes, epi-economic modelling, markets for biodiversity offsets and the economics of plastics pollution. He has worked with Defra, the Environment Agency and SEPA on the application of economics to environmental policy design and analysis for many years.

Green Book Revisions and Social Rate of Discount

Joseph Lowe is a Senior Economic Adviser in UK HM Treasury dealing with applied microeconomics of public welfare, with responsibility for the Treasury's Green Book, which offers guidance on the appraisal of government spending to optimise social / public value. He has been largely responsible for the revised content and structure of the November 2020 edition and its predecessor in March 2018. He is also the Treasury's Executive Editor of the three Business Case Guidance documents covering, Strategic Portfolios, Programmes, and for Projects.



Green Book Revisions - What Impact did they Have?



Professor Ian J. Bateman OBE, FBA, FRSA, FRSB, is Director of the Land, Environment, Economics and Policy Institute (LEEP) at the University of Exeter, UK. Ian was a Member of the UK Natural Capital Committee, the Board of the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee and various HM Treasury working groups. His main research interests revolve around the issue of ensuring sustainable wellbeing through the integration of natural and physical science with economics and by working with business and policy makers.

Economic Policy Appraisal in Practice

Session 2 | 13:00-14:30

Role of Economics in Environmental Policy: Experience from Denmark



Bo Jellersmark Thorsen is Head of Dept. of Food and Resource Economics at University of Copenhagen. He has been working in research for most of his career, including some years in the Danish Ministry of Environment. His department holds long term contracts with the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, for providing economic analyses and policy appraisals.

Bo will talk about how economic research and approaches are received in environmental policy debates in Denmark and if and how they find their way into policy design and implementation. He will also talk about the role of researchers in public policy debates, in the current policy climate, and how universities must have their back.

Impact Evaluation for Catchment Management in Northern Ireland

Dr Catherine Glass is an economist with 12 years' experience in economic research, including non-market valuation, behavioural economics and opinion dynamics, and is currently employed at the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute as an environmental economist to conduct a benefits assessment of a catchment management initiative.

She has recently been involved in a study examining how behavioural economics and game theory can be applied to enhance agri-environment schemes. Her research in opinion dynamics used simulation modelling to represent interpersonal interactions in social networks with a particular emphasis on social influence and social learning. Her fellow author, Dr Diane Burgess, is also employed in environmental economics at AFBI.



Applying Cost Benefit Analysis to water quality management in the UK

Jonathan Fisher is an environmental economist with more than 40 years experience of delivering applied economic analyses and advice on most environmental matters, including 20 years experience on water and flood risk management. He was economics manager at the Environment Agency (then for England & Wales). As a freelancer, he has since carried out CBAs for peatland restoration and reducing P discharges for the water industry's PR19. He transferred the Environment Agency's NWEBs valuations for economic analysis for river basin management plans in Turkey.

He is currently helping the World Bank develop and apply methodologies to prepare programmes of measure to improve flood risk management in Romania. Previously he was the UK Department of the Environment's economic adviser on climate change and an economic adviser at the Treasury. He has a PhD in environmental economics and BSc in economics and accounting.



Valuation of Microplastics in the Sea

Session 3 | 14:45-15:45

In this session, panellists will present their research assessing respondent's willingness to pay (WTP) for a range of measures designed to reduce and prevent marine plastic pollution across the UK, Ireland, and Indonesia. Between them, they will cover WTP for changes in cosmetic products (price, performance, and microplastic release) and policy instruments including marine litter clean-up actions, bans on single-use plastic, and deposit return schemes.

Session Chair



Silvia Ferrini is an Applied Economist at the Universities of Siena and East Anglia. She has extensively contributed to develop non-market valuation methodologies for marine and terrestrial ecosystem assessments. She has more than 30 peer review international articles some of which highly cited. She is member of the Editorial board of Land Economics. She was a co-author of the UK National Ecosystem Assessment Follow On and since 2016 she has assisted the EU KIP-INCA research team and local UK organizations to develop ecosystem services accounts.

Eliciting Willingness to Pay for precautionary Abatement of Microplastics

Peter King is a final year PhD Candidate at the University of Bath Department of Economics. His thesis, "Estimation of the value of precautionary restrictions on microplastics", covers a range of research interests, including water pollution, particularly at the micro and nano-scale, the treatment of uncertainty and irreversibility in policy appraisal, and discrete choice econometrics using both choice experiment and contingent valuation data. More broadly, he is interested in policy impact, public engagement.



How Could Marine Litter be Tackled? A British-Irish Choice Experiment on Beach Clean-Up and Other Targeted Policies



Gaetano Grilli is Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Social and Economic Research on the Global Environment (CSERGE), University of East Anglia. His research interests include ecosystem services valuation, discrete choice models, measurement of wellbeing and inequality, natural capital accounting. Gaetano will present results from a choice experiment valuing public preferences for short- and long-term marine litter reduction and prevention policies in the UK and Ireland, discussing the policy implications in the light of differences and similarities across the two countries.

Valuation of Microplastics in the Sea

Session 3 | 14:45-15:45

Latent Traits and Willingness to Pay to Reduce Marine Plastic Pollution in Indonesia



Emmanouil (Manolis) Tyllianakis is an environmental economist interested in understanding the socio-economic impact of land/water management decisions. His work moves along these two research lines: 1) Understanding how human behaviour impacts water ecosystems and human welfare in return and 2) Capturing the implications of climate change and over-exploitation of resources in economic terms and how this can be linked to perceptions. He is presenting findings from a survey on the willingness to pay (WTP) for marine plastic pollution mitigation using the contingent valuation method while accounting for latent traits. Results show that environmentalism determines WTP but not as much as key sociodemographic characteristics

How to be Heard in Times of Crisis

Session 4 | 16:00-17:00

Do you ever feel that your research isn't 'getting through'?
Are you frustrated by the disconnect between research and action?

This interactive session will share insights into what works when communicating evidence. We will examine how communication has been changed by the ongoing public health crisis and how we can apply the lessons from this change to our work in environmental economics.

Session Chair



Ece Özdemiroğlu FRSA is the Founding Director of eftec. She is the convenor of the British Standards Institution's Assessing and Valuing Nature Capital expert panel which has drafted the BS 8632 on Natural Capital Accounting for Organisations due to be published in May 2021. She is also a member of the UK Climate Change Committee - Adaptation.

She is an environmental economist specialising in valuing natural capital assets and using this evidence in accounting and appraisal.

Ganga Shreedhar is Assistant Professor in Behavioural Sciences at Department of Psychological and Behavioural Sciences, and an Affiliate at the Department of Geography and Environment, The Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment, and the Inclusion Initiative - all at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

She is an applied behavioural and experimental economist studying how to change human behaviour in ways that simultaneously benefit people and the planet by designing and analysing interventions that help understand consumer and citizen beliefs, preferences and behaviours.



Asif Noorani is co-founder and managing partner of Epiphany Productions (established in 2005).



As a seasoned business leader and board level advisor, his boundary crossing skills (across film & TV production, anthropology, behaviour change, innovation) supports and equips public sector and corporate organisations in the core leadership competency: Storytelling. This takes many forms. He has been a Digital Democracy Champion for the Speaker's Digital Democracy Commission, an associate of the behaviour change think tank, NSMC, run storytelling workshops at the Hay festival, delivered many keynotes and authored two Digital Transformation Guides, published by Wincanton PLC.

As a partner in Permission Ventures, he advises start-up businesses and incubated corporate innovation in the search and telling of compelling stories.

Thanks & Feedback

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Thank you for attending envecon 2021!

We hope you found it enjoyable, informative,
and energising.

We kindly ask that you spare 5 minutes to
[complete this short feedback survey.](#)

Read on for information on UKNEE's past and
future events, membership opportunities, and
the envecon 2021 delegates list.

UKNEE 2020

Last Year's Events

To give you an idea of what we get up to, below is a list of the events held by UKNEE during 2020. Click on the event title to be taken to the relevant UKNEE webpage, where more information is available. Recordings of all of our events are available to UKNEE members.

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Last year's envecon took place at the Royal Society in London. The Keynote Speech was delivered by Matt Georges, Strategic Economic Evidence Manager at The Environment Agency. Plenaries and parallel sessions focused on: UK Environmental Policy, Behaviour, 2020 Diary (that changed!), Climate Change, 'Engage, Value, Manage', Around the World, and the Valuing Nature Programme. There was also a range of poster presentations as well the premier of the poem and short film, ['A Question of Values'](#).

Webinar 1: Covid19, Our Appreciation of Nature & Conservation

This webinar was presented by Dr Ganga Shreedhar and Professor Susana Mourato, from the London School of Economics and Political Science. The webinar focused on a study that took place during the lockdown in the UK on whether linking human destruction of nature to Covid19 increases support for wildlife conservation policies. Click the title for more information and resources.

Webinar 2: Standardising Environmental Economics

This webinar was presented by Lesley Wilson, BSI, and Ece Ozdemiroglu, etec on the two British and International standards for applying monetary valuation methods: BS EN ISO 14008 and BS EN ISO 14007. Click the title for more information and resources.

Webinar 3: Improving the Design of PES and Agri-Environment Schemes: Some New Results

This webinar was presented by Professor Nick Hanley, University of Glasgow. Nick looked at some ideas which economists have been exploring recently in order to enhance the design of PES schemes, focussing in particular on "agri-environment" policies such as those run under Pillar 2 of the CAP and its forthcoming replacements in the UK. Click the title for more information and resources.

Webinar 4: Christmas Special: The World's First and Only Stand-Up Economist!

This special webinar was hosted by Dr Yoram Bauman "the world's first and only stand-up economist". Yoram delivered a side-splitting routine from across the pond that left many of us wiping away tears. The recording of this session is available to UKNEE members. Click the title for more information.

UKNEE 2021

Past and future UKNEE events this year

Below is a list of events, both past and upcoming, by UKNEE during 2021. Click on the event title to be taken to the relevant UKNEE webpage, where more information is available.

The webinars are free to attend but recordings are only available to UKNEE members.

[To book your place at any of our upcoming webinars, click here.](#)

The Independent Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity

17th February

UKNEE was delighted to host Emily McKenzie, Head of Evidence and Policy for the Dasgupta Review on Economics, who gave a presentation followed by a Q&A session. This session focused on details of the economic analysis within the review and its implications for our work in the future. Click the title for more information.

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If you are reading this, the chances are that you have recently attended envecon 2021! So instead of us telling you what happened, we would instead love to hear about your experience. To provide feedback, [please answer our survey here.](#)

Communications Webinar Series, Webinar 1

14th April, 12:15-13:15 BST

This webinar is the first instalment of the UKNEE Spring/Summer Webinar Series and will follow on from envecon2021 session 4: "How to Be Heard in Times of Crisis". The discussion will focus broadly on the need for, and the methods to achieve, the effective communication of your research. Click the title for more information.

Plugging the Income Gap: Environmental Options for Upland Farms: A Case Study in Pendle Hill, Lancashire

12th May, 12:15-13:15 BST

This webinar will be hosted by Dr Alison Holt, Director at Natural Capital Solutions, and Emeritus Professor Joe Morris of Cranfield University. They will present findings from their paper: "Plugging the Income Gap: Environmental Options for Upland Farms: A Case Study in Pendle Hill, Lancashire." Click the title for more information.

Subsidies and trade wars: solar PV innovation in Europe and the impact of the "China Shock"

9th June, 12:15-13:15 BST

This event will be hosted by Pia Andres, PhD Candidate in Environmental Economics at the LSE. During the webinar, Pia will present her research and findings in her paper titled "Subsidies and trade wars: solar PV innovation in Europe and the impact of the "China Shock"". Click the title for more information.

UKNEE 2021

Past and future UKNEE events this year

Sustainable cattle ranching systems and policy decision making: A case study in Valle del Cauca, Colombia

14th July, 12:15-13:15 BST

This webinar will be presented by Gaetano Grilli, Senior Research Fellow at the University of East Anglia. Gaetano will present their research and findings from their paper, titled "Sustainable cattle ranching systems and policy decision making: A case study in Valle del Cauca, Colombia". Click the title for more information

What works best in reducing meat consumption? A systematic comparison of nudge, boost, think and nudge plus.

11th August, 12:15-13:15 BST

This webinar will be hosted by Sanchayan Banerjee, PhD Candidate in Environmental Economics at the LSE. In this webinar, Sanchayan will present theoretical and empirical evidence from his doctoral research, on a new theory of behaviour change called Nudge+. Nudge+ is a modification of the toolkit of behavioural public policy that offers a sophisticated model of cognition in citizens by engaging them in adopting pro-environmental and pro-social behaviour. Click the title for more information.

Communicating Evidence in the Run Up to COP26 in Glasgow

8th September, 12:15-13:15 BST

This webinar will form part of the ongoing UKNEE Communication Webinar Series. We will be joined by Jo Barrett, Head of Communications, the Climate Change Committee. More information will be released soon. Click the title for more information.

Join UKNEE

Membership Benefits and How to Join

The **UK Network for Environmental Economists** is a non-profit organisation open to all those interested in environmental economics, working or studying in the UK, but also abroad.

UKNEE offers its members a number of benefits:

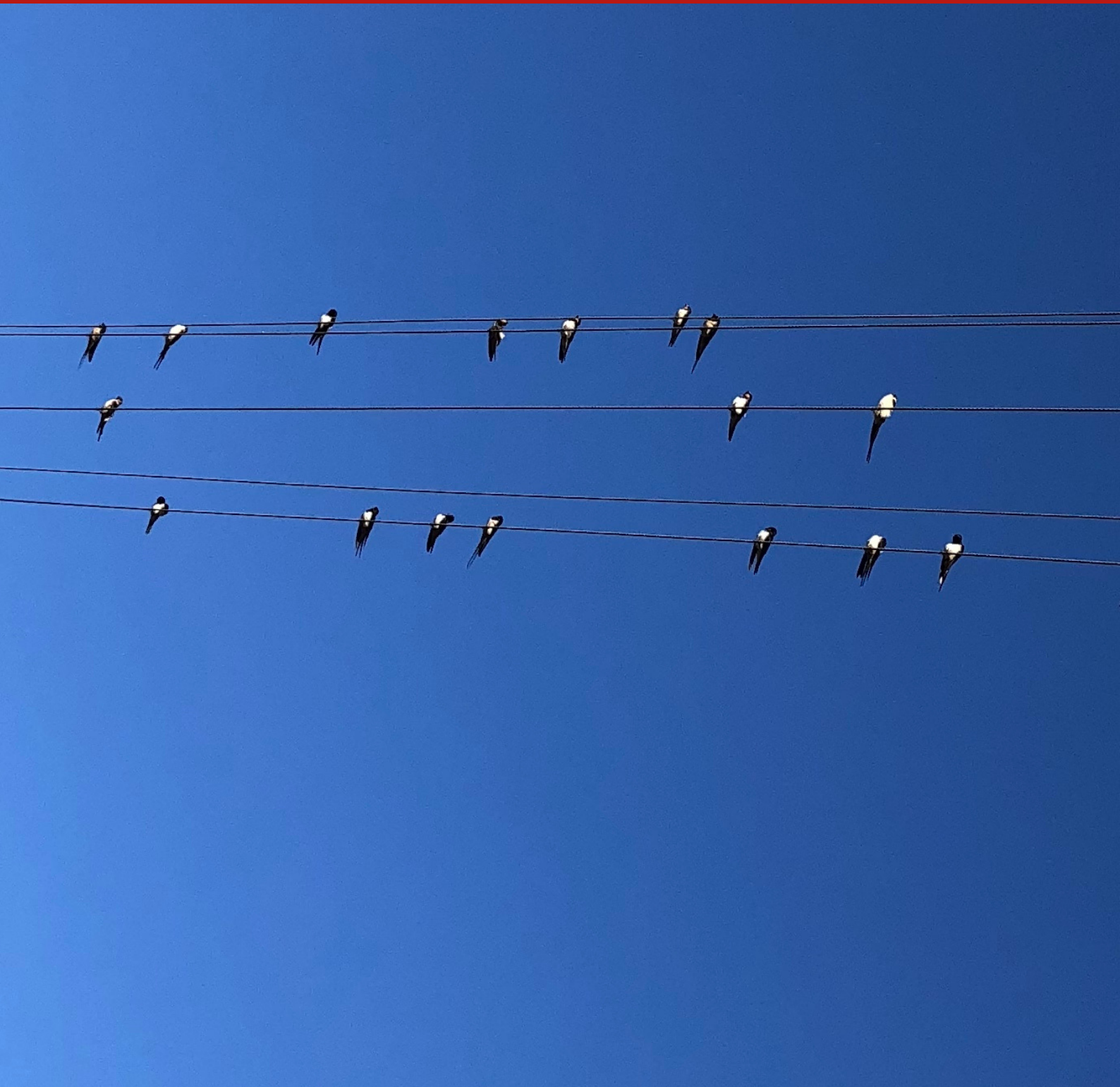
- Attending, and receiving exclusive access to recordings, of free seminars, webinars, and events that provide an opportunity for networking and participation in the most updated discussion in the field of environmental economics;
- Receiving announcements of events and publications in the field;
- Disseminating information on opportunities such as job openings, placements, and research projects, and
- A year's digital subscription to the Journal of Environmental Economics and Policy.

The annual membership fee is £50 (£40 for students).

Please contact us for further information or download our membership form, complete and return it to us at uknee@uknee.org.uk.

[Click this text to be taken to our website, where you can find the membership form.](#)

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