

Jim Skea has been Research Director of the [UK Energy Research Centre](#) (UKERC) since 2004. UKERC's role is to conduct its own programme of "whole systems" energy research, to promote the coherence of all university-based R&D in the UK, and to establish links with business, government, the international energy research community and other stakeholders. Previously, Jim spent six years as Director of the [Policy Studies Institute](#). He was Director of the Economic and Social Research Council's Global Environmental Change Programme, led the Environment Programme at SPRU (Science and Technology Policy Research), University of Sussex and spent two years at the Department of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie-Mellon University.

His main research interests are: energy/environmental policies; climate change; environmental regulation and technical change; sustainable development; and general business and environment issues. His first degree was in Mathematical Physics from the University of Edinburgh while his PhD in interdisciplinary energy research was from the University of Cambridge.

Jim operates at the interface between research and policy-making. In 2002-03, he acted as Launch Director for the [Low Carbon Vehicle Partnership](#) (LowCVP), an action and advisory group bringing together industry, academia, NGOs and Government departments. In 2006-07, he was a member of the UK's [Commission on Environmental Markets and Economic Performance](#) (CEMEP) which advised the Government on how the UK could make the most of the potential economic benefits of the transition to a low carbon, sustainable economy. CEMEP was jointly chaired by the Secretaries of State for Environment and Business. In early 2008, Jim was appointed as one of the founding members of the UK's [Committee on Climate Change](#) (CCC). CCC's role is to independently assess how the UK can achieve its emissions reductions goals for 2020 and 2050 and advise the Government on its long-term targets for 2050 as well as medium-term carbon budgets 15 years ahead.

Jim was previously involved in IPCC's Second and Third Assessment reports as Lead Author, Convening Lead Author and Review Editor.