Abstract of presentation

It is increasingly evident that the challenges of reaching net-zero carbon to limit peak global temperatures, providing healthy food, and ensuring that nature thrives, are inter-linked challenges for developing a sustainable and resilient environment in our ‘Anthropocene’ era. As an ecologist and member of AE Class C, I was invited on to the AE task force set up by Academia Europaea to explore how AE members can play a vital role in research in this topic. The panel session will be an opportunity to discuss this topic with representatives on the AE task force, including discussion of next steps.

Biographical note

Prof Jane Hill is a professor of ecology in the Leverhulme Centre for Anthropocene Biodiversity and Department of Biology at the University of York, UK. Jane’s research examines responses of species (particularly butterflies) to anthropogenic climate change. Many terrestrial species are shifting their distributions, expanding polewards and uphill as new areas become climatically suitable, but disappearing from other locations that become too hot and dry. Her research analyses distribution and abundance data to quantify the rate at which species are shifting, which has revealed that expansions are slowed-up or halted in regions where habitat is fragmented. Her research has examined the effectiveness of improving habitat connectivity and threats to montane species from climate change, as well as the effectiveness of retaining patches of natural habitat and Protected Areas within landscapes to help reduce biodiversity losses.

Jane is a member of UKRI-NERC Science Committee. She is a trustee of the SE Asia Rainforest Research Partnership, and a trustee of the British Ecological Society, chairing the Publications Committee which has oversight of 8 Journals. She received a Marsh/ZSL Award for Conservation Biology in 2011, and is President (2022-24) and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society. Jane is also involved in promoting women in science; leading the York Biology Department to an Athena SWAN Gold Award, and renewal.