

Policy Impact Unit – Update

June 2024.



[Achieving Sustainable Medicines](#)

[This month, PIU supported the Future Targeted Healthcare Manufacturing Hub to deliver an event on](#) “*Achieving Sustainable Medicines: Driving Research and Innovation for Future Medicines Manufacturing*” in collaboration with the [Innovate UK](#) Transforming Medicines Manufacturing Community of Practice, and the UK [BioIndustry Association \(BIA\)](#).

The event was attended by industry, academia and policy - including [MHRA](#), [DSIT](#), and the [Office for Life Sciences](#). There were discussions on how to integrate more sustainable approaches into new manufacturing processes, how to leverage future research in measurement of sustainability in the sector, exploration of how to deliver process intensification techniques and support transition to a circular economy. We are working with partners on next steps from the event as we speak – watch this space!

PIU’s June highlights also included...



- Contributed to a systems mapping workshop with the National Retrofit Hub and STEaPP colleagues including Director of Policy [Dr Ine Steenmans](#), for the incredible [Net Zero What Works Group](#) – *follow the Group on LinkedIn for exciting updates coming this summer!*
- Delivered a response to [Scotland's Bioenergy Consultation](#) in collaboration with our colleagues at the [Interdisciplinary Circular Economy Centre for Mineral-Based Construction Materials](#) (ICEC-MCM)

- Provided a policy update to the [NICER](#) Policy Cluster on behalf of ICEC-MCM and attended their Centre meeting which included a keynote from [UNEP](#).
- A trip to the Portuguese Embassy for PIU's Luis Lacerda as part of the [Scientific Advisory Board \(SAB\) of the Portuguese Association of Researchers and Students in the UK](#) He brought expertise from his role at PIU, particularly as the SAB gears up to contribute to further science advice for the Embassy. This work complements wider UCL engagement with embassies.



Also this month, we've helped design an upcoming workshop with a London Borough, conducted manifesto analysis for a number of our projects, joined a session with the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Police to learn more about their research priorities and how to engage, and acted as a sounding board to prep for a presentation to [DESNZ](#).

What has arguably been the busiest part of this month however, is undeniably prep for the must see summer showcase - the [Festival of Engineering](#), for which PIU have led on policy engagement. With less than three weeks to go, register today!

- **ARI Live! Wednesday 17th July.** Exploring the *impact of AI on productivity and future skills needs, including breakouts on healthcare and policing*. Spaces are now very limited so please [contact us](#) before booking, [details are here](#).
- **Engineering Reality: The Impact and Future of Deepfake Technology (Wednesday 17th July)** – Screening of award-winning film *Another Body* followed by expert panel discussion, and networking. PIU are delivering this event in partnership with the Dawes Centre for Future Crime - [Book your ticket here](#).
- **Future Pandemic Preparedness: Are we Really Ready? (Thursday 18th July)** Knowledge exchange event delivered by PIU together with [VaxHub Global](#) and [VaxHub Sustainable](#), showcasing how the Hubs' research is responding to challenges around future pandemic preparedness – aligned to the recent WHO negotiations. If you work in this field and are interested in joining, please [contact us](#).
- **Research & Industry Showcase (Thursday 18th July)** – Invite your industry partners and contacts! This showcase features research from every Department in the Faculty as well as a series of talks and a panel discussion. The PIU team will be there on the day, please do come and say hello! [tickets are here](#).

[A full list of events is available here - don't delay, book today!](#)



Opportunities

- Applications are now open for UCL staff to represent at the UNFCCC UN COP29 in Baku this November. Don't miss your chance to be part of the stellar UCL team and share your climate research - [apply here](#)

- There is still time to register for [IPPO](#)'s expert roundtable on July 2nd – asking *How Can Innovation Districts Encourage Inclusive Growth?* [sign up here.](#)
- Interested in helping maximise the impact of University research in England? Research England are looking for a new [Policy Adviser on Research Infrastructure](#) (note: short deadline)
- A DWP consultation is currently open how the welfare system can be modernised for people with disabilities and health conditions – contribute your research or expertise [here](#)
- The [Scottish Government is consulting on](#) neonatal care, a natural capital market framework, and flood resilience.
- UKRI Policy Internship Scheme 2025 is due to open for applications in mid-July – so remember to set a reminder before you go on your summer break!

STeAPP Public Policy

This month at STeAPP we.....

- Hosted a delegation from **Jakarta City Council** to discuss policy making challenges in urban infrastructure development [\[NM\]](#) [\[NC\]](#) [\[BG\]](#) [\[RJ\]](#)
- Engaged scientific advisers from **ONS** and **Department for Transport** to shape policy output from upcoming workshop on [Mathematical Models for 21st Century Decisions](#). [\[ET\]](#)
- Participated in [Development Studies Association \(DSA\) Webinar on Decolonisation of Development Studies](#), co-hosted by **DSA** and **African Charter on Transformative Research Collaboration**. [\[RT\]](#)
- Provided advice to Dutch provincial executives on nitrogen depositions based on the evaluation committee report for the **Centre**

for Environmental Quality of the RIVM National Institute for Public Health and the Environment [chaired by them and published on 21 June 2024](#). [AP]

- Contributed to **World Medical Association's** consultation on involving vulnerable participants in medical research as part of the [2024 revisions to the Declaration of Helsinki](#). [SE]
- Delivered a [Systems Approaches in Policy](#) workshop with the [National Retrofit Hub](#), building capacity and capability in engaging with policy makers and identifying levers for interventions [IS] [JP] [PP] [PC]
- Contributed to [Association for Innovation, Research and Technology Organisations \(AIRTO\)](#), policy sprint and policy position statement 'Towards Zero 2024' [PP]
- Delivered a 2-day Science Diplomacy professional development programme in Abu Dhabi for the **UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. [JCM] [IS] [MC]
- Co-organised and hosted an 'Innovation Safari' for a delegation of **innovation policy actors** from Finland (inc. **Sitra** (Finnish Innovation Fund), **VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland**, **Business Finland**) with Dr Ville Takala (IIPP / Hanken School of Economics). [CW]
- Organised a workshop in Paris with **The Good Investors**, as part of [Deep transitions Lab](#), where the investors reflected on the learnings from all previous workshops and planned for further actions and ways to generate impact [BG]

Know a colleague who may be interested in receiving these updates? [Let us know!](#)

Thank you!