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Climate change and the threat to the biosphere

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The threat posed by the impact of climate change on the Earth's biosphere will be the focus of a lecture at the University of York.

Soils and vegetation play an important role in making the climate tolerable for humans and have been helping slow down global warming by absorbing around a quarter of carbon dioxide emissions.

In his lecture, on 11 November, Professor Peter Cox will explain how the pressure of changing rainfall, temperature and moisture levels on the biosphere as a result of global warming could start to reverse this process.

He will also warn that tipping points may be reached in some regions where the damage to these important systems becomes irreversible.

Professor Cox is Met Office Chair in Climate System Dynamics in the School of Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics at the University of Exeter.

His lecture is the second of three this term in the York Biology Lecture series which is supported by the University of York Distinguished Visitors Fund and the Department of Biology.

Admission to the lecture is free and open to all. It will start at 12.15pm in room P/X001, in the Department of Physics.



Notes to editors:

- The University hosts a series of public lectures covering a wide variety of subjects every year. A complete list is available at www.york.ac.uk/news-and-events/events/.


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