

## Participant Information Sheet

### Title of Project:

Guidance on the economic evaluation of the  
health impacts of climate action  
(ECO-CHICA)

### Introduction

We would like to invite you to take part in a modified Delphi Panel to establish guidance on the economic evaluation of health impacts of climate action. Joining the study is entirely up to you. Before you decide, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve. We invite you to review this information and please contact us to answer any questions you may have. Ask questions if anything you read is not clear or you would like more information. Please feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish. Take time to decide whether or not to take part.

### What is the purpose of the study?

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) are conducting research into the appropriate methods for the economic evaluation of the health impacts of climate adaptation or mitigation strategies (climate action/inaction).

### What does the study involve?

This phase of the research involves forming a panel of experts across the areas of environmental/ecological economists and health economist with the aim of developing consistent economic evaluation guidance across the sub disciplines.

### Why have I been asked to take part?

You have been invited because you have signed up to express interest in becoming a stakeholder in the ECO-CHICA research project and have provided your contact details to us for further information.

### Do I have to take part?

No. It is up to you to decide to take part or not. If you don't want to take part, that's ok. Participation in our online panel will be taken as willingness to be involved in the study. Consent for participation will be obtained through the online portal.

### What will happen to me if I take part?

You will be sent a link to the **online panel**. The panel will take place over three rounds. The first round will involve a set of open-ended questions concerning economic evaluation methods. The second round will involve a **set of statements** concerning economic evaluation methods derived from the responses of the first-round responses together with a literature review conducted by the research team that you will be asked to **score for importance** related to their inclusion in the guidance. You will also be given the opportunity to critique the proposed statements and suggest amendments. In the third round, you will be shown the

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summary of scores from the previous rounds together with selected (anonymised) critical comments that informed the redrafting of statements from round two. You will be invited to again **score the statements for importance** and offer further critical comment.

Your responses will be used to develop a set of **draft guidance on the use of economic evaluation to inform climate action**. This draft guidance will form the basis of a **full-day stakeholder workshop to be held in London in September 2025** with the purpose of finalising the guidance.

The entire process will be kept confidential and anonymous until the final guidance is released. At that point (and with your permission) your involvement on the panel will be made public, but no individual comments or scores will be made available.

### **What will I have to do?**

Commit to the process of participating in all three rounds of the Delphi Panel Process as well as the final stakeholder workshop. The first three rounds can be completed asynchronously online through links that will be provided and at a time that is convenient to you (subject to the overall window required for each round of the process).

### **What are the possible risks and disadvantages?**

We are not aware of any major risks or disadvantages of participating in this research.

However, risks of misinterpretation or miscommunication, potentially leading to negative perceptions could occur. This risk will be managed via diverse communication strategies (e.g., using plain language and encouraging the asking of clarifying questions). We will also regularly check for participant understanding throughout the process.

A possible disadvantage could be the opportunity costs of your time to engage with the process, complete the online rounds, and attend the final stakeholder workshop. We estimate that this could take up to two working days of your time, plus another working day for the final stakeholder workshop.

### **What are the possible benefits?**

The benefits of this study are that consistent guidance for economic evaluation across studies evaluating climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies and health economic evaluation should allow greater consistency of decision making with respect to the use of scarce resources that impact human health.

### **What if something goes wrong?**

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions (please see the contact details provided at the bottom of this participant information sheet). If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally, you can do this by contacting: The Research Governance and Integrity Office at [rgio@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:rgio@lshtm.ac.uk) or +44 (0) 20 7927 2626>

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The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine holds insurance policies which apply to this study. If you experience harm or injury as a result of taking part in this study, you may be eligible to claim compensation.

### **Can I change my mind about taking part?**

Yes. You can withdraw from the study at any time. You just need to inform the principal investigator (contact details below) of your desire to withdraw your participation.

If you withdraw from the study, we will destroy all the data collected from you to date and you will not be listed as a contributor to any publications arising from the project.

### **What will happen to information collected about me?**

All the information we collect during the course of the research will be kept confidential and there are strict laws which safeguard your privacy at every stage.

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine are based in the United Kingdom. To follow the United Kingdom's data protection regulations, we must inform you of how we will use and store your personal data.

As a university, we use personally identifiable information to conduct research to improve health, care and services. As a publicly funded organisation, we have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in research. For this specific study, personal identifiable information is only held as a means to contact you. Your responses will not be attributable to you personally. With your permission, your name will be listed as a contributor to this research.

Your personal details, meaning your name and other identifiable information, will be kept only on secure London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine servers and will be destroyed within one year of the end of the study.

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine will act as the data controller for this study. This means that they are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

### **What are your choices about how your information is used?**

You can stop being part of the study at any time, without giving a reason. If you withdraw from the study, we will destroy all the data collected from you to date and you will not be listed as a contributor to any publications arising from the project.

### **Where can you find out more about how your information is used?**

You can find out more about how we use your information

- At <https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/files/research-participant-privacy-notice.pdf>
- by asking one of the research team
- by sending an email to [DPO@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:DPO@lshtm.ac.uk)

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### **What will happen to the results of this study?**

The study results will be published in an academic journal. With your permission, we will list your name in the study report as a participant in the study. However, no responses you make within the survey/interview will be attributed to you personally.

### **Who is organising and funding this study?**

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is the sponsor for the research, and they have full responsibility for the project including the collection, storage and analysis of your data, and will act as the Data Controller for the study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

### **Who has reviewed this study?**

All research involving human participants is looked at by an independent group of people, called a Research Ethics Committee, to protect your interests. This study has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Observational Research Ethics Committee (REF: 31469).

### **Further information and contact details**

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**Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.**

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