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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

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CIFAL Surrey - ACCESS Summer School 2025: Fostering Collaborative Research

People

Deadline: 13 Jun 2025

Type:	Course
Location:	Berkshire, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Date:	22 Sep 2025 to 24 Sep 2025
Duration:	3 Days
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://accessnetwork.uk/summerschool2025/
Price:	\$165.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cifal@surrey.ac.uk
Partnership:	CIFAL Surrey

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the event was to bring together a diverse group of about 30 people to take part in our third residential ACCESS Summer School. Delegates were mainly in their early career or mid career stage, working in a range of sectors, including charities, public sector, commercial and academia.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

Summer School 2025 focused on fostering collaborative research, providing a relaxed and friendly environment in which to:

- Build relationships across sectors
- Develop and practice skills for collaboration
- Scope collaborative research ideas

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Event was focused on professional development via self-reflection, peer-based learning, and discussions with experts on three main learning outcomes:

- Nature and biodiversity
- Circular economies
- Healthy cities

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Interactive programme across 3 days, designed to support networking and peer-based learning.

Session formats:

- Some sessions were speaker-led, with a short presentation from speakers followed by interactive tasks (e.g., discuss case studies, reflect on an issue raised in the presentation)
- Some sessions involved small group work, examining barriers and opportunities for collaborative working

Discussions across the programme were centred around three main themes:

- Nature and biodiversity
- Circular economies
- Healthy cities

METHODOLOGY

Face-to-face delivery of programme in a residential 'retreat-style' setting.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

UK-based researchers and practitioners working in any sector, who use/apply/conduct environmental social science