

## **Programme Director Dave Reay on the PgCert for Carbon Innovation**

**(00:00)**

**Prof Dave Reay:** My name is Dave Reay, I'm a professor of Carbon Management and I'm the Director of the online MSc in Carbon Management and the online Postgraduate Certificates that are run by the School of Geosciences.

So, the Postgraduate Certificate in Carbon Innovation is really innovative. Basically, the name says it all. It's all about how we tackle this problem of climate change through innovation. That's including the economic answers, the solutions that come through the markets, how we link that to policy, how we link it to human behaviour and to all the technology. We have lots of technological solutions, potentially, to climate change, but they need money, they need finance and they need the right **(01:00)** policies. What this Postgraduate Certificate in Carbon Innovation addresses is that linkage, that synergy across the piece to help us tackle climate change effectively.

One of the real strengths of this online programme we've created is the interaction. One of the things students often ask and colleagues ask is, "Yes, it all sounds good in terms of the content, we know the content's really good, but what about the interaction? Do you feel like you're part of the programme?" That's something we've really put a lot of emphasis on and the feedback has been amazing, actually, from students and staff.

In terms of how much time commitment you'll put in each semester, it's roughly 10-15 hours a week if you're covering all the readings we give and all the content, and our twice-weekly online meetings. The way we've paced it and evolved it is working with our online students in the past who have all been in **(02:00)** full time work and in different time zones and saying, "Okay, what will work for you? You're really committed and you really want to do this, but we know there's the reality of real life, there are kids, there are jobs, et cetera." In terms of the pace, the feedback has been great. We've evolved it to make sure that as you're going along, we'll help and we can flex quite a lot. One of the main aims of creating this programme, this Postgraduate Certificate in Carbon Innovation, was to allow accessibility. That's working, and that's wonderful to see. We've got students on pretty much every continent apart from Antarctica, and I'm hoping we'll get someone from Antarctica at some point so we can tick off that final continent.

I think it probably is the greenest Masters in the world, for two reasons. The first reason is that it's online, and for online students the carbon footprint is much lower, but there's still some carbon footprint there because we have all of our computers and our servers and the computers of the students. So we calculated what that was **(03:00)** and then we used an offsetting company which is run by one of our alumni so we offset that little bit of carbon left from the energy use of our computers to make this the greenest masters ever.

A lot of our graduates go into roles which are going to help deliver the outcome of the climate change meeting in Paris and the subsequent ones, and that's across a whole range of sectors. They're all doing amazing stuff on climate change but in so many

different aspects, in all the different sectors, many government, but many not government related. That gives me a spring in my step when I look at that.