

## ● Introduction: Dr Rita Gardner, Director RGS-IBG

The first volume of NOW, published in June 2008 was a great success in demonstrating how Geography is one of the more policy-relevant academic disciplines. It was great to receive positive feedback from all audiences, including academics and from within Government.

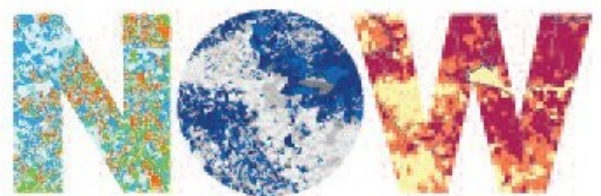
The second volume of six articles, published in 2009, built on this success, and the series now continues with further articles being published online at [www.rgs.org](http://www.rgs.org) on an ongoing and continued basis.

Events in the time since the first volume was published demonstrate more than ever before the relevance and importance of the discipline. From international negotiations and action over climate change to the world economic downturn, understanding how social, economic and environmental processes interact and bring about change and inequality in places and regions has never been more important.

The articles in NOW show where geographers have either worked with, or had a direct influence upon, policymakers. They cover issues of environmental degradation, tackling climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, social cohesion and population change, and quality of life, particularly linked to hazards like flooding.

If you are carrying out geographically-based policy-relevant research or work; or know of someone who is and who you think should be featured; or if there is an issue which you think is specifically geographical and would like to know what work geographers are doing which might influence future policy - please do get in touch with us and let us know.

**Dr Rita Gardner**  
Director



**NOW offers a glimpse of work by UK geographers who are making positive impacts on policy - bringing benefits to the wider world.**

In NOW geographers address the big issues we face in the UK: from understanding migration and the changing ethnic mix to the impacts of flooding and how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Each demonstrating the relevance and importance of understanding our world as geographers.

For further information, or if you are interested in your work featured please contact the RGS-IBG Policy and Public Affairs team at [policy@rgs.org](mailto:policy@rgs.org).