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Our experience of data sharing between scientists and insurers: How have you done it, or failed?

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Insurance is one important aspect of providing resilience to various natural hazards (e.g. flooding, extra-tropical storms, hurricanes). Providing natural hazard insurance reliably, accurately and fairly is underpinned by robust, peer-reviewed environmental science. Collaborations between practitioners and university-based scientists to enhance risk assessment models, however, could be more frequent and effective. In theory, sharing data (e.g., claims or losses) is a route that may offer ways to better work together by generating mutual benefit. In practice, difficulties exist, which I believe might be overcome by a range of options. Here, after a year of my 3-year role as a NERC (UK funding body) Knowledge Exchange Fellow I present some initial thoughts on both difficulties and potential solutions for establishing collaborations between scientists and insurers. More importantly, however, **please come and tell me your experience** in as much or as little detail as permitted by confidentiality. All views on types of data, working practices, useful protocols etc welcomed from both academics and industry workers.