RENKEI

Newcastle, UK / Tuesday 6 May 2025
Durham, UK / Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 May 2025

PROGRAMME

Version 20250429

CONTENTS

1 WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

Title: RENKEI Just Transitions Week, May 2025
Dates: Tuesday 6 – Friday 9 May 2025
Venues: **Newcastle University** (6 May 2025)
(Address: Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, United Kingdom)
Durham University (7-9 May 2025)
(Workshop Venue: Teaching and Learning Centre, South Road, Durham DH1 3LS)
Hosts: **Newcastle University** (6 May 2025)
Durham University (7-9 May)
Funder: RENKEI (administered by British Council, the RENKEI Secretariat)

1.1 BACKGROUND

RENKEI
RENKEI is a partnership of eleven leading universities in the UK and Japan, with the British Council acting as its secretariat. The UK members are Durham University, University of Edinburgh, University of Leeds, University of Liverpool, Newcastle University, University of Southampton. The Japan members are Keio University, Kyushu University, Ritsumeikan University, Sophia University, Tohoku University.

The consortium was established in March 2012 and April 2025 will mark the beginning of a new chapter, RENKEI 3. Building on the learnings gained and relationships strengthened over the last decade, RENKEI has clearer and bigger ambitions for promoting knowledge exchange and research collaboration between the UK and Japan.

Since 2018, RENKEI has been focusing on 'climate change' and 'health' as its themes for research collaboration. Both were included in the 'Japan-UK Joint Declaration on Prosperity Cooperation' released jointly by the Japanese and UK Prime Ministers in September 2017 as part of the key framework of cooperation. RENKEI continues to develop these themes and align them ever more closely with national and international priorities.

RENKEI WORKSHOPS
RENKEI provides a unique opportunity to bring together researchers from leading universities in the UK and Japan. RENKEI workshops have been a vehicle for bringing researchers together, especially those still within the early stages of their career (ECRs). Previous workshops addressing climate change and health have been held in a range of face-to-face and online formats and have sparked new collaborations, some of which have been awarded RENKEI seed funding.

1.2 AIMS

- Provide an international peer networking opportunity for ECRs from the UK and Japan.
- Stimulate UK-Japan bilateral partnership working.
- Support interdisciplinary research activity.
- Strengthen ties between RENKEI members.
- Create links with stakeholders in the UK-Japan relationship.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

We hope participation in the workshop will spark ideas for potential future collaborations in the long-term. Participants will:

- Meet, connect, and exchange views with diverse delegates.
- Have the opportunity to share their work and interests with international peers.
- Gain understanding of diverse research interests that RENKEI member universities have.

1.4 THE RENKEI JUST TRANSITIONS WEEK

Transitions in Northeast England day (hosted by Newcastle University) – 6 May 2025

With so many RENKEI colleagues making the journey to northeast England, Newcastle University is pleased to be able to welcome everyone to the area prior to the start of the workshops hosted in Durham. This will be an opportunity to understand the context in which both Durham and Newcastle universities have developed since the 1830s, and hear from Newcastle university researchers on the research partnerships they have developed over the years. The day will also be an opportunity for researchers to get to know each other and introduce their research interests, starting conversations which can continue throughout the week.

RENKEI workshop: Just Transitions to a Net Zero World (hosted by Durham University) - 7-9 May 2025

Durham University is delighted to invite ECRs from RENKEI universities to take part in the RENKEI Just Transitions to a Net Zero World inter-disciplinary workshop on 7-9 May 2025. We look forward to building on the Kyushu RENKEI workshop to strengthen further RENKEI research collaborations in addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The workshop will provide a platform for early career researchers, including post-docs, PhDs students and advanced post-graduate research students who work on sustainability challenges and/or themes pertaining to just transitions. The workshop will have a strong emphasis on (1) building on existing collaborations; (2) partnership-building and developing new collaborations between early career researchers (ECRs) and more senior academic colleagues to help develop research partnerships (e.g. co-publications, joint research projects); and (3) providing continuity for the work undertaken during the December 2024 Kyushu RENKEI climate/ energy workshop to help secure external research funding.

The workshop is intended to provide an informal and constructive setting for early-career researchers to:

- Develop and shape the existing RENKEI network further to advance the theme of just transitions, with an intergenerational focus.
- Take stock of progress and showcase research proposals from the Kyushu RENKEI climate/ energy workshop.
- Identify and present joint research projects for external research funding, which will be pitched at the end of the workshop and developed further by RENEKI teams.
- Share Durham, the UK and Japan’s approach and strategic vision for sustainability and just transition research.

The overall goal is to develop inter-disciplinary co-publications and research proposals, building on the Kyushu workshop, including from external research funding sources.

During the workshop, RENKEI researchers will be put into groups to prepare a research proposal on Just Transitions, which will be pitched to a mock grant panel on Friday 9 May 2025.

RENKEI Higher Education and Research Partnerships reception– Durham University Oriental Museum - 7 May 2025 - 1800-2000

Durham University Oriental Museum (Address: Elvet Hill Rd, South Rd, Durham DH1 3TH) will host a RENKEI Higher Education and Research Partnerships reception at 18h00-20h00 on 7 May 2025. It is expected that all RENKEI Steering Committee members, Coordinators and participating researchers will attend the reception. We will go directly from the workshop at the Teaching and Learning Centre to the Oriental Museum.

RENKEI Steering Committee (hosted by Durham University) – 8 May 2025 – 1415-1700

The RENKEI Steering Committee will take place on 8 May at 1415-1700.

1.5 THEMES

RENKEI workshop: Just Transitions to a Net Zero World (hosted by Durham University)

The workshop will be led by Durham's JusTN0W initiative, which aims to develop a world-leading interdisciplinary work programme, to research sustainable and just solutions for accelerated decarbonisation of economies and to achieve lasting societal well-being for the present and future generations as well as Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing to encourage and support high calibre interdisciplinary research to understand and address human health challenges.

1.6 WHAT TO EXPECT

Transitions in Northeast England day (hosted by Newcastle University)

The visit to Newcastle University will include time on our main red-brick campus, our new campus at Science Square, and a visit to the Discovery Museum. This will allow us to share a little of the history of both the city and the university, and the local journey towards Net Zero, as well as introductions from Newcastle University researchers and their partners on the collaborations they have pursued in in their work on sustainability. You'll also have time to chat to colleagues informally throughout the day.

Key visit features

- Presentations from and discussions with researchers working with partners for greater impact.
- Visit to the "Steam to Green" and Tyneside Challenge exhibition, celebrating local industrial transition, plus time to explore the Discovery Museum.
- Mini-campus tour and brief walks around Newcastle
- Opportunity to get to know colleagues during the sessions and over lunch
- Dinner and group transport to Durham in the evening.

RENKEI workshop: Just Transitions to a Net Zero World (hosted by Durham University)

- The workshop will be led by academics from Durham's JusTN0W initiative a £5m Durham Strategic Research Fund – and the Durham Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing (https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/wolfson/).
- This workshop builds on the Southampton, Keio and Kyushu workshops; RENKEI priority themes; and UK-Japan joint research and political priorities.
- The workshop aims to provide a platform for early career researchers who work on sustainability challenges and/or themes relating to just transitions to develop networks and establish new collaborations.

- During the workshop, RENKEI researchers will form groups (see section 1.7 for further details) to prepare a research proposal on Just Transitions, which will be pitched to a mock grant panel on Friday 9 May.
- All participants will take part in a RENKEI networking reception on the evening of 7 May at the Oriental Museum and a dinner on 8 May at Durham University Business School, The Waterside Building (Riverside Place, Durham DH1 1SL).
- The workshop will include presentations from ECRs who have secured research funding to undertake research relating to Just Transitions; a guest lecture on the importance of inter-disciplinary approaches for unique solutions; and research funders (Japan Society for the Promotion of Science; The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation; and the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation) about upcoming funding opportunities.
- Tour and interactive activities with Durham Energy Institute and Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience.

2 DAILY TIMETABLE AND DETAILS

Tuesday 6 May 2025: Newcastle

Time	Activity	**Location** (with Google Maps links)
9:30-10:45	Luggage drop and start of mini-campus tours (rolling departures every 15 minutes)	*Meet at King's Gate reception*
10:30-11:00	**Registration and coffee**	*Devonshire Building, Claremont Road Room G21-G22*
11:00-11:15	**Welcome from Newcastle University Pro Vice Chancellor: Global, Professor Chris Whitehead**	*Devonshire Building, room G21-G22*
11:15-12:15	**Sustainable Partnership – Green Corridors and the Tyne Derwent Way**: a panel discussion on multi-partner collaboration. • Helen Moir, Senior Urban Programme Manager (North East), National Trust • Clare Richardson, Senior Programme Manager, Gateshead Council • Prof. Richard Clay, School of Arts and Cultures, Newcastle University	*Devonshire Building, room G21-G22*
12:15-13:15	**Lunch**	
13:15-13:45	*Walk to Discovery Museum, past St James' Park Football Stadium and sections of Newcastle's ancient city walls (approx. 25 minutes, gentle slopes)*	
13:45-14:45	**Visit the Discovery Museum, with a short collaborative challenge** Please be sure to explore: • Steam to Green: A North East Energy Revolution • Tyneside Challenge • Any other areas of interest!	*Discovery Museum, Blandford Square NE1 4JA*
14:45-15:00	*Walk to Helix campus (approx. 10 minutes, one short, moderate hill)*	
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	*Frederick Douglass Centre Room DC.1.18*
15:30-16:45	More sustainable partnerships, with questions/discussion **15:30** DARe – Dr Alistair Ford, School of Engineering **15:45** Working with industry: Palm Oil in Sarawak, Malaysia - Charlie Osborne, School of Natural and Environmental Sciences **16:00** Birds, Bees, Bikes and Trees (with Baltic and North East Young Dads and Lads) – Dr Michael Richardson, School of Geography, Politics and Sociology **16:15** A Resilient Just Transformation for Post-Industrial Coastal Communities, Brett Cherry, School of Geography, Politics and Sociology **16:30** Insights NE – Jecel Censoro, School of Geography, Politics and Sociology	*Frederick Douglass Centre, Helix Science Square, NE4 5TG Room FDC.1.17*
16:45-17:15	**Closing from Newcastle University Pro Vice Chancellor: Research and Innovation, Professor Matthew Grenby**	*Frederick Douglass Centre Room DC.1.17*
17:15-17:30	*Walk to dinner, via Newcastle's Chinatown*	
17:30-19:45	**Dinner at Chaophraya** Drinks on arrival, followed by a hot Thai buffet on the terrace overlooking Grey's Monument	Chaophraya, *Grey's Quarter, Eldon Square NE1 7AP*

Time	Activity	**Location** (with Google Maps links)
19:45	*Leave restaurant, walk to King's Gate and collect luggage (10-15 minutes)*	
20:15	*Meet bus next to the Great North Museum (around the corner from Kings Gate)*	Bus Meeting point, *Claremont Road*
20:30	*Bus departs for Radisson Blu Hotel Durham*	

Wednesday 7th May 2025: Durham

Time	Activity	Location / Notes
8.10	**Depart by foot from Radisson Blu Hotel to Teaching & Learning Centre** Met at hotel lobby by Durham representatives and walk to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (approx. 25 min walk)	*Radisson Blu Hotel, Frankland Lane, Durham DH1 5TA*
8.45-9.00	**Registrations** (Tea/coffee served)	*Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) South Road, Durham DH1 3LS*
9.00-9.10	**Welcome by Professor Colin Bain, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)**	*TLC 123*
9.10-10.30	**Introductions and meet and greet** Led by Professor Brian Castellani, Director of Durham Research Methods Centre and Co-Director of Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing	*TLC 123*
10.30-12.00	**Just Transitions and the RENKEI context** • **JuSTN0W welcome and overview** Led by Professor Petra Minnerop (Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy, and PI of JusTN0W initiative, Durham University) (30 mins) • **Update and next steps from Kyushu climate workshop** Led by Professor Natalie Konomi, Vice-President for International Affairs and Diversity, Kyushu University: (20 mins) • **Aims and objectives for the workshop** Led by Professor Brian Castellani (30 mins)	*TLC 123*
12.00-13.15	**Lunch**	*TLC 106*
13.15-14.15	**Just Transitions Research Examples Panel Discussion** Panel led by Professor Laura Marsiliani Department of Economics, Durham University with: • Dr Jessica Lehman Department of Geography, Durham University • Dr Lucy Naga, Post-doctoral researcher, Herriot-Watt University • Dr Adebola Adeyemi, Durham Law School	*TLC 123*
14.15-14.30	**Coffee Break**	*TLC 106*
14.30-17.30	**Group session to develop research proposals** Led by Professor Brian Castellani, Dr John Bothwell Department of Biosciences; and Dr Nelly Bencomo Department of Computer Science	*TLC 123*
17.30-18.00	**Walk to Oriental Museum**	
18.00-20.00	**UK-Japan RENKEI Higher Education and Research Partnerships Reception, hosted by Professor Mike Shipman Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Durham University** *Canapes served during the event*	*Oriental Museum, Elvet Hill, Durham DH1 3TH*

Thursday 8th May: Durham

Time	Activity	Location / Notes
8.30	**Travel from Radisson Blu Hotel to Teaching & Learning Centre** Met at hotel lobby by Durham representatives and walk to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (approx. 25 min walk)	*Radisson Blu Hotel, Durham DH1 5TA*
9.00-10.00	**Inter-disciplinary collaborations for unique solutions** Led by Professor Phyllis Illari, Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London	*Teaching and Learning Centre TLC 123*
10.00-10.15	Coffee Break	*TLC 123*
10.15-11.30	**UK-Japan Just Transitions Funding opportunities for Early Career Researchers** **Chaired by Professor Petra Minnerop:** • Prof. Masahiko Hara, Director and Yusuke Nishida, International Programme Associate; Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) London Office • Jason James OBE, Director General and Susan Meehan, Scholarships and Grants Officer; Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation • Miwako Hayashi Bitmead, Programmes Executive; The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation • Ryan Ahmed, Senior Manager, The Royal Society • Yuliia Teleshova, Programme Officer, Frontiers Programme, Royal Academy of Engineering	*TLC 123*
11.30-13.00	**Tour of Durham** Led by Durham Anglo-Japanese Student Society	
13.00-14.00	**Lunch**	*TLC 106*
13.55	**For Prof. Chris Whitehead, Prof. James Cooper, Dr Spencer Hazel and Grace Guan (tbc)** Meeting point for RENKEI Steering Committee members who will not take part in the morning workshop or lunch. *A Durham member of staff will be at the reception.*	*Teaching and Learning Centre, South Road, Durham DH1 3LS*
14.00	**Group photo**	*TLC staircase*
14.15-17.30	**Group session and clinic to develop research proposals** Group session led by Professor Brian Castellani; Dr John Bothwell; and Dr Nelly Bencomo	*TLC 123*
14.15-17.00	**RENKEI Steering Committee meeting**	*Calman Centre (CLC 407)*
17.30-18.20	**Free time/return to hotel**	
18.20	**Pick-up for dinner**	*Radisson Blu Hotel lobby*
18.30-20.30	**Dinner hosted by Professor Claire O'Malley, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Global)**	*Durham University Business School Waterside, Durham DH1 1SL*

Friday 9th May: Durham

Time	Activity	Location / Notes
8.30	**Travel from Radisson Blu Hotel to Teaching & Learning Centre** Met at hotel lobby by Durham representatives and walk to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (approx. 25 min walk)	*Radisson Blu Hotel, Durham DH1 5TA*
9.00-10.00	**Meeting for the RENKEI grant panel members**	*TLC129*
9.00-10.00	**Preparations for grant panel by RENKEI ECR research groups**	*TLC 123*
10.00-12.00	**Grant panel presentation and feedback** • Professor Laura Marsiliani (Chair) • Professor Natalie Konomi, Vice-President for International Affairs and Diversity, Kyushu University • Professor Daisuke Komori International Research Institute of Disaster Science, Tohoku University • Professor Edward Newman, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds	*TLC 123*
12.00-12.15	**Next steps** Led by **Professor Petra Minnerop** and **Professor Brian Castellani**	*TLC 123*
12.15-13.15	**Lunch**	*TLC 106*
13.20-13.30	**Walk to Calman Centre**	
13.30-14.15	**Durham Energy Institute Showcase** **Welcome and Overview led by Professor Simone Abram Executive Director, Durham Energy Institute with:** • Professor Andrew Smallbone, Deputy Director of Research in the Department of Engineering • Professor Gavin Bridge, Department of Geography • Dr Olivia Woolley, Durham School of Law • Dr Anish Jindal, Department of Computer Science	*CLC 406*
14.15-15.15	**Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience Showcase** With Prof. Bruce Malamud, Executive Director and Dr Sim Reaney, Co-Director, Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience	*CLC407*
15.20	**Walk to Teaching & Learning Centre**	
15.30	**Farewell tea** *Refreshments to be served including cakes/scones*	*TLC 106*

3 PREPARATION FOR THE JUST TRANSITIONS WORKSHOPS

RENKEI SANDPIT FOR RESEARCH

7 MAY Sandpit Event 1:	14:30 – 17:30
8 MAY Sandpit Event 2:	14:15 – 17:30
9 MAY prepare presentations	09:00 – 10:00
PANEL PRESENTATIONS	10:00 – 12:00

The purpose of the sandpit workshop is to give the ECRS attending the workshop a chance to develop a collaborative research project with colleagues from Japan and the UK.

Here are the five themes we are asking participants to engage relative to their research.
1: Just transitions in urban environments - Cities and urban areas are particularly relevant in achieving just transitions in response to climate change, as the critical sites of greenhouse gas emissions that drive global climate change and as areas that will feel many of the most severe impacts of climate change.
2: Just transitions within industries and sectors - Ensuring just transitions whilst tackling climate change and biodiversity loss is key to supporting inclusive economies and societies in the future. We need to consider action in sectors and industries globally across supply and value chains and we expect the focus to be on key economic emitters or areas of society that will help reduce and/or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions.
3: Just transitions and policy impacts – we need to tackle climate change and biodiversity; identify the potential disruption and opportunity of decarbonising economies and societies, and recommend options and pathways for communities, workers, businesses, policymakers and the wider public.
4: Climate Justice: Unequal access to clean and affordable energy and green finance
5: Managing just transitions to improve environmental public health and address public health inequalities relative to climate change injustices.

DAY 1 SANDPIT (7 MAY, 14:30 – 17:30)

- Over lunch, everyone will sign up for the two themes in which they are interested.
- At the start of the sandpit event, there will be five tables – one for each of the five themes.
- Participants will visit one table for first half hour, based on their first choice.
    - You will share your interests and learn about the interests of others.
- They visit a second table for the second half hour based on their second choice.
    - You will share your interests and learn about interests of others.
- After the two table visits, the mid-career/ senior researchers for each theme will be given some time to propose how to organise the table
- They will do a pitch to peers based on participants' expressed interests.
- After the pitch, participants will decide which table they want to work at.
    - It can even be a table you did not visit.
- Once everyone is at their tables, the mid-career/ senior researcher can decide how to organise the table, keeping the maximum to 6 participants per idea. If a table has more than 6 participants, they can break into more than one research group or sub-theme.

REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH TABLE

- Each group will have a minimum of one mid/ senior colleague
- The event team will be roaming the room to help as needed.
- Each group must have at least one ECR from one Japanese and one UK university.

FORM to complete at the end of Day 1:
At the end of Day 1, each research group will provide a rough title, lists of partners by expertise, and some idea of what the project is about, potentially even work packages. Knowing full well they can change that on the second day. Also, a table needs to list what each member sees that they are potentially getting out of it.

DAY 2 SANDPIT (8 MAY, 14:15 – 17:30)

- Starting with the form from Day 1, the tables are to get to work developing their idea – with an eye toward the panel presentation.
- Each presentation will last ten minutes.
- Your proposal should have following parts
    - One slide on why this project is important – why is this important?
        - What makes this stand out from the crowd?
    - One slide on how all the pieces fit together – how are you going to do it
        - Organogram of the project: work packages, etc.
    - What are the Japan/UK links?
    - One slide on Immediate funding and follow-on funding – how you going to fund it?
    - A table that lists what each member sees that they are potentially getting out of it – what do you get out of it e.g., a trip they need, a connection they want to make, etc.

DAY 3 SANDPIT (9 MAY, 9:00 – 10:00)

- Research groups are to use this time to finalise their presentation.
- Each presentation must last no more than 10 minutes, there will then be 5 minutes for questions.
- Panel presentations can be done as you see best.
    - One person speaks for the group with others joining in, or different people speaking to different topics.

We attach some examples of previous presentations that may help you prepare for your research proposal presentations.

PANEL PRESENTATIONS
The panel is comprised of the following members:

Professor Laura Marsiliani (Chair), Professor, Business School, Durham University.

Professor Natalie Konomi, Vice-President for International Affairs and Diversity, Kyushu University

Prof. Daisuke Komori International Research Institute of Disaster Science, Tohoku University

Professor Edward Newman, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds

PANEL SCORECARD

RENKEI	**RESEARCH PROPOSAL**
Title:	
Group Name/Number:	

Names *(please print)*:	

Assessment Criteria:	Outright Fail	Serious Fail	Clear Fail	Very Poor	Poor	Weak	Fair	Adequate	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Outstanding	Exemplary
	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-75	76-85	86-100
Relevance to topic													
Interdisciplinarity													
Novelty of research question													
Potential for impact beyond academia													
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion													
Project management and timeline													
Value for money													
Presentation effectiveness													

Final mark and feedback

4 LOGISTICS AND KEY CONTACTS

Please make sure you have travel adaptors for any devices and chargers, as hotels do not usually have these available for guests.

The weather in May is often mixed, with sunshine, rain showers and some cold winds. Please bring comfortable shoes for walking, and a jumper and jacket to layer if you get cold.

Social media - Share your experience of the RENKEI Just Transitions workshop using **#RENKEI** and **#JustTransitions**

4.1. NEWCASTLE KEY INFORMATION

Contact Details: Nicola Brooks nicola.brooks@newcastle.ac.uk +447772628181

WIFI

Newcastle University uses Eduroam, which is an international network with hundreds of member institutions and allows guests to connect using their home institution login. Alternatively, you can access Newcastle University wi-fi in any of our buildings:

- From your device connect to the network **WiFi Guest**
- On The Cloud landing page locate the box **Get online at Newcastle University** and click **Go**
- Scroll down to select **Create Account**
- Enter your details and the account will be created.
- The device will then be connected to **WiFi Guest**

How to use the service

Visitors should connect their device to the open wireless network **WiFi Guest** and open a web browser. They will be automatically redirected to The Cloud login page where they enter their account details. After connecting the first time your device should remember your credentials for next time.

You will also find free Wi-Fi hotspots in the city centre and shopping centres.

PRAYER ROOM AND QUIET SPACE

Newcastle University has a number of dedicated spaces across campus for prayer or peaceful reflection. This includes rooms in The Frederick Douglass Centre, the Stephenson Building next to the Devonshire Building, as well as a dedicated Muslim Prayer Space on the main campus, in partnership with our Islamic Society. Details can be found on Faith and Spirituality Facilities. Please ask one of the Newcastle team if you'd like help to find a quiet space (some, including the Muslim prayer space, require a keycard to access)

ARRIVAL AND GETTING AROUND

For Newcastle University on Tuesday 6 May

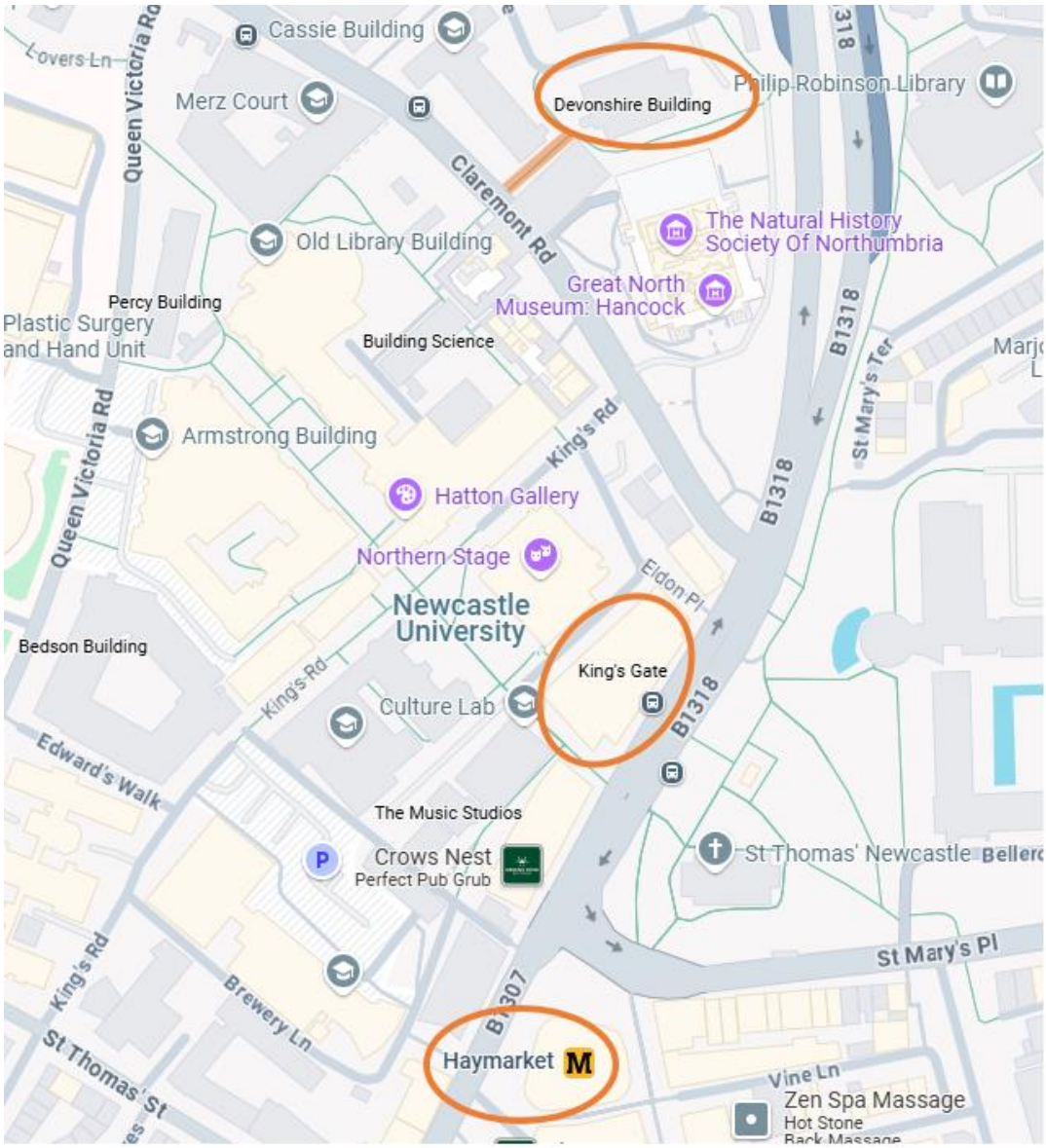
King's Gate

If you need luggage storage and/or would like to join a short campus tour prior to registration, please aim to arrive at Newcastle University King's Gate reception between 9:30 and 10:30

Devonshire Building

If you prefer to go directly to registration, please aim to arrive at Newcastle University Devonshire Building by 10:40. Take the footpath highlighted on the map below from Claremont Road.

Basic map below - You can also find campus and local maps at newcastle-university-campus-city-map.pdf, and all Newcastle University Buildings can be found on Google Maps.



ARRIVING IN NEWCASTLE

If you are arriving at Newcastle airport:

- The metro runs directly from the airport to Newcastle City Centre in around 25 minutes. You can check the nearest stations for your hotel and plan your journey in full at https://www.nexus.org.uk/metro or download the Pop App for Apple or Android. You can buy a ticket using cash or cards at the machines at every station, or using the Pop App.
    - For the Newcastle University, please leave the train at Haymarket
    - For the train station (if you will continue to Durham without stopping in Newcastle), please leave the train at Central.
- There is a taxi rank outside the arrivals area, or you can use Uber to reach the city centre in 15-30 minutes, depending on traffic.

If you are arriving at Newcastle Central train station:

- Central Station is around a 20-minute walk from Newcastle University (uphill!)
- You can take the metro, 2 stops, approximately 5 minutes (green or yellow line towards St James or the Airport, see information above)
- There is a taxi rank right of the main station exit/entrance area, or you can use Uber.

If you are arriving at Edinburgh airport:

- You can take a bus or tram from outside Edinburgh airport direct to Edinburgh city centre in 30-45 minutes, depending on traffic.
- Once you get to Edinburgh Waverley train station, take the train to Newcastle (or continue to Durham, 15 minutes further south).
- For directions and advice from the station, see the point above.

DEPARTURE FROM NEWCASTLE TO DURHAM

On the evening of 6 May, after the dinner, we will arrange a coach to take all participants (excluding Newcastle and Durham participants) from Newcastle to the Radisson Blu Hotel in Durham.

For those colleagues (excluding Newcastle and Durham participants) who are not attending the 6 May Transitions in the Northeast England day, you will need to make your own way to the Radisson Blu Hotel. If you are arriving by train, we recommend that you take a taxi (taxi ride is five minutes).

4.2 DURHAM KEY INFORMATION

Contact Details; Peter Bainbridge Peter.J.Bainbridge@durham.ac.uk +44 77585 559774

Durham University Social Media: LinkedIn - @durham-university
BlueSky - @durham-university.bsky.social
X - @durham_uni

WIFI

Durham uses Eduroam, which is an international network with hundreds of member institutions. Alternatively, you can access Durham University wi-fi in any of our buildings across Durham via TheCloud. Instructions as follows:

- **Enable wifi** and **select 'TheCloud@Durham'** from the available network list.
- Open your internet browser - 'TheCloud' landing page will appear. Click **'Get Online'**
- You will then see the service selection screen and need to **select 'TheCloud Wi-Fi'**
- Login with an existing 'TheCloud' account or click on the 'Create Account' button to register
- Once logged in or registered you will be able to access the internet using 'TheCloud@Durham'

Medical Help

- Call 999 if someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk.
- Call NHS 111 if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation.
- National Emergency Number for Police, Ambulance, Fire Brigade – 999
- Nearest hospital: University Hospital of North Durham: North Rd, Durham DH1 5TW
- The nearest pharmacy is Boots Pharmacy in Durham City Centre.
  Address: 2-5 Market Place, *Durham, DH1 3NB*

Transport

Train	Durham Train Station DH1 4RB Good cross-country connections including Newcastle (approx. 15 min journey)	
Taxi	There are lots of local taxi companies in and around Durham, including:	
	Uber	Easily accessible and good network due to student population in Durham
	Nearby Taxis	Phone: +44191 388 8888 Online: Home - Nearby Durham
	Stanley Taxis	Phone: +44191 306 0606 Online: Book a Taxi - Stanley Travel (stanley-travel.com)
Bus	Arriva Bus	Durham Zone Map showing bus routes - Arriva Durham network Timetable and journey planning - Tickets & Times | Arriva Bus

ACCOMODATION

We have recommended that all participants stay at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Frankland Lane, Durham DH1 5TA. This is an approx. 25-minute walk from the main Durham University campus.

For those colleagues who are not attending the 6 May Transitions in the Northeast of England day in Newcastle, you will need to arrange your own transport to get to the Radisson Blu Hotel. We advise that you take a taxi from Durham train station to the hotel (a 5-minute taxi ride). There will be taxis waiting outside the train station.

For non-Durham University and non-Newcastle University participants, every morning, Durham staff will escort our RENKEI colleagues who are staying at the Radisson Blu Hotel to the Teaching and Learning Centre by foot. The departure time will be:

- 08.10 – Wednesday 7 May
- 08.30 – Thursday 8 May
- 08.30 – Friday 9 May

For all Durham and Newcastle University participants as well as other participants who are not staying at the Radisson Blu Hotel, you will need to make your own way to the Teaching and Learning Centre (South Road, Durham DH1 3LS) where the workshop will take place.

RENKEI Networking Reception

All participants are invited and expected to attend the RENKEI networking reception on 7 May at 18.00. After the workshop has finished at 17.30, Durham colleagues will escort you to the Oriental Museum (approx.10-minute walk).

For those colleagues arriving in the afternoon into Durham for the reception, we advise you to drop off your luggage at the hotel and then take a taxi to the Oriental Museum (Elvet Hill Road, South Rd, Durham DH1 3TH)

RENKEI Steering Committee

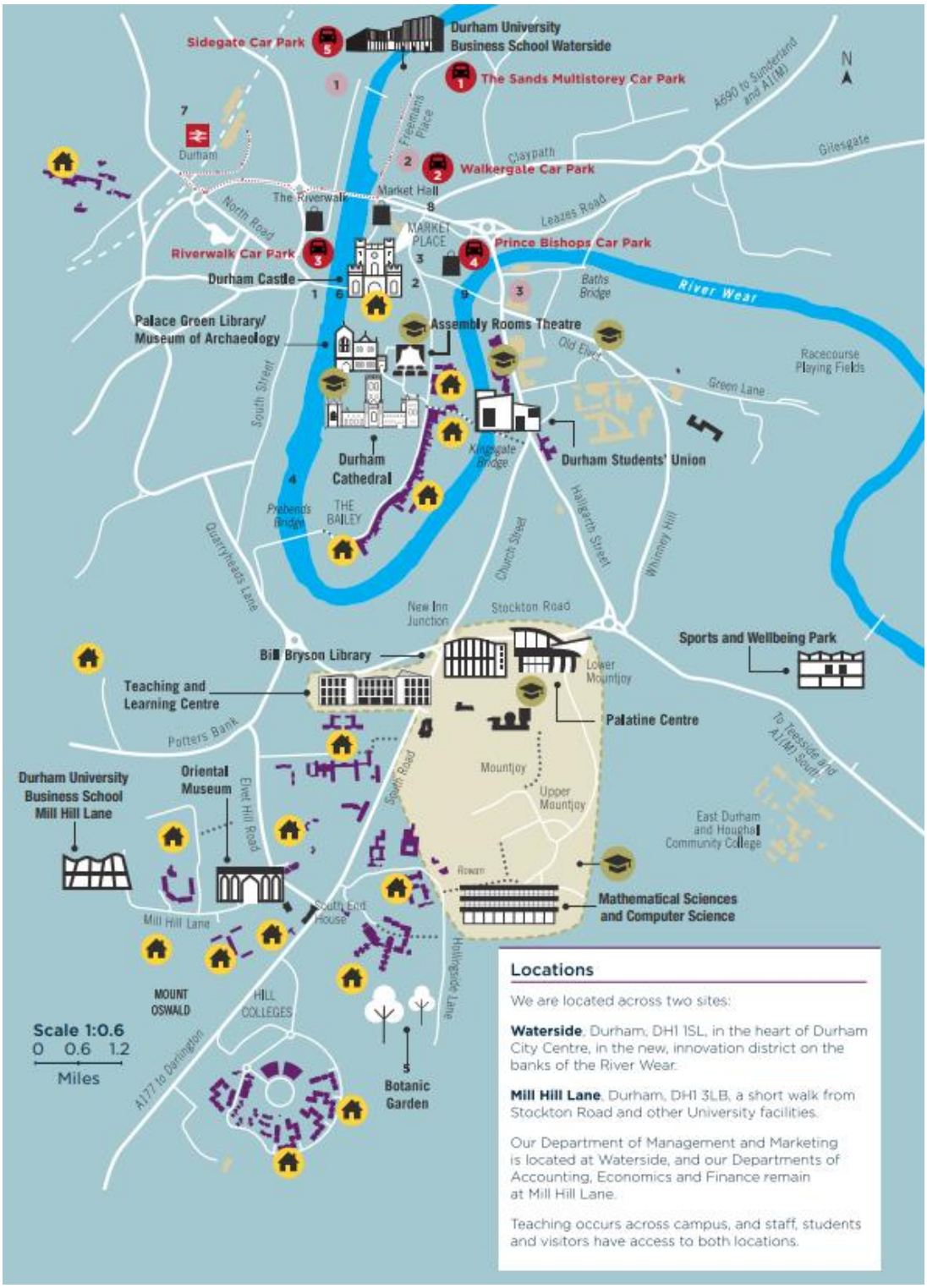
For all RENKEI Steering Committee members and coordinators who will be at the RENKEI workshop on the morning of Thursday 8 May or joining the lunch in room TLC106, after we have taken the group photo on the Teaching and Learning Centre staircase at 14.00, Durham staff will escort you to the Steering Committee meeting venue (Room 407, Calman Centre).

For *Prof. Chris Whitehead, Prof. James Cooper, Dr Spencer Hazel and Grace Guan.* These colleagues will be arriving directly for the RENKEI Steering Committee. We advise that they come to the Teaching and Learning Centre reception (South Road, Durham DH1 3LS) by 13.55 on Thursday 8 May so that they can take part in the group photo. They will then be escorted to the Steering Committee meeting room at the Calman Centre. If travelling to Durham by train, please take a taxi to the Teaching and Learning Centre (approx. 10-15 minutes).

RENKEI Dinner on 8 May – 18.30-20.30

This will take place at Durham University Business School, Waterside Building, Riverside Place, Durham DH1 1SL. This is located opposite the Radisson Blu Hotel. It is expected that all participants will attend the dinner. Durham colleagues will escort you from the hotel lobby at 18.20.

DURHAM CAMPUS MAP



5 PARTICIPANTS

5.1 RESEARCHERS

DURHAM UNIVERSITY	
Senior Researchers	
 **Prof. Petra Minnerop** Professor of International Law and Director of Durham's Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy	Petra works at the intersection of law and science in the context of sustainability, climate change and environmental degradation. Her research addresses how the law can be used to effectuate change in light of scientific evidence, to address global environmental crises. She uses comparative legal analysis and interdisciplinary methods and has published widely on climate change, environmental law and policy and international law. In her administrative roles at Durham University, she serves as the Chair of the UN SDG Group of the University and leads on the University's engagement with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). She served as Deputy Executive Dean (Global) of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Health in 2024. Petra is the founding Director of the Durham Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy (CSDLP). She is the lead PI on the flagship initiative of the CSDLP: the Just Transitions to a Net Zero World (JusTN0W) project. She obtained several external grants in the past few years, including the Rockefeller Foundation, FILE Foundation and ESRC. Email: petra.minnerop@durham.ac.uk
 **Prof. Laura Marsiliani** Professor of Economics, Department of Economics	Laura is Professor in Economics and Director of the Centre for Environmental and Energy Economics (CE3) at Durham University Business School. She is also the Faculty of Business Associate Dean for Ethics, Responsibility and Sustainability and a former Faculty Lead for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Laura holds a PhD in Economics from London Business School and a MSc. in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from University College London. She is Faculty Lead in the Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy (CSDLP), PI for the JusTN0W initiative and a fellow of the Durham Energy Institute (DEI). Laura's research is at the intersection of environmental, energy and public economics, focusing on the analysis of economic incentives and policies to promote decarbonisation and foster environmental quality in the markets and at individual's level. She has spearheaded a pioneering research agenda on Energy Markets Reforms and Decarbonisation that has led to the design of the first energy augmented Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium (DSGE) model of the Bangladesh economy and informed the Bangladesh's 2017 review of electricity prices. She has collaborated with the Asian Development Bank Institute on Prospects for Transitioning from a Linear to Circular Economy in Developing Asia. She is currently an associate editor of Development and Sustainability in Economics and Finance, Elsevier. Laura has served as an assessor of research grant proposals for the British Council, Economics and Social Research Council (ESRC), Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and Wellcome Trust. She has a track record of grant capture in interdisciplinary research, the latest as Co-I in the £1.4 million EPSRC project Geothermal Energy from Mines and Solar-Geothermal and £11 million HEIF-Research England project 'Growing Teesside's Hydrogen Economy and Catalysing a Just Transition to Net Zero'. She is an external examiner for the University of Edinburgh School of Economics and the University of Aberdeen

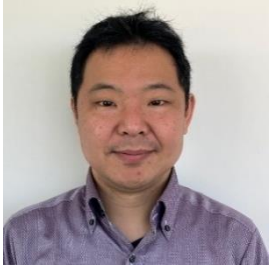
	Business School and has a track record of designing and delivering modules and programmes on sustainability and public economics at all levels. She has supervised 13 PhD students to completion and mentored several ECRs colleagues. Email: Laura.Marsiliani@durham.ac.uk
 **Prof. Brian Castellani** Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology	Brian is Director of the Research Methods Centre and Co-Director of the Wolfson Research Institute for Health and Wellbeing at Durham University, UK. He is also Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry (Northeastern Ohio Medical University, USA), CO-I for the Centre for the Evaluation of Complexity Across the Nexus, and a Fellow of the UK National Academy of Social Sciences. Brian also runs the EnvironMental Health Nexus, which puts the social in front of the science to create healthy spaces for healthy minds. Brian is trained as a health sociologist, clinical psychologist, and methodologist. His work is in complexity science and its application to health and public policy. See his recent book with Lasse Gerrits, The Atlas of Social Complexity. Email: brian.c.castellani@durham.ac.uk
 **Dr. Nelly Bencomo** Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science	Nelly Bencomo is a professor in the Computer Science Department at Durham University and the leader of the Research Team at SE@Durham. She is co-PI of the Durham's Strategic Research Fund (SRF) JusTN0W: Just Transitions to a Net Zero World ~£5 Million JusTN0W link. In 2019, Nelly was granted the Leverhulme Fellowship "QuantUn: quantification of uncertainty using Bayesian surprises." Previously, she was awarded a Marie Curie Fellow at INRIA Paris - Roquencourt. The Marie Curie project is called Requirements-aware Systems (nickname: Requirements@run.time). Nelly exploits the interdisciplinary aspects of model-driven engineering (MDE), software engineering, comprising both technical and human concerns, while developing techniques for intelligent, autonomous and highly distributed systems. With other colleagues, she coined the research topic models@run.time. Her research informs the design of systems that involve communities of people and technology (https://aihs.webspace.durham.ac.uk/socio-technical-systems/). She is the PI of the EPSRC Twenty20Insight research project. Twenty20Insight is an interdisciplinary project bringing together academic experts in Software Engineering (SE), RE, Design Thinking and ML to help system stakeholders and developers understand and reason about the impact of intelligent systems on the world in which they operate. Twenty20Insight actively supports the explainability of the exposed behaviour by the running system. She also leads the EPSRC IAA Project weDecide: Clinical Tool for Shared Decision-Making for Treatment of Menopause Symptoms. Nelly has actively participated in different European Projects and the EPSRC in the UK regarding self-adaptive and autonomous systems. She was the program chair of the 9th International Symposium on Software Engineering for Adaptive and Self-Managing Systems (SEAMS) in 2014 and co-program chair of the 12th IEEE International Conference on Self-Adaptive and Self-Organizing Systems (SASO) in 2018 and the ACM/IEEE 25th International Conference on Model Driven Engineering Languages and Systems MODELS'22. Nelly is an Associate Editor of ACM Transactions on Autonomous and Adaptive Systems and was an Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE) and a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Software and Systems. She is also a member of the IEEE TCSE (Technical Council on Software Engineering) members-at-large (2020-24) and the Steering Committee of MODELS. She has served as a PC member and organizing team member of multiple SE-related Conferences. Email: nelly.bencomo@durham.ac.uk

 **Dr. John Bothwell** Associate Professor (Reader in Bioeenergy), Department of Biosciences	John is a phycologist (= somebody who works on seaweed) in Durham's Biosciences Dept and has active research interests in sustainable biotechnology and marine environmental protection. John is a past Director of the Durham Energy Institute, a current Director of the Centre for Sustainable Law and Policy, a lead on the University's Just Transitions to Net Zero initiative, a creator of the UK University sector's Early Career Researcher guidelines, a working group co-chair for the UK University sector's current Research Excellence Framework and the author of an award-winning popular science book on seaweeds. John also coaches the Durham University Rugby squad and, a very long time ago, played several tour matches against Japanese teams in Tokyo. He still carries the scars to prove it. Email: j.h.bothwell@durham.ac.uk
Mid Career Researcher	
 **Dr. Liz Morris** Assistant Professor of Structural Biology, Department of Biosciences; Co-Director of the Biophysical Sciences Institute	Dr Liz Morris is an Assistant Professor of Structural Biology in the Department of Biosciences in the Faculty of Science at Durham University. Dr Morris is Co-Director of Durham University's cross-disciplinary research institute, the Biophysical Sciences Institute. Dr Morris' research focuses on the mechanisms of viral replication and developing novel strategies to block viral replication. Her research expertise also covers the structure of proteins, enzymes and the nucleic acids DNA and RNA. She has established collaborations with AstraZeneca and GlaxoSmithKline, who are both using her discoveries to advance cancer drug discovery. Email: liz.morris@durham.ac.uk
Early Career Researchers	
 **Dr. Jo Hepworth** Assistant Professor in the Department of Biosciences	Dr Hepworth is a plant developmental biologist with an interest in trying to maintain crop yields in response to climate change. She studied for her PhD with Prof Ottoline Leyser at University of York, before postdoctoral stints at Universität Potsdam with Prof Michael Lenhard and the John Innes Centre with Prof Caroline Dean, all on Arabidopsis genetics, before learning to transfer fundamental plant biology knowledge to Brassica crops with Prof Lars Ostergaard. She is now establishing a group at Durham University that combines testing temperature sensing in model plants (Arabidopsis) in the lab with field experiments on Brassica crops. The group is trying to establish the rules by which plants control development of their flowering branches in fluctuating climates. Email: jo.a.hepworth@durham.ac.uk
 **Ms. Lizbeth Mendieta-Rodriguez** PhD Candidate, Department of Engineering	Lizbeth is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Engineering at Durham University. Her early research at the Instituto Politécnico Nacional in Mexico focused on water remediation through adsorption using conductive polymers, which laid the foundation for her current work. Today, she is advancing a project that explores a heterogeneous photocatalytic system for hydrogen production from wastewater using sunlight. By leveraging conductive polymer-based composites, her research aims to develop a sustainable, cost-effective approach to harness hydrogen from wastewater while optimizing production by delineating the key physical-chemical characteristics that render effluents suitable for this innovative process. Email: lizbeth.s.mendieta-rodriguez@durham.ac.uk

 **Dr. Cian Rynne** Post Doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Biosciences	Dr Cian Rynne is a PostDoctoral research associate in Prof Keith Lindsey's in Durham Universties biosciences lab working on commercial applications of plant bio research. Focusing on interactions between built infrastructure and plants. Currently he is involved in a collaboration with Northumbria water, CPI and United Utilities to prevent root ingress into water effluent systems. Email: cian.rynne@durham.ac.uk
 **Dr. Dingkun Lu** Assistant Professor, Environmental and Energy Economics, Department of Economics	Dr Dingkun Lu is an Assistant Professor of the Business School, Durham University. His current fields of interest are environmental economics, energy economics and firm productivity, with a particular focus on overcoming the trade-off between environmental improvement and productivity decreases, which is known as the environmental decoupling. He is interested in how environmental regulation policies affect firm performance, investment, location choice, and other business behaviours. Dr Dingkun is now a research fellow of the Research England Hydrogen Innovation Project | Net Zero (REHIP). In this project, his current research includes exploring the hydrogen, zinc oxide, and zinc market, and the fuel choice in the transportation sector. Email: dingkun.lu@durham.ac.uk
 **Mr. Mustafa Kamran** Research Associate, Durham Law School	Mustafa's research focuses on reconceptualising the notion of human dignity – the foundational concept and the basic unit of international law. The idea of just transitions and the endeavours to recognise state obligations in relation to climate change are essentially for the preservation of human dignity. Additionally, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets the goal of reaching the potential for human dignity as the main agenda of the UN SDGs. Consequently, the aim of my research is to recognise the true and era-relevant understanding of human dignity in the ever-evolving world and to establish and recognise further state obligations for its protection. This is not only relevant to just transitions to a greener world but also to a safer metaverse where artificial intelligence should be used for the betterment of humanity - not for the destruction of human dignity. Email: ghulam.m.kamran@durham.ac.uk
 **Dr. Adebola Adeyemi** Assistant Professor in the Durham Law School	Climate finance is a critical component of global efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its impacts, particularly for developing countries that bear the brunt of climate vulnerability despite contributing minimally to global GHG emissions. My research explores equitable climate financing pathways driven at the local level. Drawing on global climate agreements, the current and ongoing trajectory of climate finance, and the outcome of COP29, I explore key climate finance outcomes from climate related negotiations and build on climate justice frameworks to suggest possible equitable climate financing pathways for vulnerable countries. My research highlights challenges, opportunities, and sets out pathways for creating a more equitable climate finance system to lessen vulnerabilities and promote an equitable climate finance agenda. Email: adebola.adeyemi@durham.ac.uk

 **Ms. Kalila Mackenzie** PhD Candidate, Department of Economics	Kalila is conducting her doctoral research in energy economics at the Durham University. The focus of her research in on utilising choice modelling approaches to understand consumer preferences for low-carbon heating systems, including geothermal district heating and hydrogen boilers. She is a key researcher on the multidisciplinary Geothermal Energy from Mines and Solar Geothermal Heat (GEMS) project, investing the technical feasibility and socio-economic impact of geothermal district heating in the North East of England. She is a recipient of the Durham University Business School's Centre for Environmental and Energy Economics PhD Scholarship and a member of the Durham Energy Institute. Prior to joining Durham University, she obtained her Masters of Science in Economics with Distinction from the University of Exeter, where her research focus was on environmental economics. Before resuming her studies, she had a diverse career in strategy and management consulting in Southern Africa, leading projects within the financial, energy and public sectors. She completed her undergraduate in Economics at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Email: kalila.h.mackenzie@durham.ac.uk
 **Dr. Millicent McCreath** Assistant Professor in the Durham Law School	Millicent joined Durham Law School in February 2025 as Assistant Professor in International Environmental Law. Millicent's research is generally focussed on the protection of the marine environment under international law and international dispute settlement. Her PhD in law of the sea was awarded in 2024 by the University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia. Prior to Millicent's PhD, she was a research associate in the Oceans Law and Policy team at the National University of Singapore Centre for International Law (2017-2019). Millicent is a qualified lawyer in Australia and has also worked as a judge's clerk at the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales. Email: millicent.j.mccreath@durham.ac.uk
 **Dr. Bilal Bilal** Assistant Professor, Department of Accounting	Bilal is an Assistant Professor at Durham University Business School, where he has been a dedicated educator and researcher since August 2023. His commitment to delivering high-quality education and advancing research in sustainability reporting, accounting, and finance is evident through his leadership in the Financial Reporting module and contributions to Corporate Reporting modules, including Assurance and Sustainability Reporting. With over 10 years of experience in learning and teaching, including more than 6 years post-PhD, he is deeply invested in the professional development of my students. I strive to create an engaging and supportive learning environment by organizing workshops, facilitating internships, and providing one-on-one mentorship. My goal is to equip students with the skills and knowledge they need to excel in the accounting profession. Bilal's involvement in the accounting profession extends beyond the classroom, having published 37 refereed articles in leading international accounting and finance journals and contributed to discussions on industry trends and standards. His research interests include carbon accounting, corporate governance, corporate misconduct, and the impact of COVID-19 on stock markets. Recently, he has been involved in a collaborative research project titled "Digital Nomadism: A Hybrid Working Model," supported by the Qatar National Research Fund. This project aims to explore innovative working models in the accounting field. His role as the Lead Principal Investigator underscores his commitment to advancing research and contributing to the global accounting community. Email: bilal.bilal@durham.ac.uk

 **Dr Mohaddeseh Ziyachi** Assistant Professor (research), Department of Sociology	Mohaddeseh is a qualitative researcher with an interdisciplinary interest and experience in sociology and cognitive anthropology. I undertook my PhD in the interdisciplinary field of cognition and culture. I am currently a research fellow at Durham University. My current project is focused on migration and mental health from a cognitive-anthropological perspective. She has also been collaborating on the InSPIRE consortium, working on the impacts of air pollution on brain health and dementia. My future research plan is to investigate cultural aspects of cognitive frailty as well as elder abuse. Email: mohaddeseh.ziyachi@durham.ac.uk
 **Mr. German Silvestre Anorve Pons** PhD candidate, Department of Computer Science	German Silvestre Anorve Pons is a PhD student in the Department of Computer Science at Durham University. He holds a degree in Computer Systems Engineering from the Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN) in Mexico and completed a six-month academic exchange in the Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology. His research interests lie at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Programming, focusing on the development of intelligent systems to enhance software development practices. Prior to his doctoral studies, he worked at Banco de México and later at Citibanamex (a subsidiary of CitiBankGroup), where he led the TechRefresh team in the banking division. In this role, he coordinated maintenance, migration, and support for more than 20 critical banking applications, contributing to the -modernization and stability of the bank's technological infrastructure. E-mail: german.s.anorve-pons@durham.ac.uk
 **Ms Amal Alsheri** PhD candidate, Department of Computer Science	My research focuses on domain-adapted AI systems for complex text understanding, with an emphasis on Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and Natural Language Processing (NLP). I develop models that retrieve and reason over long documents for tasks such as retrieval, entailment, and question answering. In the context of Just Transition, I'm interested in how AI can help make complex information—such as policy or regulatory content—more accessible and actionable. I aim to explore how AI systems can support transparency, knowledge access, and decision-making in socially impactful domains. Email: amal.alsheri@durham.ac.uk
 **Mr. Dylan Walton** PhD candidate, Department of Computer Science	Dylan's research involves focuses on the topics of machine learning and computer self-adaptation, with a focus on how mathematical surprise can facilitate and be used in both of these topics. He currently has work published surrounding surprise; including how to categorize types of surprise for use in risk management and flagging errors in computer systems and using surprise to produce transition probabilities for a self-adaptive system based on Markov decision process'. Though most of his work focuses on the use of surprise he currently performs research looking into effective machine learning models for recommending treatment for menopause as well as the use of decision aids to facilitate shared decision making between patient and doctor. Email: Dylan.J.Walton@durham.ac.uk

KEIO UNIVERSITY	
Mid Career Researchers	
 **Dr. Yoshinobu Takei** Associate Professor, Faculty of Law	Yoshinobu Takei teaches public international law. His research interests cover public international law in general, in particular the law of the sea and international environmental law. He has published on topics relating to the law of the sea and ocean policy such as ocean governance, Sustainable Development Goal 14, the legal regime for the Arctic, flag state responsibilities, global climate change and the law of the sea, international law of high seas fisheries, law and policy for international submarine cables, and marine scientific research. Prior to assuming his current role at Keio University, he worked at the United Nations Secretariat, as Legal Officer at the Office of Legal Affairs and as Sustainable Development Officer at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, handling such diverse issues as Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, sustainable fisheries, as well as the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ). Related to Just Transition themes, he is particularly interested in: legal and policy issues relating to offshore wind farms and submarine cables, the role of science in resolving disputes relating to marine biodiversity conservation, and the ongoing negotiations for a global plastics treaty. Email: takei@law.keio.ac.jp
 **Dr. Naoki Wada** Associate Professor, Faculty of Environment and Information Studies	Naoki has been involved in environmental policy making at the Ministry of the Environment of Japan for more than 10 years. He am keenly interested in the synergy between environmental policy and community solutions and am particularly concerned with circular economy policy and local decarbonization planning. Email: wadanok@sfc.keio.ac.jp
KYUSHU UNIVERSITY	
Mid Career Researcher	
 **Prof. Motonori Watanabe** International Institute for Carbon Neutral Research	Motonori is working on photocatalytic reaction, such water splitting for hydrogen production and CO2 reduction. Their photocatalyst was used organic-inorganic composite catalyst and novel inorganic catalyst for visible light driven reaction. 1: Establish stable organic-inorganic interface. I changed organic-inorganic interface anchoring driving force with several organic functional group, and found that Lewis acid type interaction on inorganic oxide photocatalyst can be stabilized organic dye-sensitizer over 100 h. 2: Organic molecule/polymer as mediator with inorganic photocatalyst was worked as Z-scheme type photocatalytic reaction, thus it was found complete water splitting under visible light. 3: I transferred dye-sensitized photocatalyst system to all-solid photoanode system for water oxidation reaction. Email: mwata@i2cner.kyushu-u.ac.jp

Early Career Researcher	
 **Ms Nadzirah Ikasari** PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Human Life Design and Science	My goal is to enhance my research skills in hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) for heat-related symptoms, contributing to both scientific advancement and the development of real-world solutions to address the growing impact of climate change on public health. Specifically, I aim to develop a practical HBOT-based treatment for widespread public health use, particularly in regions prone to extreme heat. Using firefighters as a model for heat stress, my research will evaluate HBOT's effectiveness in mitigating the physiological effects of extreme temperatures. Through this work, I aspire to publish high-impact research papers, present my findings at academic conferences, and translate my discoveries into practical applications. To achieve these objectives, I am committed to building strong academic and professional connections, collaborating with leading experts, and advancing my research during my doctoral studies. Joining the Renkei 2025 program presents a valuable opportunity for interdisciplinary collaboration, academic exchange, and professional growth. By strengthening my expertise and expanding my research network, I aim to drive innovation in HBOT applications and contribute to climate-related health solutions on a broader scale. Email: nadzirah.ikasari@unhas.ac.id
 **Mr Ryusei Kunisaki** PhD Candidate in Applied Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering	Ryusei specializes in the development of novel materials for next-generation rechargeable batteries. In particular, I am working on innovative energy storage materials that replace the rare and expensive elements used by conventional lithium-ion batteries (e.g., Li, Co, Ni) with elements that are abundant in resources and inexpensive. This research is important to facilitate a just transition to a decarbonized society. We aim to reduce the economic and social disparities and geopolitical risks caused by resource dependence, and to enable industries to make a fair and sustainable transition to green energy. Therefore, with regard to RENKEI theme4 "Climate Justice", we would like to discuss with Japanese and English researchers the technical and social challenges that arise in advancing industrial decarbonization. Email: kunisaki.ryusei.118@s.kyushu-u.ac.jp

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY	
Mid Career Researcher	
 **Dr. Evangelos Papaioannou** Senior Lecturer, School of Engineering (Chemical Engineering)	Evangelos's research interests span from the discovery and design of novel catalysts as energy materials, high temperature membranes for energy applications and CO2/NOx capture as well as hydrogen production in low carbon energy systems. I have a keen interest in developing advanced energy micro/nano-structured materials and understanding the solid-solid and solid-gas interactions occurring at the interface with the scope of favourably tailoring their properties for catalysis and sustainable energy production applications. Email: evangelos.papaioannou@newcastle.ac.uk
Early Career Researchers	
 **Dr. Anjali Jayakumar** Lecturer, Chemical Engineering	My research focuses on developing sustainable solutions for food-energy-water security, with a particular emphasis on pyrolysis technology for biochar and biochar-based composites. I investigate how these materials can support clean energy, environmental remediation, and resource recovery, aligning with just transitions to net zero. I am especially interested in exploring how biomass-based technologies can contribute to equitable and sustainable decarbonisation pathways. At the RENKEI workshop, I aim to collaborate on research proposals addressing just transitions within industries and sectors (Theme Two) and policy impacts (Theme Three). My experiences engaging with academia, policy, and industry has deepened my understanding of the socio-economic and policy dimensions of biochar-based climate solutions. Additionally, I promote sustainability education as Deputy Degree Programme Director for the MSc in Sustainable Chemical Engineering and have led interdisciplinary outreach projects like 'Chasing Sustainability' and Char Comics. By collaborating with RENKEI counterparts, I hope to develop research that bridges scientific innovation with policy and industry needs, ensuring biomass technologies play a meaningful role in just and equitable sustainability transitions. Email: anjali.jayakumar@ncl.ac.uk
 **Dr. Jecel Censoro,** Lead for Insights North East Geography, Politics and Sociology & School of Engineering	I am interested on place-based policy making on Climate Action which would include support on transition to renewable energy, better urban planning, climate adaptation, and decarbonisation. I am currently working locally in the North East with policy makers in their climate mitigation and climate adaptation projects so it will be good to learn more about similar examples done in other countries such as Japan especially when the situation involves not having the economic and political resources to push for things to change. Email: jecel.censoro@newcastle.ac.uk

 **Helen Wright** PhD Candidate, Population Health Sciences	As a PhD student in environmental epidemiology, my research focuses on the health impacts of climate change-related exposures (e.g., heat risk) and their potential role in neurodegeneration. I am particularly interested in leveraging big data and causal inference methods to better understand the complex relationships between environmental factors and long-term health outcomes. In the context of a Just Transition, I aim to explore the unequal health burdens of climate change, especially among vulnerable populations, and am therefore particularly interested in Theme Five: Managing just transitions to improve public health and address public health inequalities relative to climate change injustices. Heat exposure and its effects disproportionately impact certain groups, such as older adults, socio-economically disadvantaged populations, and those with pre-existing conditions. By integrating epidemiological insights with policy-driven frameworks, I hope to contribute to strategies that ensure a fair and equitable transition to climate resilience. Through RENKEI collaborations, I am keen to develop interdisciplinary research proposals that bridge environmental health sciences, data analytics, and public policy. Email: H.Wright16@newcastle.ac.uk
 **Dr. Amy Neild** Research Associate, School of Natural and Environmental Sciences	My research focuses on developing emerging solar PV technologies that utilise recovered and recycled materials and are designed for reuse at the end of their life. • Just Transitions within Industries & Sectors: In collaboration with the Royal Air Force (RAF), I work on printable solar PV technologies to support decarbonisation in the energy and defence sectors through simplified manufacturing, circular economy principles, and abundant, low-cost materials. I aim to explore how emerging PV technologies can drive low-carbon industrial transitions and share insights into scalable, resource-efficient solar manufacturing. • Climate Justice: My research on low-cost, lightweight PV technologies from waste streams addresses energy access challenges, particularly for off-grid communities. Using recovered and recycled materials strengthens supply chains, reduces resource scarcity, and improves clean energy access. I aim to connect technological advancements with equitable energy access while overcoming financial and policy barriers to solar PV. • Just Transitions & Policy Impacts: My draft manuscript, 'Solar PV Policy Landscape in the UK: What's Next?' examines policy gaps and strategies for scaling solar deployment. My work with the RAF has provided insights into deployment barriers in defence settings. I aim to explore how solar PV can integrate into critical infrastructure to enhance sustainability across various sectors. Email: amy.neild@newcastle.ac.uk

RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY

Senior Researcher

Prof. Eiji Yamasue
Faculty of Science and Engineering

I (my group) tackle the "resource paradox problem"- the counterintuitive increase in resource use alongside green innovations - through two interdisciplinary approaches. From a natural science (materials science) perspective, we explore novel smelting processes using microwave heating, a field we call "microwave metallurgy." Microwaves can induce unconventional, rapid reactions in materials. We apply this to recycling valuable metals, like cobalt, from end-of-life batteries, particularly lithium-ion batteries.

Our social science (industrial ecology) research addresses energy and resource challenges using Life Cycle and Material Flow Analyses. We focus on quantifying resource use from a "mining activity" perspective, employing the Total Material Requirement (TMR) index. We are building a comprehensive, high-quality global TMR database to promote a sustainable society that minimizes both carbon emissions and resource consumption. Further social science research includes transportation optimization, future resource demand, and waste generation forecasting.

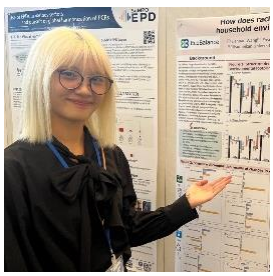
Email: yamasue@fc.ritsumei.ac.jp

Early Career Researcher

Ms. Narumi Kira
PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Science and Engineering

The current research focuses on consumption patterns and identifying strategies to mitigate climate change. The master's research focused on the consumption structure of people changed due to COVID-19, analysed the carbon footprint (CF) resulting from household consumption and tried to identify measures to address both the COVID-19 pandemic and global warming. The objective of the doctoral research is to identify measures to establish sustainable long-term care services in the future, with an emphasis on the long-term demand for such care. As Planetary Health advocated, the importance of quantifying the CF of healthcare supply chains has increased. Despite global studies on the healthcare sector's CF, research on the CF of long-term care services, crucial to human health and welfare, remains insufficient. Consequently, environmental input-output analysis was harmonized with consumer-expenditure data and long-term care insurance statistics to identify CF induced by demand for long-term care. Future research will be conducted to determine sustainable methods of providing long-term care services, not only from the perspective of global warming but also considering labour, social security costs, and material use.

Email: gr0686hf@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp



Ms Jiahuan Wang
PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Science and Engineering

My research interests are how human consumption patterns drive carbon footprints and how these impacts vary across age or racial groups. Different age or racial communities have different consumption behaviours, which lead to disparities in carbon footprint. The Just Transition framework provides an opportunity to address environmental justice by developing equitable policies. Through collaboration with RENKEI counterparts, I hope to exchange knowledge and perspectives to promote sustainable consumption towards economic transitions.

Email: jhwang075@gmail.com

SOPHIA UNIVERSITY	
Early Career Researcher	
 **Mr. Mall Sanjeev Kumar** PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Science and Technology	My research focuses on detonation wave dynamics and interactions with different media, particularly in hydrogen-based combustion systems. I investigate how detonation waves propagate over liquid surfaces, a critical aspect for improving combustion safety, energy efficiency, and propulsion technology. This research aligns with just transitions in industries and sectors, as detonation-based combustion systems are emerging as alternatives for cleaner, more efficient propulsion technologies. My work provides insights into energy dissipation mechanisms and safety strategies for hydrogen-based combustion, supporting the transition to low-emission aerospace propulsion and industrial safety measures. By combining experimental validation with CFD modelling, I aim to optimize detonation-based energy applications, contributing to a sustainable transition in the aerospace and power generation industries. At RENKEI, I hope to collaborate with researchers from diverse backgrounds, exploring how advanced combustion technologies can be integrated into sustainable industrial processes. This workshop will help build interdisciplinary research proposals, bridging engineering, environmental policy, and energy transition strategies for a net-zero emissions future. Email: sanjeev@eagle.sophia.ac.jp
 **Ms. Jahan Mashrat** PhD Candidate, Graduate School of Economics	Policies that strike a balance between economic development and environmental sustainability are required to address climate change. I am doing research for my PhD degree with the goal of building a sustainable economic framework for Bangladesh by examining the consequences of policies like carbon pricing. In line with the second theme of the RENKEI Workshop "Just Transitions to a Net Zero World," I would like to collaborate on the following: The study aims to investigate the differential impact of carbon pricing on energy-intensive vs. non-energy-intensive sectors, as well as how different household income groups respond to carbon pricing. As part of the equitable carbon pricing and revenue recycling initiative, the goal is to find efficient ways to redistribute carbon tax revenue so that it doesn't hurt communities and industries that are already struggling economically. Investigating how the lessons learned from Japan's decarbonization policies may be used to guide Bangladesh's transition to a low-carbon economy. My goal is to establish research-based policies that will promote an inclusive, equitable, and economically sustainable transition to net zero via the use of interdisciplinary cooperation. Email: mashrat@eagle.sophia.ac.jp
 **Ms. Saki Kishine** PhD Candidate Humanities (Death Studies)	I research fashion, focusing on the relationship between clothing and the body. However, my work has primarily examined personal interactions with clothing, with little attention to its environmental impact. Given fashion's deep ties to society and industry, it is crucial to consider its broader implications. This program offers an opportunity to expand my perspective, exploring fashion through the lens of sustainability and industry transitions. The challenges facing fashion today make "Just Transitions within Industries and Sectors" (theme 2) particularly relevant. Since the 2000s, fast fashion has driven mass production and excessive consumption, exacerbating environmental and ethical issues. Synthetic fibers contribute to pollution, while animal fur use and large-scale garment waste highlight the industry's far-reaching impact. In response, sustainable fashion movements promote eco-friendly materials, circular fashion, and fair labor.

	Decarbonization and biodiversity conservation have become essential, demanding a shift in design and consumption. Designers can no longer focus solely on aesthetics but must integrate sustainability into their work. Through this program, I aim to reassess fashion from environmental and business perspectives, enhancing my understanding of its sustainability challenges. Email: saki.kishine@gmail.com
TOHOKU UNIVERSITY	
Senior Researcher	
 **Prof. Daisuke Komori** Senior Researcher Green Goals Initiative	I have been conducting the following research from local to global scale to elucidate the phenomena in which human activities alter the hydrological cycle and the environment, resulting in environmental problems and natural disasters that affect human life; A) Impact risk assessment of climate change on complex disasters (flood inundation, landslide, storm surge and coastal erosion), B) Impact of climate change and land-use change on water cycles in the terrestrial environment, C) Elucidation of sediment and woody debris dynamics and risk assessment of landslide with large woody debris. Furthermore, while clarifying the actual conditions of local communities that are changing in the context of globalisation through fieldwork and geographic information systems, the following interdisciplinary research has been conducted on the nature of the relationship between human society and the natural water cycle and environment that develops there, and on the mechanisms of the occurrence of local environmental problems; D) Socio-hydrology, which captures the interaction between the natural hydrological cycle and human society; a) Sustainable urban development with disaster risk reduction; b) Understanding of vulnerability in agriculture, E) Modelling of society, economy and environment system dynamics in participatory programmes for local people. Email: daisuke.komori.e8@tohoku.ac.jp
Early Career Researcher	
 **Dr. Amalia Nafisah Rahmani Irawan** Postdoctoral Researcher Green Goals Initiative	My research focuses on water resources management and disaster risk assessment, particularly on how climate-related hazards impact different vulnerable elements. This includes: 1) Drought on Crop Yield: Examining agricultural drought risk and its effect on crop yield, focusing on wet farming crops like paddy in Indonesia and comparing dam versus community-based water resource systems. 2) Floods on Population: Analyzing flood inundation areas and assessing the effectiveness of flood mitigation measures on affected populations. 3) Heatwaves on Human Health: Investigating the health impacts of extreme heat events, emphasizing vulnerable populations and community-level health inequalities. I use observation and satellite-based datasets for high-resolution assessments, allowing for a detailed understanding of vulnerability at the community level. This approach supports targeted risk reduction strategies. I chose Theme Two: Just Transition within Industries and Sectors because it aligns with my focus on water resources management and disaster risk assessment, particularly in agriculture, urban planning, disaster risk infrastructure, and public health, which are sensitive to climate hazards. I aim to explore how the agricultural sector can adopt sustainable practices amid changing climate conditions, ensuring equitable access to water and safeguarding vulnerable communities, especially smallholder farmers, to enhance resilience and achieve food security. Email: amalia.nafisah.rahmani.irawan.e2@tohoku.ac.jp

 **Mr. Shoma Nagata** Master's Student, Graduate School of Environmental Studies.	I am interested in the mechanisms behind the creation and diffusion of green innovation and am conducting research in this field. Specifically, from the perspectives of geography, statistics, and environmental science, I focus on how green innovation is generated, how the knowledge produced spreads to the surrounding environment, and whether these processes differ depending on the technology. Email: shoma.nagata.t7@dc.tohoku.ac.jp
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH	
Early Career Researcher	
 **Ms. Yujia Li** PhD Candidate, Science, Technology and Innovation Studies	My research provides a comprehensive analysis of energy poverty, inequality, and justice within the context of rural China's ongoing energy transition. It delves into how households perceive energy poverty and its dynamic interaction with their capabilities, emphasizing the factors at both household and village levels, while also considering the barriers created by higher-level regulations and policies. Additionally, my study explores the decision-making processes of key stakeholders - including households, heating companies, and local authorities - in selecting strategies that maximize their payoffs, using the clean heating initiative as a case study to build an evolutionary game model. This model simulates potential outcomes under both current and ideal conditions. In short, my research highlights the gap between energy transition plans and the lived realities of rural communities, identifying the vulnerable group who are left behind, understanding the reasons for their exclusion, and offering policy recommendations to address these challenges to realize a just energy transition in northern rural China. Email: yujia.ji@ed.ac.uk
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS	
Senior Researcher	
 **Prof. Edward Newman** Professor of International Security; Co-Director of the Centre for Global Security Challenges, School of Politics and International Studies	I am interested in security, broadly defined, including the drivers of instability and contentious politics. A key theoretical strand of my work for many years has been the concept of 'human security'. Recently I have been exploring the political and social challenges of the 'green transition' and in particular the controversies generated by some climate-related policies. Policies aimed at reducing emissions or mitigating the effects of climate change – such as fossil fuel subsidy reform, carbon taxes, environmentally-oriented urban planning, and green industrial restructuring – have generated societal instability, and this raises important implications for the green transition. This is linked to the distribution of the costs of climate policies, the importance of justice and perceptions of fairness in adapting to climate change, the political framing of climate policies, and the resilience of such policies. The contentious politics of the transition also poses significant obstacles to the implementation of climate policies, with wide anecdotal evidence of governments suspending or reversing action in response to protests and societal instability. It is therefore a very important dimension of adaptation politics and the societal impacts of this, and a key subject for understanding why climate policy commitments are so contested and sometimes unsuccessful. Email: e.newman@leeds.ac.uk

Mid Career Researcher

Dr. Dimitrios Kontziampasis
Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

My interests revolve around inter- and cross-disciplinary applied research, primarily in the field of surface engineering of materials, with applications in health, energy, and sustainability. A key area of interest is bio-nanotechnology, where I aspire to control the behaviour of cellular and protein systems at their interfaces with material surfaces. My work aims to influence the growth and development of living tissues and organs, contributing to advancements in areas such as artificial organ development, and regenerative medicine. In parallel, I am committed to driving sustainability in the broader context of materials science and engineering. This involves investigating and simplifying the mechanisms needed to facilitate the sustainable transition of manufacturing processes, laboratory practices, and advanced material preparation and characterisation methods. By addressing both the biological and engineering aspects of materials science, my work aims to provide innovative solutions to global challenges, such as improving healthcare outcomes and reducing the environmental impact of industrial and scientific processes. I am passionate about fostering inter and cross-disciplinary collaboration, as it is critical for the global advancement of our understanding of biomaterial interfaces, as well as for enabling our transition towards a sustainable civilisation, necessary not only for future technological developments, but also the survival of our species.

Email: d.kontziampasis@leeds.ac.uk

Early Career Researcher

Mr. Simphiwe Neo Swakamisa
PhD Candidate, Centre for Religion and Public Life

I am focused on transformational systems change to drive sustainable development and climate action, particularly in South Africa. My research explores governance models, policy frameworks, and business solutions that support a just transition to a low-carbon economy, tackling poverty, inequality, and environmental justice. Through action research, systems mapping, and multi-stakeholder collaboration, I aim to bridge the gap between policy, practice, and systemic transformation.

In alignment with these goals, I am launching Nextrung, a research company dedicated to addressing the affordable housing crisis in the UK and accelerating inclusive smart city developments in South Africa. Nextrung is assembling a multidisciplinary consortium for a Living Labs project and an EIC Pathfinder Open proposal to develop net zero-carbon modular homes integrated with renewable energy and smart energy management technologies.

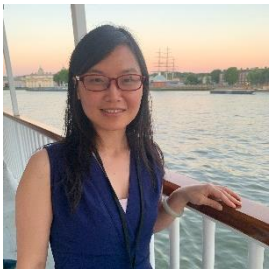
Proposed Theme: Inclusive Smart Cities for a Just and Climate-Resilient Future. This project explores how Japan's smart city technologies, UK's net-zero housing strategies, and South Africa's urban development goals can inform climate-resilient, equitable housing. A pilot smart social housing initiative will serve as a living laboratory to develop solutions for inclusive, low-carbon urban transitions. This aligns with RENKEI's objectives by:

- Fostering UK-Japan Research Collaboration on smart, just urban spaces.
- Encouraging interdisciplinary knowledge exchange across engineering, urban design, energy systems, and policy.
- Catalysing real-world impact through Nextrung's Living Labs project, which will prototype and test net zero-carbon modular homes in Salford, West Yorkshire, and South Africa.

By leveraging UK-Japan-South Africa collaborations, this project will contribute to scalable policies, funding proposals, and tangible solutions for just, sustainable urban transitions.

Email: Prsswa@leeds.ac.uk

 **Dr. Imogen Rattle** Research Fellow in Local Low Carbon Industrial Strategy, Sustainability Research Institute, School of Earth and Environment	I am a social scientist focused on policy and governance for industrial decarbonisation. My work explores place-based approaches to industrial decarbonisation and how these complement sector- and technology-focused strategies. My methods include interviews, workshops and document analysis. I am currently examining how the UK's categorisation of industry into industrial clusters and dispersed sites is shaping decarbonisation efforts. In previous work, I have analysed international approaches to industrial decarbonisation and organised a workshop on cluster decarbonisation, attended by Japanese representatives. Although Japan has a far larger industrial sector than the UK, both countries have a similar industrial geography, with heavily clustered industries in coastal areas. These structural similarities provide a strong basis for comparative research on place-based industrial decarbonisation strategies. I am interested in what a comparative approach could reveal about just transitions within industries and sectors. In particular, I would like to explore the societal impacts of place-based industrial decarbonisation. Focusing decarbonisation efforts on industrial clusters has significant economic and social implications, not only for communities within these clusters but also for those in non-clustered areas. Decarbonising both types of place will be key to a sustainable and fair whole sector transition. Email: i.k.rattle@leeds.ac.uk
 **Dr. Luba Pirgova-Morgan** Research Fellow, School of Earth and Environment	My research interests are in the study of images and individual and group perceptions, in particular how the study of images and signs, culture and communication affect people and the environment. My current research is on geographically stuck industry sectors, namely distillery and cement. I focus on innovations for productivity and innovations for Net 0. A topic to explore would be the system versus disengaged approaches to innovation as related to both productivity and Net 0. Another would be the transition of knowledge across geographical and/or cultural sectors. Yet another, would be to focus on the types of innovations, barriers, and opportunities. In brief, I would like to pursue the Just Transition themes 2 and 3, or policy impacts / pathways as related to the industry/sector context. Email: l.pirgova-morgan@leeds.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL	
Early Career Researcher	
 **Dr. Xue Yong,** Lecturer,Department of Electrical Engineering and Electronics	My research group primarily focuses on the computational design of novel functional materials for energy applications, with a specific emphasis on energy conversion, energy storage, and plasma/electrochemical catalysts for small molecular conversions of CO2, H2O, and N2. Email: xue.yong@liverpool.ac.uk
 **Dr. Chao Long,** Lecturer, Department of Electrical Engineering and Electronics	My research focuses on community energy systems with renewable energy, and use optimisation, digital tools such as AI/ML for energy data analytics and forecasting and optimisation. This include: 1. Community energy systems management and optimisation 2. Electric vehicle charging management and vehicle to grid technology 3. ML/AI for energy system data analytics and forecasting 4. Peer to peer energy trading and local energy market and flexibility market 5. Just energy transition and energy poverty mitigation Email: chao.long@liverpool.ac.uk
 **Ms Musarrat Zaman** Post Graduate Researcher (Year Two), Geography and Planning	Currently, I am working on the research topic titled "Integrating Blue-Green Infrastructure (BGI) for Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect mitigation in the most vulnerable cities of South Asia". The aim of my research is to find out the challenges of integrating Blue-Green Infrastructure (BGI) strategies in the urban land use of South Asian cities, which are mostly vulnerable due to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect. UHI itself is accelerating in the high-density metropolitans of South Asia (e.g., Dhaka, New Delhi, Karachi etc.) due to global warming, and the climate resilience of those cities is at high risk because of multidimensional challenges. BGI can bring efficient solutions to this problem if the policy gaps are properly figured out and efficient implementation strategies can be applied. Email: auro731@liverpool.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON	
Early Career Researcher	
 **Dr. Thomas Rushby** Senior Enterprise Fellow Future Towns Innovation Hub	I moved into a new role at the University of Southampton in March 2024 within the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences as Senior Enterprise Fellow at the new Future Towns Innovation Hub. I am working to help build collaborative interdisciplinary networks across the University and cross-sector initiatives externally with industry, business, public sector and other stakeholders to bring forward innovation around happy, healthy, prosperous and sustainable places. Recent research work includes understanding stakeholder perceptions and trade-offs under decarbonisation pathways and increased housing targets. Prior to this, I have 10 years experience in mixed methods research across engineering and social science disciplines, primarily in energy systems and domestic energy demand, exploring equity and distributional justice issues in my PhD studies. Recent projects included a domestic heat flexibility trial, community-led energy efficiency initiatives, and analysis of temporal patterning of domestic energy use. I have worked on a number of primary fieldwork projects investigating energy efficiency and behaviour change in the residential energy domain, including a large-scale randomised control trial. I am an ONS Accredited Researcher and have experience working with large and complex datasets for data analysis and modelling. Email: t.w.rushby@soton.ac.uk
 **Dr. Masashi Watanabe** Lecturer, School of Ocean and Earth Science	Due to sea level rise caused by future global warming, the risk of coastal natural hazards such as storm waves or tsunamis will increase. The issues need to be solved to address the increased risk of natural disasters caused by future climate change and to achieve a sustainable society. I have proceeded with research on estimating past tsunami or storm surge disasters using geological records for future coastal protection. In order to investigate past natural coastal hazards, I have conducted field surveys in many coastal regions and have conducted numerical simulations to reveal past tsunami and storm surge disasters. I also have focused on the disaster reduction benefits of green infrastructure as coastal defences. For this, I have investigated wave attenuation effects due to coral reef topography or mangrove forests based on numerical modelling and laboratory experiments. When coastal natural disasters happen, sand or mud sediments or boulders (debris) are transported, and severe secondary damage is generated. To predict this phenomenon, I have developed numerical simulation models that can estimate sediment or boulder transports by extreme coastal waves. Through this workshop, I hope to enhance the quality of my research by starting new research collaborations and exchanging knowledge with each other. Email: masashi.watanabe@soton.ac.uk

5.2 GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Prof. Colin Bain**, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Durham University https://www.durham.ac.uk/staff/c-d-bain/
- **Prof. Phyllis Illari**, Department of Science and Technology Studies, University College London: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/sts/people/prof-phyllis-illari
- **Prof. Masahiko Hara**, Director, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), London Office https://www.jsps.org/about_us/jsps-london.html
- **Yusuke Nishida**, International Programme Associate, JSPS London Office
- **Jason James OBE**, Director General, Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation https://dajf.org.uk/
- **Susan Meehan,** Scholarships and Grants Officer; Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation
- **Miwako Hayashi Bitmead**, Programmes Executive; The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation http://www.gbsf.org.uk/
- **Ryan Ahmed,** Senior Manager, International Grants, The Royal Society https://royalsociety.org
- **Yuila Teleshova**, Programme Officer, Frontiers Programme, Royal Academy of Engineering https://raeng.org.uk/international-partnerships

5.3 ORGANISING STAFF

Newcastle University

- **Ms. Nicola Brooks, International Partnerships Manager**

Durham University

- **Mr Peter Bainbridge**, International Partnerships Manager
- **Mr Owen Boyle,** Project Manager, Durham Law School
- **Ms. Suzanne Gregory,** International Partnerships Officer
- **Mrs. Sarah Routledge,** International Partnerships Coordinator

5.4 BRITISH COUNCIL JAPAN (https://www.britishcouncil.jp/en)

- Mr Jim Booth, Director
- Ms Akie Koyama, Head of Education
- Ms Nanami Akimoto, Programme Manager Education

6 PARTICIPANT SIGN UPS

6.1 Sign-up for 6 May: Newcastle-Durham coach

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
Ms	Nanami Akimoto	British Council
Mr	Peter Bainbridge	Durham University
Ms	Lizbeth Sarahi Mendieta-Rodriguez	Durham University
Dr	Dingkun Lu	Durham University
Mr	Ghulam Mustafa Kamran	Durham University
Dr	Jo Hepworth	Durham University
Ms	Kalila Helen Mackenzie	Durham University
Mr	German Silvestre Anorve Pons	Durham University
Mr	Dylan Joseph Walton	Durham University
Dr	Adebola Adeyemi	Durham University
Dr	Mohaddeseh Ziyachi	Durham University
Dr	Motohiro Tsuchiya	Keio University
Dr	Yoshinobu Takei	Keio University
Mr	Masahiro Takata	Keio University
Ms	Hisako Suzuki	Keio University
Dr	Naoki WADA	Keio University
Ms	Nadzirah Ikasari Syamsul	Kyushu University
Mr	Ryusei Kunisaki	Kyushu University
Mr	Hisayuki Sakata	Kyushu University
Prof	Natalie Konomi	Kyushu University
Prof	Motonori Watanabe	Kyushu University
Ms	Mayumi Nakagawa	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Narumi Kira	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Eiji Yamasue	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Toshiro Kikuchi	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Jiahuan Wang	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Mall Sanjeev Kumar	Sophia University
Ms	Jahan Mashrat	Sophia University
Ms	Saki Kishine	Sophia University
Prof	Toshiya Ueki	Tohoku University
Ms	Moto Kobayashi	Tohoku University
Prof	Daisuke Komori	Tohoku University
Dr	Amalia Nafisah Rahmani Irawan	Tohoku University
Mr	Shoma Nagata	Tohoku University
Ms	Yujia Ji	University of Edinburgh
Ms	Siddeequah Azmi	University of Leeds
Dr	Dimitrios Kontziampasis	University of Leeds
Prof	Rob Sturman	University of Leeds
Mr	Simphiwe Neo Swakamisa	University of Leeds
Dr	Luba Pirgova-Morgan	University of Leeds
Dr	Imogen Rattle	University of Leeds
Dr	Chao Long	University of Liverpool
Dr	Masashi Watanabe	University of Southampton
Dr	Thomas Rushby	University of Southampton

6.2 Sign-up for 7 May: Pick-up at the Radisson Hotel Blu to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (08h10)

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
Ms	Nanami Akimoto	British Council
Ms	Akie Koyama	British Council
Dr	Motohiro Tsuchiya	Keio University
Dr	Yoshinobu Takei	Keio University
Mr	Masahiro Takata	Keio University
Ms	Hisako Suzuki	Keio University
Dr	Naoki Wada	Keio University
Ms	Nadzirah Ikasari Syamsul	Kyushu University
Mr	Ryusei Kunisaki	Kyushu University
Mr	Hisayuki Sakata	Kyushu University
Prof	Natalie Konomi	Kyushu University
Prof	Motonori Watanabe	Kyushu University
Ms	Mayumi Nakagawa	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Narumi Kira	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Eiji Yamasue	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Toshiro Kikuchi	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Jiahuan Wang	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Mall Sanjeev Kumar	Sophia University
Ms	Jahan Mashrat	Sophia University
Ms	Saki Kishine	Sophia University
Prof	Daisuke Komori	Tohoku University
Dr	Amalia Nafisah Rahmani Irawan	Tohoku University
Mr	Shoma Nagata	Tohoku University
Ms	Yujia Ji	University of Edinburgh
Ms	Siddeequah Azmi	University of Leeds
Dr	Dimitrios Kontziampasis	University of Leeds
Prof	Rob Sturman	University of Leeds
Mr	Simphiwe Neo Swakamisa	University of Leeds
Dr	Luba Pirgova-Morgan	University of Leeds
Dr	Imogen Rattle	University of Leeds
Ms	Musarrat Zaman	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xiaofeng Wu	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xue Yong	University of Liverpool
Dr	Chao Long	University of Liverpool
Ms	Maria Norton	University of Southampton
Dr	Masashi Watanabe	University of Southampton
Dr	Thomas Rushby	University of Southampton

6.3 Sign-up for 8 May: Pick-up at the Radisson Hotel Blu to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (08h30)

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
Ms	Nanami Akimoto	British Council
Ms	Akie Koyama	British Council
Dr	Motohiro Tsuchiya	Keio University
Dr	Yoshinobu Takei	Keio University
Mr	Masahiro Takata	Keio University
Ms	Hisako Suzuki	Keio University
Dr	Naoki Wada	Keio University
Ms	Nadzirah Ikasari Syamsul	Kyushu University
Mr	Ryusei Kunisaki	Kyushu University
Mr	Hisayuki Sakata	Kyushu University
Prof	Natalie Konomi	Kyushu University
Prof	Motonori Watanabe	Kyushu University
Ms	Junko Sakamoto	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Tatsuya Sato	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Mayumi Nakagawa	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Narumi Kira	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Eiji Yamasue	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Toshiro Kikuchi	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Jiahuan Wang	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Kazumi Sato	Sophia University
Mr	Mall Sanjeev Kumar	Sophia University
Ms	Jahan Mashrat	Sophia University
Ms	Saki Kishine	Sophia University
Ms	Fumika Baba	Sophia University
Prof	Makoto Ikeda	Sophia University
Ms	Ai Noumi	Sophia University
Prof	Toshiya Ueki	Tohoku University
Ms	Moto Kobayashi	Tohoku University
Prof	Daisuke Komori	Tohoku University
Dr	Amalia Nafisah Rahmani Irawan	Tohoku University
Mr	Shoma Nagata	Tohoku University
Ms	Yujia Ji	University of Edinburgh
Ms	Siddeequah Azmi	University of Leeds
Dr	Dimitrios Kontziampasis	University of Leeds
Prof	Rob Sturman	University of Leeds
Mr	Simphiwe Neo Swakamisa	University of Leeds
Dr	Luba Pirgova-Morgan	University of Leeds
Dr	Imogen Rattle	University of Leeds
Ms	Musarrat Zaman	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xiaofeng Wu	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xue Yong	University of Liverpool
Dr	Chao Long	University of Liverpool
Prof	John Holloway	University of Southampton
Ms	Maria Norton	University of Southampton
Dr	Masashi Watanabe	University of Southampton
Dr	Thomas Rushby	University of Southampton

6.4 8 May: Meet at Teaching and Learning Centre reception (13h55)

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
.Prof	James Cooper	University of Liverpool
Ms	Grace Guan	University of Edinburgh
Prof	Chris Whitehead	Newcastle University
Dr	Spencer Hazel	Newcastle University
Ms	Nicola Brooks	Newcastle University

6.5 8 May: RENKEI Dinner (Meet at the lobby of the Hotel Radisson Blu lobby at 18h20)

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
Ms	Nanami Akimoto	British Council
Ms	Akie Koyama	British Council
Mr	Peter Bainbridge	Durham University
Ms	Lizbeth Sarahi Mendieta-Rodriguez	Durham University
Dr	John Bothwell	Durham University
Prof	Laura Marsiliani	Durham University
Dr	Nelly Bencomo	Durham University
Prof	Brian Castellani	Durham University
Dr	Cian Rynne	Durham University
Dr	Dingkun Lu	Durham University
Prof	Petra Minnerop	Durham University
Mr	Ghulam Mustafa Kamran	Durham University
Dr	Jo Hepworth	Durham University
Ms	Kalila Helen Mackenzie	Durham University
Prof	Claire O'Malley	Durham University
Mr	German Silvestre Anorve Pons	Durham University
Mr	Dylan Joseph Walton	Durham University
Dr	Adebola Adeyemi	Durham University
Dr	Owen Boyle	Durham University
Dr	Bilal Bilal	Durham University
Dr	Mohaddeseh Ziyachi	Durham University
Ms	Amal Alshehri	Durham University
Dr	Motohiro Tsuchiya	Keio University
Dr	Yoshinobu Takei	Keio University
Mr	Masahiro Takata	Keio University
Ms	Hisako Suzuki	Keio University
Dr	Naoki Wada	Keio University
Ms	Nadzirah Ikasari Syamsul	Kyushu University
Mr	Ryusei Kunisaki	Kyushu University
Mr	Hisayuki Sakata	Kyushu University
Prof	Natalie Konomi	Kyushu University
Prof	Motonori Watanabe	Kyushu University
Ms	Nicola Brooks	Newcastle University
Dr	Evangelos Papaioannou	Newcastle University
Dr	Anjali Jayakumar	Newcastle University
Dr	Jecel Censoro	Newcastle University
Other	Helen Rebecca Wright	Newcastle University
Dr	Amy Neild	Newcastle University
Prof	Chris Whitehead	Newcastle University
Dr	Spencer Hazel	Newcastle University
Ms	Mayumi Nakagawa	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Narumi Kira	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Eiji Yamasue	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Junko Sakamoto	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Tatsuya Sato	Ritsumeikan University

Mr	Toshiro Kikuchi	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Jiahuan Wang	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Mall Sanjeev Kumar	Sophia University
Ms	Kazumi Sato	Sophia University
Ms	Jahan Mashrat	Sophia University
Ms	Saki Kishine	Sophia University
Ms	Fumika Baba	Sophia University
Prof	Makoto Ikeda	Sophia University
Ms	Ai Noumi	Sophia University
Prof	Toshiya Ueki	Tohoku University
Ms	Moto Kobayashi	Tohoku University
Prof	Daisuke Komori	Tohoku University
Dr	Amalia Nafisah Rahmani Irawan	Tohoku University
Mr	Shoma Nagata	Tohoku University
Ms	Yujia Ji	University of Edinburgh
Ms	Siddeequah Azmi	University of Leeds
Dr	Dimitrios Kontziampasis	University of Leeds
Prof	Rob Sturman	University of Leeds
Mr	Simphiwe Neo Swakamisa	University of Leeds
Dr	Luba Pirgova-Morgan	University of Leeds
Dr	Imogen Rattle	University of Leeds
Prof	Edward Newman	University of Leeds
Ms	Musarrat Zaman	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xiaofeng Wu	University of Liverpool
Dr	Xue Yong	University of Liverpool
Dr	Chao Long	University of Liverpool
Ms	Maria Norton	University of Southampton
Dr	Masashi Watanabe	University of Southampton
Dr	Thomas Rushby	University of Southampton
Prof	John Holloway	University of Southampton

6.6 Sign-up for 9 May: Pick-up at the Radisson Hotel Blu to Durham Teaching and Learning Centre (08h30)

Preferred title	Full name	Institution
Ms	Nanami Akimoto	British Council
Ms	Akie Koyama	British Council
Dr	Yoshinobu Takei	Keio University
Mr	Masahiro Takata	Keio University
Ms	Hisako Suzuki	Keio University
Dr	Naoki Wada	Keio University
Ms	Nadzirah Ikasari Syamsul	Kyushu University
Mr	Ryusei Kunisaki	Kyushu University
Mr	Hisayuki Sakata	Kyushu University
Prof	Natalie Konomi	Kyushu University
Prof	Motonori Watanabe	Kyushu University
Ms	Mayumi Nakagawa	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Narumi Kira	Ritsumeikan University
Prof	Eiji Yamasue	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Toshiro Kikuchi	Ritsumeikan University
Ms	Jiahuan Wang	Ritsumeikan University
Mr	Mall Sanjeev Kumar	Sophia University
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