

**THE  
LONDON  
STUDENT**

# **SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 2024**

**Wednesday 21 February 2024  
10:00 – 18:00  
Imperial College London**

**Followed by a networking event  
18:00 – 19:00**

**Join the conversation  
#LSSC24**

**In collaboration with:**





## FOREWORD

### From the London Student Sustainability Conference Steering Group

#### Welcome to the London Student Sustainability Conference 2024.

A warm welcome to all attendees of the sixth annual London Student Sustainability Conference (LSSC24). We are delighted to be celebrating the incredible sustainability work of London-based students in person at Imperial College London. If you cannot attend in person, however, fear not - you can join us virtually on the day, too.

#### Diverse perspectives, united goals

LSSC24, proudly student-led and orchestrated by ten London-based Universities, showcases the incredible and diverse research efforts of the city's undergraduate and postgraduate students. This year's programme promises an array of sustainability topics which reflect the passion, innovation, and dedication of our budding researchers.

LSSC24 also benefits from the invaluable contributions of the Conference's Student Delivery Group. Their dedication has infused a student perspective into every aspect of this conference, from programming and speakers to workshops and promotion.

This year we also welcome three presenters from the **Student Sustainability Research Conference**, based in Yorkshire and the Humber and delivered by the University of Leeds. The partnership will continue with three students from the LSSC24 presenting at the Student Sustainability Research Conference in Leeds.

#### Commitment to action

Each London University involved in the organisation of the LSSC24 shares a commitment to embedding the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their education, research, leadership, and operations.

The presentations you will see today are all linked to at least one of the 17 SDGs, reflected graphically in the programme. We hope the variety of topics in each session highlights the interconnected nature of the SDG framework, emphasising the need to collaborate across disciplines to achieve the Goals 'for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future' (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

#### Inspiration and engagement

A huge thank you to the students and colleagues involved for continuing the Conference into its sixth year. We hope attendees will immerse themselves in the presentations and workshops, be inspired by the students, and join in on these important conversations. Let's commit collectively to the cause for today and the years ahead.

Have you been particularly inspired by one of the presentations or workshops? Why not share your thoughts? Join us on social media using the hashtag #LSSC24.

We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating the LSSC24 at an in-person networking event, taking place directly after the Conference from 18:00-19:00 in the Great Hall at Imperial College London. We hope you enjoy the day.

# SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 2023

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## PROGRAMME

### Welcome address and Session 1

#### 10:00 REGISTRATION (IN PERSON ONLY)

**10:30 WELCOME ADDRESS,  
JOIN THE SESSION HERE**  
Great Hall

Harriet Wallace,  
*Director Sustainability Strategy, Imperial College London*

Dr Omnia El Omrani,  
*Climate Change and Health Junior Policy Fellow,  
Imperial College London*

Laura Young,  
*Climate activist, environmental scientist, and ethical influencer*

#### 11:00 SESSION 1

**JOIN STREAM 1 HERE**  
Room: Pippard

**Even the Tea Leaves Have a Story  
to Tell About Gender Inequality**

Devika Prakash  
*King's College London*

**Cavendish Living Lab**

Nadezda Zelve,  
Dr Pooja Basnett,  
Dr Linda Percy,  
Dr Dipankar Sengupta,  
Angie Arias Trujillo,  
Jessica Mbakwe,  
Laura Onyemem-Benedict,  
Mehseen Ullah,  
Safia Irfan,  
Soumya Sharma  
*University of Westminster*

**Fueling Change: A Political  
Economy Roadmap for Developing  
Carbon Removal Technologies**

Andres Gomez Rios  
*The London School of Economics  
and Political Science*

**JOIN STREAM 2 HERE**  
Room: Read

**Plastic Pollution: Can Artificial  
Weathering Help Us to Understand  
the Chemistry of Degradation and  
its Environmental Impact?**

Pauline de Bigault de Cazanove  
*Queen Mary University of London*

**From Ghostnets to Shoe Laces:  
Weaving a Path to Sustainability**

Bilal Bentchakal  
*University of Westminster*

**The Future of Surplus Food  
Redistribution: What San  
Francisco Can Teach Us**

Natalie Jakiemiec  
*City, University of London*

**JOIN STREAM 3 HERE**  
Room: Blakett 112 -  
Lecture Theatre 3

**Staying With the Trouble:  
Youth-led Solutions for  
Fashion and Eco-Anxiety**

Aniela Fidler-Wieruszewska  
*Glasgow Caledonian University,  
London*

**Hang Sustainably, Nap  
Comfortably - NetNaps:  
Hammocks Crafted from  
Ghostnets**

Ester D'Alterio,  
Alexandra Simion,  
Vasviye Topril,  
Angela Doycheva  
*University of Westminster*

**Tourism in the Gambia:  
Challenges and Opportunities**

Ousman Jawneh Jawara  
*University of Greenwich*

#### 11:50 CHANGEOVER

**12:00 SESSION 2**

**JOIN STREAM 1 HERE**  
Room: Pippard

**“...no one is born a great cook, one learns by doing.” – The Role of Food Education in Addressing Sustainable Development Goals**  
Kim Smith  
*City, University of London*

**Implications of Armed Conflicts on Forest Landscape in Nigeria**  
Oladipupo Ogunro  
*University of Greenwich*

**Aggregated Impacts of Urban Wetlands on River Flow at a Catchment Scale**  
Fangjun Peng  
*Imperial College London*

**JOIN STREAM 2 HERE**  
Room: Read

**Fashion Fastlane vs. Sustainable Consideration: Navigating the Attitude-Behavior Gap in Sustainable Wardrobe Choices**  
Maria Weigt  
*Kingston University London*

**Improving Digital Sustainability at Institutions: Interventions to Reduce the Digital Carbon Footprint**  
Sia Asmussen  
*King’s College London*

**Groundwater Potential Evaluation Using Geoelectrical and Analytical Hierarchy Process Modelling Techniques in Akure-Owode, Southwestern Nigeria**  
Damilola Raymond Oshodi  
*Glasgow Caledonian University, London*

**JOIN STREAM 3 HERE**  
Room: Blakett 112 - Lecture Theatre 3

**Vape Segregation Leads to Environmental Proliferation!**  
Isabel Stingman  
*Queen Mary University of London*

**Unveiling the Illusion: Exploring Deceptive Narratives in Development Discourse and China’s Role in Africa**  
Lena Stefan  
*The London School of Economics and Political Science*

**Carbon Sequestration Potential in English Vineyards**  
Harsha Kalhari Gunarathna  
Yahampath Arachchige  
*University of Greenwich*

**12:50 CHANGEOVER**

**13:00 LUNCH**

**14:00 SESSION 3**

**JOIN STREAM 1 HERE**  
Room: Pippard

**The Future is Trans-Inclusive**  
Jules Buet  
*Queen Mary University of London*

**Demystifying: Uncovering Insights on Invisible Disabilities in Employment**  
Vidyashree Jaokar  
*The London School of Economics and Political Science*

**Litigating Vulnerability: A Study of Climate Litigation as a Social Movement**  
Medhini Pathirana  
*King’s College London*

**JOIN STREAM 2 HERE**  
Room: Read

**STUDENT SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH CONFERENCE SHOWCASE**

**Measuring Clothing Durability, It’s Tougher Than You Think**  
Kate Morris  
*University of Leeds*

**Investigating the Role of Power Dynamics in the UK Meat and Livestock System**  
Rebecca Lait  
*University of York*

**Inclusive Floodscapes: Empowering Minority Ethnicities for Urban Flood Resilience**  
Blessing Mucherera  
*University of Hull*

**JOIN STREAM 3 HERE**  
Room: Blakett 112 - Lecture Theatre 3

**Mission: Save Aral Sea**  
Niso Khamraeva  
*City, University of London*

**Design and Implementation of Automatic Tracking System for Solar Photovoltaic Panel**  
Aakashkumar Panchal  
*Kingston University London*

**Why Should We Plant Trees?**  
Abha Joglekar  
*Imperial College London*

**14:50 CHANGEOVER**

**15:00 SESSION 4 - WORKSHOPS**

**Workshop 1**  
Room: SAF 120

**What is the Circular Economy?**  
Titus Olaniyi,  
Professor, Sustainable Energy Planning and Management  
*Glasgow Caledonian University, London*

**Workshop 2**  
Room: SAF 121

**Energy Conservation: A Pathway to Net Zero**  
Professor Issa Chaer,  
Professor of Thermal Energy Systems and Associate Dean Research and Enterprise  
*London South Bank University*  
Professor Obas John Ebohon,  
Dean of the Academy for Sustainable Futures  
*Canterbury Christ Church University*

**Workshop 3**  
Room SAF: 122

**Free Riders and Forced Riders: The Unavoidable Question of Climate Justice**  
Dr Tania Dias Fonseca, Strategic Academic Lead for Sustainability  
*Kingston University London*  
Dr William Essilfie, Lead for Student Academic Success  
*Kingston University London*

**15:50 CHANGEOVER**

**16:00 TEA BREAK**

**16:30 SESSION 5****JOIN STREAM 1 HERE**

Room: Pippard

**Rethink Imperial's Curricula, Mapping the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to All Modules**Elliott Stoclet,  
Milan Paczai  
*Imperial College London***Diminish Poverty and Escalate Peace**Andrew Mfula  
*London South Bank University***Student MedAid London - How to Engage Students and Early Career Professionals in Planetary Health and Improve Sustainable Healthcare Education?**Adele Mazzoleni,  
Vafie Sheriff,  
Naireen Asim,  
Ashviniy Thamilmaran,  
Shazia Sarela,  
Nadhira Samsudeen  
*St George's, University of London***JOIN STREAM 2 HERE**

Room: Read

**Design, Development, and Characterisation of Energy Efficient Building in Iran**Sanaz Hariri  
*Kingston University London***What if the Countryside Enters the City?**Carla Fiore  
*London South Bank University***Political Ecology of Energy Sovereignty in Indonesia**Esha Peer  
*The London School of Economics and Political Science***JOIN STREAM 3 HERE**Room: Blackett 112 -  
Lecture Theatre 3**Green House**Lily Pickering  
*Kingston University London***America, The Beacon of Democracy...or Not: A Study on Gender Inequality Within American Political Representation**Samhita Dulam  
*The London School of Economics and Political Science***Climate Change Governance in Post-Colonial Contexts: Leveraging Historical Relationships for Equitable Environmental Justice in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia**Foday Kamara  
*London South Bank University***17:20 CHANGEOVER****17:30 CLOSING REMARKS AND AWARDS**

JOIN THE SESSION HERE

Great Hall

**18:00 NETWORKING EVENT****19:00 END**

## INTRODUCTION

The London Student Sustainability Conference is now in its sixth year and was created to provide an opportunity for students from across London to share their sustainability research and extra-curricular projects. The Conference is coordinated by ten London-based Universities who all contribute to the planning and delivery of the day. Below is each University involved and the Steering Group representative from each institution:

**City, University of London**  
**Arthur Shearlaw,**  
*Sustainability Engagement  
Coordinator*

**Glasgow Caledonian  
University,  
London (GCU London)**  
**Titus Olaniyi, Professor,**  
*Sustainable Energy Planning  
and Management*

**Imperial College London  
(Imperial College Union)**  
**Stephanie Yeung,**  
*Deputy President,  
Finance & Services*

**King's College London (KCL)**  
**Rosa Roe-Garcia,**  
*Sustainability Engagement Officer*

**Kingston University London**  
**Tania Dias Fonseca,**  
*Strategic Academic Lead  
for Sustainability*

**The London School of  
Economics and Political  
Science (LSE)**  
**Kate Veck,**  
*Sustainability Communications  
and Engagement Officer*

**London South Bank University  
(LSBU)**  
**George Ofori,**  
*Professor of Project Management  
and Construction*

**Queen Mary University  
of London**  
**Zoe Sturgess,**  
*Sustainability Coordinator*

**University of Greenwich**  
**David Jackson,**  
*Sustainability Manager*  
**Fariha Ahmed,**  
*Sustainability Projects Assistant*

**University of Westminster**  
**Morgan Lirette,**  
*Sustainable Development Advisor*  
**Dularee Goonetilleke,**  
*Sustainability Coordinator*

### Student Delivery Group

The Student Delivery Group is made up of students from across London Universities and who are recruited to feed into the planning and delivery of the Conference. This enables a student-led approach to all aspects of the Conference and has given the participants involved valuable experience in helping to plan and deliver the event. The Student Delivery Group have met weekly to feed into key decisions including programming, speakers, workshops and promotion.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

**Harriet Wallace**  
**Director Sustainability  
Strategy, Imperial College  
London**

Harriet Wallace is Director of Sustainability Strategy at Imperial College London where she is leading the programme to implement the College's Sustainability Strategy. Previously, she worked in policy, strategy, and change within the government, including as Director of International Research & Innovation at the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. She studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge and has a master's in History of Science from Harvard.

**Dr Omnia El Omrani**  
**Climate Change and Health  
Junior Policy Fellow, Imperial  
College London**

Omnia El Omrani is a medical doctor and was the first official Youth Envoy for the President of the 27<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) and the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs. She has over seven years of experience in climate change and health policy, research, and education facilitating over 74 hours of capacity building and training sessions in 15 countries globally. She is passionate about developing strategies and solutions at the intersection of planetary health, climate justice, and intergenerational equity to unlock systematic change for the health and prosperity of people and the planet.

**Laura Young**  
**Climate activist, environmental  
scientist, and ethical influencer**

Laura's social media platforms continue to grow, creating a community of activists. You can find her on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and YouTube all under @LessWasteLaura. She was recently awarded the 'Scottish Influencer of the Year - Inspiration' for her work. Laura started, and continues to lead, the campaign to see single-use disposable vapes banned across Scotland and the UK. This work has been nominated for a Holyrood Climate Action award, and has led the UK Government to launch a consultation on the issue. You can find out more about this campaign here.

# SELECTION PANEL

The London Student Sustainability Conference presenters were chosen by our selection panel. Every effort was made to ensure the Conference is a diverse and multifaceted event with speakers from all the London Universities involved with the Conference.

## Ioana Balabasciuc

Ioana is an Imperial College London Physics student and dedicated environmental advocate. She helped found Imperial Climate Action in 2021, a group working on fossil fuel divestment, biodiversity enhancement, and compulsory climate education. As a Young Climate Warriors ambassador, she empowers primary school children through assemblies, fostering awareness and engagement in the climate change battle.

## Kate Veck

Kate currently works in the Sustainability Team at the University of London, having worked previously in the Sustainability Team at LSE. She has broad knowledge of sustainability topics, and her marketing communications background means she has a particular eye for how to convey information relating to sustainability clearly and persuasively.

## Dr Purva Tavri

Purva is a Chartered Environmentalist, Chartered Waste Manager, an Associate Fellow of Higher Education Academy, and an Environmental Planner & Architect with 15 years of experience in sustainability and waste management.

## Mariam Jaber

Mariam is a 21-year-old undergraduate International Political Economy student at City, University of London. Her passion for climate action began after interning with a sustainability team as part of City's Micro Placements Programme. Post-graduation, she aspires to persist in her commitment to sustainability, contributing to a team that drives positive change and inspires others.

## Novile Lipskyte

Novile is a 20-year-old undergraduate Business with Marketing student at the Bayes Business School. Her passion for sustainability deepened last year when she went to Sustainable Global Experience in Brussels and met with four sustainable companies. Interaction with them inspired her to try and make any business that she works for in the future more sustainable. This year, she joined the City Sustainability Team for five weeks to help organise and overlook sustainability events for Sustainable City Week.

# WORKSHOPS

All workshops at this year's Conference will be delivered by a member of the LSSC24 Steering Group and will be supported by students from the Student Delivery Group. This method of co-design and co-delivery is something integral to the Conference going forward. The workshops will be taking place in Session 4. Scroll down for more information below. The workshops will not be available to those joining online.

## Student Sustainability Research Conference collaboration

As a Conference first, we have partnered with the **Student Sustainability Research Conference**, based in Yorkshire and the Humber and delivered by the University of Leeds, to provide the

opportunity for the top three graded students from each region to present at the other Conference. We are looking forward to welcoming these students from outside of London. You can watch their presentations in Session 3, Stream 2 and read more about their research below.

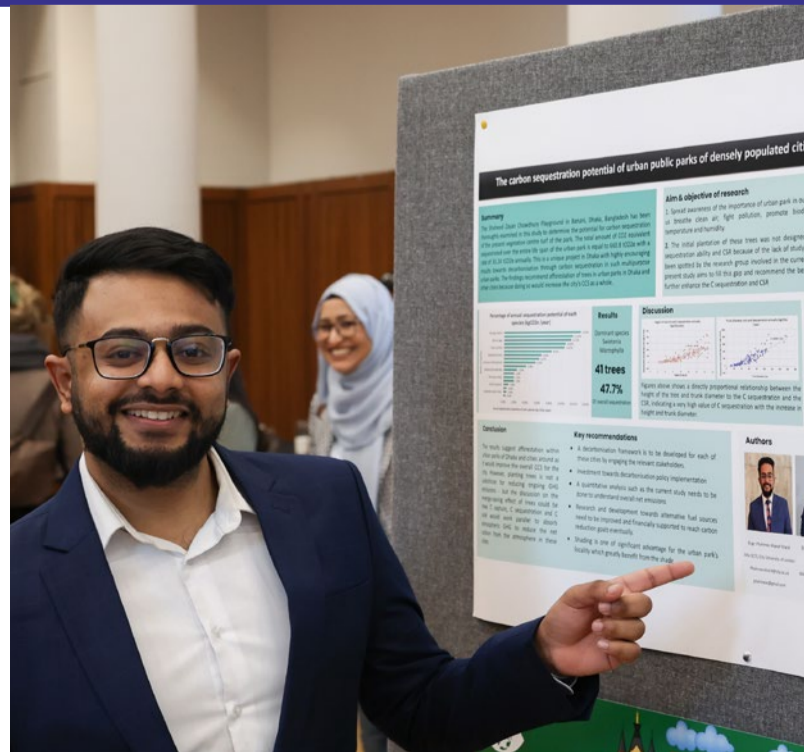
# POSTERS

Students from across London were given the opportunity to submit an academic poster which highlights how their work contributes to achieving one or several of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. You can view all of the poster submissions for this year's Conference in the online exhibition space.

The posters will also be on display in the Great Hall during the Conference and will be judged by a panel of experts across three categories:

- Most effective visuals
- Most original concept
- Best overall conference poster.

Join us for the announcement of the competition winners at the end of the Conference.





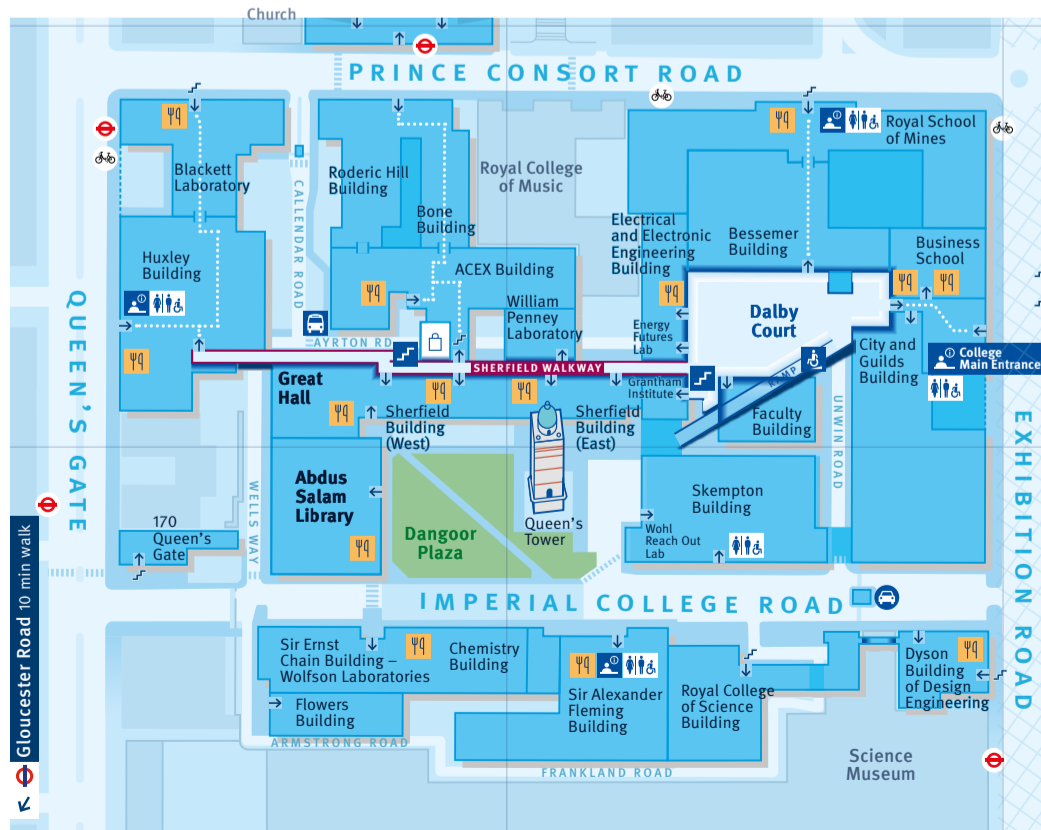
## NETWORKING EVENT

The London Student Sustainability Conference will be followed by an evening networking event and poster exhibition from 18:00 - 19:00 in the Great Hall in the Sherfield Building at Imperial College London, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ.

All presenters, delegates, and speakers are invited to the London Student Sustainability Conference networking event taking place following the Conference.

We hope to use this event as an opportunity to exchange knowledge, network, celebrate the endeavours of our fantastic student presenters, and reflect on the great progress we are making across London Universities towards sustainable development. There will be an opportunity to view the Conference posters at the event.

**We look forward to seeing you there.**



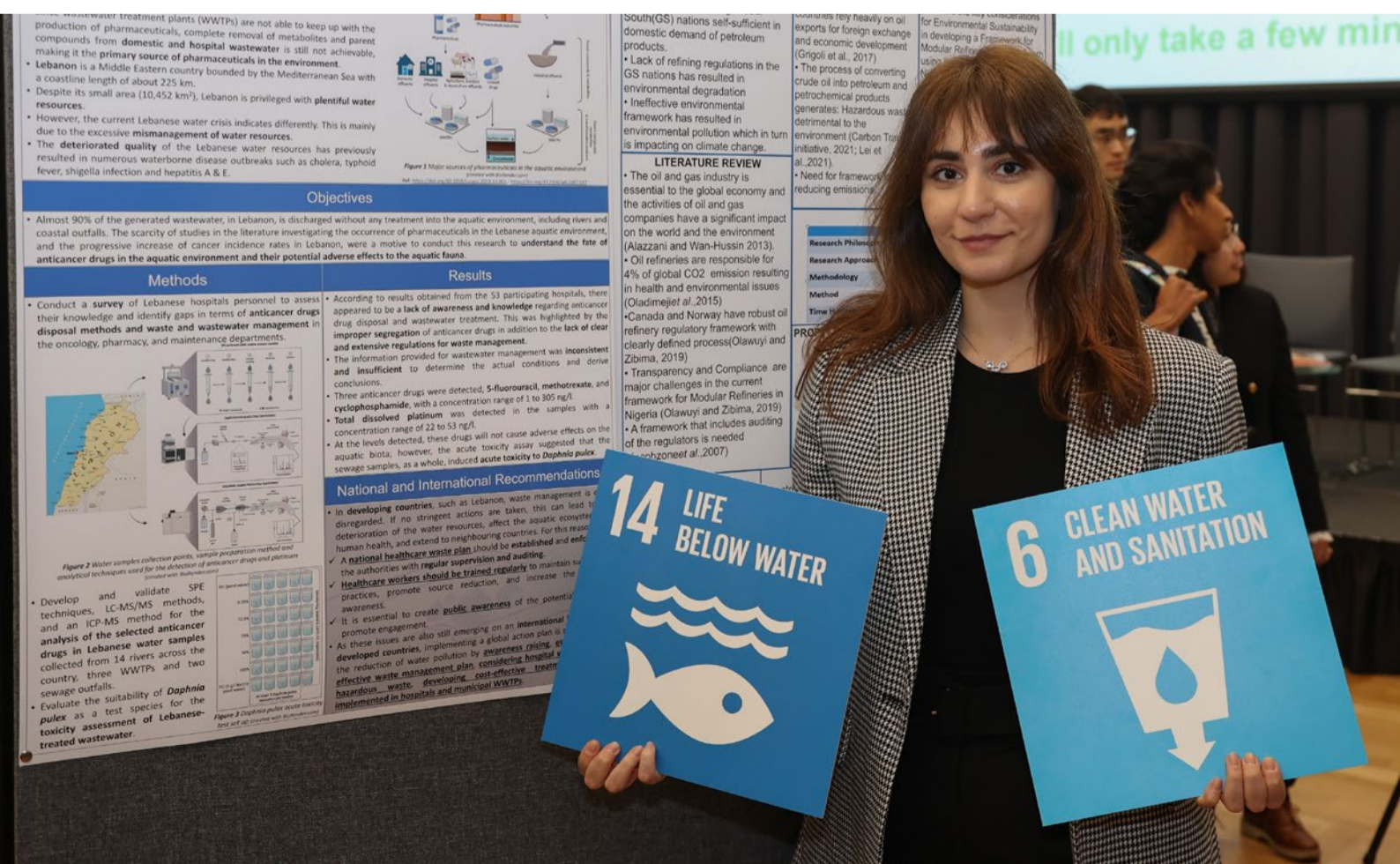




# SDG'S

## Sustainable Development Goals

You will find that today's presentations and posters link in with at least one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), as highlighted by the graphics next to each presentation in this programme. We want today's event to highlight the interconnected nature of the framework and the necessity of working in partnership across disciplines to achieve them, a principle we have sought to embed by ensuring each session is varied and diverse with topics and specialisms.





## Even the Tea Leaves Have a Story to Tell About Gender Inequality

Devika Prakash, King's College London

Gender inequality has been a major concern and a barrier to socio-economic development in the Asia-Pacific region. India is a country with the same condition, but Kerala stands out with its unique statistics like high sex ratio compared to the national average. But the conditions for the women, especially in the plantation sectors, are deplorable. The study is about gender inequality among tea plantation

workers of Kerala and was carried out in the Idukki district of Kerala where tea plantations exist largely. Primary data through focus group interviews and secondary data from various reports was collected as part of the study. The results presented would enable the government at various levels to draft policies aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 5 'Gender Equality'.

*Devika Prakash, from Kerala, India, is pursuing an MSc Emerging Economies and International Development from King's College London. Devika has always been an advocate of the Sustainable Development Goals, having served as the General Secretary of Kerala Forum on United Nations Academic Impact as well as the Student Coordinator of UNAI- ASPIRE Marian Chapter. She is currently a part of King's Climate Action Network.*



## Cavendish Living Lab

Nadezda Zelve, Dr Pooja Basnett, Dr Linda Percy, Dr Dipankar Sengupta, Angie Arias Trujillo, Jessica Mbakwe, Laura Onyemem-Benedict, Mehseen Ullah, Safia Irfan, Soumya Sharma, University of Westminster

The Cavendish Living Lab is a vertically integrated project focused on building sustainable solutions to address food, plastic, and water waste on the Cavendish campus at the University of Westminster. The project investigates ways to reduce and repurpose waste. As a result, collected food waste was transformed into biofertiliser and used in

hydroponic systems to grow food on campus, which was donated to the local food bank, showcasing a circular model. The production of biopolymers from waste was also explored and its applications were proposed. Integration of artificial intelligence use in the project is currently being implemented, and the upcoming strand will focus on wastewater.

*The project brought together students from different levels and disciplines, as well as academics, Westminster's Estates Department, and external stakeholders. The group is passionate about sustainability and reducing waste. By researching and exchanging ideas and knowledge, we learn and collaborate in authentic settings and establish practical solutions to the current waste problem.*



## Fueling Change: A Political Economy Roadmap for Developing Carbon Removal Technologies

Andres Gomez Rios, The London School of Economics and Political Science

I recently found inspiration in a POLITICO Magazine opinion piece introducing "Advance Market Commitments" (AMCs) as an economic model to accelerate the development of carbon removal technologies. AMCs aim to accelerate nascent technologies by securing markets for products that don't yet exist (notably used in the early 2000s for pneumococcal vaccines). My ongoing

master's project delves into (a) synthesizing research on government-funded AMCs for carbon removal technologies which are to date poorly understood (b), exploring economic implications, and (c) understanding political mechanisms for implementing AMCs in the context of global conservatism, aiming to contribute to combating climate change.

*Andres Gomez-Rios is a graduate student at The London School of Economics and Political Science pursuing a master's degree in public policy. He offers a multicultural perspective on issues that he is passionate about, such as the climate crisis and artificial intelligence. Andres' work focuses on using political economy methods to address the most important issues for this generation.*



## Plastic Pollution: Can Artificial Weathering Help Us to Understand the Chemistry of Degradation and its Environmental Impact?

**Pauline de Bigault de Cazanove, Queen Mary University of London**

The global concern regarding the environmental impact, behaviour, and fate of plastics drives research into their fragmentation due to sunlight and heat exposures (weathering); a process which results in the formation of particles with varied sizes and chemical structures, ultimately influencing their biodegradation. Understanding the physico-chemical changes that occur when plastic is exposed to different environments will allow us

to predict their impact on ecosystems. Despite extensive study of degradation mechanisms caused by weathering, the interdependence between modified surface chemistry and biodegradation has not been fully understood. This study demonstrates how the alteration of polyethylene-based plastics, induced by lab-based accelerated ageing protocols, can improve the ability of bacteria to access and metabolise weathered plastic fragments.

*Driven by a keen interest for chemistry, Pauline finished her chemical engineering studies in France in 2019. Deeply passionate about marine wildlife, Pauline quickly became preoccupied by the environmental challenges the ocean is facing today. Eager to contribute, she committed to a long-term research project to address one of the major environmental issues of this century - plastic pollution.*



## From Ghostnets to Shoe Laces: Weaving a Path to Sustainability

**Bilal Bentchakal, University of Westminster**

AquaLace is here to weave a sustainable path toward sustainability by taking ghostnets and making them into shoe laces. We provide durable shoe laces made from ghostnets with a huge variety that allows for unlimited personalisation. In other words, you can be fashionable and

sustainable at the same time. We are committed to achieving that while being economically and ecologically sustainable through partnership with a variety of sustainable businesses like Pangaia. This initiative will act as one of the solutions to a more sustainable society and future.

*Bilal Bentchakal is a 22 years old and 3<sup>rd</sup> year Marketing Management student at the University of Westminster. A passionate, curious, and enthusiastic individual who is eager to participate in making the world a more sustainable place.*



## The Future of Surplus Food Redistribution: What San Francisco Can Teach Us

**Natalie Jakiemiec, City, University of London**

This project investigates surplus food redistribution (SFR) in San Francisco, exploring its framing and socio-cultural dimensions with a focus on its significance for food policy. It addresses the question of if and how surplus food redistribution can effectively balance immediate food security

needs and long-term sustainability objectives and uses San Francisco as a case study. The findings from this project can help guide cities to implement SFR that will benefit food waste reduction and food insecurity in the long-term.

*Natalie Jakiemiec (she/her) is a recent post-grad from City, University of London, where she completed her MSc in Food Policy. Before that she worked as a Program Coordinator for a non-profit that provided healthy meals to chronically ill patients. Her interests lie in measures to reduce food waste, particularly those which have been used to address hunger.*



## Staying With the Trouble: Youth-led Solutions for Fashion and Eco-Anxiety

Aniela Fidler-Wieruszewska, Glasgow Caledonian University, London

My research delves into the escalating eco-anxiety among adolescents amid the climate crisis, specifically examining the environmentally detrimental realm of fashion. Focusing on adolescents' relationship with fashion, their awareness of its ecological footprint, and its impact on mental well-being, I seek to empower young minds to actively engage in sustainable solutions. Through Living Lab workshops, incorporating

activities like mind mapping and mixed-method textile crafts, I aim to provide a creative platform for youth to explore the influence of fashion on their well-being. Through these sessions, participants will envision the direction they want fashion to go, considering their individual and collective purposes, actions, and means of contributing to positive change within the industry and the larger world.

*A designer, strategist, educator, and committed PhD student, Aniela Fidler-Wieruszewska is dedicated to fostering hope and exploring possibilities through radical imagination. With expertise in speculative design and fashion fictions, Aniela has successfully led international socio-ecological projects and has earned multiple awards. She holds an MA in Fashion Futures (University of the Arts London) and currently tutors the re-imagine module for the MA Sustainable Fashion at Falmouth University.*



## Hang Sustainably, Nap Comfortably - NetNaps: Hammocks Crafted from Ghostnets

Ester D'Alterio, Alexandra Simion, Vasviye Topril, Angela Doycheva, University of Westminster

In recent years, the discussions around ocean health have prominently featured topics like plastic pollution and the urgent need for sustainable solutions. The United Nations Environment Programme estimates that 640,000 metric tonnes of ghost gear enter the ocean ecosystem every single year killing and injuring 650,000 animals annually. These nets are made of nylon which takes around 40 years to decompose. However, the upside is that this material can be forever recycled without losing its original

quality. We are taking this as an opportunity to create a long-lasting waterproof product with the mission to preserve marine life and protect our oceans by embracing education, engaging communities, and advocating for a circular economy. With a unique blend of durability and eco-friendliness, the material is resilient, ensuring a long-lasting 'hammocking' experience, and carries a story of transformation and positive impact which promotes a 'restorative and regenerative' zero-waste program.

*Ester, Alexandra, Angela, and Vasviye are diving into their final year of digital marketing studies at the University of Westminster and fueled by a shared commitment to sustainability. Four minds, one mission – leveraging their skills to craft eco-conscious campaigns that redefine product design. Together, they strive to pave the way for a greener, brighter future.*



## Tourism in the Gambia: Challenges and Opportunities

Ousman Jawneh Jawara, University of Greenwich

Tourism has brought many challenges to Gambia since 1965. The remote geography gains infrastructure development, foreign exchange, international collaboration, creation of jobs, and establishment of tourism and other institutions. However, all these benefits are accompanied by negative challenges including environmental issues such as climate change, leakages, corruption, lack of tourism knowledge, lack of adequate development, lack of standard policies, and failure to effectively

implement sustainable tourism along with the interpretation of the concept of sustainability. The project aims to investigate the benefits to and challenges faced by the Gambia in developing the tourism industry. The objectives are to identify tourism benefits and challenges to Gambia and find solutions based on underused resources to be repurposed to develop a successful tourism industry which competes with other destinations.

*Ousman Jawneh Jawara is a resourceful tourism professional with a sound academic background in tourism management. He has extensive knowledge in the airline industry, travel and tourism industry, finance service, customer service, information technology, organisational leadership, management, and accounting.*



## **“...no one is born a great cook, one learns by doing.” – The Role of Food Education in Addressing Sustainable Development Goals.**

**Kim Smith, City, University of London**

School food education is one lever needed to facilitate a population transition to sustainable diets, though not yet fully leveraged. A systematic literature review across different food education types revealed a heterogeneous body of research that is broad but shallow. Many common themes exist: a lack of sustainability education in food

education research, a focus on child health outcomes, the role of stakeholders, issues in training and resources, and understanding of food education implementation. These findings highlight the need for research into a comprehensive food education that supports transitions to sustainable diets and addresses the issues necessary for policymaking.

*Kim is a second year PhD researcher and MSc Food Policy graduate, with 25 years working across the UK food system. Most recently specialising in school food education for the last eight years, she has developed her practitioner experience as a school food teacher and trustee at TastEd, a sensory food education charity, and is now focused on researching primary school food education policy in England.*



## **Implications of Armed Conflicts on Forest Landscape in Nigeria**

**Oladipupo Ogunro, University of Greenwich**

The aim of this research is to examine the impact of armed conflict on forest, the human environment, and mitigation strategies. The results show that armed conflict, especially in the North East and Southern part of Nigeria, has led to deforestation and habitat destruction, water pollution, displacement of local communities, fire incidents,

and land degradation. The research brought about strategies that can help in reducing the effects of conflict through the integration of environmental considerations into conflict planning, environmental education, economic diversification, fast growing tree species, and community engagement.

*Mr. Oladipupo Ogunro is completing a MSc in transformative change for sustainable development and a Business and Technology Education Council diploma in forestry and wood technology. He loves a green environment and has considerable experience in raising tree seedlings, crop seedlings, and agroforestry.*



## **Aggregated Impacts of Urban Wetlands on River Flow at a Catchment Scale**

**Fangjun Peng, Imperial College London**

Urban nature-based solutions in the form of constructed wetlands can provide water management benefits if they are implemented on a large scale, preserved, and sustainably used. However, their water management benefits at a catchment scale have not been evaluated adequately, and the underlying mechanisms are not fully explored. To assess the water management benefits of urban wetlands at the catchment scale, this study analyses river flow data collected before and after wetland construction in the

Enfield catchment in London. The Water Systems Integrated Modelling (WSIMOD) framework can be used to simulate the integrated catchment water cycle, and the novel constructed wetlands module is conceptualised and included in the WSIMOD to evaluate their interactions within the urban catchment water cycle. The results provide useful insights into the planning of constructed wetlands to enhance water management benefits at the catchment scale.

*Fangjun began his PhD study at Imperial College London in October 2021. He is a member of Cohort 3 in Transition to Zero Pollution and Cohort 8 in Science and Solutions for a Changing Planet Doctoral Training Partnership.*



## Fashion Fastlane vs. Sustainable Consideration: Navigating the Attitude-Behavior Gap in Sustainable Wardrobe Choices

Maria Weigt, Kingston University London

The fast fashion industry is a major contributor to unethical practices and environmental harm. Consumers bear responsibility to acknowledge and mitigate its impact through sustainable clothing choices. Employing the theory of planned behaviour and qualitative research through semi-structured interviews, this study addresses the disparity between attitudes and behaviours in sustainable clothing consumption. Its objective is

to identify hindrance factors and suggest solutions for overcoming them. Examining various forms of consumption, aside from renting, which elicited predominantly negative attitudes from respondents, the translation of intention into behaviour fell short. We see this particularly in the repair and consumption of sustainably produced and second-hand clothing.

*As a sustainable fashion student at Kingston University London with an undergraduate in business, Maria integrates entrepreneurial drive with a commitment to a socially responsible and eco-friendly fashion industry. Her future goal is to establish a small business collaborating with global artisans, creating vintage-inspired designs that lead the way in promoting circularity within the industry.*



## Improving Digital Sustainability at Institutions: Interventions to Reduce the Digital Carbon Footprint

Sia Asmussen, King's College London

Climate change is our era's defining challenge. An exponentially growing contributor to the rise in greenhouse gas emissions are digital activities, known as our digital carbon footprint. The purpose of the project is to examine King's Business School's (KBS) digital carbon footprint, by investigating how carbon dioxide emissions linked to digital activities can be reduced by

using behaviour change interventions and digital implementations to reduce unsustainable and inefficient consumption of digital activities. The scope of this study has been limited to KBS, yet the findings are likely to be transferable to other institutions and organisations, strengthening the partnership of sustainable development.

*Sia is a final-year BSc Business Management student at King's College London, and is from Denmark. She has taken part in the King's Business School capstone project, aimed to focus on the issue of the transition to an environmentally sustainable economy.*



## Groundwater Potential Evaluation Using Geoelectrical and Analytical Hierarchy Process Modelling Techniques in Akure-Owode, Southwestern Nigeria

Damilola Raymond Oshodi, Glasgow Caledonian University, London

Akure-Owode, being one of the four hydrogeological provinces in Sub-Saharan Africa, is considerably hit by poor access to a continuous supply of groundwater resources throughout the year. Analytical hierarchy process (AHP) modelling technique in conjunction with geoelectric measurements was employed to unravel subsurface complexities and groundwater potential zones in the study area. The resulting groundwater

potential map was binned into low, medium, and high prediction zones. The performance evaluation of the groundwater potential model using the spatial locations of prolific boreholes and hand-dug wells in the area indicates a 80 per cent success rate. Hence, the developed groundwater potential map in this study can be harnessed for optimal groundwater resource management in the Akure-Owode area.

*Damilola Raymond Oshodi completed his first degree in geophysics at the Federal University of Technology Akure Nigeria in 2015. He proceeded with his academic pursuit at the same university for his MSc in Petroleum Exploration Geophysics in 2019. His second MSc is on Environmental Management at Glasgow Caledonian University, London.*



## Vape Segregation Leads to Environmental Proliferation!

Isabel Stingman, Queen Mary University of London

We aim to encourage universities or other organisations to use vape-specific disposal bins to make it easier for environmental organisations to dispose of vapes in a way that decreases

environmental impact due to their harmful chemicals and batteries when disposed of with general waste.

*Izzy is a third year university student who aims to encourage other students and the general public to dispose of vapes in vape-specific bins to lower their negative environmental impact due to battery incineration and chemicals released in landfill sites. She hopes her talk will be interesting and beneficial to her audience.*



## Unveiling the Illusion: Exploring Deceptive Narratives in Development Discourse and China's Role in Africa

Lena Stefan, The London School of Economics and Political Science

Exploring development paradigms, my research, spanning from undergraduate to postgraduate dissertation, focuses on China's impact in Africa. Initially, I studied the competition between Western donors and China, exploring its effects on democratisation in African countries. In my postgraduate project, I delve into the consequences of China's economic involvement in Africa. Applying a gender lens, I critically analyse the

interplay between economic and social upgrading. Ultimately, my overarching goal is to uncover inherent contradictions among different Sustainable Development Goals as well as illuminate the agenda's potential to camouflage neo-colonialist undertones in Africa, often seen from a Western rather than a truly global perspective.

*As a postgraduate student at The London School of Economics and Political Science in Development Studies, Lena is particularly interested in topics including change strategies, advocacy, feminist economics, and Sino-African relationships. With a background in social sciences from Humboldt University of Berlin, she has worked in public and private sector consultancies and at the German Federal Foreign Office. Lena's diverse work experience has deepened her understanding of sustainability and the United Nations Agenda 2030, shaping her critical perspective.*



## Carbon Sequestration Potential in English Vineyards

Harsha Kalhari Gunarathna Yahampath Arachchige, University of Greenwich

Soil carbon sequestration (CS) is a mitigation strategy in combating global warming. Amongst English cultivated farmland, vineyards are high-potential yet under-researched sites for their CS potential. Therefore, this research examined the potential for CS in vineyards across England by assessing soil organic carbon (SOC) levels within grapevine estates. Results showed that topsoils

with high clay content retained greater SOC, which generally increased as vineyards matured. SOC levels declined when vineyards replaced grasslands but increased when croplands were converted to vineyards. The integration of grapevines with inter-row grass cover has the capacity to enhance SOC levels compared with other land uses.

*Kalhari Gunarathna (she/her) is a recent graduate from the University of Greenwich's Natural Resource Institute with an MSc in Global Environmental Change. She is passionate about researching and learning how soils can be part of the solution to climate change and ensure sustainable agrisystems in both tropical and temperate climates.*



## The Future is Trans-Inclusive

Jules Buet, Queen Mary University of London

Many radical feminists, particularly in the United Kingdom, oppose transgender rights and women's rights. The two are far from in conflict. Rather, a future free from patriarchal violence for women is also trans-inclusive. I will address common myths

that have been perpetrated by the 'gender critical' movement, debunk them, and explain how the patriarchy oppresses both transgender people and women and how we should ally our forces rather than fight each other.

*Jules is an MSc in Astrophysics student at Queen Mary University of London. They have been a staunch feminist since their teenage years, and have also been an advocate for LGBT+ rights since coming out as bisexual at age 19. They are currently the LGBT+ representative for the Queen Mary Student Union and have previously been named 7<sup>th</sup> LGBT+ Future Leader globally by INvolve in 2021.*



## Demystifying: Uncovering Insights on Invisible Disabilities in Employment

Vidyashree Jaokar, The London School of Economics and Political Science

Our project highlights an often-overlooked workforce segment – people living with health conditions not visible to others, like mental illness or learning differences. Exploring barriers and unmet needs, we discovered that professionals hesitate to disclose due to stigma and concerns about accommodations affecting career prospects. Shockingly, only 1 in 3 accommodation requests were fully met, revealing biases in doubting

conditions without visible signs. Despite over 20 per cent of the workforce dealing with invisible conditions, these hurdles limit careers. On a positive note, with proper support, individuals with invisible disabilities consistently excel, offering unique problem-solving skills. We're exploring system change that aims to foster trust, excellence, and inclusivity.

*Vidyashree Jaokar is pursuing her MSc in Management of Information Systems and Digital Innovation at The London School of Economics and Political Science. She brings lived experiences as a deaf person navigating barriers in access, communication, and inclusion across educational and professional settings. With a passion for sustainable and inclusive practices that can help dismantle disabling infrastructure for the people with disabilities community, Vidyashree integrates academic pursuits with a dedicated commitment to advancing sustainable practices within the realm of innovation.*



## Litigating Vulnerability: A Study of Climate Litigation as a Social Movement

Medhini Pathirana, King's College London

My research focuses on strategic human rights-based climate litigation, where 'vulnerable' individuals or groups have drawn legal action against those in power on the basis of their climate rights. I consider this under social movement theory and how it has become a connected form of activism around the world. I have already found

the foundations for this through an interdisciplinary case study-based project in my undergraduate dissertation and will continue to study this during my funded master's degree and PhD. This project is particularly important in the areas of climate justice as climate litigation becomes an increasing global phenomenon, especially within the Global South.

*Medhini is a 1+3 funded doctoral student at King's College London under the London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership and is currently completing her master's degree. She is researching climate litigation and its impact on the fields of development studies and social movement, with a particular interest in global health and vulnerability.*





### **Measuring Clothing Durability, It's Tougher Than You Think**

**Kate Morris, University of Leeds**

Global clothing consumption is at an all-time high, while garment utilisation is steadily declining. Garment durability, which encompasses physical and emotional factors, has been identified as an important solution for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and tackling the effects of climate change. The objective of this research is to develop

physical testing protocols which assess garment durability and to use a new method for ranking garment durability. Furthermore, the project seeks to explore how the concepts of emotional and physical durability influence the utilisation and disposal of a garment and how circular economy business models relate to durability.

*Kate Morris is a PhD Researcher at the University of Leeds investigating how physical and emotional durability affects consumer clothing utilisation and disposal behaviour to facilitate circularity within fashion. Before returning to Leeds, she previously studied Fashion Technology at undergraduate level and was a Fabric Technologist in the outdoor clothing sector.*



### **Investigating the Role of Power Dynamics in the UK Meat and Livestock System**

**Rebecca Lait, University of York**

With animal agriculture using 83 per cent of farmland globally, while supplying only 18 per cent of calories, significant climate change mitigations can be achieved through livestock and meat reduction strategies. Existing research has reported cases of decision-making proceedings being overly shaped by influential participants, indicating the capability of power dynamics to

hinder transformational change. By mapping out the interconnected actors and relationships in the UK meat and livestock system and analysing responses to the EAT-Lancet report and the UK National Food Strategy, my research will investigate power dynamics' ability to shape perceptions and controversies surrounding UK meat and livestock reduction strategies.

*Rebecca Lait is a PhD student at the University of York researching power dynamics in the meat and livestock system. After graduating with a master's degree in Physics, Rebecca is working with FixOurFood to research the impact of this system's power dynamics on transformational change and the climate crisis.*



### **Inclusive Floodscapes: Empowering Minority Ethnicities for Urban Flood Resilience**

**Blessing Mucherera, University of Hull**

Global flood risk is increasing due to climate change, rapid urbanisation and population growth in cities. The city of Hull, UK's second most flood-risk area, is fast transforming due to growing minoritised ethnic communities. This research discusses how placemaking for flood resilience in Hull results in exclusion for growing minority ethnic communities. The research employed a

participatory methodology to connect minoritised ethnic experiences to the city's past and ongoing flood resilience practices and argues that current flood risk management culture disempowers minoritised ethnic communities in building flood resilience. Overall, the research calls for a transformative shift in urban flood resilience.

*Blessing Mucherera is a PhD Researcher at the University of Hull, Centre for Water Cultures in the Energy and Environment Institute. His current research focuses on urban flood justice amongst minoritised ethnicities in Hull, across the UK, and Calgary and uses participatory approaches like walking interviews and serious gaming.*



### Mission: Save Aral Sea

**Niso Khamraeva, City, University of London**

The sea is gone, but people stay. Climate change and existing gender equality has a significant impact on the health, safety, and security of women and girls in the Aral Sea region of Karakalpakstan. Although very little data is available, access to water will be a predominant issue in Central

Asia as we approach 2030. My study brings together important findings for policymakers and researchers on exploring new data as well as gender-responsive programmes in the Aral Sea region. If every specialist brought with them a bucket of water, would the sea be filled again?

*Niso Khamraeva is an accomplished communications professional and speaker on prestigious platforms such as TED Talk, the United Nations General Assembly, and the Annual Human Rights Summit. Niso has five years of experience in public affairs at the United Nations, and today she continues to advocate for gender equality and climate justice.*



### Design and Implementation of Automatic Tracking System for Solar Photovoltaic Panel

**Aakashkumar Panchal, Kingston University London**

Harnessing solar energy just became smarter. Our innovative project aims to maximise solar panel efficiency by allowing them to 'follow' the sun, much like sunflowers do. Through this approach, we have ve uncovered a potential increase in energy collection. With the aid of tools like the programming and numeric computing platform MATLAB, light sensors (LDRs), and the Global

Positioning System, the panels dynamically adjust to the sun's position. This results in generating more clean energy from the same panel setup. Our solution promises a leap towards greener cities and reduced dependence on fossil fuels, making a significant stride in the journey towards sustainability.

*Aakash is a student at Kingston University London and at the forefront of sustainable technologies. With a degree in advanced product design engineering and manufacturing, Aakash has championed projects emphasising green energy. Passionately committed to driving a sustainable future, Aakash's collaborative efforts have received accolades for innovative approaches in urban sustainability.*



### Why Should We Plant Trees?

**Abha Joglekar, Imperial College London**

Landscapes are being restored on a large scale globally, but the understanding of people's participation in restoration and the impacts of restoration on people's livelihoods is limited. This study traces the drivers of agroforestry adoption by smallholder farmers in Gujarat, India and documents the perceptions around agroforestry as a restoration strategy. Using interviews and surveys

with farmers, we find that diversified income is the strongest driver of agroforestry. We note that there is scope for greater synergies with supportive programs in the landscape such as the linkage of agroforestry products with farmer producer organisations and convergence support from similar government programs.

*Abha is a PhD candidate at the Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London. Her doctoral research looks at the drivers of restoration initiatives in Brazil and India and traces their synergy within global restoration goals. Her PhD research is supervised by Dr Morena Mills and Dr Arundhati Jagadish. She holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Pune and a master's degree in development (sustainability specialisation) from Azim Premji University, Bangalore.*

**Workshop 1****What is the Circular Economy?****Room SAF 120****Facilitators:****Titus Olaniyi, Professor, Sustainable Energy Planning and Management, Glasgow Caledonian University, London**

In our current economy, we take materials from the Earth, make products from them, and eventually throw them away as waste. This process is linear. In a circular economy, by contrast, we stop waste being produced in the first place by keeping everything ‘in the loop’. This workshop will highlight:

- The limitations of the prevalent linear economy model
  - The business case for the circular economy and how it can be used to transform the way we view resources, especially considering increasingly pressing demands on finite resources
  - How circular economy principles of waste elimination help to regenerate nature whilst still allowing communities and businesses to thrive.
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**Workshop 2****Energy Conservation: A Pathway to Net Zero****Room SAF 121****Facilitators:****Professor Issa Chaer, Professor of Thermal Energy Systems and Associate Dean Research and Enterprise, London South Bank University****Professor Obas John Ebohon, Dean of the Academy for Sustainable Futures, Canterbury Christ Church University**

The transition to net zero is a complex and challenging process that requires significant changes in the way we produce and consume energy. This workshop is designed to discuss the intricacies of the net zero concept and how diverse energy systems in residential and workplace settings contribute to the overarching carbon footprint. Additionally, the session will explore practical energy-saving tips and available resources, equipping participants with the knowledge needed to make informed choices regarding energy saving and energy-efficient solutions.

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**Workshop 3****Free Riders and Forced Riders: The Unavoidable Question of Climate Justice****Room SAF 122****Facilitators:****Dr Tania Dias Fonseca, Strategic Academic Lead for Sustainability,  
Dr William Essilfie, Lead for Student Academic Success,  
Kingston University London**

The impacts of climate change are already evident across the globe, and several institutions and governments worldwide have declared a climate emergency. However, different communities do not experience the negative consequences of climate change equally. In particular, the global south and Black, Indigenous, and people of colour communities around the world are disproportionately affected. In this workshop, we will map the historical and current factors contributing to the responsibilities for climate change and interconnectedness between social class, gender, race, ethnicity, and geographic

location as well as climate change’s disproportionate impacts. In this hands-on workshop, we will explore how different countries act as ‘free riders’ and how others are ‘forced riders’ impacted by carbon dioxide emissions and climate change impacts. Through a problem-solving approach, we will discuss possible ethical and just solutions to foster climate justice measures while reflecting on how our positionality shapes our decisions and contributes to climate injustices worldwide.



## Rethink Imperial's Curricula, Mapping the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to All Modules

**Elliott Stoclet and Milan Paczai, Imperial College London**

Imperial College London strives to be a global leader when it comes to technology and innovation. However, the education delivered across college does not provide the skills and mentality to address the polycrises of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This dichotomy brought us to map all modules to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to

assess what was being taught officially. This will then be compared to what students get out of the curriculum. The objective is to deeply embed the SDGs in all curricula to provide students with the right mindset, heartset, and skillset to work towards protecting the planet and all life on the planet.

*Elliott Stoclet and Milan Paczai are two Imperial College London graduates. During their studies, they realised that Imperial was not teaching them the skills and the mentality to address the multiple crises of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They decided to become student activists to push Imperial to provide its students with an education that will incentivise and enable them to work towards saving the planet and all life on the planet.*



## Diminish Poverty and Escalate Peace

**Andrew Mfula, London South Bank University**

This presentation introduces various United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including an overview of their background and the research undertaken against them. It will then analyse how these have changed - whether there has been an

increase or decrease in commitment to the SDGs and whether they are impacting the world in a positive or negative way. The presentation finishes with simple solutions that anybody can do to improve and achieve the SDGs.

*Andrew Mfula is 20 years old and currently in his second year of studies at the LSBU Croydon campus in accounting and finance. Andrew has experience in accounting, volunteering, and sports. His interest in sustainability stems from a drive to make the world a better place.*



## Student MedAid London - How to Engage Students and Early Career Professionals in Planetary Health and Improve Sustainable Healthcare Education?

**Vafie Sherif, Adele Mazzoleni, Vafie Sherif, Naireen Asim, Ashviniy Thamilmaran, Shazia Sarela, Nadhira Samsudeen, St George's, University of London**

1.8 per cent of medical students are not exposed to sustainable healthcare education. Student MedAid London aims to change this by designing advocacy and learning opportunities in global health. This includes our Global Health Hackathon, Learn with MedAid Series, 'Careers in Global Health & Development', as well as our work redistributing unused excess medical equipment

to less developed places. Our latest teaching series showed an increase in participants' understanding of global health, sustainability, global partnerships, and waste reduction. Participants expressed interest in getting involved in advocacy, promoting climate action, and developing careers in this field.

*Student MedAid London is a student-led non-profit that aims to provide education and awareness on global sustainable health topics. They also redistribute excess medical supplies to communities in need by linking prospective donating organisations with receiving organisations.*



## Design, Development, and Characterisation of Energy Efficient Building in Iran

Sanaz Hariri, Kingston University London

This project evaluates the technical and economic aspects of a passive and active solar, low carbon emitting house in Tabriz, Iran. The house was designed using low embodied carbon materials which improved the energy efficiency of the building. The passive cooling system with natural air ventilation was considered and tested using

Ansys CFD simulation software to determine the final average temperature of the house at 23.4°C where the outside temperature was set at 30°C. The active system of the house generated a total 69.1 per cent of the electricity needed alongside reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 7,553 kg in a year.

*Sanaz Hariri studied BSc in Electrical Engineering at Azad-Tabriz University, Iran, and completed a MSc Renewable Energy Engineering from Kingston University in 2018. After presenting her master's dissertation 'An Energy Efficient Building' at the Mediterranean Green Forum in Florence, Italy, Sanaz's first paper was published in 2019. Sanaz is interested in energy efficient buildings design and currently pursuing a PhD in Sustainable Energy Efficient Buildings.*



## What if the Countryside Enters the City?

Carla Fiore, London South Bank University

My research stands at the borders between cities and rural areas. Cities are entered by humans acknowledging that adaptation to a defined set of social behaviours and expectations has to take place. I argue that creating sustainable cities, tackling inequality within them, and improving their inhabitants' quality of life requires a cultural and

geographical switch. Allowing the rural knowledge to enter the city - not to be erased, but to inspire new ways of sharing spaces - nurtures social bonds and individual relationships with production and consumption and generates stronger cultural bridges between ancient and new knowledge.

*Carla is a second-year sociology student at London South Bank University. She is passionate about sustainability, urbanism, and possible ways to make cities more liveable for all, humans and not.*



## Political Ecology of Energy Sovereignty in Indonesia

Esha Peer, The London School of Economics and Political Science

Developing countries like Indonesia play a major role in the energy transition promoted by supranational organisations, and many have adopted national policies to promote renewable energy in their energy mix. This paper considers the internal and external drivers of renewable energy development in Indonesia, using political ecology as a framework to recognise the complex system

governing this development and future. Political ecology is a discipline within anthropology that considers the global economic structures and power relations behind environmental changes. It also fills the gap on implications of renewable energy for Indonesia and developing countries towards their state sovereignty.

*Esha Peer (she/her) is an exchange student at The London School of Economics and Political Science. She studied in Singapore last spring and developed an interest in the global politics behind renewable energy development. She hopes to continue learning how to create a sustainable and equitable future for all through her academic studies. Esha is in her third year at the George Washington University, double majoring in international business and finance.*



## Green House

Lily Pickering, Kingston University London

Green House is a short film of one and a half minutes. It refers to the planet being a self-regulated house until one day the rubber band holding everything together snaps. It's a peaceful film with shocking comparative imagery.

*Lily Pickering is a director in her first year of university. She specialises in provoking questions for society on subjects such as equality, feminism, and climate change.*



## America, The Beacon of Democracy... or Not: A Study on Gender Inequality Within American Political Representation

Samhita Dulam, The London School of Economics and Political Science

America is championed as being the world's guardian of democracy yet trails behind many countries in a key principle: equality, particularly gender equality. Only 25 per cent of Senate seats and 28 per cent of House of Representative seats are women, and equality rates are predicted to slow as America slid down 16 spots on World Economic Forum's gender parity index. Improving

gender equality can boost economic growth and foster stability for more just institutions. Having uniquely worked in both the Senate and the House of Representatives, I have witnessed this disparity first-hand and have utilised my past connections to schedule interviews with Congresspeople to understand potential solutions for this project.

*Samhita Dulam is a third-year economics student studying abroad at The London School of Economics and Political Science. At her home university in Washington, D.C., she also studies international relations and sustainability. Interning on Capitol Hill for Senator Edward Markey made her passionate about developing sustainable solutions that foster increased gender representation within political leadership.*



## Climate Change Governance in Post-Colonial Contexts: Leveraging Historical Relationships for Equitable Environmental Justice in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia

Foday Kamara, London South Bank University

The project explores the link between climate change governance and international relations in the post-colonial countries Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia. It aims to understand how historical colonial relationships influence current environmental policies. Employing theories from international relations like realism, liberalism, and constructivism, the study seeks to analyse the

complex interplay of historical, diplomatic, and economic ties in shaping climate governance. The research promises a multi-faceted analysis, integrating historical contexts with contemporary environmental challenges to develop strategies for equitable climate governance and providing valuable insights for policy recommendations.

*Foday holds an MPhil Development Studies from Cambridge and a bachelor's degree with first class honours in international politics and social policy from London South Bank University. He is passionate about business and helping communities through international development work. His charity work focuses on implementing sustainable social and economic solutions to foster development and alleviate poverty.*

