

## Tyndall Assembly 2023: Foresight

Tuesday, 12th September - Thursday 14th September

 Hosted by the University of East Anglia, Norwich

### Agenda

The Tyndall Centre at UEA welcomes you to The Tyndall Assembly 2023. This year, our overarching theme is Foresight. We are focusing on horizon scanning and what we could be thinking about while evolving our practices and methods and our values, in line with thinking through how to activate our Research Strategy over the next five years. We will be learning about and informing our practice - transdisciplinarity, decolonialisation, advocacy and activism, the real stories behind making an impact with research. We horizon scan around generative AI and climate change research; what next after 1.5C is breached; and what might be different for UK climate policy with an incoming Labour Government. Each of these sessions will produce a co-authored Briefing Note or other output. All followed by an afternoon trip to the seaside.

All this is in addition to our traditional Tyndall annual business of getting to know your theme people better, early career network insights, and some evening entertainment.

Venue Details:

TECN on **Tuesday morning** will be hosted at the Julian Study Centre, University of East Anglia. [Julian Study Centre - Google Maps](#)

The main Assembly location on **Tuesday (afternoon), Wednesday (all day) and Thursday (morning)** is the Julian Study Centre, University of East Anglia. [Julian Study Centre - Google Maps](#)

The **Tuesday evening** event: Theme meetings in the Julian Study Centre. Pizza and soft drinks provided. [Julian Study Centre - Google Maps](#)

The **Wednesday evening** event: [Boom Battle Bar](#) (Level 2, Castle Mall Leisure Quarter, Norwich, United Kingdom, NR1 3DD)

Accommodation is at INTO, University of East Anglia: [INTO](#).

# Agenda

## Tuesday 12th September 2023

**09:00–13:00**

**TECN event** (open to all researchers who define themselves as ‘early career’ – including post docs and PhD researchers) **(JSC 2.03)**

TECN event (open to all researchers who define themselves as ‘early career’ – including post docs and PhD researchers) Early Career Researchers are invited to join us the morning before the Tyndall Assembly begins, for a TECN-only event. Refreshments will be available from 9am, kick-off at 9.15am. After getting to know each other with the help of a quick icebreaker, we will run a hackathon where you will combine your unique skills with your teammates to solve a problem. Afterwards, we will welcome Norfolk and Waveney Mind, who will run a session on ecoanxiety with us. People travelling from outside of Norwich for the TECN Day will be staying at Broadview Lodge at UEA the night before (Monday 11th).

Informal social activities will take place on the evening of Monday 11th. We have organised a scavenger hunt through the city of Norwich, ending with a shared meal at one of the restaurants - which one remains for you to discover during the hunt. Please bring shoes that you're happy walking in for a while. We will meet on UEA campus around 5pm, watch out for an email with more details and an alternative meeting point in the city!

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**13:00-14:00**

**Lunch**

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**14:00-14:30**

**Welcome to the 2023 Tyndall Assembly** (Asher Minns) **(JSC 0.01)**

Welcome address from UEA Vice-Chancellor, David Maguire.  
Introduction to the Assembly and its themes.

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**14:30-15:45**

**Session 1 – The role of interdisciplinary science in the Tyndall Centre** (Rachel Warren / Robert Nicholls) **(JSC 0.01)**

Climate change is the quintessential interdisciplinary environmental challenge faced by humanity today. The Tyndall Centre has pioneered the application of interdisciplinary scientific approaches to climate change science, bringing together natural and social scientists, including economists, ecologists, climate modellers, geographers, and psychologists. It is also increasingly embracing contributions from the arts and humanities.

# Agenda

This session will consider some important questions (1) What lessons have we learnt from our experience of conducting interdisciplinary research? Specifically, what are the research challenges and how have they been overcome? (2) What is the relationship between interdisciplinary research, research funding, research impact and the promotion prospects of individual researchers? (3) What recommendations would we like to make for the future direction of interdisciplinary research in the Tyndall Centre? The session will be beneficial for younger researchers interested in interdisciplinary work as well as providing an opportunity to influence thinking in the Centre about the direction of future interdisciplinary research.

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**15:45-16:15**

**Break**

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**16:15 - 17:30**

**Session 2 – Horizon scanning (Asher Minns) (JSC 0.01)**

**(16:15 - 16:25)**

We horizon scan around generative AI and climate change research; what next after 1.5C is breached; and what might be different for UK climate policy with an incoming Labour Government.

**(16:25 - 17:10)**

Simultaneous breakout discussions

- AI (Helen He / Adam Smith) **(JSC 1.02)**
- After 1.5 / It's getting hotter (Naomi Vaughan) **(JSC 1.03)**
- Incoming Labour (Saskia Hervey / Asher Minns) **(JSC 2.02)**

**(17:10-17:30)**

Conclude session

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**18:00-19:30**

**Theme meetings (summary report back to Council)  
(AST: JSC 1.02 BUR: 1.03 OPCA: 2.02 RZE: 2.03)**

Pizza provided

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**19:40–20:40**

**Cross-theme meeting (theme leaders only) (JSC 1.01)**

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## Wednesday 13th September 2023

9:30 – 10:45

**Session 3 - Demystifying decolonial research and practice: what does decolonial mean, why is it important, and how can it be done?** (Convenor: Rachel Carmenta) **(JSC 3.02)**

Climate change - and actions addressing it - impact people's lives and livelihoods, and interventions often seek to achieve some form of win-win. The challenge of how to move towards more plural and just futures is now more pressing than ever.

A decolonial approach to research and practice is increasingly called for and has gained recognition as an important tool to explore the unjust and colonial power relations that condition global flows (e.g., of material resources, impacts of global environmental change, ideas), to challenge dominant epistemological paradigms and to advance a pluralization of knowledge, values, and practice in pursuit of more just and more sustainable outcomes. However, what a decolonial approach means in practice can be obscure, sometimes even discomforting, to researchers, practitioners and communicators operating with diverse disciplinary backgrounds within the climate change and conservation space. Further, engaging with decolonial approaches itself represents a spectrum, from deeper to lighter engagement. This panel will bring practical and operational clarity to the concept, showcasing examples of where a decolonial approach has been pursued, how it been interpreted, operationalized, what it has contributed, and what more can be done. We will focus on four themes showcasing experience within Tyndall of working towards a decolonial approach: international cooperation and climate governance; values; impact appraisal and indigenous (and place-based) knowledge.

**Chair:** Angela Minas

**Speakers:**

Nitya Rao - Moving towards food systems sustainability: Centring indigenous perspectives

Adrian Martin - Values crisis, coloniality and sustainability.

Renee Karunungan - Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project: Lessons on bottom-up approaches to international governance

Rachel Carmenta - Making impact evaluation locally relevant: grounded perspectives of climate-conservation-development interventions and human wellbeing

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10:45-11:15

**Break**

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# Agenda

11:15-12:30

## Session 4 – Latest results (Carly McLachlan) (JSC 3.02)

OpenCLIM (UK) (Ali Ford)  
IPCC workshop (International) (Mark Tebboth)  
DeepDCarb – (EU) (John Kenny)  
Decoding residual emissions (International) (Harry Smith)  
Reducing emissions from cement (Muir Freer)  
UKERC - alternative fuels for aviation (Asha Fullonton)  
Resilience metrics (Jaise Kuriakose and Ruth Wood)  
Tropical Storms (Haider Ali)

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12:30-13:30

## Lunch

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13:30-14:45

## Session 5 - Highlighting Tyndall's Early-Career Talent (Clara Kubler) (JSC 3.02) (Breakout rooms: AST: JSC 1.02 BUR: 1.03 OPCA: 2.02 RZE: 2.03)

As tradition, this session will provide Early Career Researchers (ECRs) with the opportunity to present their research at the Tyndall Assembly. To foster engagement beyond traditional presentations, we will organise interactive sessions within the four Tyndall themes: Accelerating Social Transitions, Building Resilience, Overcoming Poverty with Climate Actions, and Reaching Zero Emissions.

In these smaller working groups, ECRs will present their innovative research projects and have the chance to discuss them with experts from various member universities, gaining multidisciplinary feedback. Furthermore, these discussion groups will offer the opportunity to meet new people, get an overview of the diverse research community Tyndall has to offer, network with researchers who share similar interests, and enhance the potential of interdisciplinary collaboration between ECRs and more established researchers.

### Building up Resilience (JSC 1.02)

- PROTECT - Global human exposure to sea level rise to 2300 (Jack Heslop, UEA)
- Adapting to coastal change on the Norfolk coast (Isabel Cotton, UEA)
- Assessing heat resilience in transport systems (Alex Shaw, Manchester)
- Territorial and relational approaches to resilience, and intersections between resilience and resistance (Chyna Dixon, UEA)

# Agenda

## **Overcoming Poverty with Climate Actions / Accelerating Social Transitions (JSC 2.02)**

- The informal e-waste management sector in the Global South (Nicholas Labra Cataldo, Manchester)
- Following the light: using 'brightspots' to prevent future Amazonian fires (Grania Power, UEA)
- Delivering climate action at the city scale: co-producing environment plans that can be delivered (Joshua Farnsworth, Manchester)
- Formalizing Informality as Institutional Work for Advancing a Circular Waste Economy in Lagos (Adeyemi Adelekan, Manchester)

## **Reaching Zero Emissions (JSC 2.03)**

- Beyond Cost & Carbon (Aimie Hope, UEA)
- High-performance batteries using biomass-based anodes (Ali Fereydooni, UEA)
- Biomass Resource Assessment for Bioenergy Potential in Indonesia, (Dwica Wulandari, Manchester)
- Governing Residual Emissions in the Decarbonisation of the UK's Industrial Clusters (Guy Finkill, Manchester)

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**14:45 – 15:15**

**Break**

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**15:15 - 16:30**

**Session 6 - Activism and Advocacy as a Researcher.** How can we achieve change together? (Cat Acheson) **(JSC 3.02)**

As scientists and researchers, we conduct our work against a backdrop of increasing climate and ecological disasters, humanitarian crises, and social injustice.

Despite decades of research into transformative alternatives to the extractive carbon economy – as well as international climate agreements, Net Zero laws and biodiversity targets – global emissions continue to rise, and the Climate and Ecological Emergency continues to worsen. In the UK and elsewhere, governments are acting in direct opposition to scientific advice and their own legal commitments on climate change mitigation, and are making increasingly authoritarian moves to repress protest and expressions of dissent.

As a result, many of us working in this field experience significant psychological distress, and struggle to feel like our work is making a difference.

# Agenda

Actively supporting social movements and grassroots groups must now be considered a valid and morally important role for researchers. In this panel, we address the question of how we, as scientists, researchers, and teachers, can move beyond our traditional roles in the Academy and contribute directly to local and global struggles for climate justice. We reflect on our personal experiences of activism and advocacy, and the many diverse forms these can take. In addition, we discuss the challenges which can make engaging in activism as a researcher difficult – from punishing work schedules and job precarity in a competitive and individualising sector, to concerns around how our actions will be perceived by colleagues and collaborators, to striking a balance between academic critique and constructive support for climate and social justice movements. We invite the audience to share their own experiences of balancing activism / advocacy with an academic career, and to join us in reflecting on how we, as the Tyndall Centre, can collectively create a space where we empower, challenge, and support each other in taking on the work of fighting for climate justice.

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**18:00-21:00**

**Entertainment - Boom Battle Bar**

(Level 2, Castle Mall Leisure Quarter, Norwich, United Kingdom, NR1 3DD)

## Thursday, 14th September 2023

**09:00 – 10:15**

**Session 7 - Real impact stories (Katie Jenkins) (JSC 3.02)**

Tyndall centre researchers often work with leaders from public and private sectors to provide climate information, data, and new tools and analysis to help support informed decisions on mitigation and adaptation to climate change. As a centre, Tyndall has great expertise in working with policy and industry partners and embedding stakeholder engagement and co-production of outputs into research. However, it can be harder to identify examples of how this engagement and co-production goes on to influence or lead to a change in behaviour or decision making on the ground.

The session will present a variety of ‘real impact case studies’ where research has led to identifiable changes and impact. It will focus on the approaches and mechanisms in place to support this, including what worked well and what didn’t. Following discussions will focus on identifying some key insights and tips to help support ‘real impact’.

# Agenda

## Speakers:

- Flood defence investment planning in the Southwest of England: Where should we investigate potential flood defence schemes? (Jack Heslop, UEA)
- Real-Worlding Models: Showcasing Impactful Case Studies & Boosting Research Visibility (Muir Freer, Manchester)
- Moving closer to Paris Agreement aligned shipping targets. (Christopher Jones, Manchester)
- Informing Policy for A Greener Brexit (Andy Jordan, UEA)

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10:15 – 10:45

**Break**

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10:45-11:15

**Theme leader feedback on actions from new strategy** (Robert Nicholls) **(JSC 3.02)**

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11:15-12:00

**Closing session and soapbox** (Robert Nicholls) **(JSC 3.02)**

A chance to air your views, say anything that hasn't been said, and pull together the themes of the Assembly.

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12:15-16:30

**Fieldtrip to Norfolk coast**

**(12:15)**

- Load luggage onto coach at UEA Congregation Hall.

**(12:30)**

- Travel to Trimingham Hall, Trimingham, NR11 8HY (Eat lunch here)

**(14:30)**

- Travel to pub and church, North Walsham Road, Happisburgh, NR12 0PW. Disembark and walk

**(15:30)**

- Meet bus at Happisburgh [Beach Rd & Whimpwell St - Google Maps](#) and travel to Norwich train station.

**(16:30)**

- Arrive Norwich Train Station

**(16:50)**

- Arrive UEA

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16:56

**Train to Manchester (direct)**

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17:50

**Train to Newcastle (one change)**