

Transforming Universities for a Changing Climate

A three year GCRF project exploring the role of universities in addressing the climate crisis



Project Overview

Climate change is widely recognised as the most critical global challenge of our time. But its many effects are felt most strongly in the poorest communities of the world. To avoid devasting impacts, the world needs urgent action in the next decades, with radical shifts by 2050.

Higher education institutions have a crucial role to play in responding to the climate crisis, not only through carrying out research, but also through teaching, community engagement and public awareness. This project aims to strengthen contribution the universities to addressing the causes and impacts of climate change in lower-income contexts. It focuses on four countries: Brazil, Fiji, Kenya and Mozambique, each of which is mobilising to develop policies and action to address the damaging impacts of climate change. In doing so, the research project contributes to the broader task of understanding the role of education in achieving the full set of Sustainable Development Goals.

Where we work



Our Partners

University College London (UCL), UK

Principal Investigator: Prof. Tristan McCowan

University of Passo Fundo, Brazil Country Lead: Prof. Luciana Brandli

University of the South Pacific, Fiji | Country Lead: Dr Rosiana Lagi Kenyatta University, Kenya | Country Lead: Dr Jackline Nyerere

Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique

Country Lead: Prof. Patrício Langa

Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) | Alex Wright

For full details of our team, including Co-Investigators, Research Associates, Advisory Board and Country Advisors, visit: www.climate-uni.com/teams



Project Objectives

The project has four main objectives:

- To support local action on climate change in Brazil, Fiji, Kenya and Mozambique through the creation of participatory action research groups in universities
- To assess existing coverage of climate change in the curricula, research and community engagement activities of universities in the four countries
- To contribute to theory and understanding of the impact of higher education on climate change and sustainable development
- To build and strengthen national, regional and global university networks and knowledge exchange on climate change

Planned Impact

This project aims to bring benefit to communities in four low and middle-income countries through enhancing the contributions of universities to addressing climate change. In collaboration with other networks, ACU will coordinate events with international stakeholders and policy-makers.

Work Packages

Work Package 3 Work Package 1 Building a theory of Systems of higher education Policy analysis Survey of higher education Work Package 2 Universities as change-makers Research groups - Implementing intervention **Work Package 4** Global knowledge sharing

Find out more: www.climate-uni.com

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Lead Research Organisation: University College London, Department of Education, Practice & Society. Funded by UKRI as part of the Global Challenges Research Fund. Grant Reference ES/T005130/11. Feb 2020-Jan 2023