



BRITISH COUNCIL RESEARCHER LINKS WORKSHOP

Cardiff University and the University of Campinas (UNICAMP), with the generous support of the British Council, Newton Fund and the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), in collaboration with sister British and Brazilian universities, call for applications for the British Council Researcher Links Workshop to be held in Campinas, Brazil on the topic:

ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT: SHARED 21ST CENTURY SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

15th to 19th July 2019

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT

17 early career researchers based at UK universities and 17 from Universities in the state of São Paulo, will be invited for this five-day workshop in **Campinas**, Brazil. Full travel and accommodation expenses will be paid for those selected to participate in the workshop.

The workshop will be an intensive research meeting, aiming to provide new insights, approaches and methods to understanding the links between environment and development. It will deal with crucial sustainability challenges, which are of great importance today and of equal relevance to the Global North and South.

The workshop will be structured around relevant conceptual, methodological and policy-relevant themes. All participants from the UK and Brazil are required to deliver a 20 minutes presentation in English and actively engage in a number of activities during the event.

Overview, Aims and Objectives of the Workshop

The world is increasingly interconnected, with growing rates of production and trade, but also with serious levels of inequality, environmental degradation and mounting socio-ecological risks (for instance, due to climate change, soil erosion, water scarcity, biodiversity loss and social inequality). There are many problems associated with the usual focus on development, economic growth and the adoption of more intensive technologies and globalized markets. One of the main contradictions of development, including the limitations of many examples of supposedly sustainable responses, is the simplification of assessments and narrow consideration of alternatives. Taking those dilemmas as its departure point, the workshop will examine the justification, the trends and limitations of Western-based development and possible alternatives to fundamentally modify the basis and the rationale of the development process. It will consider theoretical and lived experiences of development, paying attention to multiple scales, local realities and economic frontiers. Through various activities, presentations, meetings and discussions, Brazilian and British participants will explore policy recommendations and discuss effective practical tools for determining the values different people hold for ecosystem services and territorial resources, for monitoring change in the provision of ecosystem services that might increase the well-being of vulnerable groups and strategies to promote innovation and integrated, equitable and sustainable development.



Workshop programme is linked to the issues of sustainable prosperity and equitable social change, which are fundamental to addressing the challenges of economic growth, social development and ecological conservation. Firstly, it will focus on understanding concerns over, experiences of and reactions to ecosystem change by different social groups across multiple scales and study the institutional frameworks that influence these links. Brazil has many areas that are undergoing rapid change due to deforestation, agricultural expansion, dam construction and accelerated urbanization process. Rapid ecosystem change is a significant concern, while its consequences in the form of violence and poverty are felt most acutely by people living in urban and rural peripheries. Focusing on socio-natural change, the workshop will examine major challenges for sustainable management including tackling increasing deforestation, resource exhaustion and social exclusion. Secondly, the workshop will study the mechanisms governing ecosystem management and tackling poverty of the people affected by increased environmental risks and competition for resources. Despite increased investment in development strategies, most initiatives have failed to produce the desired results or to offer a holistic approach to social welfare and sustainability. Recent programmes aimed at reducing environmental vulnerability were blighted by limited structure and coherence, which have aggravated perverse trends. The workshop will analyse complex approaches to governance of sustainable resource use and poverty alleviation by linking local ecosystems, cultures and lifestyles, as well as public acceptance of existing development strategies within institutional structures. Thirdly, it will explore policy responses to socio-ecological vulnerability and raise recommendations for determining the values different people hold for the environment, and strategies to promote innovation and integrated, equitable development.

Feel free to contact the academic coordinators of the workshop and express your interest (ahead of the formal application):

Dr. Antonio A R Ioris, School of Geography and Planning, *Cardiff University*. Email: IorisA@cardiff.ac.uk

Dr. Lindon Fonseca Matias, Department of Geography - Institute of Geosciences, *University of Campinas*. Email: lindon@ige.unicamp.br

Criteria for the selection for the candidates are:

Applicants will be selected in accordance to the following criteria:

- a) A doctoral standing of ten years or less prior to the workshop (or to have equivalent experience).
- b) A completed application (using the online Research links form) showing the ability to contribute to the topic and key themes of the workshop.
- c) Formal affiliation to a Higher Education institution in Brazil or the UK.
- d) English language proficiency (workshop will be held in English and it is expected that all participants will have a sufficient standard of English to engage fully in the discussion; however, consideration will be given to non-native speakers).

Further information about the workshop is available here (details of the application process will be announced soon): <https://www.britishcouncil.org.br>

DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS: Monday 15 APRIL 2019, MIDNIGHT GMT