



Early Career Researcher Workshop 2024

Inclusive Energy Transitions

8-12 July 2024

The University of Queensland, Australia

Summary

The 2024 Early Career Researcher (ECR) Workshop will take place at The University of Queensland on the theme of 'Inclusive Energy Transitions'. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy is a core objective in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

About

Inclusive energy transitions align with the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) by ensuring equitable access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy for all.

The world is at a critical juncture in its generation and use of energy. Many economies have set aggressive decarbonisation targets, but the scale and complexity of achieving these targets requires collective partnerships across government, industry, academia and the wider community. This will involve regional transitions impacting local communities through to initiatives to support complex decision-making and implementation at national and international levels.

Discussions relating to the climate emergency, the transition to net-zero and decarbonisation are often focussed on the role of government and corporate actors. However, people as individuals, in communities and nation states are central to the future success of new energy policies and innovation.

The 2024 theme 'Inclusive Energy Transitions' aims to deepen participants' understanding of ways in which interdisciplinary research across the social and behavioural sciences, business, economics and public policy can intersect and support an equitable and inclusive energy transition.

In order to achieve this, the four-day programme is designed to support cross-disciplinary knowledge exchange, skills-sharing and networking via small group workshops, poster sessions by ECRs, talks by established researchers, and panel sessions that include international and interdisciplinary perspectives. The workshop will be a unique opportunity for ECRs from across all disciplines to share knowledge, experiences and current projects from around the world.

Topics may include (but are not limited to):

- The scale and complexity of energy transition pathways
- Evidence-informed policy and engaging with the policy process
- Gender, equality, social inclusion and socio-economic dependencies
- Bridging perspectives on development challenges and industry-engaged social science
- Market design, regulatory environments, investment and interactions
- Exploring climate security discourses including the resilience of ecosystems

- Psychology and insights from behavioural science to address transition roadblocks
- Public representations, framing of challenges and people as active participants

In addition to developing specialised knowledge related to the theme, the workshop will also have a strong focus on networking and gaining an international perspective on:

- funding opportunities including international projects;
- communicating your research;
- connecting to R&D industry and translating research ideas; and
- career paths for researchers.

By the end of the workshop, ECRs will have a greater understanding of the challenges and interdisciplinary solutions to the theme, as well as inspiration for opportunities for collaboration within the U21 network.

Eligibility

Early career academics from all disciplines are welcome to join. To be eligible for the workshop researchers should have been their PhD and have no more than 8 years post-PhD experience; this definition is flexible with each university having the discretion to nominate ECRs who fall outside this definition, due to an atypical career path, including those who have:

1. started the research-intensive component of their career later
2. had career breaks
3. spent time in industry

Each U21 member university may nominate up to 6 researchers to attend the workshop, four nominations per member will be guaranteed, with two reserve nominations (to be confirmed at a later date should spaces become available).

Workshop costs are covered by U21 and the host university, however each U21 member must be willing to cover travel and accommodation costs for all nominated researchers. The University of Queensland will provide information on recommended hotel accommodation for all participants, with details and estimated cost per night available soon.

Nominations

Each university may nominate six early career researchers: four guaranteed nominees and two reserve nominees. The first four ECRs on each University's list of nominees are guaranteed a place. Depending on availability, further places may be offered to the reserve nominees. *Each University must agree to cover travel and accommodation costs for **all six** nominees. U21/UQ will cover all workshop costs.*

The deadline for nominations is 2 February 2024

To submit your nominations, please [complete this form](#).

Participants will then be contacted by U21 confirming their participation in the workshop and invited to complete a registration form. Participant registration deadline is 11 March 2024.