**Job Title:** Senior Research Associate - A decolonial and justice perspective on digitalised climate change adaptation  

**Present Grade:** 7P

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<tr>
<th>Department/College:</th>
<th>LEC</th>
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<td><strong>Directly responsible to:</strong></td>
<td>Dr Giovanni Bettini (PI)</td>
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<td><strong>Supervisory responsibility for:</strong></td>
<td>n/a</td>
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**Other contacts**

**Internal:** Dr Giovanni Bettini, Critical Geographies and Political Ecology Research Groups in LEC, academic and research staff in LEC

**External:** Dr Giovanna Gioli and Prof Sian Sullivan (University of Bath Spa, co-applicants in research project), project’s advisory board

**Overview of the position**

The role of the digital in governing adaptation to climate change is surprisingly underexplored and under-theorised in interdisciplinary scholarship on the governance and politics of adaptation. To fill this gap, the project (funded by the Leverhulme Trust) develops a novel theoretically driven and empirically grounded research programme that for the first time combines a justice angle on climate adaptation with decolonial approaches to the digital. The project will develop a critical analytical framework and investigate digital climate change adaptation initiatives empirically, via a global mapping of discourses and practices and a case study in the Bihar state (India). It thereby advances critical adaptation studies, digital justice, and digital/environmental humanities, and builds an ambitious dissemination plan targeting stakeholders in and beyond academia. The project has 5 main aims:

1. Develop a novel analytical framework to conceptualise the justice implications of digital adaptation and challenges the coloniality of relations, epistemologies and practices that pervade mainstream (digital) adaptation;
2. Map existing digital platforms for climate services globally, the actors pushing / opposing them, the discourses legitimising / contesting them;
3. Investigate how users and communities engage with, co-design, employ, and resist such applications through a case study in the Bihar state (India);
4. Investigate how digital adaptation contributes reshaping knowledge and power relations between a community and its broader context, as well as within the community itself;
5. Combining theoretical and empirical findings, produce a toolkit for decolonial digital practices in climate adaptation useful for both academics and practitioners.

The successful candidate will contribute directly to achieving such objectives, under the direction and in collaboration with Dr Bettini, Dr Gioli and Prof Sullivan.

**Please note:** Travel to India for data collection will be necessary for this role

**Major Duties:**

- Develop and conduct theoretically informed and theoretically informing research on the justice implications of digital adaptation practices globally and in the Bihar state (India), challenging the coloniality of relations, epistemologies and practices that pervade mainstream (digital) adaptation;
- Contribute to the development and execution of the project’s research programme, including by engaging with the practical and theoretical problems concerning methodology, analysis and ethics that arise through the research.
• Carry out a mapping of existing digital platforms for climate services globally (desk-based analysis of academic and grey literature, online interviews, and production of an online repository);
• Undertake empirical research for the case study in Bihar, India, including document analysis, qualitative interviews, focus groups; lead the analysis of interview and focus group data;
• Co-lead writing up and publishing of results in well-regarded journals.
• Engage with colleagues, collaborators, advisory board and project co-investigators and consultant
• Contribute to the project’s impact and dissemination strategy, including helping prepare, organise and carry out in-person and online activities such as webinars, workshops and writeshop, dissemination toolkit;
• Present findings at internal and external workshops and meetings, including major international conferences.
• Support PI with small-scale project management tasks (e.g. updating project website and social media channels, liaising with stakeholders, ).
• Through the above, develop an independent and leading research profile, including via co-leading on publications, presenting at conferences, undergoing career development activities.