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# RENKEI Anniversary Climate Adaptation & Resilience Early Career Researcher Fellowships and Winter School

**RENKEI Early Career Researcher Fellowships**

To celebrate the tenth year of the [RENKEI](https://www.britishcouncil.jp/en/programmes/higher-education/university-industry-partnership/renkei) network, we are delivering a fellowship programme and Winter School for Early Career Researchers (ECR), which will engage a range of disciplines within five climate-focused themes. The programme will enable UK/Japanese collaborations that advance cutting-edge research into climate adaptation and resilience, and facilitate national and international policy engagement and impact.

The programme will focus on the researcher response to the interdisciplinary, global challenge of climate adaptation and resilience across the following RENKEI themes:

* Future risks and adaptation in floods and water shortage
* Future risks and adaptation in food production and security
* Managing future risks and building resilience in urban areas
* Future risks and adaption in ecosystems
* Future risks and adaption in human health

The network will consist of a cohort of up to 36 Early Career Researchers coming together for a programme of cohort-based virtual events, individual virtual mentoring fellowships, an in-person 1 week Winter School in Kyoto, Japan and opportunities for extended UK/Japan visits and small project funding.

The RENKEI programme will have a variety of events in 2022 and early 2023 that will bring together the members of the network to advance relationships and build collaborations. The main programme events that will occur are as follows:

* Virtual Mentor and ECR Conference: 22 September 2022, 8-10am UK 4-6pm Japan.
* In-person Winter School at Kyoto University, from 28 November to 2 December 2022.
* Virtual RENKEI Programme Closing Conference, 3 March 2023, 8-10am UK 4-6pm Japan.

All fellows must attend all events in the programme and be willing and available to fully commit to the programme opportunities.

**Application Process for Durham ECRs:**

Prospective fellows should complete the below application form and submit it along with a two-page CV to international.partnerships@durham.ac.uk by **12 noon on 18th July 2022**. After an internal selection at your home institution, the RENKEI Fellowship and Winter School organising committee will make the final selection of fellows based upon the below application criteria, disciplinary and thematic spread, equality, diversity and inclusion considerations and match to the available mentors. Up to 3 fellows per RENKEI member institution will be selected.

**Application Criteria**

* For the purposes of this programme the definition of ECR will not be rigidly defined and prospective fellows should judge for themselves whether they would derive value from taking part in the programme. As a rough guide, second year of PhD through to around 5 years post-PhD is the broad expected range, but level of experience may differ if the prospective fellow is looking to change focus or work in a different way.
* Applicants who will likely derive most benefit from the Fellowship and show clear interest and enthusiasm from taking part will be prioritised.
* Priority will also be given to those applicants whose research best fits the climate adaption and resilience thematic areas listed above.
* All candidates must commit to attending all of the main RENKEI programme events - the virtual Mentor and ECR Conference, the in-person Winter School at Kyoto University and the virtual Closing Conference.
* Applicants must have the support of their primary supervisor/line manager and their suitability will be judged partly on the strength of their statement of support.

**Benefits of being a RENKEI Fellow**

* Attendance at the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Winter School in Kyoto University, Japan and the virtual pre and post School conferences
* Opportunity to work with and learn from academic mentor(s) in climate adaptation and resilience from Japan and the UK
* Networking with peers across the RENKEI member universities from a variety of disciplines
* Opportunity to apply for further funding for travel to the UK/Japan and/or project seedcorn funds
* Access to career enhancing professional development opportunities and training

## RENKEI Climate Adaptation & Resilience Fellowship and Winter School

## Application Form

Please submit the completed form and 2-page CV in a combined PDF file and return to to international.partnerships@durham.ac.uk by **12 noon on 18th July 2022.**

**Your Full Name**

**Your Institution**

**Your E-mail Address**

**Your Career Stage**

Circle as appropriate

PhD Candidate - Please state year of study and whether full or part time:

Post-Doctoral Researcher - Please tell us roughly how many years post-PhD you are

Other – Please give details

**Your Primary Supervisor’s Full Name**

**Supervisor’s E-mail Address**

**Do you consider yourself a member of an underrepresented demographic group in your research area e.g. due to gender, age, race, disability etc.? (You do not need to provide details but if you would like to say more please use the below text box).**

Yes / no

**Areas of research interest with the RENKEI Themes**

Please select the RENKEI theme(s) that are of most interest and relevance to your area(s) of research, and explain how they are related (200 words maximum).

RENKEI Themes:

1. Future risks and adaptation in floods and water shortage
2. Future risks and adaption in food production and security
3. Managing future risks and building resilience in urban areas
4. Future risks and adaptions in ecosystems
5. Future risks and adaptions in human health

**Why do you want to be selected as a RENKEI Fellow?**

Please briefly describe the reason(s) why you want to be part of the RENKEI ECR network and attend the Winter School and what you feel you will gain from the experience (300 words maximum).

**RENKEI Mentor Selection**

Please list **three** RENKEI Mentors in priority order of with whom you would be most interested to work during the RENKEI programme. Please refer to the RENKEI Mentor Biographies.

**1**

**2**

**3**

**Confirmation of availability for RENKEI Fellowship Events**

It is an eligibility requirement of the programme for Fellows to commit to attend the 3 key programme events including the Winter School in Kyoto:

* Virtual Mentor and ECR Conference: 22 September 2022, 8-10am UK 4-6pm Japan
* In-person Winter School at Kyoto University, from 28 November to 2 December 2022
* Virtual RENKEI Programme Closing Conference, 3 March 2023, 8-10am UK 4-6pm Japan

Yes – I confirm I am able to attend all of the listed events (please tick the box) 🞏

It is expected that fellows will either be travelling to the Winter School from the UK or Japan. Please indicate from which country you will need to travel.

Japan 🞏 UK🞏 Other🞏 (Please state below)

**Supervisor/Line Manager Statement of Support**

To make the most out of this opportunity, ECR candidates must commit to fully engage in the programme activities, including the events, preparation for these, follow up work and other possible opportunities to work with their mentors and the rest of the cohort as they arise across the year. We ask supervisors to encourage fellows to participate as fully in the programme as their work schedules allow to gain the most possible benefit from the opportunity.

Tell us why you support this candidate’s application to be a RENKEI fellow. Please describe the benefit you feel they will derive from taking part in the programme and what they will bring to the fellowship (maximum 300 words).

Supervisor Signature [electronic signatures are accepted]

Date of signature

Thank you for completing the application form. The selection process will conclude by the end of July and you should expect to hear whether you have been successful in early August 2022.