



Durham
University

Centre for Sustainable
Development Law and Policy

Inspiring the extraordinary

JusTNOW

Just Transitions to a Net Zero World

Executive Summary



About JusTNOW

JusTNOW Team

Principal Investigators: Petra Minnerop (Law), Laura Marsiliani (Economics), John Bothwell (Biosciences), Nelly Bencomo (Computer Science)

Co-Investigators: Adebola Adeyemi (Law), Adefolake Adeyeye (Law), Ashar Aftab (Economics), Amir Atapour-Abarghouei (CS), Smith Azubuike (Law), Ashraf Osman (Engineering), Habib Rahman (Economics), Rozemarijn Roland Holst (Law), Andrew Russell (Anthropology), Robert Song (Theology), Chris Stokes (Geography), Jia Wang (Law)

Executive Summary

The world is failing to find the just transition pathways to avoid the worst impacts of climate change (IPCC AR6 SYR 2023, UN NDC SYR 2023). Even the Paris Agreement's more ambitious 1.5°C temperature limitation is insufficient to avoid catastrophic sea level rise and increasingly severe extreme weather events. At Durham, we already have world-leading expertise in researching the causes and impacts of climate change. With investment in the Just Transitions to a Net Zero World (JusTNOW), we aim to develop a world-leading interdisciplinary work programme, to research sustainable and just solutions for accelerated decarbonisation of economies, and to achieve lasting societal well-being for the present and future generations.

The JusTNOW initiative also aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and reaffirms Durham's commitment to global research excellence while contributing to Durham's global standing. It represents a unique opportunity for our academic community to make a meaningful impact. The Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy (CSDLP) has already brought together research across disciplines and integrated it into global governance frameworks. Yet the global scale, depth, and complexity of this task exceeds our current expertise and capacity.

The JusTNOW initiative therefore identifies a work programme that uses interdisciplinary research to develop sustainable and just solutions to enhance our collaborative efforts for this cause. The JusTNOW team expresses its gratitude to the University and all those involved in making this essential funding a reality. By collaborating across disciplines and harnessing our collective expertise, we are confident that JusTNOW will yield groundbreaking solutions to address the climate crisis.

About SRF

Durham University will invest in JusTNOW through Durham's Strategic Research Fund (SRF) which aims to stimulate significant growth in research income for the University through substantial investments in our research capability, community, and infrastructure. Under the SRF, the University has committed to invest around £5 million over four years in this groundbreaking project. This financially sustainable work programme will last beyond the initial four years of the SRF funding. This initial investment enables us to position Durham rapidly and securely at the forefront of a cutting-edge twinning of green and digital transitions; however, we aim to become gradually financially sustainable and to achieve sufficient income for our projects.

The JusTNOW initiative seeks to enhance Durham's reputation and research by increasing our academic capacity and recruiting exceptional staff to join our institution. This is not only to generate significant growth in research income but also to establish robust pipelines of diverse talent. The University's generous investment will enable us to recruit ten new colleagues to the project.

JusTNOW Vacancies

We will be hiring for the following positions, with an envisaged starting date in January 2025, and would be very grateful if, in due course, you could support the recruitment process by sharing the various job advertisements widely with your networks.

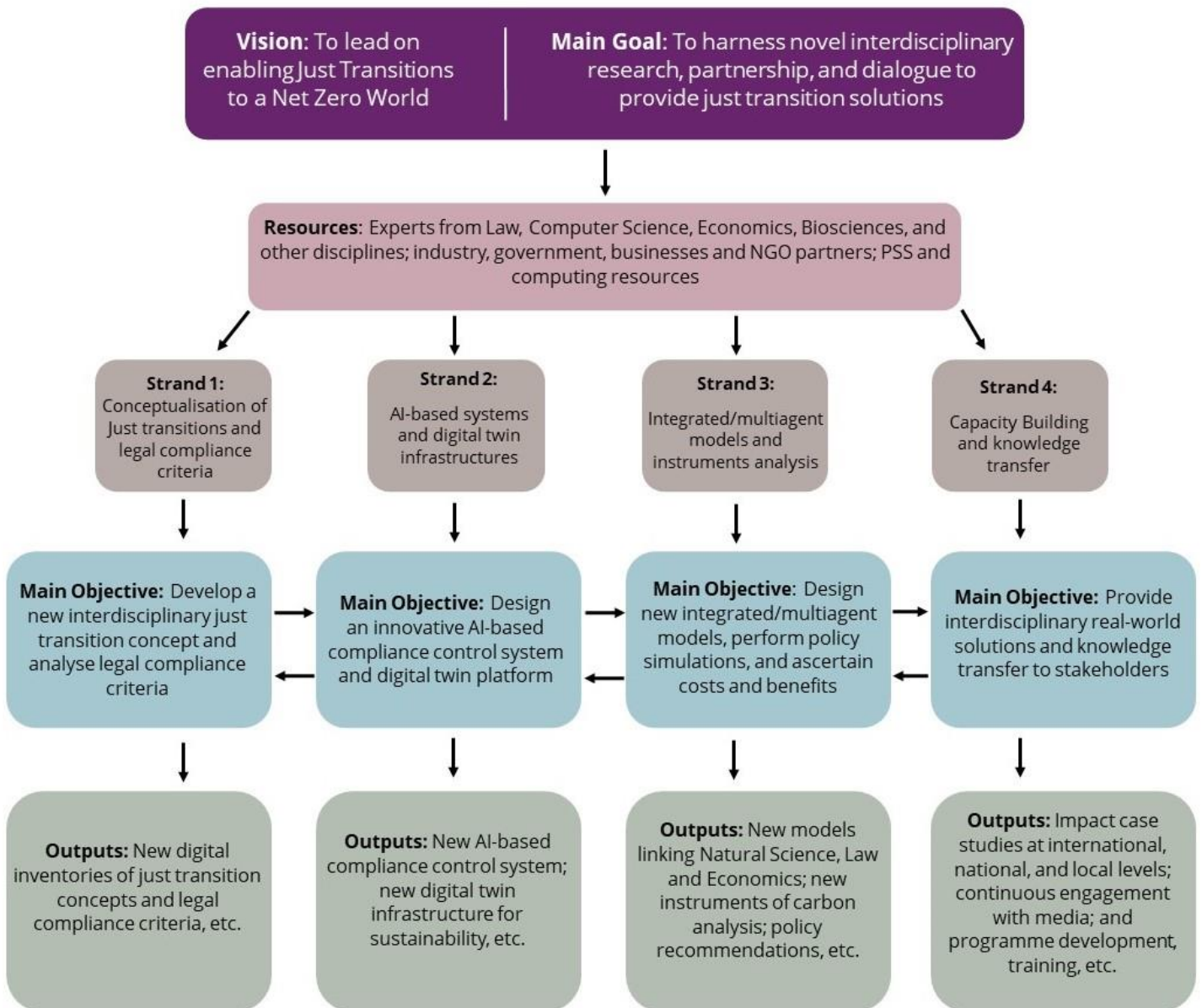
- Professor in International Law and Economic Analysis of the Law
- Associate Professor (Computer Science with a focus on AI and digital twins-based infrastructure)
- Associate Professor (Economics with a focus on AI and machine learning)
- Associate Professor (Biosciences with a focus on the environmental implications of just transitions)
- Associate Professor (International Law with policy focus)
- Assistant Professor (Law and Economics, joint appointment)
- Assistant Processor (Law and Computer Science, joint appointment)
- Senior Business Development Manager
- Project Manager
- Research Platform Engineer

The image shows four handwritten signatures in blue ink. From left to right: a stylized signature, a signature with a large initial 'J', the name 'J.M. BOTMAN', and a signature that appears to be 'Jane Hudson'.

JustTNOW

Just Transitions to a Net Zero World

Delivery Plan – from Vision to Outputs



[Centre for Sustainable Development Law and Policy](#)

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