



Introduction

The Early Career Researchers (ECRs) Session aims to engage researchers in discussions on research topics that cut across the [4 FaNSI programmes](#). Invited speakers will share their experience **leading interdisciplinary research** and **transforming research to action**. The two chosen themes are not only pertinent to early career researchers as they develop their research portfolio, collaborative partnerships, and research practices, but also to established research scientists, multi-sectoral research teams, and decision-makers who seek transformative change.

Presentations and Q&A will be followed by a 15-minute break-out session to facilitate small group discussions under each theme. A general discussion on the emerging challenges and opportunities that ECRs face and on actions to create a supportive hub (FaNSI ECR network) will form seedlings for future FaNSI ECR events. Session participants are invited to share their own reflections and to draw out implications for future research and practice.

We wish to gauge your interests and expectations for the FaNSI ECR Network before the session using this anonymous [Google Poll here](#). Many thanks for your time!

Theme 1. Lost in translation: Engaging in interdisciplinary research and partnerships - challenges & opportunities

Presenters will share their research experience in forming interdisciplinary teams and partnerships with collaborators, stakeholders, community groups, and research users. Topics may include leadership management, communications, negotiation, and fair acknowledgement and authorship in interdisciplinary research settings.

Invited speakers:

- [Frank Tchuwa](#) (Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi)
- [Alex Chausson](#) (University of Oxford, UK)

Theme 2. From research to action beyond academia: Best practices, policy impacts, and paths forward

Presenters will share various innovative ways they have translated research to action beyond academia, the best practices toward evidence-based policy change, or community engagement that can impact people's lives.

Invited speakers:

- [Angela Mkindi](#) (Nelson Mandela African Institutions of Science and Technology, Tanzania)
- [Steven Harte](#) (Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, UK)

Poster submissions on the above two themes are welcome! (by 21st Jan 2021)

Posters will be available online for conference attendees to view throughout the four-day FaNSI conference. If you wish to submit a poster, please provide your **Name, Email, Title of the poster, Abstract** (250 words), and **Poster** (PDF). Please send to ECR session organisers [June Po](mailto:j.y.t.po@gre.ac.uk) (j.y.t.po@gre.ac.uk), [Fiorella Picchioni](mailto:f.picchioni@gre.ac.uk) (f.picchioni@gre.ac.uk), and [Marcos Paradelo Perez](mailto:m.paradelopez@gre.ac.uk) (m.paradelopez@gre.ac.uk).