

# POWER AND KNOWLEDGE

## CONFRONTING GLOBAL IMBALANCES IN OUR KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

HUMBOLDT RESIDENCY PROGRAMME  
**COHORT 2024**



# HUMBOLDT RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

The numerous global challenges facing us today clearly demonstrate the need for international and transdisciplinary cooperation in the search for answers and for increased social and political impact of scientifically generated knowledge.

Every year, the Humboldt Residency Programme brings together a transdisciplinary group of researchers, journalists, artists, and activists to work on a common topic during a six-week residency in Berlin/ Brandenburg. It reinforces innovation through transdisciplinary cooperation beyond the boundaries of science. Exploring innovative forms of science communication, the programme aims to share the group's results with selected target audiences in order to generate tangible new impetus in academia, politics, and society.

[PROJECT WEBSITE](#)

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HUMBOLDT RESIDENCY PROGRAMME](#)

## POWER AND KNOWLEDGE CONFRONTING GLOBAL IMBALANCES IN OUR KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

Knowledge and power are inherently linked. The decision as to what constitutes (true) knowledge emerges from a global, but asymmetrical, network of power structures. In 2024, the Humboldt Residency Programme addresses this topic by asking the question as to how the exchange of knowledge between the Global North and the Global South can be structured in the science system and beyond. The aim is to create synergies out of existing knowledge and integrate the voices of local actors in global strategies.

The key questions are:

- How can we counter inequalities in access to knowledge and in the visibility of different forms of knowledge?
- What resources are required to diversify access to the existing system?
- What possible ways are there of re-establishing traditional knowledge systems that have been destroyed by colonialism?
- How can researchers and political actors from the Global North be sensitised to persisting colonial structures as well as to the value of existing local and indigenous knowledge?



**ADENIKE ADEBUKOLA  
AKINSEMOLU (NIGERIA)**  
DIRECTOR (GREEN INSTITUTE) /  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Adenike Akinsemolu is an Associate Professor (Honorary) at the University of Birmingham and a Senior Research Fellow at Afe Babalola University. She serves as the Lead Author for the Global Environment Outlook GEO-7 at the United Nations Environment Programme and directs the Green Institute in Nigeria. With over a decade of experience in environmental sustainability, education, and research, Adenike is also a National Geographic Educator and a member of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network. Her work focuses on combating climate change and advocating for sustainable practices, particularly equitable sustainability practices and global knowledge exchange. Adenike's contributions extend to developing policy briefs that drive impactful environmental initiatives.



## PUBLICATIONS

Coastal Women and Net-Zero Energy Transitions (In: Global Solutions Journal 9 (2023), 242-249).

The Vulnerability of Women to Climate Change in Coastal Regions of Nigeria: A Case of the Ilaje Community in Ondo State (In: Journal of Cleaner Production 246 (2020), 119015).

The Principles of Green and Sustainability Science (Springer Nature, 2020).

ADENIKE'S LINKEDIN  
PROFILE

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
ADENIKE AKINSEMOLU



**CHRISTERBERT  
DE SILVA** (PHILIPPINES/AUSTRALIA)  
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE (SCIENCE  
COMMUNICATION) / DESIGNER

Christer de Silva is a PhD candidate at the UNESCO Chair in Science Communication for the Public Good, housed within the Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science at the Australian National University. Christer's research interests include epistemic justice, pluriversality, and decoloniality in science communication, as well as transformative research for sustainability. His thesis examines claims of integrating local and indigenous knowledges in research, policy, and practice for biodiversity conservation. Christer has spent a decade developing educational programmes, designing exhibits, experiences, and media for science museums and science centres across Asia-Pacific. Christer continues to work as a consultant and designer for science engagement projects, such as his involvement with The Mind Museum in the Philippines, which serves as the current headquarters of the Asia Pacific Network of Science and Technology Centres.



## PUBLICATIONS

Malayang Paglaladlad para sa Mapagpalayang Paglalahad: Coming Out and Queering Science Communication in Contested Spaces (In: Queering Science Communication. Bristol University Press, 2023).

## EXHIBITION

"Pearl of the Orient", The Mind Museum, Philippines (2022)

[CHRISTERDESILVA.COM](http://CHRISTERDESILVA.COM)

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
CHRISTERBERT DE SILVA

**ANNICK  
EIMER** (GERMANY)  
SCIENCE JOURNALIST / EDITOR

Annick Eimer works as a journalist for magazines, newspapers, online media, and radio. Her coverage includes science, higher education, and science policy. Having a background in biology, she worked for various technology start-ups in Berlin and then returned to university to study science journalism. She works for various media such as Die Zeit, Zeit Wissen, Spiegel Online, and Deutschlandfunk. She has also worked for various communications departments at research institutions (Max Planck Society and Helmholtz Association) and universities. She is editor of DUZ - Deutsche Universitätszeitung, where she deals with international science policy and transfer. She is interested in the framework conditions that policymakers need to create in order for the transfer of knowledge from science to society to succeed and in the question of what role scientific co-operation can play in a world divided by conflicts.



## PUBLICATIONS

A New Setup ("Neu aufgestellt" in: DUZ - Magazin für Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft, 03/2024, 22-28).

Carrying On ("Die Weitermacher" in: DUZ - Magazin für Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft, 11/2022).

Is This Still Science? ("Ist das noch Wissenschaft?" in: DUZ - Magazin für Wissenschaft und Gesellschaft, 05/2022).

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
ANNICK EIMER



**MATTHEW PETER  
FITZPATRICK (AUSTRALIA)**  
PROFESSOR (INTERNATIONAL  
HISTORY)

Matthew Fitzpatrick is a Professor for International History at Flinders University, Adelaide/Australia. He focuses on German and European history, as well as the history of European imperialism. He is also interested in the comparative, transtemporal history of empires, and intellectual history. Matthew was a Humboldt Fellow at the University of Muenster, and he currently holds an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship. His most recent monographs are 'The Kaiser and the Colonies: Monarchy in the Age of Empire' and 'Purging the Empire: Mass Expulsions in Germany, 1871-1914.' The book stemming from his current project, studying Anglo-German relations in the Pacific, will be released in late 2024.



## PUBLICATIONS

The Kaiser and the Colonies: Monarchy in the Age of Empire (Oxford University Press, 2022).

Purging the Empire: Mass Expulsions in Germany, 1871-1914 (Oxford University Press, 2017).

Liberal Imperialism in Germany: Expansionism and Nationalism, 1848-1884 (Berghahn Books, 2008).

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
MATTHEW FITZPATRICK

## **SARAH IQBAL (INDIA)**

### **RESEARCH MANAGER (GEORGE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH)**

Sarah Iqbal is a Research Manager at the George Institute for Global Health, New Dehli/India, where she assists researchers in navigating funding requirements and publication policies. She has a PhD in Biochemistry from Aligarh Muslim University and worked briefly as a postdoctoral fellow before transitioning into research administration. More recently, Sarah has undertaken the role of Knowledge Manager for NIHR Global Health Research Centre on Non-Communicable Diseases and Environmental Change, a 4-country partnership between institutes in India, UK, Bangladesh, and Indonesia. In the new position, she aims to facilitate knowledge exchange between members of the centre and is experimenting with alternative ways of sharing information with the public and the wider scientific eco-system. Her passion lies in reshaping the dissemination landscape to amplify the impact of research.



## **PUBLICATIONS**

Science Journals Might Be 'More International' but Not Their Editorial Boards (The Wire, 2017).

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**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
SARAH IQBAL**



**NANDINI TANYA  
LALLMON** (MAURITIUS)  
ADVOCATE / ACTIVIST / ACADEMIC

Nandini Tanya Lallmon is interested in narrowing the divide between policy formation and its practical implementation pertaining to LGBTQIA+ rights within African Small Island Developing States. Appointed as the African Youth Charter Hustler for Mauritius by the African Union Office of the Youth Envoy, she draws upon indigenous wisdom to address matters of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics on the continent. As co-founder of the #Reform movement, she lobbies for the reform of colonial-era discriminatory laws on behalf of the Commonwealth Youth Gender and Equality Network under the auspices of the Royal Commonwealth Society. As Board Member at Africans Rising, she endeavours to create learning, dialogue, and development spaces that are diverse, inclusive, and transformative.



## PUBLICATIONS

Civil society, the state and the LGBTQIA+ movement - The case of Trinidad and Tobago and Mauritius (In: Handbook of Civil Society and Social Movements in Small States, Routledge, 2023).

Youth Advocacy Learning and Reflection Toolkit (Commonwealth Youth Gender and Equality Network, 2022).

Reform53 - Together for Legal Equality (In: Hopes and Dreams that Sound like Yours: Stories of Queer Activism in Sub-Saharan Africa. Taboom Media & GALA Queer Archive, 2021, 90-93).

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
NANDINI TANYA LALLMON



# AMIE LIEBOWITZ (AUSTRALIA/UNITED KINGDOM) JOURNALIST / PRESENTER

Amie Liebowitz is an award-winning Australian freelance journalist and presenter living in London/United Kingdom. She is currently the senior broadcast journalist in charge of audio output for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Project inside BBC Africa, BBC World Service, which creates audio packages about WASH innovations in Africa for African partner radio stations. Amie studied both her BA Asian Studies and Government and International Relations as well as MA International Security at the University of Sydney/Australia. Her studies grappled with theories of both traditional and non-traditional forms of security which has shaped the way in which she approaches reporting the news today. She juggles many hats such as presenter, producer, public speaker, and consultant but her favourite is volunteer producer with National Prison Radio.



## PUBLICATIONS

History's Secret Heroes with Helena Bonham Carter (BBC Studios Production for Radio 4, BBC).

Jewish Dating: A Race to Break the Glass (Heart and Soul, BBC World Service).

Onur und die Nazis (Bayerischer Rundfunk, ARD).

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
AMIE LIEBOWITZ

**MUNKH-ERDENE  
LKHAMSUREN (MONGOLIA)**  
PROFESSOR (HISTORY AND  
ANTHROPOLOGY)

Lkhamsuren Munkh-Erdene is Professor of History and Anthropology at the National University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar. His research interest lies in the theories of origin and nature of the state, state and empire building in pre-modern Eurasia, issues of ethnicity, nationalism, knowledge production, and the construction of collective identity in Mongolia and post-socialist transition. Amongst others, he previously served as the chair of the Department of Cultural Anthropology, and as a Vice-President of the university. Munkh-Erdene was a Humboldt Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Saale/Germany, with additional fellowship stays taking him to Stanford University, the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.



## PUBLICATIONS

The Nomadic Leviathan: A Critique of the Sinocentric Paradigm (Brill, 2023).

The Taiji Government and the Rise of the Warrior State: The Formation of the Qing Imperial Constitution, Leiden and Boston (Brill, 2022).

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FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
MUNKH-ERDENE LKHAMSUREN



# **TLAMELO MAKATI** (BOTSWANA/IRELAND) DOCTORAL CANDIDATE (COMPUTER SCIENCE)

Tlamele Makati is a PhD student in Computer Science at the Technological University Dublin/Ireland focusing on AI and Digital Accessibility. Her research examines the application of AI in digital environments and its impact on the accessibility of online information for persons with disabilities. In addition to her academic pursuits, Tlamele is a partner and research lead at Anton Tech, an agritech startup in Botswana. She further supports grassroots impact projects and advocates for user-centred technology design as a mentor and educator in various tech communities, including her own social enterprise, Melo Kreations. Tlamele is a writer and published poet.



## **PUBLICATIONS**

Using Machine Learning for Web Accessibility (Technological University Dublin, 2023). (Poster).

Machine Learning for Accessible Web Navigation (Proceedings of the 19th International Web4All Conference, 2022).

**TLAMELO'S LINKEDIN  
PROFILE**

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
TLAMELO MAKATI**

# **BABITA PAUDEL-BHATTARAI** (NEPAL) RESEARCH DIRECTOR (CENTER FOR NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES)

Babita Paudel is the founder and head of the Center for Natural and Applied Sciences, Kathmandu/Nepal. Her research is focused on natural product chemistry of medicinal plants and microorganisms. Beyond her academic work, Babita advocates for science decolonisation and firmly believes that researchers from the Global South should lead projects based on their regions and resources. She is actively involved in the capacity building of female researchers and students in the STEM field in Nepal. Babita was awarded the Humboldt Foundation's Georg Forster Postdoctoral Fellowship to conduct research at the University of Göttingen/Germany and later returned for another research stay supported by the foundation at the University of Tübingen. Additionally, she received the Humboldt Alumni Award for her project on the Capacity Building of Female Researchers and Students in the STEM Field to reduce the gender gap in Nepal. Currently, she is a Humboldt Ambassador Scientist to Nepal.



## **PUBLICATIONS**

Maculosin, a non-toxic antioxidant compound isolated from *Streptomyces* sp. KTM18 (In: *Pharmaceutical Biology* 59 (1), 2021, 933-936).

## **PROJECTS**

Isolation and Characterization of Novel Antibiotics from High-altitude Soil Actinomycetes of Nepal against Multi-drug-Resistant Human Pathogenic Bacteria.

Underutilized Wild Edible Fruits of Nepal: Nutraceutical Values and Future Prospective for Commercialization and Sustainable Utilization for Food Security.

**BABITA'S LINKEDIN  
PROFILE**

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
BABITA PAUDEL-BHATTARAI**



# SHADRACH TERYILA UKUMA (NIGERIA)

## LECTURER (AFRICAN THEATER AND PERFORMANCE AESTHETICS)

Shadrach Ukuma holds a dual PhD in Cultural Performance/Sustainability from the Universities of Hildesheim/Germany and Maiduguri/Nigeria under the SDG Graduate School “Performing Sustainability: Cultures and Development in West Africa”. Shadrach is particularly interested in the idea of cultural platforms, like festivals, leveraging their agency for knowledge co-creation, community building, and transcultural encounters. Amongst others, he is a previous winner of the Würth Foundation Global South Postdoctoral Fellowship in Cultural Management and was a Researcher-in-Residence for the Pengo International Academy Lab of the Hildesheimer Wallungen Festival in Germany. Shadrach also served as local coordinator for Nigeria of the SDG Graduate School Alumni Project “Advanced Training on Co-creating Avenues for Culture and Sustainable Development”, a transdisciplinary three-pronged workshop series held in Ghana, Germany, and Uganda.



## PUBLICATIONS

Re-centring Cultural Performance and Orange Economy in Post-colonial Africa: Policy, Soft Power, and Sustainability (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022).

Cultural Performances: A Study on Managing Collective Trauma amongst Displaced Persons in Daudu Community, Benue State, Nigeria (Peter Lang, 2021).

Kwagh-hir, Performance alternatives, and Cultural Sustainability: Involve the people (In: Research in Drama Education: The Journal of Applied Theatre and Performance 25(4), 2020, 564–568).

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## IN COOPERATION WITH

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