

RECIRCULATE Update

November Newsletter

Welcome to the November update from RECIRCULATE.

This month we saw the world come together in Glasgow for COP26 and RECIRCULATE researchers from the UK and Ghana were there to add our voices to the debates. Our research work has been continuing and we have interesting updates from across the whole team. Finally, we're delighted to be part of the Centre for Global Eco-Innovation which was "Highly Commended" for Research with Impact in this year's Green Gown Awards, read more below.

As always, we're keen to hear from you with any ideas for building the RECIRCULATE network or feedback on this newsletter, so send your thoughts to recirculate@lancaster.ac.uk.

Research Highlights

World Toilet Day 2021

On [World Toilet Day](#), members of the RECIRCULATE [Water for Sanitation and Health team](#) reflected on this year's theme of valuing toilets and what that really means in practice.



[Read more](#)



[Read more](#)

RECIRCULATE at COP26

Through November 2021 members of our project have been involved with activities taking place at the [United Nations Climate Change Conference](#) (COP26). Including panel discussions with Ghanaian authorities, a showcase exhibition and a meet with the president of Ghana.

Green Gown Awards 2021

[Lancaster University Centre for Global Eco-innovation \(CGE\)](#) was awarded "Highly Commended" in the category of Research with impact for their submission in the [Green Gown Awards](#), with RECIRCULATE cited in the commendation.



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[Read more](#)

Engaged research – who benefits....and at what cost?

Dr Priscilla Otuo, a RECIRCULATE Researcher at [Lancaster University Ghana](#), reflects on the challenges of engaged research.

Sustaining Irrigation Technologies in Ghana

As part of efforts to promote Partial Rootzone Drying and Alternate Wetting and Drying technologies for tomato and rice production in Ghana, a mass dissemination exercise was carried out by members of the RECIRCULATE [Water for Food Production](#) team in eight municipalities/districts across 4 regions in Ghana.



[Read more](#)

Capacity Building



[What's next for Africa after COP26?](#) - On November 25th our COP26 webinar featured a round table debate to reflect on the challenges and opportunities to deliver the commitments of COP26.



[Afua at COP26](#) - Afua Owusu-Kwarteng, on behalf of the [Entrepreneurship & Innovation](#) Ghana team, was part of the COP26 Innovation Showcase Exhibition. She

reflects on her experience of the event in our latest [spotlight interview](#).



[ACTUATE Student Webinar](#) - On November 18th we held the ACTUATE Student Webinar which highlighted the challenges and opportunities in the Bio-energy space in Africa, explored the fundamentals of the circular water economy and showcased the work on the [ACTUATE](#) project to students from different African countries.



[RECIRCULATE early career researchers inspire](#) - RECIRCULATE researchers joined the latest cohort of [Eco-I NW](#) graduate researchers at their Bootcamp which took place on 10-12th November 2021. The unique insight of our researchers helped inform a challenge around implementing anaerobic digestion technology in communities across sub-Saharan Africa.

Meet the researchers



Esther Agyabeng Fofie is a Postgraduate Researcher and completing her PhD in Environmental Science at Lancaster University. As previous principal Technologist at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research- Institute of Industrial Research (CSIR-IIR) Esther lead and managed projects such as Producing low-cost Bamboo toilets for low income communities and the solar irrigation in Agriculture.

Her work contributes to the achievement of UN-SDGs End Hunger (2), Sustainable Water and Sanitation (6), Affordable, Reliable Energy (7) and Sustainable Consumption and Production (12).

Her research work involves the use of the by-product of anaerobic digestion called digestate, which is a cheap means to produce safe and sustainable fertiliser for food production in Agriculture which strongly represents SDG 2. Digestate presents a cheap means of reintroducing nutrients present in the by-product of biogas production (SDG7). The product is a treated form of waste (SDG 6) and contains elements needed for crop production and up to 90% of moisture which can be applied to dry lands and in drought prone areas (SDG12).

"The experience of working with partners from other countries have been a great one. Apart from sharing ideas and information on how to tackle certain aspects of the projects such as aligning the African context to achieve similar results here in the UK, I have also had to depend on colleagues from West Africa for soil and digestate samples to conduct my experiment."

"The RECIRCULATE project has offered a broader view on tackling projects to benefit local, international, resourced and low-income farmers. Again, the project has offered comfortable pathways whereby I can depend on the numerous partners and colleagues for information and above all abundance of resources for the execution of the project."

Upcoming events

- 6th-10th December - A free 40 minute overview recording will be available for this webinar, which will give you the Horizon Europe foundations and tools you need to build your future projects. [HERE](#).

To interact with us:

Twitter: [RECIRCULATERS](#), [ACTUATE](#)

Facebook: [RECIRCULATE GCRF](#)

Instagram: [RECIRCULATERS](#)

LinkedIn: [Group RECIRCULATERS](#)

Useful resources



[Women's Leadership Newsletter](#) - The Women's Leadership newsletter by Ethel Cofie offers advice to support women, particularly African women,

in navigating the nuances in corporate and entrepreneurship.



[Call for Nominations: The 71st Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting.\(Chemistry\)](#) - The Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings are scientific conferences that take place every year in Lindau, Germany. Nobel Laureates convene to meet with outstanding young scientists from all over the world.



[Manifesto on Capacity Development for evidence-informed decision-making](#) - As one of the outputs collectively worked on during EVIDENCE 2020 ONLINE, the Africa Evidence Network (AEN) Manifesto on Capacity Development for Evidence-Informed Decision-Making in Africa represents a declaration by all from Africa's evidence ecosystem about the kind of capacity development they practice.



[The Young Professionals Programme \(YPP\)](#) - WHO Headquarters offers opportunities for young professionals from [Least Developed Countries](#) (LDCs) to engage in WHO's work and build skills and competence in key public health areas. This is a structured programme which incorporates additional exposure and experience at country level and career support.

The last drop...

As we approach the closing stages of the RECIRCULATE and ACTUATE projects we are consolidating some of the lessons learnt through the last 4 years and thinking about the legacy of the projects. One thing we've learnt is the benefit of a rest and with this in mind the PARTICIPATE programme will take a break in December, but it will return in 2022 and we will have a newsletter dropping into your mailbox before the Christmas break. Until then, stay safe and get in touch in the usual ways.



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We send information about funding opportunities, news, and events to our contacts to foster collaboration. We hope this has been of interest to you, if so please add us to your contact list.

However, if you do not want to receive our monthly RECIRCULATE Newsletter, just click “unsubscribe” below and we will remove you from our newsletter subscription list, or if there is someone else within your organisation you can recommend that we liaise with, just let us know and we will update our database, thank you.

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