

Project Title: Understanding scale dimensions of renewable energy projects to ensure a social license to operate (Based at University of Queensland)

Project background and description:

Transitioning to a low-carbon energy future, including with large scale hydrogen production, will require renewable energy technology deployment at a scale not yet experienced across Australia. Most of the projects will likely be in regional and remote areas where there will be concerns around competing land uses and other social and environmental impacts. The candidate will work with renewable energy project developers to understand how their projects are currently being perceived by a range of stakeholders and to identify what the potential impediments to developing large scale wind and solar projects might be. Comparing responses across different geographic locations of Australia will identify key considerations for deployment based on regions, local contexts, and renewable energy type.

Aim/objectives:

Undertake case studies of existing and/or proposed large scale renewable energy projects that may, or may not be, associated with hydrogen production.

Examine key factors that influence support or opposition to large scale renewable energy projects.

Identify whether those factors differ across geographies and local contexts.

Map the expectations and requirements for a social license to operate in each geography that will allow the ongoing development of large scale renewable energy projects associated with hydrogen.

For enquiries on PhD project, please contact Professor Peta Ashworth via p.ashworth@uq.edu.au

Environment

The GlobHE Training Centre is offering 12 Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Scholarships (PhD) that will provide a unique training opportunity through:

- World-class and state-of-the-art facilities and experts across the participating universities, research institutions, industry partners and other organisations
- An integrated Training Centre research agenda with inter-disciplinary projects across 5 themes area
- Opportunity to work or placement with partner organisations and industry partners
- Research skills, career development workshops and relevant industrial training
- Competitive support for national and international conference travel and networking opportunity

- Generous project support and excellent mentorship
- Delivering the next generation of highly skilled workforce to give Australia the ability to build home-grown hydrogen solutions and economic models.

Eligibility

PhD applicants must be acceptable as candidates for a PhD degree at the [University of New South Wales](#), [University of Queensland](#), [University of Sydney](#), [University of Newcastle](#), [Curtin University](#) and [Monash University](#).

The minimum requirement for admission to a PhD programme is:

- an appropriate Bachelor degree with upper second class Honours from one of the above universities; or
- a completed Masters by Research from one of the above universities with a substantial research component and demonstrated capacity for timely completion of a high quality research thesis; or
- an equivalent qualification from a tertiary institution as determined by the Faculty Higher Degree Committee (HDC)

The minimum requirement for Scholarship with admission to a PhD is:

- a four-year Bachelor's degree with Honours Class I from an Australian institution or equivalent research qualification experience. This qualification must be in a field relevant to the proposed area of research.

Please note that ALL applicants, whether domestic or international must provide evidence that their language ability meets the **minimum English language*** requirements. The following table provides guidelines on common English language test acceptable for meeting English requirement:

IELTS (Academic)	TOEFL (Internet based test)	Pearson Test (Academic)
Overall: 6.5 (min 6.0 in each subset)	Overall: 90 (min 23 in writing, 22 in reading, listening and speaking)	Overall 64 (min. 54 in each subset)

***please check individual institutions' requirement for English language.** For UNSW, check out: https://www.international.unsw.edu.au/english-language-requirements?field_english_language_tid=4018

Selection Criteria

- Bachelor (honours) or Masters degree from relevant disciplines include chemical engineering, mechanical, electrical engineering, computer science and social policy; at 1st class or upper second class level, or equivalent

- Proficiency in computer programming/modelling is required for some of the projects.
- In assessing applications, preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate an ability to work across disciplines, have excellent interpersonal, communication and management skills
- When applying for a particular project, please state briefly and clearly the relevance of your degree and/or your experience to the project description

PhD Stipend

PhD scholarships will be available for a period of three and a half (3.5) years. The PhD stipend rate is \$33,413 per annum tax-free. International applicants are encouraged to apply and maybe eligible for Tuition Fee Scholarship. [See International Research Scholarship \(for UNSW applicants\).](#)

Application Process

Interested applicant must email the following to be considered for Scholarship:

- CV
- Academic transcripts for all completed/pending completion degree
- Testamurs of previous study
- Statement addressing interest relevant to selection criteria
- Name of referees (can be academic or former employer)

University of Queensland applicants are able to submit their applications for this research higher degree scholarship at any time.

https://my.uq.edu.au/programs-courses/program.html?acad_prog=7501

Closing date:

Scholarship application outcomes are released progressively from the 'Offers Released' date. To find out more on 'Offers Released' date for your application round, visit [Key Dates](#) for specific Universities. Please note that there are different deadlines for Domestic and International applicants.

UQ application closing date: 15th October, 2021

Enquiries

For general enquiries regarding the Training Centre, please contact Professor Rose Amal: r.amal@unsw.edu.au, Professor Francois Aguey Zinsou Kondo: f.aguey@unsw.edu.au

For enquiries on PhD project, please contact **Professor Peta Ashworth** via p.ashworth@uq.edu.au