PhD Workshop: "Sustainable Development Research – an Interdisciplinary Chance or Challenge?"

November 12-19, 2020

Team: Extreme Weather, Resilience and Climate Action

Daniel Gracia Pérez PhD Candidate, University of Bologna

Research Aim: Study of environmental-related displacements aiming to identify gaps in the international legal framework to protect "environmental migrants". This work covers both movements caused by sudden or slow-onset events, whether they are internal or cross-border.

Zakary Campbell-Lochrie PhD Candidate, The University of Edinburgh

Research Aim: to understand the physical phenomena controlling flame spread in wildland fires, particularly by exploring the role of vegetation structure on the resulting fire behaviour.

Emma Yule PhD Candidate, The University of Edinburgh

Research Aim: to better understand what we can learn from past extreme events and how they may change in a warmer world as well as how to communicate this changing risk level to decision-makers.

In what range do the group's research projects address the SDGs?

SDG 11, 15... but mainly SDG 13 targets 13.1, 13.2 and 13.B

11.5 - reducing deaths and economic losses caused by disasters

11.6 - reducing the environmental impact of cities

11.B - increasing city plans to build resilience to disasters

15.2 - by 2020 promoting sustainable management of all forest types

15.3 - by 2030 combat desertification, restore degraded land affected by desertification, droughts and floods

13.1 - strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards

13.2 - integrate climate change measures into national policies

13.B - raising capacity for effective climate change planning and management in the Least Developed Countries and in Small Island Developing States

What were your main discussion points?

- How to transfer research results to the political arena in a effective way.

- The question of terminology: "risk", "robustness", "environmental disruption", "resilience".

- The impact/effect binomial

What did you learn in the discussion of the abstracts for your own research projects?

- Prevention/Adaptation vs. Response

- Here & Now vs. The Future

- Linked by an interdependence.