

The Centre for Sustainability Transitions has supervisors available to supervise and co-supervise prospective students of the MPhil in Sustainable Development. For your ease, we have collated a list of potential supervisors and their areas of research and expertise.

Prof Oonsie Biggs

Research themes: Social-ecological resilience, transformative futures, regime shifts, Seeds of Good Anthropocene

Methods: Quantitative and qualitative (spatial methods, network analysis, participatory methods)

Dr Hayley Clements

Research themes: Wildlife economies, biodiversity finance, social-ecological resilience, finance, human-nature connections

Methods: Qualitative and quantitative methods

Dr Megan Davies

Research themes: Socio-technical energy transitions, socio-economic impacts of utility-scale renewable energy infrastructure, transformative sustainability education transdisciplinary curricula, creativity, reflection, and reflexivity

Methods: Exploratory, transformative methods focused on education

Prof. Alta De Vos

Research themes: Conservation systems, social-ecological transformations, social-ecological resilience, nature-based solutions

Methods: Mixed methods (qualitative, quantitative, historical assessment)

Dr Ancois de Villiers

Research themes: Placemaking, integrated landscape restoration, regenerative organisations, landscape management, regenerative agriculture, climate change adaptation

Methods: Qualitative (interviews, Q methodology), participatory learning, social learning processes

Dr Nyasha Magadzire

Research themes: Sustainability-related transformations, food-water-energy nexus, food systems, climate change impacts, vegetation ecology

Methods: Mixed methods, qualitative, quantitative change mapping

Prof Rika Preiser

Research themes: Complexity-informed approaches to human-nature interactions, inner transformation (Inner-development goals), relational philosophy, environmental philosophy, Seeds of Good Anthropocene

Methods: Experimental methods, art-based, participatory, embodied practices, post-qualitative methods, futures methods

Dr Julia van Velden

Research themes: Seeds of Good Anthropocene, biodiversity conservation, transformation of social-ecological systems

Methods: Qualitative (timeline mapping, documentary analysis), mixed methods

Alboricah Bathupetsane (CST PhD student, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Energy transitions, renewable energy technologies, green economy, industrial policy, job creation

Methods: Transdisciplinary and qualitative research methods

Nina Callaghan (CST PhD student, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Practice-based sustainability, embodied inquiry, governance in energy transitions

Methods: Transformative, exploratory, practice-based approaches

Dr Deon Cloete (CST fellow, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Complexity-informed approaches to strategic foresight, systemic change

Methods: Transdisciplinary, systemic approaches

Kevin Foster (CST PhD student, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Local government, infrastructure governance, energy transitions in South African municipalities

Methods: Mixed methods (qualitative and quantitative), transdisciplinary research

Wendy McCallum (CST fellow, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: finance for social/environmental outcomes, innovative finance, development finance institutions, Africa-specific financial solutions

Methods: Qualitative (interviews, thematic analysis), quantitative (descriptive statistics, regression)

Mapula Tshangela (CST PhD student, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Political ecology, social-ecological and socio-technical transitions

Methods: Qualitative, co-production, autoethnography, transformative methods

Dr Nadia Sitas (CST fellow, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Knowledge co-production, social-ecological resilience, gender equity and social inclusion, ecosystem-based adaptation, knowledge brokering (arts-based methods, creative futuring)

Methods: Creative methods for knowledge brokering (arts-based), transformative qualitative methods

Jurgen Wolfenden (CST PhD student, needs anchor supervisor)

Research themes: Environmental ethics, spirituality and sustainability, communalism, African philosophy, Vedic culture, African perspectives, community development

Methods: Interdisciplinary, qualitative approaches