

# UNCERTAIN POWER

Exploring the value and technologies of local energy generation

Session 1 - Community Energy  
Session 2 - Solar Energy in the Home  
Session 3 - Solar for Development

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The “Solar Energy in Future Societies Project”



- EPSRC funded at the EPS / SS interface
- Local energy technology from a cross-disciplinary point of view....
- What factors determine the value of renewable energy technology?
- Which factors are location specific and how could local efficacy be improved?

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Our research hypothesis...



- We imagined (and hypothesised) that a participatory research process would create new thinking.
- That public-participation would produce innovative results
- And that our publics' values and expertise could help shape new technologies and what they could deliver.
- DECC think this too. "Community energy is about local innovation."

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Three sessions covering different locations...

- Session #1 – Community energy in Stocksbridge
  - Public-participation and community energy innovation
- Session #2 – UK solar homes
  - Looking in detail at domestic PV electricity
- Session #3 – PV for development
  - Exploring “access to electricity” programmes in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

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Overall... what did we find?

- PV can get out there – and quickly.
  - PV technology and supply chain is modular and scalable.
- The grid is brilliant.
- Policy that encourages technology deployment does just that.
  - But often deployment policy merges energy, economic and environmental motivations.
  - Can technology and the trilemma work better together?

- Anna Krzywoszynska Research associate Geography – Durham University
- Jose Mawyin Research associate Physics – University of Sheffield
- Helen Holmes Research associate Geography & Physics – University of Sheffield
- Alastair Buckley Principal investigator Physics - University of Sheffield
- Prue Chiles Co-investigator Architecture – Newcastle University
- Nicky Gregson Co-investigator Geography – Durham University
- Matt Watson Co-investigator Geography – University of Sheffield
- Britta Turner PV futures PhD student Geography – Durham University
- Raihana Ferdous Project PhD student Geography – Durham University
- Huw Birch eFutures PhD student Physics – University of Sheffield
- Dave Stone Co-investigator EEE – University of Sheffield
- Martin Foster Co-investigator EEE – University of Sheffield
- David Lidzey Co-investigator Physics – University of Sheffield

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- All our participants and interviewees...

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