Dr. Ramit Debnath

University Assistant Professor
Director: Collective Intelligence & Design group
University of Cambridge, UK

Email:
Web:
Research Group:
Google Scholar:

Current Employment

2025 - Deputy Director, Centre for Human-Inspired AI (CHIA), University of Cambridge, UK
2023 - Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Social Design, University of Cambridge, UK
2023 - Fellow & Director of Studies in Design, Churchill College, University of Cambridge, UK

Honorary and Elected Appointments

2025 - Member, Methods Advisory Group (MAG), DWP, UK Government
2024 - Reviewer Panelist, UKRI AHRC AI and Design; AI Safety Institute
2024 - Steering Committee, Centre for Data-Driven Discovery (C2D3), University of Cambridge
2023 - Steering Committee, Centre for Human-Inspired AI (CHIA), University of Cambridge
2022 - Inaugural Cambridge Zero Fellow, University of Cambridge
2022 - Senior Researcher, Cambridge Social Decision-making Lab, University of Cambridge
2021 - Affiliated Researcher, Bennett Institute of Public Policy, University of Cambridge
2021 - Affiliated Researcher, Energy Policy Research Group, CJBS, University of Cambridge

Visiting Positions

2025 - Affiliate, Earth Systems Science, Stanford University, US
2024 Honorary Visiting Scientist, Machine Intelligence Unit, Indian Statistical Institute
2021 - Visiting Academic in Computational Social Sciences, Caltech, US

Editorial Appointments

2024 - Associate editor, *npj Climate Action*, Nature Portfolio
2023 - Associate editor, *Energy Research & Social Science*, Elsevier

Education

2021 Ph.D. (Gates-Cambridge Scholar) Computational Social Science, University of Cambridge, UK
2018 MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development, University of Cambridge, UK
2017 Visiting student, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University, US
2016 M.Tech., Technology & Development, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India
2014 B.Tech. (Honours), Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Sharda University, India

Selected Awards & Honours

2024 Outstanding Reviewer Award 2023, Energy Research & Social Science journal, Elsevier
2023 Exceptional Talent Endorsement by the British Academy
2022 Inaugural Cambridge Zero Fellowship, University of Cambridge
2021 Postdoctoral Enrichment Award, The Alan Turing Institute
2018 Gates - Cambridge Scholarship

Selected Grants and funding

2025 - 2026 Mastercard Foundation - `Youth-led climate resilience in Ethiopia.` PI [£20,000]
2025 - 2027 Minderoo Foundation - *Heatwave and gender attributions in India.* Co-I [£160,000]
2024 - 2025 Keynes Fund for Applied Economics - *Mapping economy, climate and religion interaction using LLMs.* PI [£49,000]

2024-2026	CRASSH-Research Lab Grant - *climaTRACES Lab*. PI [£20,000]
2024-2025	UKRI- EPSRC Responsible AI UK Grant - *Economic Landscape analysis*. Co-PI [£650,000]
2024-2026	ai@cam Inaugural Fund - *Ethically rooted AI for public value creation*. Co-PI [£180,000]
2023-2024	Cambridge Humanities Research Grants - *Scoping responsible AI for climate action*. PI [£20,000]
2022-2024	QCF Cambridge Zero Fellowship -*Better public understanding of climate action.* [£180,000]
2022-2024	Keynes Fund for Applied Economics - *Energy justice using computational social sciences.* Co-I [£49,000]

Selected Publications

1. Debnath R., Alvarez, R.M., and Ebanks, D. (2025). Why publishing referee reports could backfire on public trust. *Nature*. https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-025-02317-z
2. Cologna, V., et al. (2025). Extreme weather event attribution predicts climate policy support across the world. *Nature Climate Change*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-025-02372-4.
3. Cologna, V., (...), Debnath, R. , (...), Zwann, RA., (2025). Trust in scientists and their role in society across 68 countries. *Nature Human Behaviour*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02090-5.
4. Cao, C., Debnath, R., and Alvarez, R.M. (2025). Physics-based machine learning for predicting urban air pollution using decadal time series data, *Environmental Research Communications*. https://doi.org/10.1088/2515-7620/add795.
5. Seshadri, A., Gambhir, A., and Debnath, R. (2025). Navigating Systemic Risks in Low-Carbon Energy Transitions in an Era of Global Polycrisis. *Global Sustainability*. https://doi.org/10.1017/sus.2025.7.
6. van Daalen, K.R., (...), Debnath, R. , (...), Lowe, R., (2024), Bridging the gender, climate, and health gap: the road to COP29. *The Lancet Planetary Health*. https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(24)00270-5.
7. Nielsen, K.S., Bauer, J.M., Debnath, R. , Emogor, C.A., Geiger, S.M., Ghai, S., Gwozdz, W., and Hahnel, U.J.J., (2024). Underestimation of personal carbon footprint inequality in four diverse countries. *Nature Climate Change*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-024-02130-y.
8. Debnath, R., Ebanks, D., Roulet, T., Mohaddes, K. and Alvarez, R.M. (2023). Do fossil fuel firms reframe online climate and sustainability communication? A data-driven analysis. *npj Climate Action, Nature Portfolio*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s44168-023-00086-x.
9. Müller-Hansen, F., (...), Debnath, R., Lamb, (...), and Minx, J.C. (2023). Attention, sentiments and emotions towards emerging climate technologies on Twitter. *Global Environmental Change*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2023.102765.
10. Debnath, R., Creutzig, F., Sovacool, B.K., and Shuckburgh, E. (2023). Harnessing human and machine intelligence for planetary scale climate action. *npj Climate Action, Nature portfolio*. https://doi.org/10.1038/s44168-023-00056-3.

Selected talks & seminars

See https://www.collectivedesign.group.cam.ac.uk/Talks.html for the complete list.

2025	*AI for Gender-based Early Warning Systems* at United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction, South Korea.
2024	*Human-Machine Interface AI Roundtable* at DSIT, UK Government, London.
2023	*Harnessing AI for planetary-scale climate action* at Institute for Ethics in AI, University of Oxford.
2022	*People-centric just transition*, Ulric B. and Evelyn L. Bray Social Sciences Seminar, Caltech, US.

Teaching & Supervision

Teaching

2023 -	Design Tripos Maths Course Lead - Y1
2022 -	Interdisciplinary Research Methods - MPhil

Supervision and mentorship

See my team https://www.collectivedesign.group.cam.ac.uk/team.html