THE BRIEF

• To explore, locate, map and analyse resource nexus(es) in domestic contexts

• To consider how understandings of the domestic nexus support pathways to sustainable household resource consumption

• To understand how smart homes, the Internet of Things and embedded and ambient digital technologies might support sustainable alternatives to local domestic resource practices

• To consider how qualitative methodologies for understanding home resource use might integrate with more established methods in the Nexus space.
RESEARCH

• Newcastle + London

• @20 households, sampled by location and type
  • Sensors + Meter Readings
  • 4-5 weeks, 3x Interviews
  • Maps + Audio-visual House Tour + Photographic Documentation
  • Meal Observation
  • Food Receipts + Intake 24
  • Travel/ Transport Diaries
  • Water Diaries
PROJECT INSIGHTS

• The household is not a single nexus
  • Multiple nexi, resources as (geophysical/ecological, economic, social, cultural) FLOWS, located within and beyond a dwelling
  • Circular Economy (?) (Production + Consumption) [Household as NODE]

• Domestic nexi consist of more than ‘use’ or ‘consumption’ of resources
  • Household processes and practices involving humans, non-humans, technologies, infrastructures, organisations, policies, governance… etc.

• Relevant considerations include:
  • [Household, Domestic, Dwelling, Home – Verb], [Times, Spaces], [Infrastructures, Actors, Networks], [Knowledge, Skills, Histories, Experiences], [Values, Lifestyles, Ideologies, Politics, Power], [Activities, Practices (Do-ings), Routines, Habits, Convenience, Cleanliness, Comfort, ‘Security’], [Disruption, Challenge, Change, ‘Resilience’]
WEF FUTURES?

• RESEARCH
  • Domestic WEF/Thinking Spaces for Security and Resilience
    • Domestic Studies as starting point rather than endpoint
    • Consumption + Production (Circular Analysis)
  • Water and Travel/Transport conspicuously absent
    • Consideration + Measurement
  • Combined/Mixed Methodologies and Methods
    • Role/Value of Qualitative methods ++ for understanding sustainable domestic practices

• POLICY
  • ‘Empowerment’ rather than ‘Behaviour Change’
  • Policy and Public Awareness as crucial linkage point between actors
• Sharron Kuznesof
  • Natural and Environmental Sciences, Newcastle University, UK

• Nicola Green
  • Natural and Environmental Sciences/ Open Lab, Newcastle University, UK

• Rob Comber
  • RI:SE, The Swedish Research Institute, Sweden

• Geremy Farr-Wharton
  • CSIRO, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Australia