



I am a Senior Researcher at VUB, Belgium and Research Director at Silent Spring Consultants. I have a PhD in Geography (2010) and a BSc in Environment and Development (both Durham University, UK). My work in the climate change field is broad (multi-level governance and politics of climate change, climate mitigation and adaptation, climate risks with a focus on extreme heat, climate activism and climate action, nature-based solutions and urban-forestry as nature-based solutions) and has involved medium and large-scale projects with multi-disciplinary research teams comprised of European and international partners (academic, government, NGOs and civil society organisations). I also have extensive experience of and publications on participatory research, co-production, the ethical issues and challenges of community-based participatory research and building trust in community-university research partnerships.

Language skills: English (native), Dutch (NT2 Level 1.1 and studying for Level 1.2)

Research Skills: Qualitative and Mixed Methods including in-depth interviews, focus groups, workshops, policy analysis, case studies, surveys, co-inquiry action research groups, participant observation, ethnography and surveys; Participatory Action Research, community-based participatory research and action research.

Public Engagement: Experienced in public engagement using a range of collaborative research approaches including co-creation, co-design, community-university partnerships, visioning exercises, action research and community-based participatory research.

Presentation Skills: Experienced in oral presentations and writing for different audiences e.g. academic journals, reports, policy briefings, booklets, website, blogs, leaflets and posters.

Computer Skills: Microsoft Office, Endnote, NVIVO, Website creation, design and maintenance.

University education and qualifications

- BSc Environment and Development (2004), Department of Geographical and Environmental Sciences, Durham University. **Dissertation:** awarded a first class mark and the **Industry Nature Conservation Association** prize for the best dissertation in 2004.
- PhD (2010), Department of Geography, Durham University, Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded. Thesis title *Creating sustainable communities in NewcastleGateshead* <http://etheses.dur.ac.uk/393/> Supervised by Professor Harriet Bulkeley and Dr Gordon MacLeod, Durham University.

Awards and research Impact

- **Durham University Award for Excellence in Research Impact** , April 2014.
- Evidence from my PhD was referenced in the House of Commons (2011) *Communities and Local Government Select Committee on Regeneration*, Sixth Report of Session 2010-12.

Research Projects

List of countries in which the following research projects have been active and involved policy analysis, case studies, engagement with local stakeholders and research partnerships:

Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, RoC, Mozambique, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Senegal, Zambia, South Africa, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, USA, Canada, Brazil, Columbia, Mexico, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Poland, Hungary, Croatia, Italy, Spain, Greece, Portugal and UK.

Cities and Climate Change

BeBrit Extreme Heat Risk Knowledge, Learning and Innovation Project, funded by the Brussels Centre for Urban Studies (BCUS), Belgian, UK, European (Italy, France, Spain, Greece) and International (India, USA, Brasil) case studies, VUB, Belgium, 2023-2024.

CLEARING HOUSE, Collaborative Learning in Research, Information-sharing and Governance on How Urban tree-based solutions support Sino-European urban futures. A four-year project funded by Horizon 2020 coordinated by the European Forest Institute, VUB, Belgium.

UK Climate Commissions and place-based climate action: evaluating policies, governance, networks and scales, Consultancy, British Academy funded, May – Sep 2023.

UK Local Climate Policies: a rapid review, Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and Political Science, LSE, Sep – Dec 2023.

Nature-based solutions accelerator programme for low-income countries, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, with DT Global, devising a methodology and theory of change to inform the design of the programme. Priority countries were Bangladesh, Nepal, Malawi, Rwanda and Tanzania, and other possibilities were Myanmar, Cambodia, Ethiopia, RoC, Mozambique, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Senegal, Zambia and Pacific small island developing states (SIDs). 2022.

Heatwaves in the UK: assessing the policy effectiveness and responses of extreme heat policies and guidance in England, Consultancy, funded by the Grantham Research Institute for Climate Science, Place-based Climate Action Network (PCAN), May 2022 – Jan 2023.

Managing military domains and urban forests as nature-based solutions, funded by CLEARING HOUSE, consultancy and VUB research, Jan – May 2023.

A ‘New Civil Politics’ of Climate Change? An examination of contemporary climate communication, actions and policies, funded by the British Academy, July 2022 – December 2022

NATURVATION, a four-year project, funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and led by Durham University. 2018-2021.

Urban transitions: climate change, global cities and the transformation of socio-technical network, ESRC funded. 2012 – 2013.

New Climate Change Initiatives in the UK, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, 2012 – 2013.

Climate change and ‘double injustice’ in the UK, Durham Energy Institute Small Grant, 2011.

Cities and Climate Change, World Bank, Urban Research Symposium 2009 in conjunction with the Tyndall Centre UK and ECI, University of Oxford.

Citizen & Community Engagement

Co-producing research: a community development approach. Research Impact Fund, Durham University, 2016.

Connected Communities Festival 2015.

ESRC Large Grant, **Connected Communities Programme, Imagine: Connecting Communities through Research**. Long Title - The Social, Historical, Cultural and Democratic context of Civic Engagement: imagining different communities and making them happen, 2014 – 2016.

Tackling ethical issues and dilemmas in community-based participatory research: a practical resource, funded by the AHRC Connected Communities Programme, 2012.

Community-based participatory research: ethics and outcomes, funded by the AHRC Connected Communities Programme, 2011.

Co-inquiry Action Research Project: Investigating research and practitioner approaches to community-university engagement. Funded by the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement and Beacon North East, 2011.

Participatory resource management to mitigate health inequalities in Tanzania, Africa funded by the National Institute of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIH/NIEHS), USA.

Digital Technologies

Digital Traces: Cumulative revelations of personal data, funded by the EPSRC, explored how digital traces – the small, apparently innocuous pieces of personal information, generated through interactions with/in networked systems over time, collectively pose significant yet unanticipated risks to personal and organisational reputations security. UK. 2021 – 2023.

The Trust Map research project was joint-funded by the Digital Economy, Connected Communities and Partnership for Conflict, Crime and Security themes within the Research Councils UK (ESRC, AHRC, EPSRC), along with additional support by the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) and the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI). The project explored the dynamics of trust in minority communities (broadly defined) with a focus on digital technologies. 2016 – 2018.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

- **Armstrong, A.**, Briggs, J., Moncur, W., Carey, D. P., Nicol, E. and Schafer, B. (forthcoming). Everyday digital traces. Submitted to *Big Data and Society*.
- **Armstrong, A.** et al (in progress) Taking stock of climate activism (Target Journal: *Nature Climate Change*).
- Howarth, C., McLoughlin, N., Mehryar, S., Murtagh, E., **Armstrong, A.**, (under review) Heatwaves as an invisible, silent risk: enhancing UK responses. Submitted to *Nature Climate Change*.
Roitsch, D., da Schio, N., Ostoic, S., Zivojinovic, I., Vuletic, D., **Armstrong, A.**, Czaplarska, A., Baro, F., Whitehead, I. and De Vreese, R. (under review). Co-production in the governance of urban forests as nature-based solutions: perspectives from public officials, *Environmental Science and Policy*.

- **Armstrong, A.**, Bulkeley, H., Tozer, L. and Kotsila, P. (2022), Border troubles: urban nature and the remaking of public/private divides, *Urban Geography*
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2022.2125669>
- **Armstrong, A.** et al (2022) [Trust and temporality in participatory research](#), *Qualitative Research*, DOI: 10.1177/14687941211065163
- Clarke, R., Briggs, J., **Armstrong, A.**, Vines, J., Salt, K. and Flynn, E. (2021) Socio-materiality of trust: co-design with a resource limited community organisation, *Co-Design*, pp 1 – 20.
- **Armstrong, A.** and Banks, S (2017) Organising for change: North Tyneside Community Development Project and its legacy, *Community Development Journal*, 52(2): 290-312.
- **Armstrong, A.** and Bulkeley, H. (2014) Micro-hydro politics: producing and contesting community energy in the North of England, *Geoforum*, 56: 66-76.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2014.06.015>
- Banks, S. and **Armstrong, A.** with et al (2014) Using co-inquiry to study co-inquiry: community-university perspectives on research, *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship* 7(1): 37-47.
- Banks, S. and **Armstrong, A.** with et al (2013) Everyday ethics in community-based participatory research, *Contemporary Social Science: Journal of the Academy of Social Sciences, Special Issue on Knowledge mobilization*. Available at
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/21582041.2013.769618>
- Carter, K. Banks, S. **Armstrong, A.** Kindon, S. and Burkett, I. (2013) Issues of disclosure and intrusion: ethical challenges for a community researcher, *Journal of Ethics and Social Welfare*, 7(1): 92-100, available at
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17496535.2013.769344#.UZHxIXZwbml>
- Armstrong, A. (2013) Housing and inequality, *Housing Studies*, 28 (2): 365-366.
- Armstrong, A. (2012) Twentieth century urban regeneration policy in Britain: charting discourses of community and sustainability, *Journal of Language, Public Administration and Qualitative Research*, 3(1): 65-81.
- Armstrong, A. (2012) British urban regeneration policy in the new century: towards sustainable communities, *Journal of Language, Public Administration and Qualitative Research*, 3(2): 55-71.
- Armstrong, A. (2011) Affluence, second home ownership and mobility, *Housing Studies*, 26(5): 967-969.
- Russell, A., Cattermole, A., Hudson, R., Banks, S., **Armstrong, A.**, Robinson, F., Pain, R., Gollan, S. and Brown, G. (2011) Sustaining community-university collaborations: the Durham University model, *Gateways: International Journal of Community Research and Engagement*, 4:218-231

Peer-reviewed policy/Research briefings and reports

- Howarth, C., **Armstrong, A.**, McLoughlin, N., Murtagh, E., Stuart-Watt, A. (2023) [The 2022 heatwaves: England's response and future preparedness for heat risk](#), London: Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science.
- Armstrong, A. (2021) [Urban Nature-Based Solutions and the COVID-19 Pandemic in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne: Experiences, Lessons and Opportunities](#), NATURVATION, Durham University, UK.

- Armstrong, A. (2020) [*Mainstreaming Nature-Based Solutions: Social Inclusion*](#), NATURVATION, Durham University, UK.
- Armstrong, A. and Banks, S. (2016) *Re-examining Benwell Community Development Project and its legacy*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University, UK.
- Armstrong, A. and Banks, S. (2016) *Re-examining North Tyneside Community Development Project and its legacy*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University, UK.
- Armstrong, A., Banks, S. and Harman, P. (2016) *REPORT: Imagining North Shields Workshop and Exhibition – Community Development & Engagement in North Shields: From the National Community Development Project to ‘My Community’*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University, Durham, UK.
- Armstrong, A. and Bulkeley, H. (2013) *New climate change initiatives in the UK: Energysure and Hexham River Hydro - Case Study Report*, Durham University.
- Armstrong, A. and Bulkeley, H. (2013) *New climate change initiatives in the UK: Energysure and Hexham River Hydro – Research Briefing*, Durham University.
- Armstrong, A. and Bulkeley, H. (2013) *New climate change initiatives in the UK: HSBC - Case Study Report*, Durham University.
- Armstrong, A. and Bulkeley, H. (2013) *New climate change initiatives in the UK: HSBC – Research Briefing*, Durham University.
- Banks, S. and **Armstrong, A.** (eds) (2012) *Ethics in community-based participatory research: case studies, case examples and commentaries*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action,
- Durham University and National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement (2012) *Community-based participatory research: A guide to ethical principles and practice*.
- Armstrong, A. and Pattison, B. (2012) [*Delivering effective regeneration: learning from Bridging Newcastle Gateshead*](#), Briefing Paper, BSHF, Coalville, UK.
- Durham Community Research Team (2011) *Community-based participatory research: ethical challenges*, AHRC.
- Armstrong, A. and Banks, S. (2011) *Co-inquiry and related participatory approaches to community based research*, National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement.
- Bulkeley, H., Schroeder, H., Janda, K., Zhao, J., **Armstrong, A.** Chu, S. Y. and Ghosh, S. (2009) *Cities and Climate Change: the role of institutions, governance and urban planning*. Report for the World Bank Urban Research Symposium: Cities and Climate Change.

Book chapters

- Banks, S. **Armstrong, A.** et al (2019), Between research and community development: Negotiating a contested space for collaboration and creativity: In Banks, S., Hart, A., Ward, P., and Pahl, K., (eds) *Co-producing research: a community development approach*, The Policy Press, Bristol, pp 21 – 48.
- Armstrong, A. (2013) Twentieth century urban regeneration policy in Britain: charting discourses of ‘community’ and ‘sustainability’. In Lee, K. (ed) *Administrative justice for the qualitative evaluation* ChoMyung Publisher, Seoul, Korea (published in Korean), pp 191 – 210.
- Bulkeley, H. H. Schroeder, K. Janda, J. Zhao, **A. Armstrong**, S. Chu and S. Ghosh (2011) The role of institutions, governance and planning for mitigation and adaptation by cities, in

Hoornweg, D., Frire, M., Lee, M., Bhada, P. and Yuen, B (eds) *Cities and Climate Change: responding to an urgent agenda*, The World Bank; Washington, DC, pp 68-88

Booklets and Toolkits

- Armstrong, A. and Banks, S. (2015) (eds) *Imagining Benwell: past, present and future*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University.
- Armstrong, A. and Banks, S. (2015) (eds) *Imagining North Shields: past, present and future*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University.
- Herrington, T., **Armstrong, A.** and Banks, S. (2013) *Community mentoring toolkit: working with socially excluded households*, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University.
- Armstrong, A., Banks, S. and Henfrey, T. (2011) *Co-inquiry toolkit: Co-inquiry and related participatory approaches to community based research*, National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement/Beacon North East

Conferences

Dr Andrea Armstrong has *organised* or being the invited keynote speaker, presenter or delegate at the conferences listed below in her fields of expertise:

Nature-Based Solutions

- Managing military urban forests: the case study of Kamp Beverlo, Belgium | European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF), Krakow, Poland, May 2023
- Border Troubles: Urban Nature and the Remaking of Public/Private Divides | Association of American Geographers, Washington, USA.
- The Mediating Effects of Nature-based Solutions on Health and Wellbeing during the COVID-19 Pandemic | 17th International Conference on Urban Health (ICUH): Transforming our Collective Urban Future: Learning from COVID-19 | Latin America (Virtual).
- Nature-based Solutions: Unlocking Urban Potential | *NATURVATION* Conference (Virtual).

Urban Sustainability

- Governing Sustainable Communities | Association of American Geographers (AAG) | Boston, USA.
- Moving Communities in Regeneration Areas | Royal Geographic Society (RGS-IBG), London.
- A Geography of Demolition: Politics, Processes and Experiences | Housing Studies Association Conference | University of York.

Climate Change

- Belgium Climate Centre, Maximising the impact of climate-related research, Brussels, September 2023.
- Local climate action: moving out of silos | Place-Based Climate Action Network (PCAN) Conference, Royal Society, London, UK, June 19 2023.
- Negotiating the 'new' civil politics of climate change in an era of post-pandemic recovery, RGS-IBG Annual Conference, Newcastle, UK.
- Co-creation and Public-Private Partnerships | An Era of New Beginnings: Dream – Act – Lead – Together, Eurocities Annual Conference, Espoo, Finland.

Citizen Engagement

- North Tyneside Community Development Project: Legacies and Lessons |Conference| The Meadows, North Shields.
- Community Development in Austerity | Discovery Museum, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
- Whose Community? Whose History? Issues and Challenges when doing Community-Based Historical Research | Imagine Conference - Doing Research Together |University of Huddersfield
- North Shields: History, Community Development Project and the Present | Imagine North East Launch Event | Discovery Museum, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.
- Ethical Issues in Action Research on Poverty and Debt |Workshop / Conference |Durham University.
- Lessons and Legacies of the Community Development Projects of the 1970s, Revisiting the Benwell CDP | History of Youth and Community Work Conference |Hinsley Hall, Leeds.
- Doing Research together across Communities and Universities | 3rd Annual Imagine Conference | Business School, University of Huddersfield.

Workshops

Dr Andrea Armstrong has **organised, chaired or presented** in the following workshops in her fields of expertise:

Nature-Based Solutions

- Border Troubles: Urban Nature and the Re-making of Public/Private Divides, Urban Ecology Group, VUB, Belgium.
- Co-Finance and Digitalisation for Nature-Based Solutions | Nature-Based Solutions Day | Social Impact Factory, Utrecht, Netherlands.

Urban Sustainability

- Creating Sustainable Communities | Sheffield Hallam University.
- Changing Infrastructure Economies Workshop |Department of Geography, Durham University.

Climate Change

- British Academy Policy Insight Workshop, UK Climate Commissions and Place-based Climate Action: Evaluating Policies, Governance, Networks and Scales, LSE, London, September 2023
- Low Carbon Transitions Workshop, Durham Energy Institute, Durham University.
- LOWCCC, Energy and Society | Durham Energy Institute, Durham University.
- Micro Hydro Politics |Workshop |Durham University.

Citizen Engagement

- Practical Ethics in Community Research |Outreach to Ownership Project, Historic England.
- Communities in control or left in the lurch? | Empowering Communities and Making Change Happen Policy Seminar | Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and National Council for Voluntary Organisations |Kings Cross, London.
- Re-gilding the ghetto: pictures of life in the North East from 1970s to present day | Millenium Gallery | Sheffield.

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- Communities in Control? |Imagining North Shields Workshop | The Meadows, North Shields.
- Imagining Community in Benwell: a Future Creating Workshop | with Prof. Mary Brydon Miller and Riverside Community Health Project |Carnegie Building, Benwell, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
- Imagining Benwell and North Shields: from the National Community Development Projects (1970s) to ‘Our Place’ and beyond | Empowering Communities and Making Change Happen Policy Seminar |Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Kings Cross, London.
- Negotiating access: consultation fatigue and community apathy in regeneration areas | Social Wellbeing, Spatial Justice (SWSJ) Research Cluster | Department of Geography, Durham University.

Membership of professional bodies

- Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society (FRGS) since 2010
- Association of American Geographers, Member since 2006
- Fellow of the Wolfson Research Intitute since 2015

Other responsibilities

- Invited as a climate experts to Maximising the impact of climate-related research, Belgium Climate Centre, Brussels, 19 September, 2023.
- Thesis External Examiner, Swinburne University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Editorial Board, Urban Forestry and Urban Greening.
- Editorial Board, Frontiers in Environmental Science; Review Editor, Social-Ecological Urban Systems.
- Key Researcher, FUSE, Centre for Transnational Research in Public Health, Newcastle, UK
- Member of the Faculty Decolonising Group Leads, Durham University
- Steering Group Member, Centre for Social Justice and Community Action, Durham University
- Peer reviewer for academic journals – *Geoforum*, *Housing Studies*, *Urban Planning*, *Qualitative Research*, *International Journal Environmental Research and Public Health*, *Sustainability* - ongoing
- Peer Reviewer – book proposals, SAGE Publishing.
- External Reviewer for the Royal Academy of Engineering – Ingenious Public Engagement Grant Scheme (2010 – ongoing)
- ESRC Peer Review Role, reviewer of research proposals.