

The GW4 Alliance brings together four of the most research-intensive and innovative universities in the UK: Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter, to research global challenges and deliver solutions at scale.

GW⁴ ALLIANCE

Accelerating to Net Zero: Further > Faster > Fairer

Our Vision

As a regional anchor, GW4 will lead the UK and the world in accelerating to net zero emissions. GW4 will reach **further**; support **faster** implementation of new and existing solutions; and deliver **fairer** net zero transitions working with our partners, for the benefit of all.

The GW4 Alliance will create a **'whole system' regional net zero testbed**. We will work with government, industry, and civil society to understand the challenges and priorities faced by different sectors in our region, and identify opportunities to collaborate on innovative solutions.

Achieving net zero emissions requires unprecedented activity and integration of UK research and innovation into all sectors of society.



Our regional diversity provides a unique opportunity to explore and test equitable transitions to net zero. Our geography covers two national governments, two health systems, includes areas with among the highest and lowest deprivation rates, and rural, urban and city areas.

Our whole systems net zero solutions will tackle socioeconomic inequalities and contribute to 'levelling up' across the UK.

As a living lab testbed for **energy, transport, land use and food** transitions we can research the interdependencies and opportunities that can be applied across the UK and beyond.

GW4 will harness our research excellence, regional assets, world-class facilities, and through partnerships, we will drive innovation, forge a green recovery from COVID-19, and place our region and the UK at the forefront of global efforts to reach net zero.

Accelerate to Net Zero

Increased investment in research and development will allow us to **Accelerate to Net Zero**:

- **Further**: Reaching beyond our region, beyond academia and beyond disciplines – we will collaborate with our communities, government, and industry partners to test and deliver interdisciplinary solutions scalable for the whole of the UK and internationally.
- **Faster**: Working together will accelerate opportunities – recognising where swift but beneficial and long-lasting changes can be made.
- **Fairer**: Developing innovative whole system solutions, with equitable approaches through co-creation.

The Challenge

How can society adapt to meet the urgent need for rapid and far-reaching emission reductions?



How can people have safe, efficient, and affordable homes in areas they wish to live?



How can everyone access a balanced nutritious diet, that doesn't cost the earth?



What changes are required around policy making to have positive and long-lasting effects?



How can we support a green recovery, protecting and providing jobs in a circular economy?



What changes would be needed for society to adopt cleaner transport?

Opportunities



Create 'living labs' for **energy, transport, land use and food** transitions, with co-creation at every step.



Accelerate adoption of existing or emerging technologies, and innovation through policy change and by identifying and addressing social barriers.



Build **skills and capacity** across sectors, investing in the next generation of researchers.

Join us

Join our workshops in 2021 to help refine the region's net zero plans. To be part of our net zero ambitions, email: netzero@gw4.ac.uk or visit gw4.ac.uk/net-zero



Together we can
accelerate to net zero
further, faster, and fairer



UNIVERSITY OF
BATH



University of
BRISTOL

