

Abdur Rahim HAMIDI

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Priestley Climate Scholar | White Rose UK ESRC Funded Scholar

My research focuses on the human dimensions of climate change and disasters, emphasizing vulnerability, resilience, and disaster risk reduction (DRR) in context-specific settings. I integrate political ecology and decolonial environmental approaches to analyse how power, history, and knowledge shape human–environment relations and uneven climate impacts. My work explores how frontline communities experience climate and disaster risks, paying special attention to structural inequalities, colonial legacies, and governance processes that shape vulnerability and adaptive capacity. Using mixed-methods research, GIS-based spatial analysis, and community-engaged fieldwork, I co-produce knowledge to generate policy-relevant insights and locally actionable strategies for equitable resilience and sustainable development.

KEY SKILLS & PROFICIENCIES

Research, Data Analysis & Fieldwork

- Climate resilience, DRR, hazard vulnerability assessment, and environmental governance
- Mixed-methods research experience, including household/community surveys, interviews, focus groups, participatory assessments, workshops, and systematic reviews
- GIS-based spatial analysis for hazard mapping, vulnerability assessment, and evaluating community resilience
- Experienced in leading research projects and volunteer initiatives, with proven interdisciplinary collaboration
- Data analysis and visualization for scientific and policy reporting
- Software & Tools: ArcGIS, SPSS, NVivo, R (basic), Python (beginner), MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Canva, OriginPro, survey design, and data visualization tools

Professional, Communication, and Leadership Skills

- Strong written and verbal communication; publications, reports, and presentations
- Demonstrated leadership and collaborations in interdisciplinary teams
- Experienced in training postgraduate and undergraduate students and skills transfer
- Committed to advancing equality, diversity, and inclusion in academic and professional settings

EDUCATION

University of Leeds - School of Earth and Environment, Leeds, United Kingdom

PhD in Earth and Environment (Environment) | September 2023 – Present

- Research focus:** Flood exposure, social vulnerability, and governance, with an emphasis on integrated, spatially informed assessment to strengthen flood risk governance in Pakistan
- Research group:** Sustainability Research Institute; Climate Change Adaptation, Vulnerability & Services (CCAUS); Life and Land; water@leeds
- Teaching and collaborative roles:** Contributing to interdisciplinary research and teaching; support student research development; collaborating across environmental social science and climate resilience research teams; contributing to module design, delivery, and assessment
- Seminar Organisation & Presentation**
 - Led seminar “Risk, Resilience, and Adaptation” - Priestley Centre for Climate Futures, University of Leeds | 25 June 2025
 - Led seminar “Navigating Interdisciplinarity in Climate Research” - Priestley Centre for Climate Futures | 15 May 2024
 - Presented talk “Systematic Evidence Synthesis” - CCAUS Research Group, University of Leeds | 11 June 2025

University of Leeds - School of Sociology and Social Policy, Leeds, United Kingdom

MA in Social Research | September 2022 – August 2023

- Core Modules:** Research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, mixed-methods analysis, social policy evaluation, data analysis, working beyond disciplines, and climate change impacts and adaptation
- Dissertation:** Household Flood Resilience Complexities in Nowshera District, Pakistan: A Multidimensional Analysis

Huazhong University of Science and Technology - College of Public Administration, Wuhan, China

Master's in Public Administration | September 2017 – July 2019

- Core Modules:** Public policy analysis, public administration, governance and development, land economics and planning, land information systems, urban development & management, and research methods
- Dissertation:** Barriers to Risk Communication in Flood Emergency Management: Case Studies from Pakistan

University of Peshawar – Centre for Disaster Preparedness and Management (CDPM), Peshawar, Pakistan
BSc in Disaster Management | September 2012 – June 2016

- **Core Modules:** DRR, hazard & vulnerability assessment, emergency management, GIS & remote sensing, community-based disaster management, disaster preparedness & response planning, research methods, and project management
- **Project:** Household vulnerability to floods and windstorms in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

GRANTS & FUNDING

- **Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)-funded White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership (WRDTP) Doctoral Studentship** – Fully funded | 2022–2026
- **Overseas Institutional Visit Funding, WRDTP/ESRC** – £4,000 | 2025
3-month research visit, Department of Geography, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany. Funded by WRDTP and ESRC, UK
- **Overseas Fieldwork Funding, WRDTP/ESRC** – £4,500 | 2025
Support for international fieldwork, including travel and in-country research costs.
- **Chinese Government Scholarship (Postgraduate)** – Fully funded | 2017–2019
- **DAFI Undergraduate Scholarship (UNHCR / Albert Einstein Initiative)** | 2014–2016

PUBLICATIONS

- **Hamidi, A.R.**, Novo, P., Paavola, J., and Ford, J.D. (2025). Identifying gaps in research on social vulnerability to floods: A systematic review of indicators, indexes, and methodological approaches. *Environmental Research Letters*. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ae1496>
- Malik, I.H., Ahmed, R., Ford, J.D., **Hamidi, A.R.** (2025). Arctic Warming: Cascading Climate Impacts and Global Consequences. *Climate*, 13, 85. <https://doi.org/10.3390/cli13050085>
- **Hamidi, A.R.**, Novo, P., and Paavola, J. (2024). Household Flood Resilience in the Nowshera District, Pakistan: A Multidimensional Analysis. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, vol. 116, p. 105124. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2024.105124>
- Qiyamud D. I., Jamalzi, A.R., **Hamidi, A.R.**, Ullah, I, Shahab, M. (2023). Flood risk assessment to population in Afghanistan: A Spatial Analysis of Hazard, Exposure and Vulnerability. *Natural Hazards Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nhres.2023.09.006>
- **Hamidi, A.R.**, Jing, L., Shahab, M., Azam, K. (2022). Flood exposure and social vulnerability analysis in rural areas of developing countries: A case study of Charsadda District, Pakistan. *Water*. 2022, 14(7), 1176. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w14071176>
- Zeng, Z., Li, Y., Lan, J., & **Hamidi, A.R.** (2021). Utilizing user-generated content and GIS for flood susceptibility assessment in mountainous areas: A case study of Jian City in China. *Sustainability* 13(12), 6929. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13126929>
- **Hamidi, A.R.**, Zeng, Z., & Khan, M. A. (2020). Household vulnerability to floods and cyclones in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 46. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdr.2020.101496>
- **Hamidi, A.R.**, Wang, J., Guo, S., & Zeng, Z. (2020). Flood vulnerability assessment using MOVE framework: a case study of the northern part of district Peshawar, Pakistan. *Natural Hazards* 101, 385–408. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11069-020-03878-0>
- Zeng, Z., Lan, J., **Hamidi, A.R.**, & Zou, S. (2020). Integrating Internet media into urban flooding susceptibility assessment: A case study in China. *Cities* 101, 102697. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2020.102697>

Research Papers Under Communication

- Rethinking Flood Resilience: Systemic Risk, Social Vulnerability, and Governance Failures in the Himalayan–Indus Region
Under review at *Environmental Science & Policy*
- Communication-Related Vulnerabilities: Insights from Flood-Prone Communities in Pakistan
Under review at *Environmental Research Communications*
- Voices from the Floodplain: Understanding Flood Vulnerability and Governance Deficiencies in Pakistan
Under review at *SN Social Sciences*
- A Critique of Climate Objectivity in the Context of Global Injustice
Under review at *Environmental Research Letters*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Leeds - School of Earth and Environment, Leeds, United Kingdom

Teaching Assistant & Seminar Leader, Economics and Sustainability Module | September 2023 - Present

- Leading seminars and tutorials to develop student understanding of economics and sustainability concepts
- In class case study analyses and scenario exercises to demonstrate practical applications of sustainability principles

Teaching Assistant | September 2023 - Present

- Supporting teaching across Master's and Undergraduate modules, including *Research Methods*, *Research Project*, and *Research in Environmental Social Sciences*
- Facilitated seminars, tutorials, and in-class exercises on research design, methodology, literature review, data collection and analysis, academic writing, and critical thinking
- Provided one-to-one and group guidance, including drop-ins, to help students refine research questions, analytical approaches, and academic writing
- SPSS demonstrations: software installation, troubleshooting, dataset management, analysis, and interpretation

Assessment Support / Mark Management | September 2023 - Present

- Supporting mark compilation and management across Master's and Undergraduate modules, including *Research Methods*, *Environmental Research Project*, and *Sustainability Research Project*
- Assisting module leaders and moderators in organizing marks, resolving discrepancies, and ensuring accurate recording and communication of final grades

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE / APPOINTMENTS

Huazhong University of Science and Technology – College of Public Administration, Wuhan, China

Research Assistant | August 2019 – July 2021

- Contributed to a National Natural Science Foundation of China-funded project: *User-generated content, intelligent mining, and emergency management decision support during disaster emergencies*
- Supported literature review, data analysis, report writing, and publications in international peer-reviewed journals

National Defence University, Islamabad, Pakistan

Research Associate | April 2016 – August 2017

- Worked on Higher Education Commission-funded projects:
 - *Issues, dynamics, and implications of disaster management in Pakistan*
 - *Multi-hazards, vulnerabilities, coping capacities, risk, and resilience assessment in District Peshawar*
- Conducted literature reviews, designed data collection tools, collected and analysed data, and prepared project reports

ACF International Pakistan

Research Associate | October 2016 – February 2017

- Contributed to the joint project *Disaster Risk Reduction in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan*, in collaboration with CDPM-University of Peshawar and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan
 - Conducted literature reviews, designed data collection tools and methodologies, and carried out surveys, FGDs, and interviews with at-risk communities and disaster management agencies
 - Prepared analytical reports on disaster risks, vulnerabilities, and response experiences to inform local DRR planning

Provincial Disaster Management Authority, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Pakistan

Internship | June 2015 – August 2015

- **Provincial Emergency Operation Centre:** Collected and disseminated situational reports during the Peshawar Windstorm/Mini Cyclone and 2015 Earthquake; prepared operational updates to support relief and rehabilitation
- **Disaster Risk Management Section:** Reviewed and updated Monsoon Contingency Plans; coordinated with district administrations and humanitarian agencies to assess capacities and needs; contributed to designing the Monsoon Contingency Plan 2015
- **Jalozai Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camp:** Analysed camp operations, identified gaps, and designed a DRR-inclusive camp management model, which won 1st place at the 8th International Disaster Management Exhibition, University of Peshawar (2016, out of 53 teams), and was donated to CDPM-University of Peshawar for display

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

- Associate Fellow of Advance Higher Education (AFAHE), UK, (In progress – internally referred)
- e-Student Member, Royal Statistical Society, UK
- Priestley Centre for Climate Futures, University of Leeds, UK
- Global Food and Environment Institute, University of Leeds, UK
- Sustainability Research Institute
- Climate Change Adaptation, Vulnerability & Services
- Life and Land
- water@leeds

TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, COURSES

Trainings & workshops

- Accessible Teaching, Learning, and Work | November 2025
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Training | November 2025
- Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging | November 2025
- Taking Action on Net Zero | November 2025
- Information Governance | October 2024
- Information Security | October 2024
- Data Protection | October 2024
- Research Integrity & Research Ethics | April 2024
- Writing about Research for Non-Academic Audiences | March 2024
- Research Methods: Qualitative Document Analysis | March 2024
- Designing Surveys for Social Phenomena | March 2024
- Research Methods: Designing Surveys | March 2024
- Research Culture for PGRs | February 2024
- Mixed Methods | January 2024
- Systematic Reviews | January 2024
- WRDTP Advanced Methods | January 2024
- Research Ethics & Ethics Applications | November 2023
- Purposeful Thinking (CAELEDRO) | November 2023
- Introduction to R | October 2023
- Foundations in Teaching | November 2023
- Two-day Emergency Response Management Training (First Aid & CBDRM) | August 2016
- Three-day Volunteering in Emergency Training | November 2015
- Two-day Advanced First Aid Training | October 2015

Courses

Learning Data Analytics: Foundations | November 2025

- Gained foundational skills in data analytics, including data interpretation, cleaning, SQL basics, data modelling, and using tools such as Excel, Power Query, and PowerBI to prepare and analyse datasets

Data Analysis (Excel) | November 2025

- Gained practical skills in Excel for data analysis, visualization, and applying statistical and probabilistic methods to support data-driven decision-making

Project Management (Foundation + Simplified) | May 2024

- Gained practical skills in project planning, scheduling, risk assessment, and resource management
- Completed hands-on exercises on project lifecycle, stakeholder engagement, and progress tracking to apply structured project management approaches in research and professional contexts

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Academic Excellence Award, Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), China | 2022
- Academic Excellence Award, HUST, China | 2021
- Outstanding International Graduate Award, HUST, China | 2019
- Outstanding Student Cadre Award, HUST, China | 2018
- Excellent Volunteer Award, HUST, China | 2018
- 2nd Position in Undergraduate Studies (Ranked 2nd among 52 students) | 2016
- 1st Place, 8th International Disaster Management Exhibition, CDPM-UoP, Pakistan (53 teams) | 2016
- 1st Place, 7th International Disaster Management Exhibition, CDPM-UoP, Pakistan (46 teams) | 2015

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

SICA Volunteer Club, HUST - Coordinator | February 2018 – July 2019

- Led volunteer teams supporting new international students with registration and campus integration.
- Organised cultural exchange events, trainings, and field trips with SICA members

Award: *Best Volunteer of the Year*

ACF International Pakistan - Group Leader | October 2016 – January 2017

- Led a team of five researchers to develop a DRR-inclusive IDP camp model, presented at the 8th IDME-2016; awarded Model of the Year and later the model donated to CDPM, University of Peshawar

DOST Welfare Foundation - Ilmbassador | November 2014 – April 2016

- Led a team of five to identify out-of-school children and enrol them in government schools
- Monitored student progress and improved parent engagement; uploaded enrolment data to British Council's portal

CDPM Volunteer Club - Vice President | 2015 – 2016

- Facilitated the organisation of IDME-2015 and IDME-2016, campus-wide cleanliness campaigns, poetry competitions, and other student engagement events

Deputy Commissioner Volunteer Task Force - Volunteer Lead | April 2015 – October 2016

- Led teams for Traffic Day public awareness campaign, environmental cleanliness drives, and the 100,000 Tree Plantation Challenge (held on 21 March 2016)
- Facilitated blood donation camps across colleges and universities

Pakistan Red Crescent Society - Youth & Volunteer Force Member | March 2015 – May 2016

- Assisted in organising emergency response and management training workshops in schools, colleges, and universities

SEMINARS, CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- Remaking Places Network: Rethinking Hope and Imagination – Webinar | 20 February 2024
- Remaking Places Network: Rethinking Hope and Imagination | Webinar | 20 February 2024
- Remaking Places Network: Rethinking Change | Webinar | 30 January 2024
- Remaking Places Network: Rethinking Emergency and Crisis | Webinar | 16 January 2024
- Climate Policy and Energy Transitions | Webinar | 28 November 2023
- 11th International Conference on Public Organization (ICONPO) – Asia Pacific Society for Public Affairs | 14 August 2021
- CIRCLE Distinguished Lecture Series: “Smart City Digital Twins: Toward More Sustainable, Resilient, and Livable Cities” – Zhejiang University & University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign | 11 August 2021
- Conversation between City Information Modelling and Urban Digital Twins – IEC SyC Smart Cities & ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 41 | Webinar | 23 June 2021
- Belt and Road and South-Eastern Asia: Opportunities and Challenges – College of Public Administration (HUST) & Nanyang Technological University | Seminar | 11 January 2019
- Multi-Hazards, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment of District Peshawar – Focus Group Discussion, Al-Khidmat Foundation & Riphah International University | 22 February 2017
- National Disaster Awareness Day 2016 – Al-Khidmat Foundation & NDMA-Pakistan | Seminar | 26 October 2016
- Emergency Response Management Training (First Aid & CBDRM) – District Administration Peshawar, PRCS, HUIRA, Care International, SEED & IDEA | 6–7 August 2016
- Discussion on Protracted Refugee Situations & Responsibility Sharing – UNHCR, Islamabad | Seminar | 22 June 2016
- Take a Child to School Project – Capacity Building Workshop, British Council | 16–17 April 2016
- Use of Technology for Civic Engagement – Camp, Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives, University of Peshawar | 12–14 January 2016
- Volunteering in Emergency – CDPM, University of Peshawar & PRCS | Training | 11–13 November 2015
- Advanced First Aid – CDPM, University of Peshawar & PRCS | Training | 7–8 October 2015
- Pak-Afghan Conflict Transformation and Resolution – Global Afghan Forum & Afghan Students Union | Conference | 19 May 2015
- Take a Child to School Project – British Council & Dost Welfare Foundation | Workshop | 4–7 November 2014