

## Final report of UHH-KU fund for ECR program

### Section 1

<b>Applicant (at the time of application, i.e. supervisor of the visiting researcher or the visiting researcher themselves)</b>	
Name	Prof. Dr. Anita Engels
Job title	Professor for Sociology, especially Globalisation, Environment and Society
University	Universität Hamburg
Affiliation	Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences

### Section 2

<b>Visiting researcher (if different from the above)</b>	
Name	Dr. Matthew Phillip Johnson
Job title	Postdoc / Senior Researcher
University	Universität Hamburg
Affiliation	CEN / CLICCS

### Section 3

<b>Host researcher</b>	
Name	Prof. Dr. Gregory Trencher
Job title	Assistant Professor
University	Kyoto University
Affiliation	Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

### Section 4

<b>Summary of the project (approx. 200 words)</b>
<p>A collaborative research project between Dr. Matthew Johnson at Universität Hamburg and Prof. Greg Trencher at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies focused on corporate decarbonization strategies as part of organizational net zero transitions. Their aim was to select companies for analysis and establish data collection procedures, resulting in multiple academic papers exploring initial steps toward net-zero transitions. Notable outcomes include two submitted papers: one assessing carbon offset quality by the top 20 buyers of carbon offsets, and the other linking effective carbon management activities with various accounting practices. Both papers are currently undergoing peer review. Additionally, a third paper is in progress, comparing German and Japanese companies' net-zero transition strategies. Overall, this collaborative project with multiple paper projects has strengthened institutional ties and facilitated knowledge sharing between the universities, with planned follow-up activities including keynote speeches at symposiums, conference participation as session chairs, and future research visits. Additionally, Prof. Trencher is encouraged with the collaboration, currently applying for additional third-party funding. Ultimately, Dr. Johnson's experience in Japan fostered new research collaborations, with several publications underway thanks to ECR program. The funding program has encouraged new research collaboration and knowledge exchange, potentially leading to more funding and future research opportunities.</p>