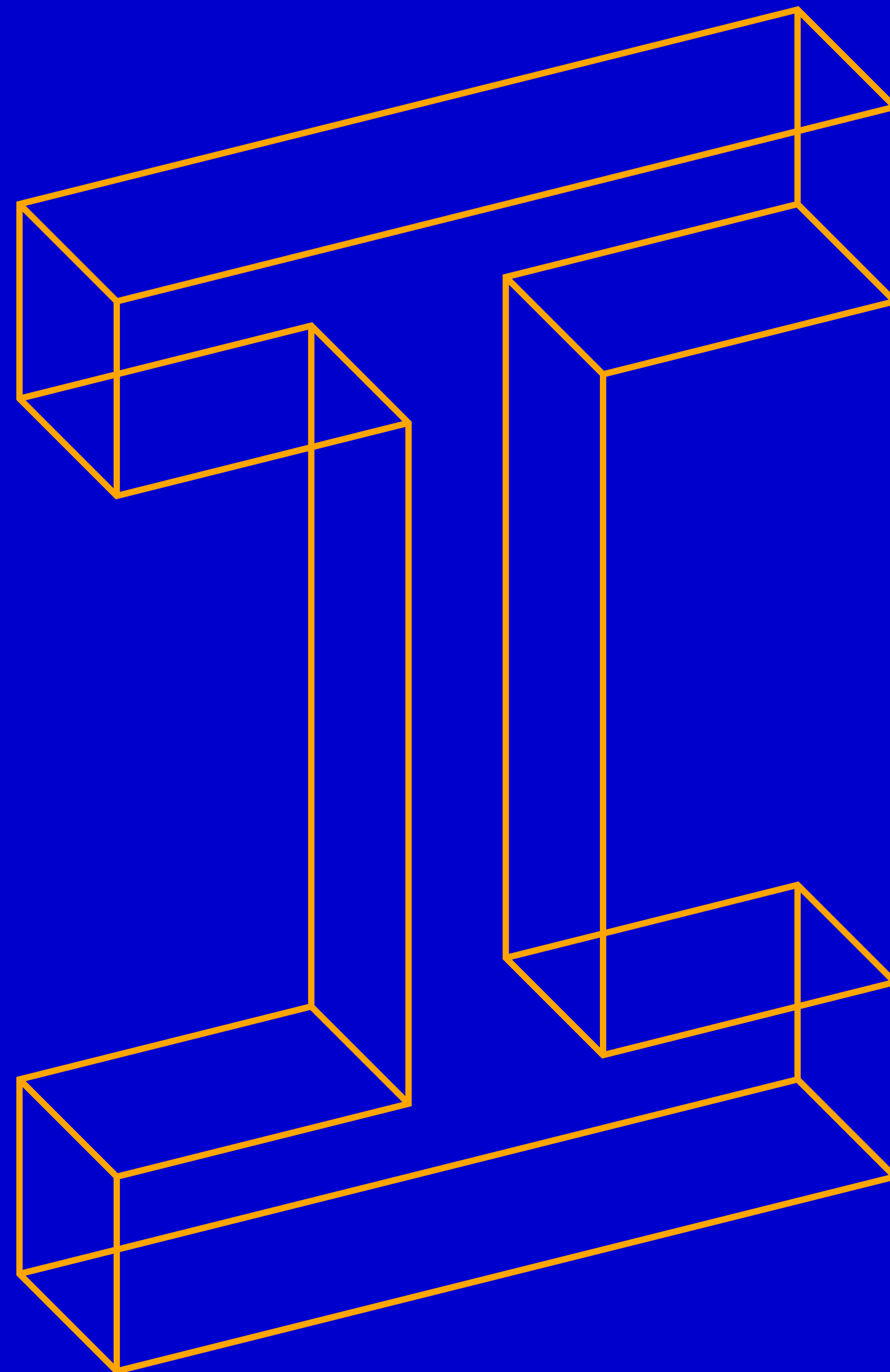


IMPERIAL POLICY FORUM

The Imperial AI Policy Fellowship Programme

October 2024

Imperial College London



About the programme

The Imperial AI Policy Fellowship is a unique development programme for senior civil servants to develop skills and knowledge in how AI can be deployed in public sector contexts. It will also fast-track the understanding of critical aspects of hardware, data and digital to enable the successful delivery of human-centred AI solutions.

Fellows will benefit from a tailored programme of engagement to meet their specific needs and interests. This will be comprised of **4 in-person days** at Imperial College London over 9 months, including lectures, workshops with AI and domain experts and networking within a cohort of peers with similar interests.

The lectures included in the programme will provide the Fellows with an introduction to Large Language Models, AI risks and security, questions around AI deployment, as well as broader issues such as hardware and infrastructure requirements. While based on the scientific and technological knowledge of the Imperial community, the content in those presentations will also suit those without any specific programming or computing background.

Fellows will also work with a mentor from Imperial's world-leading academic community to co-create bespoke projects based on challenges that they face within government. These projects will run for the length of the programme.



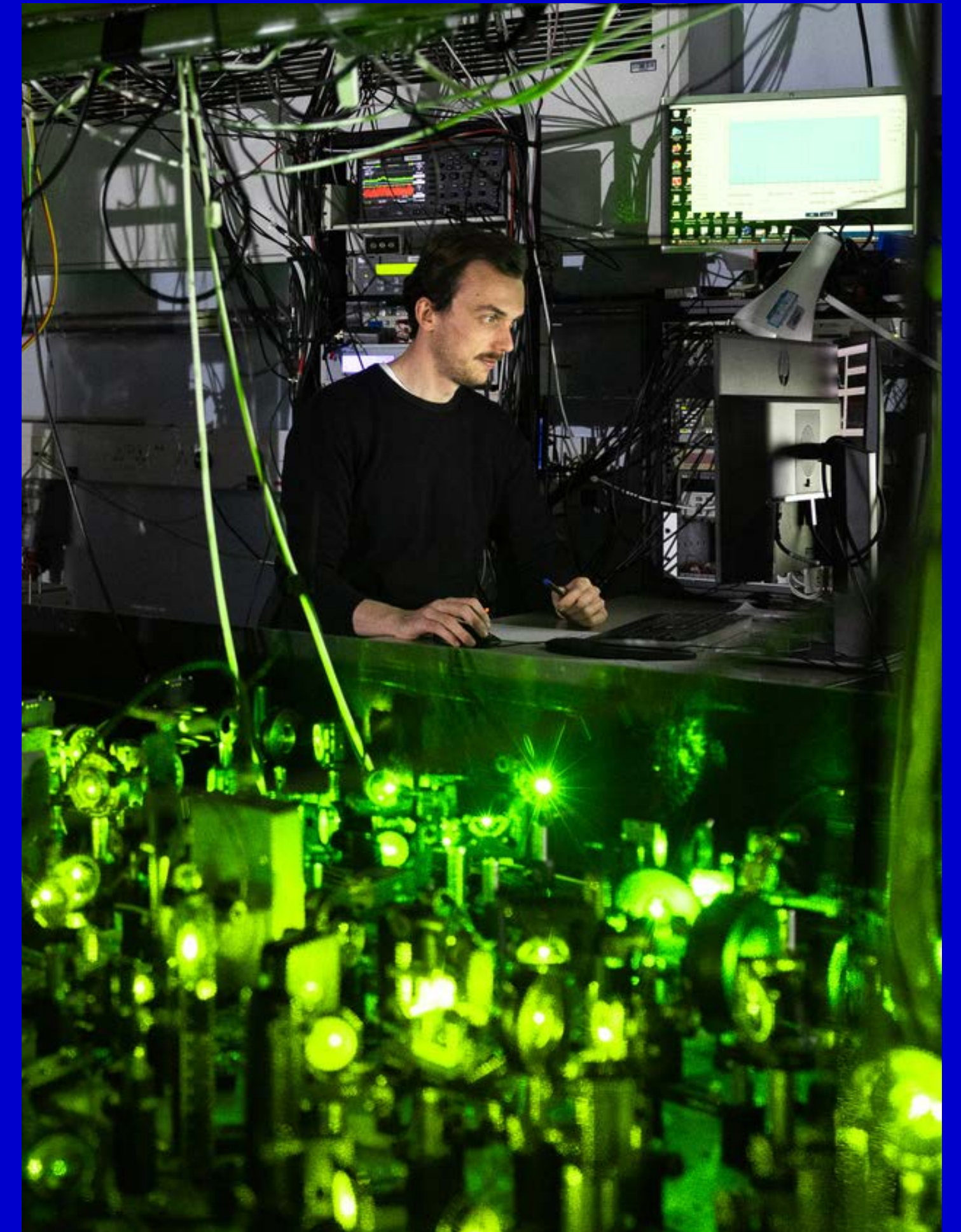
Benefits for Fellows

Fellows will gain access to Imperial's leading experts in AI and the domains in which it is already having a significant impact. They will have structured conversations, designed around the questions and challenges that they are encountering, test their thinking and gain new insights in a collaborative environment.

The in-person part of the programme will provide Fellows with a grounding in the research, policy and regulation questions about AI.

The types of projects that Fellows can develop are varied in form and scope, and could include:

- Co-designing strategic planning or technical-level solutions for policy challenges, including climate, healthcare and transport systems
- Piloting innovative or experimental applications for AI in the public sector, including potential new services and products
- Developing their leadership and insights to become AI leaders of the future
- Regulation and governance of AI both internationally and in the UK
- Improving systems and infrastructure for AI including data storage and management



Why Imperial?

Pioneering Expertise: Imperial College London is one of the world's best universities in engineering, mathematics, medicine, and science and a globally recognized leader in AI research and education, offering unparalleled access to cutting-edge knowledge and innovative practices in AI. The institution's faculty includes some of the world's foremost experts in foundational and applied AI research.

Tailored Programmes for Public Sector Needs: The AI Fellowship programme is highly tailored towards the Fellows' interests and needs, bringing in relevant expertise to provide insights the unique challenges and opportunities faced by public sector professionals. This alignment with governmental needs ensures practical, applicable insights for policy and service delivery.

Interdisciplinary Approach and Real-World Application Imperial's interdisciplinary approach integrates AI with public policy, ethics, and governance, providing a comprehensive understanding of AI's impact on public services. Participants benefit from real-world case studies and practical applications, enhancing their ability to implement AI solutions effectively within their departments.

I thought I had a reasonable understanding of AI before joining the Fellowship at Imperial, but the time I have spent with my mentor and the other professors has given me a significant boost in my knowledge. The Fellowship has given me a lot of really useful insight into how I can use different types of AI within my portfolio.

Senior Civil Servant, Home Office





Who should apply?

The scheme is for senior civil/public servants that are responsible for policy design/delivery in areas that are significantly impacted by AI, or are responsible for AI policy/strategy within their department.

Fellows will have to commit to 4 in-person days and to produce a written output at the end of the scheme, which could be a paper or a blog post.

Application process

Please complete the [Expression of Interest form](#) and return to the.forum@imperial.ac.uk by 2 December.

Successful applicants will be contacted by the Policy Forum team by 16 December to schedule an initial call to understand more about your goals for the programme, and to ensure that we can match you to an academic mentor.

[Download form](#)

Programme

Application

(November – December 2024)

Applicants will be provisionally matched to academic mentors based on their background, interests and proposed exploration areas. Successful applicants will be contacted by 16 December.

Onboarding

(January – February 2025)

Fellows will discuss project outline with Imperial Policy Forum team and be introduced to their mentors.

In-person workshop 1

(February 2025)

After this workshop, Fellows can choose to iterate or refine their proposed projects and agree with mentor and IPF team the end of project output (blog post, presentation, report etc.) Between the start and end of the programme, you are expected to have at least 5 catch-up meetings with your mentor to work through the project defined at the start of the programme.

In-person workshop 2

(April 2025)

In person workshop 3

(June 2025)

In person workshop 4

(October 2025)

As part of this session, Fellows will be expected to share the agreed output/outcome of the project.

Policy Fellowship Alumni

(post October 2025)

As part of our Fellows cohort, you will receive invitations to workshops and events held at Imperial and partner organisations.