

Impact of Science

A 3-day Conference on the Transformative Power of Research

AESIS

NETWORK FOR
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE



National
Research
Foundation



University of Cape Town
South Africa

23-25 June
2021



- IMPACT OF SCIENCE -

The credibility and legitimacy of science and the international scientific community have faced increasing battles under the troubling times of the past year. This crisis has shown light on the extended need for inclusive economic development, and effective assessment of what works and what doesn't. Thus, this year's **Impact of Science** conference will focus on **The Transformative Power of Research** and bring together science impact professionals to discuss how to evaluate and increase impact of science on our global society.

With these goals in mind there is no better place to host the conference from than South Africa. Rapidly developing, working on a national impact agenda and ways to shorten the research impact cycle, the National Research Council, universities, and many other stakeholders have been gaining skills and knowledge about how to use science for tackling problems such as the triple challenge. Initiatives for collaboration between the academic world, government, industry and society sprout from the ground, but there is still much to do. Therefore South Africa is the ideal host for our conference on the transformative power of research that will accelerate the solutions that science and society need.

This conference is featuring highly regarded and internationally recognized experts who will be discussing the contribution of their research to the quality of life and well-being. The conference expects over 300 participants from more than 30 countries. The entire event will be offered in a hybrid format to ensure that those who cannot participate in-person may do so remotely, and that those who wish to attend on-site may do so with safety measures in place.

Some of the themes that will be discussed:

- ◆ Advancing a research impact agenda for inclusive development
- ◆ Models, approaches for the development of a research impact agenda
- ◆ National impact evaluation frameworks, citizen-based monitoring of impact, demonstrating effectiveness of impact on the SDG's, The role of AI and Big Data
- ◆ Promoting coherence about impact within the science eco-system
- ◆ Collaboration & engagement for impact of science
- ◆ The road towards evidence- informed policy making

The AESIS Network has successfully organised the annual conference '**Impact of Science**' seven times, bringing together experts such as R&D evaluators, university managers, research councils, policy makers, funders, and other stakeholders of impact. The goal is sharing, evaluating, and discussing best practices around the world on: policy strategies for societal impact, creating (long-term) alliances between stakeholders; regional, national, and international instruments for evaluating and achieving impact; current issues on i.e. public engagement, evidence-based policy, interdisciplinary approaches, and, harmonising definitions and assumptions.

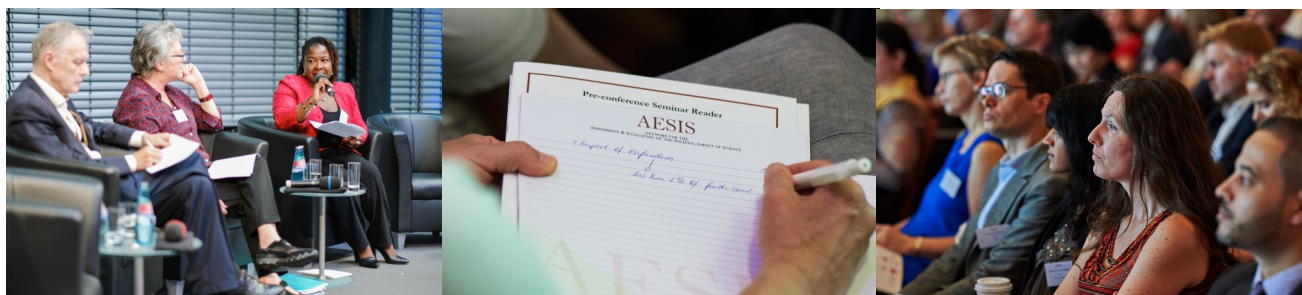
- IMPACT OF SCIENCE -

Programme Advisory Committee

Phethiwe Matutu	Group Executive of Strategy Planning & Partnerships, National Research Council, South Africa
Cheryl de la Rey	Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand
Sue Harrison	Director for the Centre of Bioprocess Engineering Research, University of Cape Town, South Africa
Ingrid van de Stadt	Regional Marketing Director, Elsevier, the Netherlands
Himla Soodyall <i>(to be confirmed)</i>	Secretary General of the Academy of Science of South Africa Council
Crain Soudien <i>(to be confirmed)</i>	Chief Executive Officer of the Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa
Harsha Dayal <i>(to be confirmed)</i>	Research Director at Department of Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation, South Africa

AESIS Advisory Board

Koenraad Debackere	General Manager at K.U. Leuven, Belgium
Beverley Damonse	Executive of Science Engagement and Corporate Relations, National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa
Luke Georghiou	Vice-President for Research and Innovation and Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom
Barend van der Meulen	Professor Institutional Aspects of (Higher) Education, Director CHEPS, Twente University, the Netherlands
Andrew Plume	Senior Director of Research Evaluation at Elsevier, United Kingdom
Susan Renoe	Assistant Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director of the NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society
Toby Smith	Vice President of Policy at the American Association of Universities, USA
David Sweeney	Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom
Paul Wouters	Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands



Wednesday 23 June 2021

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

9.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

10.00-10.30 WORDS OF WELCOME

- 10.00 Conference Chair:
Cheryl de la Rey* Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand
- 10.10 **Mamokgethi Phakeng** Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town
- 10.20 **Blade Nzimande** Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, South Africa

10.30-12.00 THE TRANSFORMATIVE NATURE AND ROLE OF SCIENCE IN SOCIETY

- 10.30 **David Sweeney*** Executive Chair, Research England
- 10.45 **Ismail Serageldin*** Founding Director of the New Library of Alexandria, Egypt
- 11.00 **CEO (tbd)** National Research Foundation
- 11.15 **Jonathan Jansen** President of Academy of Science, South Africa
- 11.30 Panel & Q&A

12.00-12.30 Break

12.30-13.45 ADVANCING A RESEARCH IMPACT AGENDA (FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT)

Research Infrastructures and Mega-science

Topic description

Session Chair

Riitta Maijala *

Vice President for Research
at the Academy of Finland

Zebulon Vilakazi*

Vice Chancellor of Wits

Enhancing Inclusive Economic Growth

Topic description

Session Chair

Diane Parker

Deputy Director General:
University Education at
Department of Higher Education
and Training, South Africa

Speaker 2

Transforming the Science System (*Roundtable*)

*Transforming the Fundamentals
of the Science System*

Derk Loorbach

Professor of Socio-economic
Transitions, Erasmus University
Rotterdam, Netherlands

Himla Soodyall *

Executive Officer of the
Academy of Science, South Africa

*Attendees may freely choose to
join any of the **Parallel Sessions
in RED**, which will contain 3
to 4 presentations and an
interactive discussion or Q&A*

*Please note that the
**Roundtable session in
PURPLE** accept only 20
participants (pre-registration is
advised)*

More sessions on the next page

*Confirmed

Wednesday 23 June 2021 (continued)

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

12.30-13.45 ADVANCING A RESEARCH IMPACT AGENDA (FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT) (continued)

Collectively Tackling Grand Challenges	Developing a Regional or National Impact Policy	Increasing Credibility of Science (<i>Roundtable</i>)	<p><i>Attendees may freely choose to join any of the Parallel Sessions in RED, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Please note that the Roundtable session in PURPLE accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)</i></p>
<p><i>Addressing sustainable development focusing on global change and pollution</i></p> <p>John Mugabe (<i>Chair</i>) Professor at the Graduate School of Technology Management and Research Associate III, University of Pretoria</p> <p>Lidia Brito Director of UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Sciences in Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Evelyn Namubiru-Mwaura Independent Consultant and Policy Advisor, Policy Innovation, Uganda & Former director of SEI Africa, Kenya</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Harsha Dayal (<i>Chair</i>) Research Director at Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, South Africa</p> <p>Tateo Arimoto* Deputy Director General, Center for Research and Development Strategy (CRDS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)</p> <p>Jesper W. Simonsen Executive Director at Research Council of Norway</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Crain Soudien Chief Executive Officer of the Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa</p> <p>Coordinator 2 (Coordinator 3)</p>	

13.45-14.30 Lunch break

14.30-15.45 METHODS AND STRATEGIES FOR STIMULATING SOCIETAL IMPACT

Training and Skills for Impact	Institutional Impact Strategy	Open Science	<p><i>Attendees may freely choose to join any of the Parallel Sessions in RED, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Please note that the Roundtable session in PURPLE accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)</i></p>
<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Speaker 1</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>(Speaker 3)</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Paul Boyle Vice-Chancellor of Swansea University</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>(Speaker 3)</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Paul Wouters Dean of Social Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, the Netherlands</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>(Speaker 3)</p>	

More sessions on the next page

Wednesday 23 June 2021 (continued)

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

14.30-15.45 METHODS AND STRATEGIES FOR STIMULATING SOCIETAL IMPACT (continued)

Entrepreneurship	Public Engagement	Co-Creation	
<i>Topic description</i>	<i>Topic description</i>	<i>Topic description</i>	<p><i>Attendees may freely choose to join any of the Parallel Sessions in RED, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Please note that the Roundtable session in PURPLE accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)</i></p>
Session Chair	Session Chair	Session Chair	
Speaker 1	Speaker 1	Speaker 1	
Speaker 2	Speaker 2	Speaker 2	
(Speaker 3)	(Speaker 3)	(Speaker 3)	

SOCIAL PROGRAMME



Thursday 24 June 2021

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

09.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

10.00-10.15 WORDS OF WELCOME

10.00 Cheryl de la Rey* Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury, New Zealand

10.15-11.45 MODELS, APPROACHES & LESSONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH IMPACT AGENDA

10.15 Chris Brink* Former Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University (UK) & Chair of the 2020 Research Assessment Exercise Group, University Grants Committee, Hong Kong

10.30 Wendy Lerner* President of the Royal Society Te Apārangi, New Zealand

10.45 Peter Strohschneider Former President of the German Research Foundation (DFG)

11.00 Speaker 4

11.15 Panel and Q&A

11.45-12.15 Break

12.15-13.30 RESEARCH IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNICATION: METHODOLOGIES

Assessment Beyond
Bibliometrics

National Impact Evaluation
Frameworks

Citizen-based monitoring of
Impact (*Roundtable*)

Topic description

Topic description

*Citizen-based ex ante and ex post
assessment of Impact*

Session Chair

Session Chair

Session Chair

Rasigan Maharajh
Node Head, Department of S&T
and NRF Centre of Excellence in
Scientometrics and S&T and
Innovation Policy, South Africa

Ashraf Bakr Al-Shareef
Consultant in Monitoring and
Evaluation (M&E) and the
institutionalization of Results-
Based Management (RBM), Egypt

Coordinator 2

(Coordinator 3)

Sean Newell
CEO of Interfolio: researchfish
UK

Representative NRF

(Speaker 3)

(Speaker 3)

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More sessions on the next page

Thursday 24 June 2021 (continued)

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

12.15-13.30 RESEARCH IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNICATION: METHODOLOGIES (continued)

Demonstrating Effectiveness of Impact on the SDG's	The Role of AI, Big data & other Technical Developments	Topic	
<i>Demonstrating Effectiveness of Impact: national development and SDG's</i>	<i>Topic description</i>	<i>Topic description</i>	<p><i>Attendees may freely choose to join any of the Parallel Sessions in RED, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Please note that the Roundtable sessions in PURPLE accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)</i></p>
Session Chair	Session Chair		
Speaker 2	Martin Szomszor Director at the Institute for Scientific Information, UK		
(Speaker 3)	Representative Elsevier, the Netherlands (Speaker 3)		

13.30-14.15 Lunch break

14.15-16.00 INTERACTIVE CLOSING DEBATE

14.15	<i>Representative</i>	<i>Elsevier</i>
14.35	AESIS	Presenting the Recommendations from parallel sessions
14.45	Closing panel	
		<i>At the start of the debate the audience can vote between 8 to 10 questions. The top 3 will be debated.</i>
	<u>Chair</u>	
	Cheryl de la Rey*	<i>Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury</i>
	<u>Panel members:</u>	
	Mlungisi Cele	Director Strategy and Planning of the Department of Science and Technology & Acting Chief Executive Officer of the National Advisory Council on Innovation
	Panelist 2	
	Panelist 3	
15.45	Closing remarks by Cheryl de la Rey	

16.00 End of the conference day followed by the Conference Dinner at 18.00

Friday 25 June 2021

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

09.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

10.00-10.15 WORDS OF WELCOME

10.00 Cheryl de la Rey

What did we achieve on the first days and how does it relate to the last day's programme?

10.15 PROMOTING COHERENCE ABOUT IMPACT WITHIN THE SCIENCE ECO-SYSTEM

10.15 **Juliet Gerrard*** Chief Science Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister, New Zealand

10.30 **Ernest Aryeetey** Secretary-General of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana

10.45 **Toby Smith** Vice President for Policy at the Association of American Universities, USA

11.00 Speaker 4

11.15 Panel and Q&A

11.45-12.15 Break

12.15-13.30 COLLABORATION (STRUCTURES) & ENGAGEMENT FOR IMPACT OF SCIENCE

Mass Media & Communication

Academic-Business Relations for Innovation

Addressing local community challenges (*Roundtable*)

The opportunities and challenges of (social) media as a bridge between science and society

Topic description

Topic description

Paul Manners (Chair)

Session Chair

Shadrack Moephuli

Founding Director of the National Co-ordinating Centre for public engagement, UK

Chief Executive Officer at Agricultural Research Council, South Africa

*Attendees may freely choose to join any of the **Parallel Sessions in RED**, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A*

Ger Hanley*

Founder Write Fund, Republic of Ireland

Thulani Dlamini

CEO of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa

Coordinator 2

(Coordinator 3)

*Please note that the Roundtable sessions in **PURPLE** accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)*

Dariusz Aksamit*

President of the Association of Science Advocates, Poland

Miranda Lou

Executive Vice-President of Hong Kong Polytechnic University

(Speaker 3)

(Speaker 3)

More sessions on the next page

*To be confirmed

Friday 25 June 2021 (continued)

Times in SA Time (GMT +2)

12.15-13.30 COLLABORATION (STRUCTURES) & ENGAGEMENT FOR IMPACT OF SCIENCE (Continued)

Building towards Evidence-Informed Policymaking	Sustainable Cross-border Cooperation	Transdisciplinary Approaches for Excellence (<i>Roundtable</i>)	
<p><i>Using evidence based decision making for policy development</i></p> <p>Session Chair</p> <p>Sibongile Muthwa Vice-Chancellor Nelson Mandela University, South Africa</p> <p>David Goldston Director of MIT Washington Office</p> <p>(Speaker 3)</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Session Chair</p> <p>Speaker 1</p> <p>Speaker 2</p> <p>(Speaker 3)</p>	<p><i>Topic description</i></p> <p>Coordinator 1</p> <p>Coordinator 2</p> <p>(Coordinator 3)</p>	<p><i>Attendees may freely choose to join any of the Parallel Sessions in RED, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Please note that the Roundtable sessions in PURPLE accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)</i></p>

13.30-14.15 Lunch break

14.15-16.15 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN SCIENCE SYSTEM, AND BEYOND

14.15 **Ranking the Recommendations**

14.45 **Audience - Remaining Questions and Debates**

15.00 **Closing panel**

Chair:

Cheryl de la Rey* Vice-Chancellor of the University of Canterbury

Panel members:

Beverley Damonse Group Executive: Science Engagement and Corporate Relations of the National Research Foundation, South Africa

Panelist 2

Panelist 3

Panelist 4

16.00 **Closing remarks**

16.15 **Closing reception**