

Societal Impact of Research

The international conference on policies, strategies, tools,
infrastructures and other approaches to successfully achieve and
support societal impact of scientific research

In collaboration with:



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University



RESEARCH
IMPACT
CANADA | RÉSEAU IMPACT
RECHERCHE
CANADA

iCRAG
SFI RESEARCH CENTRE
IN APPLIED GEOSCIENCES

Organised by

AESIS

26-28 June 2024

Dublin, Ireland

BACKGROUND

The need for science to tackle challenges our world faces is not a new phenomenon, but has increasingly grown on a global scale, with the world facing challenges such as economic disparity and inequality, environmental changes, societal struggles and geo-political unrest, just to name a few. Policymakers, businesses and other societal actors are often aware of the value of scientific data and knowledge to support them in overcoming challenges, but in many cases the interaction between these worlds is not structured, supported or stable enough. For the 12th time in a row, AESIS will be organising their annual conference on Societal Impact of Scientific Research to bring together stakeholders in- and outside of the science eco-system to engage with each other on the most effective approaches for implementing effective policies, strategies, methods and tools to optimise societal impact of science and evaluate success.

In 2024, AESIS will organise their annual, international conference in Dublin, Ireland. The conference expects around 250 participants from more than 30 countries, bringing together experts such as impact officers, other research enablers, R&D evaluators, university managers, research councils, policy makers, funders, (early career) researchers and other stakeholders of impact. We aim to focus on some key topics encompassing the Irish science eco-system (relevant globally too) such as: defining and integrating impact (of science, research and innovation, talent, and more), measuring and analysing impact, translating impact into policies, creating (long-term) alliances between regional, national and international stakeholders, and focusing on several good-practices of public engagement, recognition and investment. Ireland is going through some remarkable shifts and developments to ensure greater partnership between science and society, as well as greater strength and capacity of their research and innovation, which makes it an excellent host to bring together agents of change, catalyse these shifts to a global audience and help create an impact.

ABOUT AESIS

The Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS) is an international, open community for professionals working on stimulating and demonstrating the impact of science on economy, culture and well-being. Members come from all over the world, where they are involved in the evaluation of impact, research strategy and policy making, science funding, scientometrics, research administration, business creation, public engagement, and many more. We pursue a multi-stakeholder, system-wide approach on an international level, because we believe that stimulating dialogue between different sectors and regions, beyond the project level, will catalyse further development of effective instruments for evaluating and advancing the societal impact of science (including SSHA).

AESIS ADVISORY BOARD

Koenraad Debackere	Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors of KBC Group NV, Belgium
Genevieve Simpson	Director, Planning and Development, 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	Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director of the NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society, United States
Toby Smith	Vice President of Policy at the American Association of Universities, United States
David Sweeney	Former Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom
Paul Wouters	Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands

Wednesday, June 26

9.00-9.30	Walk-in & Registration	Village Balcony
	<p>You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served</p> <p>- University College Dublin -</p>	<p>The conference app is available and the helpdesk is open for any technical issues or support</p> <p>- Online platform -</p>
9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	Village Auditorium
9:30	Conference Chair: TBC	
9:40-10:55	Opening Plenary: Transforming Policies & Strategies	Village Auditorium
9.40	Speaker 1*	
	Topic: Societal Impact of Scientific Research from the Irish perspective	
9.55	Speaker 2*	
	Topic TBD*	
10.10	Speaker 3*	
	Topic TBD*	
10.25	Panel Discussion	
10.50	Introduction to the Good Practices of Impact	
11.00-11.40	Tea, Coffee & Photo Break	Village Balcony



*to be confirmed

Wednesday, June 26

11.40-12.55 PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

*Village &
Sutherland*

Integrating Impact in an Institutional Strategy

The quest for better societal impact should not be an add-on to the grounded workings of the scientific world, so how do we make it an integral part?

David Phipps (Chair)

Assistant Vice President, Research
Strategy & Impact, York University,
Canada

Áine Mhic Thaidhg

Research Impact Officer, University
of Galway, Ireland

Cameron Stockdale

President & CEO, Work Wellness
Institute, Canada

Open Science & Credibility in Society

How would having more access to scientific data and research affect scientific stakeholders' credibility and trust in science?

Speakers TBC*

Regional Collaboration & Development

How can policymakers, universities (of applied sciences and colleges), businesses and communities collaborate to work in the long-term?

Yuko Harayama (Chair)

Former Executive Director,
RIKEN, Japan

Indicators of Impact

Responsible metrics; methods & tools

Speakers TBC*

Workshop: TBC (Science & Policy*)

Topic Description

Esther de Smet*

Senior Research Policy Advisor, Ghent University,
Belgium

12.55-13.55

LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT STORIES

Village Balcony

During this lunch buffet you have the chance to view examples of how research made a positive impact to society, as well as visit the booths of partners who have made this conference possible.

*to be confirmed

Wednesday, June 26

13.55-15.25	INTERACTIVE PANEL	Village Auditorium
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13.55 Presentation of the recommendations from the parallel sessions

14.05 *After short presentations of our panelists on the topic of ‘**Incentivising for Impact**’, the debate will start and the audience can vote between 8 to 10 questions or statements that the panelists have brought forward in their presentation. The top 3 will be debated by the panel members:*

Speaker 1

David Phipps

Assistant Vice President, Research Strategy & Impact, York University,
Canada

Speaker 3*

Speaker 4*

15.15 Closing words from the Chair

15.25-15.55	REFRESHMENT BREAK	Village Balcony
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15.55-18.30	SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Pre-registration required)
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TBC*



18.30-21.00	DINNER (Pre-registration required)
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University Club Restaurant*

*to be confirmed



Thursday, June 27

9.00-9.30	Walk-in & Registration	Village Balcony
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9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	Village Auditorium
9.30	Conference Chair:	
	TBC	
9.40-10.50	Transforming Policies & Strategies	Village Auditorium
9.40	Speaker 1*	
	Topic	
9.55	Speaker 2*	
	Topic	
10.10	Rob Ashelford*	Head of Nesta Cymru, United Kingdom
	Topic	
10.25	Panel Discussion	
10.50-11.20	Tea & Coffee Break	Village Balcony

*to be confirmed



Thursday, June 27

11.40-12.55 PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village & Sutherland

Co-Creation & Citizen
Engagement

*Building on involvement and engagement to
improve trust*

Speakers TBC*

Cross-Border Collaboration

Topic Description

Speakers TBC*

Evidence Informed Policy
Making

*Informing policy is an important way to
have impact, but also difficult. How do we
improve?*

Rémi Quirion

President, International Network for
Government Science Advance,
Canada

Developing & Strengthening your Impact Profile

Topic Description

Eiríkur Smári Sigurðarso
Director of Research, School of Humanities, University of
Iceland, Iceland

Workshop: Impact through Business &
Entrepreneurship*

*How can researchers and their partners co-design impactful
projects and programmes?*

Irene Dal Poz*
Head of Impact Strategy, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

Hamish McAlpine*
Director and Lead for Policy & Engagement, Oxentia
Ltd, United Kingdom

12.55-13.55

LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT
STORIES

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*to be confirmed

Thursday, June 27

13.35-14.35	ROUNDTABLES SESSIONS	<i>Sutherland</i>
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Digital Transition	Health	Housing & Climate
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Topic Description

Topic Description

Topic Description

Speakers TBC*

Nico van Meeteren*
Executive Director & Secretary
General, TopSector Life Sciences and
Health, The Netherlands

Speakers TBC*

Documentary viewing (no preregistration required)

- *Village Auditorium* -

More details to follow soon

14.35-15.00	TEA & COFFEE BREAK	<i>Village Balcony</i>
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15.00-16.00	AESIS FAMILY FEUD & IMPACT DEBATE	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
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15.00 Presentations of the recommendations from the parallel and roundtable sessions

15.15 **The impact game show** - In this fun and insightful “family-feud” style session, two teams will compete to answer questions about the societal impact of social sciences, humanities and arts, with the winning team earning time between each round to debate and elaborate on these challenges within their own experiences.

Host **Anika Duut van Goor & Mark Mann***

Team #1 TBC*

Team #2 TBC*

16.00-16.30	REFRESHMENT BREAK	<i>Village Balcony</i>
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*to be confirmed

Thursday, June 27

16.30-17.30 SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Pre-registration required)

TBC*

18.00-20.30 CONFERENCE DINNER (Pre-registration required)

TBC*



*to be confirmed

Friday, June 28

9.00-9.30	Walk-in & Registration	<i>Village & Sutherland</i>
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9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
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9.30 Conference Chair:

TBC*

9.40-10.50	Plenary Opening: Interdisciplinarity	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
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9.40 **Rémi Quirion** President, International Network for Government Science Advance, Canada

Topic

9.55 **Yuko Harayama** Former Executive Director, RIKEN, Japan

Topic

10.10 **Nico van Meeteren*** Executive Director & Secretary General, TopSector Life Sciences and Health, The Netherlands

Topic: Impact of Science: +5, -30 and 1 out of 6

10.25 **Panel Discussion**

11.00-11.40	Tea & Coffee Break	<i>Village Balcony</i>
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*to be confirmed

Friday, June 28

11.40-12.55 PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village &

Entrepreneurship & Business
Engagement

Inclusive Impact

National & Institutional Impact
Policies

Topic Description

Topic Description

Rewards & recognition

Speakers TBC*

Ross Laurence

Strategic Support Lead, Manaaki
Whenua Landcare Research, New
Zealand

Speakers TBC*

Doctoral Education & Impact Training

Workshop: How to make your research (impact)
interesting – the power of storytelling

Topic Description

Learn how to get your message across and be memorable.

Speakers TBC*

Renira Narrandes*

Program Manager, Knowledge Translation, SickKids,
Canada

12.55-13.55 LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT

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*to be confirmed

Friday, June 28

13.55-15.25

CLOSING PLENARY: WHAT'S NEXT?

Village Auditorium

14.00 Presentation of the recommendations from all the parallel sessions

14.30 Panel with:

Speaker 1*

Speaker 2*

Speaker 3*

Speaker 4*

15.15 Closing remarks by the conference chair

15.30-16:00

CLOSING RECEPTION

Village Balcony

AESIS Raffle - Fill out our evaluation form & throw your badge into the raffle box to enter.
The winner will be announced at the end of the reception!

16:00

END OF CONFERENCE

*to be confirmed

