

# Societal Impact of Scientific 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:



International Network  
for Governmental  
Science Advice



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University



Trinity College Dublin  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

overton

RESEARCH  
IMPACT  
CANADA | RÉSEAU IMPACT  
RECHERCHE  
CANADA



Organised by  
**AESIS**

26-28 June 2024  
Dublin, Ireland

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

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.



Research managers  
& administrators



Evaluators



Research councils



Policymakers &  
Science funders



Researchers

## TARGET GROUPS

## 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).

# ADVISORY & ASSOCIATION

## AESIS Advisory Board

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<b>Koenraad Debackere</b>	Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors, KBC Group NV, Belgium
<b>Genevieve Simpson</b>	Director, Planning & Development, National Research Foundation, South Africa
<b>Luke Georghiou</b>	Vice-President, Research and Innovation and Professor of Science and Technology Policy, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
<b>Barend van der Meulen</b>	Professor Institutional Aspects of (Higher) Education, Director CHEPS, Twente University, The Netherlands
<b>Andrew Plume</b>	Senior Director, Research Evaluation, Elsevier, United Kingdom
<b>Susan Renoe</b>	Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director, NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society, United States of America
<b>Toby Smith</b>	Vice President of Policy, American Association of Universities, United States of America
<b>David Sweeney</b>	Former Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom
<b>Paul Wouters</b>	Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director, CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands

## Conference Programme Advisory Committee

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<b>Liam Cleere</b>	Senior Manager, Research Analytics & Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland
<b>Áine Mhic Thaidhg</b>	Research Impact Officer, University of Galway, Ireland
<b>Ger Hanley</b>	Founder of Write Fund & ITN Project Manager, Dublin, Ireland

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# Wednesday, June 26

9.00-9.30

Walk-in & Registration

*Village Balcony*



You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served

- *Village Balcony* -

The conference app is available and the helpdesk is open for any technical issues or support

- *Online platform* -



9.30-9.40

Words of Welcome

*Village Auditorium*

9.30

Conference Chair\*

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

**Elizabeth Gadd**

Vice Chair, CoARA, United Kingdom

Topic TBD\*

10.10

**Mary-Jane Bopape**

Managing Director at the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), NRF, South Africa

Topic TBD\*

10.25

Panel discussion and Q&A

10.50

Good practices of Impact presentations

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?*

### David Sweeney (Chair)

Former Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom

### Jessica Meijer

Head, Innovation & Business Development, Leiden University, Netherlands

### Erika Lilja\*

Senior Science Advisor, Research Council of Finland, Finland

## Cross-Border Collaboration

*Many societal challenges are not bound to borders, and need knowledge, insights, and actions on a larger scale. So how do we strengthen cross-border collaboration?*

### Dr. S.K. Varshney\*

Head, International Scientific Cooperation division Department of S&T, India

### Additional Speakers TBD\*

## Indicators of Impact

*Monitoring & demonstrating impact, responsible metrics, methods & tools*

### Claire Donovan (Chair)

Professor of Higher Education, Associate Head (Research & Knowledge Exchange) School of Education, University of Greenwich, United Kingdom

### Ross Laurence

Strategic Support Lead, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, New Zealand

### Frank Zwetsloot

Founder & CEO, ScienceWorks, The Netherlands

### Liam Cleere

Senior Manager, Research Analytics & Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland

## Workshop: Impact through Business & Entrepreneurship\*

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

### Franziska Guenther

Consultant, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

### Britta C Wyatt

Managing Consultant, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

\*to be confirmed

## Wednesday, June 26

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.

13.55-15.25

**INTERACTIVE PANEL**

*Village Auditorium*

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:*

**Dipti Pandya** Chair, European Association of Research Managers and Administrators, Ireland

**David Phipps** Assistant Vice President, Research Strategy & Impact, York University, Canada

**Panelist 3\***

**Panelist 4\***

15.15 **Closing words from the Chair**

15.25-15.55

**REFRESHMENT BREAK**

*Village Balcony*

15.55-17.30

**SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Pre-registration required)**

**TBC\***

18.30-21.00

**DINNER (Pre-registration required)**

**University Club Restaurant\***

\*to be confirmed

# Thursday, June 27

9.00-9.30	Walk-in & Registration	Village Balcony
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- Village Balcony -

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- Online platform -



9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	Village Auditorium
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9.30 Conference Chair\*

9.40-10.55	Opening Plenary: Integrated approaches to a supportive and inclusive impact culture & infrastructure	Village Auditorium
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9.40 **Ellen Hazelkorn** Former Policy Advisor and Board Member, Higher Education Authority, Ireland

Topic TBD\*

9.55 **Kamran Robert Kardan\*** Founder and CEO, Knowledge E, United Arab Emirates

Topic TBD\*

10.10 **Sean Newell\*** Senior Director Strategic Business Development, Elsevier, United Kingdom

**Topic:** Revolutionising Impact Culture: An Integrated and standardised approach to impact Using AI and Innovative Measurement Tools

10.25 **Panel Discussion**

11.00-11.20	Tea & Coffee Break	Village Balcony
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\*to be confirmed

# Thursday, June 27

11.40-12.55

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village &  
Sutherland

## Co-Creation & Citizen Engagement

*Building on involvement and engagement for societal impact while respecting communities and building trust*

**Chair TBD\***

### Jack Spaapen

Former senior policy advisor to the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Netherlands

### Tadhg Caffrey

Interim Head of Impact, UCL, United Kingdom

### Avril Kennan

CEO, HRCI, Ireland

## 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)

Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, Japan

### Thijs van Schijndel\*

Innovation Advisor to the Chief Science Officer, Municipality of Amsterdam, Netherlands

### Kathryn Graham

Executive Director, Impact Action Lab at Alberta Innovates, Canada

**Additional speakers TBD\***

## Evidence Informed Policy Making

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

### Rémi Quirion (Chair)

President, International Network for Government Science Advance, Canada

### David Bennett

Research Impact Officer, University College Dublin, Ireland

### Jaime Gomez-Ramirez

Scientific Policy Adviser, European Research Council Executive Agency, Belgium

### Rose Msiza

Director of Research Support, Department of Science and

## Developing & Strengthening your Impact Profile

*How do you capture impact on an institutional or project level, demonstrate and analyse it, and with that improve*

### Julie Bayley (Chair)

Director of Research Impact Development, University of Lincoln, United Kingdom

### Eiríkur Smári Sigurðarson

Director of Research, School of Humanities, University of Iceland, Iceland

### Wilfred Mijnhardt\*

Policy Director at RSM, Erasmus University, Netherlands

### & Margo Strijbosch\*

Director of Erasmus Research Services, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

## Workshop: Impact Clinic

*Join this safe space for open exchange on challenges faced by impact agents in the hopes of providing community support and peer advice based on our joint experience and expertise*

### Esther de Smet

Senior Research Policy Advisor, Ghent University, Belgium

### Giovanna Lima

Project Officer, Impact and Recognition & Rewards, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

### Áine Mhic Thaidhg

Research Impact Officer, University of Galway, Ireland

\*to be confirmed



# Thursday, June 27

12.55-13.55

**LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT STORIES**

*Village Balcony*

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13.35-14.35

**ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS - Tackling Societal Challenges**

*Sutherland*

*During the roundtable sessions all attendees engage in conversation on specific societal challenges and how science can help bring about change. What initiatives and structures already exist, how can they be improved and what is missing?*

**Digital Transition**

**Health**

**Housing**

**Climate**

**Speakers TBC\***

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

**Michelle Norris\***  
Director of the Geary  
Institute for Public Policy,  
UCD, Ireland

**Ciara Beausang**  
Anaerobic Digestion  
Research Officer, Teagasc,  
Ireland

**Eddy Nason**  
Director Health,  
Conference Board of  
Canada, Canada

**Workshop: Science Communication Improv\***

*- Village Auditorium -*

*Topic Description*

**Fergus McAuliffe\***

Education, Public Engagement & Communications Manager, iCrag, University College Dublin, Ireland

14.35-15.00

**TEA & COFFEE BREAK**

*Village Balcony*



\*to be confirmed

# Thursday, June 27

15.00-16.00

**AESIS FAMILY FEUD & IMPACT DEBATE**

*Village Auditorium*

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.

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

Team #1 **Eddy Nason** *Additional Participants TBC\**

Team #2 **Claire Donovan \*** *Additional Participants TBC\**

16.00-16.30

**REFRESHMENT BREAK**

*Village Balcony*

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 Balcony</i>
9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
9.30	Conference Chair*	
9.40-10.50	Plenary Opening: Building a stronger infrastructure between science and societal stakeholders	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
9.40	<p><b>Rémi Quirion</b>                      President, International Network for Government Science Advance, Canada</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> The Science-Politics- Society Triangle: Learning the language(s) of the others</p>	
9.55	<p><b>Yuko Harayama</b>                      Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, Japan</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> Soft infrastructure supporting collaboration among stakeholders of science</p>	
10.10	<p><b>Nico van Meeteren</b>                      Executive Director &amp; Secretary General, TopSector Life Sciences and Health, The Netherlands</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> Continuation of success</p>	
10.25	Panel Discussion	
11.00-11.40	Tea & Coffee Break	



\*to be confirmed

## Friday, June 28

11.40-12.55

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

*Village &  
Sutherland*

### Entrepreneurship & Business Engagement

*Opportunities in creating impact through collaboration with businesses (including SME's) or business development*

**Chair TBD\***

**Mark Mann**

Managing Director, Mark Mann OÜ,  
United Kingdom

**Additional Speaker TBD\***

### Inclusive Impact & Ethics

*Not only the science eco-system should be more diverse & inclusive, also the impact its research has. How do we engage societal partners ethically and avoid 'grim-pact' on communities?*

**Chair TBD\***

**Ross Laurence**

Strategic Support Lead, Manaaki  
Whenua Landcare Research, New  
Zealand

**Sarah Anne Buckley**

Vice Dean for Equality, Diversity,  
Inclusion and Staff Development  
CASSCS, University of Galway, Ireland

**Additional Speaker TBD\***

### National & Institutional Impact Policies

*Rewards & recognition*

**Kathryn Graham (Chair)**

Executive Director, Impact Action  
Lab at Alberta Innovates, Canada

**Giovanna Lima**

Project Officer, Impact and  
Recognition & Rewards, Erasmus  
University Rotterdam, The  
Netherlands

**Euan Adie**

CEO, Overton, United Kingdom

### Doctoral Education & Impact Training

*Which skills and training are needed to aid researchers and staff in optimising societal impact, and how can alumni accelerate science-society bonds.*

**Hannah Schoch (Chair)**

Secretary, European Council of Doctoral Candidates and  
Junior Researchers (Eurodoc), Switzerland

**Pascale Ropars**

Knowledge Mobilization Advisor, Sentinel North  
Université Laval, Canada

**Igor Campillo**

Director, Euskampus Fundazioa, Spain

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

*Learn how to get your message across and be memorable.*

**Renira Narrandes**

Program Manager, Knowledge Translation, SickKids,  
Canada

12.55-13.55

LUNCH BREAK + GOOD PRACTICES OF SOCIETAL IMPACT  
STORIES

*Village Balcony*

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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:

**Liam Cleere**

Senior Manager, Research Analytics & Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland

**Panelist 2\***

**Panelist 3\***

**David Budtz Pedersen\***

Professor of Science Communication & Impact Studies, Humanomics Research Centre, Aalborg University, Denmark

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

