

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



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

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Koenraad Debackere | Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors, KBC Group NV, Belgium |
| Genevieve Simpson | Director, Planning & Development, National Research Foundation, South Africa |
| Luke Georghiou | Vice-President, Research and Innovation and Professor of Science and Technology Policy, 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, Research Evaluation, Elsevier, United Kingdom |
| Susan Renoe | Associate Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director, NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society, United States of America |
| Toby Smith | Vice President of Policy, American Association of Universities, United States of America |
| David Sweeney | Former Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom |
| Paul Wouters | Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director, CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands |

Conference Programme Advisory Committee

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

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

Open Science & Credibility in Society

Cross-Border Collaboration

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

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

*Additional speakers TBD**

Topic Description

Lidia Borrell Damien (Chair)*
Secretary General, Science Europe, Belgium

Speakers TBD*

Indicators of Impact

Workshop: Impact through Business & Entrepreneurship*

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

*Additional speakers TBD**

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

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 |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|

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

**Lidia Borrell
Damien*** Secretary General, Science Europe, Belgium

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 |
|  | <p>You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served</p> <p>- Village Balcony -</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* | |
| 9.40-10.55 | Opening Plenary: Integrated approaches to a supportive and inclusive impact culture & infrastructure | Village Auditorium |
| 9.40 | Ellen Hazelkorn | Professor emerita, Technological University Dublin, Ireland |
| | Topic TBD* | |
| 9.55 | Kamran Robert Kardan* | Founder and CEO, Knowledge E, United Arab Emirates |
| | Topic TBD* | |
| 10.10 | Speaker 3* | |
| | Topic TBD* | |
| 10.25 | Panel Discussion | |
| 11.00-11.20 | Tea & Coffee Break | Village Balcony |

*to be confirmed



Thursday, June 27

11.40-12.55

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village & Sutherland

Co-Creation & Citizen Engagement

Regional Collaboration & Development

Evidence Informed Policy Making

Building on involvement and engagement to improve 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

Additional speakers TBD*

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, Geemente Amsterdam, Netherlands

Kathryn Graham*

Executive Director, Impact Action Lab at Alberta Innovates, Canada

Additional speakers TBD*

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

Additional speakers TBD*

Developing & Strengthening your Impact Profile

Workshop: Impact Clinic

Topic Description

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

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

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

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.

Thursday, June 27

| | | |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| 13.35-14.35 | ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS - Tackling Societal Challenges | <i>Sutherland</i> |
|-------------|---|-------------------|

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Digital Transition | Health | Housing | Climate |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|

Topic Description

Speakers TBC*

Topic Description

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

Topic Description

Speakers TBC*

Topic Description

Ciara Beausang
Anaerobic Digestion
Research Officer, Teagasc,
Ireland

Eddy Nason
Former Director of
Strategic Impact and
Evaluation, Genome
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 | <i>Village Balcony</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|

| | | |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| 15.00-16.00 | AESIS FAMILY FEUD & IMPACT DEBATE | <i>Village Auditorium</i> |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|

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 | <i>Village Balcony</i> |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|

*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>Rémi Quirion 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>Yuko Harayama Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, Japan</p> <p><i>Topic:</i> Soft infrastructure supporting collaboration among stakeholders of science</p> | |
| 10.10 | <p>Nico van Meeteren Executive Director & 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**

Inclusive Impact & Ethics

**National & Institutional Impact
Policies**

Topic Description

Chair TBD*

Mark Mann

Managing Director, Mark Mann OÜ,
United Kingdom

Additional Speaker TBD*

Topic Description

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*

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

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

Topic Description

Learn how to get your message across and be memorable.

Pil Maria Saugmann (Chair)*

Vice President, European Council of Doctoral Candidates
and Junior Researchers (Eurodoc), Sweden

Pascale Ropars

Knowledge Mobilization Advisor, Sentinel North
Université Laval, Canada

Additional Speaker TBD*

Renira Narrandes

Program Manager, Knowledge Translation, SickKids,
Canada

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

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:

Panelist 1*

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

