

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

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	<i>Village Balcony</i>
	<p>You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served</p> <p>- <i>Village Balcony</i> -</p>	<p>The conference app is available and the helpdesk is open for any technical issues or support</p> <p>- <i>Online platform</i> -</p> 
9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
9.30	Conference Chair*	
9.40-10.55	Opening Plenary: Transforming Policies & Strategies	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
9.40	Speaker 1*	
	<i>Topic:</i> 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	<i>Village Balcony</i>
		

*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	<i>Village Balcony</i>
	<p>You are welcomed at the entrance and coffee and tea are served</p> <p>- <i>Village Balcony</i> -</p>	<p>The conference app is available and the helpdesk is open for any technical issues or support</p> <p>- <i>Online platform</i> -</p> 
9.30-9.40	Words of Welcome	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
9.30	Conference Chair*	
9.40-10.55	Opening Plenary: Integrated approaches to a supportive and inclusive impact culture & infrastructure	<i>Village Auditorium</i>
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	<i>Village Balcony</i>
		

*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

Emma Dorris (Chair)

Programme Manager, PPI Ignite at
UCD, Ireland

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?

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
Technology, South Africa

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

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.

13.35-14.35

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 *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	Rémi Quirion President, International Network for Government Science Advance, Canada <i>Topic:</i> The Science-Politics- Society Triangle: Learning the language(s) of the others	
9.55	Yuko Harayama Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, Japan <i>Topic:</i> Soft infrastructure supporting collaboration among stakeholders of science	
10.10	Nico van Meeteren Executive Director & Secretary General, TopSector Life Sciences and Health, The Netherlands <i>Topic:</i> Continuation of success	
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	
<i>Opportunities in creating impact through collaboration with businesses (including SME's) or business development</i>		<i>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?</i>		<i>Rewards & recognition</i>	
Chair TBD*		Mary-Jane Bopape (Chair)		Kathryn Graham (Chair)	
Mark Mann Managing Director, Mark Mann OÜ, United Kingdom		Managing Director at the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), NRF, South Africa		Executive Director, Impact Action Lab at Alberta Innovates, Canada	
Michael Golden Education and Public Engagement Manager, I-Form, Ireland		Ross Laurence Strategic Support Lead, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, New Zealand		Giovanna Lima Project Officer, Impact and Recognition & Rewards, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands	
Additional Speaker TBD*		Sarah Anne Buckley Vice Dean for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Staff Development CASSCS, University of Galway, Ireland		Euan Adie CEO, Overton, United Kingdom	
Doctoral Education & Impact Training		Workshop: How to make your research (impact) interesting – the power of storytelling			
<i>Which skills and training are needed to aid researchers and staff in optimising societal impact, and how can alumni accelerate science-society bonds.</i>		<i>Learn how to get your message across and be memorable.</i>			
Hannah Schoch (Chair) Secretary, European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (Eurodoc), Switzerland		Renira Narrandes Program Manager, Knowledge Translation, SickKids, Canada			
Pascale Ropars Knowledge Mobilization Advisor, Sentinel North Université Laval, Canada					
Igor Campillo Director, Euskampus Fundazioa, Spain					
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,

S.K. Varshney*

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

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

