

# Societal Impact of Science

The annual conference on stimulating and monitoring  
societal impact of science (including AHSS)  
in collaboration (tbc) with:



International Development Research Centre  
Centre de recherches pour le développement international



National Research Council Canada

Conseil national de recherches Canada



FEDERATION FOR THE  
HUMANITIES AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

FÉDÉRATION  
DES SCIENCES  
HUMAINES

by  
AESIS

19 - 21 June 2023  
Halifax, Canada

## 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 pandemics, environmental changes and societal struggles. Policymakers, businesses and other societal actors are increasingly aware of the value of scientific data and knowledge to support them in overcoming challenges, but in many cases the interaction between worlds is not structured or stable enough. For the 11th time in a row AESIS will be organising their annual conference on Societal Impact of Science, to bring together stakeholders in- and outside of the science eco-system to engage with each other on the most effective approaches for implementing policies, strategies, methods and tools to optimise societal impact of science and evaluate success.

In 2023 the international conference will be hosted in Halifax, Canada. This conference will feature highly regarded and internationally recognised experts who will be discussing the contribution of research to the quality of life and well-being. The conference expects over 250 participants from more than 30 countries, 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. We are very excited to be working with our colleagues in Canada and elsewhere in the world to create the most valuable programme and experience for all of you who would like to learn about and contribute to science transforming the world.

## Main themes



Demonstrating and evaluating  
societal impact of science



Most prominent obstacles for  
improving societal impact of science



Collaboration between science  
and society for greater impact



Transforming policies and  
strategies for impact



Building stronger structures for  
knowledge exchange and collaboration  
in science eco-systems for improved  
societal 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.