

AESIS

NETWORK FOR
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

Digital Transformation, AI and Societal Impact

The international online conference bridging the gap
between digital innovation and societal needs.

23-24 April 2024

Online Conference

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

In an era defined by rapid technological advancements, digital transformation and artificial intelligence are reshaping industries, societies, and the very fabric of human interaction. At AESIS, we believe that digital transformation and AI can offer our network new tools and strategies to advance, evaluate, and communicate the societal impact of science. Therefore, we decided to organise our first online conference on **‘Digital Transformation, AI & Societal Impact’** to gather relevant impact stakeholders and explore the potential impact of digital innovations on our work.

This 2-days online conference will focus on two main themes: the role of digital transformation and AI in advancing and evaluating the societal impact of science; and, the role of science in advocating and supporting the development of ethical and impactful digital innovations. The conference is meant for research managers, administrators, evaluators, policy makers, funders, entrepreneurs, publishers, NGO’s, media and all those that have an interest in understanding how digital transformation can enhance the societal impact of science, and how science can improve the societal impact of digital transformation.

During this conference you will have the opportunity to discuss best practices and exchange experiences to develop strategies, policies, and methods to ensure that AI is harnessed to address global challenges and positively impact society.

Come join this conference full of presentations, workshops, round tables, and interactive sessions, meet your peers from all over the world to learn and discuss how Digital Transformation and AI can accelerate your work in the field of societal impact of Sciences. We look forward to seeing you online!



Research managers
& administrators

TARGET



Policymakers &
Science funders



KE professionals, and
other interested profes-
sionals in science and
society

GROUPS



Evaluators



Researchers

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.

ADVISORY & ASSOCIATION

AESIS Advisory Board

Koenraad Debackere	Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors, KBC Group NV, Belgium
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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

Conference Tracks



The role of digital transformation and AI in advancing and evaluating the societal impact of science



The role of science in advocating and supporting the development of ethical and impactful digital innovations

Wednesday 23 April



CONNECTION TO THE ONLINE CONFERENCE

OPENING PLENARY

AI in Society: Risks and Opportunities

COFFEE & TEA BREAK

Ethics, Risks & Challenges

Discussing the ethical concerns of integrating AI for advancing and evaluating the societal impact of science

Evidence-Informed Policy Making

Discovering how researchers and scientists can contribute to developing AI for societal impact

Digital Tools for Evaluating, Demonstrating & Monitoring Impact

Discovering how to harness the power of AI to enhance processes to evaluate, demonstrate, and monitor societal impact of science

BREAK

CLOSING PLENARY

After short presentations of our panelists, 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.



Thursday, 24 April



WALK IN & REGISTRATION

OPENING PLENARY

COFFEE & TEA BREAK

Global Challenges & Inequalities

Exploring how AI can help us to address the challenges society is confronted with

**Digital Tools & Methods for
Communicating with Society**

Exploring the variety of digital tools and methods available for communicating science to the society

**Tools and What it means for
Researchers**

Discussing how digital transformation and AI will affect the work of researchers

BREAK

CLOSING PLENARY

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