

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



enriching | engaging | empowering



Advanced Manufacturing
Research Centre



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



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UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

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RESEARCH
IMPACT
CANADA | RÉSEAU IMPACT
RECHERCHE
CANADA



Fonds
de recherche
Québec

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.

AUDIENCE



Research managers
& administrators



Evaluators



Research councils



Policymakers &
Science funders



Researchers

AESIS

NETWORK FOR
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

ABOUT AESIS

The Organisation 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
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

LOCATION

Dublin, Ireland

Dublin, capital city of Ireland is located on the east coast in the province of Leinster. River Liffey divides the city between north and south and the O'Connell's bridge connects the two. The name 'Dublin' comes from an Old Irish Gaelic phrase 'Dubh linn' that translates to "Black Pool". Dublin has the most sunshine in May and June, averaging a total of 4 hours a day, making the conference take place at the ideal time. When visiting Dublin make sure to pass by; Dublin Castle, St Patricks' Cathedral , Phoenix Park, and any of the 750 pubs the city has.

VENUE



Sutherland & Village - University College Dublin

The Village Center functions as our main venue, where you can find the registration desk along with catering during the conference. Each day the plenary sessions will be held there, while some of the parallel sessions will be held in the Sutherland building.

The two buildings are within 2-5 min walking distance from each other, so can easily be moved between when transitioning to different sessions throughout the day.

DIRECTIONS

Getting to the UCD Campus from Dublin Airport

By public transport (1hr - 1hr 15 min): There are a number of Express buses that can be taken to Dublin city centre Aston Quay, O'Connell Bridge stop, where the bus 39A can then be taken from D'Olier Street to UCD.

By taxi (30 - 40 min): You can get a taxi from outside the airport or use the app 'freenow' to drive you to your destination.



Getting to the UCD Campus | Luas/ Dublin bus from Dublin City Centre

By public transport (30 - 45 min): From Dublin city centre at the D'Olier Street stop, the bus 39A can then be taken directly to the UCD campus.

By taxi (25 - 30 min): You can get a taxi by hailing one on the street, using the app 'freenow', or calling one of many taxi companies in the city (prices may vary).

PROGRAMME FORMAT

The three-day programme (detailed in the following pages) includes several types of sessions as well as three “tracks” running through the days to help you choose the relevant elements for your work and get the most out of the conference. To help you decide, we describe the types of formats and tracks below:

Roundtable sessions	At the beginning of the session, the roundtable coordinators will introduce the topic and the discussion points, after which the whole group participates in the hour long conversation, sharing insights and experiences.	Pre-registration required, maximum 25 attendees
Workshops	The workshops offer a more practical experience to specific skills in order to improve and/demonstrate impact. The trainers offer a taste of possible hands-on learnings and potential follow up after the conference.	Pre-registration required, maximum 20 attendees
Other parallel sessions	Most other parallel sessions will include several presentations from different perspectives, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A. Although this is the original format that has been suggested to speakers, some might surprise you...	No limited number of attendees. Also accessible to online participants
Plenary sessions	The plenary sessions are all different from each other in topics and/or formats, but all of them allow for input and questions from the audience. Don't forget to have your phone with the conference app on standby. You will need it!	No limited number of attendees. Also accessible to online participants



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

Anika Duut van Goor

Director of AESIS

9.40-10.55

Opening Plenary: Transforming Policies & Strategies

Village Auditorium

9.40

Kate Robson Brown

Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland

Topic: Societal Impact of Scientific Research from an Ireland perspective

9.55

Elizabeth Gadd

Vice Chair, CoARA, United Kingdom

Topic: Reforms in assessment of societal impact of research

10.10

Mary-Jane Bopape

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

Topic: NRF-SAEON, implementing three research infrastructures of South Africa's RI roadmap and impacts on the ground.

10.25

Panel discussion and Q&A

10.50

Good practices of Impact presentations

11.00-11.40

Tea, Coffee & Photo Break

Village Balcony



Wednesday, June 26

11.40-12.55

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village & Sutherland

Workshop: Impact through Business & Entrepreneurship

How can researchers and their partners use tools from the entrepreneurship community, to co-design impactful projects and programmes?

Franziska Guenther

Consultant, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

Britta C Wyatt

Managing Consultant, Oxentia Ltd, United Kingdom

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

Indicators of Impact

- Village Auditorium -

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

Frank Zwetsloot

Founder & CEO, ScienceWorks, The Netherlands

Ross Laurence

Strategic Support Lead, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, New Zealand

Liam Cleere

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

Integrating Impact in an Institutional Strategy

- L248 -

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

12.55-13.55

LUNCH BREAK

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.

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:*

Ger Hanley (Chair) Founder of Write Fund & ITN Project Manager, Dublin, Ireland

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

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

Kate Morris Head of Engaged Research, Innovation and Societal Impact, Irish Universities Association, Ireland

15.15 **Closing words from the session Chair**

15.25-15.55

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Village Balcony

15.55-17.30

SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Pre-registration required)

UCD Campus Tour - starting at the village at 16.00

Find out more about the rich history of UCD as a university on this campus tour led by UCD’s own student guides. Designed to introduce you to the innovatory buildings, art, heritage, and nature across the Belfield campus, this walking tour will take about 90 minutes in groups of 10-12 participants.



18.30-21.00

DINNER (Pre-registration required)



Ashton’s Gastropub - 11 Vergemount, Bóthar Chluain Sceach, Rathmines, Clonskeagh, Dublin, Ireland

Ashton’s Gastropub is a well know local pub on Dublin’s southside, boasting outstanding event spaces, with high quality service. The pub itself dates back to the 1980’s, overlooking the Dodder River from its terrace. They serve dishes catered to all with a menu which highlights the season’s produce, with pub classics and more.

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	Chair: Liam Cleere	Senior Manager, Research Analytics & Impact, University College Dublin, Ireland
9.40-11.00	Opening Plenary: Integrated approaches to a supportive and inclusive impact culture & infrastructure	Village Auditorium
9.40	Ellen Hazelkorn	Joint Managing Partner, BH Associates education consultants, Professor Emeritus, Technological University Dublin, and Joint Editor, Policy Reviews in Higher Education, Ireland
		<i>Topic: Why Societal Impact Matters and What It Means for Research and Researchers</i>
9.55	Kamran R. Kardan	Founder and CEO, Knowledge E, United Arab Emirates
		<i>Topic: Making small steps towards bigger impact: the snowball effect</i>
10.10	Sean Newell	Senior Director Strategic Business Development, Elsevier, United Kingdom
		<i>Topic: Revolutionising Impact Culture: An Integrated and standardised approach to impact Using AI and Innovative Measurement Tools</i>
10.25	Panel Discussion	
11.00-11.30	Tea & Coffee Break	Village Balcony



11.30-12.45

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village & Sutherland

Co-Creation & Citizen Engagement

- L247 -

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

Workshop: Impact Clinic

- L249 -

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

Áine Mhic Thaidhg

Research Impact Officer, University of Galway, Ireland

Giovanna Lima

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

Regional Collaboration & Development

- L248 -

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

Rick Delbridge

Special Advisor for R&I, Learned Society of Wales, United Kingdom

Kathryn Graham

Executive Director, Impact Action Lab at Alberta Innovates, Canada

Developing & Strengthening your Impact Profile

- L246 -

Developing Impact requires the individual and collective efforts of people, institutions and the wider sector. How can we boost impact profiles within and across our institutions, in the emerging HE adversity context?

Julie Bayley (Chair)

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

Luciana Lolich

Research Impact Officer, School of Nursing & Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Wilfred Mijnhardt

Policy Director at RSM, Erasmus University, Netherlands

& Margo Strijbosch

Director of Erasmus Research Services, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

Evidence Informed Policy Making

- Village Auditorium -

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

Rose Msiza (Chair)

Director of Research Support, Department of Science and Technology, South Africa

David Bennett

Policy Engagement Project Manager, University College Dublin, Ireland

Jaime Gomez-Ramirez

Scientific Policy Adviser, European Research Council Executive Agency, Belgium

Thursday, June 27

12.45-13.30

LUNCH BREAK

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.

13.30-14.30

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

- L247 -

Health

- L248 -

Climate

- L246 -

Rick Delbridge

Special Advisor for R&I, Learned Society of Wales, United Kingdom

Angela McGuire

Research Analyst, Elsevier, United Kingdom

Lai Ma

Assistant Professor School of Information and Communication Studies, UCD, Ireland

Nico van Meeteren

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

Colette Kelly

Professor of Health Promotion, University of Galway, Ireland

Ciara Beausang

Anaerobic Digestion Research Officer, Teagasc, Ireland

Eddy Nason

Director Health, Conference Board of Canada, Canada

Workshop: Science Communication Improv

- Village Auditorium -

Making use of established techniques from the world of theatre and improvisation, this session will enable participants to make genuine connection with their audience. In this way, science communication becomes more than just the transmission of information, it influences audiences on a much deeper level. And it's fun!

Fergus McAuliffe

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

14.30-14.45

Transition between sessions



Thursday, June 27

14.45-15.45

AESIS FAMILY FEUD & IMPACT DEBATE

Village Auditorium

14.45 **Presentations of the recommendations from the parallel and roundtable sessions**

15.00 **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 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, Kamran Kardan, Claire Donovan

Team #2 Jack Spaapen, Sarah-Anne Buckley, Cameron Stockdale

15.45-16.15

REFRESHMENT BREAK

Village Balcony

16.15-17.30

SOCIAL PROGRAMME (Pre-registration required)

Chester Beatty Library Museum Tour - Chester Beatty Dublin Castle Dublin 2
(Coach leaving from UCD at 15.45)

This popular Dublin museum named for the second generation Irish American collector is home to a number of collections from all over the world, including Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Exhibitions such as those on ‘Arts of the Book’ (1st floor gallery) and ‘Sacred Traditions’ (2nd floor gallery) explore traditions and developments across East Asian, Islamic and Western worlds.

There will be a 20 minute introduction in the museum’s auditorium after which you will have about 1 hr to explore the exhibitions independently. We will leave at 17.30 from the museum and have a walking tour on the way to the conference dinner.



18.00-20.30

CONFERENCE DINNER (Pre-registration required)

MV Cill Airne - The Boat Bar & Restaurant Quay 16 N Wall Quay, North Wall, Dublin 1

Enjoy a meal with us by the waters of the river Liffey! With a long history as one of two sister passenger boats commissioned in 1961, the MV Cill Airne has functioned as a restaurant and bar after its restoration, which began in early 2006. The Quay 16 restaurant boasts views of the south quays and of the river at night, while still keeping a focus on providing a high quality and enjoyable meal for its guests.



Friday, June 28

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

Chair: Áine Mhic Thaidhg

Research Impact Officer, University of Galway, Ireland

9.40-10.50

Plenary Opening: Building a stronger infrastructure between science and societal stakeholders

Village Auditorium

9.40

Rémi Quirion

Québec Chief Scientist and President of INGSA, Canada

Topic: The Science-Politics-Society Triangle: Learning the language(s) of the others

9.55

Yuko Harayama

Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University, Japan

Topic: Soft infrastructure supporting collaboration among stakeholders of science

10.10

Nico van Meeteren

Executive Director & Secretary General, TopSector Life Sciences and Health, The Netherlands

Topic: Continuation of success

10.25

Panel discussion and Q&A

11.00-11.40

Tea, Coffee & Photo Break

Village Balcony



Friday, June 28

11.30-12.45

PARALLEL SESSIONS + WORKSHOP

Village & Sutherland

Entrepreneurship & Business Engagement

- L248 -

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

Britta C Wyatt (Chair)

Managing Consultant, Oxentia Ltd,
United Kingdom

Mark Mann

Managing Director, Mark Mann OÜ,
United Kingdom

Michael Golden

Education and Public Engagement
Manager, I-Form, Ireland

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

- L249 -

Learn how to get your message across and be memorable.

Renira Narrandes

Program Manager, Knowledge
Translation, SickKids, Canada

Doctoral Education & Impact Training

- Village Auditorium -

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

Inclusive Impact & Ethics

- L246 -

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?

Mary-Jane Bopape (Chair)

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

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

National & Institutional Impact Policies

- L247 -

Fostering a Positive Impact Culture: Come explore the system changes and tools needed to empower researchers to pursue impact and address barriers to implementation.

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

12.45-13.45

LUNCH BREAK

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.

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:

S.K. Varshney Former Head, International Scientific Cooperation division Department of S&T, India

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

Ursula Stricker-Ellsiepen Consulting on Knowledge Transfer, Heidelberg University, Germany

Heather Young-Leslie Senior Research Partner, Social Sciences\Humanities, University of Alberta, Canada

15.15 Closing remarks by chair **Anika Duut van Goor**

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

