

INFORMATION WORKSHOP

BEST IDEA 2021 COMPETITION

Thank you for joining our Information Workshop: Best Idea 2021 Competition

- Please enter your questions directly into the Q&A in Zoom and we will answer as many as possible during the question and answer session

13:30 - 13:40 Welcome by Rik Van de Walle (President of CESAER)

13:40 - 14:05 Key information on how to apply and evaluation by Marc Zolver (Chair of Workgroup Best Idea 2021)

14:05 - 14:20 Presentation of template for abstract by David Bohmert (Secretary General of CESAER)

14:20 - 15:00 Question and answers

WELCOME ADDRESS - INFORMATION WORKSHOP BEST IDEA 2021

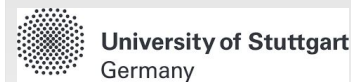
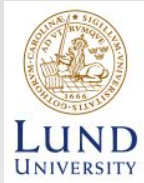
15 October 2020

Rik Van de Walle
Rector of Ghent University
President of CESAER

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1. About CESAER
2. Work Plan from 2020 to 2021
3. Contribution of universities of S&T to sustainability
4. Competition Best Idea 2021

53 MEMBERS IN 26 COUNTRIES



OUR MISSION

We are a [European association](#) of leading specialised and comprehensive [universities of science & technology](#) that:

1. Champion excellence in higher education, training, research and innovation
2. Influence debate
3. Contribute to the realisation of open knowledge societies
4. Deliver significant scientific, economic, social and societal impact



CESAER

BY NUMBERS

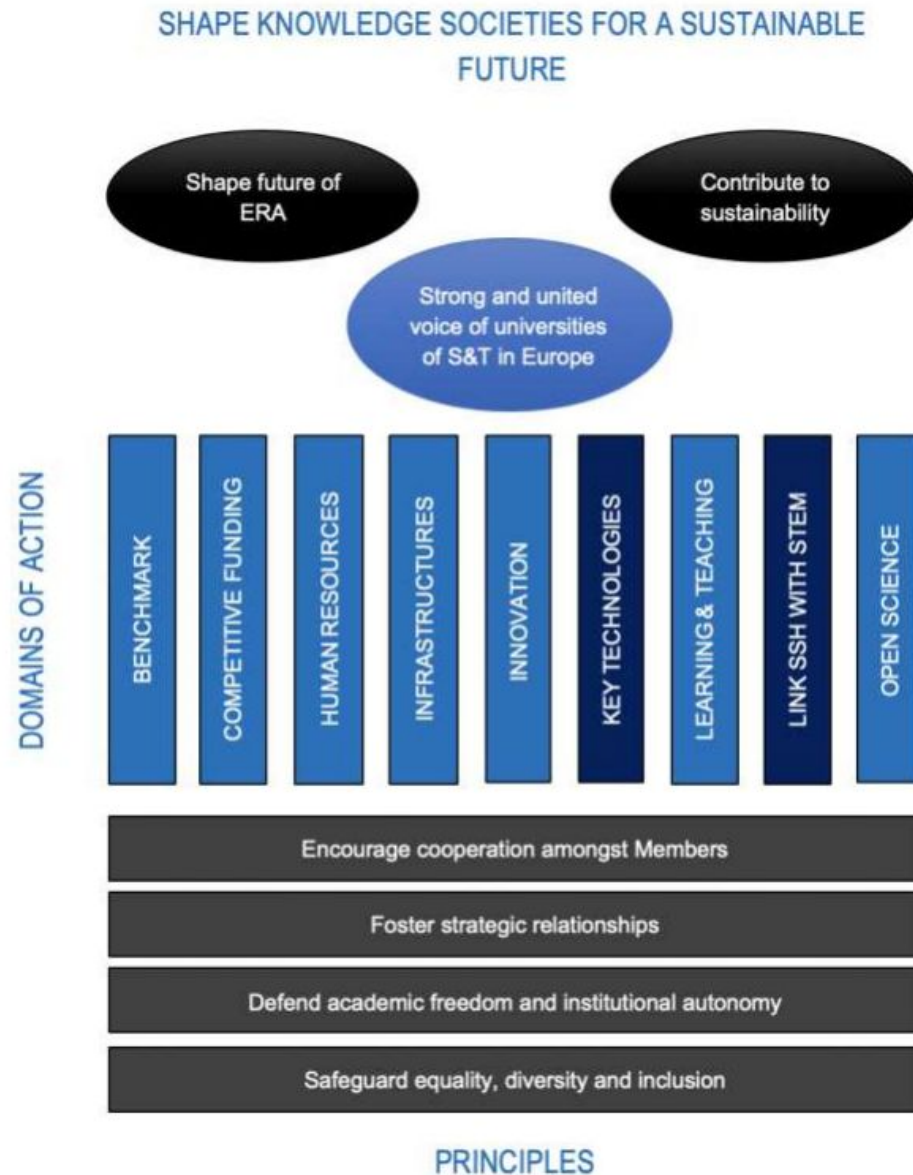
As an association, we:

- were founded in 1990 as not-for-profit association under Belgian law - [celebrate 30 year anniversary in 2020!](#)
- are hosted by [KU Leuven](#) on its science and technology campus;
- are an [acknowledged stakeholder organisation](#) for the [European Research Area](#) and the [European Commission's Open Science Policy Platform](#);
- are [recognised 'Key European Stakeholder for Research Policy'](#) by the [European Parliamentary Research Service](#).

Our Members:

- Educate [over 1.1 million students](#), of which over 190,000 are international
- Employ [over 95,000 academic staff](#)
- In the 2020, our Members were awarded:
 - 938 grants from the [European Research Council projects](#)
 - 2,044 grants from [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#)
 - 7,653 [Collaborative projects](#) with a collective combined value of over €4 billion.

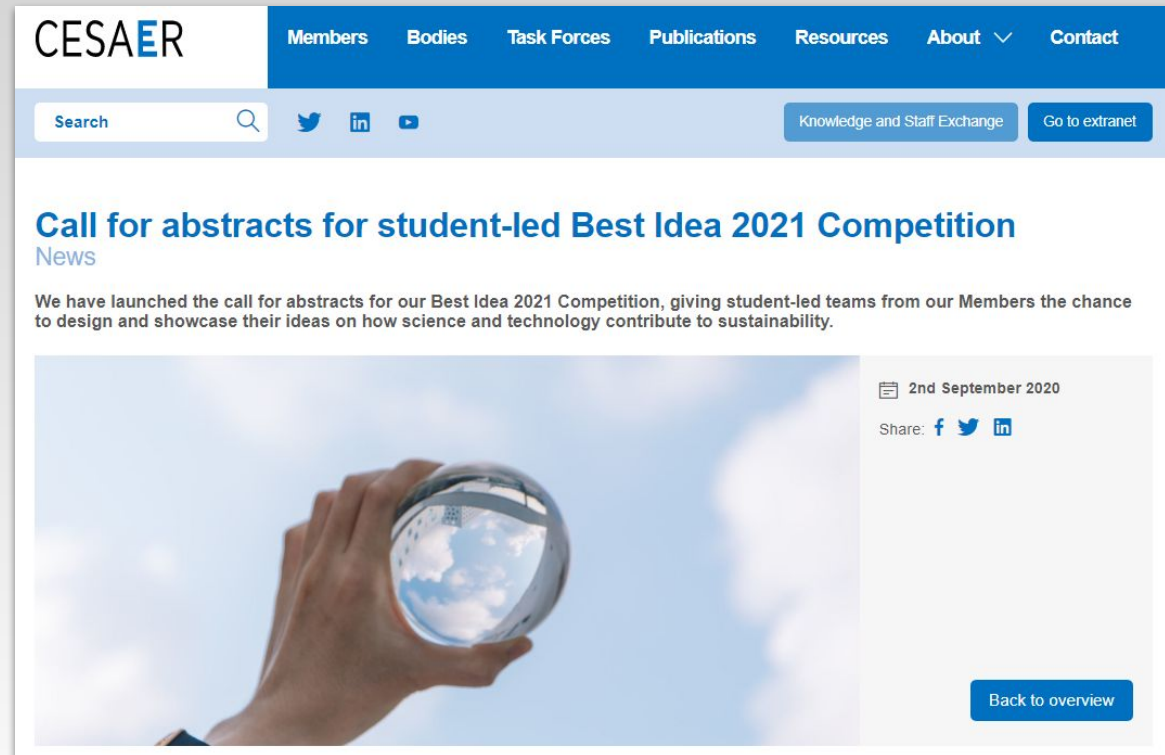
WORK PLAN 2020 TO 2021



BEST IDEA 2021 COMPETITION

We have launched the [call for abstracts](#) on 2 September 2020

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 31 January 2021



CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABILITY

- We are looking for brilliant concepts for how S&T can help revolutionise our society's efforts towards ecological, economic and social sustainability
- We are looking for student-led teams that are eager to contribute to achieving the UN SDG
- We will help you design your concept to an excellent and mature idea

Selected teams will be invited to contribute to:

- Conference on key technologies in London
- White paper on 'linking SSH and STEM'
- White paper on 'contribution of universities of S&T to sustainability'



GHENT
UNIVERSITY

CESAER

The strong and united voice of universities
of science and technology in Europe



YOUTUBE VIDEO



[Link to the video](#)

INFORMATION SESSION BEST IDEA 2021

15 October 2020

Marc Zolver

Vice President International Affairs, *CentraleSupélec, Université Paris-Saclay*
Chair of Workgroup Best Idea 2021

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1. Summary of competition
2. Develop your idea
3. How to build your team
4. How to enter
5. Evaluation process
6. Next steps

BEST IDEA 2021 COMPETITION

- Your chance to work together in student-led teams to help revolutionise our society's efforts towards sustainability
- Theme is contribution of S&T to ecological, economic and social sustainability by linking SSH with STEM and through key technologies
- Flagship event of our thirtieth anniversary celebrations

WHY ENTER BEST IDEA 2021?

- Engage with your teammates
- Design and showcase your idea contributing to sustainability
- Generate cooperation between CESAER members
- Benefit from unrivalled access and support from over 50 leading universities of S&T across Europe
- Seize your chance to win a cash prize of €20,000
- Present your idea during the *grande finale* of our thirtieth anniversary celebrations

DEVELOP YOUR IDEA

- We are especially looking for concepts that have emerged (bottom-up) from teams already collaborating around well identified scientific and societal needs and goals
- The idea may originate from completely novel approaches to answer scientific questions or to respond to the need of specific stakeholders in society
- The competition is flexible in how you approach your idea and diversity is highly encouraged

CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABILITY

The competition uses a broad and flexible definition of sustainability based on the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#)



HOW TO BUILD YOUR TEAM (1)

- We invite inter-institutional, inter- and transdisciplinary and vertically integrated teams that are already collaborating on a concept
- The leader of the team must be enrolled as a bachelor student, a master student or a PhD candidate at one of our Member universities at the date of the submission of the abstract
- Teams must include at least one member of staff from one of our Members
- The more Member universities are involved in the team, the higher scoring in the evaluation!

HOW TO BUILD YOUR TEAM (2)

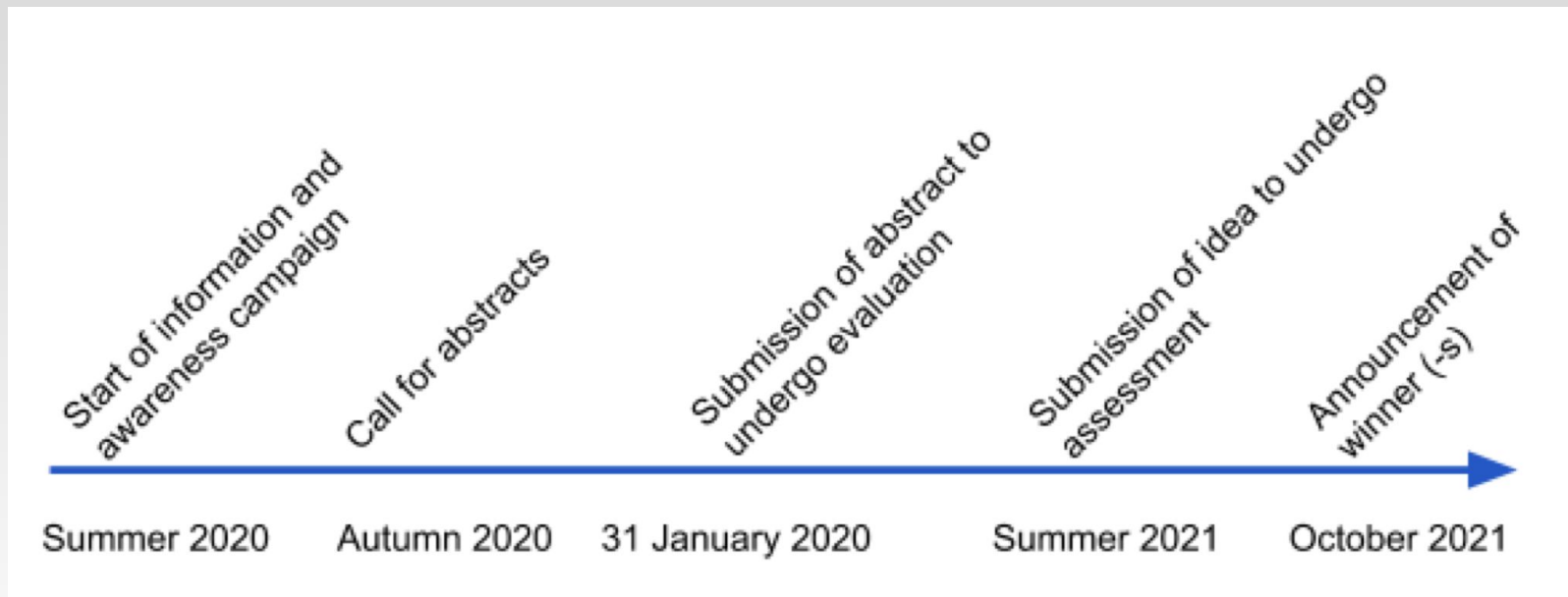
- There is no minimum or maximum team size
- Diversity in teams is highly encouraged
 - We encourage external participants, including partners from industry, government, non-governmental organisations, civil society and similar

HOW TO APPLY

- You are invited to prepare a short abstract
 - Describe your concept for how science and technology can help revolutionise our society's efforts towards sustainability
 - Outline an implementation plan and your team composition
 - The template abstract is described fully in the next presentation
- Deadline for submission of abstracts is 31 January 2021

EVALUATION PROCESS

- We take a low-barrier, two-stage evaluation and assessment approach
- Evaluation is completed by an independent and diverse expert panel



ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

- Include solid scientific case testified by senior academic leadership
- Demonstrate your **horizontal integration**
 - i.e. the inter- and, trans-disciplinary approach linking of **SSH** with **STEM** is evident
- Demonstrate your **vertical integration**
 - i.e. at least two out of the three levels (bachelor, master, PhD) are involved with guidance from a senior academic (principal investigator)
- Describe your initial needs for ICT and **research data management**

ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPACT & OUTREACH

- Provide an outline of expected impact
- Describe credible contribution to ecological, social and economic sustainability
- Describe preliminary indicators to estimate impact and contribution to sustainability
- Describe and analyse main stakeholders
- Describe involvement of [Member universities](#) (the more, the better!)
- Provide an outline of your outreach strategy

ABSTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT & OUTREACH

- Describe measures for planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Outline management and organisation
- Outline human resources needed
- Provide a rough estimate of the finances needed
- Identify the key legal issues and risks

NEXT STEPS

- Successful teams will receive full **guidance** on how to design their ideas further and advance towards excellent and mature ideas
- Teams will be invited to contribute to a conference on key technologies in London and to contribute to white papers on 'linking SSH and STEM' and on 'contribution to sustainability'
- We will work with you and your institution's staff to implement your outreach strategy
- The deadline for the second assessment (summer 2021) will be communicated to the teams retained after the first evaluation

PRESENTATION OF THE TEMPLATE ABSTRACT

15 October 2020

David Bohmert
Secretary General

TEMPLATE ABSTRACT

- Follow link in chat to access [template abstract](#)
- Read [call for abstracts](#) and [Guide for Applicants](#) carefully before completing your abstract
- Deadline for submission of abstracts is 31 January

ENROLMENT CHECK

- Student-leader of each team must email their [intention to submit abstract](#) to indre.antanaviciute@cesaer.org by 31 December 2020 at the latest
- Please include:
 - Leader's full name
 - Email address at one of our [Members](#)
 - Name of course you are enrolled in
- We will check if the student-leader is enrolled at one of our Members and notify you ASAP

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