

# SCIENCE FOR NET-ZERO TRANSITION

## LINKING GREEN OBJECTIVES WITH SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT

ONLINE SYMPOSIUM – SIDE EVENT TO COP26

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

 **ISCN**  
International Sustainable Campus Network

**SCIENCE EUROPE**  **10**  
Shaping the future of research 2011 - 2021  
TEN YEARS OF SUPPORTING RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

  
University of  
**Strathclyde**  
Glasgow

### WHEN

**8 November 2021**  
10.30–16.30 CET  
09.30–15.30 GMT

### WHERE

Online event

### REGISTER

Registration is  
available via Hopin:  
[REGISTRATION](#)

### BACKGROUND

CESAER, the International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN), Science Europe and the University of Strathclyde share a strong commitment to boost the contributions of universities and research performing and funding organisations to ecological, economic and social sustainability. For this reason, we joined forces and co-organise this symposium in the fringe of COP26.

In our vision, one of the ways in which academic and research communities world-wide can address the urgent global challenges is by uniting efforts towards the Net-Zero Transition. Realising this transition represents an enormously complex challenge requiring collaboration across all disciplines, communities, institutions and involving societies across the globe.

### EVENT

The symposium brings together universities, national research performing organisations and research funding organisations to look at how we can collectively upgrade our ambitions, and how to work better together with non-academic partners to shape knowledgeable societies for a sustainable future.

It aims to address questions about how universities, research funding and performing organisations, can nurture researchers, teachers, students, support staff as well as leaders to deal with the breadth and complexity of the Net-Zero Transition. We aim to discuss how to transform our institutional practices, and build alliances with other actors, globally and locally.

### CALL TO ACTION

In this context, we convened to launch a Call to Action based on our own commitments for the Net-Zero Transition. This Call is open to other partners, leaders, and the broad public, to join efforts towards the most pressing challenge of our time: climate change.

**#SCI4NETO**

# Programme

## MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2021

All times are in CET.

10.30–11.00 **Log on**

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11.00–12.30 **Session I – National and International Research Programmes for Net-Zero Transition**

Based on [examples](#) of national and international funding and performing research programmes contributing to the Net-Zero Transition, panellists will reflect on how to increase collaboration between researchers and with non-academic sectors, what roles performing and funding organisations can play, how to promote cross-border collaboration, the design and implementation of effective research-policy interfaces, and better communicate science.

### Introduction

**Tim Bedford**, Associate Principal of the University of Strathclyde

### Moderator

**Angelika Kalt**, Director of Swiss National Science Foundation

### Speakers

**Ángeles Gómez Borrego**, Vice-President of Spanish National Research Council

**Anne-Hélène Prieur-Richard**, Head of Department Environment, Ecosystem, Biological Resources of French National Research Agency

**Mari Sundli Tveit**, Director of Norwegian Research Council

**Duncan Wingham**, Executive Chair of Natural Environment Research Council, UK Research and Innovation

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12.30–13.00 **Break**

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13.00–14.30 **Session II - Universities for Net-Zero Transition**

Based on examples from their respective universities on how they are contributing to the Net-Zero transition (videos), the speakers will reflect upon the roles that universities play at the regional level and collaborating with academic and non-academic partners.

### Introduction

**Tim Bedford**, Associate Principal of the University of Strathclyde

### Moderator

**Santa Ono**, President & Vice-Chancellor of University of British Columbia and  
President of University Climate Change Coalition (U3)

### Speakers

**William Lee**, Vice Rector for Scientific Research of National Autonomous University  
of Mexico

**Mikael Östling**, Deputy President of KTH Royal Institute of Technology

**Mamokgethi Phakeng**, Vice-Chancellor of University of Cape Town

**Wei Shyy**, President of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

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14.30–15.00

Break

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15.00–16.30

## Session III - Systems Thinking and Approaches to Achieving Net-Zero Transition and Tackling Climate Change

A final panel discussion is aimed at synthesising concrete recommendations on how  
this cooperation could be improved and applied in different contexts and within  
different regional ecosystems.

### Introduction

**Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General of Science Europe

### Moderation

**Tim Bedford**, Associate Principal of the University of Strathclyde

### Report from sessions I and II

**Angelika Kalt**, Director of Swiss National Science Foundation

**Santa Ono**, President & Vice-Chancellor of University of British Columbia and  
President of University Climate Change Coalition (U3)

### Speakers

**Gisou van der Goot**, President of ISCN & Vice President at EPFL

**Marc Schiltz**, President of Science Europe & Secretary General of National Research  
Fund of Luxembourg

**Sir Jim McDonald**, President of Royal Academy of Engineering and Principal & Vice-  
Chancellor of University of Strathclyde

**Rik Van de Walle**, President of CESAER and Rector of Ghent University

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16.30

End of event