

#SCI4NET0

20 April 2023

ACTING TOGETHER FOR NET-ZERO: THE ROLE OF RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS

CESAER

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



ISCN

International Sustainable Campus Network

SCIENCE EUROPE

Shaping the future of research



Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe



WHEN

20 April 2023
14.00–15.00 CEST

WHERE

Online

REGISTER

Registration is available at

<https://surveys.scienceeurope.org/index.php/781337>

BACKGROUND

On 3 November 2022, [CESAER](#), European University Association ([EUA](#)), the International Sustainable Campus Network ([ISCN](#)), [Science Europe](#), the Network of Universities from Capital Cities ([UNICA](#)), and the [University of Strathclyde](#) (Glasgow, UK), jointly organised the COP27 lead-up event on "[Interdisciplinarity for the Net-Zero Transition](#)". This Symposium came about following the [Call to Action](#) to Research and Higher Education Organisations for the Net-Zero Transition launched at the COP26 held in Glasgow in 2021.

The partners aim to enhance the contributions of universities, research funding and performing organisations, as well as the entire research and higher education ecosystem, towards achieving global emission reduction targets. Their common goal is to adopt a collaborative, systems-based approach, where research and education systems join forces with industry and society to tackle this critical societal challenge. This initiative is in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goal 13: "Climate Action: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts."

The Call to Action urges universities and research funding and performing organizations to evaluate how they can collectively elevate their actions and aspirations concerning climate actions.

Six key areas for the Net-Zero Transition were identified as follows:

1. Responding to the complexity of the Net-Zero challenges by addressing them in an interdisciplinary way.
2. Developing the next generation of students and researchers for the Net-Zero Transition.
3. Reducing our own organisational carbon footprint.
4. Supporting the Net-Zero Transition in policymaking at all levels.
5. Improving the shared understanding of what needs to be done.
6. Facing the challenges together.

With this spirit, the European Federation of Academies of Science and Humanities ([ALLEA](#)) and the European Sustainable Laboratories Network ([SELS-Network](#)) were invited to a conversation on how the research and academic systems can work together for the Net-Zero Transition.

VISION

The Call to Action is framed around a vision based on systems thinking integrating with different research and higher education actors: only by acting together, we can address the climate crisis. Based on this vision, the promoting organisations call on other partners in the research and higher education communities to mobilise to achieve Net-Zero Transition.

GOALS

The goal of this webinar is to:

- Present the joint report 'Interdisciplinarity for the Net-Zero Transition. The perspectives of universities and research organisations.'
- Present contributions of other networks to sustainability.
- Discuss possible joint actions for research organisations for the Net-Zero Transition.

ONLINE EVENT

The event is exclusively online. Speakers and moderators are invited to connect remotely.

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 20 APRIL 2023

All times are in CEST.

14.00–14.05 **OPENING AND WELCOME**
Alberto GARRIDO, Vice-Rector for Quality and Efficiency at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM, Spain) & Secretary of CESAER Task Force Sustainability.

14.05–14.40 **ACTING TOGETHER FOR THE NET-ZERO TRANSITION: THE ROLE OF RESEARCH ORGANISATIONS**

Speakers

- **Nicola Francesco DOTTI**, Senior Policy Officer for the Green and Digital Transition at Science Europe & **Louise DROGOUL**, Senior Advisor for Innovation and Sustainability at CESAER.
 - **Astrid EICHHORN**, Associate Professor at University of Southern Denmark and Chair of the ALLEA working group on "[Climate Sustainability in the Academic System](#)".
 - **Martin FARLEY**, Co-Founder and Coordinator of the SELS-Network, and responsible for the [LEAF initiative](#) at the University College of London (UCL, UK).
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14.40–14.55 **Q&A**

14.55–15.00 **CONCLUDING REMARKS AND NEXT STEPS**
Alberto GARRIDO, Vice-Rector for Quality and Efficiency at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM, Spain) & Secretary of CESAER Task Force Sustainability.

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS



Alberto GARRIDO

Vice-Rector for Quality and Efficiency at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid & Secretary of CESAER Task Force Sustainability

Professor of Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics and Vice-Rector for Quality and Efficiency of Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM). He is the coordinator of the European University Alliance EELISA, and in charge of the Sustainability Policy of UPM. Trained in UPM as an Agricultural Engineer, got a Master in Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics from the University of California (David), and a Doctoral degree in Agricultural and Natural Resource Economics from UPM. His academic career includes several appointments in boards, and in academic and administrative positions of increasing relevance and responsibility. Presently, he serves in the Advisory Board of the prestigious Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy (since 1996), in the Board of Directors of IMDEA-Food, and in the Board of the Fundación General de la UPM.

Nicola Francesco DOTTI



Senior Policy Officer for the Green and Digital Transition at Science Europe.

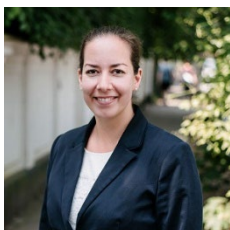
Dr Nicola Francesco Dotti is Senior Policy Officer for the Green and Digital Transition. He graduated in urban planning and holds a Doctorate in regional economics and policy evaluation from the Polytechnic University of Milan. Before joining Science Europe in October 2021, he was a researcher on the European geography of research, EU Cohesion Policy, policy-knowledge brokerage, research-policy interactions, data-driven university governance, and assessment of the societal impact of university research. He also worked for the Brussels Capital Region on the economic impact of international and European institutions.



Louise DROGOUL

Senior Advisor for Innovation and Sustainability at CESAER

Building on her previous experience as communications officer at EUROCONTROL, Louise Drogoul is CESAER's Advisor for Innovation & Sustainability. Louise graduated from International Relations and Politics at the University of Sheffield and has also completed postgraduate studies in European and East Asian studies at the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. In her current role, Louise coordinates CESAER's activities in innovation and sustainability, advocates at global, European, national and regional levels; represents the association externally; and serves and advises its governing bodies, committees and task forces.

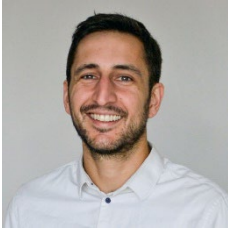


Astrid EICHHORN

Professor at University of Southern Denmark and Chair of the ALLEA working group on "Climae Sustainability in the Academic System".

Astrid is a theoretical physicist, and focuses on the fundamental building blocks of matter, space and time in her research. She obtained her PhD in 2011 at the University of Jena, Germany, and held postdoc positions at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Canada, and Imperial College, London, before becoming a junior research group leader at Heidelberg University in 2016. In 2019, she became associate professor at CP3-Origins, University of Southern Denmark, where she became a professor in 2023. She has won a number of fellowships and awards and has been a member of the German Young Academy (Junge Akademie) since 2018, where she has been serving on the board from

2020 to 2022 and as the speaker of the academy in 2021/2022. She is the Chair of the ALLEA Working Group Climate Sustainability in the Academic System.



Martin FARLEY

Co-Founder and Coordinator of the SELS-Network, and responsible for the LEAF initiative at the University College of London (UCL, UK).

Martin started working in labs as a technician and researcher, before moving into sustainable labs at the University of Edinburgh in 2013. He moved to King's College London in 2014, where initiated their Sustainable Lab programme. In 2015 he founded Green Lab Associates through which he supports the Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) through their GreenED programme. He initiated and manages the LEAF programme from UCL, from where he currently works as their Sustainable Lab Manager. In 2015, he was awarded a Green Gown award for Sustainability Professional of the year. He speaks, writes, and engages widely on sustainable science.