Introduction

The Spanish Research Council (CSIC), the Swedish Research Council for Sustainable Development (FORMAS), UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and Science Europe are co-organising the Workshop on ‘Science for the Green Transition.’ The event, developed under the auspices of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU, will bring forward the perspectives from different actors involved in science policy both in general and for the Green Transition.

Aim of the Workshop

The workshop aims to study the roles and contributions that national governments, research performers, and research funders can play to help apply and translate scientific knowledge into policies and actions that address the climate crisis. It will demonstrate the importance of drawing on expertise at local, regional, and (inter)national level and the need to increase co-operation between the research community and policy makers.

The event is organised under the strategic priority to “strengthen the role and contribution of science in tackling societal challenges”, part of the new Science Europe strategy for 2021–2026. It also marks the launch of the new Science Europe Working Group on the Green and Digital Transformation. The outcomes of the workshop will feed into the activities of the Working Group and contribute to shaping the European policy agenda in the area, as well as to the input that Science Europe is preparing in the framework of COP26.
Programme

Tuesday 7 September 2021

10.15–12.00 CEST  Science Policy for the Green Transition
09.15–11.00 BST

Welcome
Marc Schiltz, President of Science Europe

Re-thinking the role of science in science-policy in Science Europe
Rosa Menéndez, CSIC, Spain – Performers’ perspective
Ingrid Petersson, FORMAS, Sweden – Funders’ perspective

COP26: What is COP26 and why is it important?
Tim Wheeler, UK Research and Innovation

European Green Deal
Clara De La Torre, European Commission

11.00–11.15  Coffee and Tea break
10.00–10.15

Perspective from the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU
Tomaž Boh, Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenia

Role of science policy advice for the Green Transition
Peter Gluckman, Centre for Informed Futures, International Network for Government Science Advice, New Zealand

The co-ordination of scientific evidence and the importance of sound and trustful research for evidence-based policymaking
Johan Kuylenstierna, Swedish Climate Policy Council and Stockholm University, Sweden

Moderator: Lidia Borrell-Damián, Science Europe

12.00–14.00  Lunch Break
11.00–13.00

14.00–15.45  Practical Approaches to Science/Policy Dialogue for the Green Transition
13.00–14.45

Scientific evidence and consensus building for environmental policy making in Europe
Peter Eder, Joint Research Centre

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Leveraging scientific knowledge in a coherent way for policy makers to inspire action
Daniela Jacob, Climate Service Center, Germany
Moderator: Elena Domínguez, CSIC, Spain

Parallel discussions
Parallel Session 1: What role can research performing and funding organisations play in the requirement for the timely co-ordination of scientific evidence and the importance of sound and trustful research for evidence-based policymaking?
Moderator: John Tumpane, FORMAS, Sweden
Rapporteur: Adrien Braem, Science Europe

Parallel Session 2: How to remove the barriers to leverage best scientific knowledge in a coherent way for policy makers to inspire action?
Moderator: Kate Hamer, UK Research and Innovation, UK
Rapporteur: Lidia Borrell-Damián, Science Europe

15.45–16.00
Coffee and Tea break

14.45–15.00

16.00–16.30
Final Discussions and Conclusions

Open plenary discussion
Moderator: John Tumpane, FORMAS, Sweden

Concluding remarks
Lidia Borrell-Damián, Science Europe
About the Speakers

Speakers are listed in order of appearance on the programme.

Rosa Menéndez
Spanish National Research Council, Spain

President of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). PhD in Chemistry. CSIC Research Professor. Specialisation: clean coal and petroleum technologies and carbon materials, including graphene, for biomedicine and energy. CSIC previous senior positions: Vice-President for Scientific and Technical Research; Regional Representative; Director of National Institute of Carbon.

Participation in the design and assessment of European Union activities: member of the High-Level Group of the Governance of the ERA, Technical and Exploitation Advisory Committee of DECARBit project, Coal and Steel Programme Committee (TGC2), Chair of the Experts Committees for the review of the EU Non-Nuclear Energy Programme.

Vice-President of Science Europe.

Ingrid Petersson
Swedish Research Council for Sustainable Development, Sweden

Ingrid Petersson has been the Director General of Formas – the Swedish Research Council for Sustainable Development since 2013. She has held several leading positions in Swedish public administration, including Prime Minister’s Office, the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation.

Ingrid Petersson is fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry.

At present, Ingrid Petersson is vice-president of Science Europe, board member of the Stockholm Environment Institute, the Swedish Tourist Organization and the National board for Health and Welfare. She has been the chairperson of the Swedish Delegation for the 2030 Agenda.
Tim Wheeler
UK Research and Innovation, United Kingdom

Tim Wheeler is UKRI Director for International, responsible for overseeing the development and delivery of a coherent UKRI international approach, ensuring alignment with the UK Government's broader international strategy for research and innovation. Prior to this, Tim was Director of Research and Innovation at the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), the UK’s main agency for funding excellent research in the environmental sciences. Before joining NERC, Tim was Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser at the UK Department for International Development for 6 years, providing science advice to Ministers and overseeing a £1 billion+ research portfolio for international development. Over 25 years at the University of Reading, Tim’s research addressed the relationship between climate change and the sustainability of agriculture and food. Tim gave the Royal Society Public Lecture in 2005.

Tim was appointed Specialist Adviser to the EU Committee on Agriculture in the House of Lords in 2009/10. Tim has served as a member of BBSRC Council, the HEFCE REF sub-panel for Agriculture, Veterinary and Food Science and two of the UK’s Government’s Leadership Councils (Agricultural Technology and Space). He is currently a visiting Professor of Agriculture at the University of Reading.

Clara De La Torre
European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action

Since 1 September 2019, Clara de la Torre has held the post of Deputy Director General in the Directorate-General for Climate Action.

Previously, she was Director for Transport in the Directorate-General for Research & Innovation.

From 2014 to 2016, she was responsible for Key Enabling Technologies, following a 3-year appointment as Director in the field of Research and Innovation.

In her first post as a Director, from 2008 to 2010, she was in charge of inter-institutional and legal matters related to the Framework Programme at the European Commission, which she joined in 1987 after some years in the private sector.

Clara de la Torre has a degree in Economics and Business Administration from the Universidad Autónoma of Madrid.
Tomaž Boh  
Slovenian Ministry of Education, Science, and Sport

Tomaž Boh has been employed at Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia since 2009. Between 2009-2015 he was Head of the Science Policy Unit and later assumed the position of State Secretary (2015-2018), in charge of science, higher education and information society. Mr. Boh has devoted his life to science and research policy, working as a young researcher at the University of Ljubljana, where he also conducted an assistant role in several study programs. Currently, he is Director-General at the Science Directorate.

Sir Peter Gluckman  
Centre for Informed Futures, International Network for Government Science Advice, New Zealand

Sir Peter Gluckman ONZ KNZ FRS heads Koi Tū: The Centre for Informed Futures (www.informedfutures.org) in the University of Auckland. He has just stepped down as chair of the International Network of Government Science Advice (INGSA) to become President of the International Science Council (ISC). From 2009–2018 he was first Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Ministers of New Zealand.

He trained as a pediatrician and biomedical scientist, publishing over 700 papers and several academic and popular books in animal science, developmental physiology, growth and development and evolutionary biology and evolutionary medicine.

Sir Peter has written and spoken extensively on science-policy, risk assessment, science-diplomacy and science-society interactions. He chairs the International Covid Scenarios project of the ISC in conjunction with WHO and UNDRR. In 2016 he received the AAAS award in Science Diplomacy. He holds a Distinguished University Professorship in the University of Auckland, New Zealand and honorary chairs at the University College London, University of Southampton and National University of Singapore.
Johan Kuylenstierna  
*Swedish Climate Policy Council and Stockholm University, Sweden*

Johan Kuylenstierna is adjunct professor and senior advisor on sustainability to the President of Stockholm university. He is also the Chair of the Swedish Climate Policy Council and serves on numerous boards. He was previously the Executive Director of the Stockholm Environment Institute. Johan also has a career from the United Nations (UNDESA, WMO and FAO), the Stockholm International Water Institute and as a senior consultant. He has a degree in Earth Sciences and his research focused on paleoclimatology in the polar regions.

Peter Eder  
*Joint Research Center*

Peter Eder received his doctorate in chemical engineering from Graz University of Technology in Austria.

He has joined the European Commission more than 20 years ago and since worked at the interface of science and policy making, first as a research officer and then as a team leader.

His project portfolios have included integrated product policy, sustainable production and consumption, and green economic activities and the circular economy for materials.

Currently he is leading a team of researchers working on environmental and waste management within the JRC’s Circular Economy and Industrial Leadership Unit.

Daniela Jacob  
*Climate Service Center, Germany*

Prof. Dr. Daniela Jacob is meteorologist and Director of the Climate Service Center Germany (GERICS), a scientific organizational entity of Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, and visiting professor at Leuphana University, Faculty of Sustainability.
She was Coordinating Lead Author of the IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above preindustrial levels, and one of the Lead Authors of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (Working Group 2).

Daniela Jacob is chair of the German Committee Future Earth (DKN) and co-chair of the Wissenschaftsplattform Nachhaltigkeit (WPN2030). She is member of the European Commission’s Mission Board on “Adaptation to Climate Change including Societal Transformation”, member of the ‘Earth League’, an international alliance of prominent scientists from world-class research institutions, as well as member of several other committees. Her main research fields and areas of interest are local and regional climate modelling, the hydrological cycle, climate services and adaptation to climate change. Moreover, Daniela Jacob is Editor-in-Chief of Journal “Climate Services”, a new scientific journal she co-founded with Elsevier.

Lidia Borrell-Damián
Science Europe

Lidia Borrell-Damián is the Secretary General of Science Europe, the association representing major public organisations that fund or perform excellent, groundbreaking research in Europe. She holds overall responsibility for the strategy and functioning of the organisation. Prior to this she worked for the European University Association (EUA) between 2006 and 2014. During the last five years in EUA she served as its Director for Research and Innovation (R&I), holding responsibility for the overall strategy and activities of EUA in the area, working with EUA individual universities as well as the National Rectors’ Conferences.

Her areas of experience cover a wide range of EU R&I priorities, including the EU Framework Programme; European Research Area; research infrastructures; research ethics and integrity; research assessment processes; university-business cooperation; regional innovation; gender issues in research; Digital Agenda and Open Science. She also worked on doctoral education through the EUA-Council for Doctoral Education (EUA-CDE), and coordinated scientific policy input to the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan) through the European Platform of Universities in Energy (EUA-EPUE).

Lidia Borrell-Damian holds a Doctorate in Chemistry (Chemical Engineering Specialty; Solar Energy) from the University of Barcelona. Prior to joining EUA, she was Director of Research at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona from 2003–2005. Before then she was Visiting Scholar at the University of Western Ontario (1999–2001) and at the North Carolina State University (1997–1998).