

EIGHTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE: IMPACTS & RESPONSES



UNSEEN UNSUSTAINABILITY
ADDRESSING HIDDEN RISKS
TO LONG-TERM WELLBEING FOR ALL

The Eighteenth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses

<https://on-climate.com/2026-conference>

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Welcome Letter



New Thinking

New Practices

New Societies

International Independent Interdisciplinary Scholar-led Non-Profit Since
Research Networks Conferences Journals Books Media Lab 1984



Dear Conference Participants,

On behalf of Common Ground Research Networks, I welcome you to the Eighteenth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses.

Founded in 2009, the Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network is brought together by a common concern for the science of, and social responses to, climate change. We seek to build an epistemic community where we can make linkages across disciplinary, geographic, and cultural boundaries.

This truly international conference brings together a diverse group of scholars, practitioners, and thought leaders from around the world. We are proud to provide a platform for exchanging ideas, and presenting research, addressing some of the pressing issues of our time.

Our conference theme, "Unseen Unsustainability: Addressing Hidden Risks to Long-Term Wellbeing for All," reflects our commitment to exploring new frontiers in research and practice. Over the next few days, In-Person or Online, you will have the opportunity to attend keynotes, panel discussions, and other session types led by our Emerging Scholars. We encourage you to take full advantage of these sessions to gain new insights, expand your professional network, and find inspiration for your own work.

We want to thank our keynote speakers Phoebe Koundouri, Stergios Vakalis, Björn Hassler, David Humphreys, conference chair Dr. Chryssi Vitsilaki, presenters, and volunteers whose dedication and hard work have made this conference possible. We also thank our host partner University of the Aegean, for their generous support.

We hope you find this conference to be an intellectually stimulating and rewarding experience. Your active participation is crucial to the success of this event, and we look forward to the lively discussions and valuable connections that will emerge over the next few days.

Warm regards,

Dr. Phillip Kalantzis Cope
Chief Social Scientist
Common Ground Research Networks

Dear Delegates,

A very warm welcome to the Common Ground Research Network's 18th International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses, this year incorporating the 22nd Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability. The overall focus of the conference is Unseen Unsustainability: Addressing Hidden Risks to Long-term Wellbeing for All, hosted by the University of the Aegean, Rhodes, Greece.

This is an important theme as it gives attention to those areas where often science strong regarding the threat that an issue poses to our collective wellbeing, but which are traditionally marginalised. This may be because climate change as a single issue is taking the headlines, because the issue is less able to grab the imagination, because it is an issue that is much harder for us to tackle – or perhaps just due to chance. In any case, it is vital we keep all these issues very front of mind when making choices about how to act – because climate change cannot ever be viewed in isolation. Climate change exacerbates and is exacerbated by these other issues. Further, if in solving climate change we make other threats worse, the task becomes pointless to the overall goal of collective long-term wellbeing.

As well as plenaries and papers on these 'unseen' topics, we will of course showcase a wide range of papers and researchers across the full range of Common Ground Research Network Climate Change themes:

Theme 1: The Nature of Evidence
Theme 2: Assessing Impacts in Diverse Ecosystems
Theme 3: Human Impacts and Responsibility
Theme 4: Technical, Political, and Social Responses

Please do take time to browse and delve further into, the submissions on the portal.

We are also lucky to have no less than 4 inspiring plenary speakers, including our very own David Humphreys who was the academic lead for this theme for many years.

As well as those lucky enough to be able to join us in person, as always, we there will be people from across the world participating – you are all very welcome to share in this rich experience as fully as possible. We are extremely lucky that Common Ground Research Networks has always been leading in the online research collaboration space, and they have made further investments in this recently which you will benefit from. This effort is core to making the experience truly rewarding regardless of how you intend to join.

When thinking about how to respond appropriately to the 'Unsustainability Emergency' through your professional and personal lives, our wish is that you find inspiration in this year's conference. We hope, through this conference, that you lead, learn, grow and develop the leadership skills you seek to play your part in the urgent change needed. Please do take time to explore the various aspects of this year's online forum and remember you can browse more than 20 interdisciplinary Research Networks of CGRN.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Victoria



Climate Change: Impacts & Responses **Research Network**

Founded in 2009, the **Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network** is brought together by a common concern for the science of, and social responses to, climate change. We seek to build an epistemic community where we can make linkages across disciplinary, geographic, and cultural boundaries. As a Research Network, we are defined by our scope and concerns and motivated to build strategies for action framed by our shared themes and tensions.

The Nature of Evidence

The conscious and unconscious actions of one creature — homo sapiens— have come to profoundly influence the course of Earth’s natural history, not just in local ecosystems but on a planetary scale. This has been the case since humans began a process of populating the whole Earth about one hundred thousand years ago. Ecosystems were revolutionized by the sustained yield harvesting technologies of hunters and gathers, then the farming and animal husbandry technologies of self-sufficient peasantries. Nevertheless, the most recent epoch ushered in by the industrial revolution and marked by market-directed agriculture, the widespread clearing and harvesting of forests, and the use of fossil fuels has had undeniably course altering impact on the Earth’s climate. Greenhouse gases are heating the Earth. Ice that was permanent until recently is rapidly melting. Sea levels are rising. Extreme weather events are occurring with higher frequency. The effects feel differently, and regions are affected by these changes in different ways. Evidence is inevitably wrapped up in ecological, social, and economic systems. In the current persistent challenge of universalizing evidence-based approaches, the struggle is often a proxy for a broader conversation about the vested power of those who have benefited from this epoch-defining economic model. If we are to stem the tide of change — indisputably revealed in the evidence — and look to benefit from the opportunities associated with new models for development, we must supplement the evidence with longer views of building resilient societies and economies.

Ecosystemic Impacts

Today we live in the shadow of already occurring and potentially disastrous impacts on ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity. For instance: the special effects of glacial melt on mountain and riverine biodiversity; sea-level rise on coastal and mangrove systems; the effect of sea temperatures on coral reefs; increased rainfall variability in monsoon regions. These are just a few examples. The specific regional impacts on biomes and the vulnerabilities of different ecosystems across the globe need to be assessed in their specificity. There are parallels between some areas, while there are subtle and complex dissimilarities between the changes that are occurring in different parts of the world. These include floods, drought, forest fires, hurricanes, and other sporadic events that could devastate endemic species and threaten microhabitats. Some ecosystems could be highly vulnerable and will not be able to respond even to short-term impacts such as natural disasters. In the presence of climate change, these short-term events could be even more cataclysmic. The challenge in front of us is to consider solutions that can operate at micro and macro levels.

Human Impacts

Humans are agents in climate change. Humans are affected by climate change: shifting shorelines, declining agricultural productivity, crisis of food supply, availability of water, the health of populations, and extreme weather events. These impacts will be felt differentially in developed and developing worlds. Marginalized populations of people may not only have their lives and livelihoods affected, but also be affected by declines in species abundance and diversity of ecosystems upon which they are dependent at a landscape level. In heterogeneous landscapes with a mix of wilderness islands within a changing agricultural environment, urbanization, and industrial spread could well increase pressures on protected area networks as the effects of climatic changes increase. Agricultural communities, especially traditional farmers and pastoralists, may be forced to shift into what is now within the protected area networks in developing countries. In considering human impacts we must consider unique contexts, both for effects and responses. How are certain communities bearing the burden of climate change? In what ways are attributing responsibility and to whom for the current reality? How do we measure responses on in the context of local, national, and global human life?

Framing Responses

On the experience of the past one hundred thousand years, humans are clearly capable of adaptive responses. Our species has the capacity or can develop the capacity to nurture nature through a period of transition, for instance by creating corridors to assist species adaptation and inventing new agricultures which alleviate and mitigate the effects of climate change. Humans are also capable of precautionary action, reducing greenhouse gases for instance as part of a broader strategy of sustainable development. We may even be able to master technologies which balance and stabilize climate change. The key, however, will be the extent to which our species can take a proactive role, be that technological or acts of social and political will that produce changed patterns of land and energy use. Like no other creature in natural history, and like no other time in this creature's history, this is moment when the future of the planet is in our hands. The consciousness which made us a unique species perhaps a hundred thousand years ago, for the first time today puts us in a position of unprecedented responsibility for the course of natural history. Climate change is a key intellectual and practical challenge for today's science, economics, politics, sociology, and ethics.

The Nature of Evidence

Why the persistent challenge of universalizing evidence based approaches?

Living Tensions

- *Equilibria and Disequilibria – change processes and countervailing tendencies*
- *Communicating Measurement – processes, methodologies, and technologies*
- *The Fundamentals – ice cap reduction, glacial melt, sea level change.*
- *Lived Realities – floods, drought, forest fires, hurricanes, and other events*
- *Data Politics – the use of climate informatics*
- *Visions of Progress – contesting underlying economic motivations and offering alternatives*
- *Paleoclimatology – the earth’s climate in short and long views*
- *Regional Variations, Global Change – negotiating and understanding difference*
- *Biomes and Biozones – considering eco-framings of space*
- *Environmental Policies – institutional response to eco-systemic realities*
- *Anthropogenic Factors – understanding and attributing human causes*
- *Debating Scenarios – slow, rapid, abrupt, or episodic*
- *The Future of Everyday Life – weather events, natural disasters, and ecological surprises*
- *Considering Capacity Building – individual, institutional, and systemic*
- *Communities and Nations – established politics of framing responsibility*
- *Human Systems – transport, energy, communication*
- *Public and Private Interest – engaging business stakeholders*
- *Intrenching Inequality - climate change in the developing world*
- *Adaptation and Resilience – private, public, and individual change makers*
- *Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources – technologies, policies, and strategies*
- *Measures of Responsibility – navigating climate ethics*
- *Regulatory Solutions – taxes, offsets, standards, and trading*
- *Climate Finance – valuing nature and action Motivating Solidarity – global movements, local framings*

Assessing Impacts in Diverse Ecosystems

What are the impacts of climate change on natural environments in particular and universal views?

Living Tensions

- *Paleoclimatology – the earth’s climate in short and long views*
- *Regional Variations, Global Change – negotiating and understanding difference*
- *Biomes and Biozones – considering eco-framings of space*
- *Environmental Policies – institutional response to eco-systemic realities*
- *Anthropogenic Factors – understanding and attributing human causes*
- *Debating Scenarios – slow, rapid, abrupt, or episodic*

Human Impacts and Responsibility

How have we been agents of climate change, what does a politics of responsibility reveal?

Living Tensions

- *The Future of Everyday Life – weather events, natural disasters, and ecological surprises*
- *Considering Capacity Building – individual, institutional, and systemic*
- *Communities and Nations – established politics of framing responsibility*
- *Human Systems – transport, energy, communication*
- *Public and Private Interest – engaging business stakeholders*
- *Intrenching Inequality - climate change in the developing world*

Technical, Political, and Social Responses

How do scientists, technologies, policy makers, and community members respond to climate change?

Living Tensions

- *Adaptation and Resilience – private, public, and individual change makers*
- *Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources – technologies, policies, and strategies*
- *Measures of Responsibility – navigating climate ethics*
- *Regulatory Solutions – taxes, offsets, standards, and trading*
- *Climate Finance – valuing nature and action*
- *Motivating Solidarity – global movements, local framings*

Victoria Hurth

Senior Associate, Institute for Sustainability Leadership, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom



Dr Victoria Hurth is Senior Associate at the University of Cambridge's Institute for Sustainability Leadership and Visiting Fellow of Cambridge Judge Business School. She describes herself as a 'pracademic', taking a pragmatic interdisciplinary approach to the drivers and solutions of organisational responses to climate change and sustainability,. She has a Master's in Environment and Development from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and completed her PhD (Exeter) on the role of marketing as a driver of sustainable/unsustainable consumption. Her research and practice now focuses on purpose-driven organisations and the implications for culture, governance and strategy. She has been a British Council 'Climate Change Ambassador' and a climate change advisor for a UK MP. She is currently a member of the UN Task force for developing methodology for SDG indicator 12.6.1. and the Convenor of ISO37000 – the first global standard on Governance of Organisations.

The **Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network** is grateful for the foundational contributions, ongoing support, and continued service of our Advisory Board.

- **Alison Anderson**, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, UK
- **Gowtam Raj Chintaram**, Earth-Mauritius, Mauritius
- **Amar Galla**, International Institute for the Inclusive Museum, India
- **Candice Howarth**, University of Surrey, UK
- **David Humphreys**, The Open University, UK
- **Victoria Hurth**, University of Cambridge, UK
- **Carla Ramsdell**, Appalachian State University, United States of America
- **Mordechai Shechter**, University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel
- **Zhihua Zhang**, Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China

When you join the **Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network** you become part of an international network of scholars, researchers, and practitioners. We are more than a professional organization. Members present at our annual conference, publish in our journal collection, and write for our book imprint. Your membership makes our independent organization possible, while giving you access to a large body of knowledge and professional development opportunities.

Annual Conference: blended or online, presenter or audience

- Discount to the annual conference for presenters (and any other Common Ground Research Network Conference)
- Access to digital media for past conferences
- Ability to present in Spanish or English

Publishing Opportunities: get your research published

- Members have the opportunity to publish one journal article in the corresponding network if accepted by a two-way anonymous peer review.
- Volunteer to serve as a peer reviewer for your chance to become recognized on the Editorial Board

Virtual Programming: stay connected throughout the year

- Access to all of the Imagining Futures speaker series, Meet the Author, and all other online programs.

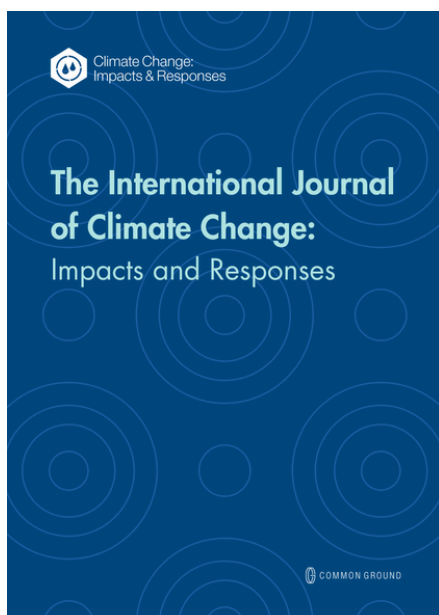
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Memberships are included in all Conference Registrations.
Make the most of your Membership!



The International Journal of **Climate Change**



The International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses

The International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses seeks to create an interdisciplinary forum for discussion of evidence of climate change, its causes, its ecosystemic impacts, and its human impacts. The journal also explores technological, policy, strategic, and social responses to climate change.

Serial Founded: 2009

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- Biological Sciences (Cabell's)
- CAB Direct
- Environment Complete (EBSCO)
- Environment Index (EBSCO)
- ProQuest Social Science Journals (ProQuest)
- Scopus (Elsevier)
- Ulrich's Periodicals Index

Articles published in the **International Journal on Climate Change** are two-way blind peer-reviewed by scholars who are active members of The **Climate Change Research Network**. The publisher, editors, reviewers, and authors agree upon the expected ethical behavior standards based on the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Core Practices.

Journal Editors

Victoria Hurth

Senior Associate, Institute for Sustainability Leadership, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

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Common Ground Research Networks believes firmly in the principles of open and accessible knowledge. For over 30 years we have been at the forefront of developing innovative models for scholarly communication which reflect new knowledge ecologies. Our mission has been to lower the cost of access while sustaining the independence and resilience of our Research Networks. We have a commitment to support the research produced by our members and the livelihoods of our staff and industry within which we work. We offer a variety of options to make your research accessible and make accessibility affordable.

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Price: \$625.00

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**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Common Ground Research Networks (Not-for-Profit) is proud to be a signatory to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Publishers Compact. Launched in collaboration with the International Publishers Association, the compact "features 10 action points that publishers, publishing associations, and others can commit to undertaking in order to accelerate progress to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Signatories aspire to develop sustainable practices and act as champions of the SDGs, publishing books and journals that will help inform, develop and inspire action in that direction."

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**Eighteenth International
Conference On Climate
Change: Impacts & Responses**



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Past Events

- 2009 - Bharati Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment Education and Research, Pune, India
- 2010 - University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
- 2011 - Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
- 2012 - University of Washington, Seattle, USA
- 2013 - Labourdonnais Waterfront Hotel, Port-Louis, Mauritius
- 2014 - University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2015 - UBC Robson Square, Vancouver, Canada
- 2016 - NU University of Science (HUS), Vietnam National University (VNU), Hanoi, Vietnam
- 2017 - Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK
- 2018 - University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, USA
- 2019 - Pryzbyla Center, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., USA
- 2020 - Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Venice, Italy (Virtual)
- 2021 - UBC Robson Square, Canada (Virtual)
- 2022 - UBC Robson Square, Canada (Virtual)
- 2023 - UBC Robson Square, Canada
- 2024 - Éklore-Ed School Of Management, Pau, France
- 2025 - Florida International University, Miami, USA

The **Climate Change: Impacts & Responses Research Network** is thankful for the contributions and support of the follow organizations.



Dr. Chryssi Vitsilaki

Professor Emerita and former Rector, University of the Aegean, Greece



Chryssi Vitsilaki is Professor Emerita, Former Rector at the University of the Aegean. Since 1990, Chryssi has been a professor in the Department of Pre-School Education and Educational Design and does research, among others, in educational technology, higher education, and adult education. Their most recent publication is E-qualified: An In-depth Investigation of an Innovative Graduate Programme at a Greek University.

Phoebe Koundouri

Professor, Athens University of Economics and Business & University of Cambridge; Co-Chair, United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report; Chair, World Council of Environmental and Resource Economists Associations; Director, AE4RIA



Professor Dr. Phoebe Koundouri is a globally recognized expert in sustainable development, specializing in interdisciplinary systems that link nature, society, and the economy. Listed among the top 2% of scientists globally by Stanford University, she is a member of the Nobel Prize in Economics Nominating Committee.

She is Professor at the Athens University of Economics and Business, Research Professor at the Technical University of Denmark, and Honorary Visiting Professor at the University of Cambridge. She directs the ReSEES Laboratory, the Sustainable Development Unit at ATHENA RC, and founded AE4RIA, a large research and innovation alliance spanning over 120 countries and 100+ interdisciplinary projects.

Professor Koundouri chairs the UN SDSN Global Climate Hub, co-chairs SDSN Europe, and has held academic positions at leading institutions including Cambridge, UCL, and LSE. She has authored over 400 scientific publications and edited journals like *Nature: Climate Action* and *Environmental and Resource Economics*.

An elected fellow of numerous prestigious academies, she has received awards from the European Research Council, EAERE, and the Academy of Athens. She has served as President of EAERE and currently chairs the World Council of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists Associations (WCERE).

Her advisory work spans the UN, G20, World Bank, EU bodies, IPCC, and various governments and organizations worldwide, influencing global climate, sustainability, and innovation policy.

21 April - 09:00 (Greece Time Zone) - Online

Stergios Vakalis

Assistant Professor, Department of Environment, University of the Aegean, Greece



Dr. Stergios Vakalis is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Environment / University of the Aegean in the field of "Energy Management and Low Carbon Technologies". He works in the Energy Management Laboratory and his research focuses on the production and analysis of fuels, and the energy efficiency of energy systems. He teaches courses on Renewable Energy Technologies, Energy Modeling & Analysis (LCA / MCA / Aspen Plus / Cantera-MATLAB) and Thermodynamics (Heat and Mass Transfer). He supervises one postdoctoral fellow, two doctoral students and two postgraduate students.

From 2018 to 2019 Dr. Vakalis worked as an Assistant Professor of Research at the Libera Università di Bolzano in the field of thermodynamic analysis and in the production of electricity from renewable sources. In 2016, in the framework of his Postdoctoral dissertation, he was awarded the "National Scholarship of Academic Excellence" by the State Scholarship Foundation. A notable point of his research was the development of the 3T energy efficiency method for the holistic evaluation of waste-to-energy plants. Also, in collaboration with Robert Heimann he has developed the innovative method of frictional pyrolysis which produces biocarbon and bio-oil from agricultural waste and biomass only with the use of friction and without the addition of external heat. Dr. Vakalis is a reviewer for more than 25 scientific journals and has received awards for "Outstanding Contribution to Review" from the following journals: Journal of Cleaner Production (Elsevier), Renewable Energy (Elsevier), Journal of Environmental Management (Elsevier), Energy (Elsevier), Waste Management (Elsevier), Journal of Analytical and Applied Pyrolysis (Elsevier). He is a permanent member of the Organizing Committee of the annual "International Conference on Sustainable Solid Waste Management" and is a reviewer and evaluator of proposals for the General Secretariat for Research and Technology. Since 2018, Dr. Vakalis is a member of the WtERT (Waste Energy Research and Technology Council) World Council in collaboration with the Earth Engineering Center of Columbia University in New York.

22 April - 09:00 (Greece Time Zone)

Björn Hassler

Professor, Södertörn University, Sweden



Primary research interest of Dr. Hassler concerns environmental collaboration at the state level in the Baltic Sea region. At present he is mostly working on climate politics, more precisely on how rationality and psychological mechanisms interact and influence how we deal with climate change. Although he assumes that most people behave rationally most of the time, psychological mechanisms must be included as well, to understand how rationality plays out in real life. It is his firm belief that scientific knowledge and political engagement must be separated, to make sure that measures taken are cost-effective and balanced.

Teaching: Environmental policy and related areas on undergraduate (Environment and Development program), master (Environment, Sustainability and Global development programme) and PhD (various courses) levels.

Supervision at all levels, including PhD students.

20 April - 02:30 (Greece Time Zone)

David Humphreys

Professor of Environmental Policy, The Open University, United Kingdom



Dr. David Humphreys, Professor of Environmental Policy at The Open University, United Kingdom, is proud to work teaching and researching sustainability and environmental policy at what he regards as the world's leader in distance university teaching. He began his career specializing in international forest policy on which he was written two books, *Forest Politics: The Evolution of International Cooperation* (1996) and *Logjam: Deforestation and the Crisis of Global Environmental Governance* (2006). His interests in heritage include the natural and built environments, with a particular interest in the reconstruction of Beirut. He has also published on climate change politics, geoengineering, the democratic regulation of transnational corporations, and the emerging jurisprudence of rights of nature. With Spencer Stober he edited the *Common Ground* volume *Transitions to Sustainability: Theoretical Debates for a Changing Planet* (2014). His academic awards include the International Studies Association's Harold and Margaret Sprout Award (2008) and an Honorary Fellowship from the Institute of Chartered Foresters (2015).

20 April - 09:30 (Greece Time Zone)

Each year a small number of Emerging Scholar Awards are given to outstanding early-career scholars or graduate students. Here are our 2026 Emerging Scholar Award Winners.

Jacob Kwakye
McGill University,
Canada



Essien Oku Essien
Drexel University,
United States



Hieu Thi Hoang Nguyen
Cerge-Ei,
Czech Republic



Maya Lis
University of Pennsylvania,
United States



Yatong Yang
Kyoto University,
Japan



Sindi Mokgopha
Tshwane University of Technology,
South Africa



Eric Shahzar
University of Hertfordshire /
World Economic Forum,
United Kingdom



Meet Kumar
Council on Energy,
Environment and Water,
India



Gloria Ekenedilichukwu Amadi
University of Nigeria, Nsukka,
Nigeria



Emerging Scholars

Mercedes Asamani

Michigan Technological University,
United States



Kanchan Ojha

Oregon State University,
United States



Liton Chakraborty

York University,
Canada



Online Welcome and Training Session

Join other delegates for a pre-conference welcome reception and training session.

We are excited to announce the online conference will be delivered on the CGScholar platform – developed by the Common Ground Media Lab, the research and technology arm of Common Ground Research Networks.

This special event will walk you through the CGScholar Event Microsite so you have a rich online experience by learn how to comment and participate online. It will also teach delegates how to update their profile and Presenter Pages in order to add digital media: video, sound, other files.

Monday, 20 April 2026, 6:00 PM (Greece Time Zone)

Online Talking Circle

Talking Circles are a distinctive feature of our in-person conference, and this year we are also taking them online. Talking Circles offer an opportunity to meet other delegates face-to-face, and engage in extended discussion about the issues and concerns they feel are of utmost importance to that segment of the Research Network. Participation is open, encouraged, and supported.

Tuesday, 21 April 2026, 6:00 PM (Greece Time Zone)

In Person Walking Tour: Highlights of the Medieval City of Rhodes

Highlights of the Medieval City of Rhodes

We will make a visit to the historical medieval city of Rhodes, a monument belonging to UNESCO'S WORLD HERITAGE declaration.

You'll admire the architecture of the walls and well preserved monuments of medieval city, where we will walk through the D Amboise gate, the historical street of the Knights and many other interesting historical sites while learning about the wonderful heritage of Rhodes.

Date: April 19, 2026

Time: TBD

Meeting point: TBD

Conference Dinner: Louis Restaurant

From the restaurant:

"Restaurant Louis was founded by Louis Paloukis in 2008. With his passion for gastronomy and his 30-year experience as a restaurateur, he wished to leave his own personal mark on Rhodes traditional cuisine by creating the restaurant "Louis" with the target of satisfying even the most demanding customer. He created a pleasant environment that reminds of those old long lost beautiful days. After many years of activity and experience, Louis restaurant is welcoming you in a magnificent neoclassical building with a traditional courtyard and a proposal of taste, a fusion of Greek and Mediterranean cuisine. Fresh meat and fish from the island's local market. Original and inspired appetizers prepared with care & served in a special way."

The dinner will begin with a shared starter (village salad, baked pitas, tzatziki, Greek meatballs, and cheese pies). As a main course, guests may choose either lamb shank yuveltsi or veal stew with mashed potatoes (meat options), or stuffed gemista or imam eggplant (vegetarian options). Each guest will be able to select their preferred option (meat or vegetarian) when signing up for the dinner. The meal will conclude with a traditional Greek dessert. Wine, beer, soft drinks, and water are included.

Date: Tuesday, 21 April 2026

Time: 20:00 (8:00 PM)

Location: Ko 5 & Papanikolaou Street, Rhodes Town, Greece, 85 100

Conference Closing Reception

Common Ground Research Networks will hold a closing reception at the University of the Aegean - Rhodes Campus directly following the Conference Closing and Award Ceremony. Join other delegates and plenary speakers to enjoy drinks and light hors d'oeuvres.

Date: Wednesday, 22 April 2026

Time: Directly following the last session of the day

Location: University of the Aegean - Rhodes Campus



Common Ground Research Networks

COMMON GROUND

Founded in 1984, Common Ground is committed to building new kinds of knowledge communities, innovative in their media, and forward-thinking in their messages. Heritage knowledge systems are characterized by vertical separations--of discipline, professional association, institution, and country. Common Ground Research Networks takes some of the pivotal challenges of our time and curates research networks that cut horizontally across legacy knowledge structures. Sustainability, diversity, learning, the future of humanities, the nature of interdisciplinarity, the place of the arts in society, technology's connections with knowledge--these are deeply important questions of our time that require interdisciplinary thinking, global conversations, and cross-institutional intellectual collaborations.

Common Ground Research Networks are meeting places for people, ideas, and dialogue. However, the strength of ideas does not come from finding common denominators. Rather, the power and resilience of these ideas is that they are presented and tested in a shared space where differences can meet and safely connect--differences of perspective, experience, knowledge base, methodology, geographical or cultural origins, and institutional affiliation. These are the kinds of vigorous and sympathetic academic milieus in which the most productive deliberations about the future can be held. We strive to create places of intellectual interaction and imagination that our future deserves.

MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

 ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS

 Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers

 Society for Scholarly Publishing

 Crossref

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www.cgnetworks.org



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The Common Ground Media Lab is the research and technology arm of Common Ground Research Networks. Common Ground Research Networks has been researching knowledge ecologies and building scholarly communication technologies since 1984.

Since 2009, we have had the fortune of being based in the University of Illinois Research Park while building our latest platform – CGScholar. This is a suite of apps based on the theoretical work of world-renowned scholars from the College of Education and Department of Computer Science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. CGScholar has been built with the support of funding from the US Department of Education, Illinois Ventures, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The CGScholar platform is being used today by knowledge workers as diverse as: faculty in universities to deliver e-learning experiences; innovative schools wishing to challenge the ways learning and assessment have traditionally worked; and government and non-government organizations connecting local knowledge and experience to wider policy objectives and measurable outcomes. Each of these use cases illustrates the differing of knowledge that CGScholar serves while also opening spaces for new and emerging voices in the world of scholarly communication.

We aim to synthesize these use cases to build a platform that can become a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, one that rigorously democratizes the process of knowledge-making, rewards participants, and offers a secure basis for the sustainable creation and distribution of digital knowledge artifacts.

Our premise has been that media platforms—pre-digital and now also digital—have often not been designed to structure and facilitate a rigorous, democratic, and a sustainable knowledge economy. The Common Ground Media Lab seeks to leverage our own platform – CGScholar – to explore alternatives based on extended dialogue, reflexive feedback, and formal knowledge ontologies. We are developing AI-informed measures of knowledge artifacts, knowledge actors, and digital knowledge communities. We aim to build a trusted marketplace for knowledge work, that rewards participants and sustains knowledge production.

With 27,000 published works and 200,000 users, we have come a long way since our first web app twenty years ago. But we still only see this as the beginning.

As a not-for-profit, we are fundamentally guided by mission: to support the building of better societies and informed citizenries through rigorous and inclusive social knowledge practices, offering in-person and online scholarly communication spaces

Supporters & Partners

As they say, “it takes a village.” We are thankful for the generous support of:



And to our Research Network members!

www.cgnetworks.org/medialab



United Nations
Climate Change

CLIMATE
NEUTRAL NOW

Climate change is one of the most pressing problems facing our world today. It is in the interests of everyone that we engage in systemic change that averts climate catastrophe. At Common Ground Research Networks, we are committed to playing our part as an agent of transformation, promoting awareness, and making every attempt to lead by example. Our Climate Change: Impacts and Responses Research Network has been a forum for sharing critical findings and engaging scientific, theoretical, and practical issues that are raised by the realities of climate change. We've been a part of global policy debates as official observers at COP26 in Glasgow. And we are signatories of the United Nations Sustainability Publishers Compact and the United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative.

Measuring

In 2022 we start the process of tracking and measuring emissions for all aspects of what we do. The aim is to build a comprehensive picture of our baselines to identify areas where emissions can be reduced and construct a long-term plan of action based on the GHG Emissions Calculation Tool and standard established by the United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative.

Reducing

At the same time, we are not waiting to act. Here are some of the "low hanging fruit" initiatives we are moving on immediately: all conference programs from print to electronic-only; removing single-use cups and offering reusable bottles at all our conferences; working closely with all vendors, suppliers, and distributors on how we can work together to reduce waste; offering robust online options as a pathway to minimize travel. And this is only a small sample of what we'll be doing in the short term.

Contributing

As we work towards establishing and setting net-zero targets by 2050, as enshrined in the Paris Agreement and United Nations Climate Neutral Now Initiative, and to make further inroads in mitigating our impacts today, we are participating in the United Nations Carbon Offset program. As we see climate change as having broad social, economic, and political consequences, we are investing in the following projects.

- Fiji Nadarivatu Hydropower Project
- DelAgua Public Health Program in Eastern Africa
- Jangi Wind Farm in Gujarat

Long Term Goals

We're committing to long-term science-based net-zero targets for our operations – and we believe we can do this much sooner than 2050. We'll be reporting annually via The Climate Neutral Now reporting mechanism to transparently communicate how we are meeting our commitments to climate action.

www.cgnetworks.org/about/climate-pledge