

SCNAT sustainability science dialogues:

Sustainable mitigation and adaptation to climate change

Host: Université de Neuchâtel

Date and location: September 28th 4-7 pm, Neuchâtel, Aula des Jeunes-Rives

Organizers: Prof. Martine Rebetez and Prof. Bruno Lanz, University of Neuchâtel

Dr Gabriela Wülser and Dr Anja Bretzler, SCNAT

Description: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations encompasses the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an urgent call for action adopted by all Member States. Switzerland is not on track to meet the SDGs. How can science best contribute to accelerating this process?

The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences have identified six priority themes¹ which outline the most pressing respective research needs. In order to address these needs, this event aims to identify in which thematic areas the University of Neuchâtel could make a contribution, where research gaps exist and which collaborations could be promising.

Participants are invited to reflect together on the following questions:

- In which aspects do they already contribute to the Academies' Priority Themes?
- In which areas do gaps and unresolved questions exist? How and with what kind of partnerships could they best be addressed?

This event will consider these questions in the specific context of climate change: how can societies mitigate and adapt in a sustainable manner? We gather contributions by 25 Professors and research leaders across all faculties of the University of Neuchâtel to provide a concise overview about ongoing research in that area and initiate transdisciplinary exchanges. This will trigger new collaborations among researchers along the themes identified by the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences.

Target group: Professors and research group leaders at the University of Neuchâtel

Languages: French and English

Number of participants: around 25 presenters, three moderators from the SCNAT, and one managing assistant

Objectives:

1. Offer a platform to exchange information about ongoing research in line with priority themes
2. Generate synergies and new collaborations to fill in research gaps
3. Foster an interdisciplinary dialogue in the area of sustainability in general and climate change in particular

Website: <https://sustainability.scnat.ch/en/id/HBy4A?embed=jAFWC>

¹ These priority themes are:

- Thriving Spaces, Sustainability and Spatial Development
- Net-zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions Society
- Economic and Financial Systems for Wellbeing
- Shared Values, Visions, and Pathways for Sustainability
- Synergies, Trade-offs and Common Threads

Wuelser G, Chesney M, Mayer H, Niggli U, Pohl C, Sahakian M, Stauffacher M, Zinsstag J, Edwards P (2020) : Priority Themes for Swiss Sustainability Research. Swiss Academies Reports 15 (5). Available at: <https://sustainability.scnat.ch/prioritythemes>

Detailed program

Time	Session	Speaker (Faculty)
16:00	Introduction: Gabriela Wuelser (SCNAT) and Martine Rebetez (UniNE)	
16:10	<i>Mitigation, Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions (chair: Bruno Lanz, UniNE)</i>	
	Importance du sous-sol pour l'adaptation aux CC	Benoît Valley (FS)
	Séquestration du carbone dans les sols agricoles	Jérémy Forney (FLSH)
	Can precision agriculture help to mitigate climate change?	Theodoor Turlings (FS)
	Green IS, l'utilisation de systèmes d'information pour faciliter l'adoption de comportements durables	Adrian Holzer (FSE)
	Réduction des émissions liées aux voyages académiques	Jean-Marie Grether (FSE)
	Comment concilier engagement et vie universitaire ?	Alexandre Aebi (FS)
16:35	<i>Thriving Spaces: Sustainability and Spatial Development (chair: Bruno Lanz, UniNE)</i>	
	Hydrogéologie stochastique et changement climatique : quels risques pour les futures utilisations des eaux souterraines ?	Philippe Renard (FS)
	La mobilité comme adaptation	Etienne Piguet (FLSH)
	Les amibes de tourbières, témoins précieux des changements climatiques.	Edward Mitchell (FS)
	Changement climatique et territoire	Valérie Défago Gaudin (FD)
	Impact des changements climatiques sur la biodiversité alpine	Sergio Rasmann (FS)
	Forêts et changements climatiques	Delphine Clara Zemp (FS)
17:00	<i>Food for People and the Planet (chair: Bruno Lanz, UniNE)</i>	
	Changement climatique et eaux souterraines : opportunités et défis sociétaux et scientifiques	Daniel Hunkeler (FS)
	Adaptation de la viticulture aux changements climatiques	Martine Rebetez (FLSH)
	Le sol face au changement climatique : indicateur ou régulateur ?	Claire Le Bayon (FS)
	Le comportement des sociétés préhistoriques du bassin du Nil face à l'aridification du climat durant l'Holocène : peut-on construire des modèles prédictifs ?	Matthieu Honegger (FLSH)
17:15	Questions and discussion (moderation: Gabriela Wuelser, SCNAT)	
17:35	BREAK	
17:50	<i>Economic and Financial systems for Well-being (chair: Martine Rebetez, UniNE)</i>	
	Investissements énergétiques dans les bâtiments	Mehdi Farsi (FSE)
	Le rôle des crises dans la transition	Philip Balsiger (FLSH)
	Quelles interventions pour motiver la sobriété climatique ?	Bruno Lanz (FSE)
18:00	<i>Shared values, visions and pathways for sustainability, dealing with Synergies, Trade-offs, and Common Threads (chair: Martine Rebetez, UniNE)</i>	
	Apport des arts dans l'éducation au développement durable	Laure Kloetzer (FLSH)
	Framing products and online services as "Automated" influences consumer's preference for sustainable options	Michael Puntiroli (FSE)
	Genre et changements climatiques : repenser la masculinité hégémonique	Ellen Hertz (FLSH)
	Recherches interdisciplinaires en droit public	Christine Guy-Ecabert (FD)
	Histoire des techniques	Gianenrico Benasconi (FLSH)
	L'éclairage de l'archéologie préhistorique pour une appréciation dynamique des relations entre l'humanité et l'environnement, et l'impact de la plasticité culturelle face aux défis du changement climatique	Marc-Antoine Kaeser (FLSH)
18:25	Questions and discussion (moderation: Gabriela Wuelser, SCNAT)	
18:45	Concluding words: Bruno Lanz (UniNE)	
18:50	APÉRO	

FD : Faculté de droit ; FLSH : Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines ; FS : Faculté des sciences ; FSE : Faculté des sciences économiques