

SCORAI-ERSCP-WUR Conference

July 5-8, 2023 | Wageningen | The Netherlands

Transforming Consumption-Production Systems Toward Just and Sustainable Futures



SCP23 is organized jointly by the following 3 organizations:







About this document

Welcome to the abstract book for the SCP23 conference! This document serves as a comprehensive documentation of the intellectual contributions shared by our esteemed authors. It aims to provide guidance to conference delegates, allowing them to plan their own program and connect with relevant colleagues. We also want to encourage conference participants to explore the SCP23 OSF repository where full conference papers are published (osf.io/meetings/SCP23). We would like to emphasize that all rights regarding the intellectual contributions remain with the authors.

Please note that while we have endeavored to present an accurate schedule, changes may still occur. These changes could be due to unforeseen circumstances such as late cancellations or adjustments in chairs or rooms. We strongly encourage you to stay updated by following the conference communication on our website (www.scp-conference-2023.com), on-site notices, email updates, and our social media channels. For any inquiries or assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to the conference organizers at contact@scp-conference-2023.com.

Wishing you a wonderful conference filled with insightful discussions and fruitful connections!

SCP23 Organizing Team

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We would like to acknowledge the support of our International Scientific Committee in the review process and extend our gratitude to Manisha Anantharaman, Ralf Aschemann, Flor Avelino, Julia Backhaus, Vincent Blok, Bettina Bock, Valerie Brachya, Janis Brizga, Ashley Colby, Anna Davies, Doris Fuchs, Arnout Fischer, Frances Fahy, Bente Halkier, Kersty Hobson, Hilje van der Horst, Oana Iliescu, Edurne Inigo, Melanie Jaeger-Erben, Charlotte Louise Jensen, Annelise de Jong, Rebeka Kovacic, Sylvia Lorek, Kira Matus, Barbara Mierlo, Henrike Rau, Pavel Ruzicka, Marlyne Sahakian, Hans Schnitzer, Ulf Schrader, Jordi Segalas, Jillian Student, Aida Szilagyi, Edina Vadovics, Bas van Vliet, Stefan Wahlen, Renate Wesselink, and Renee Wever.

Cite this document as follows:

Caballero-Pons, Maria; Fischer, Daniel; Greene, Mary, Shen, Julia; Wertheim-Heck, Sigrid; Brown, Halina; Guillen-Hanson, Georgina; Vergragt, Philip J.; Quist, Jaco; Rubik, Frieder (Eds.) (2023). Book of Abstracts of the Joint SCORAI-ERSCP-WUR Conference on Transforming Consumption-Production Systems Toward Just and Sustainable Futures (SCP23). Wageningen. DOI: 10.18174/632251



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Envisioning net zero futures: What do people in China, Sweden and the UK consider desirable and feasible for a net-zero 2050

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Radical change is needed to have a chance at meeting climate targets and limiting the detrimental effects of climate change. A major challenge will be to strike a balance between systems and individual change, especially with regard to reducing resource-intensive consumption patterns. A better understanding of what people consider desirable and feasible for a net-zero future plays a key role in achieving these. Place-based visioning workshops are an innovative approach to addressing the challenges ahead.

We conducted place-based deliberative visioning workshops in China (N= 29), Sweden (N= 32), and the UK (N= 46). In the workshops, we explored futures that incorporate ideas such as a sharing economy, collaborative community growing projects, shared mobility options, and economic models and values underpinning transformations towards low-carbon futures. Four workshops conducted in Chengdu and Shanghai (China) provide an insight into how people in one of the fastest growing economies envision a net zero future, dominated by a tension between economic growth and the motivation to create a future that is liveable for future generations. Four workshops in Gothenburg and Stockholm (Sweden) give a glimpse of what people in one of the most progressive countries consider possible and what has already been learned from existing initiatives to reduce carbon emissions. And six workshops in Manchester, Devon, and Aberdeen (UK) highlight the crossroads we are facing to radically transform our lifestyles, places, and systems in places that are differently affected by low-carbon living (e.g. due to dependency on the oil industry, farming, or urbanization).

Findings show that in Sweden, many of the net-zero strategies discussed were seen as temporary pathways to pave the way but were considered not radical enough. In contrast, participants in the UK expressed mixed affinity towards more radical approaches (e.g., living carfree; no flying). In China, the role of technology, clean air, and community living played an important role in future visions. The findings emphasize the critical interplay between individual and system change. Methodologically, place-based deliberative workshops highlight the importance of societal, cultural, and economic systems when exploring net-zero futures.