

## Global Researcher Attitudes to Societal Impact: SDG7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

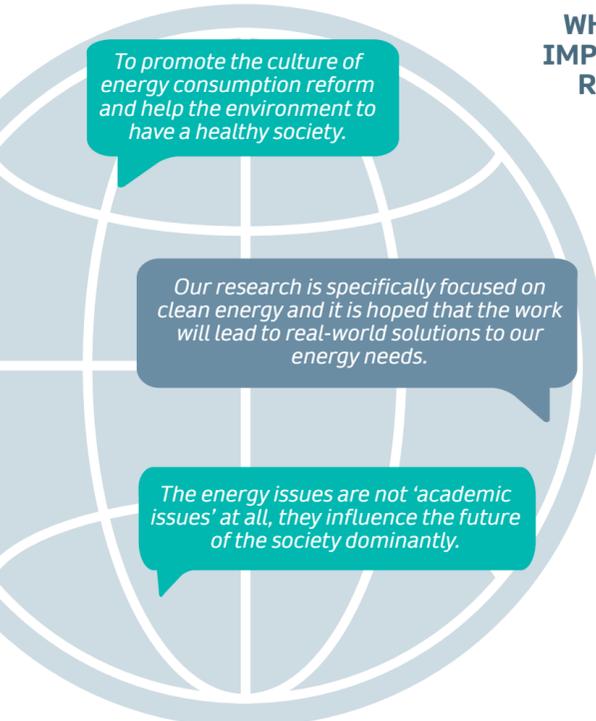


These findings are part of a **GLOBAL SURVEY** of more than **9,000** researchers. Nearly **800** researchers identified SDG7 as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to their research.

Researchers who identified **AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY** as relevant to their research most often said that **CLIMATE ACTION (48%)** and **INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE (42%)** were related to their work as well.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIETAL IMPACT TO RESEARCHERS

**70%** of researchers who identify SDG7 as related to their research describe **societal impact** as either **extremely or very important**.

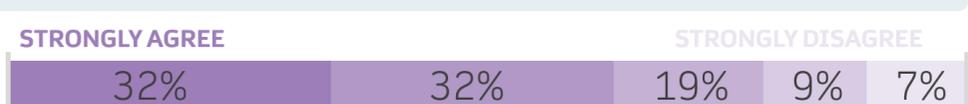


### WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF IMPACT DO YOU HOPE THAT YOUR MOST RECENT PUBLICATION WILL HAVE?



### THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH FUNDING

The majority of researchers believe that the funding of research should be more strongly linked to demonstrable societal impact.

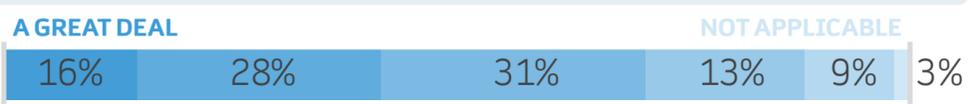


**WHILE SOME DISAGREE** →

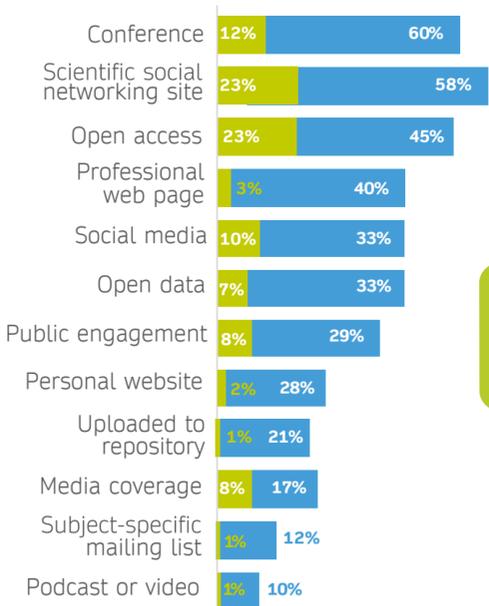
- Linkage is too weak for many funders. NSF (National Science Foundation) has it about right.*
- It is a pressing need, considering the current state of our planet, both socially and ecologically.*
- ...I believe that the societal impact of funded research is essential for our future.*
- Not everything in science is so relevant when it is discovered. Actually fundamental research may only have impact many years after the discovery.*
- I do basic research, and sometimes it is hard to explain the societal impact of the proposed project.*

### COMMUNICATING RESEARCH

**44%** of researchers say their choice of journal was influenced 'a great deal' or 'a lot' by the intended societal impact of their research.



**Presenting at a conference** is the most popular way SDG7 researchers increase their societal impact.



But more researchers consider **open access and scientific social networking sites to have the greatest impact**

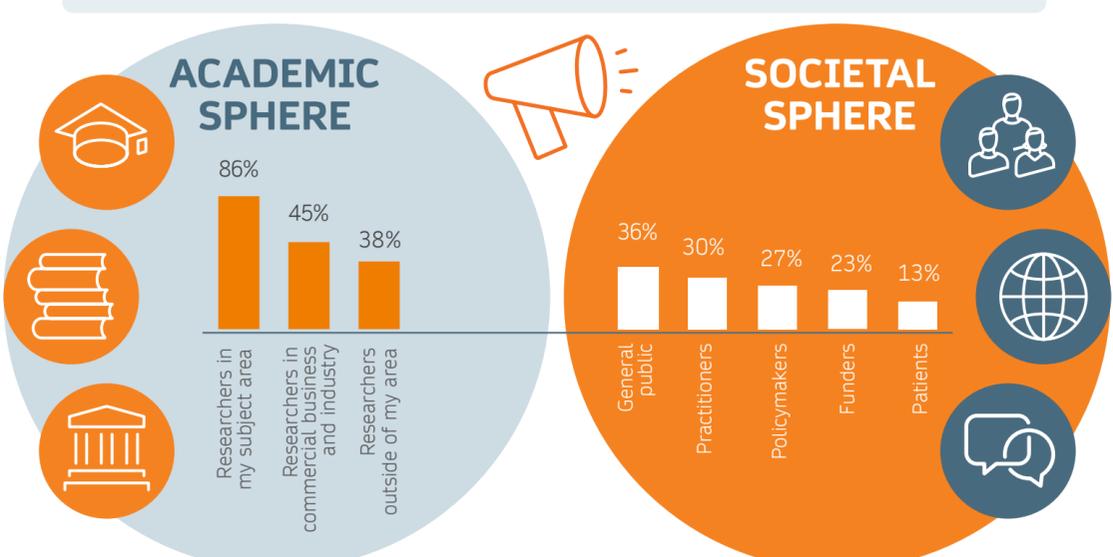
*People from society, in general, and not only my peers, will have access to the research work, making them aware of the work being developed for improving the ways for generating electrical energy which is essential for their every day life.*

*Without open access most readers can't get to the research.*

### MEASURING ACADEMIC VS. SOCIETAL IMPACT

An overwhelming majority of researchers track the societal impact of their research to some extent, but there is limited tracking of impact outside of academic research.

**Q** Which of the following audiences were you trying to reach with your most recent publication?



**Q** Which **one** method do you think is the best for tracking the societal impact of your research?



What are the **biggest roadblocks** stopping researchers from measuring the societal impact of their work?



To learn more about our new strategic partnership to accelerate progress on global societal challenges through open research, visit: [springernature.com/SDGimpact](http://springernature.com/SDGimpact)

