

Global Researcher Attitudes to Societal Impact: SDG13: CLIMATE ACTION

These findings are part of a **GLOBAL SURVEY** of more than **9,000** researchers. Over 900 researchers identified SDG13 as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to their research.



Researchers who identified **CLIMATE ACTION** as relevant to their research most often said that AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY (43%) and GOOD HEALTH AND **WELL-BEING (41%)** were related to their work as well.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIETAL IMPACT TO RESEARCHERS

describe **societal impact** as either **extremely or very important**.

of researchers who identify SDG13 as related to their research

I want things to change to reduce climate change. I don't care if my paper doesn't get cited as long as things change that reduce our carbon footprint for a more sustainable future.

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

ACADEMIC IMPACTTO INFORM FUTURE RESEARCH 75%



SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 55%



IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE 44%

Because climate change impact can be mitigated only with the participation of communities.

To take part in solving, at least in part, some

of the problems related to agriculture (e.g.

impact of plant diseases and climate change,

less available land).

To trigger a change in the understanding

of climate change.

The majority of researchers believe that the funding of research should be more

THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH FUNDING

strongly linked to demonstrable societal impact. STRONGLY AGREE

35% 34% 15% 9% Environmental deterioration (air, water, plastics, climate) is an existential threat to humanity. Climate change is worse than is commonly thought and is being ignored by powerful politicians. It's hard enough to get funding as it The true social impact of fundamental is - to demand demonstrable social research is often visible only on VERY WHILE SOME impact is just another requirement long time scales. Linking funding to DISAGREE social impact will lead to researchers that will make getting funding gaming the system and/or shifting to less innovative ("safer") research. difficult, simply because of unfulfilled potential.

of researchers say their choice of journal was influenced 'a great deal'

COMMUNICATING RESEARCH

A GREAT DEAL

or 'a lot' by the intended societal impact of their research.

2% 30% 29% 11% 9% Scientific social networking sites and presenting at a conference are the most popular ways SDG13 researchers increase their societal impact.

60% networking site 9% Conference 60% Open access **51%** Professional 42% web page Social media 11% 37% Open data 35% Public engagement 11% 32% Personal website 28% Uploaded to 22% repository Media coverage 10% 21% Subject-specific 13% mailing list Podcast or video

ACADEMIC

SPHERE

Scientific social

But more researchers consider

■ Which have you done?

open access to have the greatest impact.

Which one has the greatest effect?

Although the scientific social networking site consists with social media and networking groups outside the



that the study actually exists and is important and interesting - otherwise they won't reach out, grab and read it. MEASURING ACADEMIC VS. SOCIETAL IMPACT An overwhelming majority of researchers track the societal impact of their research to

Open access is very important for public

awareness, but first people have to learn



SOCIETAL

SPHERE

Which of the following audiences were you trying to reach with your most

recent publication?

84% 42% 41% 35% 12% Researchers in commercial business and industry Researchers in my subject area Researchers outside of my area

ACADEMIC 32%

POLICY RESEARCH YOUR RESEARCH **PUBLICATIONS DOCUMENTS PAPERS PUBLICATION** 15% 13% 14%

Which one method do you think is the best for tracking the societal impact of

CITATIONS

FROM OTHER

your research?

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

CITATIONS/

REFERENCES IN

DOWNLOADS

OF YOUR

PROFILE OF

READERS OF

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TIME **TOOLS** To learn more about our new strategic partnership to accelerate progress on global societal challenges through open research, visit: springernature.com/SDGimpact

> **SPRINGER NATURE GROUP** SDG Programme supporting the Sustainable Development Goals

Dimensions

Our technology partners





DIGITAL : science