

Global Researcher Attitudes to Societal Impact: SDG13: CLIMATE ACTION

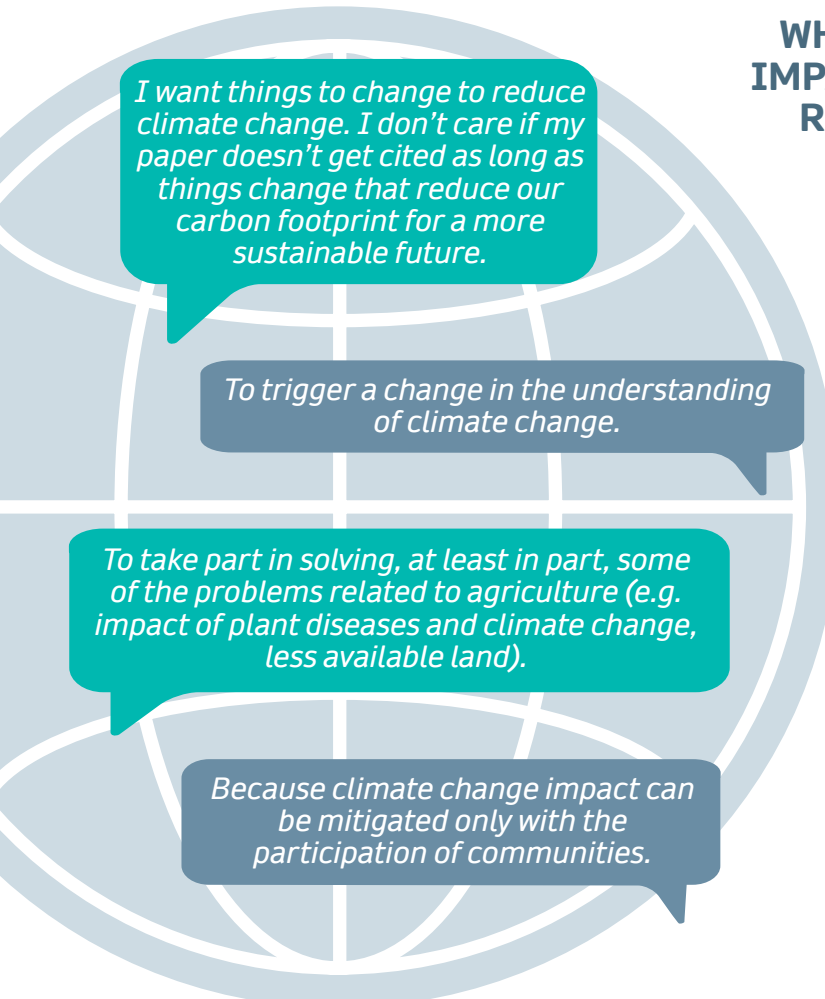


These findings are part of a **GLOBAL SURVEY** of more than **9,000** researchers. Over **900** researchers identified SDG13 as one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to their research.

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

**76%** of researchers who identify SDG13 as related to their research describe **societal impact** as either **extremely or very important**.

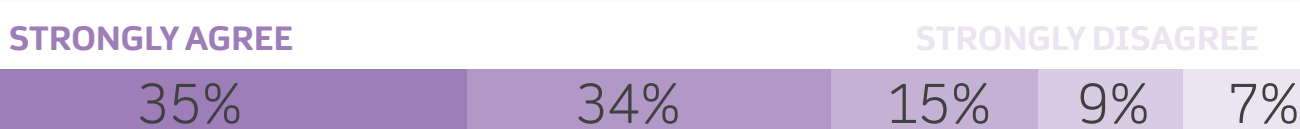


WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF IMPACT DO YOU HOPE THAT YOUR MOST RECENT PUBLICATION WILL HAVE?



THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH FUNDING

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



*Climate change is worse than is commonly thought and is being ignored by powerful politicians.*

*Environmental deterioration (air, water, plastics, climate) is an existential threat to humanity.*

**WHILE SOME DISAGREE** →

*It's hard enough to get funding as it is - to demand demonstrable social impact is just another requirement that will make getting funding difficult, simply because of unfulfilled potential.*

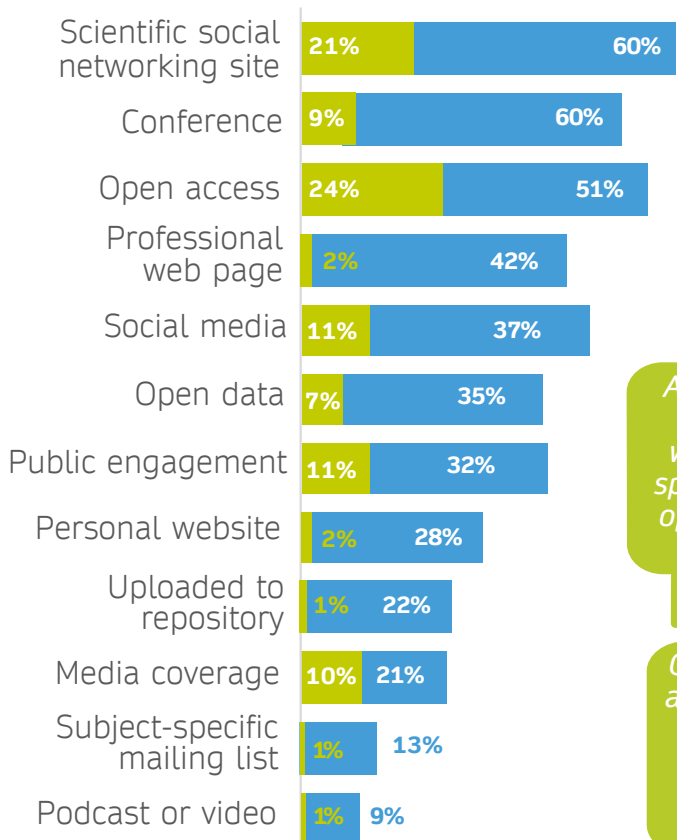
*The true social impact of fundamental research is often visible only on VERY long time scales. Linking funding to social impact will lead to researchers gaming the system and/or shifting to less innovative ("safer") research.*

COMMUNICATING RESEARCH

**47%** of researchers say their choice of journal was influenced 'a great deal' or 'a lot' by the intended societal impact of their research.



**Scientific social networking sites and presenting at a conference** are the most popular ways SDG13 researchers increase their societal impact.



But more researchers consider **open access to have the greatest impact.**



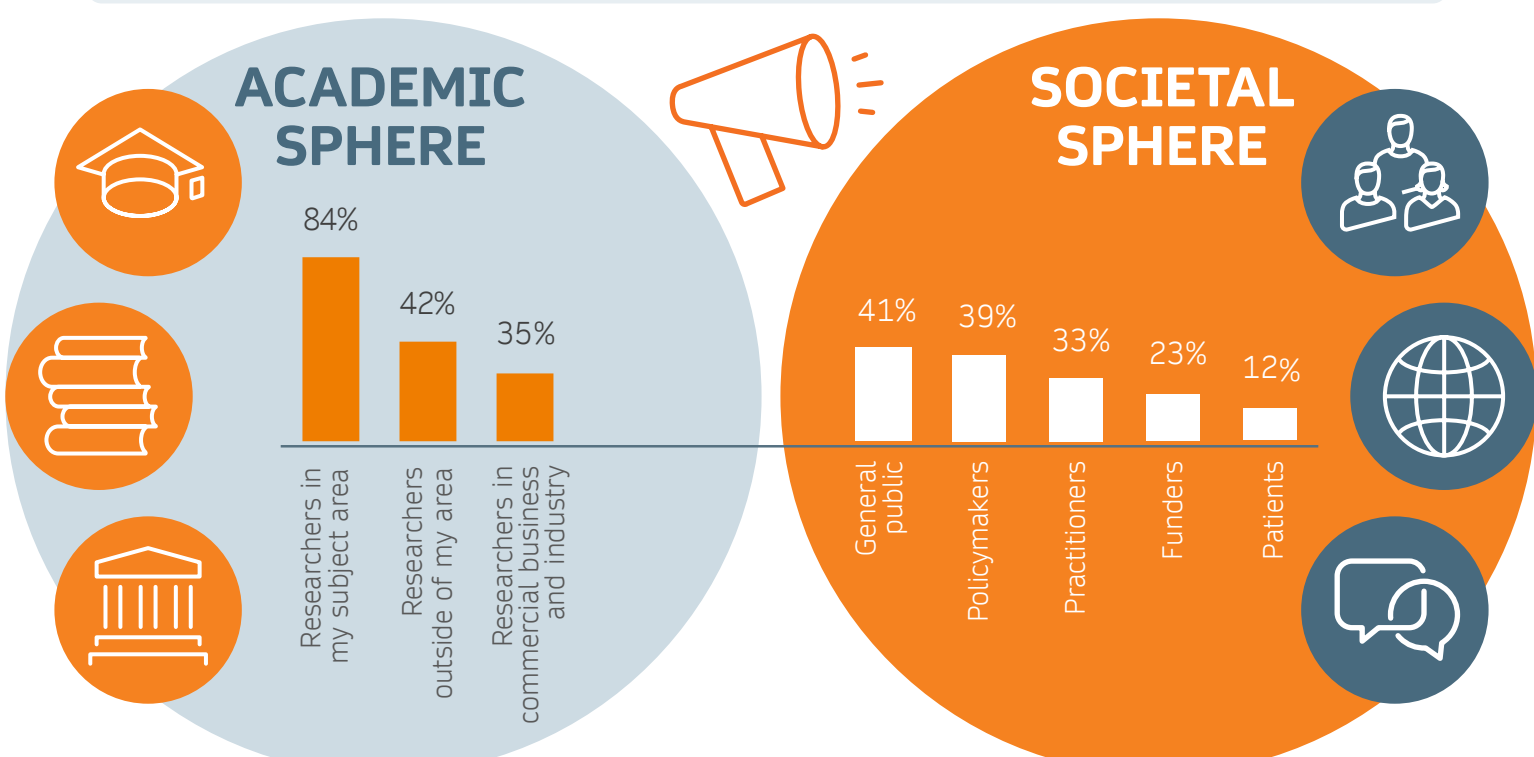
*Although the scientific social networking site consists mainly of researchers, the avenue for interaction with social media and networking groups outside the sphere is very wide. In my opinion, this presents a good opportunity for interaction with, and dissemination of, research outcomes to society in general.*

*Open access is very important for public awareness, but first people have to learn that the study actually exists and is important and interesting - otherwise they won't reach out, grab and read it. So: social media first.*

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?



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