VirtualStudyTour:

COMMUNICATING CLIMATE CHANGE USING DATA TOOLKITS

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

[Due to the unpredictability of the global landscape at this time, speakers may change without notice]

Alessandra Fornetti is Executive Director of the TEN Program on Sustainability at the Venice International University (VIU), Italy. With a humanities background, she has been working for almost two decades in the field of sustainable development, promoting international projects on capacity building, communication and dissemination with experiences in China, East Europe and Central Asia. In her role as Executive Director, she promotes the dialogue among the different stakeholders to support the creation of knowledge networks bridging research, policy makers, entrepreneurs and the wide public. As Coordinator of H2020 project QUEST – Quality and Effectiveness in Science and Technology Communication she has been leading an interdisciplinary group of scholars and professionals investigating and supporting quality science communication in different media, such as journalism, social media and museums for scientists and communicators. www.questproject.eu.
She is currently involved in a number of projects and initiatives on science communication and, more widely, on the communication of research results in a variety of field including Artificial Intelligence, Cultural Heritage and Climate Change.

Suzanne Franks, Professor of Journalism at the department of Journalism at City, University of London (UK) of which she was head between 2016 and 2019. In the 1990s she left the BBC to start an independent production company, Sevenday Productions, which amongst other activities was awarded the first outside contract for the televising of Parliament. Since 2008, she works within the academia.
Suzanne Franks coordinated the research work on Journalism and Science Journalism in QUEST project, contributing to QUEST papers and producing a series of tools for journalists including a Curriculum on Science Journalism for MA students, guidelines for Quality Science communication in Journalism, Explainers for journalists writing about science. She also coordinated the QUEST series of podcast produced for the lay public. www.questproject.eu

Fabiana Zollo is an Assistant Professor in the Dept. of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics and Research Fellow in the Center for the Humanities & Social Change at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy. Her research investigates information and misinformation spreading, social dynamics, and the emergence of collective narratives on online social media. She collected several papers on this topic, with both national and International co-authors. Since 2019, she is serving as an External Expert to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). She is a member of the Task Force "Data Science" established by AGCOM, the Italian Communications Regulatory Authority, and a member of the Working Group established by the Italian Presidency of Council to study the phenomenon of disinformation on COVID-19. She coordinated the research work on Science Communication and Social Media in QUEST project, contributing to QUEST papers and producing a series of tools to support scientists, journalists, museum explainers and communicators using social media to communicate research. www.questproject.eu

Sarah Driver-Jowitt has worked almost exclusively in the for-purpose and social enterprise sectors - brokering partnerships with stakeholders, funders and governments…aside from her one foray as a Marketing Manager for an international media company. As a strategic relationship builder, Sarah has more than 20 years' experience creating language and resources for advocacy and fundraising. Her experience building messaging and marketing campaigns includes: initiating and leveraging 3 international documentaries; viral marketing campaigns; website design and print media. In parallel, she enjoys leveraging WhatsApp as an information and social cohesion tool.

Alex van Eeden s a freelance media practitioner, consultant and researcher, with experience in social media management and online brand presence development. Alongside her freelance work, she is completing her master's degree at the University of Cape Town in media theory and practice, having conducted substantial research into online engagement, with a particular focus on climate change communication.

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