



NEWSLETTER: JANUARY 2024

Our [Top Action Tips](#) provide useful tools for putting policy into action and helping researchers, authors, publishers and others take practical steps towards improving sustainability.

1. Upcoming events

Researcher-2-Reader Conference, 2024

The Fellows will be presenting again at this year's R2R conference in February in London. Last year we ran a series of workshops; this time we are doing a plenary on “*Translating research into action: Communicating with professionals, policymakers and the public on sustainability*”, discussing plan language summaries, AI, and practical implications of our guidance for practitioners, in consultation with the audience. Details of the conference are [available here](#).

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RESEARCHER TO READER CONFERENCE — LONDON — 20-21 FEBRUARY 2024
The premier forum for discussion of the international scholarly communications ecosystem — bringing knowledge from the Researcher to the Reader

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2024 Conference Programme

The programme development for the 2024 *Researcher to Reader Conference*, in London on 20-21 February, is complete, and full details are shown below. The final programme is subject to change.

Researcher to Reader

PUT R2R IN YOUR SCHEDULE :-

Researcher to Reader
February 20, 2024

London Book Fair

Similarly, we are making a return visit to LBF in March this year with a slot on the Sustainability Hub, when we will be discussing “*New resources for publishers to support the Sustainable Development Goals*”, with a focus on equity in scholarly communication, recognition for applied research on sustainability, and ways of extending the reach of book and journal content on the SDGs. Details of the full event can be [found here](#).

Sustainability at The London Book Fair

The past few years have seen a growing consensus within the publishing industry of the need to turn words into action on sustainability. After looking at and listening to feedback from our previous shows, we have made a collaborative effort to make considerable changes to make LBF a greener event.

Sustainability Hub

In 2023 we introduced our new Sustainability Hub at LBF, with a stage devoted to raising awareness of the growing climate emergency and how the industry should best respond. We are delighted to be expanding the Sustainability Hub at LBF24.

2. Plans for 2024

The Fellows continue to meet every week 'virtually', and we always have a full agenda, often inviting colleagues and partner organizations to share ideas and discuss ways to collaborate. In the last twelve months we welcomed a number of new members, and among other things, Fellows have been discussing:

- Improving equity in relation to article processing charges levied by publishers in support of Open Access
- To make research on sustainability more accessible, encourage the inclusion of implications for practitioners and/or policymakers in abstracts, and also encourage the use of plain language summaries.
- Continued active engagement with partner organizations, such as UNESCO, Kudos, ratings and rankings organizations, Open Pharma and others
- Extending the reach of the Fellows into Africa, welcoming our first members from Southern Africa
- Individual Fellows contribute various articles on SDGs and speak at events such as the upcoming *UN Economic and Social Partnership Forum (2024)*, and the *UN Commission for Social Development (62nd Session)*.

3. Past events

STM conference, December 2023

Day 3 of STM week on Dec. 7th was '[Sustainability: Redefining Impact](#)' hosted by STM's Social Responsibility Committee and led by its Chair (and SDG Publishers Compact Fellow), Rachel Martin. We heard from the [UN Global Compact UK network](#) about the critical need for more stakeholders working to progress the SDGs, and learned about how universities are also working out how to map their research to the SDGs. Rachel Martin announced the release of the [Level 2 of STM's SDGs Sustainability Roadmap](#), and we heard about industry SDG-aligned initiatives from the [Joint Commitment for Action on Inclusion and Diversity in Publishing](#), the [PA](#), [BIC](#) and [ALPSP](#). We ended the day bringing together organizations at similar stages of their sustainability journeys to discuss challenges, needs and ways to make progress.



APE, January 2024

Academic Publishing in Europe (APE) in Berlin kicked off with a panel asking the biggest question of the decade “*Can scholarly publishers change the world? The role of the SDGs within the publishing industry*”. Stephanie Dawson of ScienceOpen opened the discussion with the results of the survey among industry members that showed extremely high support for the SDGs (close to 100%). The number one feedback from the survey participants was to share more examples of what publishers can do to meaningfully support the SDGs.

Agata Morka from PLOS and Ritu Dhand from SpringerNature highlighted initiatives by their organizations ranging from reducing carbon footprints and increasing accessibility through open access to highlighting research content that supports the SDGs and changing how editors assess locally impactful research. Nikesh Goselia from Cactus reminded everyone of the poor progress report at the halfway point in 2023 and the urgent need to make real-world impact. He showcased a number of SDG knowledge hubs from the OECD, RELX, R Discovery and more. As always, collaboration is key. Charlie Rapple rounded out the panel with a call to “translate and contextualize research” around the SDGs and beyond. Communicating with non-experts through translations into local languages, plain-language summaries, briefings, stories and more is essential to creating change. SDGs are a topic that will continue to move the scholarly publishing community in 2024.



Shared information on sustainable development

If, as a member of the Compact Fellows Virtual Community, you have material that you would like to share with others in the Community or announcements about upcoming events that you would like to make, please send to hesticompactfellows@gmail.com and they will be considered for inclusion in future editions of the newsletter.