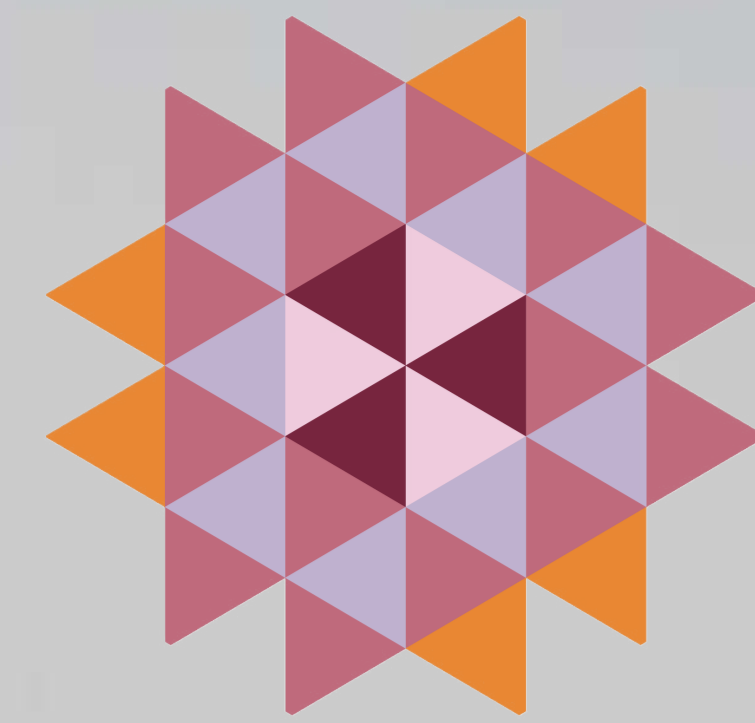


TC/ESG 2025



7th biennial conference

August 18–21, 2025 | Johannesburg, SA with pre-conference activities in Kruger

SUPPORTING PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES





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Important dates

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Final Registration Deadline | July 1, 2025 |
| Pre–Conference Workshop | August 18, 2025 |
| TC/ESG 2025 Conference | August 18–21, 2025 |

Sponsorship Dates

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Early commitment deadline to be featured in the first wave of promotional materials (newsletters, social media, early website listing) | April 1, 2025 |
| Pre–Conference Workshop for Gold–tier supporting partners to be included in all printed materials | May 1, 2025 |
| TC/ESG 2025 Conference to guarantee inclusion in conference materials | June 1, 2025 |

Contact details

Conference Information

info@transformationscommunity.org | [TC/ESG25 Conference Website](#)

Exhibition & Supporting Partnerships

cristobal@transformationscommunity.org

Venue information

[Protea Hotel Wanderers, Johannesburg](#)



Welcome words



The Transformations Community is a global network of action researchers and reflective practitioners dedicated to fostering transformations toward equitable, sustainable, and regenerative futures. Since 2013, we've convened dynamic conferences that connect transformative ideas with meaningful action. Main conference activities will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, with workshop and field trip opportunities in Kruger National Park, offering a unique opportunity to share knowledge, build skills, and drive meaningful change. We can't wait to connect with you!

Bruce Goldstein

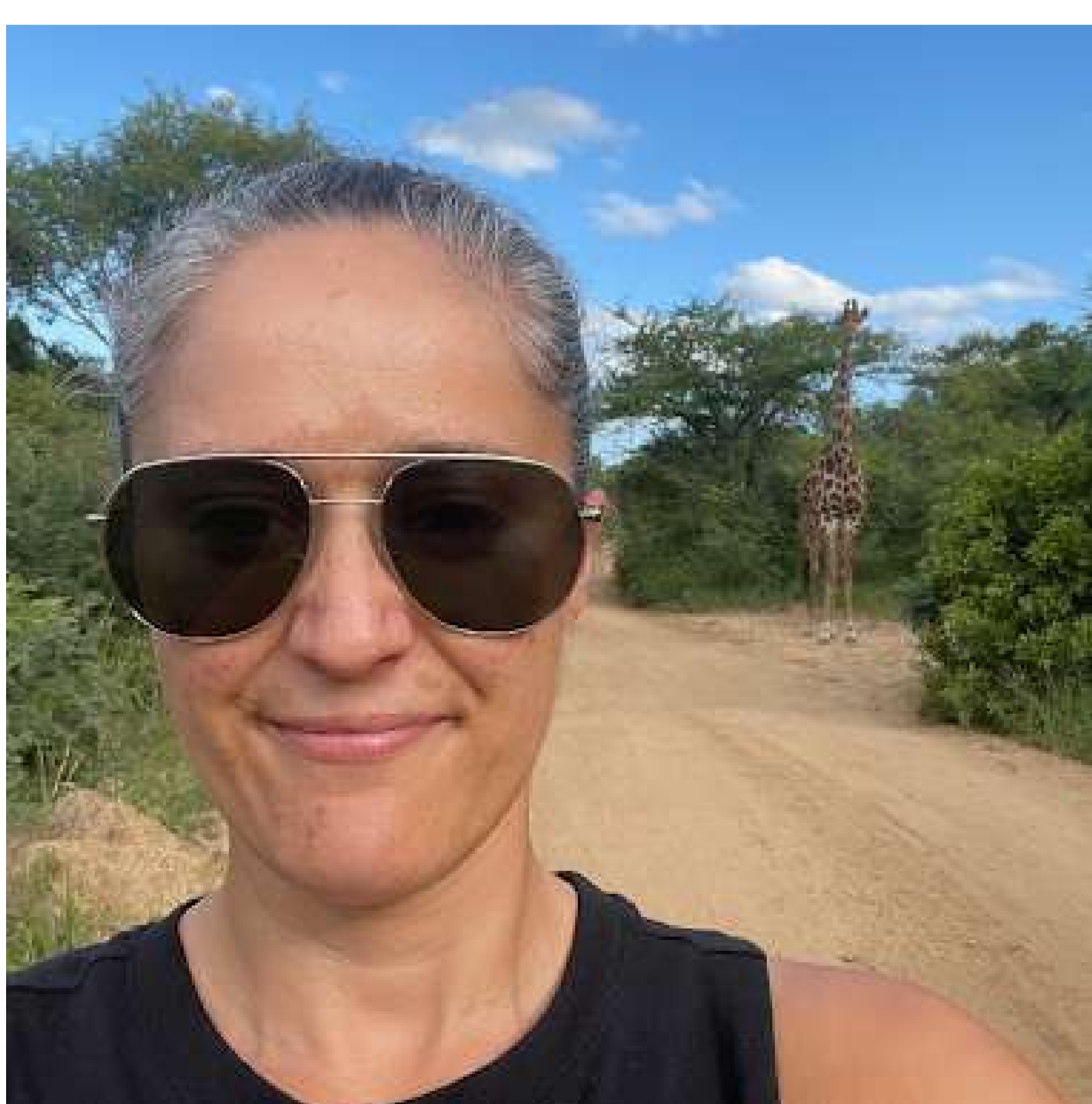
Lead Weaver, Transformations Community



The Earth System Governance Project is a global research network that brings together scholars from the social sciences and humanities to advance knowledge at the intersection of global environmental change and governance. In August 2025, we're thrilled to join forces with the Transformations Community for a landmark joint conference.

Kyla Tienhaara

Scientific Steering Committee, Earth System Governance Project



We're delighted to host the conference at Johannesburg, known as a vibrant hub of innovation, culture, and social justice, it provides the perfect setting to explore the theme "Navigating Sustainability Transformations Toward Justice and Equity," the event will bring together justice and equity advocates from both communities. We look forward to welcoming you to South Africa!

Laura Pereira

Wits University, Johannesburg, South Africa



TC/ESG25

Overview

In 2025, the Transformations Community (TC) and the Earth System Governance (ESG) Project are hosting a joint conference for the first time, featuring an online session and an in-person gathering in Johannesburg, South Africa, from August 18–21, 2025, with pre-conference activities in Kruger. This landmark event will bring the Transformations Community to Africa for the first time, with the ESG Project returning to the continent for the first time in almost a decade, offering a unique opportunity to blend global insights with local expertise in sustainability transformations.

Conference Theme

The TC/ESG25 Conference, themed Navigating Sustainability Transformations Towards Justice and Equity, will host sessions across diverse, interdisciplinary topics that explore the pathways for sustainable, equitable transformations. These sessions are designed to foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among researchers, practitioners, and community leaders who are committed to actionable solutions for sustainability challenges.

Call for Proposals (Closed)

We invited contributions that aligned with our conference themes, encouraging both theoretical and practical perspectives that highlighted case studies, methodologies, and innovative approaches to sustainability. Submissions focusing on real-world applications and showcasing systemic impact were highly encouraged. Full details on submission themes and criteria can be found [here](#).

Attendees and Engagement

We expect over 400 delegates from across the globe, including thought leaders, academics, practitioners, and community partners. With significant participation anticipated from African institutions, TC/ESG25 offers a valuable platform for exchange, capacity building, and developing collaborative networks that address global and regional sustainability priorities.

Supporting Partnerships

Supporting TC/ESG25 as a supporting partner or exhibitor is a valuable opportunity to connect with a focused, engaged audience dedicated to sustainability and transformative action. Our supporting partnership options are designed to suit organizations of various sizes, providing diverse levels of engagement and visibility. This conference marks a significant milestone in bringing global discussions to Africa, making it accessible and impactful for regional stakeholders.

Organizers & Partners

Bruce Goldstein: Lead Weaver, Transformations Community

Laura Pereira: Professor, University of the Witwatersrand

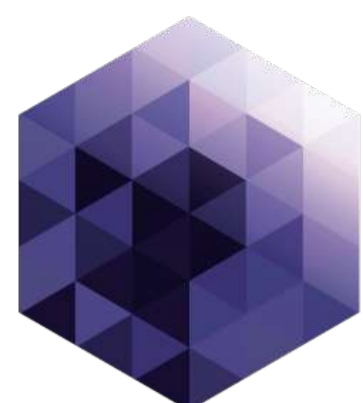
Kyla Tienhaara: Associate Professor, Queen's University
Member of the ESG Network's Scientific Steering Committee

Our network includes academic institutions, corporate allies, and community advocates, all dedicated to fostering sustainable transformations.

[Read more about the TC/ESG 2025 organizers, partners, and committees.](#)



History and purpose



TRANSFORMATIONS
COMMUNITY

The biennial series of international Transformations conferences began in 2013 with the "Transformation in a Changing Climate" conference at the University of Oslo, Norway. From the outset, this conference series aimed to create a unique transdisciplinary space for scholars, practitioners, and artists working on transformations towards sustainability to engage in dialogue and practice. Conference sessions moved away from traditional academic presentations in favor of short presentations, long conversations, and practical workshops. Artistic and creative practices were integral to the program, and participants had opportunities to learn about local transformations in the host city.

The conference series has continued to grow, addressing significant themes such as solving problems in the Anthropocene (Sweden, 2015), transformations in practice (Scotland, 2017), learning from transformative action and thinking (Chile, 2019), and enabling positive tipping points in an uncertain world (Online, 2021). The sixth conference in 2023 convened a global network of scholars and practitioners in Sydney, with simultaneous online access and hubs in Prague and Maine, Portland. Themed "Transformative Partnerships for a Better World," it featured a wide range of high-quality sessions, fostering valuable connections and community engagement.

These conferences have led to the establishment of a permanent Transformations Community with an active online presence and a growing program of activities.



Earth
System
Governance

The Earth System Governance Project is the largest global network of social scientists focused on environmental and sustainability governance. The annual ESG conference is a cornerstone event, convening the community around the Earth System Governance Science and Implementation Plan, which sets the research agenda for the next decade.

The tradition of ESG conferences dates back to 2007 in Amsterdam, with subsequent events in locations such as Colorado, Lund, Tokyo, Norwich, Canberra, Nairobi, Utrecht, Oaxaca, Bratislava, Toronto, Nijmegen, and virtual forums. Recent conferences have tackled themes like transformative governance in the context of climate change (Bratislava, 2021), sustainability transitions in response to emerging crises (Toronto, 2022), and bridging sciences and societies for sustainability transformations (Nijmegen, 2023). The 2023 conference featured 678 participants from over 45 countries, with 91 panels and 420 presentations, emphasizing inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration.

The ESG Project partners with universities and organizations worldwide, often utilizing co-hosting arrangements to fund conferences and maintain reasonable registration fees. Previous co-hosts have included renowned universities like Yale, Lund, Keio, and Utrecht; international research institutes such as the German Development Institute and the Stockholm Environment Institute; and large research projects and national PhD schools. These partnerships enrich ESG conferences and enhance visibility and interaction with the global research community.

UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



Wits University, the local host for the Transformations Community/ESG Conference 2025, stands as one of Africa's premier institutions of higher education and research. Founded in 1896, Wits University has established a reputation for academic excellence, pioneering research, and a deep commitment to social justice. The university offers a broad spectrum of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, creating a vibrant intellectual environment that nurtures critical thinking and innovation.

Wits University is not just an academic institution; it is a hub for impactful research that addresses some of the most pressing challenges of our time. The university's strong emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration makes it an ideal host for the Transformations Community/ESG Conference, aligning with the conference's goals of fostering sustainability and social equity. With its deep roots in Johannesburg, a city known for its history of transformation and resilience, Wits University provides a unique and dynamic setting for this significant global event.

The 2025 conference at Wits University will be a key moment for scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to engage with the latest research and practices in sustainability and governance. By partnering with Wits, the conference leverages the university's resources and expertise, ensuring a meaningful and impactful gathering for all participants.



Our Legacy of Impact

Transformations Conference 23

The sixth conference of the Transformations Community convened a global network of scholars and practitioners in Sydney, with a simultaneous online conference and a European Hub Conference in Prague, Czechia, followed by the North American Hub Workshop in Portland, Maine. Our global theme was "Transformative Partnerships for a Better World." We were thrilled by the wide range and quality of our sessions and connections and community that were made, and we're buzzing with excitement for what's next.

TC23 in numbers



TC23 Supporting Partnerships

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our partners. Your support, collaboration, and commitment to our shared goals has been instrumental in our success. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey and for your continued belief in our vision.



Participant Testimonials



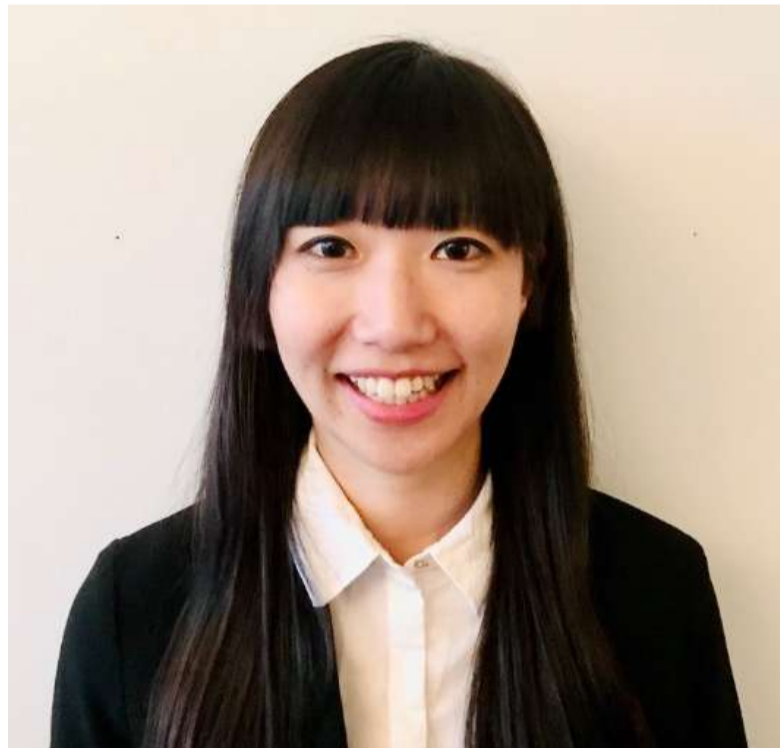
Táíwò I. Olátúnjí
University of Padua

"Speaking and learning at the TC23 was an incredible and insightful experience. Transformations Community is uniquely enriched with various scholars and practitioners. Plus, experiencing Prague was amazingly inspirational!"



Anja Bless
University of Technology Sydney

"Emerging from an inspiring 4 days Transformations 2023, shout out to amazing organising by @chrisjriedy & @UTSISF A wonderful @TransformComm of scholars, practitioners & artists."



Ying-Syuan (Elaine) Huang
McGill University

"Yes! Virtual conferencing can be fun and effective if we are willing and efforts are made! A local learning circle from @BlaneHarvey's LL4S Lab attending @TransformComm 2023 conference"

ESG 2023

The 2023 Radboud Conference on Earth System Governance on 'Bridging Sciences and Societies for Sustainability Transformations' was held in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. The conference was organized by the Radboud Centre for Sustainability Challenges (RCSC) and was part of the University's celebrations of its 100-year anniversary. This was ESG's largest and first fully-hybrid conference, welcoming 530 in-person attendees and 120 online attendees. In addition to the five analytical lenses of the earth system governance research agenda, the 2023 Radboud Conference featured a programmatic focus on bridging sciences and societies for sustainability transformations – in other words inter- and transdisciplinarity. The conference welcomed inter- and transdisciplinary research teams and researchers based in the global North and South, from different scientific disciplines, including the humanities, natural sciences and social sciences, as well as practitioners (e.g., policy makers, civil society, business actors, citizens groups) working on specific sustainability challenges.

Previous ESG Conference Co-Hosts & Supporting Partnerships





Supporting Partnership Benefits

We invite you to support the 7th Transformations Community and 11th Earth System Governance Conference (TC/ESG25). This event will bring together people from around the world who are focused on making positive changes for sustainability. There are different ways to be a supporting partner, from financial support to helping with conference activities.

This is a unique opportunity to:



Connect with the Transformations Community and network of ESG scholars

Build transformative relationships with the world's leading action researchers working at the cutting-edge of sustainability transformations.



Showcase your work

and be recognized as a key supporter of transformations. Present your institution's recent activities to an informed and well-connected audience.



Gain access to key decision-makers

from public, private, academic sectors and build relationships with fellow experts working on shared areas of interest.



Increase capacity for innovation and transformation

accelerating transformative action research towards thriving futures for all.






Reach a global audience

Increase worldwide awareness of your organization.



Supporting Partnership Tiers

Choose from our Gold, Silver, and Bronze Supporting Partnership Tiers. Each level offers unique benefits and opportunities to enhance your visibility to leaders in sustainability and transformation. By becoming a Supporting Partner, you can actively contribute to our event and increase your organization’s prominence.

| |  Gold Tier (\$25,000) |  Silver Tier (\$10,000) |  Bronze Tier (\$5,000) |
|---|---|--|--|
| Promotion at the beginning of the day in a short presentation | Yes On Day 1 | Yes On Day 2 | No |
| Logo on conference placards on dinner tables | Yes | No | No |
| Display banner in key areas (eg. Podium) | Yes Poster area, plenary and parallel sessions | Yes Poster & plenary area only | Yes Poster area only |
| Display banner at the Conference Dinner | Yes | Yes | No |
| Logo and credit of supporting partners on TC & ESG 2025 conference webpage & app | Yes At the header, big size | Yes At the footer, medium size | Yes At the footer, small size |
| Credit of supporting partner on conference registration website | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Supporting partner profile ‘booths’ on conference online platform, for Lead generation and Calls to Action | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Logo and credit of supporting partner on printed materials (eg. conference program, delegate handbook etc.) | Yes At the header, big size | Yes At the footer, medium size | Yes At the footer, small size |
| Logo on conference presentation slides | Yes | Yes | No |
| Logo and credit of supporting partnership on other conference communication (eg. Mailouts, newsletters) | Yes At the header, big size | Yes At the footer, medium size | No |
| Attendance at the event for delegates of your organisation | Yes – 4 passes | Yes – 2 passes | Yes – 1 pass |
| Press Release Mention | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Social Media Promotion | x4 | x2 | x1 |
| Provision of your organisation's promotional material on-site | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Printed logo on name badges | Yes | No | No |



Specific Supporting Partnerships

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to elevate your organization's profile by funding one or more targeted supporting partnerships.

Support for Program Development, Keynotes, and Speakers

Ensure the highest quality content at the conference by **sponsoring the development of key sessions**. This could include:

- **Keynote Speaker Sponsorship:** Help bring leading experts to the stage by covering speaker honorariums and travel costs.
- **Session Development Support:** Fund the planning of conference tracks, panel discussions, and workshops to ensure diverse representation and cutting-edge research.

Why Sponsor? Position your organization visibly in some of the most significant moments of the conference, ensuring strong brand recognition and engagement with decision-makers.

Lower Income Developed Countries (LIDC) Presenter Support Partnership

The TCESG 2025 Conference is committed to ensuring that the most valuable voices in sustainability transformations are heard, regardless of financial barriers. Some presenters from Lower Income Developing Countries have submitted high-quality proposals that will enrich the conference's discussions but lack the funding to attend in person.

How You Can Help:

- Sponsor full or partial travel grants for LIDC presenters whose work has been accepted.
- Ensure that critical Global South perspectives are part of the dialogue.
- Receive recognition as a key enabler of diverse, equitable knowledge exchange at TC/ESG 2025.

Hospitality & Experience Sponsorship

Enrich the attendee experience while **gaining brand visibility in a relaxed, community-oriented setting**. Choose from:

- **Monday Cocktail Reception:** Kick off the conference by sponsoring the **opening cocktail reception**, the first major networking opportunity where attendees connect in a relaxed setting.
- **Wits University Welcome Reception & Digital Dome Experience:** Partner with Wits University to host a reception event, followed by an immersive Digital Dome experience.
- **Wednesday Gala Dinner:** Sponsor the **conference's premier evening event**, bringing together participants, speakers, and partners for a **formal dinner celebrating key insights, collaborations, and achievements**.
- **Refreshment Break Sponsor:** Keep attendees refreshed and engaged by sponsoring **coffee stations, snack bars, or catering**, ensuring a seamless and energizing conference experience.

Why Sponsor? Increase your visibility in an engaged community while demonstrating your commitment to sustainability-driven hospitality.



Specific Supporting Partnerships

Art & Creativity Sponsorship

Aligned with our mission, we explore the intersection of art, research, and transformative practice. By sponsoring these initiatives, your organization becomes a patron of creative interventions that inspire action.

Examples of art-based interventions available for sponsorship:

- **Empatheatre:** A powerful, research-based storytelling method that uses live performance to elevate underrepresented voices and bring complex social and environmental challenges to life. This immersive theatrical experience fosters deep listening, empathy, and transformative dialogue by presenting real-world narratives drawn from lived experiences. Through compelling storytelling and artistic expression, Empatheatre engages audiences in meaningful, action-oriented conversations that drive collective change.
- **Listening for Life Project:** An initiative by the African Bioacoustics Community (ABC) that combines science and art to promote mindful listening to nature, reconnecting people with the natural world.

Why Sponsor? Elevate your organization's visibility through creativity while demonstrating a commitment to new ways of knowing and experiencing transformations.

Contact us to explore funding opportunities for art and creativity sponsorships.

Graphic Recording & Visual Storytelling Supporting Partnership

Engage and inspire attendees by sponsoring live, real-time visual storytelling at TC/ESG 2025.

At the TC23 Sydney Conference, visual scribing played a vital role in capturing key insights, making discussions more engaging, and distilling complex ideas into clear, visually compelling narratives. The initiative received overwhelmingly positive feedback for its ability to enhance participant understanding and spark new connections. View past examples [here](#).

- Your organization can partner with a professional visual artist to sponsor the creation of real-time illustrated summaries of key discussions. These visuals will be displayed throughout the conference, featured in post-event reports, and widely shared on digital platforms, ensuring lasting impact and visibility.

Why Sponsor? By sponsoring Graphic Recording & Visual Storytelling, your organization will be recognized as a key supporter of knowledge-sharing and creative engagement at TC/ESG 2025.

Interested in sponsoring? Contact us to explore this opportunity!

Financial Support for Inclusivity at the Early-Career Researcher (ECR) Winter School

Support the next generation of sustainability leaders by sponsoring the dedicated TC/ESG 2025 Winter School for Early-Career Researchers (ECRs).

Scholarship Sponsorship: Provide funding for early-career researchers, and Global South participants to attend.

Workshop & Speaker Sponsorship: Fund expert-led sessions to equip future leaders with practical tools for transformative research and action.

Why Sponsor? Directly support diversity and inclusivity by breaking down financial barriers for participants. Enhance your organization's leadership in sustainability education.

Interested in supporting ECRs? Contact us for customized sponsorship options.



Let's connect

As a supporting partner, your organization's logo and name will be prominently featured in all relevant materials, session signage, and acknowledgments related to the initiative you choose to support. You will be recognized in the conference program, promotional materials, and during key moments throughout the event, ensuring high visibility and meaningful engagement with attendees.

We can work together to create supporting partnership options that match your organization's goals. Partnership opportunities are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, with the possibility of being revisited for future considerations. If you are interested in learning more about how you can be part of TC/ESG 2025, please reach out to Cristobal at cristobal@transformationscommunity.org

We look forward to creating a transformative and memorable experience together.

