

Dear DKN Community,

with this newsletter, we would like to keep you up to date about activities of the German Committee Future Earth (Deutsches Komitee für Nachhaltigkeitsforschung, DKN) and its partners as well as interesting initiatives, events and calls within the German and international sustainability science community.

In case you have any questions, inquiries or news that might be interesting for our community, please contact us via info@dkn-future-earth.de.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to interested colleagues. In case you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter, please write us a note or use the link at the bottom of this e-mail.

With best regards,

German Committee Future Earth / DKN

News November 2020

DKN

New DKN working groups

Three new DKN working groups will start their work in November. They will focus on the following topics:

- Human-environmental interactions in the Anthropocene
- Sustainable, transformative and circular bioeconomy
- Anticipating and transforming coastal futures

More information about the detailed work programmes and contact options will soon be available on the [DKN website](#).

New DKN website launched

We are happy to announce the relaunch of the DKN website in a new design and with improved accessibility. It provides information about the committee's work, as well as news and upcoming events. [Have a look at it!](#) In case you have any ideas for improvement or would like to draw attention to news or an event, which might be interesting for the DKN community, feel free to [contact us](#).

Save the Date: 4th German Future Earth Summit on 8-9 July 2021

We cordially invite you to save the date for the 4th German Future Earth Summit on 8-9 July 2021.

On these two days, the DKN wants to develop and explore new research directions of sustainability science. More information about the summit, the program and the possibility to register will soon be available on our website. If you have any questions, please contact info@dkn-future-earth.de.

Please find impressions and results of the previous German Future Earth Summits [here](#).

Science Platform Sustainability 2030 (WPN2030)

Open letter to the Chancellery

Members of 28 political advisory bodies, who have given input on the further development of the German Sustainability Strategy, sent an open letter to the Chancellery. They encourage that the Federal Government discusses the results in a dialogue with the contributors following the evaluation of the consultation and provides feedback on how the recommendations received have been processed, how they should be included in the results (or not) and why.

The initiative for the open letter arose from the advisory board dialogue organized annually by the Science Platform Sustainability 2030 and the Sustainable Development and Solutions Network Germany.

Please find more information [here](#) (German only).

Update of the German Sustainability Strategy: Dialogue version published

The German government (Bundesregierung) published a dialogue version of the German Sustainability Strategy. Aiming for a comprehensive involvement of society, an online consultation was carried out during October 2020. Recommendations of the German Science Platform Sustainability 2030 have been submitted in the past month, to be integrated in the new version.

Please find more information regarding the update as well as the dialogue version of the Germany Sustainability Strategy [here](#) (German only).

German Science Platform Sustainability 2030 calls for a sustainable recovery from COVID-19

The German Science Platform Sustainability 2030 published its discussion paper on a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 on 13 August 2020. The authors call on the federal government to take the crises as a chance to restart on sustainable development.

More information as well as a pdf version of the paper (currently in German only) can be found [here](#).

Future Earth

Future Earth in transition

It's exciting times for Future Earth, with various new developments going on in the last months. After [Amy Luers stepped down](#), [Josh Tewksbury took over](#) as interim Executive Director of Future Earth.

Additionally, following the external Future Earth mid-term review, the Future Earth community is working together on a new transparent and effective Future Earth structure.

More information on Future Earth's transition will soon be available on the [Future Earth website](#).

Future Earth Annual Report 2019-2020: Towards transformative sustainability science

The 2019-2020 Annual Report covers a pivotal year for Future Earth, with strong scientific contributions from its 19 Global Research Projects, 8 Knowledge-Action Networks, and unique initiatives. In addition to important research that is expanding our understanding of global change, the report also highlights the launch of the Earth Leadership Program and the Earth Commission, as well as hundreds of published papers and dozens of events from the Future Earth networks around the globe. You can find the interactive web version as well as a PDF of the report [here](#).

Finance & Economics Knowledge-Action Network selected members for the Development Team and Advisory Group

The Finance & Economics Knowledge-Action Network (KAN) aims to move beyond the crisis of the economics discipline with methodological and conceptual innovations. It selected members for the Development Team and the Advisory Group and also proposed four working groups: 1) Sustainable Finance; 2) Agent-based Microeconomics; 3) Complexity, Economics and Global Change; and 4) Natural Resources and Local Sustainable Development.

Find more about the KAN [here](#).

Call for session proposals for Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress 2021, deadline 15 December 2020

Future Earth and the Belmont Forum are calling for session proposals for the Sustainability Research and Innovation Congress 2021 (SRI2021), which will take place as a hybrid event virtually as well as in Brisbane (Australia), from 12-15 June 2021. The current call is dedicated to specific themes with particular relevance to this current year: green recovery and circular economy, youth and sustainability, root causes of global socio-economic crises and beyond 2030. A fifth theme will be chosen by the Future Earth and the Belmont Forum communities under the overarching theme 'resilience' by 16 November 2020.

Please find more information [here](#).

Call for Nominations: Steering Committee for Future Earth Systems of Sustainable Consumption and Production Knowledge-Action Network, deadline 15 January 2021

The Systems of Sustainable Consumption and Production Knowledge-Action Network (SSCP KAN) of Future Earth is inviting researchers, professionals and practitioners to establish its new Steering Committee (SC) for the period from 2021-2023. This is an opportunity for researchers

and institutions to engage in the collaborative work conducted by the SSCP KAN as new members of the KAN Steering Committee. Submissions of applications of new members who have interest, background and experience in SSCP and related sustainability topics are invited until 15 January 2021.

Please find more information [here](#).

Further News

Expert proposals for EU missions

At the European Research and Innovation Days (22-24 September 2020), high-level independent experts (including DKN Chair Prof. Dr. Daniela Jacob as expert on the Mission Board "Adaptation to Climate Change including Societal Transformation") presented their proposals to the European Commission for possible EU missions on some of our most pressing societal challenges. By 2030, the proposed missions aim to find solutions for saving more lives from cancer, making Europe climate resilient, restoring our ocean and waters, achieving 100 climate-neutral cities, and ensuring 75% of soils are healthy. Europeans' concerns, ideas and hopes helped formulate the proposals to ensure the missions' relevance and ability to make a real difference.

Please find more information on the mission proposals [here](#).

DKN member Imme Scholz appointed co-chair of 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report

DKN member Prof. Dr. Imme Scholz has been appointed as one of 15 independent scientists to draft the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report. Additionally, she will co-chair the group together with John Agard from the University of the West Indies.

The scientists and their report will inform the follow-up and review of the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Global Sustainable Development Report serves as an evidence-based instrument to support policy-makers in promoting a sustainable development and will feed into the United Nations' high-level global review of the 2030 Agenda in September 2023.

Please find more information [here](#).

IPBES report on Biodiversity and Pandemics

In the framework of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) convened a virtual workshop about the links between degradation of nature and increasing pandemic risks. As a result of the workshop, 22 leading experts published a report on biodiversity and pandemics. The authors warn that Future pandemics will emerge more often, spread more rapidly, do more damage to the world economy and kill more people than COVID-19 unless there is a transformative change in the global approach to dealing with infectious diseases.

Please find [more information, incl. a PDF version](#), as well as a [video](#) about

the report here.

German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU) presents new report on land-use

On 3 November 2020 the WBGU presented its latest report entitled 'Rethinking Land in the Anthropocene: from Separation to Integration' to Federal Ministers Anja Karliczek (Education and Research) and Svenja Schulze (Environment). The key message of the report is that climate-change mitigation can only succeed, the dramatic loss of biodiversity can only be averted, and the global food system can only be made sustainable if there is a fundamental change in the way we manage land. Please find more information [here](#).

Call for proposals: Conservation and Restoration of Degraded Ecosystems and their Biodiversity, Including a Focus on Aquatic Systems, deadline 7 December 2020

BiodivERSA and Water JPI launched the 2020–2021 joint call for research proposals on the topic "Conservation and Restoration of Degraded Ecosystems and their Biodiversity, Including a Focus on Aquatic Systems". Deadline for pre-proposal submission is 7 December 2020, 16:00 CET. Please find more information [here](#).

Ocean Decade: Call for actions 01/2020, deadline 15 January 2021

The United Nations invite partners to request endorsement under the Ocean Decade for transformative Decade Actions that contribute to the Ocean Decade vision of the science we need for the ocean we want'. Please find further information [here](#).

Call for proposals by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

The Ministry announced several calls, e.g. on the following topics

- [Global change, sustainable transformations of society – post COVID-19](#) (scientific-technological cooperation with South Africa), deadline for proposal drafts is 13 November 2020
- [Marine coastal and polar science for sustainability](#) (scientific-technological cooperation with Russia), deadline for proposal drafts is 31 January 2021
- [Bioeconomy international 2021](#) (joint research projects with Russian or Brazilian partners), deadline for proposal drafts is 19 March 2021

Calls for proposal in the EU Horizon 2020 Framework Programme

The European Commission announced several calls within the Horizon 2020 Programme with regard to the Green Deal and beyond, e.g. on the following topics

- [Demonstration of systemic solutions for the territorial deployment of the circular economy](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021

- [European capacities for citizen deliberation and participation for the Green Deal](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Testing and demonstrating systemic innovations in support of the Farm-to-Fork Strategy](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Behavioural, social and cultural change for the Green Deal](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Developing end-user products and services for all stakeholders and citizens supporting climate adaptation and mitigation](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Closing the industrial carbon cycle to combat climate change - Industrial feasibility of catalytic routes for sustainable alternatives to fossil resources](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021
- [Enabling citizens to act on climate change, for sustainable development and environmental protection through education, citizen science, observation initiatives, and civic engagement](#), deadline for proposals is 26 January 2021

Please note, that the above-mentioned calls are examples only. Please refer to the European Commission's website for an overview of all open calls.

Please also note the following upcoming events in German language:

6 November 2020

[Klimaresilient in die Zukunft - Nationale Konferenz zum Fortschrittsbericht zur Deutschen Anpassungsstrategie mit der Preisverleihung „Blauer Kompass“](#)

18 November 2020

[Green Deal vor Ort: Umsetzung der EU-Klimapläne in den Regionen und Städten Deutschlands](#)

7 December 2020

[Klimawandelfolgen und Anpassung – Ergebnisse verkehrsträgerübergreifender Forschung im BMVI-Expertennetzwerk](#)

18 March 2021

[tF-Symposium 2021: Vom Experiment zum Mainstream](#)

Call for proposals closes on 1 December 2020